



THE ENIGMA

March 1985

Buffalo, N. Y.

No. 972

A PUZZLE COLUMN 100 YEARS AGO

By WILLz

The 1880s might be called the golden age of flats and forms in America. Verse and form puzzles in those days were not the exclusive province of the Eastern Puzzlers' League, as they are largely with the NPL today, but were a popular pastime with tens of thousands of puzzlers across the country. Astonishingly, more than



MACK

150 major magazines and newspapers a century ago carried regular columns of flats, forms, and puzzle news--more than at any other time before or since.

One notable column, which celebrates its 100th anniversary this month, was "Alamodalia", a weekly feature of a then struggling young newspaper called The Washington Post. Its editor was a 29-year-old EPL member named "Mack" (James S. McGee), a native Midwesterner who had recently moved to Washington to work for the Post Office Department. Although Mack had been hooked on puzzles since 1879, when he first

tackled a four-letter square in a Cincinnati newspaper, his experience as a puzzle editor had been limited to a small department for young people in The Indiana Farmer.

But hopes were high as "Alamodalia" premiered March 2, 1885, with a welcoming message by Mack outlining the rules of the column. Contributions and solutions were invited from "all earnest puzzlers". Books would be awarded each month for the best solution lists. And puzzlers were asked to subscribe to the paper at the special rate of \$1/year. "All who receive sample copies should inclose that amount in their first communication," Mack cautioned, "as the prizes are not open to non-subscribers."

Whether because of Mack's reputation or blandishments we don't know, but "Alamodalia" from the start attracted the work of many of the best members of the "krewe" (as puzzle makers were then collectively known). Such celebrities as Maud Lynn, Bolis, Tradles, Aspiro, K.T. Did, and Beech Nut all had contributions accepted in the first issue; and the list of names grew thereafter.

A typical column contained eight to ten puzzles, with charades and anagrams being the most prevalent flats, and 7-squares and 11-diamonds predominating as forms. The quality varied: many of the flats (as was often the case in the 19th century) showed more effort in the poetry than in the puzzle element, so that a 16-line charade might have a solution as prosaic as "with-in".

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Such a flat by Beech Nut was actually printed. On the other hand, the column contained some handsome enigmas by Jacques (two of which are reprinted in A Key to Puzzledom, the League's 1906 puzzle handbook) and a number of beautiful, tagless 7-squares containing all common words.

In addition to the puzzles, most of the columns contained a couple of paragraphs of editorial chat and puzzle news. On June 7, for example, Mack announced the marriage of K.T. Did (who was urged in a flat on July 5 to try to get his wife to join the krewe), and on August 16 displayed a new form called the Pentagon, which had debuted two weeks before in Golden Argosy. The best bit of editorial whimsy appeared back in the second number on March 8, when Mack announced, "The inauguration of no puzzle department has ever drawn so large a crowd as that of Alamodalia. The ex-Governor of New York and others less distinguished came to the city expressly to attend the inauguration ceremonies." The inauguration referred to was actually that of President Grover Cleveland, the former governor of New York, who happened to be taking office the week "Alamodalia" appeared.

The news highlight of the year was the July 4th Eastern Puzzlers' League convention, which Mack himself had helped to bring to Washington. A complete report of the meeting appeared in the column of July 12. By modern standards the one-day affair wasn't a lot of fun. The 11 members present amended the constitution regarding proxy votes, elected a new slate of officers (with Mack president), and selected a site and date for the next meeting (Philadelphia, Thanksgiving Day). The games and social aspects of conventions today were absent.

When one goes back and reads the editorial chat of "Alamodalia" (and other puzzle columns a century ago), perhaps the biggest surprise is discovering the public bickering, fighting, and name-calling that went on. On April 26, for example, Mack declared, "Damon is a fraud of the worst stripe, inasmuch as he refuses outright to pay his honest obligations, and we caution all puzzlers against entrusting anything to him. He ought to be 'black listed' by the fraternity, as that other notorious knave, Gus, has been." These are strong words considering that Damon lived in Washington and was hosting the July convention!

Again on September 20, Mack called Morning Star, the editor of "Our Mystic Circle", a "contemptible liar", and accused her of padding her solvers' lists to suggest more interest in her column than there really was. Then he appended a five-letter numerical enigma "made for the benefit of 1 to 5, the editor of O.M.C.", which worked out to spell F-R-A-U-D. One wonders if such attacks were as mean-spirited as they sound.

It is reassuring to note, however, that some things don't change--even in 1885 solvers were complaining about the difficulty of the puzzles. "Some puzzles have been contributed to Alamodalia," Mack wrote one week, "That cannot be used, simply because they were made to stick the solvers.... They will be gently and considerably consigned to the waste-basket. Contributors should make a note of this and avoid ambiguousness."

How successful "Alamodalia" was as a reader feature is difficult to say. The first solvers' list on March 29 contained a healthy 44 noms, and presumably many other interested readers didn't submit solutions. But Mack's open invitation to attend the July 4th convention netted only four new members from the city, and the solvers' list shrank considerably during the summer and fall. Whatever the degree of success, the publisher wasn't satisfied, because the column was discontinued after October 18, just 34 weeks and about 300 puzzles after its debut. The final answers appeared on November 22. No explanation for the discontinuance was offered, but such was often the case with puzzle columns of the period.

A postscript to the story: Mack continued to edit a puzzle department ("Stepping Stones") for The Housekeeper out of Minneapolis, which he later transferred to something called Boyce's Saturday Anvil in Washington. In 1888 he and K.T. Did published The Puzzlers'

Dictionary of One, Two, and Three Letter Words, copies of which were eagerly snatched up by formists. But his puzzling ceased in 1889 when he was promoted to Post Office Inspector in Denver. His new job entailed riding an Arizona bronco over passes where, it is said, a slip meant certain destruction. Mack resigned from the EPL at the Thanksgiving 1889 convention because of his removal west of the Mississippi River. (As someone once noted, when the old-timers said "Eastern" Puzzlers' League, they meant it!) He retired from the Post Office because of ill health in 1891 and moved to Los Angeles, where he died on Christmas Day, 1894.

Neither Mack nor "Alamodalia" enjoyed a long life, but both made a colorful contribution to puzzledom 100 years ago.

