

ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

KICKSHAWS by David Morice

Daphne in Woodland Daphne had been leafing drowsily through a book of color charts. While marveling at all the names, including her own, given to the 792 colors listed in Pittsburgh Paints Design System for Architects and Designers, she drifted asleep and dreamt about the colorful land and her strange companions. In the story, most of the capitalized words are the names of designer colors. Some are singular in the Pittsburgh Paints book, but I've pluralized them. Others are plural in both places. Similarly, MUR-MUR appears in the past tense here, but it's actually a present-tense color. Don't ask me what they look like: I'm truly colorblind (more so after writing this tale). If anyone would like a photocopy of the entire 792 color names, just send me a self-addressed stamped envelope. Many of the names are more colorful than the colors, and the story could've continued for several chapters by using the full palette.

Vowelless or Consonantless Society?

C: Vowels aren't necessary for English. Our proposal would remove the fat from words by trimming them down to their bare bones.

V: But vowels are more important than consonants! How could people speak English without vowels?

C: Improvise! Consonants convey the meaning better than vowels. People know which vowel sounds to put in words. Your organization is asking for measures that are far too drastic at this point in the evolution of language.

V: Oh, really? Almost all words in English have one or more vowels in them! We couldn't communicate without A, E, I, O, U, and Y.

C: Wrong! Your organization hasn't thought this out very well.

V: Oh, no? Without the vowels, it's impossible to print two of the most important words in the English language!

C: I don't believe you. What are they?

V: I, You.

Blank Baffler SING, COUP

He, The Theoretical Realist The letters of each word overlap with the following word. In the first stanza, one letter overlaps; in the second stanza, two letters; in the third, three; in the fourth, four.

State Squares 1. KY-KS, MI-MT, TN-IN 2. KY-RI, MI-MT, TN-IN
3. KY-KS, MA-CA, NC-NM 4. KY-RI, MA-CA, NC-NM 5. KY-KS, NC-NM, NM-NC 6. KY-RI, NC-NM, NM-NC. The changes involve relative-

ly minor switching of letters along the left diagonal axis and altering the letter Y in the bottom right corner. The network of variants goes from one square to the other and to the square in Kickshaws.

Wordwise Word Ways "Word Ways" in its entirety appears 51 times. Although the arrangement might appear to be a spiral, it's a series of 12 concentric circles, each composed of the title repeated 6 times. If the pattern were extended outward to the farthest circle, the title would appear a total of 72 times.

IMAGINARY PEOPLE FOR YOU TO MEET by Leonard R. N. Ashley

1. a jar, originally from Damaghan (in Persia) 2. the name of a demon who was supposed to haunt choirs and pick up missed notes, etc. (perhaps from tilly **vally**, an old exclamation meaning "fiddlesticks" or "nonsense") 3. not from a Nicholas but from a **nicor** (water spirit), sometimes used for the Devil 4. French **huile d'olive** (olive oil) 5. the Scottish name for what the English call London Pride, a flower whose name was originally None-So-Pretty 6. a torture device invented by Henry VIII's lieutenant of the Tower of London, Sir William Skevington (they got his name wrong) 7. a striped cat, from Arabic **Attabi**, a quarter of Baghdad named for Prince Attab 8. a department store detective (US slang) 9. stormy petrels, maybe from Latin **mater cara** (dear mother), meaning the sea 10. soap (Cockney rhyming slang) 11. a newcomer (Australian slang, based on **jackeroo**) 12. a naive (green) tyro in the British navy 13. someone who bütts in (US slang) 14. a stupid rustic (US slang) 15. Uncle Sam himself, symbol of the US 16. International Workers of the World (IWW) slang for a scissorbill or strike-breaker 17. camp US slang for an effeminate number 18. Northern Ireland slang (Belfast) for a Catholic priest 19. camp US slang for a uniformed policeman (see Brenda Starr) 20. marijuana, and several other meanings (US slang) 21. a fashionable dude (US slang), now mostly obsolete 22. 10 in gambling (US slang); **Dick** is from French **dix** 23. drawers, in Australian rhyming slang 24. (theatre) box in British theatre slang (Charles James Fox, the name of a once-famous politician, rhymes with box) 25. a rube or hick (US carnival and circus slang) 26. corruption of plant name **pyrethrum** 27. nickname for big guns in World War I (British slang) 28. Royal Navy slang for R&R (rest and recreation) ashore with quick sex expected 29. auctioneer's shill who bids up prices, "buys" what others don't want to pay a set price for 30. anyone who sits looking at his glass, not drinking (an obsolete term from Capt. Grose's Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue)