KICKSHAWS

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Readers are encouraged to send their own favorite linguistic kickshaws to the Associate Editor. All answers appear in the Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

Double-Duty Words

In the May 1971 issue of Word Ways, we introduced the subject of English words which, at least in their primary usage, denote both nationality and occupation. Murray Pearce and others have augmented the list, which has been winnowed down to include only double-duty pairs in which the two words denote the same occupation but different nationalities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English words</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>amah, ayah</td>
<td>nursemaid</td>
<td>Chinese, East Indian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lascar, kanaka</td>
<td>sailor</td>
<td>E. Indian, Polynesian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gauchó, vaquero</td>
<td>cowboy</td>
<td>Argentine, Mexican</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>muzhik, kibbutznik</td>
<td>collective farmer</td>
<td>Russian, Israeli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mandarín, pődesta</td>
<td>public official</td>
<td>Chinese, Italian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>redcoat, pollu</td>
<td>soldier</td>
<td>British, French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>proconsul, satrap</td>
<td>provincial governor</td>
<td>British, Persian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bobby, flic</td>
<td>policeman</td>
<td>British, French</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are plenty of other double-duty words denoting, for example, soldiers of other nations, but we're interested in new occupations. Can any Kickshavian find mates for

cadilesker (Turkish judge) shabundar (E. Indian harbormaster)
geisha (Japanese courtesan) sonar (E. Indian goldsmith)
serang (E. Indian boatswain) syce (E. Indian groom) ?

Incidentally, we mean courtesan in its most innocent sense. Aha! We dredged our core memory and found it: hetaera (Greek courtesan).

Bible Study

Can you find an anagram of METHUSELAH? If not, try Genesis 4:18 -- in the 1917 printing of the Old Testament by the Jewish Publication Society, Philadelphia, where the spelling METHUShaEL appears. Curiously, this variant does not appear in the King James or other well-

Now turn to the next page for the Bible Study.

First Bit: that is, his

Second Bit: thin

First Biblethal

Second Biblethal

End of Biblethal

Shaggy Dog

Margot and the Other

GRJ

My

I've

I need

Where

The

No

TH

That

I ju

To

This

I ju

A lot

DE

This

He

On

And
other well-known translations; they use METHUSAEL instead. This isn't the first time that the SH/S alternative has separated Hebrews from Gentiles; remember the password SHIBBOLETH which was mispronounced SIBBOLETH?

Now turn to Genesis 5:25-29 and 7:6, and if you do your sums correctly, you will be led to the conclusion that, in all probability, Methuselah died by drowning!

We don't know the source of this unusual pun pasticcio, but we pass it on in hopes that not all of you have heard it before:

First Bible Student: I know that manna means "what is it?", but that doesn't help much. What exactly did the Children of Israel live on during their long trek through the desert?
Second Bible Student: Considering that it was a desert, I should think it was obvious. Consider all the sandwiches there.
First Bible Student: I see; but where did they find the ingredients for those sandwiches?
Second Bible Student: Also obvious. The Lord sent Ham there and his descendants, bread and mustard.

End of Bible study.

Shaggy Doggerel

Margot Quinjuys of Three Rocs, N.Y. sent us three poems that are a bit on the downbeat side:

GREED

My life is full, indeed, of gloom.
I've naught, you see; just this small room.
I need more wealth -- that's misery.
What joys in great renown! What glee!
The mace and throne I long to own.
No crown too grand for me alone.

THE PESSIMIST

That deep red rose -- I see its thorn.
I just ignore the scent that's borne.
To me it's nothing. I deplore
Those scratches that I got before.
I just complain about the pain.
A lot I think of beauty's gain!

DEGRADATION

This skid row bum will win no more.
He'll strive and lose in his sad war.
On gin he's hooked-- that demon booze!
And now he'll loudly sing the blues.
He's chased away all hope today.  
Will Spring have cheer? No -- more decay.

