 zeros is a capital hap-1ents shown approaches poses into for Omaha the trans-as it hap-Oklahoma: ne. Readers rearrange-h as those

UNBALANCED WORD DIVISION

DMITRI A. BORGMANN
Dayton, Washington

In an article in the November 1974 Word Ways, Merlin X. Houdi-ni explored and solved the problem of dividing an eight-letter word, ESTHONIA, into 35 different pairs of four-letter words, such as HENS and IOTA, using only Webster's Second Edition as a base

of operations.

Unbalanced divisions are more numerous than balanced ones. Thus, it is theoretically possible to divide eight letters into 56 different pairs of words where each pair consists of one five-let-ter and one three-letter word. The process is substantially more difficult, not merely because the number of pairs to be found is increased by 21, but also because five-letter words are longer and therefore more difficult to form, and also because the need arises to locate four different all-vowel and four different all-consonant words.

The problem can be solved. I have solved it. However, it re-quires an incisive penetration into the very soul of the Second Edition, the like of which has never before even been attempted. The solution is presented here, in fully annotated form. As you read the explanations given, be humbly aware of the fact that you are watching logological history being made, that you are an honored observer of wordplay without historical antecedent.

HOE, SATIN
EON, SAITH saith: an inflectional form of the verb "to say" used in solemn or poetic discourse
EOS, HIANT Eos: Greek goddess of the dawn; hiant: gaping
TOE, HAINS hains: spares or saves (a Scottish and Irish term)
HOI, ANTES hoi: to haw, as cattle; antes: poker stakes
ION, HATES
IOS, NEATH ios: large Hawaiian hawks; neath: beneath (a poetic word)
ITO, ASHEN 1to: a Jewish organization furthering Territorialism
HIE, ASTON Aston: Francis W. Aston, English scientist (1877-1945), in the Biographical section
NIE, OATHS nie: a quaint spelling of "nine", shown in the Oxford English Dictionary as still used in the year 1225
TIE, NOAHS Noahs: men named Noah
IES, ANTHO- ies: Pacific island screw pines; antho-: floral
Note: the logologist, upon being asked to find words, knows that what his questioner is really asking him to find is morphemes. These include combining forms such as antho-, which the logologist joyfully seizes the opportunity to trot forth for inspection and approval.

OAT, SHINE
SAO, THINE sao: an Annamese length measure equal to about eight yards; thine: a pronoun used in solemn or poetic discourse

NOA, HEIST noa: common or profane, the opposite of taboo; heist: an extremely informal term for a robbery or burglary
Note: the logologist understands the Second Edition as a living, breathing entity, with roots or extensions both in the past and in the future. This enables him to recognize the Third Edition as an altered present form of the Second Edition, and freely to draw words such as heist from the Third Edition.

AHO, TINES aho: an interjection of triumph or surprise
AHI, STONE Ahi: a Vedic sky serpent or cloud dragon
ANI, SHOTE ani: a black bird of the cuckoo family; shote: a young hog
AIS, THONE ais: three-toes sloths; thone: damp (a term now restricted to certain parts of England)
TAI, SHONE T'ai: Siamese, insofar as language is concerned
TEA, SHION Shion: a Biblical town near Nazareth, as spelled in the Revised Standard Version
SEA, OTHNI Othni: in the Bible, a son of Shemaiah, a Levite
EAN, HOIST ean: to bring forth young, as a goat or sheep (a term now restricted to certain parts of England)
HAE, SINTO hae: to have (a term now restricted to certain parts of England; Sinto: a variant spelling of Shinto
AIE, THON'S aie: an interjection of grief or despair, culled from the pages of the Third Edition, that rejuvenated form of the Second Edition; thon's: the explicitly shown possessive form of the third person
IAO, SHENT iao: the wattled honey eater, a bird; shent: the past tense of the nostalgically archaic verb shend, meaning to blame or reproach
OAE, THINS Oae: a location, apparently a native village, on the island of Maupiti, west of Bora-Bora Island, in the French Society Islands in the South Pacific
Note: just as the Third Edition is a lineal extension of the Second Edition, so is Webster's New Geographical Dictionary a lateral extension of the Third Edition. Shown on pages 908-9 of that work is a map of the Pacific Ocean, including Bora-Bora Island. The map isn't large enough to show Maupiti Island and the village from which the Times visualize the island.

