

## CRYPTOGRAMS

1. Oops.--AHKDKZKP AHKDOA ANODOLCJ ALMRH-  
DRMO. AHKJLDGJP HMKHNA; AHKMOS NGS HKA-  
HKSOA, AKWOA AODT. POLA HMGHN GJ JOHN.

JOHNNIE  
Caldwell, N.J.

2. Hard Blow.--CRAM OSTIL SNIEO INOSRD UNS  
YITNEM. CTLYE CYILO DTAM LYE=DURAM CU-  
RAOS DUNL DIYCAO REST DYNAMITE.

EMPTY  
Piedmont, Calif.

3. Church Music.--A BCDE FGHZ JKFA LM EJNODJP.  
PKJPCKDA RKFA FGJLM CESFKDML TBC VHF-  
ZM ABCEFH TCER WECF BZPKFH.

4. Turnover.--JKCLMQRCSTQLPW WZHNZTQ KVMN  
ROTF CY YOHF JVMWZS. BLPR, MODFS PVKF  
DNXTQ ZHVJW RS, JKLMXNW BCDXDOHB.

L.D.R.  
Denver, Colo.

5. Suicidal Draft.--TCHBKECALFJ DMBHQHDFEAC NJ-  
PROTGUA, BSCHPMPEPKC IQUBNPRO EDFHGP-  
KVUTC, XUWFBV, EFJXT YFURZ JBCAPJ NHDQ-  
KQDHC WFOUO.

6. Filled Out.--BALTIMORE HELPINGUV XTNICMU  
UIARLX THUNLQ TZMICNBW WNLXMI. SMVUDNF  
ZRBUNEFV XIEURDA GWA VRBEF BIEZR LX.

Baltimore, Md.

## CHAT

Yercas died October 5, so Aristotle wrote me. He joined the League late in 1926 and was a faithful member, attending most of the conventions and doing his part in contributions to the Enigma. He was an inveterate practical joker, and many a convention was enlivened by his antics. His good nature made him popular at our gatherings. There are too few of his sort and we shall miss him greatly. We sadly turn down a glass for Yercas.

Neoteric, in the October Diamond Club letter, makes some remarks that we are pleased to quote. Insisting that many people are puzzle-minded, he goes on: "After all, we're a puzzle club....We should have something in this line to offer new members. There are plenty of social clubs....and we cannot hope to compete with them. We must offer our specialty to attract new members." That is sound sense. More power to Neoteric!

Boojum admits her verses may be a trifle bawdy, but it's an old familiar tale told afresh in rhyme. She avers she had oodles of fun working

the puzzle into it.

Darkness steps into the limelight with a long-neglected kind of form. It consists of words of 4,6,8,10,10,10,8,6,4, letters, and reads down and across the same. His fourth word is a nifty.

Observation by the farmer-formist of Worthing, S.Dak.: "I've had a bad cold and can't seem to shake it off. Nature abhors a vacuum, they say, so I suppose I'll have to carry something around under my cap."

Space this month allows me to show a number of long flats that have accumulated. I hope you will enjoy all of them.

The crypt by Johnnie, is his first contribution, but, we hope, far from his last. I shortened it a bit, for which I crave his pardon.

Enigma addressed to Si comes back: "Removed--left no address." Maybe he and Nova have gone back to England.

The dead line for sols to this issue is February 1, 1951.

## COMRADE

## THE ENIGMA

JANUARY, 1951

SCRANTON, PA.

NO. 562

## PUZZLEEVOLUTION

By SHERLAC

In the Neolithic Age, long before the printed page

Could be adorned with Jingles, Forms and Flats,  
Events both gay and tragic, plus rudiments of Magic--

Not to mention Rebi, Cryptograms and Pats--

Were taking shape for Thedom, in an atmosphere of Freedom.

And the Prototypes of present Devotees

Were acquiring funds of Knowledge in a Prehistoric College

Turning out the kind of Fillers that might please.

With his trusty axe and celt, hanging handy in his belt,

Jason Flinthead carved a rebus on a bone.

When the Tribesfolk started solving, they set the wheels revolving

That culminated in Enigma, all our own.

## THE MYSTIC MINER

By MOLEMI

"Eleven, twelve,  
Dig and delve."

--Mother Goose

It has been thirty years since the extraordinary revival of interest in Puzzledom began during the regime of Nanki Poo as official editor of the N.P.L. The files of the Enigma since then are massive and impressive--but alas, unindexed.

If the Krewe will stand for it, I should like, from time to time, to present random bits of ore from this vast accumulation. Here's a starter from the pen of Evergreen:

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.

I like to see a puzzler hide a puzzle in a verse,  
And PRIME the thing with rhythm and a punch,  
And if within the lines a bit of wit he'll intersperse,  
I'll settle down and never ask for lunch.