Mary Youngquist of Rochester, N.Y. sent a more upbeat triplet:

**CONTENTMENT**

My life is full, indeed!
Of gloom I've naught, you see.
Just this small room I need.
More wealth? That's misery.
What joy's in great renown?
What glee, the mace and throne?
I long to own no crown.
Too grand for me alone.

**THE OPTIMIST**

That deep red rose I see,
Its thorn I just ignore.
The scent that's borne to me --
It's nothing I deplore!
Those scratches that I got --
Before I just complain
About the pain a lot,
I think of beauty's gain.

**REDEMPTION**

This skid row bum will win!
No more he'll strive and lose.
In his sad war on gin
He's hooked that demon, booze.
And now he'll loudly sing,
The blues he's chased away.
All hope today will spring:
Have cheer -- no more decay!

Thus Mary banishes gloom with a deft change of meter, preserving, as you can see, an abundant rhyme scheme. A Miltonic change of mood with an added fillip; except for punctuation, there is no more difference in the words of Margot and Mary than there is between Mary and Margot.

The idea of the shifted verses is, we believe, original with the Wizard of Weybridge, J.A. Lindon; see "Convertible Acrostics" in the August 1969 issue of Word Ways. A more elementary demonstration of the effect of punctuation on meaning is given on page 67 of Joseph Shipley's Playing With Words (Prentice-Hall, 1960).

**Isomorphs**

More readers will find two anagrams with respective word pat-
terns 12332144 and 14233421 than will discover a word with pattern 1232424454. All three words are found in Webster's Collegiate; if stumped, consult Answers and Solutions.

Our Own Yellow Pages

Huff, Snit & Tizzy: Conveyances
Gusto, Relish & Zest: Dining Companions
Dither, Funk & Quandary: Housing Accomodations
Elan, Flair & Verve: Musical Accompanists

A Quiz of a Quiz

If there were such a word as MANAGAR, what would its distinctive quality be? The fact that it was an anagram of ANAGRAM. LASREVER is another word we mourn the lack of, for it is a reversal of REVERSAL. The following fifteen words are all of the "x of X" type; in each case you are challenged to find x. Before you start, let us observe that all words in the English language (with but one exception) qualify as a misspelling of MISPELLING; if you resort to that as an answer to any of the words given below, you risk disqualification. Compare your results with those in Answers and Solutions.

1. Importunate 6. Thyme 11. I
5. Plurals 10. Inflections 15. Fourth

Mystery Story

Benjamin L. Schwartz of McLean, Virginia sent us this poser. A businessman returned to his office one afternoon and found the memo "Phone back Mr. Wryquick" on his desk. Knowing nobody of that name, he questioned his secretary, who told him the caller had told her that her employer knew the caller's telephone number. Next day the businessman's attorney, Dawcy, Esq. arrived in a snit (rented from Avis) and asked his client why he hadn't returned his yesterday call. After a few questions directed to his secretary and his attorney, the businessman cleared up the mystery. Can you do likewise, given that neither the secy. nor the atty. was very bright?

This is much too tough to expect anyone to solve, so prepare yourself. When the secretary asked Dawcy, Esq. to spell his name for her, he said: "D as in double-u, A as in are, W as in why, C as in cue, Y as in you, E as in eye, S as in sea, Q as in quay."

The Barber in Disguise

Robert T. Kurosaka of Watertown, Massachusetts challenges you to insert the appropriate English word in the following sentence which will make the sentence true:
In this sentence there are neither more nor fewer than three letter words.

Mr. Kurosaka's inspiration was Howard Bergerson's self-descriptive sentence in the November 1971 Kickshaws. Going a step further, he has also constructed a self-descriptive article (hyphenated words counted as single words) entitled So?

1. In this sentence there are sixteen words, eighty-one letters, one hyphen, four commas, and one period.
2. This sentence consists of fifteen words, eighty-three letters, one hyphen, four commas, and one period.
3. This sentence is composed of sixteen words, eighty-four letters, four numerals, a pair of parentheses, four hyphens, nineteen commas, and eight periods.
4. This entire article (excluding the title) consists of four sentences, seventy-six words, four hundred fifteen letters, four numerals, a pair of parentheses, four hyphens, nineteen commas, and eight periods.

