

S O S

Dear Arty Ess,
I can not guess
What's happened to
Aug. 'Nig. Can you
Enlighten me
And my mind free
Of its dismay
'Cause 'Nig's astray?
I miss each flat,
Form, crypt and Chat.
September 2!
They're overdue!

I miss the 'Nig
More than you think.
Please succor me,
Forlorn Hoodwink!

C H A T

Belated but important news: a son was born last Summer to Wick and his wife. The young hopeful is John Howard Wickham.

Welcome to Yelbis, who is a fellow member with Quefanon and Fiddle of the St. Petersburg Chess Club. With seven or eight puzzlers in St. Pete, a puzzle club should be formed.

The rhyme of Hoodwink is representative of the postal cards that deluges the Editor from mid-August on. Perhaps the tale on page 1 will dispel all doubts and conjectures.

Penny's husband, Johnnie, joins us and sends a crypt that will appear soon.

Many of the Krewe, seeing August go by without its Enigma, wrote to inquire whether the Editor had been put hors de combat by illness. Their solicitude was comforting. The only thing the matter with the Editor was that he was seeing red and frothing at the mouth.

The Griffin (he's the guy who regularly sends a 1-1-1 list of souls) has pretty well recovered from the effects of his accident. However, in the period of his enforced idleness, he sent an envelope bulging with an assortment of contributions. Perhaps there's something good to be spoken regarding mishaps!

The new method of printing Enigma relieves Girl Friday of some copying bit will increase considerably the

amount of typing to be done by the Editor, as the complete issue must be typed in Scranton. It then goes to B. Natural, who recopies it on a special typewriter and justifies the lines--makes them of equal lengths.

The second copy goes to the printer, who makes a plate of each page by photography. The plate is inked, and pressed against a rubber blanket, and the paper is then forced against the rubber blanket and receives the ink impression from it. There is no direct contact of metal plate with the paper.

Hooray! A brief note came from our friend Macropod. He says: "I'm too lethargic to use a pen at length and inflict my writing on a harder-working man. The lethargy is native, and not a health condition. My typewriter finally gave up and I fear will have to be taken to Boston, since it is a long-discontinued model. Seems to be ribbon and ribbon-mechanism trouble, and the little gals in the stores at Laconia just shake their heads and look bored about the whole thing. I'll try to get the machine running and write something."

Publisher Macmillan announces a new book, "A Dictionary of the Underworld," which is a guide to slang used among thieves. So, if you contemplate being an up-to-date gangster, learn the language from this tome. Or, if you are a formatist, you may get it for the new words it contains. In any case, it will cost you nine bucks.

Clack Tucker, editor of the Bell Telephone News in Atlanta joined the League in midsummer. That makes his our sole Georgia subscriber.

During the summer, Al Gebra visited Jemand, and they had a grand exchange of palaver.

Fiddle congratulates me on what he terms "the much improved handling of the forms." I suppose he alludes to the practice of giving the words instead of the definitions, where the words are taken from references not accessible to the average solver.

The Eastern Enigma for March, 1950 remarked: "Has anyone ever seen an anagram on THE PRODIGAL SON? It looks like a fine base. Page Fred Domino!"

THE ENIGMA

NOVEMBER, 1950

SCRANTON, PA.

NO. 560

PHILOPROGENITIVISM

By DORSE

Seated one day at my Remington,
I was busy and hard to please,
And my fingers flew like lightning
Over the Noiseless Keys.

I don't know now what they printed,
Or what I was building there,
But suddenly there glinted
The end of a Seven Square.

I know that Arty and Sherlock
And Al Gebra -- by the pair --
Make bigger and better word-forms,
But nothing can compare
In the starry sight of its mother
With my Own First Seven Square!

DESPITE H--- AND HURRICANE

Quefanon and his cohorts made the Pass-a-Crille convention a success, even tho the wind and the wave tried to upset everything. Fred Domino and Freddie were first to arrive, followed closely by Arty Ess and M.E.

Saturday, the "baby" hurricane off shore suddenly grew up to adult proportions and lashed the coast with terrific winds and torrential rains. Everybody stayed indoors and passed the time playing canasta, bridge, and anagrams. On Monday and Tuesday nights, the hotel lights went out at the height of the storm, and flashlights and candles were used to furnish light for the players.

