



December 2017

The National Puzzlers' League

#1358

## EDITOR'S MUSINGS

My best wishes to all of you this holiday season. Celebrate effectively, willya? Here's to new and exciting things in the new year, including entertaining puzzles!

### WELCOME BACK, A. CHEMEM

Treesong writes: I found Mercury's longevity article very interesting—gets my bang for November. I didn't notice when A. Chemem rejoined, but I certainly noticed when I saw her Nov #22, a blast from the past. That makes her the oldest actively participating member, by age or discontinuous membership, which I only realized yesterday. Deserves a 'welcome back,' don't you think?

I interject: Indeed I do!

Mercury responds: A. Chemem was a member from Aug 1945 to Dec 1956 and rejoined for the Mar 2016 issue, so she's moving up the age list. I was pleasantly surprised to see her Nov #22 and had marked it as one of my favorites. I agree with Treesong about congratulating her (a welcome back is much too late). I didn't research her participation when she was first a member. I just picked up the Aug 1945 issue, she had a cryptogram in that issue, but nothing published in any previous issue. This span of 72 years, 4 months from first published puzzle to latest published puzzle is a record that is definitely worth celebrating. (Only O See and Martelia have longer membership spans, but neither had published puzzles the likes of A. Chemem.) And thank you Treesong for the kind words and bang.

### LA PUZZLE PARTY — by BLUFF

I am pleased and relieved to inform you that we have a reservation for our next gathering (Saturday, January 27) at the new location (2535 Temple Street) of the Center For Inquiry. I plan to check out the site soon. All pertinent details will be included in the first puzzle party email in about a month.

Be well, Bluff (John Suarez) 805-499-1880

## NEW MEMBERS

**Ark:** Richard Malena-Webber, 1950 Tamarind Ave Apt 230, Los Angeles CA 90068  
Ethan Baldinger, 1040 Mystery Spot Rd, Santa Cruz CA 95065-9660  
Celia Brisson, 194 Jackson Ct Apt C, Burlington VT 05401, has been given a gift membership by her father, Erik Brisson.  
Ben Huizenga, 3573 N Milwaukee, Chicago IL 60641  
Matthew Steinpreis, 1023A Broadway, San Francisco CA 94133

## CHANGES

**Owler:** Myles Nye, 1092 Sterling Ave, Berkeley CA 94708,  
owler@puzzlers.org

**Sheldrake** is the nom chosen by Sandor Weisz.

**Sriracha** is the nom chosen by Pat Mannion.

**zeans:** Bran McMillin, 8255 Bonanza Ln, Cincinnati OH 45255

## RESIGNED/REMOVED

George Barany (Mefistofele), Vincent Butkiewicz, Katherine Cwiek (Nail Polish), Faith Eckler (FAro), Bran Handley, JonMical Harry, Yarlagadda Police, Rosa Quiñones (Otherwise), Ben Vincent

## NOVEMBER ERRATA

In #13, it's TWO, not THREE, that's the asterisked solution.

In #32, the enumeration of the second 7 should not be asterisked.

The "s" at the beginning of #60 is not rubrical, but merely a random mistyping.

## DECEMBER PUZZLE NOTES

30. Apologies for all the EIGHT EIGHTs.

45. The first line reflects the unfortunate delay Andreas had in producing this flat.

46. A Combination Lock and Drop is a padlock extended simultaneously into a combination padlock and a lock and drop.

F-13: Constructed with a certain constraint in mind, in the Across entries...

F-16: 1 is not MW. 3 is an adjective associated with the present's contents.

Cryptogram Editor's Note: One of the cryptograms asks for the solver to submit something beyond the plaintext itself; this extra something must be submitted as part of the solution.

C-2. USSKQNES = 11C inferable, \*ZDUSHUXQG = not MW.

