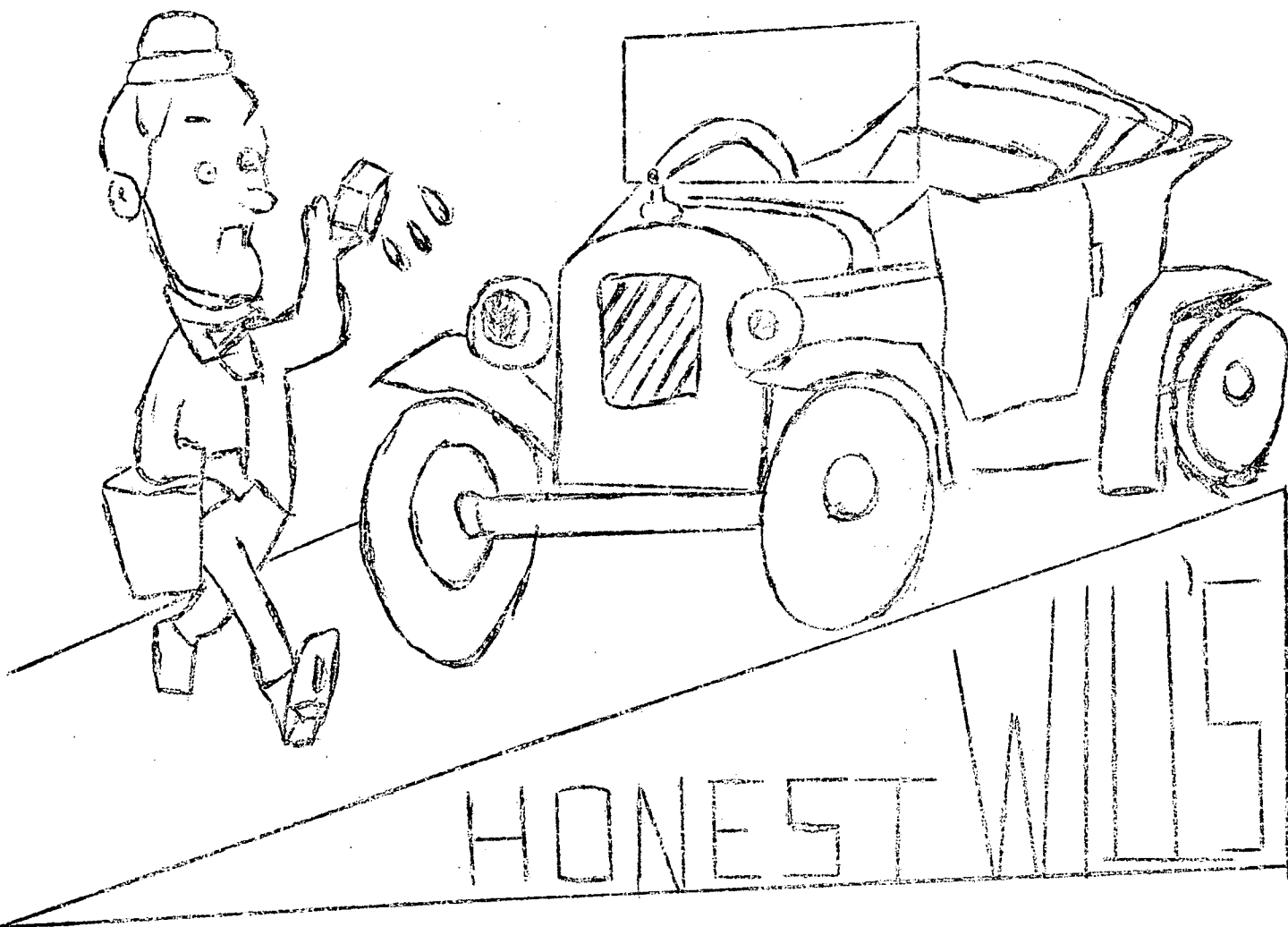


# HANNIBAL

CIRCULATION 62

MAY 14th 1974

ISSUE 33



This is Issue 11 of Hannibal produced by Dermot and Vince Dwyer, Andrew Herd and Dave Pink. It costs 2½p + Postage and is available from Andrew at 25, Austin Drive, Didsbury, Manchester M20 0BA. Hannibal runs games of postal Diplomacy and its variants. It also runs several non-diplomacy games and is accompanied, this issue by Tigger a companion zine. Most of our lists are closed but there are still some open (see inside). Articles are solicited from all subscribers and payment is by extension of subscription. For convenience we would like you to send all Hannibal related correspondence to Andrew although Dave, Vince and myself will accept orders etc. willingly

TIGGER: Enclosed with this issue of Hannibal is a flier for The Wonderful Thing About Tiggers, a new non-diplomacy zine produced by Geoff Chalinger and I. It will carry the non-regular/variant games being run in Hannibal viz. Decline and Fall, 4,000 A.D. and Sleuth(see later). Tigger is a companion zine to Hannibal and thus orders, etc. may go to any member of the Didsbury Mafia. We wish to thank the rest of the Hannibal staff for their friendly additions and their help in making all this possible ( sounds like a film review uggh.....)

QUEEN VICTORIA'S FUNERAL: A new IDA genzine produced by Hartley Patterson in the absence of any initiative from anyone else. This first issue is only two sides long and contains several points on finance and orphan games schemes. Clearly this first thing is only for discussion purposes. Subscription is at the moment by IDA sub although it might be possible to obtain it separately. If soft's well worth while subbing.

Quotation Column

Will Haven, "not connected", "no such unit." "...I, quite enjoy producing a zine, especially when it is as unique as Son's." "I had to ferret around." (Oxford English?).

