

# THE ACEINORST TRANSPOSAL PROBLEM

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*During a visit to Dayton, Washington, in July 1988, the editor discovered among the late Dmitri Borgmann's papers five articles which he had prepared for **Word Ways** prior to his death but had never mailed. These will be published in this issue and future issues of **Word Ways**.*

In Language on Vacation (1965), I presented 17 transposals of the 9 letters ACEINORST. For that time in the history of logology, the feat was a record-setting one.

Darryl H. Francis of London, England, one of my readers, bode his time--perhaps significantly, for 16 years. In the August, 1981 **Word Ways**, he rejected one of my transposals, apparently to reduce my total to only 16 transposals. He then added 16 new transposals, neatly doubling my reduced total, and chid me for not having found many or most of his additions myself.

Such a stellar performance deserves an encore. I have reinstated my seventeenth transposal and added 22 previously unknown ones, to bring the overall total to 55. That number is, alas, no integral multiple of 16, but it does possess the virtue of being a palindrome. The entire list follows, including corrected definitions and source specifications.

Darryl divided his list of 32 ACEINORST transposals into two sections: my transposals and his transposals. I have adopted what seems like a more useful two-part classification: single, solidly-written words and names, and fractured transposals--those scarred aesthetically by punctuation marks and/or word breaks. Reference sources are indicated by means of code letters, defined at the end of the article.

The first list, of 33 solid transposals, is in straight alphabetical order. The second list, of 22 fractured transposals, has been arranged so as to group words and names of a given type together, thereby reducing the length of the explanations required.

Readers may wish to try finding additional transposals that both Darryl and I have overlooked. Those readers appalled by the probable difficulty of such an undertaking may wish to work on a related problem. Only two of the 55 transposals shown below--CREATIONS and REACTIONS--are common enough to be included in the 5 collegiate dictionaries published in the United States today. By contrast, the nine-letter group AEILNORST, replacing the C of the ACEINORST group with an L, produces at least 6 words included

in one or more of the five collegiate dictionaries: ORIENTALS, ORLEANIST, RELATIONS, SEROTINAL, TENSORIAL, and TIROLEANS. Does that mean that it is possible to find a grand total of 165 (or more) AEILNORST transposals? The possibility is one worth exploring.

### Solid ACEINORST Transposals

**ACTIONERS.** Handicraftsmen who make the mechanisms used for opening and closing the breeches of those firearms that receive the charge at the rear of the bore (W1, W2, SO, OX).

**ACTORINES.** Actresses: a vogue or slang word sometimes used contemptuously (M4, BV, WG).

**ANCORITES.** Hermits or recluses: a 15th-century spelling of **anchorites** (OX, CD).

**ANORETICS.** Drugs causing loss of appetite (W3, RH, DI).

**ANTICORES.** Circumscribed swellings on horses' necks, usually resulting from the pressure of badly-fitting harnesses: a 17th-century spelling of **anticors** (OX, CS).

**ATROSCINE.** Racemic scopolamine: an alkaloid used to dilate the pupil of the eye, or as a mild depressant (W2, W3, F2, BL, ST).

**CANOTIERS.** Sailor hats: certain men's hats made of stiff straw (W3); also, twill-weave fabrics used in the manufacture of yachting clothes (RH); also, canoeists (F2).

**CARNOSITE.** An abnormal fleshy growth or excrescence on a bodily organ (W2, F2, CD, SO). This originally French word is the etymon of the Anglicized, and therefore corrupted, English word **car-nosity**. Since French is an Indo-European language closely related to English, is the language of international diplomacy and fashionable society, and was the language of the rulers and highest social classes of England for many years after that nation's conquest by the Normans in 1066, and since **car-nosité** is actually shown in the etymology of **car-nosity** in at least four major English dictionaries, I do not hesitate to include **car-nosité** in this list.

**CAROTINES.** The yellow, orange, or red pigments or coloring matters found in carrots and in some other plants, and converted into vitamin A by animal livers: a variant spelling of **carotenes** (CD).

**CARSONITE.** A trademark in International Class 17 (rubber goods), registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on April 6, 1976 and assigned registration number 1,037,465 (TR). Also, a resident of Carson City, Nevada (AS, CC). Also, a member of the Carsonites, a militant political faction in Northern Ireland (NA, MG).