DECEMBER FAVORITES (! = top favorite): ACORN--7, 58, 66, 78, 109, F-1, C-4, X-9. AJAX--89. ALF--4-5, 7-8, 61, 66. ANN DHOW & MY MY--20, 42. ARACHNE--4-5, 7-8, 17, 24, 25, 26!, 71, 97. ASKEW--3, 55, 63, 85!, 95, 107, X-8. AVIDAN--6, 17, 24, 34, 36, 37, 71, 76, 88, 95. BAMBAM--35!, F-1. BLACKSTONE--1, 2, 4-5, 8, 14, 20, 36, 47, 89, 93, X-2. CALICOH--1, 27, 72-73!, 74, 85, 88, 99, 101. CERES--6, 8, 27, 34, 36, 37, 47, 59, 63, 76, 85, 88. CORN COB--71, 76, 88!, X-9. DADA--4-5, 52, 89, 90, 99, 101, 105, X-9. DEE SWEET--3, 18, 26, 48-51, 58, 63, 67, 85, 89, 99, X-9! EBEAM--89!, 92. ELF--4-5, 24, 26!, 72-73. ERGO--35, 64. FARO--17, 20, 24, 26, 35, 36, 42, 47, 52, 59, 66, 67, 97. FOMALHAUT--9, 37, 66, 89, 101, 109, X-9! GADJET--7-8!, 25, 37, 42, 85, 86, 87. GECKO--1, 6, 37, 47, 48-51, 88. GRAYDOL--6, 14, 24, 47, 59, 67, X-9! HAP--1, 6, 7-8, 14, 24, 36!, 66, 77, 79, 85, 88, 89, 97, X-4, X-9. HART KING--3, 7, 24, 35, 71, 88. HUDU--1, 6, 13, 20, 24!, 36, 75, 79, 89, 90, 97. IXAXAR--3, 7, 37! KELLY--15, 24, 40!, 43, 57, 60, 70. KREMLIN--3, 4-5, 16, 31, 36, 52, 61, 88, 106-108, C-6, C-7, X-2, X-9. LARRY--26, 89, 90, 94, 105, 109. MERCURY--8, 11, 37, 47, 52, 60, 66, 75, 78, 79, 80, 88, 89!, 90, 94, 107, 109, F-4, X-3, X-9. MOMUS--7-8, 31, 85, 97, 101!, 104. MUNRO--61, 85, C-2, X-9! NEWROW--4-5, 34, 37!, 52, 67, 88, 95, 97. NIGHTOWL--4-5!, 13, 24, 36, 47, 61, 66, 77, 85, 89, 97, 106-108. OAK--4-5, 7-8!, 55, 59, 90, F-5. PEN GWYN--21, 34, 35, 42, 55, 63, 88, 89, C-2, X-9. RUTHLESS--3, 7-8!, 37, 64, 88, 97, C-2, C-5. SQUIRREL--2, 9, 24, 37, 38, 47!, 48-51, 71, 72-73, 88. STITCH--9, 18, 45, 63, 88, 89, 90, F-4, C-2. THE POO--97, C-5! TREESONG--4-5, 7-8, 26, 37, 61, 66!, 67, 71, 72-73, 79, X-9. TWISTO--44, 52, 88, X-2. TYRO--91, 103, 106-108, 109, F-2, F-5, F-6, C-2, C-4, C-5, C-7!, X-7, X-8, X-9. WINDJAMMER--1, 8, 16, 20, 25, 26, 37!, 44, 55, 85, 89, 95, 97, C-2, C-5, X-9. XMAS TREE--7, 8!, 24, 34, 37, 47, 64, 76, 79, 85, 88, 89. (Late-arriving: TWEASER--3, 4-5, 12, 21, 24, 36, 52, 56, 64, 89, F-4, X-6.)

THE SECRET	X-2. ANAQUOTE (3 7 7 2 4 1 4, 4 3 6 2 3 7, 3 8 4 4 10. *9)
To those who'd like to be prolific,	ADD CEB DUC EAT ELL ERE ERN ESU
I give this rule; it's quite specific:	FEC GLI HAN KCA KEA KEH LIN LMA
Of flats, each day, compose just three--	MOU NDS NEO NTH ONY PER RFA SLI
Then live to be as old as me.	SSI STE THE THO UND UTP S
=IXAXAR, Holiday, Fla.	=SIDEWALK, West Babylon, N. Y.
X-1. ANAQUOTE (8 9 2 6 10 2 3! 8 4 3 7. *10)	X-3. ANAQUOTE (1 3 3 2 5 1 8 8 2 4 3 10 2 5. 11 2 3 6 4 2 2.)
ALI ANC EAS EFR ESD ESI GAL HEP	ABE ATE BLE EEL EHA EHA EON ETA
IDE IST LEM NCR NDI OMT ONT OON	FHO FOR ITA LOS LYH MAK NDB NEY
OPO REC ROB RTH RTI SMI SWO TPR	ODO ONO SET SLI SOM SPO STO STO
Y	THO TTL TUN USA VIS
=MEO, Kewanee, Ill.	=VIRGINIA, Upland, Cal.

FROM SCRATCH

DON'T BLAME US! The copy for your February Enigma went to the printer on time; nothing special about that--it was before the Blizzard of '85. But what was something of a miracle was that the Copy Cat personnel somehow managed to wade through knee-high, then hip-high, snow to work--no driving allowed in the paralyzed city--and print our magazine, the Directory, and the red reminder sheet, and get them all into the mailbox right on schedule on January 23rd. So into the mailbox they went, and in the mailbox they stayed--till the 25th.

The red reminders are due, of course, to the fact that renewals have been coming in very slowly since the new no-postcard system was instituted. However, SENOR is gratified to report that in the last couple of weeks receipts have much improved. Be sure to look at your address label and send your check by the first of the month that is written there.

CONVENTION! CERES' exposition of the plans is so clear and well organized that I think I'll quote it verbatim:

PLACE: The Hilton Harvest House, 1345 28th St., Boulder, CO 80302
TIME: July 19-21, Friday afternoon until after brunch Sunday
PRICE: Single occupancy - \$155; Double - \$117.50 per person
EXTRA NIGHTS: Room only--Single - \$55.00, Double - \$70.00

(Let me (Ceres) know which nights, and I will reserve them.)

TRANSPORTATION--from Stapleton Field, Denver:

Boulder Airporter (Limo) \$7.50

Rapid Transit Bus \$1.75 (a few blocks walking to hotel)

Frontier Airlines passengers - Free (as of current date)

SPECIAL FEATURES: 1) Sixteen acres of beautiful grounds; 2) Swimming pools, spas, jogging track, tennis, volleyball, & basketball courts; 3) Nearby shopping areas; 4) Adjacent to University of Colorado.

We will have a free hospitality room at our disposal, in addition to our meeting room.

One half of money due June 15, remainder July 15.

Make out checks to NPL and send to Lorraine Hackman, 11840 30th Place, Lakewood, CO 80215. Upon receipt of reservation I will send more information, a brochure and individual suggestions regarding transportation from Denver.

Watch for Chairman Willz's plans in a forthcoming issue.

EDITOR'S MAILBAG: CALICOH's get-well card included a very sympathetic charade--unfortunately on the same base as Feb. #3's. She also reported, punnily, on a visit from LARRY and Bea: Larry had been inspired by the Calicohs' new house to write a puzzle--together with his hostess. "The irony of it," she writes, "helping to construct a flat after moving to a house." She later tells of the Cur-tises' gifts: "fruit (and vegetables) of their own labor...."***** XMAS TREE clipped from the Chicago Tribune an article on "Fruitworthy phrases from all over". These are phrases that sound all right till you think about them, so-named because ex-Mayor Jane Byrne once said she hoped a certain investigation would prove "fruitworthy". Of the many items quoted I liked: "I wouldn't trust him with a 10-foot pole." We all have heard or seen such mislocations; I once heard a lady say of a friend's promotion, "It's really a plum in his cap." Maybe you know some fruitworthy phrases to share with us.

DEE SWEET reports, "The Krewe members who responded to my request for contest information were thorough, timely, and helpful." What a wonderful group we are!****POLLY writes, "I am now legally blind, and get an income tax deduction. I don't think it is anywhere near a fair exchange."****THE POO requests, "Would you please ask if anyone has or is playing 'Ultima II'."*****I'd asked STITCH whether the new baby's name, Keldan, was a family name. Here is his answer: "Keldan is from a Scandinavian word meaning 'fountain' or 'spring'.

In his first week of life, he justified that name. I was changing his d'ypres...."*****Apropos of my comment in the December issue that "the postman's arrival is still the high spot of my day", one evil-minded member asks what my husband thinks about that.*****And now, finally, the good news: HAP is back home again, recuperating and solving. PHILHELLENE writes that her get-well wishes have been delayed by her hospital stay, but she, too, is feeling much better. NOHOLDS BARD has a much pleasanter reason for delay: he's just returned from "a month's visit to the British Isles."