--Dec., 1936

The 1936 presidential campaign revealed the quaint fact that FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT afforded a perfect anagram: KEEN VOTER IS ALL FOR LANDON! Four years before, Tweedledee transposed THE ROOSEVELT LANDSLIDE into IDLE LAND SETTLES HOOVER.

News columns of several months ago chronicled the death of "Bojangles" Bill Robinson, celebrated Negro dancer. His nickname furnished a sparkling BANJO LEGS.

The Chicago Inter-Ocean, April 18, 1897, published a set of puzzle verses by Jocarol, an alias of Kosciusko McGinty's. One stanza went:

Or it may chance, if Kenneth has endurance,  
To live till 1938 or 9,  
He may refuse my claim for life insurance  
Because lumbago had an aunt of mine.

Kosciusko McGinty died on Aug. 10, 1905, at the age of 34. The nom of the veteran Kenneth, is shown in the most recent puzzle roster, his residence being at Mountain Lakes, N.J.

As the oldtimers will recall, the N. P. L. was originally the Eastern Puzzlers' League. Yercas unearthed a clipping from the Diamond Club Courier of January, 1890: "A sad inci-

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

Entered as Second Class matter, Nov. 14, 1944, at the Post Office at Scranton, Pa., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

dent closed the proceedings of the E.P.L. convention, Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28, 1889 in Marshall Hall, N.Y. Mack announced that he had moved to the western side of the Mississippi River, viz., to St. Louis, Mo., and consequently was compelled to offer his resignation from the League. The resignation was accepted with great regret." Arty Ess comments: "When those old boys said Eastern Puzzlers they certainly meant EASTERN!"

One of the finest flattists of the past thirty years was an invalid by the name of Frank E. Cuddy, known by the nom of Effie Cee. He died a number of years ago. The following information was furnished by Wick:

"Effie Cee lived in a rundown section of Baltimore, but that did not daunt his spirit. Due to his affliction—a form of paralysis—he had a dislike for visitors. It was painful to observe the spasms that periodically shook him. He explained once, when trying to make me feel at ease, that terrific pains shot through him at varying intervals, but he had almost learned to ignore them. He was most injured at the peak of a promising career in college when an accidental fall twisted his spine. He was brilliant as a conversationalist, but he never considered himself as having superlative attainments."

Effie was for some years, a member of the corresponding circle of flattists known as the Quillists, and his letters gave never a hint of his personal misfortune. I consider having known him, even only thru correspondence, one of the greatest returns that my years of puzzling have brought to me.

Here is a characteristic flat from Effie Cee's pen; it is a linkade on AFTERNOON, printed in the Enigma for August, 1934:

We're loafing up the Gulf Stream on a heaving nap of indigo,  
And lazily we're wallowing to starboard and to port;  
Abeam, a cable's length away (and do they like it windy!) go  
A dozen porpoises at play, and relishing the sport.

The sun is riding overhead and eight bells strike (and THIRD it is if so be you're a landman, and likely that may hap);  
And FIRST a solitary NEXT (and what a graceful bird it is!)  
Is hovering above the swell to seize each galleys scrap.

There's nothing like an ALL (as now) aboard a rusty cargo ship,  
A-laying down a silv'ry wake and kicking up the foam;  
And ev'ry hour that passes by (we have it on the Argo, ship  
Of Jason and his golden crew)  
we're eight knots nearer home.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts in November were: \$1-Martella; \$1.50-Alpha, Real Puzzles; \$2-R. S. Cheney, L.D.R.; \$3-Comrade, Chief, Cassandra, Neoteric, Ben Ami, Discolog, Fiddle, Anti Que, Skibblue, Sourdough, E. F. Fields, Aristotile, Salome, Pax, Bill Bell, Wick, Syph, Oedipus, Frinkus, Whatzit, Shylene, Bee Wilder, O'Casey, Maxie F., Don, S V B, I. N. Joyum.

Balance, Nov. 1...	\$775.27	
Receipts as above.	89.00	
Total.....		\$864.27
Printing, Aug-Oct.	34.90	
Printing, Nov.....	34.45	
Printing, Dec.....	34.90	
N.Y. Conv. allow...	35.00	
January copying...	3.00	
B. Natural, stamps	.44	
Total.....		144.44
Balance, Dec. 1...		\$719.83

## CHAT

Madda Boutem, Monroe, Mich., died on October 27, after several months of illness. She joined the League in 1929, and attended conventions held in Detroit. Her daughter writes that the file of her mother's Enigmas is available. Anyone interested in copies from 1929 to 1950 should communicate with the Official Editor.