The Enigma is published monthly by the National Puzzlers' League, Inc. The subscription price, which embodies League membership, is \$3.00 for one year or \$1.50 for six months.

The Official Editor and publisher is Rufus T. Strohm (ARTY ESS), 1610 Pine St., Scranton 10, Pa., to whom all communications should be sent.

Everybody in the hotel took a hand in anagram games, whether puzzlers or not, and two recruits were added to the League by this means. They are Ouija and Achilles, two Greek brothers who were guests at the hotel. Achilles is at Vanderbilt University and Ouija is in high school.

Pat brought his bride, Patsy, and she fitted into the company as neatly as though she had known the puzzlers all her life. Eke, she joined the League.

Dorse was present with her ever-ready wit and solving ability. She solved the convention puzzles, composed by Quefanon, Bunny, Fiddle, and Phyllis (who is Mrs. Lynch, but who just won't be called Second Fiddle or Fiddlesticks), almost before the rest of us had our pencils sharpened or our specs cleaned. She also captured a \$25 cash prize offered by the St. Petersburg Times in a public Crossword Puzzle Contest. A fine crowd gathered in the dining-room of the hotel to participate.

N. Jineer brought her sister Witch Hazel, who, she vowed, was a Jonah. For N. Jineer's baggage went astray and never did turn up before the convention ended. She said nothing of the sort ever happened when she traveled alone. Witch Hazel averred she came to the convention for a thrill, and got it.

The banquet was held at the Palm Gardens, a beautiful restaurant at

Extensive files of our puzzle literature have been deposited in the library of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, where they may be consulted by our members.

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JULY SOLVERS

Indian Rocks, some 20 miles north of Pass-a-Grille. The meal was to have been served under the palms and bamboo trees in a large patio, but the rain compelled the use of a private dining-room. Fred Domino acted as toastmaster, and everybody around the table had a chance to talk.

After the banquet, Quefanon entertained the group with several feats of magic. He passed a coin thru a metal tray, made cards appear and disappear, and showed a clock which gave answers to problems.

Another contest, consisting of a group of 25 anagrams by Fred Domino, carried an offer of a prize by him for the first complete list of sols. Fiddle was the winner, and he got a set of embossed anagram blocks.

Numerically considered, it was one of the smallest of conventions on record, but one of the largest in pleasant pastime, good fellowship, and enthusiasm. St. Petersburg will long be remembered by those who attended, and they will testify that its vaunted hospitality is no myth.

The hurricane was a new experience to the landlubbers from the north and west, and made them feel a wee bit nervous. A few shingles blew off the hotel and a paved area at one side was wrecked by the wicked waves from the Gulf.

The League's business meeting took place on Labor Day. The probationary price of \$3.00 a year for the Enigma was continued for another year. An amendment to the Constitution was proposed, creating a new officer of the League, namely, Assistant to the Official Editor. Up to the present, Girl Friday has been filling this important role.

Incidentally, H— in the heading of this article doesn't indicate what you probably think it does. It stands for HEAT. This explanation is necessary, lest the Off. Ed. be held guilty of vulgarity, whereas everybody knows that he NEVER uses rough language. Well, hardly ever!

Local posers hope the publicity given will help them to form a club.

"It's never too late to mend" that faulty meter in your verses.

EVERYTHING: Penny, Johnny, Nollid, X. Specked, Evero, Hoodwink, Empty, Ajax, Roby, Psi, Lu, B. Natural.

FLATS: Complete, 39—Chet, Em—Odd, Genesian, Dunroven, Alouette, Bick, Allez, Y. Knott. 38—Lady Lila, Alpha 37—Al Gebra*, Evergreen*. 36—Fiddle, Dhumbb Bhelle*, Salome. 35—Osaple, Emmo W. 34—Grulla, I. N. Joyum, Roving Vic.* 33—Val Entine, Boojum, Larry. 32—A. Chem, A. Chemem, Oslo, Nat Pal.* 29—Anti Que, Jemand.* 28—Sue de Nymme. 26—Neoteric.* Jay Esue de Nymme. 25—Amor, Daft. 22—Plantain, tee. 21—Excel C. Orr, Mr. Ree, Degee. 20—Shyrene, Arcanus, 13—Sourdough, 10 or less—Sherlock Holmes, Fred Domino, The Griffin, Archie Tech, L. D.R., Skibblue.

