

THE ENIGMA



SEPTEMBER 1961

GREENFIELD, MASS.

NO. 688

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

My brankie oye, sparuchle upon my
knee;
Tell me, bairn, are you very
paughty?
I may be stoit and stacker on
shaky legs
And scart my knee on yon bree kegs;
I'm not so spry as a springal now,
Can't even ride a staggle, I
allow--
But pawky miss, don't miche about
it,
I'm not quite hite, don't you doubt
it!

I truly believe, if NPL
To Scotland ever flew
IFANDOR would soon resign
From a braw, Scottish Krewe.
-----o-----

OPERATION SYNDICATION

By A. NONNY MUSS

According to Webster, the word SYNDICATE refers most frequently to a combine in the field of finance, or in that of journalism. As used in our puzzle game there is no definition available. I suppose it would be fair to say, a syndicate in our hobby is a group of two or more solvers who lend one another assistance in solving. Whether the little group operates regularly by the month of not, and whether the said assistance covers hints and suggestions only, or includes also the free trading of solutions, seems immaterial to my definition.

Covert trading of solutions seems a bit brazen to me, but in the mere swapping of additional clues, hints, or the like, I see nothing shameful

or harmful. I have both received and given that sort of help. I agree with Hoodwink's statement in June, that such mutual assistance results largely in mutual pleasure. I am all for that type of syndication.

However, the prevailing custom of submitting solutions we needed help to attain certainly lays us open to the charge of unfairness, and that, I think, is the very point Al Gebra made in his February article, when he spoke of cheating against the Solvers' List. For the list definitely credits us with solutions so obtained.

Some time ago, a writer in Enigma asserted that the purpose of the list is simply to indicate or identify the puzzlers who are interested in solving. If this were true, a bare list of the noms would suffice. Our membership roster, in fact, would offer the best, most complete table of interested solvers, since the only folks joining our League are those interested in solving puzzles. In SINCE YOU ASKED ME, in the May issue, one of the writers said he almost never pays any attention to the Solvers' List, therein leaning decidedly in my direction. However, I must admit that if this were the general feeling the list would have no proper place in The Enigma.

It must be the showing of the number of solutions each puzzler attains that gives the list its value, that being the only information in the list not also findable in our roster. All that particular information is of interest only as it provides a means of comparing the solving prowess of various puzzlers.

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Obviously, if the list does not truly reflect our individual solving abilities, no fair comparison is possible, and the list loses its single point of value.

I question, though, if the opportunity to make these comparisons is at all desirable. I can understand the proud, even boastful, feeling of the solver whose name appears as a Completer or Near-Completer, but I can also feel for the sensitive one whose solving record is considerably below the point of completeness. Possibly it is his dislike of this public comparison contest that keeps him out of the Solvers' List.

The asterisk does not help. When its use was originated some years ago, it was widely used. So widely that readers assumed not only that the users were the solo solvers among us, but also that all not employing it were syndicators. As the years passed the asterisk's use has steadily declined until only two or three solvers bother to use it today. To those few the mark no doubt has a personal, sentimental interest, but to the casual reader it has none at all.

I believe in a moderate degree of syndication, but at the same time would welcome the advent of some scoring method that would provide all puzzlers with complete confidence in the veracity of the Solvers' List. I do not believe that confidence is possible today.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Receipts in July: \$3-Rayle Rhoder, Sew and Sew, Gordian Knotter, \$1.50; Dr. Edward B. Grossman, New York, N.Y.; Debit Lee Greenfield, Denver Colo.; Mrs. George Sackett, East Jewett, N.Y.; Mrs. Lillian Herishman, Walden, N.Y.; Clarence W. Freeman, New York, N.Y.; Mrs. Harold E. Crabb, Alameda, Cal.; M. C. Brown, Oak Park, Ill.

Balance July 1	1038.63
Receipts as above	19.50
Total	1058.13
August Enigma	48.75
Directory	23.25
Add. Env.	3.00
Off. Exp.	1.36
Total	76.36
Balance August 1	981.77

TO THE MEMORY OF ARTY ESS

"Forever honoured, and forever mourn'd"

in the words of Homer, quoted in sorrow by

OEDIPUS

"It seems trite to say that Artie Ess will be greatly missed. I have always regarded him as the greatest all-round puzzler the League has ever known."