Hoodwink's rebus ought not to tilt the applectart of the completers, if they remember such examples as "the end of a perfect day" or "the fourth of July" or "the middle of nowhere."

Dorse pulls a new one in her phonetic deletion. As the numerals indicate, the sound of one letter of the 6-letter word is deleted and the remainder if a 7-letter word, speaking phonetically.

Oedipus wrote his charade almost a year ago, when he was in a hospital. This explains the mystery of the two lines that end his flat.

The tuneful flat by L.D.R. is only one of a large batch he sent during the past year. He has added a number of forms, two of which were destined for October, but were delayed by the Yazoo City fiasco.

## PENETRALIA

Standard authorities: New International, 2nd Ed; Century Atlas; and Phillips' Dict. 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.

JANUARY, 1951

## NOVEMBER SOLUTIONS

1. Nightingale. 2. Dandie Dinmont. 3. Rockaway. 4. Undouble. 5. Three-quarters of them. 6. Hereinbefore. 7. Third day (third D a Y). 8. Diabete. 9. Played, plaid. 10. Overheard, overhead. 11. Eyelids. 12. Inanition. 13. Shallow. 14. Pandemoni-

um. 15. Clinamen, Chinamen. 16. Sourness. 17. Cuirass, queer ass. 18. M-Igraine. 19. Ho-mi-ny. 20. Exercise, exorcise. 21. Thorough, through, though, tough, thug, gut, ut. 22. Sinecure. 23. Western Union Telegraph Company. 24. A minister of the Gospel. 25. Theatrical producers. 26. Theatrical productions. 27. The Armed Forces. 28. Our Armed Forces. 29. Tips on horse races. 30. Newspaper editors. 31. The newspaper editors.

1. Vehement and excited, with Yid...  
2. A man may lay down the law in....  
3. When Arty Ess objects to the use.  
4. Tyro taximan bumps lady driver...  
5. Still something to see: the.....  
6. Oxyrhynchous Zouave (phiz agrin..

N  
R O S  
D A N A S  
K O N T I V A  
B A R G A N I N G  
R A M E A N T R E E S  
M O R I B U N D I T I E S  
P O P U L A T I O N I S T I C  
B O D O U P O U A U T O M A T I C M A C H I N E S C A L D C R O W  
R I N G I N G U P O L I T I C O E T H I C A L E A N E A R E D  
N A R E G A T S I L L I T E R A T U R E S O L I D S U I T  
M E T E R H A N D E L A C E R A T E D O V E T A I L S  
S E A R O U T E S E B A G I N E S E L E N I T E S  
S M O R T H R E S A V A N A S A N D R I V E R  
A W L E R I V E R E N G E O S I N A T E S  
A E R A D A T E S T S A B I N E N E S  
T E L E S E M E S A M A N A R O S  
F E V E R T R A P O B E G I L E R E S  
R O K E S M I T H A R O H O M I L I S T S  
N E M E R T I N S A R C L E S E T E S T A T E  
T A K E N T E N T A R G E T E E R A N T E R I S M  
P O M A N D E R S A L T A R E L L A S T A N T R A I L  
W I V E R T O R P A S S E M E N T E R I E N T E R F L O W  
W A R E N N E R S A N T A M A R I A V E L H A I R E R I V E R  
S A I N T S E R F A L S E S A R S A P A R I L L A S S A C A N U S  
S A I N T C A T H E R I N E S  
I N D O C T R I N A T E D  
D I L A T O M E T E R  
P E R A M E L E S  
R A F A L E S  
H E T E S  
E I K  
C

## CHAT

Keen puzzlers are seldom at a loss to find material about which to wind verses. Some time ago, these pages referred to Cryptox as newly elected head of the town government of State College, Pa. Larry quickly discerned in that note the inspiration and the keyword for his t.d.

Oeaple makes a single combination, of rebus letters answer the purpose for two solutions.

Ambrose telegraphs that the February convention will be held at the Park Sheraton Hotel, near to Central Park. Room rates start at \$5 and the banquet will cost \$5.50 a plate. The date will be announced next month.

Alouette submits with his homonym a note suggesting that, because they are so easy, the phrases he has used may have been used in the past. The Off. Ed. has no recollection of having seen these keywords before.

## NEW PUZZLES

## 1. REBUS (10,3,5)

PI  
0

*Underneath the piano*  
Mrs. gave me a sermon  
On housekeeping; she accused  
Me of pushing sweepings TOTAL,  
When a dustpan I should've used.  
Clarkson, Ky.

SOURDOUGH

## 2. REBUS (\*6)

REBUS, a poet of renown  
In an old New England town.

L

State College, Pa.

CRYPTOX

## 3. PHONETIC REBUS (\*6)

S

S

In Sixty-Two in Tennessee,  
U. S. Grant won victory.  
Albert Sydney Johnston fell.  
So our histories do tell.