FORMS: Complete, 8—Genesian, Dunroven, Y. Knott, Bick, Lady Lila, Van Entine, Jemand*, Neoteric*, Oslo, Sherlock Holmes, L.D.R. 7—Shyrene, 6—A. Chem, A. Chemem. 5 or less—Sue de Nymme, Excel C. Orr*, Arcanus, The Griffin, Skibblue.

CRYPTS: Complete, 6—Comrade*, Reynard*, Chet, Em—Odd, I. N. Joyum, Val Entine, Oslo, Anti Que, Skibblue, Neoteric*. 5—Y Knott, 4—Bick, Jay Estee, A. Chem, A. Chemem, Fiddle, 3—Genesian, Dunroven, Lady Lila, Alpha, Salome, Roving Vic. 2—Dhumbb Bhelle*, Emmo W., Boojum, Jemand*, Sue de Nymme, Daft, Shyrene. 1—Nat Pal*, Amor, Mr. Ree, The Griffin.

Total solvers, 61. No. 8 was voted the best flat in July, with Nos. 6 and 9 close behind.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Article III, insert after "Official Editor": "Editorial Secretary."

Article IV, Sec. 7 to read: "I shall be the duty of the Editorial Secretary to aid the Official Editor as he may direct."

Present Sec. 7 to stand as is, but to be called Sec. 8.

N. JINEER
FRED DOMINO
ROVING VIC

Everybody solve! We ought to have a solvers' list numbering 100.

PENETRALIA

5. REBUS (5,8,2,4)

THE *great majority of them*

A dozen women form this club,
A sociable and friendly bunch.
They aim to try out cards and grub—
Forgetting not the cloth to munch.

Old-fashioned I would term the

group,
Each different from the average

dame.
To cite one instance now I'll

stoop—
'Twill show how truthful is my

claim.
When first they met they took a

vote
On what to play for—fun, or

lucres,
And what the game should be; and

note—
OUR REBUS favored fun—and

euchre!

6. REBUS (12)
(To Ralph, re No. 5, December)

N I
It's shown "in the preceding part,"
And you may think you're smart
For you may have the answer
Away before you start.

Corinth, Miss. FRED DOMINO

7. REBUS (5,3)

Dandie Yimmont

It's Tuesday! (I read);
By Quakers so said.

Mason, Mich. LARRY

8. WORD DELETION (4,4; 8)

diabetes
O dear, what can the matter be?
The doctor eyes his test tubes

dear
And says TOTAL shows up very clear.
"But how to ONE a cure," he sighed;
"Cut out the fudge and sugar candy,
Eat more protein, fruit when handy."
The patient sighs and TWO, I hear,
Tho I did not walk beside his bier.

Detroit, Mich. EVERO

9. HOMONYM

He SIX the fish and caught it
On famed Loch Lomond's shore;

Standard authorities: New International, 2nd Ed.; Century Atlas; and Phillips' Dic. of Biog. Reference. Words from other references must be tagged. Use the asterisk (*) to denote an obsolete word, and the page number for an out-of-place word.

NOVEMBER, 1950

NEW PUZZLES

1. REBUS (11)

GTLEA

nightingale
The REBUS sings best in the wild-
wood,

After dark, when most birds are
asleep,

When the owl and the bat are out
prancing
And from robins you hear not a
peep.

Detroit, Mich.

X. SPECKED

2. REBUS (6,7)*

(Partly phonetic)

M
D E D
T

Great Scott! The hunt's the thing.
This pup is named in Guy Mannering.

Caldwell, N.J.

PENNY

3. REBUS (8)

R OCK

Oh, to ride in a TOTAL once more,
As grandfather did in his day!
But we scurry along with the mo-
tor's roar,
For the old grey mare now is
passe.

Detroit, Michigan

NOLLID

4. REBUS (8)

UN
UN

Enigma's printed page

Comes folded in the middle.

If you but smooth it out

Then you have solved my riddle.

Pearblossom, Calif.

ALOUETTE

NOVEMBER, 1950

But when he found his FIVE was
soiled,
McNabb was really sore.

Franklin, N. H.

CHET

10. DELETION (9,8)

Hid in th' loft o' th' Hash House
SECOND,
Me 'n th' Houndawg, we kep' still,
Cuz th' Hash House Prop., she sorta
reckoned
We wuz hoein' th' cawn patch on
th' hill.