MOLEMI

"Artie's passing leaves me feeling that I have suffered a very real personal loss. There will never be another Artie, and I feel extremely fortunate to have been personally acquainted with such a grand person. May he rest in peace."

FRED DOMINO

"So sorry to learn of the passing of dear Artie Ess. I have known him and admired his artistry for over 50 years."

GORDIAN KNOTTER

-----o-----

MRS. MABEL OECHSLE

On June 28, 1961, Enigma, Mrs. Mabel Oechsle, died at her home at 21 West Drive, Ventnor, N.J., at the age of 87. She was the widow of X. Checquer, and is survived by her daughter Mrs. Anna Taylor.

Enigma was the guiding light who revived the Philadelphia Diamond Club, and got it ready for the 1926 convention. She was a contemporary of Artie Fishel, D. C. Ver, Nedmac, Duke of Gloucester, Guy Bell, Delaware and Zoroaster, but has not been active in modern Puzzledom for many years.

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JUNE SOLVERS' LIST

Everything: 34 flats, 4 forms, 8 crypts: Fluke.

A. Chem 30-*-7; Al Gebra 23-0-0; Allez 29-0-0-2; Amor 15-0-0-1; Anti Que 16-0-*. Bee Wilder 21-0-*. Billy Goat 34-3-3-7; Blackstone 26-0-0-1; Captain To 27-2-0; Daft 0-0-*. Dunroven 26-0-3-6; Elmore 29-0-3; Fiddle 31-*-6; Helen Highwater 22-0-3-2; H. Ell Tee 30-*-6; Hookwink 30-*-5; Ifandor 33-*-6; I. N. Joyum 9-0-*-6; Jake 27-0-6-2; (Concluded on Page 8)

JULY SOLUTIONS

1. Pa-tie-nt. 2. Under, udder. 3. Properly, property. 4. S-had-ow. 5. B-egg-ar. 6. Handicapped. 7. Every Monday night. 8. Fichu. 9. Paths. 10. Defection, detection. 11. Piston rings. 12. Palace, place. 13. Carbuncle. 14. Sleuth, hustle. 15. Acumen, cueman. 16. Esther (Hester) threes. 17. C-Triticism. 18. Forefinger, foreigner, refinger, reinfer, refine, finer, fire, fie, if, I. 19. Loudness, soundless. 20. A-postrophe. 21. Holds mystery, molds history. 22. Long stretch of road. 23. Fractions, fractious. 24. Alone alone, all, all alone, alone on a wide, wide sea. 24. W-Pheal. 26. Midstream. 27. Gingerbread. 28. Round. 29. LANGuid, UGLy, INopportune, Other, SEquel; lanuginose. 30. A double entendre. 31. Postmasters. 32. The wallflower. 33. Imposture. 34. Infuriated. 35. The riverside. 36. Anecdotal. 37. A metric measure. 38. The ignoramus. 39. The walking encyclopedia.

1. During a brewery strike when neg 2. A fellow sat on the front steps 3. Even when laws have been written 4. Youth who had gynophobia and gir 5. Artful flyer shot down eight foe 6. Formal apparel: cocktail visitor 7. Wistful newsboy threw wild curve 8. Young jivers, with low IQ, jump.

1. By FLUKE	2. By MOLEMI
T	F A C E T S
OT	A R E N A E
POT	C E O R L S
SMOG	E N R O O T
TARRI	T A L O S E
ETOILE	S E S T E T
POSSESS	

3, 4. By SHERLOCK HOLMES
CO A L A G E N T U P P I L I N G S
O F U E R I V E R P E A S E D A L E
A U T E R R I V E P A P A Y O T I N
L E E S H O R E S I S A B E L I T A
A R R H E N A L S L E Y E R I V E R
G I R O N E L L A I D O L I Z I N G
E V I R A L L I N N A T I V I T I E
N E V E L L I N G C L I T E N I E N
T R E S S A N G E S E N A R G E N T

You must know I've resolved and agreed my books from my room not to lend but you may sit by my fire and read. Caroline Howard Gilman.