Word Squares

Mary Youngquist went below the E R R E D A R D line in Web II to produce (near right) S E E R A R A R a 4-by-4 word square with eight distinct words, using only three letters (the previous record was six letters).

Murray Pearce matched her achievement with the 4-by-4 square at the far right. But Mary had the last word when she produced four 5-by-5 word squares with ten distinct words, using only five letters.

S T A L E T S A L E T A S T E S T A T E T A T E S
T A T E S T A T E S T A T E E S T E R T A T E S
A L L A T E L L E S S T E R E E L L A S T E A S E L E A S E T E A R T L E A S E
T E A S E L E A S E T E A R T L E A S E E S S E S A S S E S A S S E S

Pig-Latin Squares

Mary Youngquist has met Walter Penney's February 1972 challenge to construct a pig-latin square of dimension 6-by-6; her word list is given at the near right.

If one assigns to the letters of each column their alphabetical order within the column, the Latin square at the far right is generated. The fact that each row and column contains each of the digits from one to six (the essential property of a 6-by-6 Latin square) is not nearly so remarkable as the fact that exactly the same Latin square results if the numerical assignments are made by row instead of column. If you think the challenge is not too difficult, try making (as Mary has done) a 4-by-4 word list with the same property. Note that the down entries need not be words; in fact, there does not exist a 4-by-4 or 5-by-5 Latin square.

Any reader who wishes to try the challenge is welcome to do so.

Why Asia Minor?

Why, in fact, did Asia Minor assert that agreement on the different Settlement of the countries between countries will agree most?

Synanagram

Murray Pearce rounded out the year by matching her achievement with the 4-by-4 word list at the near right. She matched it with the 5-by-5 word list at the far right. But Mary had the last word when she produced four 5-by-5 word squares with ten distinct words, using only five letters.

S T A L E S T A L E T A S T E S T A T E T A T E S
T A T E S T A T E S T A T E E S T E R T A T E S
A L L A T E L L E S S T E R E E L L A S T E A S E L E A S E T E A R T L E A S E
T E A S E L E A S E T E A R T L E A S E E S S E S A S S E S A S S E S

Poker Words

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S T A L E S T A L E T A S T E S T A T E T A T E S
T A T E S T A T E S T A T E E S T E R T A T E S
A L L A T E L L E S S T E R E E L L A S T E A S E L E A S E T E A R T L E A S E
T E A S E L E A S E T E A R T L E A S E E S S E S A S S E S A S S E S

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Any reader who wishes to try the challenge is welcome to do so.

Why Asia Minor?

Why, in fact, did Asia Minor assert that agreement on the different Settlement of the countries between countries will agree most?
be words; in fact, Kickshaws feels safe in conjecturing that there does not exist in any language (spoken by at least 50 million people) a 4-by-4 or higher dimensional word square that yields the same Latin square whether the letters are ordered by row or by column. Any reader who proves us wrong will be awarded Asia Minor.

Why Asia Minor?

Why, indeed? For several weeks, we’ve been a little annoyod with Asia Minor and would be happy to give it away. For one thing, we’re not sure what it comprises, nor are the authorities we’ve consulted in agreement on the question. In fact, there’s blessed little agreement on the differences between and among Asia Minor, The Near East, and The Middle East, and for once we’d like to see the whole thing settled. Settlement of the question would have to be in the form of a chart listing the countries common to all three, to each pair of two, and the countries belonging to just one of the three. Obviously, no two readers will agree in all seven categories, but the one who backs up his claim most authoritatively will be awarded the Far East.

Synanagrams

Murray Pearce has a list of anagram-synonym pairs to add to the ones that appeared in this department in August 1971. Most of Murray’s are exceptional in that the words are not mutually cognate: angered - enraged, statement - testament, listerize - sterilize, co-tarnine - narcotine, pat - apt, pat - tap, evil - vile, flirting - trifling, eatings - ingesta, ’tis - it’s.

