

WINTER

NUMBER 5.

Midnight. The witching hour. Only the street lights penetrate the gloom as the inhabitants of the quiet little village sleep soundly in their beds. In the distance a church clock chimes the hour, the only sound to break the surrounding stillness. But as the sound of the chimes slowly fades away another sound, much fainter, can be heard. A steady, slow, tapping sound that seems to come from one of the tall, dark houses in the side-street. An observer in the street outside would perhaps notice a dull yellow glow seeping through the curtains of a small room on the first floor. On closer inspection he would notice too another sound, fainter even than the slow tapping, coming from that room. The sound of a low, cracked voice, mumbling to itself in the gloom:

"Hm....that's the title done....now the issue number....issue number?...er.. ..four is it?...no, it's five....yes, five....er....how do I spell 'issue'?.... ..where's that dictionary?...here it is....issue, issue....ah yes, got it. Now let's see....'I'....'S' - where's the 'S' key on this damn typer?...oh yes, there it is. 'S', and another 'S'...now where's that 'U'?....ah, got it...hm.... ..doing well this time - only three hours gone and I'm already a quarter way down the first page....now where's that 'E' key?....."

So it is that slowly, oh so very slowly, is prepared yet another issue of....

.....Little Imp, a postal Dippyazine, of which this is the fifth issue, carrying international Regular games only, from Richard J. Walkerdine, 'Cheriton', 15 Crouch Oak Lane, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 2AN, England. It costs 5p per issue for Britons and \$1.00 for 5 issues for North Americans and the game fee is 40p and \$2.00 respectively. Prices in other currencies on request.

Today is Saturday, May 11th, 1974.

And let's get straight in there and start a new game.....

'B' Game (1974BT) -- Player List

- AUSTRIA: Larry Samson, 834 Thurber Dr. W., Apt. 18, Columbus, Ohio 43215, USA.
- ENGLAND: Terry Knowles, 508 Oakwood Dr., Pickering, Ontario, L1W 2M7, Canada.
- FRANCE : David Jones, 'Hendre', Water Lane, Cobham, Surrey, England.
- GERMANY: Roland Prevot, 6660 Zweibrücken, Zeilbäumer St 24, West Germany.
- ITALY : Ron Kelly, Room 210, 225 Virginia Ave. S.E., Washington DC 20003, USA.
- RUSSIA : Les Pimley, 345 Livesey Branch Road, Blackburn, Lancs, BB2 4QJ, England.
- TURKEY : Mitchell McCormick, 3359 Breton Close N.W., Calgary, Alberta, T2L 1X3, Canada.

Okay, now let's sort out the money. Kelly and Samson have plenty of credit with me so I'll deduct your game fees from that. Roland Prevot, you've got enough for the game fee plus this issue and issue 6 so I don't need any more from you for another month or so - though you can send some now if you want to of course. Mitch McCormick, you're down to \$1.40 before paying for this issue so I'll need at least one, preferably two, dollars from you please. And the other three of you have got either no credit at all or enough for this issue only so I'd like lots of lovely lolly from you please. Thanks.

You'll find the deadline at the back of this issue somewhere - I suggest you allow at least five days for transatlantic mail. And remember we'll be using the provisional retreat and build system unless we have a majority vote to the contrary. Good luck.

And as Terry Knowles - with a little help from his friends - has managed to successfully circumvent the recent Canadian postal strike (well played, that man) we can now get on with

'A' Game (1974F) -- Autumn 1902

AUSTRIA (Sherrad): A Ser - Bul S by F Gre, A Bud - Ser, A Tri - Tyr, A Vie - Tyr.

ENGLAND (Tatay): F Eng - MAO S by F Bre, F Edi - Nrg, F Nth S A Nwy.

FRANCE (von Metzke): F Por - MAO, F Spa(SC) S A Gas - Mar, A Pic - Par.

GERMANY (Knowles): A Bur - Pic S by A Bel, A Mun - Bur, F Den - Swe, A Kie - Ber.

ITALY (Hall): F Ion Stands, F WMS - Spa(SC), A Pie - Mar, A Ven Stands.

RUSSIA (Kelly): F Rum S (AUSTRIAN) A Ser - Bul, F Sev - Bla, A Sil - Gal,
A Fin S F Swe, A Mos - StP, F Swe S A Fin.

TURKEY (Sharp): A Smy - Gre C by F Aeg & S by A Bul, F Ank - Bla.

Retreat: Turkish A Bul - Con.

Winter 1902 Adjustments

A: 6 Centres: Bud, Tri, Vie, Ser, Gre, +Bul. Builds A Bud.

E: 5 Centres: Edi, Lon, Lpl, Bre, Nwy. No change.

F: 4 Centres: Mar, Par, Spa, Por. No change.