REV. ARTHUR L. SMITH

Artaxerxes, better known to his friends as merely Artax, died at his home in Gouldsboro, Pa., in June of this year. He was 88.

He first entered Thedon in 1897, when he visited a puzzle convention at Ardmore, the home of Diamondalla. But, in his own words, he says:

"At the risk of being boresome if not immodest I will give you a little sketch of my puzzle career and life. I was born April 12, 1873 on Saturday before Easter Sunday, here in Gouldsboro. I solved cryptograms while a boy in the common school. I became interested also in form puzzles. My first puzzle was published in the "Mystic World" (1886) of the Utica Saturday Globe, edited by W. V. Belknap (Williamette) of Newark, N.J. I contributed to this department quite regularly; as well as to "Knotty Points" in the Women's Home Companion edited by Ruthven. My nombre plumes were numerous as I signed my contributions as Arthur, Silenus, but finally adopted Artaxerxes.

I worked as a helper in the R.R. station for a while and acquired some knowledge of telegraphy. Then, I went to a State Teachers' College and after graduation taught school for several years. Subsequently, I went to Muhlenberg College and the Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia, getting the A.M. degree. I was ordained a clergyman in 1906 and have served in parishes for 40 years."

Since his retirement from the ministry, his hobbies besides puzzles, have included clock-repair, windmill installation (at home), paper-handling, and bee-keeping. No wonder he remained a bachelor!

Artax was a formist of note in the "old days", and has turned out some mighty tough cryptograms.

PENETRALIA

1. WORD DELETION (7; 3 4) *Washing*
A robin couple lives this spring
In our old ONE tree, next the shed.
Each morn she tidies up the nest;
His matin gets me out of bed.

He swoops to flitter in the pond;
And while COMPLETE is not his forte
He stands and preens his TWO and
tail

Until he looks a dandy sport.

Then off he darts to find a worm,
A tidbit for his patient mate
Who sits complacent on her eggs
And snoozes if the breakfast's
late.

Houston, Texas. PAUL AND VIRGINIA

2. Sorrowful ENIGMATIC REBUS
(*4 *3 2 4) *Antagonism*

HEA ICK
Heartsick in truth are we.
For our beloved great chief.
For REBUS.

St. Petersburg, Fla. FIDDLE

3. REBUSES (2 5 3) (13)
AN *an on a day* EST
T CT *under the time*

This thing that you have done
Was REBUS ONE, my son.
Don't REBUS TWO your blame.
You should hang your head in shame.
Portsmouth, Va. JIMO

4. CHARADE (7) *palms*

One line means life, another love;
At least, so claimed the ALL.
My silly ONE removed her glove
Eager to pay for a story tall.
Spellbound in close, dim alcove,
An incense TWO held us in thrall.
Dallas, Tex. IFANDOR

5. REBUS (17) *Wanderer*
ST

G M S *and in*
We've been together for seventeen
years

And everything is fine.
And though we have had REBUS a few,
The causes most often were mine.
Los Angeles, Cal. DINAH MIGHT

7. TRANSPOSAL (7)
The ONE winter has passed,
The earth's showing green.
Let's get TWO at last.
Get busy, rake clean!
Easton, Conn.

SPUD

8. REBUS (4 4) *just done*
D
Midurndist, how could you have
REBUS a thing as that?
I refer, of course, to your
Number 10 February flat.
St. Petersburg, Fla. FIDDLE

9. BEHEADMENT (6, 5) *fallen*
For twenty years old Jeeter plowed
his land and planted cotton
Till all his fields were barren and
their erstwhile yields forgotten.
Taking notice, neighbor Jones
soundly claimed that he would
SECOND

'Twere best to let some fields lie
FIRST, ere the poorhouse beckoned.
Houston, Tex. PAUL AND VIRGINIA

10. SECOND-LETTER CHANGE (9)
In a ONE, near silver birch,
'Twixt the smithy and the church,
Lives a man of kindly mien,
Sparsely thatched, but blue eyes
keen.

