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.

Following up on Will Shortz's Kickshaws in the August issue, Leroy Meyers pointed out that a non-E answer to the question "how would you define happiness?" is, as all fans of the Peanuts comic strip know, "a warm puppy". He adds the following elaborate French rebus:

Un grand abbe, plein d'appetit, a traversé Paris sans souper
(a large abbe, hungry, crossed Paris without supping)

Un grand A, B, plein d'a, petit a traversé par I, cent sous p
(A big A, B, full of little a's, a crossed by I, one hundred under p)

Ed Wolpow has sent in a new subtransposal record to add to "Word Ways Challenges (Part 3)" in the August issue. Since any two words differing only in the number of a's are automatically subtransposals, the variant spellings hematospectrophotometer/haematospectrophotometer form a subtransposal scoring 258,875,854,848,000,000,000,000! To avoid trivialities like this, one can insist that the two words in a subtransposal have no letters in common; the largest-scoring subtransposal he knows of is field/broach, with 12,960.

Back in February 1977, Word Ways featured an article by R. Robinson Rowe on unusual bathroom names. An interesting pair which Darryl Francis came across in London's West End were ELTON JOHN for men, and OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN for women; both are, of course, prominent pop stars. These names appeared in a pizzeria, the Chicago Pizza Pie Factory.

In "Goodbye, Hob Collingwood" in the November 1976 Word Ways, Ralph Beaman penned a short story based on names given certain playing cards. Recently he turned up two more: BASTA (the queen of spades) and BAS-TO (the ace of clubs). Others, gleaned from Tom Pulliam's crossword dictionary, include MATADOR (jack of clubs in Skat), SPADILLE (ace of spades in Ombre, queen of clubs in Solo) and PUPPYFOOT (ace of clubs, or sometimes any club).
Folk etymology (the conversion of a word or phrase in one language to a more easily-pronounced word or phrase in another, as Betws-y-Coed to 'Betty Coed') was commented on in the November 1978 Colloquy and the August 1979 Kickshaws. An example heretofore overlooked has been supplied by Leroy Meyers: 'Thomas and Charlie' for the Mexican town Tamazunchale, between Mexico City and Tampico.

Errata: In "Dutch Palindromes" the singular of POPPEN is POP (not PAP), and the surname KOEKKOEK is a palindrome if the diphthong OE is recognized as a single letter. Ed Wolpow reminded the editor that the capital of Switzerland is Bern, not Zurich, so this name should be placed between Lebanon (Beirut) and Colombia (Bogota) in "Put in Some More Good Words". In Kickshaws, the tongue-click tsk should have been spelled tck. In Colloquy, the letter before ais in the progressive deletion of 'territorialises' is L, not I; jigg should have been jigg; and 'effeer' is found under effeer in the OED. In "Higher-Scoring Scrabble" teutonise was misspelled tenonise, and substantive (in the first paragraph) should have been substantive.

Ed Wolpow answers Jeremiah Farrell’s query on the relationship between a cigarette and AWOL -- "a cigarette isAbsent WithOut Leaf (that is, tobacco leaf)".

Kickshaw updates: Harry Partridge observed that gul and rhodon both come from a root that can be represented as wrhdom. William Sunners adds that the editor missed izzard as a word for the letter Z in "Spelling the Alphabet".

Frederick Landers accepted Faith Eckler's challenge in the February 1979 Kickshaws to construct a word ladder connecting two six-letter reversals: SLOOPS, SNOOPS, SNOOTS, SPORTS, SPOOTS, SPOOLS. All words are common ones with the exception of spoot (a Scot. and dial. English var. of 'spout'). but the task was made easier than usual because of the identity of letters 1-6 and 4-5. How about a ladder connecting two six-letter reversals having all letters different?

Darryl Francis adds to "Hair-It-Is" the name Jefferson Hairshop in Putney, London, England (a pun on the musical group Jefferson Airship). Leroy Meyers suggests that punning names need not be limited to hairdressers: consider the Supreme Court Racquetball Club, The Athlete's Foot (shoe store), the Pony-X-Press (printers). In similar vein, I have noticed in the Morristown area Hello Deli (delicatessen), The Happy Booker (bookstore) and the Water Shed (bathrooms and kitchens). In-depth articles like "Hair-It-Is" may well be possible.

