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.

J.A. Lindon of Weybridge, Surrey, England was quite amused by the portrayals of Auntie Nell in "Three Poems From One Fountain" in the August 1970 issue: "But poor Auntie Nell! How she accumulated those fal-lals! Your 'neat Auntie Nell, so pale and white ... a quaint figure in buttons and old lace with trim of velvet around the collar and upon the cuffs' and Howard's spitcat masquerading as Victorian doll, the hell-peppery figure 'So trim with velvet buttons and collar, white lace and comb'. I had to chuckle! In point of fact, I was the eldest of my mother's five, so she was only in her early twenties, and poor Auntie Nell was her younger sister; so this aged and beribboned figure was possibly not even out of her teens at the time I ruined her jam-pudding!'... Careful readers may have discovered that the three poems as printed are not anagrams of each other; in line 32 of the poem Malaise, the word those should replace these.

*Word Ways* readers interested in American placenames should read two books by George R. Stewart: *Names on the Land* (Houghton, Mifflin, 1958) and *American Place-Names* (Oxford University Press, 1970). Using the Rand McNally Road Atlas (43rd edition), the Rand McNally Commercial Atlas and Marketing Guide (1967) and the Century Dictionary and Cyclopedia, Darryl Francis has been able to improve on "A Tale of Cities and Towns" in a number of ways. He has added six more chemical elements to the list:

- Calcium NY
- Magnesium CA
- Nickel TX KS
- Lithium MO
- Molybdenum NM
- Vanadium NM

Darryl next proposes searching for towns with Greek-letter names:

- Alpha AL
- AZ AR
- GA ID IL IA KA KY LA MO NV NJ OH OK SD TN VA WA
The Presidential list can be enlarged in at least two ways. Candidates for 1972 (or 1976) include Richard (LA) Nixon (NJ), Hubert (MN) Humphrey (NY), Spiro (OK) Agnew (CA), Edward (NC) or Teddy (AL) Kennedy (WI), John (KY) Lindsay (SC), George (AR) McGovern (PA), Nelson (AZ) Rockefeller (IL), and Ronald (AL) Reagan (TX). However, one prominent candidate is slighted in this name game -- there appears to be no town named Muskie. Darryl supplies a list of first names of past Presidents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>George AR</td>
<td>Millard WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John KY</td>
<td>Franklin NJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas WV</td>
<td>Abraham UT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James GA</td>
<td>Ulysses NB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew LA</td>
<td>Rutherford NJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin AL</td>
<td>Chester VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William WV</td>
<td>Grover WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zachary LA</td>
<td>Benjamin AL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The only President whose Christian name is missing from this list is Harry S Truman -- however, his combined first and middle names are represented by Harrys TX. Finally, Darryl takes up the challenge of finding a placename common to all 50 states. The Rand McNally Commercial Atlas lists FRANKLIN in 38 states -- all but CO SC WA AK DE FL HI NV NM RI UT WY. The Century Atlas adds CO SC WA and the Times Index-Gazetteer adds AK.

A. Wilansky of Bethlehem, Penna. enjoyed "A Charade Crossword" very much, but pointed out that the actual solution of the crossword puzzle need not be carried out. Instead, the reader can tackle the equally challenging task of attempting to figure out where the solution word should be inserted in the clue sentence.
In "Plurality" Ralph Beaman exhibits a singular with six distinct plurals from Webster's Third Edition. Darryl Francis has improved on this by consulting older sources: the plural of EYE is

EYES EINE EYN EYN EYNE YEN YES (Webster's Second)
EYEN EYGHEN IYEN (Funk & Wagnalls's New Standard)
ENE AIN (Webster's First)

Ralph Beaman wants to know whether there are any singular-plural examples as well-known as COW-KINE in which the singular and plural forms have no letters in common.

The past few issues of Word Ways have had so many references to exotic placenames, says Ralph Beaman, that one wonders if recreational linguistics has become exercises in geographical esoterica.

He just heard from Earl Wade, who recently took a trip back in time to a state in the U.S. His explorations turned up the following towns, villages, settlements and localities: Butterpat, Cuckoldstown, Dog's Ear Corner, Occasion, Corner Ketch, Little Hell, Pepperbox, Slaughter, Tent, The Trap, T Town, Bullseye. Cocked Hat, Hourglass, Lords Corner and Midnight Thicket. What state did he visit? (Source: Geological Survey Bulletin 1245, U.S. Dept. Int., 1966.)

In the February 1970 Word Ways, the article "Word Chains" challenged readers to construct a reverse word chain (for example, zany, yex, ..., ba, adz). Undoubtedly the most difficult link to find is a word beginning with X and ending with W. Dmitri Borgmann suggests two possibilities: X-NEW, an abbreviation of the term ex new, listed in Webster's Unabridged, First Edition; XAVEROW, the name of a market town in pre-World-War I Russia, listed in a German-language gazetteer/atlas dated 1883.

Two errors inadvertently crept into "Zero Redundancy Rides Again" in the August issue -- paegl was misspelled paebi, and Talvij should have been identified in the references as the pseudonym of Therese Albertine Luise von Jakob Robinson, a German-American authoress and philologist.

In the August 1970 Word Ways, a Query asked for large garble groups (completely interlocked word sets, such as the twelve-word group BIG BAG BUG BIT BAT BUT BID BAD BUD BIN BAN BUN), restricted to uncapitalized words in Webster's Second Edition. For notational convenience, denote the above garble group as follows:
A computer search of a magnetic tape of Webster's Second suggests that the largest three-letter garble group is (BFGRW)(AEIOU)(DT) at 50, closely followed by (BGFW)(AEOU)(DTN) at 49, (BFGRW)(AEOU)(DTN) at 49, (BGPW)(AEU)(DTN) or (BFGRW)(AEIO)(DTN) at 48. Leslie Card of Urbana, Illinois has tackled four-letter garble groups, coming up with (BLMPRT)(AI)(N)(DEGKS) at 70, and (BMRT)(AEIO)(LNT)(E) at 60. The best five-letter garble group he has found is (BPRSW)(AI)(N)(DEG)(S) at 45. However, if the word MONDS is allowed -- MOND is found in the American Heritage Dictionary as an obsolete spelling of mound -- the group size can be enlarged to 54. Large six-letter garble groups appear to be considerably more difficult to find; he has been unable to exceed 24: (BFGHMFP)(I)(L)(E)(DR) or (BHJLRT)(A)(CN)(K)(E)(DR) or (S)(CHNT)(OA)(R)(E)(DR) or (LNPRT)(AI)(C)(K)(E)(DR) or (DLNRST)(AI)(P)(E)(DR).

After reading "The Name Game" the editor's teen-age daughter, Peggy Eckler, pointed out that the full name of Quicksilver is Quicksilver Messenger Service. She then added the following:

- Badfinger
- Blood Sweat and Tears
- Bloodwyn Pig
- Blues Breakers
- Bonzo Dog Band
- Brindley Schwartz
- Cat Mother and the All-Night Newsboys
- The Cowsills
- Dawn
- Delaney, Bonnie & Friends
- Fat Water
- Gas Mask
- Ginger Baker's Air Force
- H. P. Lovecraft
- Hot Tuna
- The Incredible String Band
- The Moody Blues
- Mungo Jerry
- Pentangle
- Quintessence
- Shocking Blue
- Sly and the Family Stone
- Traffic