Unknown to the wide world, 'tis
true,
But in our town, outstanding TWO.
Altadena, Cal. FLUXE

11. REBUS (13)
I
IST
I am one of those careful guys
Who cross their t's and dot their
i's.

I know that "rebus" does not rhyme
With "fuss" or "cuss" at any time.
Whene'er I write a flat or letter,
I wish that I could do it better.
Whittier, Cal. MOLEMI

12. PHONETIC CHARADE (8)
ONE

A part of a chain,
A loop of a line,
A piece of a fuse,
This FIRST of mine.

TWO

A team or a party,
One of two in a fight,
My SECOND or yours
Must always be right.

ALL

If you are MY WHOLE,
You'll see more than most,
But nevertheless
You won't see a ghost.
Fort Collins, Colo.

NUTMEG

13. REBUS (7 4 2)
RE C

To all of you who have the flu
We hope you'll REBUS quick,
And with it all you'll soon be
through,
And forget that you were sick.
Portsmouth, Va. JIMO

14. REBUS (13)
oooooooooooooX
Those who determination used
To solve Mo's rebus, gave him
praise;

But those who failed, and felt
abused,
Vowed REBUS against him, at the end
of his days.
St. Petersburg, Fla. FIDDLE

15. TRANSPOSAL (9)
Rembrandt of Holland won renown
Among the world's great FIRST.
His sketches tell one tale, that he
Was well in SECOND versed.
For him one end in life sufficed:
To show the world the face of
Christ.

Whittier, Cal. MOLEMI

16. SPOONERGRAM (3 4)
A farmer picked out a small pasture
(His other enclosures were full)
He thought its green grass was
good grazing
For his newly-bought thoroughbred
bull.

Unaware of the animal's presence,
Two maids with a box lunch and PRIME
Prepared for a nap in the open --
They stayed for a very short time.
The following morning the farmer
Making rounds in the early sunshine

Found the heel of a girl's shoe, a
sandwich,
A kerchief, two spoons, and a FINE.
Attleboro, Mass. CAPTAIN TO

17. TRANSPOSAL (7)
Whooping and climbing trees
Like little apes, or PRIME,
The boys have a jolly time.

Then one scrapes his bare knees.
The pain is sharp--and how!
That boy is FINAL now.
Canton, O. BLACKSTONE

18. REBUS (7 6)
CH M
S

I carried a bagful of fruit.
To get it all home was my goal.
The bag came to pieces en route,
And I ran down the avenue WHOLE.
Pittsburgh, Pa. AL GEBRA

19. CHARADE (10)
Life is full of ups and downs, as
is many a ONE.
Right now my bank account is down
Just when I'd like a brand-new gown
I'll check my last year's wardrobe,
And see what can be done.

Here's a dress! This TOTAL crepe I
always did prefer.
I'll lift the hemline just a bit,
Add a flower, and then TWO it.
(ALL could be a tasty dish, or even
a liqueur).
Norfolk, Va. A. CHEM

20. HETERONYM (4; 2-2)
The simpleton went fishing,
A cockleshell his barque.
"The PRIMAL get's my FINAL--
I'm fishing for a shark."
Franklin, N.H. CHET

21. SPOONERGRAM
Lonely was I in Kurdistan,
Many a mile from home.
Heard no (4)(4) from any man;
Why did I choose to roam?
In a dive, in Kurdistan,
I drank a quart, or more,
Found, finally, a friendly man,
A laughing, singing, (5)(#4).
Dallas, Tex. IFANDOR

22. CHARADE (10)

Would FOUR be cold in blood and
mind and heart

To fall to like much ornament in
art?

Tho any seeming diamond be but ALL
Why let this on our judgment cast a
pall?

My blood has other factors, also
ONE

But this TWO can't abide, lest
cold it run:

If someone makes threats towards
my home, my THREE,

TWO just can't stand by idly,
don't you see!

