Webster’s Dictionary defines *colloquy* as *mutual discourse*. Readers are encouraged to submit additions, corrections and comments about earlier articles appearing in *Word Ways*. Comments received up to a month prior to publication of an issue will appear in that issue.

"Viae" in the November 1968 *Word Ways* invited readers to submit additional designations for streets. Elsewhere in this issue, Darryl Francis of Hounslow, Middlesex, England has provided 54 names of streets in the Greater London area. Andrew Griscom of Menlo Park, California reports that a friend of his once lived on Parkway Terrace Drive in Washington, D.C. -- a doubly redundant name consisting of three different synonyms for street.

In the February 1969 issue of *Word Ways*, Darryl Francis mentioned two coined words containing more than 20 consecutive vowels: 21 O’s followed by an H in Joseph Heller’s *Catch-22*, and a husband-and-wife partnership incorporated under a name containing 23 A’s. He now suggests that the logologist who is truly interested in superior vowel concentrations turn to the last page of Philip Roth’s best-selling novel, *Portnoy’s Complaint*, where he will find a word consisting of 230 consecutive A’s followed by 4 H’s. This word seems to be some sort of anguished howl emitted by Alex Portnoy, the hero.

Ralph Beaman of Boothwyn, Pennsylvania expresses surprise that "Missing Words" in the February 1970 issue did not include examples from Chinese. Chinese is a monosyllabic language with a limited number of sounds; the range is extended by using tones. The Wade Romanization method allows one to represent both the sound and the tone; for example, SHIH-4 means the appropriate character from those pronounced SHIH in the fourth tone. Many of these monosyllables convey quite complex thoughts, such as CHI-4 (with one horn turned up and one turned down) and HSU-4 (the end of a ball of thread). The following fable demonstrates the possibilities:

I started at K’UEI-2 (a centre from which nine roads lead out).
I took CH'IH-4 (a step with the left foot) and CH'IU-4 (a step with the right foot), and went through FA-2 (the left-hand entrance at a triple gate). Rather than walk on ME-4 (a raised path going east and west between fields), I chose CH'IEN-1 (a road going north and south). Most poetic were T'IAO-4 (the moon seen in the west before sunrise), FU-4 (the appearance of water issuing from a spring), P'ING-2 (the whirling of dust in the wind), and CH'I-2 (rocks awash at low tide). I saw CHU-4 (a horse with the near hind leg white), but was not sure it was HSIAI-1 (a horse with just one white hind leg). Suddenly there was CH'ANG-1 (a herd of animals fleeing), and TAN-1 (the glare of a tiger)! I was too old SHANG-1 (to die between the ages of eight and nineteen), but not YAO-3 (to die before age thirty). I CH'IEN-2 (lie hid under water) in SZU-4 (a stream which leaves the main branch and afterwards flows into it). Fortunately, I was saved by PAL-2 (father's older brothers), SHU-2 (father's younger brother), and SHEN-3 (wife of father's younger brother).

All examples have been taken from Mathews' Chinese-English Dictionary (Harvard University, 1944). Mr. Beaman wonders what the Chinese would think of the word OCTOROON (a person, all of whose great-grandparents were of the white race, except one, who was of the black race), or the word DEFENESTRATION (the act of murdering a person by throwing him out of a window).

Several errors inadvertently crept into Jean Sabine's "More Word Chess" in the February 1970 Word Ways. The words IS, COMA, LIRE and SEAM do not conform to the King's Move, and IRATE is a five-letter word given in an earlier list. On the other hand, the words RANK, RANT, RAND, GAR and MEAD should be added.

Ernst Theimer of Rumson, New Jersey considers telanagrams (see the February 1970 issue) acceptable only if they state a single thought clearly. To achieve this without breaking up the units is not easy. Perhaps the most succinct statement refers to the play about Pollux's twin: CASTOR ACTORS COSTAR. Also, one hears that the early Italians anticipated St. Patrick's activity by chasing out the native brown snakes: TIBER'S TRIBES BESTIR BISTER BITERS. Some-what more complicated is the description of a scene in which an irate housewife breaks up a noisy street game by hurling kitchenware, while the dog takes refuge by the fence corner: POTS STOP TOPS, SPOT OPTS POST. The leeway provided by group division increases the possibilities even when there is no recombination. An example is the surprised comment of the cockney who saw the up-country office...
A girl perched on a rock observes the approach of the school band:

"ONEST, ONE ST. NEOTS STENO SET ON STONE NOTES ETON’S TONES ONSET". Naturally, one cannot expect perfect grammar from a man who drops his "aitches". With recombination, the possibilities become virtually limitless, particularly if the units are large enough. But even with four-letter groups one can obtain dramatic results. Consider the sad case of the uneducated Scotswoman who, being obliged belatedly to christen her grown son, refused his plea for a feminine name: "NAME ME ANNE, MA." "NAE MAN, ME MEAN, ME NAME NAE MAN 'EM', 'ANNA'; ME NAME MAN 'ENEMA'. AMEN."