Chicorinth, Illinois.

ROVICINO

## 4. REBUS (3,6,2,10)

AC

*The center of attraction*  
Her eyes are like diamonds,  
Her teeth are like pearls,  
Her laughter is music;  
She's the fairest of girls.  
In classroom or ballroom,  
Or at the style shows,  
She's sure to be REBUS  
Wherever she goes.

Hastrop, Texas.

HOODWINK

## 5. 6. DOUBLE REBUS

D A I

I (5)

II (7)

Temple bells 4-H belles,  
Sacred cows, Holstein cows,  
Atrocious smells, Farmyard wells,  
Hindu vows. Maple boughs.

Easton, Pa.

OSAPLE

## 7. HOMONYM

*Romped rode*  
Two anglers, one equestrian,  
All recreation bound.  
The first two FIVE across the lake;  
The last one FOUR around.

Middlevillansing, Mich. EMMO LATER

## 8. PHONETIC DELETION (6,7)

"From age to age" the same--  
Or different--what's the odds?  
When ruled by laws of gods,  
Recurrent--PRIME--what's in a name?  
Of mind or soul is FINE,  
Like that resourceful feller,

The lucky fortune-teller  
With any "true", successful line.  
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

DORSE

## 9. HOMONYM.

We stroll along a shady way,  
TWO FIVE beside a garden fair;  
And there we watch a kitten play  
With toy balloon that's filled  
with air.

We watch the THREE FOUR prod and pry  
Upon the large, elastic ball,  
At first with gentle care, and then  
A claw protrudes, and POP!  
That's all!

We're undecided which might be  
The more surprised--the cat, or we.  
Pearblossom, Calif.

ALOUETTE

## 10. TRANSPOSAL (12)

(Dedicated to my good friend Jemand)

The bells of the tower, with reso-  
nant power  
Have signaled the hour of prayer  
and rest;

Across a world sleeping, to purple  
fast deeping,  
The night shadows, creeping, with  
perfumes endower  
The winds from the west.

As summer day closes, white nunnery  
roses

Poke their wee noses above the  
gray wall  
And cling to the trellis, decidedly  
jealous,

The night breezes tell us, of one  
who to those is  
The fairest of all.

The world and its glories faint,  
half-forgot stories,  
Fair Sister Dolores, behind those  
walls ONE,

In sanctified beauty, with voice low  
and fluty,  
Repents TWO of duty and bitterly  
sorries  
For sins never done.

The careful-laid rimple of hideous  
wimple

Cannot hide the dimple in either  
fair cheek,  
Nor those orbs pacific, downcast,  
beatific,

The havoc terrific their gaze  
sweet and simple  
Midst saints, e'en, could wreak!

Ah, 'twere better, sweet saint, not  
to know, as you pray,  
That the Heaven to which you draw  
nearer each day  
To one who has loved you seems  
farther away.

Denver, Colo.

HERCULES

## 11. TERMINAL DELETION (7,5)

*Curgess*  
Cryptox, so we read in Chat,  
Is a WHOLE. I'll bet my hat  
He's a crackerjack at that.  
(This will cost him just a dollar.)

I'm a Justice of the Peace,  
Have the right, if the police  
Nab wife-beaters, to say "Cease,"  
Jail 'em even if they holler.

With authority I'm clad,  
But in seven years I've had  
Not a single case, egad,  
No two lovers I've united.

Something FINAL me, by gum,  
To ask Cryptox how to drum  
Up some business; but ho hum--  
Why should I get him excited!

Mason, Mich.

LARRY

## 12. BEHEADMENT (5)

Love, cease your futile rapping  
Upon my humble door;  
Forsooth, I still remember  
When you were here before.

Of how then at my threshold  
You looked so spent and thin  
My prudence changed to pity  
And lo, I let you in.

How FINAL you repaid me  
With broken heart and rue.  
A PRIMAL thing to harbor  
A rascal such as you!

Denver, Colo.

L.D.R.

## 13. BEHEADMENT (8)

Friend Arty, I don't care  
A ONE if you don't like  
This TWO, which here I proffer  
you.

You may stick it up  
Your sleeve,  
Or with a foxy smile  
Or even with rufous rage,  
Go hurl it wildly in  
Your can.

St. Petersburg, Fla.

FIDDLE

## 14. CHARADE (10)

*Nineteenth*  
To the game of golf my doctor said  
"No sir!"

But he can't prevent me putting it  
in a poser.  
With lassie and brassie we started  
from SECOND,

Not counting the time in minutes  
reckoned.  
We finished the FIRST holes with  
no rest between

As we hiked along from green to  
green.  
Then we sallied forth with a yell  
of "Fore!"

