

# "NOT NEW YORK" ROY WENT ON

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Is this the first palindrome incorporating a state name? (It was published in Notes & Queries under Leigh Mercer's name in 1948.) The most recent Word Ways state name collection is Dave Morice's set of 24 in the November 1996 Kickshaws.

Zen is back, Roy! We note Beowulf's--ahem--a dame, Madame. Has flu?  
Woe be to New York cabs, Inez

An aid nips an asp--Indiana!

Ada ventures a base rut--Nevada  
Ha ha, Dave, no track car to Nevada. Hah!  
Stacy, no--beg Nevada! Get Ned up. Milos, sing 'I Say Rub, Bury a  
Sign'. Is Sol impudent? Egad, avenge bony cats!

In itself, it's an Oz, Ira. Arizona stifles Tini

O, I hoot to Ohio!

No, Geronimo--toss a lasso, Tom, in Oregon

Rats! In Illinois, I've let a man annex oxen, Nan (am a television Illini  
star)  
Waste was Illinois, or rock corrosion? Ill is a wet saw  
Passion-illicit label fits all. I, Roger, a bare gorilla, stifle Baltic Illinois  
sap

Re: reviled Lia, men: I was a Maine mail deliverer  
Mad? Amen--I am a Maine madam

Roger, get a tse-tse wadi--Rolf, a Florida west estate--Gregor...

Yes, Rej went to Pott, New Jersey

Rats! Fail arts, U.Alaska? Ellis A. Basil leaks, Al (Australia 'F' star)

Wes, a snake's in a snake-pit! Anita sat in a Topekan's anise. Kansas--  
ew!

Asleep in s.e. Kansas, we have fine ham. I am hot, Nan; I murder a red  
ruminant. Oh, maim a hen if Eva hews a snake-snipe, Elsa

Al lets Sis axe Texas. Is Stella?

Ah, an ox Xeroxes no lynxes, sax, etc. Ixo, toxic Texas sex, nylon sex, or Exxon--aha!

So, crank car-cop maced Ed. I ate a spud named 'I.D. Idaho'. Ah! Did I demand upset, aide-de-camp? O, crack, narcos!

Finally, a few two-state palindromes:

Noose Tait is in Illinois? Oregon? (A nog erosion I'll initiate soon.)

In Utah: whee! Raw ale, Don! Okra, Wendell! I, Terence Ecne, re-tilled Newark (O no, Delaware!) Eh what, Uni?

"He's drunk," Roy went on, "so I hop up. Ohio's not New York. Nurds, eh?"

## OXFORD WORD CHALLENGE

This paperback by Tony Augarde, available in England for £4.99 (ISBN 0-19-860113-1), consists of 107 word quizzes. A sample:

Spoonerisms: change one's abode into a tall rodent

Perverbs: a woman's work is never...?

Anagrams: what pop performer enjoys silvery sleep?

Mischmasch: what word contains TCHPH?

Typewriter words: longest word typed on top row of keyboard?

Contronyms: moves quickly or not at all?

for which the answers are my house/high mouse, fun, Elvis Presley, catchphrase, typewriter or repertoire, fast horse/fast color.

Some quizzes rely on general knowledge (what is JATO? for whom was a luxurious railway carriage named?). One general-knowledge puzzle asks the reader to find the common thread in a set of words. The answer for turnip, brief, wind, wick--a candle--requires knowledge of Churchill, Shakespeare and Elton John.

Be aware that British pronunciation must be taken into account when answering homonym quizzes: awe, or, oar, ore.

The book winds up with a series of "extremely difficult" questions that depend upon thinking outside the box:

What kind of cheese is made in reverse? (Edam)

When is a diamond square in shape? (on a baseball field)

Why is Winnie the Pooh like Attila the Hun? (same middle name)

I applaud the inclusion of overspecialized gems like nudiustertian (of the day before yesterday) and artolatry (bread-worship)!