**CASTORINE.** A white, crystalline substance obtained from the mineral castor or castorite (a white, crystalline form of petalite); also, a cotton-velvet fabric not further described (CD).

**CATERINOS.** Males bearing the Italian first name **Caterino**, appar-

- ently the correlative of the feminine name **Caterina** (List of Pre-names Used in This Work, in NC; Pronouncing List of Prenames, in WB). The corresponding English feminine name **Catherine** has no masculine counterpart. Proper names are pluralized routinely in English speech and writing. The form **Caterinos** is aesthetically preferable to the apostrophized, broken possessive singular form **Caterino's**: belonging to someone named **Caterino**.
- CENTROSIA**. A genus of plants of the orchid family. It is also known as the genus *Limnorchis* (WL).
- CERATIONS**. The reductions to a waxlike state of hard, unliquefiable substances: a 17th- and 18th-century alchemical term (W1, W2, F2, OX).
- CERTOSINA**. A Renaissance Italian technique for inlaying light-colored bone, ivory, metal, or wood in elaborate mosaic designs, on a dark ground (RH, W2, W3, F2).
- CITROSENA**. A genus of plants of the family Monimiaceae: a family of chiefly tropical American trees and shrubs; or, perhaps, a genus of plants of the family Atherospermataceae, which is very similar to the family Monimiaceae; the dictionary contradicts itself on this point. The genus is also known as the genus *Siparuna* (WL).
- CONARITES**. Minerals consisting of hydrous nickel silicate, occurring as small green crystals or grains: a variant spelling of **connarites** (W2, W3, F2, OX).
- CONISTRÆ**. In ancient Greek gymnasiums, either the places where sand was stored for sprinkling the wrestlers, or the wrestling grounds (W1). The singular form of the word, **conistra**, came into English from New Latin, making its correct plural, **conistræ**.
- CORTAINES**. Curtains: a 16th-century spelling (W1, OX, CD).
- CORTESIAN**. Relating to the period during which Hernán Cortés (Hernando Cortez), the early 16th-century Spanish explorer, conquered and ruled Mexico. The word has, thus far, been found only as part of the term **pre-Cortesian** (W3). It is, however, logically impossible for Mexico to have been **pre-Cortesian** at one time unless it became **Cortesian** at a later time.
- CRANIOTES**. Those vertebrates belonging to the class *Leptocardii* (F1, F2, CS).
- CREATIONS**. Original, imaginative works of art (W2, W3, RH, FW, SO).
- ESCONTRIA**. A genus of Mexican plants of the cactus family (WL).
- ESCORTINA**. A name suggested for a planned successor to the Ford **Cortina** automobile, the successor being described as a stretched Ford **Escort** with a separate, lockable boot (DY). Builders of hot rods, custom cars, and other special or variant automobiles have produced hybrids of the **Escort** and the **Cortina**, also calling any such hybrid an **Escortina** (FR).
- NARCOTISE**. To subject to the action of a narcotic; to stupefy: a

