

THE APPLE-SAUCE CHRONICLES

LOUIS PHILLIPS

New York, New York

In this issue, Word Ways introduces a new column which will appear from time to time under the above name, containing a variety of light-hearted wordplay sent by Louis Phillips to a circle of friends. Although in the original different genres are mixed higgledy-piggledy, here an attempt is made to present unified themes in the spirit of Mary Ann Madden's New York Magazine column. Brief explanatory material has been added in italics by the editor.

Knock-knock jokes - the replacement of one word by another having a similar sound - have been around for a very long time, but they remain a vehicle for far-fetched puns. In the following, the formula lines 1, 2 and 5 ("Knock-knock", "Who's there?", "[line 3] who?") have been omitted for brevity, and only lines 3 and 5 (the core of the jest) saved. Ideally, line 3 should be a person's name; however, any word can be used.

Will Durant / Will Durant be paid this month? If not, you'll be evicted

Arthur Ashe / Arthur Ashes on the carpet?

Alec Guinness / Alec Guinness ale - do you?

Arthur Fiedler / Arthur Fiedlers coming to play for our square dance?

Ezra Pound / Ezra Pound of coffee in the house?

Walter / Walter wall carpeting is on sale - let's go buy some

Carl Sagan / Carl Sagan With the Wind is his favorite movie

Zelda / Zelda house and let's move to the country

Walter Pidgeon / Walter Pigeon is an obstacle; wall to eagle is no obstacle at all

Tecumseh / Tecumseh close and still lose is difficult to accept

Vida Blue / Vida Blue shirt all the time? Don't you have any other colors?

Sarah Miles / Sarah Miles to go before I sleep

Dinah Shore / Dinah Shore after you leave the yacht

Aaron Burr / Aaron Burr is not as beautiful as hair on Bo Derek

Lew Ayres / Lew Ayres when he asserts that James Madison was the second president of the United States

John Wanamaker / John, Wanamaker happy? Show her some affection

Adenauer / Adenauer in the spring and subtract an hour in the fall for Daylight Savings Time

Oberon / Oberon the other side of the mountain is a bear

Ezio Pinza / Ezio, Pinza tail on the donkey

Dryden / Dryden wet - that's the weather forecast

Noah Webster / Noah Webster named Daniel? Does he live here?
 Hermann Hesse / Hermann Hesse a bad cold and can't stay out long
 Joe Namath / Joe Namath his cat Rhubarb the Second
 Nina Simone / Nina Simoney? Visit your friendly loan shark
 Andalusia / Andalusia the tooth is the sooner it will fall out
 Distance / Distance is a waltz, but the next is a tango
 Moisturize / Moisturize keep staring into mine?
 Dimension / Dimension the fact that I'm here
 Forcep / Forcepper we're having hot dogs and beans
 Afraid / Afraid Astaire movie is on TV this afternoon
 Sea Urchin / Sea Urchin? It has a pretty dimple on it
 Saucer / Saucer Lancelot the other (k)night
 Thumb / Thumb people like dumb jokes like these
 Pooch / Pooch your lips next to mine and kiss me tenderly
 Treatise / Treatise knock-knock joke with respect
 Juarez / Juarez hell, said General Sherman
 Dismal / Dismalody lingers on
 Mecca / Mecca my bed soon, for I'm weary of living and fain would
 lie down
 Kodiak / Kodiak like Buffalo Bill more often
 Corset / Corset's understandable why I'm late - my car broke down
 Zealots / Zealots of mountains on your Swiss vacation
 Madison Avenue / Madison Avenue outlook on life since he married
 Dolley
 Smatter / Smatter with you? You take too long to open the door
 Condense / Condense with me if you feel like waltzing
 Papal / Papal who live in glass houses shouldn't walk around
 without clothes
 Showboat / Showboat your hands to me because I want to be sure
 you've washed them
 Sardine / Sardine Martin on TV the other night
 Metatarsus / I never metatarsus; have you?
 Hence / Hence lay eggs, but roosters don't
 Alibi / Alibi a new pair of boxing gloves for his championship
 bout
 Lasso / Lasso her laddie for palimony
 Hits / Hits a bird, hits a plane, hits super-knock-knock
 Abandon / Abandon the stage is playing our song
 Swan / Swan, too, three, four ..
 Acoustic / Acoustic is what you play pool with
 Mangoes / Mangoes wherever woman goes
 Helmet / Helmet me at the movies the other night
 Conceited / Conceited people see the stage as good as standees?
 Contain / Contain [Taine, nineteenth-century French historian] write
 another history of England?
 Fenders / Fenders keepers, losers weepers
 Boat / Boat of us have been waiting for a long time
 Zodiac / Zodiac was used as a beast of burden in Tibet
 Brochure / Brochure angry because I said Bro's a funny name
 Denmark / Denmark, den Matthew, den Luke, den John
 Tibet / Tibet on horses will cause you to lose money