Then Rev'runt Hellschwatt, he
drapped round!
Miz M. said "Durn!" 'fore she oped
th' door.
Then th' dadburned mutt o' a yaller
Houn'-
Dawg growled down th' crack in th'
attic floor!

Then this we FIRST: "Sis Medders,
good lack!
Wot's that, gawsakes! youall got
ha'n'ts?"
"Pore Eph," said th' Prop., "his
spook comes back
T' see who's filled his shoes an'
pants."

Th' Rev'runt H. didn't stay t' eat--
He lit out, d'rektion o' Bol-ee-var.
Then Miz M. eniggled (she cain't be
beat!):
"Goshdurn ye, Rayle, come down from
thar!"

Bolivar, W. Va.

RAYLE RHODER

11. ANAGRAM (7)

Thou fringed curtains, guardians
of our sight,
YE SLIDE o'er liquid orbs that
catch the light
Or else repel it at thy rise and
fall --
God's blessed, precious gift to
one and all.

Wilmington, N.C.

JEMAND

12. PHONETIC CHARADE (9)

When "TWO and I go out to eat,
One ONE we always THREE;
For, after eating, we with ALL
Afflicted seem to be.

Swansea, Mass.

THE GRIFFIN

13. WORD DELETION (7; 3,4)

The new cook thinks she knows it
ONE;

To TWO her right just can't be done.
The spuds in TOTAL grease she fries.
When French-fry rules state other-
wise.

Clarkson, Ky.

SOURDOUGH

14. BEHEADMENT (6,5)

The fare that's offered on our FIRST,
Methinks at times, is quite the
worst
That ear e'er heard. Yes, such a
trial,
For peace of mind I twist the dial.
Goodbye, my friends. Amigos,
SECOND.

Chicago, Ill.

ROVING VIC

15. SECOND-LETTER CHANGE (8)

Yu Sing and Wun Soong
Are two "SECOND who own
A laundry not far from the square.
Sing scrubs morn till night,
Soong irons eve till dawn;
They sure are a hard-working pair.
But no matter how often
One tries to impart
The need for great care with
the P.J.'s,
They invariably press,
On a PRIMAL, I guess,
For coat and trousers hand every
which ways.

Burton, Ohio

B. NATURAL

16. ALTERNADE (8; 4,4)

Bits of TWO in the rocks catch the
sunlight
As the miner goes loping by.
Among the few trees a wild apple
Its harvest displays to his eye.
He plucks its fruit, munching
slowly;
Its COMPLETE is refreshing,
indeed.

At a lizard that ONE himself near
him

He tosses the core and the seed.

Attleboro, Mass.

CAPTAIN T

17. HOMONYM

Many a mounted soldier of yore
For protection a SEVEN wore.

SOURNESS

NOVEMBER, 1950

THE ENIGMA

Tho some were dubbed a real knight,
Just the same they looked a fright,
Like a FIVE THREE in a blouse of
tin
Which our boys use to stick their
heads in.

Whitestone, N.Y.

OEDIPUS

18. BEHEADMENT (8)

Oh Ingrid, whom we thought so good
and sweet,
Identifying you with all your
roles
Depicting many maids with lofty
souls,
How could you be so cheaply
indiscreet?

When lovely FINAL* for Pendragon
fell,
And bore King Arthur of Round
Table fame,
Protesting innocence, she made
the claim
Enchanter Merlin'd laid a wicked
spell.

But no such easy out do we
grant you.
This headache's one the movie
world can't hide.
'Tis more severe than PRIMAL
for, beside
The tummy, it involves the
pocket, too!

Jackson Heights, N.Y.

DORSE

19. ECHOING CHARADE (6)

ONE-ONE is a puzzler of Boston,
And he in Rhode Island I met.
He solved the tough puzzles in
no time;
With lists of completes he's
all set.

TWO-TWO was a singer, a French girl,
The composer said sang just
for him.
Their romance broke up for some
reason;
Their chances to patch it
were slim.

THREE-THREE the puzzlers write on
envelopes
In the upper left corner, I guess,
If they live in our land's largest
city

And write to our friend Arty Ess.
TOTAL's a dish that most Yankees
approve;

The principal content is corn.
In a bowl with fresh milk I've
enjoyed it
Almost from the day I was born.

Attleboro, Mass.