In the August 1968 Word Ways, Darryl Francis constructed a sentence ending with the nine prepositions "'Over, Under, Sideways, Down' up from Down Under for," a feat equivalent to that achieved by Dmitri Borgmann in Beyond Language (Scribner’s, 1967). Ralph Beaman proposes a way of indefinitely extending the number of terminal prepositions. To set the stage, consider the little boy who sleeps in an upper floor of a lighthouse who says to his mother when she brings him, as reading material, the August 1968 Word Ways: "What did you bring me the magazine I didn’t want to be read to out of about Over, Under, Sideways, Down' up from Down Under for?" This has a total of fifteen terminal prepositions, but the end is not in sight; for now the little boy can complain in similar vein about the reading material provided in this issue of Word Ways, adding a second "to out of about" at the beginning and "up around for" at the end of the preposition string. The mind boggles at the infinite regress which has now been established.

Two readers accepted the challenge of the pangrammatic crossword, described in the February 1970 Word Ways. Both Ernst Theimer of Rumson, New Jersey and Chester Karwoski of New Britain, Connecticut succeeded in reducing the size to 7x6. Mr. Theimer showed how the size could be further reduced to 5x8 if the variant word WAQF and the contraction I‘M are allowed.

```
Q F E Z V U G R J U G D O V B L I N D S
I A N D I Z L O H E M
C W M C R A F T W A Q F J
K T J K X S Z T R U C K
L S H O W E B P Y X G
P Y X B N Y M P H
```
Readers of the February 1970 Word Ways will recall that a unicycle is a two-syllable word in which the syllables can be reversed to form another two-syllable word. Leslie Card, Urbana, Illinois has mined Webster’s Unabridged for a large collection of unicycles:

- calmer-mercald calmer-mercald Thamar-Martha manks-kinsman
- Gerson-songerd torten-tentor salver-versal
- goober-bergood can tus-Tuscan server-verser
- molder-dermol retter-terret selter-tersel
- melena-enameln Ritter-terret setter-terset
- pantry-trypan mester-Terme minter-termin tatic-tictac
- tersil-silter

In the February 1970 Word Ways, Charles Karrick supplied 18 new geographic mnemonics, sentence charades each containing the name of a state and its capital. Chester Karwoski, Leslie Card and Ernst Theimer have devised more-or-less plausible mnemonics for all of the remaining states but North and South Dakota:

1. Nowhere's anything new, Mexico included, so be pleasant, a fellow spoke (CK) Charlie knew Mexico before Santa felt called upon to go there (LC)
2. Our fine bras, kapok-lined, eliminate use of lanolin, Col. Nesbit (CK)
3. Portfolio waving is nonsense, so chides Mo, in essence (CK)
   Only on radio was the prefix desmo inessential (ET)
4. Elm in, 'E', so taxable shouldn't be last, Pa ultimately counselled (CK)
5. How 'Yom' ingests 'Big Archey' enneagon-shaped biscuits, I'll never know (CK)
6. Tennes seek ye in vain, so gnash, villeins, your teeth (ET)
   Rottenness, eelgrass and corruption ran Ashville's taxes sky-high (LC)
   Loch Ness monster or ten Ness eels, Ogden Nash villeins, never (CK)
7. Phony Greek ami, 'Chi', gangly as ever, had his raglan singed (CK)
8. Oh, iota brain, Columbus, not Magellan, discovered America (CK)
   No hiodon will be found in a loco lumb usually (ET)
9. A weird sneeze at mass, 'Achu', set tsetses in limbo, Stoney (CK)
10. Arthur Penn, Sylvania 16495, corresponded with Harris, burgomaster in Holland (LC)
11. "There is no Denver, Montana," said Hermon T. Peliery (LC)
12. Go south, Carol, in a Mustang -- to find Rubus Columbianus (LC)

Some of the February 1970 charades can be improved by removing proper names:
When sparrows up north carol inanely, upsetting morale, I ghoom them.

The newest virgin I am sure will fetch arles tonight.

Don't call the Bolivian indian a redskin; call the indian apolistan.

Schools which made law a required course do very well.

At the zoo, I forego nothing as interesting as a lemur.

She bought a new jersey when she couldn't rent one.

Ralph Beaman notes that Webster's Dictionary, Second Edition, contains the following definition for SHANK: the final part, as, the shank of the evening. However, Webster's Dictionary, Third Edition, has altered the definition considerably: the early or main part of a period of time ... the shank of the evening. And, while we are on the subject of dictionary inconsistencies or errors, has anyone noticed that the Random House Unabridged Dictionary shows a regular pentagon having an interior angle of 118° instead of 108°?