

COLLOQUY

*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 at least one month prior to publication of an issue will appear in that issue.*

Reaction to the Dmitri Borgmann issue continues to be favorable. Howard Bergerson: "I thought your introduction to the all-Dmitri issue was very thoughtful and just. Dmitri's faults are commonplace faults of the kind shared by countless others, but his virtues (what he has to offer culturally and intellectually) are so extraordinary that very probably there has never been anyone like him before nor ever will be again .. he has played a unique role in the emergence of logology as a distinct discipline." Edward Wolpow: "I did enjoy the Borgmann issue, and envy the reputation that would allow such flights of fancy as he travels at his fanciest." Tom Pulliam: "A well-merited tribute to the Grand Master, I might add!" Genaro Gomez: "I liked Dmitri Borgmann's articles which are very great." Philip Cohen: "Clearly [Mary Hazard] and I are in the minority about Borgmann. Well, that's what makes horse races." An encore is under consideration for February 1986.

Several readers pointed out that "Lonely? Try Tylenol", the answer to Question 17 in "A Logo-Trivia Quiz", was not palindromic. A circle-enclosing-an-R should have been placed above and to the left of the T in Tylenol, admittedly a non-standard place for a trademark. Jeff Grant suggested that one should use the Scottish brand: Lonely? Try Ayr Tylenol!

Writes Tom Pulliam: "Dmitri pleads with us to help supply ammunition to overcome the arguments of the sophists [with respect to "The 'G' Spot" in the February **Word Ways**]. We can not stand idly by! I'll start the ball rolling with [the Websterian words] SUFFRAGAN, DIGOXIN, MORTGAGOR, OBLIGOR, FULGURANT (plus variants), GAEA and MENINGOCOCCUS."

Brian Head of Hilberry Farm, Awbridge Hill, Romsey, Hants England SO5 0HE reminds the editor that the numerical crosswords in the November 1984 Kickshaws and February 1985 Colloquy appeared originally as a Crossword Club feature (write him for details on joining the club to participate in cryptic-crossword monthly prize contests).

A real-life palindromic Mary Byram has been found! The August 6, 1984 issue of the Morris County Record described a deaf 13-year-

old Rockaway girl who received an award from the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf for her "outstanding achievements in mainstream elementary education." Her mother's name is also Mary Byram.

Murray Geller of Sherman Oaks, California adds a missing AEIOU-permutation to the November 1969 **Word Ways** article discussing such words: OEclAcUs, in Webster's Third. He notes that the phrases AUtOmObIlE InsUrAncE and pUlSE-IntErVAl mOdUlAtIOn use the vowels exactly twice, and proposes the coinage AEqUl-follAcEOUs, "having the appearance or nature of an equal number of leaves", as a solidly-written example. Another is given by UltrArEvOlUtIOnArIEs, a derived form of ultrarevolutionary, found in Webster's Third. EUnOIA is a six-letter word in Webster's 20th Century Unabridged Dictionary containing all vowels, matching the French OlsEAU ("bird").

Tom Pulliam comments: "Because [Dmitri Borgmann's] done all the spadework for the rest of us, I suggest he put his entire 'acceptable' list [of titles with letter-values totalling 227] between covers and publish it, under a title such as BASIC ACCEPTABLE TITLES TABLE or CHIEF TITLES BY BORGMANN."

In the article on Dutch words with many consecutive vowels, the word for parrot's eggs was misspelled; it should have been papegaaieieren.

In the list of 15-letter solo isograms in "Long Isograms (Part 1)", the word UNCYMOGRAPHLIKE was inadvertently omitted. This can be defined as "not resembling an instrument for making tracings of profile or molding contours." In addition, Dmitri has supplied two more pair isograms for the article in this issue:

FAINT FATISCENCES dimly-perceived conditions of being full of chinks or cracks

SYBARITE BESTIARY a sculptured or painted representation of a group of real or imaginary individuals devoted to luxury and pleasure - a representation often vested with symbolical significance

Two-word pair isograms such as the above are not too hard to construct. As an experiment, the editor looked for such phrases beginning with the first ten cardinals, coming up with one Teton, two swots, three Hesters, four foreuses, five ----, six axillas, seven givings, eight gesiths, nine lisles, and ten nests. For a list of 73 26-letter solo isograms, each in a different language, Edward Wolpow recommends writing to a colleague: V.F. Schwartz, M.D., Box 2, Quigley Pk., N.J. 07961-5438. He adds "It will be supplied free of charge, as long as no mention is made of the fact that his name begins with a letter in the second half of the alphabet [see the February 1985 Kickshaws]."

William Sunners' comment in the May 1984 Colloquy about the palindromic language names IAI, IUI and IZI should have pointed out their source: C.F. and F.M. Voegelin's Classification and Index of the World's Languages (Elsevier, 1977).

Two late entries to the beauty-parlor sweepstakes: Wavelengths, in Herkimer, New York, and The Cutting Corner, in Cooperstown, New York. Surprisingly, the latter pun makes use of the negative image of slipshod work.

Brian Head disagrees with David Shulman that Tony Augarde's Oxford Guide to Word Games anagram of MARY WHITEHOUSE (I may rue the show) is inapposite; Mary Whitehouse is a self-appointed and very vocal arbiter of British taste and a would-be censor of television programs. Philip Cohen agrees with Shulman that the book is derivative, but adds that one can't really get an idea of what the book is like from reading about what it should have been.

Murray Geller notes that the word INTESTINOINTESTINAL has a complete 24 permutations of the letters INST as well as EINT. ZENZ1ZENZEZENZ1C, in the OED, does the same for EINZ.

Reinhold Aman writes "As a translator and native speaker of German, I was interested in your translation of Pfeiffer's forced palindrome, 'Plaudere, du Alp!'. I have to disagree with your statement that 'The literal translation utterly destroys the spirit of the German original, becoming mere gibberish.' You did an admirable job! The German original is gibberish, with little or no spirit to destroy .. GIGO strikes again 'Gibberish In, Gibberish Out,' to adapt a computerist's saying."

In "Fragging the Froggies", Philip Cohen notes that **accouchement** in "lying-in" and **adieu** is "good-bye", but then it gets harder. He asks "There is an English word for agent provocateur, isn't there? But I can't recall it."

The August 1978 **Word Ways** contained an article by Edward Wolpow on doubled prefixes such as micromicro-, supersuper- and antianti-. In the June 1985 issue of *The Enigma*, Eugene Ulrich exhibits a pseudo-doubled prefix in the word **ophiophilist**, meaning "snake-lover". Doubled bigrams or trigrams of this nature aren't hard to find (**reread**, **prepress**), but a doubled tetragram is quite unusual.