

TWO EARLY PALINDROMIC POEMS BY "CALIBAN"

OVE MICHAELSEN
Richmond, California

Hubert Phillips, English crossword puzzle and logic puzzle constructor, created at least two palindromic poems. The first one was featured in Bergerson's *Palindromes and Anagrams* (page 94); it originally appeared in the Dogberry column of the London News Chronicle for Oct 16 1942. The second poem is found in the same column for May 1 1941.

PUMA, PUMA

Puma, puma! Iris won!
(Mural art)
Puck-cap I was—lived a Don
(No mural, mural art)
Nor I, Pater. If, as no slender stem, meek,
I lose—beware dew!
O vassal, can I wonder? Red is a star;
Evil partner—wallahs deified.
Shall a wren trap live rats?—As I'd erred now
In a class-avowed era?
We be so like emmets...
Red Nelson's afire; tap iron!
Tralarum, larum. On nod, a Devil saw I—
Pack cup!
Tralarum! Now, sir, I am up—
Am up.

HAVING IT BOTH WAYS OR A NIGHT OUT AT THE PALINDROME

Now murmur, I! Go ye not, nor I!
(Drawn, O bats, or reviled, eh?)
So...live, sir! A star is red.
Lo, be not aloof, as a fool.
A tone bolder, sir; a tsar is evil.
O, she delivers a stab!
Onward, iron tone! Yogi rum!
(Rum won.)

Phillips also published "Mood's Mode" which appears both in *Palindromes and Anagrams* and Borgmann's *Language on Vacation*.