Pogle Austin Dreniw(Poag). "I think E is the best ~~week~~ around." "What is Truth? I am Truth. Truth is an accident...."

Geoff Chalinger. "The essence of life is silliness, all things depend on silliness and happiness is only one aspect of silliness. My aim in life is to be silly."

John C. Lettuce. "I don't do enough work".

Like the crib John?

\* \* \* \* \*

VARIANT BANK.

At the moment we have the following variants in the bank:-

- |                          |                             |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (1) ABSTRACTION-----3p.  | (12) IMPERIALISM VELLE-13p. | (23) CLINE-9-MAN DIP.--2p.  |
| (2) BOLSHEVIK-----1½p.   | (13) MILITARISM-----2p.     | (24) THIRD AGE II-----4p.   |
| (3) INTERSTELLAR I---4p. | (14) COLLAPSE O.T.D.E.--3p. | (25) ABERATION IV-----3p.   |
| (4) ATLANTICA-----4p.    | (15) MICHEGAN DIP.-----3p.  | (26) IRISH DIP.-----2p.     |
| (5) GUELPH-----2p.       | (16) VIKING DIP.-----3p.    | (27) WORLD WAR IV-----2p.   |
| (6) BLACK HOLE-----2p.   | (17) MIDDLE EARTH II---3p.  | (28) FOURTH DIMENSION---2p. |
| (7) CONFESHSUN-----2p.   | (18) A.H.K.D.-----3p.       | (29) RED OCTOBER-----3p.    |
| (8) JIHAD-----3p.        | (19) INTERSTELLAR III---3p. | (30) CIRCLE VARIANT---2p.   |
| (9) DIPLOMYOPIA-----2p.  | (20) AUCTION & SKRIZO---2p. | (31) YOUNGS/TOWN-----4p.    |
| (10) MULTIPLICITY---1½p. | (21) HYBOREAN AGE II---4p.  | (32) INVASION 44-----2p.    |
| (11) FEUDALISM II --13p. | (22) PINK DIPLOMACY---2p.   |                             |

On the subject of variants the variant pole has stagnated somewhat. We have not recieved any votes for the past few months and people seem to have lost interest, henceforth the Poll is closed and no more votes will be accepted. The scheme is caput.

VARIANT POLE REOPENS !

The variant pole is reopened and all previous votes are scrapped. A new system of voting will be used, the system will be similar to the poll in Mad Policy. People vote for every variant that they have played in, are playing in or have examined in detail. They then give each variant a mark on ten, where ten represents an excellent variant (almost as good as Regular), one represents appalling variants (almost unplayable) and five represents a fair variant (playable but not starting). Please do not vote for any variant you have not played in or examined in detail.

So we expect a really good turn out and hope that we can keep you informed as the poll goes on. d.a.p.

We must apologise for this issue already, today is Saturday and by tomorrow half the staff of Hannibal will be on holiday, and as a result of this Hannibal might well be truncated this issue.

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REGULAR GAME BALANCE

Using the first three issues of Richard Walkerdine's The Finishing Touch, and using a rating system cribbed from Hobbes' Archives, we did our bit to further advance the cause of British statistical analysis of the regular game as played postally. What we did was to take the results of all the games played postally, to date; for each country we added 1 point for each country the given country beat, and we subtracted one point for each country by which the given country was beaten - e.g. if a country (say Turkey) was 2nd, it would gain four points (it had beaten five countries (5pts) but had been beaten by one (-1pt)); a country which was last, would lose six points. The results were as follows:

| Position | Country | Points |
|----------|---------|--------|
| 1        | Germany | +21    |
| 2        | England | +15    |
| 3        | Turkey  | 0      |
| 4        | France  | -5     |
| 5        | Russia  | -6     |
| 6        | Austria | -17    |
| 7        | Italy   | -17    |

Comments: Germany's leadership, we must say, surprised us. We had expected to find that France or perhaps Turkey had been doing best. However, upon reflection it would seem that Turkey and France did very well in the early games, and afterwards, people seem to have realised that these two countries were doing well, and consequently they are wary of over rapid expansion by them. Germany's main weakness, in my opinion, is a tendency to get three builds in 1901, and then to find herself faced by an Anglo-French alliance against her, because the players of those two countries are afraid that Germany will carve them up. The position of England, in second place, represents fairly, we think, the very strong defensive position of that country, and the unlikelyhood of an early exit for the English player. England's points tended to come more from second or third places, and alliance victories rather than from individual victories.

The central section of the table was, we suppose, fairly predictable, considering the evidence of the games that we are playing in. Russia was rather lower than we should have expected, but, so was France. The occupants of the lower section were also predictable. We consider that Italy is worse than Austria - as Italy, one is likely to play the game for several years, fighting a boring rearguard action against only two attackers. With Austria, on the other hand, one has a bewildering choice of potential strategies - attacks on Russia, Italy, Turkey, Germany... assorted methods for the attack - a Lepanto Key Variant opening (Hannibal (Alb) - OS in Autumn 1901 and so on. And if one is attacked as Austria, it is likely to be a quick and entertaining exit.

GAME OPENINGS a listing of all the diipyzine producers in the U.K. together with information about their zines, is now available from Andrew Herd, 35, Austin Drive, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 0FA for the price of postage.

(Small space filler). Has anybody seen Umagamma recently? Martin? It is two or more months since we last saw a copy... What is happening?? Zine efficiency in general seems to have gone down recently. Hannibal has been taking a day or two longer to produce and mail recently - last issue didn't get posted until the Thursday after the deadline; this issue will probably be produced faster. Orion will probably be about a week later than usual. Son of Bellicus has now changed to what amounts to about a nine-weekly schedule (!); Dolchstoss seems to be getting slower, and even the ultra-efficient 1901... seems to be taking an extra day to produce and the list goes on. Why? Anyone know?

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