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# PENETRALIA

Solution words and phrases not found in 11C (11th Collegiate) are labeled for the most recent Merriam-Webster dictionary in which they appear: 10C, NI3, NI2 Addenda, or NI2, or, failing that, RH2 or 12W. Non-MW words are noted. “+” signifies foreign, slang, dialect, obsolete, archaic, and the like. Capitalized words get a “\*”. Words that are capitalized (as in names, titles) but normally uncapitalized with the same usage get a “^”. Enumeration for MW phrases is [bracketed] in anagrams and flat types where non-MW phrases are allowed, to wit: spoonergrams, mutations, palindromes, rebuses, heteronyms and homonyms, welded flats, variations on these types, and flats labeled “freewheeling.”

Send your solution lists after December 1 to QUICKS?LVER (solutions@puzzlers.org) or mail to LIRATH, Eric Suess, 1901 Parr Rd., Pocatello ID 83204. All lists must be received by 11:59 p.m. PST on January 31.

## 1. TRANSPOSAL (11)

Please abide my ONE request;  
I hope it's not distressing.  
Work this TWO and pass the test—  
The need for order's pressing!  
=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

## 2. CONSONANTCY (4 1 4, 6)

(DINE = not MW; ADON = NI3,  
non-MW phrase usage)

They will not stand for it: they DINE  
As “The Star-Spangled Banner” plays.  
Thus athletes do their part in tryin’  
To do ADON *olam*. (That phrase  
Is Hebrew for the sacred call to mend  
This broken world which God gave us  
to tend.)

=N, Cambridge MA

## 3. LETTER BANK (7, 13)

(QUIZ, QUIZZES)

WELDED FIRST-TO-SEVENTH  
CHANGEVER (7 13) (OH NO)

REVERSED INTERLOCK (7)

(WHOLES; SLOW, EH)

(EH = abbr.)

A costume is

A QUIZZES QUIZ.

But for OH NOs

(EH: WHOLES) the SLOWs

Can skip the clothes.

=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

## 4. ACROTELESTICHAL ENIGMA (10 6) (not MW) (first B is \*, NI2)

A. Perhaps you'll be a doctor? Yes, I  
shall

Assist in every way. (My nerves be  
calmed!)

B. Ah, all the bucks you'll make, my  
son, my pal!

How much? The God of Billing will  
decide.

C. Don't fret! Excuse this over-eager gal!  
No sorrow—be happy as a clam!

Like bees, I'm full of stings,

But hover like a butterfly.

So, let me pull the strings.

=NEWROW, Brookline MA

## 5. LETTER BANK (\*6, \*4 \*6) (NOT GREAT, GREAT) (GREAT = NI3)

Hanukkah, because it's eight

Days long, and has a starting date

That's four or five days from the last

In Kislev, must (just like the vast

Colossus of NOT GREAT, some state,

Bestrode the harbor of NOT GREAT)

Bestride GREAT Tebet (that's the oneth

Of Tebet, the succeeding month).

=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

6. HETERONYM (7 8; enumeration withheld) (YO UR = 7 8)  
 REVERSED FIRST-TO-FOURTH  
 CHANGEOVER (6, enumeration withheld) (PORE, ROMP)

I wanted to visit the new exposition  
 Of Riemann geometry murals in  
 PORE

(The work of a painter-cum-  
 mathematician).

I had a museum pass, bought years  
 before.

The docent regarded the card with  
 suspicion.

"I don't think we're honoring these  
 anymore."

"I won't let this martinet thwart my  
 ambition

To gaze upon paintings of YO URs!" I  
 swore.

I argued my case with Socratic  
 precision.

My shouts brought the curator onto  
 the floor.

She heard both our stories. She made  
 her decision—

"YOUR passes aren't valid."—then  
 walked out the door.

=ROMP, City and State Withheld

7. PHONIGMATIC REBUS (8)



For Christmas I would like a TAG  
 That scolds as well as any hag.

I realize it won't be small,  
 But that won't trouble me at all.

=EARL E. BYRD, Aiken SC

8. CHANGE OF HEART (5, 5, 5, 5)

No junk food for my JURY, please.  
 JULY or burgers make him FLEES,  
 But shoots and leaves would sure be  
 FREES.

=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

9. OVERLOADED LETTER BANK  
 (4 4, 13)

The hard ferrous metal forms most of  
 the pan,  
 But there's also polymerized oil there,  
 which can

Make the surface nonsticky, and offer  
 the DUSTING

Protection that's needed (Fe's prone to  
 rusting).

