

COLLOQUY

In the third issue of *Wordsworth* (Aug 1994), Ted Clarke offers a variant of the famous BIBLE ATLAS GOOSE THIGH card-prediction trick (see articles by Chris McManus in May 1994 and the editor in Aug 1994 **Word Ways**). If one lays out ten card-pairs according to the mnemonic at the left below, the proper pair can be identified by specifying that it is located in a particular row or column. (The L-pair does not work, but this fact serves to identify it as well.) Two other arrays (in which all pairs work) are given.

L O O N Y	R O M P E R	C O C K
S T U N T	L O G G E D	P O M P
S C U F F	L I M P I D	L A M A
I C I L Y		L E E K

Leonard Gordon adds several Fourwords to the Sebastian-Merriam article in the May **Word Ways**:

Cuatro Vidas, a classic popular Mexican song
 Four Roses whiskey
 Four Square Gospel Church (Aimee Semple McPherson)
 Number of stars worn by a full general
 Four walls to hold me (prison song)
 The ideal number of wives a man should have (Koran)

Jeff Grant observes that Darryl Francis's evolution of a transposal set in May overlooked the obvious REDELAY, in Web 2.

Ted Clarke writes that GOTTEN is his personal ugliest word, celebrating this US export in the following doggerel:

They filched our speech, the way we write,
 Subjecting them to Stateside blight.
 By us, will never be forgotten
 The states in which they've English gotten!

He adds "I find it strange ... that 'forgotten' does not jar." And Jeff Grant passes along the following from a source he can no longer identify:

Clearly the impact that words have on us is baffling. Sound and meaning work their dual magic upon us in ways that ear and mind alone cannot analyse. Consider, for example, the foreign couple who decided to name their first daughter with the most beautiful English word they had ever heard: Diarrhea.

Lee Sallows called the editor's attention to an article, "Homophonic Quotients of Free Groups" (in French) by Jean-Francois Mestre and three colleagues, published in Vol 2 (1993) of *Experimental*

Mathematics, which presents a homonymic analogue to B.E.M. Wren's Abelian alphabet in the May **Word Ways**. In particular, he shows that all letters are trivial by means of identities such as Knight = night, Hour = our, plumB = plum, etc.

XF Dan Tilque answers the third challenge of Lee Sallows in
SINO the May 1994 issue with a template which contains thirteen
VEWU cardinals: ONE through TWELVE, FOURTEEN and NINETEEN.
LTR Leonard Gordon completes Sallows' list of incompatible six-
H letter word types:

146253 throes-tosher, santir-strain, lading-ligand
153624 ptisan-paints, pearly-player, closer-ceorls
253614 reinas-arisen
254163 rimula-uramil, anomer-marone, oreman-monera
264153 unboat-outban, angler-largen, nebula-unable
351426 senior-nosier, aspire-praise, parley-replay
351462 fidate-defait, atoner-orante, damine-median
352641 ethyls-shelty, bluets-subtle, geosid-dogies
361452 strife-resift, rebato-borate, domine-medino
425136 unlist-insult, cripes-precis, inlace-ancile
426315 nailer-larine, girdle-lidger, phrase-shaper
426351 tinsel-listen, ladies-sailed, lingot-tiglon
523614 lurens-nursle

Dan Tilque is less-than-enthusiastic about Nurse Pathos's anagramming his name to T. DEN QUAIL; he prefers QUIET LAND.

Errata: In "New Palindromes" in Aug 1994, the entry for K should have been KUJDJUK, and GALLAG is defined as a little bitch, not bird. In May 1994, the AEGINRST transposal STANGIRE should have been STAN GIRE, and GRISANTE is a name for St. Chrysanthus.

Max Maven generated a fresh batch of Coinicons to add to those in the August issue:

Protoproofs: INTERINERT opposite of interactive, INTRATRRAIN within the locomotive, OCTOCOOT eighth old man, DECAACED tenth victory, NEOONE freshly unique, SINOIONS Chinese atomic particles, POSTPOTS microwave, ANTITINA Ike

Morfforms: SETEST most prepared, COPSESCOPE thicket-viewing device, FLUFUL sickly

Interreinevitives: EXTEXENDTEND former cowboy stops caring, INTINNEDEDT bent cans or cheap orthodontics, COSMICOISM mantra-chanting discipline, SINOSISINONOSION Chinese equivocating

Leonard Gordon replies to Rex Gooch "The reason we see so little
C A S T S S C A B S of diagonal word squares is that we
A L T H O C A N A L run out of steam in a hurry". 163,496
S T A I N A N G L E single word squares reduce to only
T H I N G B A L E D seven with two diagonal words, and
S O N G S S L E D S six of these are minor variants of each
other.