- variant spelling of **narcotize** (RH, quotation in OX).
- NEORACIST**. An adherent to a new version of racism (SC).
- NICOTERAS**. Towns such as the town of Nicotera, in Catanzaro Province, in the Calabria region of southern Italy, near but not on the Gulf of Gioia, and noted for its baroque cathedral and 11th-century castle (CL, NG, RI, T4). Pluralizing the name is aesthetically preferable to apostrophizing it to form the possessive singular **Nicotera's**.
- OSTRACINE**. Pertaining to the common oysters and allied bivalve mollusks comprising the suborder Ostracea or Ostraeacea (W1, W2, F2, OX).
- REACTIONS**. Physiological responses to stimuli (W2, W3, RH, FW, SO).
- TENICROAS**. Genera of Old World plants such as the genus **Tenicroa**: a genus of plants of the lily family. The genus is also known as the genus **Urginea**. Pluralizing the name produces a more pleasing effect than does apostrophizing it, as the possessive singular form **Tenicroa's** must be (WL).
- TINOCERAS**. An extinct genus of plant-eating mammals, from the Eocene epoch of Wyoming, resembling elephants in size. The genus is also known as the genus **Dinoceras** or as the genus **Uintatherium**. Similar to each other as the names **Dinoceras** and **Tinoceras** are, they are not variant spellings of each other, and no dictionary mentions either one of them in defining the other: a curiosity (W2, F2, CD, SO).
- TRICOSANE**. A paraffin hydrocarbon obtained from petroleum and melting at a low temperature (W2, W3, F2, SO).
- TROCENIAS**. Geographic locations such as the one bearing the name **Trocenia**: another proper name pluralization chosen in preference to an apostrophized singular form. The name **Trocenia** appears in the Index to Andrees Handatlas, a German atlas published in the early 1920s. The justification for treating names in that atlas as English-language names is the fact that an English edition of the Index has also appeared. At this moment, I do not have access to this atlas or to its index, explaining why I am unable to define the name **Trocenia** more precisely, but a geographic name it is. The location it designates must be comparatively minor, because I have not been able to find the name anywhere else.
- Broken ACEINORST Transposals**
- ACRI-STONE**. A trademark name in Prior United States Class 6 (Chemicals and Chemical Compositions), registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 20, 1973 and assigned registration number 973,182 (TR). The name is a hyphenated one.
- RIOT CANES**. Wooden rods about four feet long, which Japanese police use against demonstrators (RU). The term is written as two separate words.
- TRI OCEANS**. Products bearing the trademark name **Tri Ocean**. The

name is listed in International Classes 7 (Machinery), 35 (Advertising and Business), and 42 (Miscellaneous). It was registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 1, 1981 and assigned registration number 1,179,834. The name is written as two separate words. Pluralizing the name is aesthetically preferable to apostrophizing its singular possessive form Tri Ocean's. The disparity between the classifications Machinery and Advertising and Business in both of which the name appears is striking and invites investigation (TR).

SO CERTAIN. A phrase found in William Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale, Act IV, scene iv, line 581 (BA, pages 40, 212, and 1092). Alas, the fourth act of that play has only three scenes! However, I have found the phrase in the following speech by Camillo, the Sicilian Lord, toward the end of scene iii (SH, page 369).

A course more promising  
 Than a wild dedication of yourselves  
 To unpathed waters, undreamed shores, most  
 To miseries enough: no hope to help you;  
 But, as you shake off one, to take another:  
 Nothing so certain as your anchors; who  
 Do their best office if they can but stay you  
 Where you'll be loath to be: besides, you know  
 Prosperity's the very bond of love,  
 Whose fresh complexion and whose heart together  
 Affliction alters.

Considered by itself, the phrase so certain is not a particularly distinguished one. Since, however, Shakespeare "is considered by many to have been the greatest dramatist in world history" (NC, page 3571), the appearance of the phrase in one of his plays qualifies it for inclusion in this list. Unfortunately, Shakespeare was quite unable to communicate his thoughts to moderns such as me. Can any reader translate the quoted 74-word sentence into meaningful English?

CERTAIN SO. A phrase found in William Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing, Act II, scene i, line 181 (BA, page 212; SH, page 144), in the following speech by Claudio, the young Lord of Florence.

Thus answer I in name of Benedick  
 But hear these ill news with the ears of Claudio.  
 'Tis certain so;--the prince woos for himself...

The same evaluative comments made with respect to the phrase so certain apply to this phrase. Note the coincidence: both Camillo and Claudio are Italian lords; both names are 7-letter, 3-syllable names beginning with C and ending with O.

NEAR-OSTIC. Almost, but not quite, Iroquoian (W2). Both as an adjective and as an adverb, near can be placed in front of nouns, and as an adverb in front of adjectives, to indicate closeness in some sense, either physical or otherwise. It is, therefore, impossible for dictionaries to list all or even many such terms, but

all collegiate and unabridged dictionaries provide these definitions and uses of **near**, giving illustrative examples. Some uses are so common as to warrant listing and definition in dictionaries: note, for instance, **near beer**, **near-fall**, **near-legged**, **near-money**, **near-print**, **near seal**, and **near wilt** in W3, and a list of 18 representative adjectives beginning with **near-** given in boldface type in W2. It follows that **near** or **near-**, as the case may be, can be placed in front of any English noun or adjective whatever, forming a legitimate English term.