=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

10. CONSONANTCY (\*9, 7)  
 (clued in order)

Down South you may say "ROUND"  
 With OVAL of the sound  
 Which is the third  
 Within the word.

If you care to track it,  
 11C will back it.

=NEWROW, Brookline MA

11. METATHESIS (\*5, 5) (ONE, TWO)  
 TRANSPogram (\*5, 5)  
 (THREE, FOUR)

I present for you here a jokey tale  
 Of two premiers:

An imagined discussion  
 (Picture it in Russian)

Between a coupla Vladimirs.

What sort of FOUR did Vlad ONE  
 offer

To the other Vlad,

When the former was asked to  
 Opine re: the hue

In which the latter's mattress was  
 clad?

"I scarcely need to have a glance!"

Declared he to THREE,

"Not a single option that you choose  
 (Never mind your stupid TWOs)

Is even close to red enough for me!"

=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

12. ENIGMATIC REBUS ([4 3])  
(TEENY = online 11C)  
(can be sung)

mawlid

Deck the halls! It's, after all, that  
(Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!)  
Day in Rabi' al-Awwal that  
(Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!)  
Saw the Prophet's birth; this year it  
(Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!)  
Adds to the December spirit!  
(Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!)

Let *assidat zgougou* swell your  
(Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!)  
Craw, like hat-clad Santa's belly! (Or  
(Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!)  
*Is it swollen? It's unseen; he*  
(Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!)  
Wears a coat, and not a TEENY.)  
(Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!)  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

13. FREEWHEELING LETTER  
BANK (8 2, 6 7, 4 \*7 5 5)  
(ONCE, TWICE, THRICE)

The CIA  
Is ONCE, TWICE  
That I don't thwart  
Trump's plans to THRICE.  
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

14. WORD DELETION (\*7)  
(\*YUR = not MW, O = + usage)  
(Can be sung by \*YUR)

Every time I see \*YOUR's picture I cry.  
It makes me wonder why he had to die.  
So young to be killed at age thirty-six.  
His O near one hundred when she left  
the mix.  
The US and UN did not help him out  
Post Congolese independence, without  
doubt.  
=R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

15. TRANSPOSAL (7, 1\*5 \*1)  
(TWO = not MW)

Apple's stock hasn't always been stellar  
Although lately, it's never been  
sweller.

Like a ONE from the ashes  
It rebounded from crashes.  
Now the TWO is their latest huge seller.  
=JANGLER, Nashville TN

16. HETERONYM  
(3 ^6 \*5 2 \*5; 6 7 8; 10 4 7)  
(first \*5 = online 11C)  
(clued in order)

He rules the Ottoman Empire, does  
Donald in his dream.  
Here traitors lurk perniciously, from  
China's land they seem.  
They try to INTESTINAL Dynasty  
clothing,  
Which causes in Donald a deep sense  
of loathing.  
And now, a French official, goes all  
nutty. See that GUTS  
All the ladies of the Court, and rather  
roughly, on their butts.  
D reaches a trusted and secret advisor  
To infiltrate Court and to make him-  
self wiser.  
With his back to all the guests, he is  
well-shrouded all in black.  
See that ENTRAILS from the pillar to  
the post—it's quite a knack.  
(In dreams he should tarry;  
Awake is more scary.)  
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

17. CHARADE (9) (WHOLE = NI3)

A WHOLE is always lots of fun,  
Especially if it's in a flat.  
It's possible you disagree,  
But I won't start a TWO o'er that.  
Why turn a blue THREE into gray  
And ONE a very pretty day?  
=EARL E. BYRD, Aiken SC

18. LETTER BANK (6, 4 4, 2-7)  
(BYWAY = 4 4 = not MW;  
WAAYB = 2-7 = inferable)

Long on the highway  
He halts at a BYWAY  
To email his wife.  
Some curvy young WABY  
With skin like a baby  
Says, "I'm in your life!"  
She used to write verse,  
This WAAYB with a purse.  
She'd pleased every editor,  
But now she's a predator.  
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