Poker Words Revisited

Mary Youngquist has bettered her poker word list given in the May 1972 Kickshaws:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>412</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 5 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 6 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 1 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 3 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 4 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Murray Pearce matched BANED with ABEND, improved AFACE with CABDA, and bettered BABAI with DABBA. In addition, he found the third known straight flush word, ACHIM. Recalling the definitions, a flush word is a word with five distinct letters all found in the same half of the alphabet, and a straight word is a word with five distinct letters appearing in alphabetical or reverse alphabetical order. Poker word enthusiasts are challenged to find:

1. Two flush words from the same half of the alphabet having no letters in common,
2. Two straight words with no common letters, with the property that when they are placed side by side, the ten letters appear in alphabetical order.
3. Three straight words with no common letters.
4. Four pat words (either straight or flush words) with no com-
mon letters.

Borgmann Bested

In the May 1972 Kickshaws, we suggested that no one could im-
prove on Dmitri Borgmann's record of eighteen mutually non-crashing
five-letter words from Web II. Mary Youngquist quickly proved us
wrong with the following list of nineteen non-crashers:

- abyssm
- edder
- knoll
- optic
- umbra
- bluff
- fichu
- loggy
- pshaw
- wreck
- champ
- hajji
- muntz
- scrub
- ytwyn
- desks
- igloo
- nymph
- twixt

In the same issue, we also presented OPPOSE - POOPES, a
pair of non-isogrammatic, non-crashing, isomorphic anagrams.
Mary matched this with RITTER - TERRIT, and topped both pairs
with OPPOSIT - POOPITS. Anyone for an eighter?

Broadway: Abridged Versions

Last spring, a TV network perpetrated a one-hour (less time for
 commercials) adaptation of Finian's Rainbow. Several of the songs
(as well as the scenes in which they occur in the unabridged ver-
 sion) had to be omitted, of course. Since there is clearly no way of avoid-
ing the problem of time limitation in commercial television, we have
a sort of interim solution, pending the advent of viewer-sponsored
TV: telescope two or more scenes together, both book and score, as
was done in the Lida Rose and Will I Ever Tell You? scene of The
Music Man. Here are some particularly harmonious blends that any
producer with the right kind of scratch in his kick is welcome to use.
Just so we don't have to listen.

- Allegro: The gentleman is a dope; a fellow needs a girl.
- Bells Are Ringing: The party's over - just in time.
- Carousel: If I loved you when the children are asleep.
- The King And I: Too young; shall we dance?
- Annie Get Your Gun: I got lost in his arms, don't what comes
 naturally (they say it's wonderful).
- Anything Goes: All through the night you're the top!
- South Pacific: Some enchanted evening I'm gonna wash that man
 right out of my hair.
- Oklahoma: I'm just a girl who can't say no; people will say
 we're in love.
- My Fair Lady: The rain in Spain falls mainly in the plain on the
 street where you live. With a little bit of luck, I've grown
 accustomed to your face.

Abstemious Words

From Web II, Murray Pearce has found the no-vowel word
SYMPHYSY which better s the Word Buff's record by one letter. Murray and Dmitri Borgmann have both reported two entries which may prove to be the last word(s) on the subject of words lacking the five vowels AEIOU, or lacking the six vowels AEIOUY. Funk & Wagnalls lists MYNYDDYSLWYN as the name of a village in Monmouthshire (pronounced churn'ly), and the American Thesaurus of Slang (Second Edition) abstemiously lists BZZZZZZZ (to gossip).

Hmmmmmmmm.

More Shaggy Doggerel

The Word Botcher, who reports that hoodla rasled rumpi at the last two gymkhanas he attended, sent in the following Limerick, which will strike readers as unusual, provided they have not already seen the idea exploited by the great Lear himself:

A Dutchman who stopped at the Ritz
Ate caviar, lobsters, and duck
Then drank fifteen pints
Of cognac and stout
And said "Ring me early for lunch."

Duane Gilbert of Glendale, California sent another clever one in with the admission that though the verse is new, the idea is not. That's an understatement, since we've seen the same format a couple of dozen times before, but are there really any limergimmicks that haven't already been used?

