

## 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.*

The November 1984 *Word Ways* presented an article, "The Ultimate Homonym Group," listing 84 ways in which the long-E sound can be represented in English words and names. Mark Isaak and Dmitri Borgmann noted 37 more in the February 1985 *Colloquy*. Recently, Darryl Francis carefully examined the BBC Pronouncing Dictionary of British Names, edited by G.M. Miller, published by Oxford University Press, London in 1971. This source clearly indicates the idiosyncratic pronunciations of many British placenames and other proper names. Here are 12 more spellings of long-E sounds:

AU Dolgellau (doll-gehli)	l' Llanddewi'r Cwm (hlantheweer koom)
EAH Beahan	ILLY Breuilly (broo-ee)
E E De Eresby (deerz-bi)	ING Delevingne (delleveen)
EEH Meehan	THY Beaworthy (boweri)
EHO Trebehor (tre-beer)	UGHEY Boughey (bo-i)
EYA Eyam (eem)	ZIE Monzie (Mon-ee)

In addition, he notes UAI Quai d'Orsay (kee-dor-sigh) in the *Rand-dom House Dictionary* and E. E.coli (ee-koly) in *Barnhart's Dictionary of New English*. Finally, the three surnames Featherstonehaugh, Featherstonhaugh and Fetherstonhaugh share two pronunciations, (feesson-hay) and (feerston-haw). So the long-E sound can be credited to the letter-groups ETHER, EATHER, ETHE and EATHE as well!

Dana Richards provided several additions, all in *Webster's Second*, to A. Ross Eckler's and Leslie Card's "Palindromic Letter-Sequences" in the February 1974 *Word Ways*:

EDEEDE fiddledeedee	lMONOMI anchimonomineral
ITOOTI occipitootic	ISEGESI eisegesis
LASSAL thalassal	NONANON nonanonymity
AMOSOMA squamosomaxillary	TRACART intracartilaginous
DEEDEED deeedeed	UKURUKU Kukuruku
ENIMINE ethylenimine	ERAPPARE overappareled
ILEVELI antileveling	

The November 1968 and May 1970 issues of *Word Ways* presented approximately 100 names for streets. Not included in these is TRAIL, which according to Henri Picciotto of Berkeley, California is the most common appellation of the streets of Graeagle, California.

Sir Jeremy Morse of London commented on Dave Morice's "Quick Quiz" in Kickshaws: "His uncommon noun OS is in fact three different uncommon nouns. There is in fact a common noun which has three plural forms, each of which has a different meaning. It is FOOT, which makes FEET (limbs), FOOT (measures) and FOOTS (footlights)."

Murray Pearce comments that the word SPLINEWAY is found in Webster's Second, providing the possibility of a NINEWAY SPLINEWAY in Dave Morice's August Kickshaws.

Philip Cohen notes that quintupling the alphabet (that is, changing  $A = 1$  into  $A = 1^5$ ,  $B = 2$  into  $F = 2^5 = 32 = 6 \pmod{26}$ , etc.) produces AFIJEBKHCDGLMNSVWROXUPQTYZ; no letter repeats, and each half of the alphabet is scrambled separately. Furthermore, letters equidistant from M on either side add up to 26.

Sir Jeremy Morse is convinced that the best version of the License Plate Game is the seven-letter one: find a seven-letter word whose second, fourth and sixth letters form the trigram in question (AAA: cArAvAn, ABC: iAmBiCs, WWR: aWkWaRd). Words such as these score 10 points. If such words cannot be found, get as near as possible, deducting one point for every letter missing from or added to the basic pattern (YYY: sYzYgY 9, PLX: aPopLeXy 9 [not PhLoX 8], TUV: inTrUsiVe 8, QKV QuicKsilVer 4). "The merit of the game lies in its surprises; with easy letters it is not always the most obvious word which makes the best score, and it is surprising what one can conjure out of the most unpromising letters."

Murray Pearce notes that Dave Morice left out a number of country names or former country names in "The International A": Ajman, Aland, Ghana, Katanga, Madagascar, Manama, Natal, Saar, Sabah, Sarawak, Sharjah, and Transvaal. A number of these are only recognized by philatelists; they issue postage stamps or have done so in the past. For E, one can add Crete, Memel and Tete; for I, Ifni and Inini, and for O, Hong Kong.

In the August 1981 **Word Ways**, Darryl Francis added 16 transposals of the letters ACELNORST to the 16 appearing in Dmitri Borgmann's Language on Vacation. Recently, he unearthed a 33rd transposal, ICTEROSAN, in Chemical Synonyms and Trade Names, by William Gardner, Seventh Edition revised and enlarged by Edward I Cooke, and published by the Technical Press, London in 1971: "A German preparation. It is a 10 per cent solution of the sodium salt of phenyl-quinoline-carboxylic acid, and 0.16 per cent beta-eucaine-hydrochloride."

