## VACATION

The Game of Hotels

#### Directions for playing DECISION out

Introduction

DECISION is something new and different in games. The rules are basically simple to learn, yet there is constant opportunity to make choices and evolve strategies.

There are no dice, no spinners, no paths to follow.

All players remain actively in the game until the very end.

With players who are familiar with the rules, a game runs from an hour to an hour and a half in length.

Number of players VACATION DECISION can be played by from 2 to 6 players.

> The rules will first be given for 3 or more players and special rules applying to the 2 player game will be given at the end.

Equipment

Folding Game Board 108 Company Tiles

60 Yellow Stock Cards 2 Information Cards 140 White Stock Cards Set of Play Money

7 "Combine" Markers 6 Wooden Racks

The Set-Up 1. Choose one player to act as banker and handle the money and stocks. is distributed

2. The banker distributes \$6,000 to each player as follows: 4- \$1000, 3- \$500, 5- \$100.

3. The hundred and eight company tiles are turned face downward, shuffled, and placed, still face downward, in convenient piles next to the board in the center of the table.

4. Each player draws one tile and the player with the letter nearest the head of the alphabet plays first. In case of the same letter the lower number governs.

(For example: tile "B5"would beat "D2" or "B9".)

Each player keeps his tile and draws 5 more, making 6 which are placed on the racks.

5. The banker shuffles the yellow stock cards and deals them out one at a time to all the players. (As there are 60 they will divide evenly.)

- 6. Each player sorts his stock cards into separate piles by name (CONSOLIDATED INDUSTRIES, SUPER INDUSTRIES, etc.). These piles must be left face up on the table in front of the player, but should be piled as neatly as possible so that the exact number in a pile is not apparent to the opponents.
- 7. The red information card giving the price of stock, the Majority Holders' Bonuses, and the Number of Blocks is placed in a convenient place on the table.

The Play (An Illustration)
Since DECISION is different in concept, the easiest way to learn it is to watch a game in progress. The following example of the beginning of a four-handed game serves to illustrate the mechanics of play. In order to follow the example just open the board and place any tile face down on each space

as it is called (not taking the trouble to find the matching tile).

- 1. Let's call the players Alice, Bob, Carol and Dave. Alice, by virtue of the draw, plays first. From the six tiles in her rack she chooses "B3" and places it face up in the proper space. She now takes another tile from any table pile bringing her rack to six tiles again and completing her turn.
  - 2. Bob, to Alice's left, plays next. He plays "C5" and replenishes his rack.
  - 3. Carol, to Bob's left, plays third, choosing "E5", and then taking another tile.
  - 4. Dave then plays "B2" and draws another will.

    tile. Dave, however, by causing two companies to touch has created a "Combine". "Chain He now has the right to name it. He chooses SUPER INDUSTRIES having been dealt, let us say, four blocks of SUPER INDUSTRIES stock at the start of the game, and places the marker of that name on spaces "B2" and "B3".

    WILTON HOTELS

He also buys one block of SUPER INDUSTRIES stock. Since there are two companies in hotels the "Combine" the price is found (on the red information card) to be \$200. He pays \$200 to the bank and receives a stock certificate.

5. Alice plays "F4", takes another tile, and buys a block of SUPER INDUSTRIES stock for \$200. (Tiles which have adjoining corners such as "F4" and "E5" are not considered touching.)

hotels - Chain 6. Bob plays /"D5" and repaces the tile. He has formed another "Combine", this one of three companies. He chooses to call it AMERICAN (INDUSTRIES and places that marker on any two adjoining companies of the "Combine". - HOTELS -WILTON HOTELS Chain Bob may now buy either SUPER INDUSTRIES or AMERICAN ENDUSTRIES stock. He chooses SUPER and pays \$200 for 1 block.

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The Willn ing another tile she buys a block of AMER-ICAN INDUSTRIES stock for \$300. the AMERICAN Chin TAMERICAN HOTELS 8. Dave plays "F5" increasing AMERICAN INDUSTRIES to five companies and, after replacing a tile, buys a block of stock in it for \$500. Latels 9. (Chains 9. (C4" which touches both "Combines". When this happens the larger "Combine" takes over the smaller. In this case AMERICAN INDUSTRIES takes over SUPER WILTON INDUSTRIES and the latter's marker is removed from the board. Each player now announces how many blocks of SUPER INDUSS WILTON TRIES he owns. The player with the largest number receives from the bank a "Majority Holder's Bonus" of \$3000 (for three companies in the "Combine"), and the player with the second largest number receives \$1500. Chain notels After each (player has decided what to do with their SUPER INDUSTRIES stock, as explained later, Alice finishes her turn by replacing a tile and buying a block of the only available stock, AMERICAN INDUS-TRIES, for \$700 (9 companies). HOTELS

The Play --Rules
1. Play rotates to the left.