ENIGMATTERS: January issue: In case your Ancient History is as weak as mine, here's what EBEAM wrote about #87: "...was known throughout his life as Claudius the Idiot, Claudius the Stammerer." *****JUNIOR writes in distress, re X-7, of having found two more 4-letter states. "So-o, there are 10, not 8. Rats!"*****One member confessed he'd been unable to figure out ELF's Famous People game--even after seeing the additional lists in February. For anyone else in this predicament: MichaEL Faraday, dAVID AND Goliath.

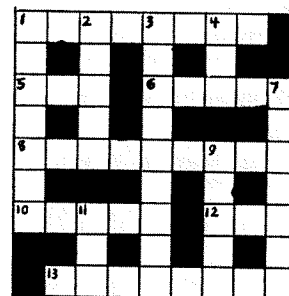
This issue: #2 and #55 are items in STITCH's new project. "...I want to try to get at least one puzzle of each type published. The other day, I made a list of all the (major) types, and then crossed off all those for which I already had puzzles published. I was dismayed at the volume of headings left, especially if you include BIGRAM BLIT..."*****#4 is, I think, the first Literatim I've seen--a beauty, too, and I'd guess hard to construct.*****When NEWROW sent #6, he wrote below it, "I'm not sure that was all worth it." You will probably be glad he took the trouble.***In #15 POLLY describes a common NPL experience; I remember well that panicky feeling. The "Rover" she mentions is her "Seeing-Eye" machine.****The tag on #21 is WINDRIFT's; TWO is not in my NI3 or in 9C. But it is an acronym that's familiar to most or easy to find.****You'll see in #82 that ALF has started sending 75-year-old puzzles, and that age does not wither a good anagram. This one belonged in last month's issue, but I forgot.***With #94 TE-ZIR-MAN brings an earlier anagram up to date.***And it was good to have both #95 and #96 and thus be covered for whatever happened on Jan. 20th.

NEW MEMBERS: Dr. Crypton, Science Digest, 888 Seventh Ave., New York, NY 10106; George Hart, 23 Oak Knoll Rd., Natick, MA 01760. Dr. Crypton's subscription is a gift from XMAS TREE, and George Hart has KREMLIN to thank for his. Welcome to you both!

NEW NOMS: Claudette Winkler is THE POO, and Laura White is, by coincidence, POOKY. Dr. Crypton is DR. CRYPTON, and my apologies go to him for having misspelled his name, and nom, last issue.

FEBRUARY ERRATA: In the first line of #30, SO should be So; in X-5, *3'1 should probably be *4.

X-4. CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



ACROSS: 1. Weird cult takes same

strange wine. 5. Member's vocal line. 6. Heston role on lake. 8. Superior situation? That's capital. 10. Expressions of approval confused violinist. 12. Small gem of a part for Mae. 13. Ducks cut back--in back.

DOWN: 1. Pity about old city element. 2. Raises funds for vessel. 3. Upset brother with an obnoxious result. 4. Wrong, sherry not missing. 7. Nags in California. 9. First class youth, confused before, became Ike's contender. 11. Reportedly a small street fighter.

=GADJET, Scarsdale, N. Y.

P E N E T R A L I A

Solution words appear in Webster's New International, 2nd & 3rd Editions (NI2 & NI3). Words appearing in only one edition are noted. Solutions lists should reach NIGHTOWL by April 25.

1. ENIGMATIC REBUS (10)
(NI3 usage; reading involves abbr. and an understatement)

D
Hudson

O'Malley wore an orange shirt upon St. Patrick's Day.
He went to Murphy's Ould Shebeen, where Doyle the pipes did play.
Now, Kelly asked, "Do you not know today's March 17?"
And sure, there was a royal ALL at Murphy's Ould Shebeen.
=WINDJAMMER, Chicago, Ill.

2. SPOONERGRAM (5 4; 6, 4)
A minstrel sings to earn his keep, to fill his plate and ONE.
He pours into each TWO and heart, each ditty, wit and fun.
=STITCH, Flagstaff, Ariz.

3. HOMOANTONYM (3, 3)
Brother now has found a trade, In which he uses last and FIRST;
Sister has a LAST been made-- In holy study she's immersed.
=LARRY, Mason, Mich.

4. LITERATIM (10)
Okay, I admit it; I like it.
I watch it each Friday at nine.
The plot is quite TOTAL and silly,
But the clothes--how I wish they were mine!
The cars and the houses I 3-4;
Miss *6-9's life sure is a dream.
The show 2-5 lots to old J.R.--
That boy's always up to some scheme.
Now 7 may think that it's 1-10,
But as an escape it's just great.
(I wonder, are all of those highballs
That the actors drink really just 8?)
=CORN COB, Raleigh, N. C.

5. ENIGMATIC REBUS (*12 *5)
THING

Modern music's bad, you feel?
Try Schoenberg's THING--it might appeal.
=APPLESAUCE, New York, N. Y.

6. DOUBLE ACROSTICAL ENIGMA
(*7 *8; *7 *6)(both NI2, but *7 *8 is not entry)(A1 = *; C1 = NI2*; B2 = NI2+; C2 = NI2*, 2 wds; D2 = NI2, 2 wds., first wd. *)

A. Quardeels filled with whiskey loom,
Part unfilled, in shade-tree gloom.
B. O, rock each judge so he may sleep,
Bundled in a little heap.
C. Long live General of France,
In Hawaiian town to dance.
D. Go on, yammer, frolic, play--
Plant a vine and shrub today.
E. Rash extremists gulp their fill,
Sated to the eyes and gill.

Nobel fellow, name him twice--
Sent St. Mael to realms of ice.
=NEWROW, Brookline, Mass.

7. ENIGMATIC REBUS (*1 4)
(reading has non-NI usage)
Her fingers stumbled on the keys,
Had troubles with those ivories--
And boy
Oh boy,
Despite her teacher's pleas
She went from bad to worse,
For she,
You see,
Played every etude in THIS VERSE.
(She truly is a teacher's curse!)
=EBEAM, Dorchester, Mass.

8. BEHEADMENT (7, 6)
The ancient Brit then said his piece:
"I'll paddle in my BIG to Greece."
The chief said, "It's not on the map;
Where is this place, you silly chap?"
Replied the Brit, a clever sort:
"Oh, when I'm there, I'll ask the SHORT."
=PLANTON, New York, N. Y.

9. HETERONYM (8, 3 3 2)
(3 = NI3 abbr.)
I see these rock groups on TV--
How wildly they do play!
If you expect in this TWO hear ONE playing, you are fey!
=ULK, Enid, Okla.

10. REBUS (8)
Grammar
Damner.
=SPHINX, Fairfield, Tonn.

11. WORD DELETION (10)(IN = NI3)
The hostess, dressed in party frock,
And hair wound in an END,
Was most upset when she plugged in
Her cooker ('twas West Bend).
It sat there doing nothing--seems
The INs were just too few.
"I'll not serve cold WHOLE soup," she said,
It's bread and cheese for you."
=EOS, Davis, Cal.

12. REBUS (10)

N

Your penmanship's awful--you scribble and scrawl!
Your T's are not crossed, and your I's are too small;
The humps on your N's are erratic and ALL!
=NIGHTOWL, Rochester, N. Y.

13. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (13)
(C = NI2; E = NI2+; F = + in NI2)
A. Lycanthropes forlornly howling,
Wights bewitching, ogres

prowling--
B. Iterate pet wee-hours features:
Count in cape or ghastly creatures.