And I think we envisaged FIRST  
holes more.

When we started from the TOTAL, I  
said MY THIRD--  
A little more or a little less de-  
fines the word.

It was growing late, I was getting  
the chills;  
I had to get home and take my pills.  
If any solver finds cause to  
complain,  
It hurts me double, for I'm in pain.

New York, N.Y.

OEDIPUS

## 15. CHARADE (9)

Paleontologic-ly  
'Twas Uncle John's vocation  
To cram our house full of his finds  
From every known location.  
The staircase was the favored spot  
For placing his choice ALL.

In passing, Pa might bump his ONE,  
I see--ing through the hall.  
But brother Tom or I, alas--  
Of extra-avoidupolis--  
Would often bruise his THREE  
and legs,

TWO pair of hobbledehoyos.  
At all misfortune, aches and pains,  
Then Uncle John would laugh.  
(But since he lies in far-off lands,  
'Tis now his cenotaph).  
Burton, Ohio

B. NATURAL

## 16. TRANSPOSAL (6)

A straight left jab; a hard right  
cross; a left hook lightning fast:  
The challenger was plenty good, and  
could the Old Champ last?

So he would ONE with hard, straight  
rights to body, head and heart,  
And cover up with elbows, for he  
knew the Manly Art.  
His golden, diamond-studded belt  
was what he must defend,  
And many folks bet money that he'd  
TWO him in the end.

Corinth, Miss.

FRED DOMINO

## 17. CHARADE (9)

Close to ONE is said to be  
Good for health; but yet,  
Getting TWO right in your ear  
Just isn't a good bet.

Now, an ALL is not a pleasant sight,  
But in some sports it's just about  
right.

Philadelphia, Pa.

SALOME

## 18. DOUBLE-LETTER CHANGE (5)

(Both first and second letters  
are changed at one time)

If Tom would only TWO himself,  
And be a bit more ONE,  
He'd avoid a biting aftermath,  
When he's THREE beneath the sun.  
For when Old Sol TWOs himself  
You must be on the ONE  
If you will prevent sunburn,



Not THREE, but on the run.  
Ferndale, Mich.

ALLEZ

19. HETERONYM (6)  
The folks moved out the other day;  
The trashman came and took away  
From attic, cellar and areaway,  
Accumulated ONE.

He didn't look behind the mew  
Where lots more ONE was dumped.  
Told to return, in rage he jumped,  
And firmly said, "I TWO!"

Ho-Ho-Kue, N.J.

PLANTINA

20. NUMERICAL (11)

(ONE, 7-6-8; TWO, 5-1-2-4-3-9-10-11)

All the gleaming pots and pans,  
WHOLE, as Mrs. Housewife scans,  
Prove that her dish-washing ONE  
Of TWO properly is done.

Iowa City, Iowa.

ARCANUS

21. WORD DELETION (9; 4,5)

A little dog names Spot  
Thought chasing cars was fun  
Until the fateful day  
His chasing made him ONE.

The driver of the car *Blamless*  
That hit the luckless whelp  
Though WHOLE, felt great remorse,  
And stopped to offer help.

He took Spot to a vet,  
Who set two broken shanks,  
And set them with such skill  
Spot wished to say his thanks.

If only dogs could talk,  
I'm sure Spot would adore  
To say, "I thank you, Sir--  
And TWO you evermore."

Ennis, Texas.

BOOJUM

22. TRANSPOSAL (7)

Our climate has changed since the  
days of yore--  
Seemingly the ONE of weather be-  
fore.

Oldtimers without TWO will aver  
Winters are THREE than what they  
once were.

Morristown, N.J.

DEEGEE

## ANAGRAMS

23. IS IN CAPITOL

Clarkson, Ky.

SOURDOUGH

24. I ROAD, LAD

25. BASIC WORDS ENTIRETY

Baltimore, Md.

MR. REE

26. HE'S A GOAT (1,7)

27. COWARD, THEE

Boston, Mass.

HOHO

28. SITS ALONE, SIR

Philadelphia, Pa.

SPREGGS

29. AGE ROTS

30. MUST ANGER

St. Petersburg, Fla.