Boris Randolph recently noted that the poet Alfred NOYES has a self-contradictory surname, much in the spirit of ANTEPOST and MONOPOLY.
Ralph Beaman writes "Back in the second grade I was taught 'Our principal is a pal'; being from New England there was no need to teach at school that one's principal is one's pal, even if one must compromise a principle to preserve it." Leroy Meyers supplies the Robert Benchley commentary on the difficulty of remembering mnemonic, in his My Ten Years in a Quandary:

I remember perfectly that 'thirty days hath September, April, June and --', but whether it is 'November' or 'December' is a mystery to me ...

I am letter perfect, except for one detail, on the old mariner's maxim: '--- skies at night sailors' delight; --- skies in the morning, sailors take warning.' All that I don't remember is what color sky it is -- blue, red, or gray ...

'Beer before wine, Everything fine!' is all right as a slogan, unless you happen to think that it might be: 'Beer after wine.'

Elsewhere, Benchley confessed to not knowing whether 'Columbus sailed the ocean blue' or 'Columbus sailed the deep blue sea' in "Spel-

Still more -cide words! George Scheetz found SCHMOOICIDE, a coinage meaning the killing of a Schmoo', from the Li'l Abner comic strip. Frederick Crane has noted in recent magazines and newspapers the coinages DUCKACIDE, LINGUACIDE (murdering the language), MAOCIDAL (Time magazine, Feb. 7, 1977, p. 45), MATERNICIDE (the killing of one who is a mother), and URBICIDE. In its trademark usage, HERPICIDE is a killer of the herpes virus (causing various skin diseases), not of reptiles -- "in my youth, it was the comforting name of the solution in which my barber kept his combs between customers." How about a new set of abstract -cides for killers of bottles, pain, ladies, joy, motors, balls and time: AMPULLICIDE, DOLORICIDE, DOMINACIDE, GAUDICIDE, MOTORLICIDE, PILICIDE, TEMPICIDE?

Catherine Rippin belatedly adds two more Strange Paradoxes (see February 1977 issue, and August and November 1978 Colloquy): a strike can be both a hit and a miss; the noun 'upstage' refers to the back of the stage, but one upstages an actor by moving in front of him to attract attention.

Both Blake Greenlee and Howard Bergerson have pointed out to the editor an excellent translingual alphabetic letter-shift: YES, shifted 16 spaces, becomes OUI! Dmitri Borgmann notes a much more elegant example of three mutual shift-pairs of five letters than gobbo(12) sanna(10) werre --- GNARL(13) TANEY(4) XERIC. Two of these are in the Pocket Dictionary; the third, although not in the main body of the Unabridged, is the surname of a well-known Supreme Court justice of the last century.

Frederick Landers notes that HAL, the computer in the movie "2001:
Jeff Grant has extended the study of positional word lists from 13 letters (February 1979 Word Ways) to 15, with only GKORUXYZ missing: counterAvouches, electroBlasting, reinterChanging, counterDwellers, nonconsEquences, counterFactuals, counter-Hatching, sophistications, knuckle-Jointing, controlLability, counterMarching, synchronologist, hepaticOlogical, counterPleading, unstateSmanlike, thermosTability, counterVailment, and counterWheeling. Counterdwellers, quences, and countervailment are from the OED, atching from the English Dialect Dictionary, hepaticological from Chambers Twentieth Century Dictionary, and synchronologist is inferred from 'synchronology'.

John Gummere of Haverford, Pennsylvania believes that the rotas square discussed in the November issue has a straightforward translation. 'Latin sator means 'a planter.' Arepo must be a proper name. Thus, we have 'Arepo, the planter, holds (tenet) the wheels (rotas, accusative plural) at work (opera, ablative singular). Why all the fuss and flap?' Apparatus critica should be apparatus critici, since the adjective is masculine; also, the plural of actuarius is treated as a singular. Finally, he suggests that Mithraicism is an unnecessary elaboration of Mithraism.

In the August Colloquy, Jeff Grant thought that TPRW, in the OED, was an isolano (a word that cannot be changed to another by a single letter-change). Darryl Francis demolishes this claim with THRW, an obsolete Scottish form of 'through' in the OED.