CAPTAIN TO

20. THIRD-LETTER CHANGE (8)

He was in a ticklish spot,
They had him cornered here.
He'd have to ONE his wits
And not give way to fear.
If he had magic powers,
He's TWO some evil imp
And send him on their trail,
Their wily plans to crimp.

Ferndale, Mich.

ALLEZ

21. TRANSDLETION (8)

To make a TOTAL job
Of a transdletion neat
I read Thesaurus 7 and 7
To find words easy to delete.
6 the problem was a 5 one.
Why, I had to go to Ind
To find a 4 who strangled,
Robbed his victim--cut his wind
With a 3 string tightly twisted.
Now to Rome I had to travel
For 2, as the Latins say it,
Yet it's not hard to unravel.
And now I'm left with 1;
A pipe-fitter uses it all the
time.

Thank goodness! Now I'm done!

St. Petersburg, Fla.

QUEFANON

ANAGRAMS

22. SURE NICE

Baltimore, Md.

MR. REE

23. SO MAN CAN THEN GET REPLY UPON
WIRE (7,5,9,7)

24. IF LOST, IS GREAT HOPE, MEN
(1,8,2,3,6)

HE'S IT--SAGE PILOT FOR MEN

25. A CLUE--RECORD HIT PARTS (10,9)

OH, A SCRIPT READER CULT
CASH IN, O SPORT SEER

26. LINEUP TO CARD ACT, OR
HITS (10,11)

TIP: COULD HIT ON RARE ACTS

27. DRAFT COMES HERE (3,5,6)

28. RED SCUM ROAR, "FOE" (3,5,6)

29. ACE IN "HOSS" REPORTS (4,2,5,5)

CASH IN, O SPORT SEER

30. WE DO PRATE IN PRESS (9,7)

31. TOP WRITERS SHAPE NEED (3,9,7)

Corinth, Miss.

FRED DOMINO

ROKEBY STAR BY SHERLOCK HOLMES

PYRAMID. Across: 1. N. 2. The Vargangians. 3. Grams (Std.). 4. KONTIVA (Andrees). 5. Bargaining (1st Ed.). 6. Trees of Porphyry. 7. States of being moribund. 8. Malthusianistic. 9. Machines which operate automatically. Down: 1. A. 2. An early bronze coin of China. 3. A pithy saying. 4. ROPO (World Geog.). 5. BARUM (Worc. G.). 6. Kamala (var.). 7. T., Arabia. 45 NE Mocha (Lipp.). 8. RANGAUTI (Th. Gaz.). 9. Not tannic. 10. State of being a saint. 11. SVIRINA (St'ler). 12. Relaxing. 13. GEISH (Lipp.). 14. SETI (Cooper). 15. Moral failure. 16. Cee (Cent. D. Add.). 17. S.

INVERTED PYRAMID. Across: 1. Same as 9 across above. 2. Pert. to politics and ethics. 3. Illiteracies. 4. Dilacerated. 5. SEBAGINES (Nat'l. Med. Dict.). 6. SAVENAS (Andrees). 7. A sieve. 8. Exclamations enjoining assistance. 9. S. Down: 1. A. 2. To assilence. 3. Palm lily. 4. Old* (Oxf.) cend. 5. Measures of distance. 6. ATILES (W. Pr.). 7. TITABAR (Andrees). 8. Caves protected from summer heat. 9. Fellow regents. 10. MEARINGS (W. D.). 11. ATTANAE (Enc.B.). 12. Rapids. 13. Rewards. 14. Frosted. 15. Contr. of NE HAS. 16. The letter L. 17. S.

PYRAMID. Across: 1. S. 2. The refuge of flax. 3. HAROH (Const.). 4. Weeded. 5. One armed with a target. 6. Saltarellos. 7. Trimmings. 8. SANTARIA MARIA VELHA (E.B.). 9. Spikenards. Down: 1. F. 2. Say. 3. A partner. 4. Without. 5. Savor. 6. SALSAS (Worc.). 7. HARTEMA (Cooper). 8. PARGAMAR (Worc.G.). 9. Magicians. 10. A genus typical of Bolteniidae (Std.). 11. A lift for a heel of a shoe. 12. DEL-EVA (Hughes). 13. More underdone. 14. SILI (Harm.). 15. EHL (Times At.). 16. Indian mulberry. 17. A.