FIDDLE

31. T.N.T. HIT "DRY" MEN; "WET" MEN  
FEAST (3,11,9)

Cleveland Heights, Ohio

BLACKSTONE

32. SEE GREAT LIST O' RICH (3,6,8)

IT'S REGAL, RICH, TO SEE

GO SEE 'AT RICHER LIST

I RATES RICH GOELEFTS

Coricago, Mississiois. FRING DOMINIC

33. I CITED FACT; I CLEAN UP BUNCO

ART (1,9,6,10)

I COUNT; I BALANCED FACT PICTURE

I COUNT BALD FACE A NICE PICTURE

34. CLIP BUNCO--TRACE DUE FACTS

IN IT (9,6,11)

35. IF I INDICT 'EM, CITE "CON"

SECRET (10,5,9)

36. DID GREET RARE MARKETS (5-4,10)

37. O, BUT CITE NO END (2,2,9)

38. DIG AT ANGER SPOT (2,7,5)

39. EARNS TAG--PLAINLY POISE

(1,8,11)

40. PUT IN THAT ABLE REST CURE

(3,10,8)

Corinth, Miss. FRED DOMINO

1, 2. SQUARES

1. The color Tuscan red. 2. A Eu-

ropean bulrush. 3. A long gold chain

often set with precious stones. 4.

Any raucous cry expressing disappor-

val. 5. Acouasm. 6. A cable hand. 7.

A path through the air.

Palm City, Fla. PAT

1. (India) Native kettledrums. 2.

A human being. 3. Masc. prop. name

(pg. 1029). 4. Muttering. 5. A loose

jacket for women. 6. Tree viper. 7.

A peril of the sea.

Milford, Ind. SAKR-EL-BAHR

3, 4. DIAMONDS.

1. C. 2. Daunt. 3. A bard among the

Goths. 4. To shorten. 5. Twisted. 6.

Fatigued. 7. Formal customs. 8. Al-

lured. 9. D.

1. C. 2. Carriage. 3. A bard among

the Goths. 4. Reduce. 5. Songs. 6.

Gained. 7. Amer. lyric poet, 1853-

1916. 8. Allured. 9. S.

Swansea, Mass. THE GRIFFIN

5. PYRAMID.

Across: 1. R. 2. To soak. 3. Fr.

hist. 17th cent. 4. PESENAS (Morse).

5. Strives again. 6. Hares released

from a basket. 7. Armatures consist-

ing of metallic disks. 8. LESSER  
CARAMANIA (World Geog.) 9. Bonds by  
which a borrower was put in the pow-  
er of a money-lender.

Down: 1. F. 2. The tone A. 3. Var.  
of DEBT. 4. Var. of BIKH. 5. Civet.  
6. PESKER (Wr. D.) 7. LESKARD (Lipp.  
Gaz.) 8. A coin, equal to 1/4 denar-  
ius. 9. Bishop of Brechin; d. 1219.  
10. Tribe, Hedjaz. 11. LAVATAY (An-  
drees). 12. Serious fluids. 13. SERAB  
(Blackie). 14. T., San Miguel Co.,  
N. Mex.; 20 SW Las Vegas. 15. An of-  
fense. 16. An advertisement. 17. S.

Worthing, S. Dak. SHERLOCK HOLMES

6, 7. DIAMONDS

1. C. 2. The masses. 3. Var. of  
PILAU. 4. Crisp, hard, thin papers.  
5. A deciduous molar tooth. 6. Oct.  
12th. 7. Light barouche. 8. Cheated.  
9. Wearied. 10. A hair pad. 11. Y.

1. C. 2. A mixture of various gut-  
tas. 3. Bible name (p. 206) 4. Black  
Sea white sturgeons. 5. River, Thes-  
saly, Greece. 6. Oct. 12th. 7. China  
trees. 8. Coarser. 9. One who takes  
a side. 10. Rough lavas. 11. Y.

Denver, Colo.

L.D.R.

8, 9. SQUARES

1. (Slang) Attended a dance with  
no girl to escort. 2. Ruler having a  
head at one end. 3. Water drinker.  
4. Dried paste made from the seeds  
of a Brazilian shrub. 5. A model. 6.  
To make Irish. 7. Controversies.

1. Masc. proper name (pg. 2284) 2.  
Calling for much. 3. Semi-Chris-  
tian Maori sect in New Zealand. 4. A  
partition used in egg-cases. 5. Deep-  
est. 6. Want of taste. 7. To speak  
in a hasty and stumbling way.

Sewanee, Tenn. AL GEBRA

## C H A T

Larry's crypt is fantastic. As the  
asterisks show, it is made up wholly  
of place names, taken from the 1929  
U. S. Postal Guide. But, to mollify  
solvers, let it be said at once that  
the asterisks can be disregarded, as  
the answer makes a sentence of plain  
English.

Salome could have made the matter  
clearer if she had mentioned one or  
two sports in her final couplet.

Again B. Natural rings in a queer  
word on us. It was so strange to the  
editor that he looked for it in New  
Int., and sure enough, there it was!

Let me suggest that a greater num-  
ber of solvers vote on the best flat  
printed each month, so that the re-  
sult will have meaning.

## AUG.-SEP.-OCT. SOLVERS

EVERYTHING: Hoodwink, Roby, Evero,  
Nollid, X. Specked.