Ceylon / Ceylon Chaney for the days of the past
 Ransom / Ransom five miles to get here on time
 Disintegrate / Disintegrate knock-knock joke but it will have to
 do
 Messiah / Messiah do everything myself?
 Salient / Salient home right now; do you want Sally to call you
 when she returns?
 Lampoon / Lampoon [oon, Scot. var. of on] at MacTavish's , so
 let's go visit
 Hollandaise / Hollandaise work to speak French and English

In contrast, What's The Question seems to be a more recent invention - I first became aware of it in early Kickshaws columns by Dave Silverman. Here, the object is to infer some sort of weirdly-logical question that will elicit the answer. (Cover up the question, and see if you can guess it from the answer given.)

DIRECT HIT What did Mike Nichols do to The Real Thing?
 WIRE SERVICE What is one way to get a message to the author of "The Shooting of Dan McGrew"?
 THE REST IS HISTORY Can you describe Rip Van Winkle's sleep in four words?
 DOGPATCH What does a leaky Snoopy use to keep from losing air?
 BOX OFFICE What did Jack Dempsey do to Joe Office?
 PIG IRON What does Porky do on Saturday mornings?
 THROW THE BUM OUT What is the first rule for burlesque dancing?
 PRESS REPORTS What is the best way to get the wrinkles out of newspaper articles?
 MARK CLEAR Which Gospel writer is not obscure?
 THE BIG SLEEP What do giants do on Sunday mornings?
 PABST BLUE RIBBON How do you describe the first place memento given to the German film director of the Threepenny Opera?
 HOODWINKED What did Al Capone do when he saw a pretty girl?
 OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF MIND What early theory of sex has been disproved?
 OSCAR BRAND What do cattle owned by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences wear?
 STONEWEAR How can you best describe Medusa's wardrobe?
 GOLF CLASSIC What do you do when you putt The House of the Seven Gables?
 SPOTLIGHT Is Dick and Jane's dog heavy?
 NO GREAT SHAKES Why did the ice-cream parlor go out of business?
 TIP O'NEILL What should you do if you are waited upon by the author of the play The Iceman Cometh?
 BAKE SALES What did the cannibals do when they caught Soupy?
 JACK HAM How can you describe John Barrymore in two words?
 TUESDAY WELD What holds Tuesday together?
 NELSON RIDDLE What do you call the question "Why did Rockefeller cross the road?"?
 SLAUGHTERHOUSE FIVE What was the name for the butchers' basketball team?
 VICEROY What did Dale Evans tell her husband she didn't approve of?

- THIS BUD'S FOR YOU What did God say to Lou Costello?
- MIKE HAMMER What does the CIA do to overhear a carpenter's conversation?
- I NEVER PROMISED YOU A ROSE GARDEN What slogan did the Burpee people immediately reject?
- KIM HUNTER What do you call a librarian searching for a certain book by Rudyard Kipling?
- COLLEGE ENGLISH MAJORS Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?
- PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE ON SHOULDERS What request did Gulliver make to the Lilliputian stock-car team?
- ERASERHEAD Name a horror film based on Rosemary Wood's famous mistake?
- SILVER STREAK What were the headlines in local newspapers when the Lone Ranger's horse ran naked through the streets?
- NICK CARTER What did the old razor blade do when the 39th president used it to shave with?
- THE CELTIC TWILIGHT What do Boston sports fans call an evening when the moon looks like a basketball?
- HUMPHREY CLINKER How did critics describe a flop Bogart movie?
- PROCTOR & GAMBLE What do instructors do during final examinations at the Las Vegas School for Gamblers?
- WHO'S HAPPY NOW What did the director ask while casting Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs?
- FALA LA LA LA How did FDR call for his dog at Christmas time?
- FRANK SHORTER What is the most common complaint made by hot dog eaters?
- PIP SQUEAK What happens when you squeeze the Ace of Hearts too tightly?
- CARBON COPY Why did the math teacher give John Carbon an F?
- ROBERT BROWNING What is Redford doing on the beach?
- DUNKIRK What does the bill collector do to the star of the film Champion?
- LAKE SUPERIOR Is Veronica Lake as good an actress as Candace Bergen?
- DIVINE INSPIRATION What did critics call it when John Ford got the idea to cast Andy as the guard in Stagecoach?
- MIKE SQUIRES What advice did the CIA give King Arthur?
- NANCY HANKS What do you call tissues for sissies?
- TOM HANKS What do you call tissues for male turkeys?
- GOOSE BUMPS What did the vice-president do when Ms. Bumps was bending over the water fountain?
- BLIND DATE What do you get when you poke your fingers into the eyes of a fig?
- BOSTON POPS What do you answer when Willie Stargell asks where Fenway Park is?
- STIFF-ARMED How do you describe a corpse with a gun?