NEAR SCIOT. Someone who is almost, but not quite, an inhabitant or a native of the Greek island of Chios (W2, W3, F2, CD). The Greek name of the island is **Khíos**; the Italian name, **Scio**; the Turkish name, **Sakis-Adasi** (WN).

NEAR STOIC. Someone who is almost, but not quite, a Stoic (W2, W3, F2, RH, SO).

RECOASTIN'. A clipped form of the verb participle **recoasting**, meaning "coasting again" (W2, F2, RH). In informal, dialectal, and careless speech, the last letter of the participial (and gerundial) suffix **-ing** is very frequently clipped--so frequently, that no dictionary has made any attempt to list the clipped forms. The clipped forms do, however, appear in print quite frequently, in books, magazines, and newspapers. The terms **woofin'**, **signifyin'**, and **shuckin'** and **jivin'** do, however, appear as boldface entries in SB; terms such as **fixin's**, **makin's**, and **trimmin's** appear in print in BV; **fixin's** and **makin's** also appear in MM, in quotations illustrating use of the standard spellings of the words; and M1 observes that omitting the final letter of the suffix **-ing** in speech is fashionable and a mark of social status (page 348). All **-ing** words may, therefore, be so clipped.

RECOATIN'S. Acts of coating again: the clipped form of **recoatings** (W2, W3, RH, WO, F2).

A-SECTORIN'. Dividing into sectors: the clipped form of **a-sectoring**, which is an archaic and dialectal form of the present participle **sectoring** (W2, W3, FW, RH, WO). All collegiate and unabridged dictionaries define the prefix **a-** (which originally imparted the meaning "in the act of" but often serves as little more than an intensive today), letting users of the language attach it to present participles at their pleasure. Noted instances of its use in recognized literature include Henry Fielding's verse "A-Hunting We Will Go"; Martin Luther's comment that "truth goes a-begging" in his Table Talk; and Izaak Walton's statement that "I have laid aside business, and gone a-fishing," in The Compleat Angler (FQ).

A-COSTERIN'. Hawking fruits or vegetables from a street stand, cart, or barrow: the clipped form of **a-costering**, which is a form of **costering**, which is a form of **costermongering** (W2).

A-CORSETIN'. Dressing or furnishing (oneself or someone else) with a corset: the clipped form of **a-corseting**, which is a form of **cor-**

seting (W2, W3, FW, RH).

CANISTEO R. A river in southwestern New York, the Canisteco River, about 60 miles long, flowing through Allegany and Steuben Counties (WN). The abbreviated form of the name appears on the maps of various atlases (H1, page 160; H2, page 276; EB, map 172-73; RE, page 116).

CRESTON, IA. A city, the seat of Union County, Iowa, noted for its dairy products, packed poultry and eggs, lubricators, and concrete blocks (CL). The abbreviated form of the name appears in various Postal Service and other publications (ZC, page 1994; Statistics of Population of the World, in Fx, page 2797).

E. CORTINAS. The eastern sections of Italian towns named **Cortina**: towns such as **Cortina d'Ampezzo** and **Cortina Vecchia** (T1). The letter E is a recognized abbreviation for the word **eastern** (ME, Rx, AH, NW). Although the eastern or other directionally-identified sections of cities and towns are never listed by name in gazettiers, atlas indexes, or elsewhere, it is an indisputable fact that they exist because any area on the surface of the earth whatever, large or small, can be divided into directionally-identified sections. Anything that exists has an absolute right to be identified by its natural, logical name. How would you feel if that section of the city or town in which you happen to reside were prohibited from being mentioned, either in speech or in writing?

E. NICASTRO. The eastern section of Nicastro, a town in Catanzaro Province, in the Calabria region of southern Italy, noted for the ruins of an ancient castle (CL, T4, EB map 28-29).

IT. NOCERAS. Italian towns named **Nocera**: towns such as **Nocera Inferiore**, **Nocera Superiore**, **Nocera Terinese** (or **Tirinese**), and **Nocera Umbra** (CL, T1, T4). The abbreviation **It.** is a recognized one for the word **Italian** (ME, AH, NW, FC). Someone writing about the various **Noceras** and wishing to designate them as specifically Italian may obviously place the abbreviation **It.** in front of the pluralized name **Noceras**.