G: 6 Centres: Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol, +Bel. Builds A Mun.

I: 4 Centres: Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun. No change.

R: 6 Centres: Mos, Sev, StP, War, Swe, Rum. No change.

T: 3 Centres: Ank, Con, Smy, ~~Bl~~. Removes F Aeg.

Wart-on-the-knee:(WOMB): The Secret of the Speckled Speckle:

(Podo): Adué has struck! As we join our intrepid heroes, the results of their first attacks on Crinklecrud are soon obvious.

Fade In: A special antichamber of Fat Frieda's Brothel, notable only for the group pictures of aardvarks hung on the walls. Tory Nodes is pounding on the table and screaming, "Everybody stop crying and shut up! Bike Charade make your report."

Bike stood and with head hanging said, "Well guv, I placed a claymore mine with a pressure fuse under Crinklecrud's seat cushion at the meeting of his Black Mess Society. All that happened was that he turned slightly pink and said 'pardon'."

Tory pointed to Tricky Dickie Dull and said, "Stop smirking, your idea to train a mallard duck to kill on command was even worse. When he was set loose in Crinklecrud's boudoir your nearsighted duck made a frenzied attack on a chamber-pot and Crinklecrud escaped. But enough of this - let me introduce you to the newest member of our group."

With that a pair of soulful eyes peered over the edge of the table, and a quiet voice whispered, "I am Concrete von Mesquite. I was recently discharged from my job for massive malversation. The young lady next to me is Belinda 'Iron Maiden' Braski. The tripod she is carrying is to hold my apparatus. And I am standing up." He glanced about the table and continued, "I have discovered that Crinklecrud has a son - and he is a member of Adué!"

Fade Out: Can this be true? Would any woman go near Crinklecrud? Let alone..... Next week, see Crinklecrud's weak attempt to strike back.

Imrryr: Which leads, quite neatly, to this...

Splendidhamstaffshire-on-Trentoncalf: "The FIEND!" screams Professor Crinklecrud, Mad Scientist, Outcast from Every Country, Enemy of the Entire World and ex-member

of the IDA, to his perverted manservant, Grud. Grud, as ever, cringes.

"Who, master?" he trembles.

"That rotten Communist Fink, Walkerdine! He sent some of his communist henchmen over here and they infiltrated our postal system and forced the poor boys to go on strike! Ha! To no avail Walkerdine -- you may have saved yourself typing a season of press in Mud Policy, but I'll just rant and rave twice as much in Little Pimp! Hahahahahahaha...."

Milano: Nothing like a postal strike to put a damper on an international Diplomacy game. That effectively cut off my one source of communications in this game. For the rest of you there is no excuse. How in heaven does one play this game when no one writes to anyone!:

Inrryr: Actually, I happen to know that the above is meant in all seriousness. It's a very valid point, too. I've been involved in enough postal games over the last two years or so - as player and GM - to realise that perhaps the most basic truth of all about postal Diplomacy can be expressed in just eight little words: The More You Write, The More You Win! Think about it...

Berlin (Gvmt): The German government would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused our allies, enemies and potential vassals by the recent postal strike up here in the land of the white snow. If any monetary loss has occurred, please apply for reimbursal to: 'Charity', 15 Crouch Oak Lane, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 2AN, England.

Inrryr: And upon receipt of your claim for reimbursal, the kind folk at the 'Charity' address will be only too pleased to pass it on to their bankers. Or, if you wish, you may avoid delay by dealing with the bankers direct; their address is: 508 Oakwood Drive, Pickering, Ontario, Canada. If you do write to them you might like to mention that they haven't yet sent the monthly cheque of \$10.00 that they pay in order to get me to print all the reams and reams of press they send in.....!

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A Plea

I've asked this before and got no response, but now that we've got two games underway the situation is a bit different. Would some of you, please, act as standby players in these two games? If a couple of 'A' game players would be standbys for 'B' game and a couple of 'B' game players would be standbys for 'A' game then we'd be in a far better position to survive any player dropouts - not that I want, or indeed expect, any dropouts of course. Obviously this doesn't apply to Terry Knowles or Ron Kelly, because they are in both games, but any of you others would be more than welcome. There's nothing to stop any of the other people who read this zine but aren't in any games to offer to be a standby of course.

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Waiting List

Looking a bit thin now, naturally enough, with only Lowell White on it at the moment. Sorry Lowell, you were just two days too late to get into the game starting this issue - Mitch beat you by a short head.

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Change of Address

Please note that RUDOLPH TATAY is now to be found at; 8755 Woodcrest Drive, Greenfield, Ind 46140, USA.

Deadline

TUESDAY, JUNE 11TH, 1974.

Hm...wouldn't be the same without a big blank space on the back page, would it?

See you all next month. Bye.

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