C. I'm a customer of cable
Just for beast or troll of fable.

D. Mortals' peace by werewolf riven
Till wood stake through heart is driven.

E. Teach us sign and chant primeval:
Spells to fend off Prince of Evil.

F. Temporary break's not groovy
(Network news spot): Start the movie!

Live entombments vomit ghouls,
Loathsome things haunt fetid pools,
Witchmen gorge on throbbing hearts:
Can't wait till the Late Show starts!
=TWEASER, Shelbyville, Ind.

14. LINKADE (7)
Muttered Arthur to his squire,
"This isn't ALL, my son.
What advantage to be TWO,
If all you get is ONE?"
=WREN, Severna Park, Md.

15. ENIGDDATIC REBUS (12)
(6-6 in NI2)
Rover and I were leafing through
Back 'Nigs that I had sorely missed.
We found a puzzle fun to do
That had an anti-nuclear twist.
I thought and thought and wracked my brain
(Dear Rover didn't help a whit);
I must have cracked beneath the strain--
No sol, no, not a single bit.
Oh boy, I must be REBUS (sigh)--
The thing, I saw, was written by
=POLLY, Sarasota, Fla.

16. DOUBLE-CROSS
(*6 *5, 6, 10, 7)(*6 *5 = NI2)
Some students taking art
At the college known as START
Made some plans with friends
from Stanford for vacation fun galore.
They all so gladly THIRD;
There was not a hostile word
As they planned a meal of ENDS
caught off of California's shore.

Then an argument broke out
On the use of sauerkraut.
Soon the SECOND cheese and ENDS
became the instruments of war!
=ELF, Flemington, N. J.

17. ALTERNADE (8)
She's gone, that parrot, with her squawking rage,
Her gaudy feathers, ONE, and curvy bill.
A meek canary's TWO to Polly's cage,
A bird whose notes are ALL, and never shrill.
=IXAXAR, Holiday, Fla.

18. SUBER (8)

I v i

This mineral, a sulfide ore,
Is grey, and I won't tell you more.
=JERG, Syracuse, N. Y.

19. BEHEADMENT (6, 5)(FIRST, LAST)
20. DELETION (7, 6)

If you're inclined to FIRST some fool
Who, on his knees, says, "You are heaven,"
Don't let it SIX you; play it cool
And then, to LAST him, call your SEVEN.
=JUNIOR, Mill Valley, Cal.

21. CHARADE (6)(TWO = NI3+, ***)
Computers mystify me;
I don't know a TWO from a cow.
Break-dancing doesn't thrill me;
The "why" is more weird than
the "how".

I'm in a ONE and groping;
I'm too TOTAL to live in the now.
=WINDRIFF, Honolulu, Hawaii

22. ENIGMATIC SUBER (3, *5, 2)
(*5 not NI)

A-bomb

Pagliacci stormed; he'd lost
his calm.
His marriage was a total bomb.
"You've made a cuckold out of me!"
He told his rival angrily.
"Your name is SUBER my libretto,"
He told his wife, then used
stiletto!
=WINDJAMMER, Chicago, Ill.

23. DELETION (*3 *6, 2 *6)
(neither is entry; *6 = NI2 usage)
Steve Lawrence belts out a fine
tune.

Iglesias makes ladies swoon.
Pete Seeger and Cash? They're
for me.
But SHORT! Is LONG really a "he"?
=ANEMONE, Stamford, Conn.

24. CURTAILMENT (*6, 5)(*6 = NI2;
5 = implied in NI, +)
"Pride CURTAILED before a fall";
Is that a maxim by INTACT?"
"No, you dope, it's biblical,
But misquoted--that's a fact!"
=HAP, Rochester, N. Y.

25. LETTER BANK (6, 9)(BANK, WHOLE)
& CHARADE (9)(WHOLE, EARLY, LATE)
(WHOLE = + in NI2)
Our complexions are BANK when
we've hoisted a few,
Even though, in accordance with
my NI2,
This "WHOLE" means much less
than it did years before.
Is it half a pint? less? or,
perhaps, LATE to more?
Why, you cute little EARLY, I
have you to thank.
Of course! It depends upon just
when you drank!
=VISITOR, Kailua, Hawaii

26. LETTER BANK (7, 17)(17 = NI2)
IMMENSE are the methods and
SMALL by the docs
Protecting their surgical
patients from shocks.
=TWEASER, Shelbyville, Ind.

27. ENIGMATIC REBUS (4 6 3 5)

EVEN AH HEART

My favorite Chinese souvenir--
The abacus that you see here.
I haven't mastered it, though,
quite--
One must COMPLETE to work it
right.
=ASKEW, St. Louis, Mo.

28. PHONETIC DELETION (*4 *3, 7)
(*4 *3 = 9C, but not as entry)

PRIMAL ruled his little land
With an iron hand.
In squalor though his people
stayed,
PRIMAL had it made.
He purchased, showing monstrous
greed,
All that he might need,
Including digitalis (from
FINAL does it come),
In case his heart might go awry.
Here was a selfish guy!
=BLACKSTONE, Alstead, N. H.

29. SOUND SHIFT (*5 *4, 4 5)
(*5 *4 = NI2; 4 5 = NI3)
While wandering through Sherwood
Forest one day,
FIRST came upon Smokey the Bear.
"I hope that your men," Smokey
hastened to say,
"When they're merry, are merry
with care.
For with all of these trees and
dense thickets, I fear
We could never maneuver a
SECOND in here."
=FAMUGIE, Massalo, N. Y.

30. CHARADE (8)
ONE is a thin strip of wood, I
believe.
They say that the egg bird's
a TWO.
Hey, all of you sailors out
there on shore leave--
The WHOLES are all looking
for you!
=NOT INSANE, Trenton, N. J.

31. ENIGMA
4 means the plural, you see,
Of its heteronym (that's 1 3).
=SPHINX, Fairfield, Conn.

32. TERMINAL DELETION (8, 6)
(FINE = + in NI2)
They're cutting FINE of trees.
In time
The land will get to be quite
PRIME.
=IXAXAR, Holiday, Fla.

33. REVERSAL (4)(ONE = +)
A mortar and pestle I see
For grinding this ONE, but
oh gee,
To TWO is hard work!
Then a thought makes me smirk:
The blender will do it for me!
=THE POO, Chatsworth, Cal.

34. REBUS (9 4, 3 2*1)

RE BUS

A loser's race designed:
Too late the rabbit leaps
And ALL too far behind.
The tortoise, steady, creeps.
=NEWROW, Brookline, Mass.

35. TERMINAL DELETION (6, 4)
I knew my son would be a TALL
When he was very small;
For when I put him in his SMALL
He doodled on the wall.
=GECKO, Phoenix, Ariz.

36. LETTER BANK (5 4, *6 *6)
(B = NI2)
My favorite rest'rant in
Boston's on B;
Italian cuisine is their way.
Good pasta and vino and food
from the sea,
But this far up north there's no A;
For Menippe just swims in the
southern U.S.
And cannot be bought here for
part of one's mess.
=ALF, Medford, Mass.

37. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (9)(NI2+)
(B = NI2)
A. One yes and one no, oh, where
do their votes go?
A bribe may decide them; we
never will know.
B. Dormant old law-maker,
tax-fattened pol--
These men just might finish
us once and for all.

Wake up, Mr. President!
Snippety-snap!
It's time, my dear sir, for
your afternoon nap.
=ELF, Flemington, N. J.