EO I., SHANT shant: a small island of the Pacific, north of the Hawaiian Islands
Note: once 1. from the Third Edition, the Pacific Ocean dictionary scale does not show the isolatedness of its existence, only at the Times

HAS, TENIO shenio: an ancient

SOH, TAINE Hippolyte, the Biographer

HAT, NOISE the, AINOS

HOT, AISNE section

SAN, OTHEL in the Captive

SON, AITHE

SIN, TAHOE a large border

SEN, A HOIT of the yen; a contribution
Note: the issuing of the yen by itself, the destiny a noun, as in the oppression of the oppressing

ANT, HOISE hoie: to exalt (a current form of the past tense; aie: the past tense of the same morpheme)

NET, AHIOS
oral knows that morphemes. the logologist for inspection

about basic discourse heist: a living, the past and third Edition and freely

HAT, NOISE

THE, AINOS Ainos: members of an indigenous Japanese race

HIT, AEONS aeons: alternate spelling of eons

HOT, AISNE Aisne: a river in northern France, in the Gazetteer section

SAN, OTHEI san: a letter of the primitive Greek alphabet; Othei: in the Catholic Bible, a Judahite who dwelt in Jerusalem after the Captivity

SON, AITHE aithe: a Scottish form of the word oath

SIN, TAHOE Tahoe: the first word of the term Tahoe trout, a large trout found in Lake Tahoe, on the California-Nevada border

SEN, A HOIT sen: one hundredth of the Japanese monetary unit, the yen; a hoit: a foolish or worthless person (a Scottish contribution to the riches of our language)

Note: the logologist realizes that a noun such as hoit, standing by itself, is an incomplete thought. It must be preceded either by the definite or by the indefinite article to fulfill its glorious destiny as communicator of thought. Consequently, he leaps at the opportunity offered him to place an article in front of the noun, as is here the fortuitous case.

ANT, HOISE hoise: an alternate spelling of heeze, to raise or exalt (a colorful Irish term)

NET, AHIOS Ahios: individuals such as the Biblical Ahio, an uncle

the villages on that island, but we know they are there from the Times Index-Gazetteer of the World, and we can readily visualize the name Oae as we study the Websterian map.

EO I., SHANT Eb I.: the more compact form of Eo Island, a small island in the French Loyalt Islands in the Southwest Pacific, northwest of the larger Uvea Island; shant: a quart or pot of drink (an extremely informal term)

Note: once again, we have taken the liberty of selecting Eb I. from the Times Index-Gazetteer of the World. The map of the Pacific Ocean on pages 908-9 of Webster's New Geographical Dictionary shows the Loyalty Islands and Uvea Island. While its scale does not permit the inclusion of Eo Island, our knowledge of its existence makes us see it there as we gaze contemplatively at the Websterian map.

HAS, TENIO tenio: a South American timber tree

SHE, TAINO Taino: a native Indian language of Haiti

HIS, NOTAE notae: the first word of the phrase notae tironianae, an ancient Roman shorthand system

SOH, Taine: Taine: Hippolyte A. Taine, French historian and critic (1828-1893), in the Biographical section

HAT, NOISE

THE, AINOS Ainos: members of an indigenous Japanese race

HIT, AEONS aeons: alternate spelling of eons

HOT, AISNE Aisne: a river in northern France, in the Gazetteer section

SAN, OTHEI san: a letter of the primitive Greek alphabet; Othei: in the Catholic Bible, a Judahite who dwelt in Jerusalem after the Captivity

SON, AITHE aithe: a Scottish form of the word oath

SIN, TAHOE Tahoe: the first word of the term Tahoe trout, a large trout found in Lake Tahoe, on the California-Nevada border

SEN, A HOIT sen: one hundredth of the Japanese monetary unit, the yen; a hoit: a foolish or worthless person (a Scottish contribution to the riches of our language)

Note: the logologist realizes that a noun such as hoit, standing by itself, is an incomplete thought. It must be preceded either by the definite or by the indefinite article to fulfill its glorious destiny as communicator of thought. Consequently, he leaps at the opportunity offered him to place an article in front of the noun, as is here the fortuitous case.