FLATS: Complete, 22-Allez, Roving  
Vic,\* Ralph, L. Wood. 21-Lady Lila,  
Alpha. 20-Don, Fiddle, Sherlac, Lu,  
Empty, Salome, Orion.\* 19-Oedipus,  
I. N. Joyum. 18-Johnnie, Penny, Neo-  
teric.\* 16-Jemand, Oslo. 14-Osapi,  
Plantina.\* 13-Atlas, Jay Estee. 12-  
Billy Goat, Shyrene, Anti Que, Ev-  
ergreen.\* 11-Alouette, Daft. 10 or  
fewer-L.D.R., Arcanus, Patristocrat,  
Deegee, Amor, Skibblue, Comrade,\* Mr.  
Ree, Sourdough, Martelia, Sherlock  
Holmes, Van Entine.

FORMS: Complete, 7-Lady Lila, Fid-  
dle, Empty, Lu, Jemand, Oslo, Arca-  
nus, Martelia, L.D.R., Billy Goat,  
Sherlock Holmes, Ralph, L. Wood. 6-  
Neoteric,\* Shyrene. 5-Penny, Johnnie.  
4 or fewer-Atlas, Skibblue, Mr. Ree.

CRYPTS: Complete, 6-Roving Vic,\*  
Coleth, Comrade,\* Reynard,\* Fiddle,  
Lady Lila, Alpha, Empty, Lu, Salome,  
Sherlac, I.N. Joyum, Penny, Johnnie,  
Anti Que, Skibblue, Van Entine. 5-Jay  
Estee, Deegee, Oedipus. 4-Neoteric,\*  
Oslo, Sherlock Holmes, Ralph, L.D.R.,  
L. Wood. 3-Jemand, Shyrene. 2- Billy  
Goat, Daft. 1-Sourdough, Amor, Excel  
C. Orr.

Total solvers, 50. The Rokeby Star  
by Sherlock Holmes was chosen as the  
best puzzle in the issue.

## C H A T

LOST--The nom of Evergreen, which  
should have been affixed to No. 5 in  
November Enigma. Also the noms below  
Cryptograms Nos. 3 and 5, in Decem-  
ber, Deegee and The Griffin, respec-  
tively. (Typist's note: Miss Printz  
is not responsible but B. un-Natural  
this time. Sorry.)

It is with pleasure that we place  
Sourdough in the lead-off spot this  
month. Perhaps he intends to point a  
moral in his rebus, for the benefit,  
of solven housekeepers, if any such  
there be in our Krewe.

If you notice "thru" and "tho" and  
other simplified spellings where you  
had used the standard forms, please  
note that I must get 36 letters and  
spaces into each line, to bring the  
right-hand ends into alignment verti-  
cally. Believe me, that takes some  
doing!

No Southerner, says Hoodwink, eats  
hominy with milk, even if Captain To  
does. The Texan wants his fried with  
bacon fat!



## CRYPTOGRAMS

1. Not Brittle.--O ARTY JOE ARBB CYEF O BRGGBY  
KOGKYH GKOE CY GMHE LU CN GKY HMMGT.  
New York, N.Y. FUBINE

2. Freedom.-- DAUGHTER RJZASUQ JG SPA DEUB-  
HLTS AGGATSJER SH PLBET CJVTJSQ ETC  
PLBET PEDDJTAGG.  
Chicago, Ill. SUE DE NYMME

3. Thick Skull.-- BJQWZDF WHJKZDQ DJLMNPD  
PBSJZTH; UDTBSDH DFWZTVLDR QDUSJR.  
PJZNUVJL HDTBSDR, WNWVZ MTVZP UJ  
NLRDHPUTLR OSE.  
Bastrop, Texas. HOODWINK

4. If War Comes.-- YRCATSW ROJTPW AE RUTDU  
FWCMEDM: "WSFNEH NWDATATJWM." \*AVWOES  
ELLWCM YEDOWCLGN MEGCPW.  
Washington, D.C. PROFIT

5. No Kin to St. Vitus.-- DRY YOUNG SGLPLOR KOPUV  
HOLDS. BDYGSU DSNMGVXSOV CROW CDRT0,  
VNMDXXPVNMG, \*NMOSRGVXDU ORDUK QPXM  
SGKZROS CSDKSOB.  
Morristown, N.J. DEEGEE

6. Geographically Speaking.-- \*ABCCD \*EBGZKGH \*JGLM  
\*HNJBG \*OLGP, \*ORLSKG, \*MAKBU. \*ZKGOABPU  
\*HKRRH \*ABGWMBGK, \*OAKBC \*OLEEKK, \*JGBCCK  
\*XKRRD. \*MABU \*OAKKG!  
Mason, Mich. (\*Taken from 1929 U.S. Postal Guide) LARRY