38. TERMINAL DELETION (7, *5)
(*5 = trade name, not NI)
EARLY for LATE isn't easy;
In fact, it is really a chore.
We spray stuff in cracks to kill
all of the bugs
That live underneath your wood
floor.
=Mp, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

39. DELETION (10, 9)
What's the answer? I've no clue.
At work I wear the Air Force blue.
You could say that I'm ONE
and TWO.
=XEIPON, Randolph AFB, Tex.

40. DOUBLE-CROSS (5, 5, 5, 5)
(cf. Nov. #41, etc.)
Enough with the handbells, oh,
Tweaser et al!
TWO verses are making me tired.
I'm fed up with ONES; FOUR
appeal starts to pall.
A different theme is required.
Don't you think it is time that
you THREE
An alternative? That is my plea.
=ARACHINE, Mundelein, Ill.

41. REBUS (7 5)(NI3 entry)
/.

I want to determine the WHOLE of
this alloy.
I'm heating it slowly and looking
For signs of incipient melting--
and meanwhile
This lab is so hot that I'm
cooking!
=NIGHTOWL, Rochester, N. Y.

42. DELETION (9, 8)
Magnolia blooms are lovely on
a tree;
If cut, though, very soon they
EIGHT will be.
In summer if I hike a sunny mile,
I end up NINE and lose my sunny
smile.
=IFANDOR, St. Petersburg, Fla.

43. HOMOSYNONYM (4, 4)
(homonym of ONE has NI3 pronun.)
She was careful to ONE her new
dress
And hoped for a smashing success,
But some unfeeling dame
Had a dress quite the same.
Oh my stars! Double-TWO! What
a mess!
=JERG, Syracuse, N. Y.

44. REVERSED BEHEADMENT (3 5, *7)
(ONE not entry, TWO = NI2 usage)
When our visit at TWO
was over and done,
We bade it adieu
And got into our ONE.
=NOHOLDS BARD, Arlington, Va.

45. CHARADE (10)
A gorgeous FIRST with SECOND fruit!
But why's the wine so ALL? I hoot.
=WINDJAMMER, Chicago, Ill.

46. LETTER SHIFT (7)
The flat I FIRST last week--
A tour de force!
So Mangie SECOND how?
With joy, of course!
=ERGO, Scarsdale, N. Y.

47. DOUBLE-CROSS (6, 3, 4, 5)
I spent a fortnight at a TWO,
Had FOURS of exercise to do.
They fed me ONE, they taught
me THREE,
And now I am a slimmer me.
=DEE SWEET, Kendall Park, N. J.

48. REBUS (3-6 3)(entry)
XG T
H
Spurs on his heels,
Chaps on his thighs.
SOL will keep sun
And rain from his eyes.
=PLANTON, New York City, N. Y.

49. LETTER BANK (5, 6, 8, 8)
(8 = 9C)
Up the basement ONE came quite
a whiz,
A talented TWO in show biz.
He's a fine THREE, whose
take-offs have savvy,
And a FOURTH very much like
old Ravi.
=TE-ZIR-MAN, Elmont, N. Y.

50. LAST-LETTER CHANGE (6, *6)
(*6 not NI usage)
What's a dolphin? Beast MY JOY.
Who's top Dolphin? That's MY BOY.
=MUNRO, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

51. REPEATED-LETTER CHANGES
(6, *6)(FIRST, MIDDLE)
(*6, *6)(MIDDLE, LAST)
The elders in Utah thought
growth was too slow,
So Donny, good MIDDLE, was
ordered to go
To mythical creatures, all over
the earth,
And show them the way to
religious rebirth.
The FIRST seemed no trouble,
for under the sea
There's no way to smoke, and
they couldn't drink tea;
They're baptized each minute by
waves' gentle hand,
But alas, can't make pilgrimage
over the land.
So he sought out the LASTs,
but got caught in the prime
Of his youth and got stoned for
the first (and last!) time.
=TRALF, Alford, Pass.

52. WORD DELETION (8)
(INNER = abbr., not NI)
A secret agent, INNER man,
Had bought a sheet and joined
the Klan.
"I liked folks at the OUT,"
said he;
"They don't seem biased ALL
to me!"
=FIDDLE, St. Petersburg, Fla.

53. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (6 6)
(A = NI3 usage)
A. U.S.A. leaders are seldom
effectual,
Not even knowing what purpose
they're there for.
*B. Squalling like babes is the
most intellectual
Talk that these people in
Washington care for.
C. Sonorous speeches will hold
the uncritical:
Every campaigner takes notes
from the preachers.
D. Here, all he needs to become
a political
Wizard's a grin and a light
on his features.
E. Minimum effort for maximum
salary
Ends up to be what this job's
guaranteed him.

(Pardon the shout from this
voice in the gallery:
Where in the hell's F.D.R. when
we need him?)
=HUDU, Los Angeles, Cal.

54. REBUS (8 4)
ABCDEFGHIJKLMN⁰PQR^STUVWXYZ
A bowl of IT:
To kids, a hit.
=EBEAM, Dorchester, Mass.

55. ALTERNADE (8)
"Things don't FIRST well," the
Hatter said.
"I heard she chopped off
someone's head."
"A TOTAL sight has not been seen,"
Agreed the SECOND, looking green.
=STITCH, Flagstaff, Ariz.

56. PHONETIC DOUBLE-CROSS
(4, 4 2 4, 9, 4)(FOUR = + in NI2)
The dreadful ONE was headed
by Jim Jones.
A THREE compound in Kool-Aid
caused a FOUR--
A thousand, TWO--to die; and now
their bones
Lie mouldering on Guyana's
ghastly shore.
=WINDJAMMER, Chicago, Ill.

57. LETTER BANK (7, 11)
58. TERMINAL DELETION (6, 4)
(MORE, LESS)
Charlie had two hobbies, and they
brought him lots of pleasure:
He was a serious LARGER, and he
scuba dived for treasure.
One time he went to Florida on
treasure-hunting trek;
A SMALL had recently exposed a
Spanish galleon wreck.
The LESS of clouds, the flash of
waves, the briny depths--
what heaven!
And was the trip successful?
Yes! He took home MOREs--
eleven.
=CORN COB, Raleigh, N. C.

59. LAST-LETTER CHANGE (7)
The ONE stood on the "burning"
deck;
His job--the furnace to supply.
With tunes to play and fires
to check,
The time spent in the TWO would
fly.
=NIGHTOWL, Rochester, N. Y.

60. PROGRESSIVE WORD DELETION
(10 7; 7, 4, 6)(10 7 = NI2 entry)
The coiffeurs, Jews, drove
very fast;
They tried to leave Richthofen's
LAST.
The ONE then blew; thus they all
knew
*Twas Yom Kippur, so on the TWO
They parked their car. In
PHRASE they sang
Kol Nidre--how their voices rang!
=ALF, Medford, Mass.

61. DELETION (13, 12)
No FIRST could be much better,
So fervent was each letter;
But soon he was, in short,
A SECOND in the court.
The moral is, I own,
Don't write, just telephone.
=IXAXAR, Holiday, Fla.

62. REBU (6 3)
The autumn winds blow
The REBUS trees. So
There soon will be snow.
=PLANTON, New York, N. Y.

63. REPEATED-LETTER CHANGE (5)
You tell where you're going,
then sit in the back;
Then the ONE and the TWO are
turned on by the hack.
=DOUBLE-H, E. Rutherford, N. J.

64. LETTER BANK (6, *3 *4-4 *5)
The murderous wretch, in a
SHORTER, confessed.
That terrible beating was too
much to bear.
And under his floor--what had
caused his arrest...
Yes, LONGER is just right for
late reading fare.
=MANX, New York, N. Y.