A smuggler of fish, viz.,
Tuna, halibut, and squiz,
Cached a contraband fin
In an old violin;
Customs asked: "That's no Strad fin?"

Oilers, Tollers, and Spillers

In the last issue, we introduced a pair of games based on a list of sixteen three-letter words. Only a few readers discovered that these games are actually disguised versions of Tic-Tac-Toe, generalized to a 4-by-4 field. In the Toller vs. Spoiler game, if the words are placed in the array to the left, then the ten possible tetrads are displayed in the rows, columns and two main diagonals. Toller, who starts, is deemed the winner only if, after all sixteen words have been selected, either he or his opponent (the Spoiler) has among his eight words a tetrad (a set of four sharing a common letter). After some fiddling with the game last spring, Garry Crum and I came to the tentative conclusion that the Spoiler has the advantage and with judicious play can always achieve a "cat's game". However, the experience of several logomachists since last May has been just the opposite, and now Garry Crum and Mannis Charosh have both proved by exhaustive methods that Toller can force
a win. Note that he can always win easily if Spoiler takes three words of any tetrad while the fourth is still open, since Toiler can leave that word for Spoiler on the sixteenth move, if necessary. However, that fact does not reduce the complexity of the game tree sufficiently to make the proof of Toiler's advantage publishable here.

If you don't have the game tree available, Toller vs. Spoiler is still entertaining. And the modified game in which Spoiler plays first is still unanalyzed. In fact, as explained in the next item, it is the only unanalyzed Toller vs. Spoiler variant on square fields of arbitrary size!

The Next Item

Instead of tetrads, pentads, sestads, etc., consider the equivalent n-by-n version of the game. As previously stated, Toller wins playing first in the 4-by-4 version. Nobody knows who has the advantage if Spoiler plays first in the 4-by-4 game. What is mathematically remarkable is that only this (semi-) case remains a mystery. For n less than four, it is simple to prove that Toller wins playing first or second, and for greater than four, it is equally simple to prove that Spoiler wins playing first or second.

The Oilers

This game, using the same list of sixteen words, was offered along with Toller vs. Spoiler as a simplification of Norton Black's game of Euler Squares, relayed to us by Mannis Charosh. Briefly stated, the object of this game is the reverse of the object of Tic-Tac-Toe, i.e., to obtain a set of entries (dartet) no two of which share a common line (in the case of cells on a 4-by-4 field) or a common letter (in the word version, Oilers).

Paradoxically, this objective can also be represented geometrically by a Tic-Tac-Toe board. If we use the array at the right, we find that there are twelve winning dartets, represented by the rows, the columns, the main diagonals, the corners, and the central square. Garry Crum neatly proved that the game belongs to the second player, who can guarantee himself the first dartet or can see to it that neither player gathers one. Clearly, he need only take an entry in each of the dartets. Garry's proof, based on the above diagram, involves a simple pairing strategy. Allowing for symmetry, the first player has three opening moves: corner, side, or center. In the diagrams below, X represents the first player's opening move and O, the second player's response. The remaining fourteen cells are labelled from one to seven in pairs. After the initial exchange, the second player always chooses a cell labelled with the same number as that of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>X</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>0</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

X 650 7X71 1355
4154 4032 2X04
7313 4552 2664
7622 1636 7371

first player's most recent selection.

It can be clearly seen that each of the twelve dartets either contains the second player's O or else two cells of the same label.

Afterthought

Using the above diagrams for the uninitiated in either game, only Toller wins if Toller and Crum, you can see that the game will be still unanalyzed.

Suppose other tetrads? Since Tic-Tac-Toe's winning lines are second has no
Robert Abplanalp

Two readable palindromes and a palindrome of fertility has been named "Vampire":

Drats, a reborn.

James Rambler is the alias T.U. R.