INVERTED PYRAMID. Across: 1. Spikenards. 2. T., Portneuf Co., 75 W of Quebec. 3. Taught. 4. An instrument for measuring dilation. 5. Typical genus of Peramelidae. 6. Bursts of artillery fire. 7. Eats. 8. Eke (1st Ed.). 9. C. Down: 1. F. 2. Equally. 3. A mediaeval type of short tale. 4. To drench. 5. Indip (Oxf.). 6. STOLER (Wr. D.). 7. ACCARAH (Full.). 8. Ratafia. 9. Of the nature of a stro-ma. 10. AHMELEK (Cooper). 11. Pane-

les (1st Ed.). 12. Rebukes (1st Ed.). 13. Forms. 14. INER (Wr. Gaz.). 15. Guided. 16. Letters L. 17. A.

UPPER LEFT RHOMB. Across: 1. BOUPOUA (Andrees). 2. Raising the curtain (pg. 2150). 3. Armenian as-cetic writer, 951-1003. 4. METER HAND (Dict. Occ. Terms). 5. Routes by sea (Oxf.). 6. SMORTHRES (Mayhew). 7. AWLE RIVER (Wor. Gaz.). 8. AERA-DATES (Oxf.). 9. Systems of apparatus for electric signaling. Down: 1. B. 2. The color gold. 3. Clangor. 4. Bible name (pg. 1701). 5. UGRES (Andrees). 6. Pities (1st Ed.). 7. ONGE-AMA (Andrees). 8. T., Kongo Free State, 190 NE Stanley Falls. 9. An insignificant writer (Std.). 10. M.E. form of PSALTER (Cent. D.). 11. To enthrall. 12. To mock. 13. SEVAS (Balf.). 14. City. 15. Raven (1st Ed.). 16. That. 17. S.

LOWER LEFT REVERSED RHOMB. Across: 1. Systems of apparatus for electric signalling. 2. A place where fever is apt to be contracted. 3. ROKESMITH (Brewer). 4. The Nemertes (Std.). 5. Taken heed (E.D.). 6. Perfumes. 7. WIVERTOP (Ekw.). 8. Warreners* (Oxf.). 9. SAINT SERF (Cath. Enc.). Down: 1. S. 2. Var. of WAR. 3. Way (1st Ed.). 4. A bobbin. 5. The measure of half a bushel. 6. NAMEUS (Oxf.). 7. REKARNE (Andrees). 8. One who foments. 9. T., Hungary, 45 NE Klausenburg. 10. EVERTERS (Simmond). 11. Fr. rep., 1750-1793. 12. Armenians (1st Ed.). 13. To put an end to. 14. Urges on. 15. The fish on which the universe is fabled to rest (1st Ed.). 16. T., 6 S Owenton, Ky. 17. S.

UPPER RIGHT REVERSED RHOMB. Across: 1. The hooded crow. 2. Having lean ears. 3. A suit in which the holder should win every trick. 4. Fits nicely. 5. Inhabitants of the moon. 6. T., Marquette Co., Mich., 12 W Autram. 7. Eosates. 8. SABINENES (Hak.). 9. SAMANAROS (Bal.). Down: 1. S. 2. Save. 3. Var. of EHE. 4. T., Sudan, 25 SW Segu. 5. A black buck. 6. It. hist., 1731-1813. 7. SOLDNER (E.B.). 8. LOVERANO (Wor. G.). 9. Salts of selenious acid. 10. Cal-TIFFS (Std.). 11. ANDATES (E.D.). 12. More leay (Wr. D.). 13. Dawls (Wr. D.). 14. Creese (var.). 15. To soak. 16. Odylic force. 17. W.

LOWER RIGHT RHOMB. Across: 1. SAMANAROS (Bal.). 2. Beguilers (Oxf. quot.). 3. One who prepares homilies. 4. To detect (1st Ed.). 5. The practice of the Ranters. 6. A continuous line produced photographically, etc. 7. Interflow (1st Ed.). 8. River of France, prov. of Ardennes. 9. ASSA-CANUS (Lemp.). Down: 1. S. 2. The heart. 3. MEH (Wr. D.). 4. AGOD (Num. Dict.). 5. Nimmer (1st Ed.). 6. ALITAS

(Phil. G.). 7. Relent (Std.). 8. ORES-TANA (Full.). 9. Moneys of account. 10. Self-starters. 11. Stirs* (Oxf.). 12. ESAFRA (Andrees). 13. MILIC (Cath. Enc.). 14. LOVA (Wor. G.). 15. A sebaceous cyst. 16. Rough. 17. S.