65. FIFTH-LETTER CHANGE (7)
Though as a college student
I FORMER all that I'd
Been taught by parents prudent
(Such intellectual pride!),
Now that my years have LATTER
I've had some second thought
And learned that those things
matter
(Such insight time has brought!).
=HAP, Rochester, N. Y.

66. REBUS (8)
O
A REBUS isn't round; oh, no!
Its shape is quite unlike an O.
The ends are pointed, but it's
fat--
Like my big mouth? That's
where it's at.
=WINDJAMMER, Chicago, Ill.

67. HOMONYM (7, 5)(7 = +; 5 = NI2)
When in Persia things were sold,
FIVES changed hands (they're
very old).
The Indian who brought water in
Was called a LARGE, not Gunga
Din.
=IFANDOR, St. Petersburg, Fla.

68. LETTER BANK (3, 8)
The trawler is back with its
catch from the SHORT.
The owner EXPANDED the haul in
the port.
=IXAXAR, Holiday, Fla.

69. SPANNERGROOM (5, 5)
Don't FIRST! Your health
demands it!
This exercise routine,
Set up and followed SECOND,
Will make you tough and mean.
=JERG, Syracuse, N. Y.

70. REPEATED-BIGRAM DELETION
(10, 6)
The doc had plastered all my back
With such a gooey, smelly TWO--
I later found I had to ONE
My undershirt. It reeked!
Pee-you!
=ULK, Enid, Okla.

71. TRANSPOSAL (7)

In robes of Queen Elizabeth
I took my curtain call,
Bowed slightly and quite ONE
to loge,
TWO, orchestra, and stall.
O'er footlights came the flowers,
which
I took with gracious ease,
But lost my royal dignity
With most plebeian sneeze.
The last bouquet was THREE
made up

Of roses and sweet peas,
To both of which I have a FOUR
(Known by my enemies).
=WINDRIFT, Honolulu, Hawaii

72. FIRST-LETTER CHANGE (6)

Were I a puzzler erudite,
I'd not be wrong, but always
right.
I'd know a ONE's a fruit from
trees
That falls to earth when there's
a breeze.
I'd know a Bolognese may choose
A condiment like THREE to use.
I'd know that Afric *TWO, among
Themselves, now speak a Bantu
tongue.
=IXAXAR, Holiday, Fla.

73. PROGRESSIVE WORD DELETION
(12; 4, 3, 5)

That guy is really TOTAL--thinks
his kind are "Number One";
The LAST of any group that he's
not in he'll always shun.
So neither you NEXT I would rate
as worth a single FIRST--
Our culture's not like his, you
see, and so we rate as worst!
=NIGHTOWL, Rochester, N. Y.

74. LETTER BANK (7, 10)(SOILED = 7)

How do I shun the FEMME FATALE?
It's hard to walk away.
My brow is SOILED with my dried
sweat;
Please tell me what to say.
=SPHINX, Fairfield, Conn.

75. GRANNERSPOOM

(4 4 3 5, *4 4 3 5)(*4 = NI3)
"Do not feed the animals."
All ignored that at the zoo!
That's what I was thinking when
I allowed a gnu a TWO.
Then the mean old zookeeper
Came out to enjoy the sun.
Out of all that broke the rule,
He picked poor old me to ONE!
=ELF, Flemington, N. J.

76. CURTAILMENT (*5, 4) & LETTER
SHIFT (5)(*5 = NI2)

A toast to Demeter, the Greeks
at WORD lift.
At such fests, does she wear a
BIT LESS?
A host at a luau would say,
"LET 'ER SHIFT!"
And repeat it at toasts, I would
guess.
=TWEASER, Shelbyville, Ind.

77. LETTER BANK (4, 8)

Ward McAllister flatly spoke
And said the only worthwhile folk
Numbered a paltry twenty score.
Now was that LESS to all us MORE?
=WINDJAMMER, Chicago, Ill.

78. ENIGMATIC REBUS (10)(NI2+)

First you're here, and then
you're not;
You're a rovin', vagrant Scot.
=ALF, Medford, Mass.

79. FIRST-LETTER CHANGE (*8, 4 4)

He ran out of the SECOND,
So, despite a screeching slide--
He was out!
The trainer had to tend to him
With FIRST and heat beside--
Hear him shout!
=NEWROW, Brookline, Mass.

80. DELETION (8, 7)

Oh, what a horrible, horrible day!
My boots got all covered with
LONG (sticky clay)
When I was out hiking. And now
I am vexed--
A SHORT just flared up, so the
dentist comes next!
=NIGHTOWL, Rochester, N. Y.

A N A G R A M S

81. SO, UNCO GUARDIAN ENTERS
AGAIN (*6*1 6 12)
=ALF, Medford, Mass.

82. I CALL A MISCOUNT
=JASON, February 1910 Enigma

83. SO WE COMMIT THE INSANE
(4 3 2 5 5)
=ATLANTIC, Ridgewood, N. J.

84. I MARCH, SEE 'EM GUN, LAMENT:
"WAR IS HELL." (*7 *7 *8 *7)
=TWEASER, Shelbyville, Ind.

85. VISIT SENATE; HE IS DETECTED
UP FRONT (*4-*9 2 3 *6 *6)
=D.C. VER, March 1935 Enigma

86. DEBT HUGE. ACTION LATE.
FIND IT. (3 8 6 7)
=CORN COB, Raleigh, N. C.

87. TOP-NOTCH AS TARRIER (3 14)
=ELF, Flemington, N. J.

88. O, I SENT BELL HELP! (9 5)
=AB STRUSE, New York, N. Y.

89. TUT! FREE COINER
=TRAVV, Vancouver, Wash.

90. AH, ONE GIANT (APT)(3 *10)
=NIGHTOWL, Rochester, N. Y.

91. SHIP: "SOS! NEED OUT!"
(3 *1.*1.*1.*8)
=SPHINX, Fairfield, Conn.

92. AT UNCO ONENESS
=ULK, Enid, Okla.

93. SEA NOTE: SHIP OVERTURNED
TODAY (*3 *8 *9, 1 5)
=EBEAM, Dorchester, Mass.

94. LA. SHOW FALTERS: OWNER IN
RED (3 *3 *7 *5*1 *4)

95. WHERE'S PROS' ACTION, FUN 'N'
BLISS? W. CA (*3 *9 4 3 *5 *4)
=TE-ZIR-MAN, Elmont, N. Y.
A N T I G R A M S

96. MR. D. SHULA'S "B" MEN COME
TO "PALO", WIN! I: "HIP HIP!"
(3 *5 *4 8 *5 *8)
=NOT INSANE!, Trenton, N. J.

97. SURE CAN'T DIE, TOOTS
(2 3 11)
=ACORN, St. Petersburg, Fla.

98. LO, VILENESS
=TRAVV, Vancouver, Wash.

F O R M S

1. SQUARE
1. Pendent ornament. 2. Ablaze.
3. Lists of candidates for elec-
tion. 4. Lascivious men. 5. Rise
or come forth. 6. Decrease.
=SHADOWY RAVEN, Tampa, Fla.

2. LEFT WINDMILL
1. Brazilian tree. 2. Wheellike.
3. Isle. 4. Horny thickenings. 5.
Shirt-beast? 6. Egyptian serpent.
7. Credo. 8. Four Saints in Three
Acts. 9. Vedic cosmic orders.
=NEWROW, Brookline, Mass.