ANT, HOISE hoise: an alternate spelling of heeze, to raise or exalt (a colorful Irish term)

NET, AHIOS Ahios: individuals such as the Biblical Ahio, an uncle
of King Saul

TIN, HOSEA Hosea: a masculine first name
NOT, HAIES haies: plural of haie, a vintage spelling of hay, recorded by the Oxford as still in use during the 17th century
SAT, HOINE hone: an alternate spelling of hone, to grumble or pine (a word still used in certain parts of England)
SET, HANOI Hanoi: the capital of North Vietnam, in the Gazetteer section
SIT, HONEA Honea: the first word in Honea Path, a town in western South Carolina
Note: once again, the logologist has recourse to Webster's New Geographica Dictionary, the source of Honea Path.
SOT, HAINE haine: hatred, a word now restricted in use to certain parts of England
HAN, IOTAS iotes: jots
Note: the word jots is, of course, a Websterian word. An elder statesman spelling of it, shown in the Oxford as being used in Shakespearean times and beyond, is iotes. It does take exceptional perspicacity to detect all collateral forms of the word when looking at the single spelling of it given in the Second Edition, but that is what the logologist is there for.
HEN, IOTAS hin: a Hebrew liquid measure; Oates: Lawrence E.G. Oates, English Antarctic explorer (1880–1912), in the Biographical section
HON, SAITE hon: sweetheart, in the Third Edition; Saite: a native of Sais, a city in ancient Egypt
NTH, EIAOS Eiaos: islands such as Eiao, a small island in the Marquesas, given in Webster's New Geographical Dictionary
NHS, IOTAE nhs: non-abbreviation symbol for nanohenries, billionths of a henry, the practical unit of inductance in physics
Note: the Second Edition informs us that the word iota entered our language from Latin. Since its plural in Latin was iotae, it is obvious to the logologist that its plural immediately after entering English was also iotae, and that only later was its plural changed to iotas, a corruption symptomatic of the decadence of modern times.
Note: the Third Edition provides us both with the basic word henry and the combining form nano-, commendably allowing us the initiative in attaching the latter to the former to produce the scientific term nanohenry. There is, indeed, such a term, as reference to other dictionaries substantiates. We find that the correct scientific symbol for a nanohenry is the letter combination NH (written without periods), according to the unabridged edition of The Random House Dictionary of the English Language.

From the 'reasonable nanohenries ion to perce looking at but it is a TH'S, IONAE shortened form of nouns built of Iona in
Note: the plural form plural derival. All words, rals, and in his purs Note: Webster on pe entered in cal derivat in which the sumption, the Iona usable
N'T'S, A HOI form of 'no ' vessel, usu Note: to on has available in the use of complete solita the selection to the Oxford was last us

Naturally, the only un eight letters I am omitting
From the way in which other symbols are pluralized, it is a reasonable inference that an acceptable symbol for the plural nanohenries is NHS. Again, it takes extraordinary clarity of vision to perceive this entire train of inexorable consequences when looking at the disjointed nano- and henry in the Third Edition, but it is all there for him who has eyes wherewith to see.

TH'S, IONAE th's; the plural of th' used as a word (th' is a shortened form of the, found in Modern English poetry in front of nouns beginning with vowels); Ionae: towns such as the town of Iona in Bonneville County, Idaho.

Note: the plural of a word used as a word is called its citation form plural, or its quotation noun plural, or its hypostatic plural. All words, irrespective of part of speech, have such plurals, and the logologist avails himself of this language resource in his pursuits.

Note: Webster's New Geographical Dictionary features a map of Idaho on page 527. One of the towns on that map, though not entered in the dictionary itself, is Iona. The name is of classical derivation, and the classical language closest to us is Latin, in which the correct plural of Iona is Ionae. It is a fair presumption, therefore, that the original or first plural of the name Iona usable in English must be Ionae.

N'T'S, A HOIE n't's: the citation form plural of n't, a shortened form of "not" used in popular speech; a hole: a small coasting vessel, usually sloop-rigged.

Note: to conquer this particular word division, the logologist has availed himself of several tactics familiar to the reader: the use of a quotation noun plural, the perfection of an incomplete solitary noun by attaching the indefinite article to it, and the selection of a word, hoie, from the First Edition. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, hoie is another spelling that was last used in the 17th century.

Naturally, the five-three division of an eight-letter word is not the only unbalanced one. There are 28 different ways of dividing eight letters into one six-letter word and one two-letter word, and there are 8 different ways of dividing them into one seven-letter word and one one-letter word. The reader will surely wish to construct these 36 remaining combinations himself. For that reason, I am omitting them from this article.