MORBID MUSING

JEZEBEL Q. XIXX

From time to time, those of us who contribute to the pages of Word Ways turn to the subject of illness. Now is such a time!

Many illnesses, injuries, and other conditions representing a departure from the normal physical state can be disguised -- and, possibly, thereby be palliated -- by means of letter rearrangements altering their sense. For instance, we may choose to regard LEPROSY as an extract from SPY LORE, or TRAUMAS as brought on by a trip to SUMATRA. If we are BIGOTED, our view of a DOG BITE will necessarily be negative. For the ultimate malady, DEATH, there is no palliative, of course: it is universally HATED.

Featured below are another 32 "conditions" in disguise. How many of them can you recognize? Note that two of them afflict animals rather than humans. Furthermore, at least one transposal conceals two different ailments, both spelled with precisely the same letters, and you are invited to try finding both of them. Correct answers are given in Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

1. regally 17. pleonasm
2. sticker 18. the Asian
3. lurable 19. coloreds
4. truisms 20. English "s"
5. Amelias 21. best idea!
6. ovarian 22. fine tonic!
7. unstate 23. pin horses
8. aspires 24. macaronic
9. sobered 25. semilurid
10. arch-art 26. unbarreth
11. nearish 27. supersonic
12. LaRoche 28. graciously
13. salesmen 29. trip enders
14. bristles 30. anti-scalar
15. danglers 31. series play
16. a red hair 32. most saturnine