3 & 4. SQUARE PAIR
SQUARE A

1. ELF. 2. Conceive. 3. Turned to
liquid. 4. Adultlike. 5. Everlast-
ing. 6. Buy back.

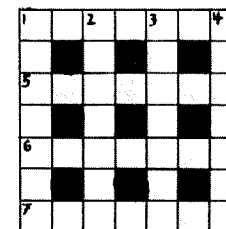
SQUARE B

1. Elf. 2. A wonder. 3. To color
red (var.). 4. Compound, C₈H₇N,
found in civet. 5. Tax collector.
6. Arabian noblemen (var.).
=ALF, Medford, Mass.

5. OVERLAPPING PROGRESSIVE WORD
SQUARES

A. 1. Seeresses, witches. 2. Gasp-
ing. 3. North American peninsula.
4. Tremulous. 5. Exhaust.
B. 1, 2, 3, & 4. Same as 2, 3, 4,
& 5, respectively, in A above. 5.
Australian heavy timber tree.
=ULK, Enid, Okla.

X-5. CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



ACROSS: 1. No beggar works chores
without love. 5. Juliet, a spite-
ful woman, has to whine (*). 6.
Quiet display of temper has to
take precedence. 7. A Bo Derek
film bugs the residents.
DOWN: 1. Where the pilot is in
bed, holding pick broken in two.
2. Note held in Annie is bewitch-
ingly musical (*). 3. Wise law-
man accepting money order from
wise king (*). 4. Turns toaster
around.
=DOUBLE-H, E. Rutherford, N. J.

X-6. PIECEMEAL SQUARE
(one = 2-word entry)

AU EL GH HO IA LL OS OW PA RE RI
RS TE TR TW WA
=JOKER, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

X-7. PIECEMEAL SQUARE

AB AL BO CK CR HU IS IT LE LL NE
OL OO OP OR PH
=HUDU, Los Angeles, Cal.

DECEMBER SOLVERS

The December Enigma had 108 flats (#30 was excluded), 6 forms, 7 crypts, and 9 extras; 67 solutions lists were received. This was a tough issue, as borne out by the statistics below, but we had more than usual of comments such as "best issue ever" (as borne out by the kudos list). NIGHTOWL/HAP had a complete. Welcome to new solvers EBEAM and THE POO.

Accepted: #13--REUS for SOUS; #29--DETERMINATION (3)(E is the "termination" of DE); #38--WAKENS/WEAKNESSES; #69--VOUCHE-R-S (6); #93--a thirdesther, RESINATE (16); F-6--AMINES (27).

Nobody found the intended sol for #30, which we feel is too vaguely clued to be fair; thus we did not count it in the scoring. We got 5 sols that we feel are acceptable, however: NOT THINKING PROPERLY (Mercury came closest with this), SEE (or THE) HEADACHE STARTING, THE FOREHEAD FEVERISH (F is the "fore" head; F ever is H), THE INTERIOR REVOLVES (the "interior" of THE is H; it remains the same if it revolves).

Not accepted: #4--REST (4) or BEST (with TEST or JEST), L/W-ORD, J/P-OKE (all too vague); #5--WOR-D/K (9)(too vague; a teacher might forget a test, but surely not all work); #23--VINERY (4) (not typical of Hawaii); #55--RANKISH/KRISHNA (7)(Krishna a deity, not a group--see NI); #61--TIPPLE TOPPLE (3)(not NI entry, as letter banks must be); #82--14 solvers found 6 other mineral pairs; none fit the flat as amended in the errata (however, for MUSCOVAD-ITE to be fully accurate, "Schist" in line 4 should read "quartz"--see NI def. of "mica schist").

--HAPOWL, Solutions Editors, Hap and Mary Hazard, 600 Seneca Pkwy., Rochester, NY 14613.

(L)ABACUS 32-1-0-2; ACORN 67-3-5-8; AJAX 19-0-0-0; AJDE 5-0-0-2; ALF 76-2-1-6; AMOR 20-1-0-0; ANEMONE 101--*--*; ANN DHOW & MY MY 59-5-5-8; APRIL'S CHILD 85-5-0-8; ARACHNE 98--*--*; ASKEW 46-1-2-7; AVIDAN 102-5-5-*; BAMBAM 15-2-1-2; BERYL 0-0-*--0; BLACKSTONE 98--*--*; (L)CALICOH 80-3-1-7; CERES 101--*--0-*; CORN COB

60-3-3-*; DADA 55--*--*; DEE SWEET 56-2-3-5; DIKDIK 36-0-0-3; EBEAM 46-3-0-7; ELF 60--*--1-6; ELGAR 93--*--0-*; ELSPEETH 66-1-0-8; EN 82--*--*; ERGO 48-0-0-6; FARO 98-0-0-3; FIDDLE 11-0-1-0; FOMALHAUT 74-5-5-*; GADJET 83--*--3-6; GECKO 96--*--2-7; GNOME & GRINCH 103--*--5-*; GRAYDOL 93-5-2-*; (L)HART KING 75-5-3-8; HONEYDEW 43-5-1-7; (L)HUDU 103--*--0-8; IFANDOR 45--*--1-8; IXAXAR 3-3-3-3; KELLY 31-0-0-0; KREMLIN 70--*--*--*; LARRY 39-0-1-0; LIBRA 36-3-2-7; LOULI 57-1-0-5; MERCURY 93--*--5-*; MOMUS 71--*--0-*; MUNRO 86-5-5-7; NEWROW 97--*--5-*; OAK 77--*--4-*; PEN GWYN 73-5-3-*; RAH 38-3-0-3; ROY 16-1-0-5; RUTHLESS 94--*--6-8; SQUIRREL 100-5--*--*; STITCH 86--*--2-7; STRIP 33-1-4-0; THE GINK 3-0-1-0; THE POO 15-0-2-0; TREESONG 106--*--5-*; TWIS-TO 95-5-5-*; TYRO 8-5--*--5; WINDJAMMER 99-5--*--*; WINDRIFT 102-0--*--*; (L)WOODIE 101--*--0-*; WREN 69-5-1-8; XMAS TREE 102--*--*--8.

Solving Frequency

1-49, 2-48, 3-49, 4-43, 5-39, 6-37, 7-43, 8-29, 9-36, 10-54, 11-43, 12-40, 13-3, 14-48, 15-41, 16-32, 17-47, 18-53, 19-31, 20-31, 21-58, 22-41, 23-31, 24-32, 25-18, 26-54, 27-26, 28-50, 29-10, 31-41, 32-40, 33-48, 34-34, 35-56, 36-25, 37-38, 38-39, 39-62, 40-12, 41-9, 42-49, 43-53, 44-33, 45-50, 46-29, 47-28, 48-39, 49-36, 50-38, 51-36, 52-39, 53-28, 54-31, 55-35, 56-31, 57-55, 58-50, 59-49, 60-53, 61-38, 62-26, 63-40, 64-49, 65-15, 66-23, 67-45, 68-55, 69-24, 70-60, 71-39, 72-50, 73-39, 74-54, 75-42, 76-39, 77-2, 78-45, 79-32, 80-35, 81-39, 82-6, 83-53, 84-28, 85-28; 86-38, 87-32, 88-46, 89-47, 90-45, 91-55, 92-50, 93-37, 94-58, 95-62, 96-39, 97-41, 98-63, 99-50, 100-22, 101-52, 102-44, 103-61, 104-39, 105-51, 106-57, 107-54, 108-51, 109-55. FORMS: 1-40, 2-31, 3-51, 4-39, 5-45, 6-42. CRYPTS: 1-36, 2-31, 3-41, 4-26, 5-34, 6-13, 7-14. EXTRAS: 1-51, 2-35, 3-53, 4-48, 5-54, 6-43, 7-48, 8-53, 9-38.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET:

1. Dues.
2. To make convention plans and send your check to CERES.
3. Not to publicize the NPL without consulting the editor.