19. OVERLOADED HETERONYM  
(10, 3 "4 ^3") (10 = online 11C)

It's such a hardship being me  
When folk come fifty miles to see  
Me tapping out some little tune  
I dashed off in an afternoon  
About small blisters, in the style  
Of Joplin. It's not worth their while  
But how they whoop, cheer and  
exclaim!  
It's dreadful having all this fame.  
Oh, don't you know my song? Well,  
here:  
I'll drone it softly in your ear.  
What's that? You wish that I would  
stop?  
You're sick of hearing me BOTH  
SWOP?  
=LINKO, London UK

20. FALSE STEP IN PRODUCTION  
(6, 4) (clued in order)

Just melt the powdered glass and let  
It harden on the horn to get  
A beautiful enamel coat.  
(But don't let hunters play a note  
Upon it on their hunting trips;  
I'm not much DOPEd of  
MICROCHIPS.)  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

21. PHONETIC BEHEADMENT (6)  
(BREAD, RED)  
DELETION (6) (BREAD, BEAD)  
TRANSGRAM (7) (ALLOY,  
LOYAL) (LOYAL = +)

Mr. Scrooge was very BREAD,  
A businessman without compare.  
But he was RED; he often pushed  
Relationships beyond repair.

But then one night, the miser saw  
A vision of his old pal Jake.  
The LOYAL warned him to expect  
Three more to follow in its wake.

"An elder man, a king, and death  
Will all come knocking at your door."  
And so they did, their lessons shaking  
Ebenezer to his core.

When Eb awoke, the man was  
changed,  
With not a BEAD of cruelty left.  
He'd learned to ALLOY, trust, and  
love.  
And went to mend the rifts he'd cleft.

And so our tale ends joyfully,  
With Christmas days alive and fun.  
And so too, ends this merry flat.  
Quoth Tim, "God bless us, everyone."  
=NOODLE NOGGIN, Annandale VA

22. PHONETIC DELETION (\*4, 6, 2, 3)  
(A = not MW; D = + usage)  
(two steps are beheadments)

It's now the year 2008.  
She's joined the Krewe, nom Kate the  
Great.  
She B her brain to write a flat  
To send to \*A. She's praying that  
He will not give it the C.  
The flat is fab! 'Twill be the rage;  
Alas it never saw the page.  
Forgot her nom; she felt a D.  
=raw, Ogdensburg NY

## 23. FALSE HARBOR WNFR (5, 9)

Mordecai Rosenblum  
Prays in his living room...  
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

## 24. CURTAILMENT (7)

Embrace "yes, and...!"  
To BRANDS your BRAND.  
=LINKO, London UK

## 25. HOMONYM (9; \*6 3) (\*6 = not MW)

In the library section  
Referred to as Y. A.,  
Teens find tales to NINER  
And peruse night and day.

I myself, as a teen,  
Chanced upon such a story.  
The stuff, not of legend,  
But a hero's real glory.

After passing 'bout the bayou,  
And flinging 'round Charm City,  
He hit pay dirt in Cali,  
His style graceful and gritty.

Some said he was washed up.  
"Giant, yes, but he's downed."  
Those who then saw SIX THREE  
Their words very unsound.  
=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

26. TRANSPOSAL (9)  
(SECOND = + variant)

Goodness, I've got SECOND on the  
front of my new suit.  
I tried to wipe it off, but that was fu-  
tile—lost pursuit.  
Too bad it's FIRST, so I suppose that  
it is made of wool.  
Cheddar would not stain like this;  
that's certainly no bull.  
=R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

27. LETTER BANK (9, 7 5, 5 8, \*1 3 5 5)  
(A = NI3-inferable, D = not MW)  
(can be sung)

D sailing in, with leaky doors,  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
No Bs were there upon their floors,  
On Christmas Day in the morning.

Two sailors cut some laths in twain,  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
They always cut along the grain,  
On Christmas Day in the morning.

I asked, "Who weareth togs so bright,  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,  
The hue of C (blue cordierite),  
On Christmas Day in the morning,

And A these laths to make thin Bs,  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas  
Day?"