Recommended

For those who like charades, about three possibilities. Of the two issues have
Using these diagrams, you can generally make mincemeat out of the uninitiated, assuming you play first or second with equal frequency in either game. And if you and your opponent have diagrams, only Toller vs. Spoiler remains challenging. And if, unlike Charosh and Crum, you don't have the lush tree for Toller first, then that game will be just as entertaining as it always was, though you may now prefer to play Spoiler first on the aesthetic grounds that it is still unanalyzed.

Suppose one plays Toller vs. Spoiler with darts instead of tet-rads? Since Toller can guarantee a win playing first in ten-line 4-by-4 Tic-Tac-Toe, he can obviously do so when there are two additional winning lines. Whether or not Toller retains the advantage playing second has not been proved, but it seems a fairly safe bet he does.

Robert Abplanalp

Two readers responded to our May 1972 invitation to construct a palindrome around the name of Abplanalp. Murray Pearce offers a palindrome from which liability has been removed and in which scurrility has been tempered by entitling it "On a Sixteenth Century Welsh Vampire":

Drats, a devil lives! Revile, damn Robert Abplanalp, bat reborn. Ma delivers evil, live dastard.

James Rambo, arch-palindromist who has been contributing under the alias TUT to the Enigma for many years, offered this cover poem:

Snowscene

I'd dreamt of just a touch
Of branding irons and such,
Of bar-stools done in hide
And cattle skulls (well dried);
But this was not to be
My wife was firm with me:
"PLANALP BAR, ABPLANALP, Before I have your scalp!"
Our fun-room is a mess;
It's western Swiss, I guess.

Recommended

For those who like word challenges such as rebuses, cryptograms, charades, and dozens of other types, the Enigma appears monthly with about three score beauties, varying from quite easy to well-nigh impossible. On these, the suspense involved in waiting for the answers two issues hence is utter. You can never tell whether a puzzle is hard

same label. Thus, the second player blocks every dartet.

Afterthought
or easy without trying, and that's part of Enigma's allure. Skillfully edited by Mary Youngquist. Subscription price: $4 per year. Write Paul E. Thompson, E. Alstead Road, Alstead, N. H. 03602.

And for those who love games, the best journal going is NOST-ALGIA (kNights Of the Square Table). Postal games of incredible variety are well-reported each month, and membership standings are updated constantly. If you can't win in one game, invent another; it takes only two players to start a new game craze. The membership prefers chess and its variants, but word games have been gaining in popularity in the last few years. $5 per year. Write Bob Lauzon, Drawer G, Pittsford, N. Y. 14534. Philip Cohen writes an entertaining column called Olla Podrida (the copyright on the name belongs to Murray Pearce).

From England comes a new game magazine called Games & Puzzles. Of a different character than NOST-ALGIA, it stresses commercial games. It contains many good articles, and has an especially good problem department edited by Darryl Francis. Annual subscription: $7.05 surface mail, $18.27 air mail. Write Circulation Manager, 19 Broadlands Road, P. O. Box 4, London N6 4DF, England.

Thank You For The Giant Sea Tortoise, by Mary Ann Madden, was reviewed in the February 1972 Word Ways, but now that it has come out in paperback (Lancer, 95¢) we'd like to add our praise to Philip Cohen's. We can describe it only as a felicitous mess around with words. It is based on a series of New York Magazine competitions, and the reader is put in the same enviable position as the editor of Mad Magazine or of Playboy's best department, Playboy After Dark. The worst of the hundreds of selections are good. The best will remain with you. They even taste better the second time. The book title is an example of an unseemly greeting card; we also liked "Congratulations on Having Your Charge Reduced to Simple Assault" and "So You've Been Chosen Thane of Cawdor". Another great category is titles that didn't quite make it: "From Poland With Love" (movie), "Lawrence of the UAR" (movie), "You Can Take Salem Out Of The Country But Not The Other Way Around" (ad slogan) and our favorite, "'Tis Pity She's A Call Girl" (play). The compleat logophyle must have this one.