7. Big Powwow.-- BALTIMORE SYNDIC CYSIVR ZYV-  
MLRQ NIGLHERD HTEGLS MTYGSIV. LXHIT  
HINEYOC AYOTC, XLHED0IN HATYRD NTYBCI  
ORCHLGSQ.  
Baltimore, Md. COMRADE

## CHAT

The Hercules transposal has a curious history. The sheet on which it was typed by our Denver master-flat-tist carries the date, July 6, 1927 and below that Hercules had written, "N.B. This is my birthday!" The flat was held back by its author because he had been unable to find authority in New Int. for the TWO employed in his verses. He placed the flat in the hands of Jemand, to whom it had been dedicated. Meanwhile, the New Int. recognized the keyword for TWO. So, after a period of a quarter of a century, the flat sees the light. It is a splendid example of the rhyming genius and finished craftsmanship of our beloved friend.

Changing from letter-press to offset printing was something like taking a dive into an icy pool. Contemplation of the impending action was far worse than realization. We stood on the bank and swayed from one foot to the other, trying to summon courage for the jump.

But now that we're in, the water's fine, thank you! We've had the bill for the two issues thus far produced --and paid them! The sum was \$69.35. The same Enigmas, if printed at Yazzoo, would have cost us \$108.30. In short, we have saved close to \$20 an issue by the change.

Empty avers her favorite place for solving flats is riding in the automobile.

## THE ENIGMA

FEBRUARY, 1951

SCRANTON, PA.

NO. 563

## FRUSTRATION

By MOLEMI

I know that I shall not again  
Wear Number 14 collars;  
Long since, I lost my quondam yen  
To make a million dollars;  
Las Vegas has no charms for me  
(I never win a wager);  
And oh, I know I ne'er shall see  
A square on URSA MAJOR.

The formists pull some pretty  
stunts--

I must not be a knocker.  
I do admire the verbal bunts  
Of Al G. Bra and Sakr.  
When Sherlock goes upon a spree  
Of forms, like some old stager,  
He may succeed with EAU DE VIE  
But not with URSA MAJOR.

Perhaps at some millennial dawn  
In future's misty distance,  
My chance of heaven I may pawn  
For mystical subsistence,  
To see the angel Gabriel,  
That white-winged Golden-Ager,  
Thumb pearly lists and ring the bell  
With squares on URSA MAJOR.

## IMPRESSIONS OF THE PAST

By AL GERBA

Through the generosity of puzzle-  
istic friends, I have acquired some  
old Enigmas, going back even to 1905.  
For the benefit of newer comers than  
I, and to get a rise (at this safe  
distance) out of some of the oldtim-  
ers, I will rush in, as angels fear  
to do, with my impressions.

To begin with, the most noticeable  
difference between the old and the  
new is that the puzzlers of yester-  
day plainly possessed a much higher  
degree of education than do those of  
to-day. Latin quotations and class-  
ical allusions abounded, and at times

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is Rufus T. Strohman, 1610 Pine St.,  
Scranton 10, Pa., to whom all commu-  
nications should be addressed.

added color. A blistering flat re-  
ported in January, 1918, censured con-  
temporary flattists for coming short  
of the versifying perfection of such  
poets as Shelley and Tennyson. It  
was apparently considered as unnec-  
essary then as it would be futile at  
present to request contributors to  
count the syllables in their verses.  
This haply commendable critical at-  
titude was reflected, however, in a  
group of flats in which all keywords  
appeared in the first line or two;  
the composer, having disposed of the  
tiresome job of fulfilling the basic  
requirement for publishing in a puzzle  
mag, then hauled the reader thru  
twenty to fifty lines of slush that  
described the longings of some hypo-  
thetical lover whose puzzleistic con-  
nections were never made clear.

Aside from the tendency toward in-  
terminable poetic meanderings, how-  
ever, the puzzlers of old were adept  
at remembering that the object of a  
puzzle is to puzzle. Often the solv-  
ers' list contained no completes at  
all. I am in positive sympathy with  
Nanki Poo's assertion in the Balmor  
memorial issue (Aug., 1921, pg. 38)  
that "The Enigma is to puzzling what  
the University is to education--the  
highest seat of learning... Simple  
puzzles (that is, juvenily simple)  
no longer interest us. We crave real  
mental problems." (The analogy with  
the university still holds, but only  
because most universities to-day are  
spending half of their time teaching  
subjects that should have been taken  
care of in the high schools.

To my mind, the best puzzles of a  
generation ago were better than al-  
most anything one sees to-day; but  
the worst were so vague, so clueless  
and so difficult that their effect  
on the increasing insanity rate in  
this country must have been terrific

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

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