Brookline, Mass. HOHO

23. CHARADE (14)

The farmer lad will ONE the field,
To increase the herbal yield.

TWO his face, THREE brownly tanned,
Shows contentment with the land.

Cities have for him no call,
Ne'er, for fleshpots, he sighs ALL.

He's quite happy with the charm
Life has furnished on the farm.

Though he used to want to roam,
FOUR he's set for home-sweet-home.

Altadena, Cal. FLUKE

24. REBUS (4 2 3 6 2 3 4)

RST YO D
Conservatives, they oft get blue,
Over things that Liberals do.

If victory you would keep in sight,
Go not far left nor too far right.

And if you're prone to compromise,
Just REBUS, that's considered wise.

Los Angeles, Cal. DINAH MIGHT

25. SEVENTH-LETTER CHANGE (10)

The legend Saint Bernard,
With cask of spirits, hard,

On snowbound, PRIMAL ways,
Brought succor (say the lays).

Now, cold and FINAL writers,
Those realist inditers,

Claim that such tales were fiction.
(On them, my malediction!)

Altadena, Cal. FLUKE

26. REBUS (4 3 3 4 4 4)

F AR YCO ME

REBUS to hear,
And more to see,

Things that are queer.
Just folk who are

Like you and me.
With Seneca, I must agree

'Tis true, "What fools these
mortals be!"

Bastrop, Tex. HOODWINK

27. DELETION (6,5)

FIVE in the parlor, FIVE on the
porch, --

Each surely carries a well-lighted
torch.

One is near saintly, with mien
sacerdotal;

In post-mortem future, he may be a
TOTAL.

Altadena, Cal. FLUKE

28. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (9)

1-His mother used derision

To finalize a sad division.

2-Tricycles are not used at all

By medical men to make a call.

3-He tells a tale of dreary pain;

Slashed by a knife, cutting cane.

4-Songsters weary from long glee

Find refreshing strong, green tea.

"Fighting shadows", let's not do;

Our real foes are none too few.

Dallas, Tex. IFANDOR

29. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (11)

1-Tern always deserves a pair,

Two gulls live happily fore'er.

2-Sty-dwellers enjoy the slough.

Pigs are a filthy lot, I vow.

3-Neat escapes the convict made.

With wedge-shaped tools he made

the grade.

4-Yokels itched and scratched away.

Pedulous they were, but gay.

If suppers three you have each day,

You're surely ALL, I'd have to say.

Pittsburgh, Pa. AL GEBRA

30. PHONETIC CHARADE (*5 *1. *6)

You had an air about you, Arty Ess,
That showed a fund of deep
resourcefulness.

Withal you cottoned to the latest
trick,

Alert and sharp, your mind was
instant quick.

You solved your puzzles calmly,
you weren't TWO,

And difficulties never made you
stew.

We puzzlers all will ONE the day
you left,

We're quite forlorn, dejected,
and bereft.

No matter where we FOUR, you're
found the best

From North to South, and from the
THREE to West.

Brookline, Mass. HOHO

31. ANAGRAM (4 *9 3)

Thanks for your kind invitation,
And the welcome your words imply.

Thanks for explicit directions:
A "KUTE" DOG HE RUNS BY.

Euclid, O. TYPIA

32. ANAGRAM (11 6 8)

A sad condition is often seen,
When discordant words come between

Those who know one another too well,
Which is an old proverb, here I

tell:
FOR INTIMACY EMBITTERED SLAP.

Jackson Heights, N.Y. ORDIPUS

33. SEE TO ACT IN BIRTH (3 12)

Clearwater, Fla. KENNETH

34. TABOO CULT A NICE AGE (*4-7 *6)

35. LET GO SPRITE

36. OPTICS SEE COR

37. EKE OLD LADY GREW (7 7)

ANTIGRAM

38. GOONS LACK A FEED (5 4 4)

Brookline, Mass. HOHO

CONNECTED SQUARES.

Left Square. 1. A long tramp,
march or journey (Wr. D.) 2. Mount-

ed on a horse. 3. Dormants (Wr. D.)