One that almost got by us is John Barth's The Sot-Weed Factor (Grosset & Dunlap Paperbacks, 1966, $1.95). If you were minded to mourn that there are no Fieldings in modern literature, you're wrong. Barth is a Fielding, and his book is a picaresque, ribald, racy novel set in Restoration England and Maryland with an anti-hero yet. Some of the dialogue is anachronistic, but purposely so, we suspect, for the whole book, entertaining as it is if read in perfect innocence, is nevertheless a monstrous joke. Conceding that it is very funny and, unlike Tom Jones, never becomes dull, what place does it have in a logophilac review? A very secure place, for the reader will discover that Barth is a confirmed logophile himself and wastes no opportunity to show it. A couple of dozen Word Ways articles (or what would make very good ones) are trotted out when the reader least expects them.
Flash

Kevin Kearns advises us that every letter of the alphabet appears on every page of Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary from page 1 to 1041, above the line. That's not too hard to believe. What we have yet to find, by way of putting Kearns' discovery in proper perspective, is a page in the main body of the Merriam-Webster Pocket Dictionary (first printing, 1964) that fails to show every letter above the line. The Optometrists' Association has requested us to challenge you to find one.

Challenge

In the English and Russian alphabets the capital letters A, E, K, M, O and T are equivalent, while the English letters N, R, S, U and V are represented by the Cyrillic symbols Н, Р, С, У and В. The Russian equivalents of the remaining 15 English letters are not Roman characters. Using the 11 letters above, Kickshavians are challenged to find the longest English word whose Russian cipher equivalent is also an English word.

Minicrypt

No cryptanalyst, be never so amateur, will fail to translate this message: 1233245623 267 377673373. In the unlikely event you attempt it and fail, look in Answers and Solutions.

Tricrypt

Last time we challenged cryptanalysts with a short message, enciphered in three different ways, with the objective of reading the message and reconstructing all three modes of encipherment. Sean Reddick and Ross Eckler succeeded, and three other cryptpiefs found everything but the last mode of encipherment. All breakthroughs presumably came by cracking the first, numerical code, consisting of 2- or 3-digit numbers followed by 1- or 2-digit numbers. Solvers deduced that this was a book code with page number followed by word number on the indicated page. What book more simple than a dictionary and what dictionary more probable than the Merriam-Webster Pocket version? The plain text was TO HAVE SOLVED THIS YOU MUST BE AN EXPERT! This was an acknowledgement that amateurs might not exploit the first cipher, presumably the only means of entry, simply because they were not familiar with the concept of a book code (an ancient means of encipherment). It might be argued that even if the first cipher is recognized as a book code, the difficulty in determining what book was used is too great to make the challenge fair. Sean Reddick refutes this by example. Once one assumes that the numbers represent dictionary entries, the determination of the dictionary is helpful but not absolutely necessary. The page numbers alone can generally be used to determine the message uniquely if the message is long enough, since the relative position of any given word is approximately the same among virtually all dictionaries. In the case of shorter messages, a crib or a hint as to the message's meaning is probably ne-
cessary. We will present another tricrypt later with seventeen words. One of the modes used will be to give only the dictionary order, from 1 to 17, and together with the conditions imposed by the other two modes, we believe that the solution will prove unique.

The Other Two Modes

The second encipherment was by a reciprocal substitution cipher in which X was a fixed point, i.e., was enciphered by itself. Can you prove that the cipher must contain at least one other fixed point? The third cipher was the most difficult to reconstruct. It was a digraphic (two letters at a time) cipher known as a Playfair after its nineteenth-century inventor. The 5-by-5 Playfair matrix is formed by taking any key phrase and writing it in, left to right, top to bottom, neglecting repeated letters. The remaining cells are filled in in alphabetic order with the remaining letters. I and J traditionally occupy the same cell to fit 26 letters into 25 cells. Having constructed the matrix, the encipherment of the message is done according to the following rules (or a close variation of them): (1) if the two plaintext letters are on different rows and columns, the cipher letters are the remaining two vertices of the rectangle in the order high-low; (2) if the plaintext letters occupy the same row (column), move one row right (one column down) to obtain the cipher letters; (3) if the two plaintext letters are the same, recast the message. The key phrase used to construct the Playfair matrix in the third message was: YOU EVIDENTLY RECOGNIZE A PLAYFAIR MATRIX WHEN YOU SEE ONE.

