KICKSHAWS by Dave Morice

Highly Structured Verse The first stanza of "Spiral Nebula" contains a foundation of 32 words upon which all other stanzas are built. The second stanza is constructed by taking the first word of the first stanza, then the last word of the first stanza, then the second word, then the second last word, and so on, concluding with the middle two words. The third stanza is formed by repeating the process with the second stanza. In the same fashion, the fourth, fifth, and sixth stanzas are made. If this process is applied to the sixth stanza, the result is the first stanza. The poem is a kind of nebula of words that spirals in on itself a la M.C. Escher.

Perfect Number Names in Neo-Alphabets FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY THREE appears to be the highest. The end-of-the-alphabet values of one neo-alphabet generating it are ...YINFTDHUERO with values Y = 16, I = 17, ..., O = 26. To sum it up: 19+26+23+25 + 22+23+18+21+25+ 24+21 + 19+17+19+20+16 + 20+22+25+24+24 = 453. Other neo-alphabets with this solution can be formed by simply switching positions of letters that appear the same number of times in the number words. ONY can exchange places; UHDT can; FRE can. Altogether, there are 3,456 neo-alphabets whose letters can be placed at the end of the alphabet with no gaps.

There are probably no multiplicative examples other than SIX or TEN.

A Greeting That Could Get You Arrested Ricky Ruiz, who works for one of the international airlines, told me that you can't yell to a friend "Hi, Jack!" without running risk of arrest.


Reread All About It A reremouse is a bat (the flying kind, not the one used by Babe Ruth to hit 60 homers). No plural is given. Reremouses? Reremice?

Have a jolly, Polyglot Christmas a-8, b-18, c-23, d-15, e-26, f-17, g-2, h-22, i-7, j-19, k-24, l-1, m-16, n-10, o-6, p-21, q-3, r-27, s-9, t-25, u-28, v-29, w-13, x-30, y-4, z-31, aa-14, bb-5, cc-11, dd-20, ee-12. "Boas Festas" is used in both Brazil and Portugal. This was translated and made into a puzzle from a list in the magazine Vanidades Continental, November 24, 1987, Venezuela.
The initial Kickshaw, "A Visit to St. Alphabet", copyright 1980 by the author, was first published in a handset letterpress edition by Toothpaste Press, now Coffee House Press of Minneapolis. In 1984, printer/publisher Alan Kornblum received a letter from an American librarian working at a school library in Saudi Arabia. She wrote that she'd just returned from the West with several boxes of new acquisitions packed in her station wagon. At the Saudi border, the four copies of "St. Alphabet" that she'd brought were confiscated by guards who thought they were Christian religious books because of the "St." in the title.

LITERATE CRYPTOARITHMETIC by Peter Newby

<p>| | | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>3134</td>
<td>2.</td>
<td>24153</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>4a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16093</td>
<td>7.</td>
<td>72164</td>
<td>16093</td>
<td>9360</td>
<td>16093</td>
<td>81524</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUFFIX QUIZ by Maxey Brooke

1. widower 2. prince; princess 3. a directrix is a fixed line used in the description of a curve or a surface 4. wellsite is a white silicate mineral named in honor of an American chemist, H.L. Wells 5. spinster 6. barmecide refers to the family that ruled Baghdad just preceding Harun-al-Rashid

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (Act of August 12, 1970; Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code)

Title of Publication: Word Ways, the Journal of Recreational Linguistics. Frequency of issue: quarterly. Location of Office of Publication: Spring Valley Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960. Location of Business Offices of the Publishers: Spring Valley Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960. Name and Address of Publisher, Editor, Managing Editor and Owner: A. Ross Eckler, Spring Valley Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees and other Security Holders: None.

Extent and Nature of Circulation (first number gives average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months, second number gives actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date): Total no. copies printed (500; 500). Paid circulation — mail subscriptions (373;382); total paid circulation (373;382); complimentary and other free copies (5;5); total distribution (378;387); office use, left over, unaccounted (122;113); total (500;500).

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete /s/ Faith W. Eckler, Business Manager, October 1, 1989

Publication Number 998640