ANEROTIC'S. The adjective **anerotic** means "nonerotic" (W2). When it is used or referred to simply as a word, it becomes what is known as a hypostasis, citation form, or quotation noun. The plural of a hypostasis is formed by adding an apostrophe and the letter S to the original word (Handbook of Style, in ME, page 1514; Guide to Punctuation, Mechanics, and Manuscript Form, in NW, page 1682; Handbook of Style, in WO, preliminary buff-colored page 111). Example: How many **anerotic's** are there in this paragraph?

CANTORIE'S. The citation form plural of **cantorie**: the choir galleries in Italian churches (W3). The word **cantorie** is itself a plural, of the word **cantoria**. The singular form, with its plural left to the reader's imagination, is also included in other dictionaries (W1, W2, F2).

CORTINAE'S. The quotation noun plural of **cortinae**: the cobwebby

remnants of the veils which hang from the borders of the pilei in mature specimens of certain fungi (W1, W2, W3, CD). The word *cortinae* is itself a plural, of the word *cortina*. The singular form, with its plural deliberately suppressed, is also included in other dictionaries.

TOCINERA'S. The hypostatic plural of *Tocinera*, the last word of the name *Cayos de la Tocinera*, a group of keys or islets off the north-central coast of Cuba (TI). What that name means in Spanish is "the keys of the pork butcheress (of the woman who sells pork or bacon)" (VQ). That name seems like a most curious one to bestow on a group of islets.

#### SOURCE IDENTIFICATIONS

- AH The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, College Edition, 1980
- AS American Speech, Volume 23 (Oct-Dec 1948), article by H.L. Mencken, page 165
- BA Bartlett, John, A New and Complete Concordance or Verbal Index to Words, Phrases, & Passages in the Dramatic Works of Shakespeare, Macmillan and Company Limited, London, 1927
- BL Blakiston's New Gould Medical Dictionary, 2nd Edition, 1956
- BV Berrey, Lester V., and Van den Bark, Melvin, The American Thesaurus of Slang, 2nd Edition, Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York 1953
- CC Letter dated October 3, 1985 from Leona B. Wood, Executive Director, Carson City (Nevada) Chamber of Commerce, addressed to me; Ms. Wood states that she has been in Carson City for 28 years and has never heard its residents referred to by any name other than Carsonites
- CD The Century Dictionary, 6 volumes, 1889-1891
- CL The Columbia Lippincott Gazetteer of the World, 1962 Edition
- CS The Century Dictionary Supplement, 2 volumes, 1909
- DI Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary, 24th Edition, 1965
- DY Dymock, Eric, quoted in *Word Ways*, May 1983, page 93
- EB Encyclopaedia Britannica World Atlas, 1947 Edition (not a part of the Encyclopaedia Britannica)
- FC Funk & Wagnalls Standard College Dictionary, 1973 Edition
- FQ Bartlett, John, Familiar Quotations, 14th Edition, 1968, Little, Brown and Company, Boston, Massachusetts
- FR Francis, Darryl, quoted in *Word Ways*, August 1981, page 139
- Fx Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary of the English Language (Unabridged Edition), 1945
- F1 A Standard Dictionary of the English Language upon Original Plans (Unabridged Edition), 1898, Funk & Wagnalls Company, New York and London
- F2 Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary of the English Language (Unabridged Edition), 1963
- H1 Hammond's Ambassador World Atlas, 2nd Edition, 1961
- H2 Hammond Ambassador World Atlas, 1973 Edition
- ME Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 8th Edition, 1980, G. & C. Merriam Company, Springfield, Massachusetts
- MG The Manchester Guardian Weekly, a British Periodical, January



