SPECIALTY DEFINITIONS

FOR JET AGE COMPARTMENTALIZED SOCIETY, OR PICKING NEU ROSES ALONG THE PSYCHO PATH

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There exists in America an awesome, albeit subtle, linguistic poverty which is the logical by-product of our society’s obsession for expressing itself through the advanced medium of the S.S.S. (i.e., Systematically Sacculuated Statement). While scientists are secure behind their Geneva Nomenclature, while politicians are comfortably ensconced in Congressional incongruities, while hippies and housewives huddle in the happy hibernation of their respective jargons -- while all this is going on there is, simultaneously, untold suffering by an incalculable number of citizens who are grammatically deprived because of their occupational anonymity. Who in a society preoccupied with ABM, IBM and NBC, has time to give a second thought to, say, the guy who has spent his life building highways for seagulls? An obscure profession, to be sure, but nevertheless a vital one. And how sad it is when we recognize the inevitable loneliness of such a dedicated man, who, thanks to public indifference and poorly legislated education, will probably never encounter more than a handful of people who are able to converse with him about turnpikes.

The following terms and their definitions, collected during a series of field trips into unlikely territories, will, hopefully, serve as a keystone in a linguistic archway which has yet to be constructed.

Liberal neckties: DEMOCRAVATS
Chinese salad dressing: MAONAISE
90 proof confection: LIQUORICE
Brothel entryway: FORNIGATE
Sky-diver’s cigar: PARACHEROOT
Carpenter’s wine: SAWTURNE
Prostitute’s appetizers: WHORE-D’OEUVRES
Soviet aviary: COMMUNEST
Whisky-flavored pastry: BOURBUN
Reporter’s promiscuity: JOURNALUST
Osteologist’s concert: SKELETUNES
Thesaurus for fast-talkers: DICTIONHURRY
Prehistoric champagne bottle: CRO-MAGNUM
Sparkling hangover: CHAMPAIN
Sartre’s little black book: EXISTENTIAL-LIST
Rakish reminiscences: BACHELORE
Quiet Greek meal: SHUSH-KEBOB
Spelling wager: ALPHA-BET
Eskimo cement: IGGLUE
Inherited Pipér Cub: HEIRPLANE
Antarctic hotels: PENGU-INNS
Ancient Mexican trade school: AZ TECH
Icebox repairman: REFRIGER-AIDER
Philosophical stimulant: PLA-TONIC
Hemlock infusions: SOCRA-TEAS
Tweezers for golf: FORE-CEPS
Boorish flowers: CRASSANTHEMUMS
Relatives in Sistine Chapel: VATI-KIN
Quill injury: PORCUPAIN
Apiary jazz: BEE-BOP
Egyptian spine specialist: CAIROPRACTOR
Saloon vase: TAV-URN
Sleepy gangsters: THE MORPHIA
Mail-order waltz lessons: CORRESPOND-DANCES
Anti-fireworks law: PYROTECH-NIX
Entrance to bullfight: TOREA-DOOR
Shakespearean brothel: BARD-ELLO
Antique humor: ARCHEOLOJEST
Repetitious terpsichoreanisms: REDUN-DANCES
Bartender's elocution: RYETORIC
Price of a formal suit: TUXEDOUGH
Intoxicated van drivers: ALCOHAULICS
Freshly repaired sidewalk: PAVEMEND
Masochist's ecstasy: FLAGG-ELATION
Smoked salmon cathartic: LOXATIVE
Assignation with one's analyst: PSYCHIATRYST
Indignant expression on the face of one who has quit school: DROP-POUT
Warehouse of literary falsehoods: LIE-BRARY

Any additions from Word Ways readers?