Jeff Grant recently checked the latest national microfiche index of New Zealand electors, finding the transposable name LEAH HALE there. But still no one has come up with a real-life AMY MAY!

Philip Cohen notes that Espy's lines in "All End-Letters Different in a Poem" should all begin with A to fully match Starbuck's effort.

The August 1986 **Word Ways** gave a list of 54 Pocket Dictionary three-letter words in which no two words had more than one letter in common. The following list of 59 words, a modification of one submitted by Alan Frank of Medford, Massachusetts, is based on the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary: adz, cab, fag, haj, ark, qua, lat, sap, man, wax, ave, Jew, fez, hex, keg, met, els, per, neb, dye, cue, jib, kid, fix, wig, nil, zip, tic, his, rim, ivy, joy, ohm, bog, coz, oft, rod, kop, low, von, sox, yuk, vug, tux, pub, wud, jus, hun, lum, fur, bys, pyx, cry, fly, why, gym, cwm, pht and tsk. Missing vowel-consonant bigrams are NY and TY; missing vowel-consonant bigrams for which no three-letter OSPD words exist are QE, Ql, QO, QY, ZU and ZY.

Darryl Francis notes that several of Dmitri Borgmann's geographic triangles and quadrilaterals in the May 1985 "Long Isograms (Part 1)" are mutual transposals as well. He exhibits various British placenames forming 21-letter and 22-letter geographic quadrilaterals, none of which can be transposed to another:

Cwm-Fitz-Jugbank-Shopley	Ford-Jugbank-Lixwm-Setch
Cwmryd-Fitz-Jugbank-Shop	Cwm Ivy-Fox-Jugbank-Perth
Cwmryd-Fitz-Hove-Jugbank	Foryd-Jugbank-Lixwm-Setch

He adds "Another way of creating long isograms is to take note of dictionary entries such as Lorentz-Fitzgerald Contraction (Webster's Third) and Potts-Smith-Gibson Operation (Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary)...All one needs to do to create new long isograms is find a set of surnames which repeat no letters, then string them together and postulate a discovery, operation, invention, etc., in which all could be involved!"

Comments Philip Cohen on "A Puzzling Past": "An interesting look into the past. I must say I find nothing here to; make me feel the National Puzzlers' League's fare is inadequate. A more modern version of that final rebus: YYY Lindsay Koch RoUUNTCse."

In the May 1981 **Word Ways**, the editor suggested that the Bell System was overlooking a source of revenue by not charging for vanity telephone numbers as states do for vanity license plates (see article elsewhere in this issue). Pending regulatory commission approval, Pactel (the former Pacific Bell) intends to start a separate directory listing of personalized numbers such as WHIZ KID, TUFF GUY or BUCKS UP, for a one-time changeover fee of \$10 and a \$1.50 monthly charge.

In the August 1986 **Kickshaws**, Dave Morice gave excerpts from his collection of amusing headlines. Eugene Ulrich enclosed several more, including COMPARE SPEAKERS FOR CRISPNESS, BRASS (most orators have more of the latter, alas), CREW REMAINS TRANSPORTED, READY FOR BURIAL (defunct yogis in a state of rapture?), and STATE FUNDS SHRINK (a psychiatrist is on the payroll). The Indiana headline prompted a letter from Tim Wheeler of Shelbyville who clearly remembered the March 1980 basketball game that it alluded to (NIT stands for National Invitational Tournament).

Errata: In the August Kickshaws, the "Quick Quiz" should have read "How do you change a quarter to get the phrase 'Like medicine, M.D.'?" On pages 150 and 185, Fontainbleau should have been spelled Fontainebleau. In "Monogramonyms", German Z is tset, not zett.

Martin Gardner notes that the isogrammatic name JASPER WHITCOMB LUNDY, coined by Dmitri Borgmann in "Long Isograms (Part 1)" in May 1985, contains the vowels in alphabetical order (like fAcE-tlOUslY). Similarly, STANLEY D. KIMBROUGH has an AEIOU order.

Added beauty parlor name: Alexander Pope (author of "The Rape of the Lock"), in Berkeley, California.

Darryl Francis comments on his article in this issue "If any of my hundred transposal pairs is unacceptable, here is one to substitute for it: aaccehilmst CATECHISMAL W3, SCHEMATICAL W3."

Philip Cohen feels that Partridge's gologoly in the August **Word Ways** is a good idea and he'd like to see more of it. However, he disagrees with the assertion that enter/tenor contain the same phonemes. Either vocalic R must be a different phoneme from consonantal R, or it must be assumed to be preceded by a schwa; otherwise, prayed and parade are gologologically indistinguishable, and such imprecision speaks ill of the field.

Wallace Ashby of Port Republic, Maryland offers the following improvement to Darryl Francis's "Monoconsonantal Words" in the February 1979 **Word Ways**: the Cambrian trilobite named Pseudophillipsia aZZouZi, featured on a 1982 Tunisian stamp.