- 18, 1924, page 48
- MM Mathews, Mitford M., Editor, A Dictionary of Americanisms on Historical Principles, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois, 1951
- M1 Mencken, H.L., The American Language, 4th Edition, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1957
- M4 McDavid, Raven I., Jr., Editor, The American Language by H.L. Mencken, One-Volume Abridged Edition, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1963
- NA The Nation, a periodical, October 11, 1917, page number not available (an article about Ireland and Carsonite Ulster)
- NC The New Century Cyclopaedia of Names, 3 volumes, Appleton-Century-Crofts, New York, 1954
- NG National Geographic Atlas of the World, Enlarged 2nd Edition, Washington, D.C., 1966
- NW Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, 2nd College Edition, William Collins Publishers, Cleveland, Ohio, 1980
- OS Burchfield, R.W., Editor, A Supplement to The Oxford English Dictionary, Volume 1 (A-G), Oxford University Press, London, 1972
- OX The Oxford English Dictionary, 13 volumes, 1933
- RE Replogle World Atlas, New Census Edition, Replogle Globes Inc., Chicago, Illinois, 1956
- RH The Random House Dictionary of the English Language: The Unabridged Edition, 1966
- RI Rand McNally: The International Atlas, Rand McNally & Company, Chicago, Illinois 1969
- RU Rubin, Frank, quoted in **Word Ways**, November 1981, page 218
- Rx The Random House College Dictionary, Revised Edition, 1980
- SB Barnhart, Clarence L., Steinmetz, Sol, and Barnhart, Robert K., The Second Barnhart Dictionary of New English, Barnhart-Harper & Row, Bronxville, New York, 1980
- SC Science, a weekly periodical, Volume 154, Number 3749, November 4, 1966, page 628
- SH The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, published for the Classics Club by Walter J. Black Inc., New York, 1937
- SO The Oxford Universal Dictionary on Historical Principles, 1 volume (also known as the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary on Historical Principles, 2 volumes), 3rd Edition with Corrections and Revised Addenda, London, 1955
- ST Stedman's Medical Dictionary, 21st Edition, 1966
- TI The Times Index-Gazetteer of the World, London, 1965
- TR The Trademark Register of the United States, copyright by Patent Searching Service, The Trademark Register, Washington, D.C., 1982
- T4 Bartholomew, John, Editor, The Times Atlas of the World, Mid-Century Edition, Volume 4, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, Massachusetts, 1956
- VQ Velásquez de la Cadena, Mariano, Gray, Edward, and Iribas, Juan L., A New Pronouncing Dictionary of the Spanish and English Languages, Wilcox & Follett Company, Chicago, Illinois, 1943

- WB Webster's Biographical Dictionary, G. & C. Merriam Company, Springfield, Massachusetts, 1972
- WG Weingarten, Joseph A., An American Dictionary of Slang and Colloquial Speech, Joseph A. Weingarten, New York, 1954
- WL Willis, J.C., A Dictionary of the Flowering Plants and Ferns, 7th Edition, revised by H.K. Airy Shaw, The Syndics of the Cambridge University Press, London and Cambridge, 1966
- WN Webster's New Geographical Dictionary, G. & C. Merriam Company, Springfield, Massachusetts, 1972
- WO The World Book Dictionary, 2 volumes, Field Enterprises Educational Corporation, Chicago, Illinois, 1968
- W1 Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language, First Edition, 1918
- W2 Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language, Second Edition, 1953
- W3 Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language, 1981
- ZC National Five Digit ZIP Code and Post Office Directory--1984, United States Postal Service, Washington, D.C., 1983

#### **WORDS NOT YET IN THE DICTIONARY**

*The Facts on File Dictionary of New Words (\$19.95 in hard-cover) is dedicated to the proposition that the English language continually creates new words and phrases, or new uses of old words, which dictionaries haven't yet recognized. Approximately 500 of these have been collected, briefly defined, and placed in the second (1988) edition. They include words such as **intifada**, **mommy track**, **couch potato** and **skunk works**, familiar to most newspaper or magazine readers, along with more specialized jargon like **karaoke**, an electronic device to provide background music for the do-it-yourself vocalist, **front end bra**, a vinyl cover protecting a car's grille from flying gravel, and **rubber mirror**, a device used by astronomers to cancel the shimmering of the atmosphere. There appears to be only one word relevant to wordplay: **cruciverbalist**, defined as an expert crossword-solver.*

*Not all these words will survive long enough to make it into future dictionaries. Facts on File claims, however, that nearly half of the words in their first (1985) edition subsequently appeared in the Second Edition of the Random House Dictionary two years later.*