COLLOQUY

ANIL writes:

Glad to see Mike Keith adding another variant to Dave's perfect anagram equation. Also glad but embarrassed that he caught me sleeping by reminding that $(10^{12})^{-11}=10^{-132}$, not 10^1. The anagram in question can be salvaged by adding two tens to enlarge it further, and rewriting it thus:

(seventy+fifty)/(*sex*·one trillion/ten^{seven+four})=(sixty+forty)/ten fives – nil·one·four·ten elevens,

or $(70+50) \div (6 \times 10^{12}/10^{11}) = (60+40) \div (10 \times 5) - 0 \times 1 \times 4 \times (10 \times 11)$, or $120/60 = 100/50 - 0$.

The terms can also be swapped around to give $60/120 = 50/100 - 0$.

Mike's excellent, exhaustive study of truthful anagram charades in turn contained three arithmetical mistakes, all surely just typos. In 77 the segment "+5+14+20–25" should read either "–(5+14+20–25)" or "–5–14–20+25". In 95, "+20+25" should read either "–(20+25)" or "–20–25". And in 39a (p.260) the last – should be a +.

DARRYL FRANCIS comments on Susan Thorpe's Scrabble Patterns:

"Her article omits the 4.4 two-letter word FY (in the Scrabble palindromes and Scrabble tautonyms section). This is an allowable Scrabble word throughout the world, except in North America.

Her article omits the 3.3 two-letter word MM. This is an allowable Scrabble word throughout the world, including North America.

For 11111.11111 words, Susan has opted for the obscure proper names LAURIESTON and NEOLATIRUS. Yet there are many everyday common words with this pattern - for example, ALTERNATOR, RETALIATOR, SENATORIAL, TRANSLATES, UNILATERAL.

LARRY COHAN has for sale a complete set of Word Ways starting with Vol. 1, No. 1 Feb 1968 to Vol. 42, No. 1 2009 a total of 165 issues in mint condition. $500 plus shipping. If interested, please email Larry at larrycowan@aol.com .

SIR JEREMY MORSE asks: Is MANOEUVRE/MANEUVER the shortest example of a word with <u>two</u> differences between British and American spelling?