We hope that we'll be able to give some definite info in the next issue about the convention to be held in New York in February

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. Israeloquence.--SHAHPLY BLE HUKYHE, ZKYA
*MKEEF MBQLF, B *AHNQHZ ZBF YBOTKLW
FD JBFY YABY AH GFHE QHCHBYKLW BQPF.
Waltham, Mass.

2. Second Fiddle.--I FIX FIT SIT YUNX EJA SIN
OX JOB JUFA, ZGE JOB NOKA BGCCSOAB EJA
IFAXYFAXEB.

Chicago, Ill.
3. No Can Do.--A B C D E F G H C K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
P K C L Q R R D L P F O L D G F R M P G R L D K E D U P K C K
N, R G F E G B C F A C E S C D K B R K O E K C. E O G P E T T H
G B C A B L T C Q L D G R K D E F F L A; E A R U C F L D C
A L P T U P K P E T T H K R S V T H Q R T T L P G G B C T E K G
T R D C.

State College, Pa.

4. Howdy, Mr. Ice.--D A O T T D B F G A R O H C A B D G G: A R G
D E M O C R A T S D J G K L K K T O H C L N M B D D D R O F F G -
M O H C D A L C G, D G L D B H L Z A G M D G L D B H.

New York, N.Y.

5. Hot Speech.--H T L N H O B E R O P J G R M K S O Y T Y L E -
F I L. E R J L N W S E N X P K G X K D V E S K H Y O R K I S
F X P H K D L O H V D E H V Z V N E Z X S O P W G O W X.

Morristown, N.J.

6. Happy Days.--T I N P A N U K A T Y G *M T Y Z Q L (E A S M
Z O P S U, B Y G H Z K A S T V L R Z I H), Z G H P S X L X M S O -
O L H Z S, O W S B E G H O N E G N G E Z A S. X Y T A Y U H
A T G E S K L; F Y Z D D *V T P X L Z Y I.

Allentown, Pa.

I SEE

Now that the Krewe has had a good look at the new format, the editor would be interested in learning what they think of it.

In our dilemma, B. Natural proved to be the helping hand we needed.

Aristotle says he inspected League material at Franklin Institute and found it in good condition.

Clue your keywords fairly and adequately. The solver is entitled to a square deal.

CHAT

At the last moment I had to make a number of changes in copy. This will account for the appearance of a pair of flats by Captain To.

Cuprite and his wife paid a visit to the editor's home late in September, and were piloted to Gouldsboro for a gabfest with Artaxerxes.

There are 36 typewriter spaces in the width of an Enigma column. Flat writers should try to keep from exceeding that width, to prevent turning lines and eating up of space.

Don't let Sherlock's star nonplus you. Centered on a vertical line are a pyramid, an inverted pyramid, a pyramid, and an inverted pyramid. In the angles at the sides, rhomboids and reversed rhomboids are fitted. You may solve each part separately, if you wish; but, many of the words interlock at the end letters, and so you'll be wise if you jot down a diagram of the complete form, first of all.

The crypt by I See was very obviously meant to be a holy terror, and it lives up to its looks. It is only fair to tell you that it contains a couple of reformed spellings.

B. Natural certainly ransacks the dict for queer words to be worked in his flats. Vide No. 15.

After the list of July solvers had been retyped by B. Natural, an Everything list from Billy Goat was discovered. So, add him, making a total of 62 solvers for that month.

We note that Alouette has left Los Angeles and has gone to Pearlblossom. What a sweet name for a town!

Chet uses the Scot's pronunciation for the FIVE of his homonym.

Ajax sent July solutions on the letterhead of the Savoy Hotel, London. He said: "I had most of these before I came over here, but I just now wound up the last of the annies. Puzzles are a wonderful way to pass time when traveling."

Jemand comes up with a fine short anagram, couched in neat verses.

Captain To's echoing charade just doubles each part of the main word, like an echo.

Next month is Christmas month, and your editor can't think of anything in the gift line that would please him more than a lot of contributions of every kind, so that there will be a splendid lot of material to live in the Enigma next year. You can make the magazine very interesting and also entertaining.

Writing from Sarasota in late September, Roving Vic said that for the preceding fortnight there had been sunshine over St. Pete 95 per cent of the possible time. And to think of what that town did to us at Labor Day gives rise to thoughts of murder or worse.