4. A starting-point (Wr. D.) 5.

STATISER (Oxf.) 6. TANASO (Cram.)

7. To trespass. 8. Arty Ess.

Right Square. 1. Arty Ess. 2. TAME

APES (Thes. of Slang) 3. Daubs (Wr.

D.) 4. TELDENIA (Cram.) 5. Prepara-

tions of cheese with bread crumbs

baked in a mold. 6. OPENING (Barth.

Atl.) 7. T., Germany, Nordhausen;

63 W of Leipzig. 8. MSSASANI (And.)

COMPOUND SQUARES.

Upper Left Square. 1. R.T. Strohm,

2. Remit again. 3. An actor. 4. A

Costean village; 10 m. from Santa

Cruz Mission (Am. Ind.) 5. Var. of

IMPALES. 6. Seeters (Wr. D.) 7.

STRASSA (Andrees).

Upper Right Square. 1. STRASSA

(Andrees). 2. TREUTER (Ind. Geog.)

3. Creeping. 4. Self-action (1st

Ed.) 5. To alarm. 6. Singles*. 7.

R. T. Strohm.

Lower Left Square. 1. STRASSA (An-

drees). 2. TIERCER (Wr. D.) 3. A

cent. 4. ARCEWAY (Map Ind of France).

5. A nomad. 6. A senate. 7. R. T.

Strohm.

Lower Right Square. 1. R. T.

Strohm. 2. A genus of immense cush-

ion plants. 3. Agitating. 4. An In-

dian of one of the Timucuan tribes.

5. Bible name (pg. 831). 6. SINGIRA

(Andrees). 7. The narrator of a sa-

ga.

Lennox, S. D. SHERLOCK HOLMES

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The Calikre had a pleasurable

get-together in July, when Ifandor

and her husband Clyde, visited the

western group, with Zordo, Quirk,

Molemi, Sol, Fluke and Pacifico as

hosts. On the way to Los Angeles,

the Dallas duo paid a visit to Ban-

ning for a chat with Mrs. Ev and Ev-

ergreen.

Mrs. Lola Person, Arty Ess' sis-

ter, wishes to thank so many of his

friends who wrote to her at the time

of his death. She was literally

swamped with these expressions of

admiration for a great puzzler, and

realizes that it will be some time

before she can acknowledge them.

For Johnnie and Penny, a new ad-

dress: 3 Glen Road, Verona, N.J.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. Punning.--A B C B D E B F: G H K C F F L H H B M L A G N-
O P G R "H L P P B B" S L H. G P B G R C L E E C B T K W
K R E N B T B G D N C B X E R K E B M R O R A E K R B F.
A K P B P G M M L G H B T M K Y B M A C L Y B E K H K Z L F-
K Z A N K S S L R H.

Dallas, Tex.

IFANDOR

2. Wise advice.--Q P G P L N W U L S N T S G C X M F G P T S P
U Q L G (U T C R, N C J A G) A P C R T S G W; T F C P O X G-
T C N L S W L E P L R A Q P R L G P C X L Q U T C W X D F-
D P.

Bastrop, Tex.

HOODWINK

3. Empty thought.--P B O N U B A U O C F N G P R O A H J, O D N
C R N J O N P K C L R L A M N; "N Q K C R N S N, J N P U R-
T V X H, O D A R N P U N S X R N J T S N F O R, N Q P K O H X."

JOE CURR

Jollytown, Pa.

4. Feet first.--Z K L T N O K P N C K M Z H V B X T P; M Y N Z I
W X M D G D N J J C T D Z M H K N V P T X J V. N E P M Z K N T-
P B N S C I Z D J C I Z D M H T C H Z C A.

Jackson Heights, N. Y.

OEDIPUS

5. Girl to the rescue.--H D I J K A A B O V X C D I I X A K J E S-
A K L I G L I Y E B W, L A K F N Z B X V N R N G W I B X E V-
X R K G L P D W E O L R J, C A K O R X P K V I K R V E K E W-
A K O I.

A. CHEM

Norfolk, Va.