1. A plaintext message (not necessarily intelligible) was used by the encipherer as the key phrase in forming the Playfair matrix that enciphered it according to the rules stated above. The resulting cipher text was PLAYFAIR MATRIX. Is it possible?
2. Is there a convenient mechanical device for enciphering three letters at a time?

Reddick's Triumph

Several years ago in the comic strip "Steve Roper" a reporter excitedly telephoned the following cipher message: 188-1-22 71-2-13 70-2-11 68-1-25 19-1-6 112-2-10 99-1-35 ! Sean Reddick immediately deduced that there was an underlying seven-word message and that a dictionary code had been applied, each entry giving page, column and word-number. He was unable to find the dictionary then and to this day has never found it. Nevertheless, he solved the crypt using the ratios involved and half a dozen dictionaries in order to get the probable range of each word as closely as possible. With a message that short, solution is bound to be nearly impossible, but Sean made a lucky guess, based on the fact that the reporter mentioned in what appeared to be a significant way that the plaintext message had been given to him by "the delivery boy". He documented his solution by sending it to a nationally-known columnist, who reported it a couple of weeks later when events in the comic strip bore out Sean's solution.

You have all the facts before you. Care to try to duplicate Sean

Reddick's LIONAIRE mustering. B Solutions.

Another Triumph

None of the modes used is to give the solution on a unique paper; they are not so crude. This message, consisting of the first cipher text gives an idea of the message.

1. The
2. Wor
3. Dict
4. 1

Heads 'n Tails

The forward and rear, supply a word into the center of letters if there are not double cre

1. AT
2. DE
3. EN
4. ES

Panalphabets

Recent ster's Sec achievemen as well as co

JUXTAPY
Reddick’s feat? My own effort, WISCONSIN MUSICAL MULTIMILLIONAIRE LEADS CONCERT UNDER PAVILION, just does not pass muster. If you decide that you can’t do better, consult Answers and Solutions.

Another Tricrypt

None of the three modes of encipherment could possibly be based on a unique plaintext message. And although Kickshaws believes that taken together they determine the message uniquely, we grant that they are not a very practical cryptographic device. Our main objective is to give the readers another chance at what we think will prove to be a not-so-outrageously difficult example as the one presented last issue. This time the encipherment modes are not hidden. The message, consisting of 17 words, can be read as a rhyming couplet. The first clue gives the meter, the second the word lengths, and the third gives the dictionary order of the words as they appear in the message. Have at it!

1. The first line consists of an iamb followed by four anapests
2. Word lengths: 6, 2, 4, 3, 6, 3, 5, 8, 5, 5, 3, 5, 4, 6, 4, 5, 4
3. Dictionary order: 5, 3, 10, 2, 8, 1, 14, 11, 17, 9, 13, 11, 15, 4, 16, 7, 6

Heads 'n Tails Quiz

The formats for a dozen words having the same letter groups front and rear, e.g. MA-MA, are presented below, and you are asked to supply a word, e.g. HAT, which forms a larger word when inserted into the central position. The number of dashes indicates the number of letters in the core word. A score of five is very good. Where there are multiple solutions, take credit for any one of them. Take double credit for finding a solution we missed.

1. AT----AT (1) 5. IC-----IC (1) 9. RE----RE (1)
2. DE---DE (1) 6. ING----ING (3) 10. ST----ST (1)
3. EN---EN (2) 7. LY----LY (1) 11. ST----ST (2)
4. ES----ES (1) 8. ME----ME (1) 12. TOR----TOR (1)

Panalphabetic Word Lists

Recently Murray Pearce was able to find three words in Webster's Second and Third totaling 54 letters that contained all letters of the alphabet. However, Darryl Francis decisively bettered this achievement by reducing the total number of letters to only 39, as well as confining the words to a single dictionary (Webster’s Second): JUXTAPYLORIC, QUICK-FLOWING, SEMIBOLSHEVIZED.