2. A play consists of:

A. Playing a company tile to its proper place on the board and replacing it from the top of any table pile.

B. (Sometimes) forming a "Combine" and

naming it.

- C. (Sometimes) causing a "Combine" to be taken over by another followed by the awarding of the first and second "Majority Holders' Bonuses" and the disposition of the stock in the defunct "Combine" Chain.
- D. (Usually) buying 1 block, and only 1, in any available "Combine".

Combines

1. Two or more touching (not diagonally) company tiles constitute a "Combine".

2. The player forming a "Combine" names it by placing any unused marker on two adjoining companies of the "Combine".

hotels Chains Chain

3. A maximum of 7 "Combines" may be on the board at one time. A player may not play a tile which would create an eighth "Combine".

Taking Over of combines hotel Chains

1. When a company tile is played that joins two (or more) "Combines" the one hotels with the greater number of companies takes over the other and the marker of the defunct "Combine" is removed from the board.

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2. In case of a tie in the number of companies, the player making the play can choose which "Combine" will do the taking over.

- 3. When a "combine" is taken over, each player must announce the number of blocks of stock he owns in that "Combine". The players with the largest and second largest number are paid a "Majority Holder's Bonus" from the bank. The amount of the bonus depends upon the number of companies in the defunct "Combine".
- 4. If two or more players tie for the largest number of blocks, they split the combined first and second bonuses. If the bonuses do not divide evenly into \$100 amounts the players all receive the next greater amount.

Disposal of Stock in a Defunct Combine

1. After a "Combine" is taken over the players dispose of their stock holdings in the defunct "Combine" in the following manner:

A. Sell it to the bank for the price hote determined by the number of companies in the defunct "Combine".

- B. Trade it to the bank for stock in the "Combine" doing the taking over on the basis of two blocks of the defunct stock for one block of the taking over stock.
- C. Hold on to the defunct stock in the expectation of starting another "Combine" with that name.

- 2. A player does not have to dispose of all his stock in the same manner but may decide to sell some, trade some, and keep some or any combination he chooses.
- 3. The player making the play must decide on the disposition of his stock first, and then in turn to the left. A player may not change his decision upon hearing the decision of subsequent players.
- 4. If the amount of stock held by the bank in the "Combine" doing the taking over is limited, the earlier players may take as many blocks as they are entitled to until the amount is exhausted.

Safe Combines Chains (hain

1. Once a "Combine" contains 11 or more
company tiles it is "Safe" and can no longer be taken over by another larger "Combine".

2. A player may not play a tile which would join two "Safe Combines".

Blocked Racks Chain

If all six tiles on a player's rack may not be played, either because they will form an eighth "Combine" or because they will join two "Safe Combines", the player does not play a tile in that turn and does not draw a new tile. He may, however, buy a block of stock. (See also "Ending the Game".)

Running Out of Money

1. A player who runs out of money cannot
buy a stock but otherwise takes his turn
in the usual manner.

2. A player cannot raise money by selling his stock except during the disposal period

after a "combine" has been taken over.

#### Ending the Game

1. The game is ended when either:

A. All "combines" on the board are
"Safe" (contain ll or more company
tiles). Chain

B. One "Combine" has grown to contain 41 or more company tiles.

C. A player cannot play a tile because all of his tiles would join two "Safe Combines".

- 2. The player whose turn it is is allowed to finish his turn including purchase of a block of stock if he wishes.
- 3. Then, starting with the smallest "combine remaining on the board, the winners of the "Majority Holders' Bonuses" are determined for each.
- 4. Finally all players sell back their stock at the prevailing prices. Stock in a "Combine" that is not on the board is worthless.
- 5. The player who ends with the most money is the winner.

Miscellaneous

- 1. Trading or selling of stock between players is not permitted. All transactions are made with the bank.
  - 2. A player may at any time ask the bank-

er how much stock is remaining in any particular "Combine".

3. A player who notices that the game should be ended by "A" or "B" above does not have to announce the fact unless it is to his advantage to do so.

# Special Rules for Two Players All rules of the game apply with the following exceptions:

- 1. The 60 yellow cards are dealt into 3 equal piles. Each player takes one pile and the third is not used in the game.
  - 2. The Majority Holder's Bonus depends on the relative number of blocks that each player owns. The distribution of the Bonus is shown on the blue information card.

(As an example: - there are 4 companies in the defunct "Combine" and one player has 7 blocks and the other has 4 blocks. The player with 7 blocks receives \$3200 while the one with 4 receives \$800.)

The price of a block of stock remains as shown on the red information card.

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### VACATION The Game of Hotels

A VACATION is an introduction to the fabulous world of the luxury hotel, in the U.S., in the Caribbean, and throughout the exotic places of the world.

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