JANUARY SOLUTIONS

1. CH-A.-blis, AM-B.-er, ELE-C.-tric, O-D.-ium, N-E.-ap. 2. S-nippet. 3. Minion, mynyan. 4. Not/r/e D/am/e. 5. Fr-e/a-ud. 6. To a greater or lesser extent. 7. Se-s-terces. 8. Futile, Flutie. 9. Passe partout. 10. Hal-1/f-way. 11. Must I, G.M., aid it (mu, stigmai, dit). 12. Outbel-1-ow. 13. Pinoch-et/le. 14. Rainbow. 15. Purs-u-ed. 16. Fuehrer, fur-or. 17. Chits, stchi. 18. Maltese cross. 19. W-hey-ish. 20. Places in the heart. 21. Li/ke no/ne. 22. Ne-w-ro-w. 23. Wise as Solomon. 24. Asseverated; sever, sate, ad. 25. Nasal. 26. Ambiguous. 27. Braid the mane, made the brain. 28. Pronounce. 29. XYster, Lost, PHOBia, NEther. 30. Onionskin. 31. Ridable, riddle ballad, barrel-bellied. 32. Dul-1-y. 33. Monomaniac. 34. Stingy. 35. Prom-o/p-ted. 36. Play on words. 37. S-ouch-ong. 38. Payments, raiments. 38A. Khaki, tacky. 39. Pixie, pyxie. 40. Cousin-german. 41. Bu-zz/rr/cc/dd/ff-a. 42. Males, ma'amselle. 43. Psellism. 44. Mil-linery, millenary. 45. De/gree D/arth. 46. Crosswise. 47. Tonic, concoction. 48. Weariest her a-mour (WE, Aries, the Ram, OUR). 49. Pie-d a te-rre. 50. Prices, Reese's Pieces. 51. Wilderness. 52. The A-Te-am/rs. 53. Dairy-maid. 54. Kaiser, TAKE-in, IRISH, BOgle, RIFle. 55. Ar, po', op, sh, te. 56. Lemon-a-de. 57. Eight-y, eight (homonyms of Ate). 58. Eight, ait. 59. Succory. 60. De-leterious. 61. L'envoi, love-in. 62. Best wines in Nome (Bes, twin Es, in no M, E). 63. Shiner, shrine. 64. The cart before the horse, the heart before the course. 65. Adaline. 66. H/b-olster. 67. Doctorate (do C to R at E). 68. Anole. 69. Naked. 70. Smoke out. 71. Fl-u-orescence. 72. Customer, must occur. 73. Se-1/x-factor. 74. Tumbleweed. 75. Adage. 76. Auto-d/afe, ch/rome. 77. Car-pen-ter. 78. Forsaking. 79. Epistaxes, LURid, IBOS, USUAL, NUMbest. 80. Fiacre. 81. Wa/ter, forget/ive. 82. Figures out. 83. Twinter. 84. Walter Mondale. 85. Strike out the side. 86. The treasurer's annual report. 87. Emperor Claudius Caesar, "the Idiot". 88. A-partheid. 89. The assassination of Indira Gandhi. 90. Home com-

puters. 91. Bermuda Triangle. 92. La Cage aux Folles by Herman and Fierstein. 93. A diseased mind. 94. My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. 95. Catherine de Medicis. 96. Debates: Reagan versus Mondale. 97. The used car salesman. 98. The used car dealer. 99. Conversation. 100. The classified advertisements. X-1. We dance round in a ring and suppose, but the secret sits in the middle and knows. Robert Frost. X-2. Advice is like castor oil, easy enough to give but dreadfully uneasy to take. Billings. X-3. The habit of sneering marks the egotist, the fool, or the knave, or all three. Lavator. X-4. Salmaquindi, disfeature, ctenophore, sacrosanct. X-5. Conservatives are not necessarily stupid, but most stupid people are conservatives. John Stuart Mill. X-6. If it jams, force it. If it breaks, it needed replacing anyway. Murphy's Law. X-7. Name the eight states which can be spelled with no more than four different letters. X-8. Fa-CT, masters, "nun", ragtime*, continental(2), information(2), endgame*, dub(2), SaDiSm, streef; fin-ick-in-ess, ca-non, segre-gate*, "evict", spelling bee(2), railroads*, faded(2), incur(2). KU. Spreadsheet, three spades.

CRYPTS

1. Guards ignored angry singer a
2. Columnist William Safire foun
3. In large midwest city, Democr
4. Jodhpur-clad jockey oulps jul
5. Cytoplasm: dynamic network wi
6. Untypical archdemon unwiched
7. Espy jumbo gerbil eying labyr

FORMS

	1.	3.
4. MIOTAXY	S	ESPALIERS
TAXCART	TIA	SHEBARMEE
AUXOTOX	THARA	PECANOMIC
KASIDAS	PHILANA	ABACANELE
RELAXED	PRESIDENT	LANAMETER
REHIRES	JUDYADAMSKI	IRONEGEAN
UNBLISS	JUDYADAMSKI	EMMETESTE
2. SAPAS	PRESIDENT	REILEATEN
ALULA	PHILANA	SECCERNENT
PUTUP	5. SALTS	
ALULA	NEI	
SAPAS	D	

IMPORTANT ADDENDA: In Feb. #13, TWO = NI2+. #69, this issue, has a shift in stress.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. National security.

SANA, S. Weymouth, Mass.

NVBJ JYKVMQU YJ UQND YZ *FQJKEBYJ
QOQMAKVHQ: KCVN FIYXQMK VN NY NQMI-
QK, QHQJ RYAIN KIAPR UYQNJ*K DJYL
LCEK CQ'N UYVJB.

2. Legal title?

ULK, Enid, Okla.

GECKO CLUB NUMELIKQ, GKMUPY TLM WEJ-
JKM BGY OEMU *OUQQE XYTVLUJ, HEZU
GKO NTCCE UTYLJO, "WIYMHJ GEXXK".

3. A xenophile's delight.

THE POO, Chatsworth, Cal.

*HTBAHV NVFYJ MZIFV NHENHE KATVCJ,
JHLRHJM RHGSHMY, NZBFNAFV KTNA MA-
ZK: EPJZJN, EZVEPV, HTGNOTF.

4. Liz? No longer.

WINDJAMMER, Chicago, Ill.

BYOHX WAINY OUT UAE BXJST MPKRJNA-
SM HMUYRT, USHMAR IXCYMRPT NUPEST
HMWARK NMP QUINTEMPOUS ZUAR.

5. Out of joint.

ALF, Medford, Mass.

AECH PCEXW QHCEXJIT GYUJ QHUJEX
AUGHFXECJ; OCEXIQHUSJ OTYJU FLEXH
VYGHJXW SUKCJLEXH, MUACILEXW, "HOXG-
KCFLE."

6. What about tarot?

GRINCH, San Diego, Cal.

OZUPKL AVZPWX, GWXAFNKD FGPKX WDUH
JWUL ASWVULKX GXWR TKFVPH, AWVCSP
*WVZOF TWFXL. WXFJUK AHRBFPSZEKL,
"PWVCS!"

7. Force, forensic, format...

NIGHTOWL, Rochester, N. Y.

CTAPM TMSPH TSCDYBEI TDCR TEACUM
CMHGTS CATOYGU, TAEYKC TFGOCR TKYE-
PCJI JOYEAUTIC CRYMTS *COHFBU.