6. Divorcee.--A B C D E F G B H I I J H K L S O H P M S W N F P D
Q H R B G Z K T S; U K O F V M S W A C H G A K G F E K P F X K-
Y S T L F H; Z K N F L W Q S Z K X V U S W Y K R S P. J H K V M
Z B L M!

Ronkonkoma, N. Y.

VAL ENTINE

7. Hands Up!--T S G L Y X V S O X C H H K C F A G B C G H R A;
W S G E C Y F R V Y N G G C P O S A; R B Y O W S G E = X F S K Y F
B F R X I W Y G T I W E A I W F Y. S A Y F H W I G H R T Y F
H F C B G H E C Y Z. B A S O Z R C A Y X.

White Hall, Ill.

BEE WILDER

8. Close call.--P G H D N X W G S D M X D K G J P G N C J B C D-
F G H D B C J K L D M N G P Q H G K L R C D S L K. D R C N G
R H C B D N T C S M N C B V K, R D C S K K D P G L W.

Altadena, Cal.

FLUKE

June Solvers' List (Concluded)

Jimo 17-0-1-4 Molemi *-0-0: Nollid
29-2-0-3: Nutmeg 33-*6-7: Oedipus
19-0-6-6: Paul and Virginia 21-0-0:
Sherlock Holmes 5-*0: Sibyl* 21-2-
1-4: Sue de Nymme* 21-2-1: The Gink

24-0-5: The Gopher 17-0-0: Typia 25
0-0: Tyro 0-0-2: Val Entine* 28-*4
7: Wrong Font* 31-0-1-5: X. Trax 17
0-*4.

THE ENIGMA



OCTOBER 1961

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YE ISOLATED PUZZLER

By HERCULES

I have oodles of compassion for
those prisoners of hope
Who knocked their heads against a
cage and beat their wings away
Upon the bars unbreakable of doors
that never ope,
E'en tho they play a ratatat until
the judgment day:

The poet selling groceries, the
dreamer pitching hay,
The farmer in the pulpit and the
judge in bishop's gown;
All these have won my sympathy,
but one still more than they--
The isolated puzzler in a little
country town.

The neighbors--if they know it--
recognize his mental scope
And bring him picture rebuses
which money prizes pay

To any lucky guesser who will
purchase Slickem's soap,
Then shake their noodles, doubting,
when he softly answers nay.
Is he to forms addicted, he's a
simple nut, they say;
If poet--gentle Heaven let us ring
the curtain down!
He's scorned and pitied even by
the yap that drives the dray--
The isolated puzzler in a little
country town.

No kindred soul with whom to chat
on puzzleistic dope,
No library has he in which to
study when he may,
And yet he's never known to change
into a misanthrope,
Tho goodness knows he may have
cause from mystic paths to stray.

While other lads pitch horseshoes
and their sisters play croquet
He sits and reads the dictionary
in a study brown,
Knowing that to support the 'Dom
one has no time to play--
The isolated puzzler in a little
country town.

(1924)

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FLAT SOLVING, a la Mode

By FLUKE

Referring back to Pacifico's #23
Rebus in the April, 1961, Enigma, I
tried to follow the scheme of in-
serting words, that would make sense
in the lines as written, and then
choosing those of the right length
to fit the rebus construction, in
this case, A--D, with a 17 as word
lengths.

The "1" seemed obviously "A" and
the "7" should be some sort of an
animal, probably a cat or a dog. The
"---" looked like a DASH to me, sug-
gesting DASHUND, which the N.I. Dic-
tionary confirmed as a legal variant
for Dachsund with UN as a permissi-
ble variant for ONE. That seemed to
solve it, but, knowing the fine puz-
zle-making ability of the author, I
was not satisfied, and I wondered
what other creature might be jump-
ing around in a garden, especially
one that might well be disturbing
Mary. Frog was no help, but TOAD
was intriguing, with D as the last
part of the Rebus. Studying the pos-
sibilities there, I saw "A", then a
break, TO A D. The break had to have
three letters of course, so I checked
my memory and the N.I., and came up

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