Hoodwink tells me that he "worked" nearly all of a batch of 50 anagrams sent him by Fred Domino. He wants to know if Pennsylvanians use "work" as equivalent to "solve". They do!

Making bricks without any straw is a cinch compared to writing Chat if there's little or no correspondence to draw from. But, space must somehow be filled.

Says Boojum: "I guess that in time I'll learn what words are worn out in the field of puzzling. Meantime, I make discoveries that are delightful to me."

The Gink, via postcard from south of the border, asserts that one assuredly hasn't seen the chief cities of North America until he has seen Mexico.

In spite of the number of rebuses that have been published, our versifiers continue to come up with fresh and unhackneyed ones.

Nutmeg explains failure to send solutions by the terse remark, "Too much company."

If the new format is accepted, you crypt-constructors need no longer avoid the use of both I and J, for on a normal typewriter there is a fortunate difference between these two important characters. Remember, all 26 characters may now be used instead of 25 as before.

The dead line for solutions to the present issue is January 1, 1951.

With the crypts in double-column style, they should be more legible, and the space helps, too.

THE ENIGMA

DECEMBER, 1950

SCRANTON, PA.

NO. 561

A PROLIFIC PUZZLER LAMENTS

By FRED DOMINO

Well, Arty, let me hear from you
When you need headers, flats,
Or sketches, squibs, or paragraphs--
The kind you use in Chats.
For I have got a hundred--
Well, maybe more or less--
And you have got a binful
Of my stuff right now, I guess.
I've got some transpositions,
Numericals, charades;
Another hundred anagrams--
One on THE ACE OF SPADES.

Where'er the things pop into mind,
I simply jot 'em down--
Sometimes when I am driving
The family car to town.
I must have sent you ninety,
Or perhaps one hundred ten,
Already since last New Year's day.
They've overflowed my bin.
For when you print Enigma
And its pages are so few,
You haven't got the space to print
The output of the Krewe.

I'd like to see Enigma grow
Another sixteen pages,
So you could show the clever work
Of tyros, experts, sages.
I'm sure I'm not the only one
Prolific to a fault,
And you could get enough of stuff
To fill a bank's big vault.
So, if you haven't got the cash--
I mean enough, a plenty--
I'll reach down deep into my jeans--
Dig up another twenty.

-----o-----
Commenting on the delay of August Enigma, Arcanus says: "A fellow never really appreciates what a niche our splendid sheet fills in his life until it 'turns up missing.'"

The Enigma is the monthly magazine of the National Puzzlers' League, Inc. The subscription price, which includes League membership, is \$3.00 a year or \$1.50 for six months.

The Official Editor and publisher is Rufus T. Strohm, 1610 Pine St., Scranton 10, Pa., to whom all communications should be addressed.

MINUTES OF THE 125TH CONVENTION

The 125th convention of the National Puzzlers' League was held at the Pass-a-Grille Beach Hotel, near St. Petersburg, Fla., Sept. 1 to 4, 1950. In attendance were: Quefanon; Bunny, Fiddle, Phyllis, Roving Vic, Fred Domino, Freddie, M. E., Arty Ess, Fubine, Dorse, Pat, Patsy, N. Jineer and Witch Hazel.

The business meeting was called to order by 1st Vice-President Dorse at 10:55 a.m., Sept. 4. It had been set for an earlier hour, but the liquid sunshine that was falling delayed the arrival of some members.

Roving Vic was named Secretary pro tem. The minutes of the 124th meeting were approved as printed in the Enigma for June, 1950.

Quefanon moved that the order of business be changed to permit election of officers and the selection of the next convention city in time for the dead line of a local newspaper that had asked for news. The motion was seconded and was carried.

The following officers were elected: Pres., Dorse; 1st VP., Mr. Ree; 2nd VP., Rayle Rhoder; Sec., Puzzle-smith; Treas., M. E.; Off. Ed., Arty Ess; Ohio Trustee, Blackstone. With one exception, the officers elected were those who had received the most votes on the proxy ballots that had been sent in. Quefanon had expressed a wish that he not be considered for the presidency.

New York was selected as the convention city for February, 1951. The exact date was left to the judgment of the Riddlers Club.

The regular order of business being resumed, the Treasurer's report

Files of League puzzle literature have been deposited in the library of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, where they may be consulted by anyone interested.

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