They said, "Those not inclined to  
freeze,  
On Christmas Day in the morning!"  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

28. LETTER BANK (6, 10)  
(with a nod to November #10)

Who says that CORPSEs have no brawn?  
Despite my cane and snowy hair,  
I keep those kiddies off my lawn,  
For I have PROCESSES to spare.  
=TREESONG, West Chester PA

29. TRANSPOSAL (4 5, 9)  
(4 5 = not MW)

If the starts of your golf swings are  
usually bad,  
The results of your tee shots will drive  
you quite mad!  
Oh, but Santa's no golfer, so don't BET  
YOUR BAUS  
Hoping *he'll* fix your NINE when he  
stops at your house.  
=EARL E. BYRD, Aiken SC

30. ETTE AN (5 5, 14, 8 8, 7 9, 19)  
(5 5, 8 8, 7 9 = o)

“hos aywar agamuffin houl  
ncloth helmself it ailore lothe!  
oreove, ailroa rack ha oul  
urroun ou re? h ounci oathe!”  
hi cumenica esig  
gains h OURTEEN n IV IV  
ntend alvatio ro EV’ IN.  
(INETEE ictate igh epriv.)  
IRETRUC, oodinvill

31. OVERLOADED TRANS-CROSS  
(6, 6, 8, 4)

If a street-corner “prophet” predicts  
that you are  
Gonna get one more gift that’s minuter  
by far  
Than the huge ones you’ve gotten—a  
toast slice that’s small  
But quite long, with a net at one end  
where a ball  
Can be caught, for a game—and in-  
stead you receive  
One more huge one, you’ll say, “That  
was no CHRISTMAS EVE!”  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

32. REVERSED PASTEOVER WNFR (7)  
(NPL = capitalized, non-MW usage)  
(with apologies to John Lennon)

PLAN there’s no puzzles...

=N, Cambridge MA

33. FALSE OPPOSITE (5, 5) (CON = +)

His gaze encompassed all the field.  
God was good: a golden yield.  
He raised the sickle at his feet,  
Cutting PROs of waving wheat.  
CON the hot September sun  
He worked the land till day was done.  
=raw, Ogdensburg NY

34. OVERLOADED FOURTH-  
LETTER CHANGE (9)  
(one is online 11C)

Space Ranger Lightyear in *Toy Story I*  
Was dotty—indeed, he was PLENTY  
OF FUN.  
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

35. MULTIPLE REPEATED-LETTER  
DELETION (13)  
(SHORTER = abbr.)

Father always practiced LONG. His  
thoughts were fully reasoned;  
Part of his \*SHORTER upbringing in  
which he was seasoned.  
=R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

36. TRANSPOGRAM (7)

Cats, instinctively, prefer to stay dry.  
It’s HOWed in them to stay in when  
it’s WHY.  
=A-PLUS, Pittsburgh PA

37. REBUS WNFR (4 4 5)

oroorooroorooro

Three days before the new year  
I opened up a package...  
=QT-OH, Acton MA

38. REPEATED TRIGRAM  
DELETION (5 4)  
(TWO PART = online 11C)

TWO PARTs are the best of the  
holiday treats!  
You can savor them slowly or chew  
them up quick.  
But this year I’ll be checking  
ingredient lists—  
I’m allergic to DINKYs. They make me  
quite sick.  
=NOODLE NOGGIN, Annandale VA

### 39. OVERLOADED TRANSPOSAL (7) (one 7 = part of + phrase)

The word that “Se habla” precedes on  
the sign  
Makes the whole thing a lie, since  
their clerks shun the fine,  
Full three-syllable plural that  
language employs  
For the prickly pear cactus. (That  
word is “ENJOYS”.)  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

### 40. TRANSADDITION GROUP (4, 6, 5) (one is an addition)

The Rangers stepped upon the ice,  
their jerseys shining bright.  
Their muscles THREEEd, their  
confidence was evident that night.  
The Devils, on the other hand, seemed  
threatened by their foe.  
The name they ONE upon the fabled  
jerseys laid them low,  
And, seemingly, they TWOed before  
the game had yet begun.  
No wonder they had lost five-zip when  
all was said and done.  
=EARL E. BYRD, Aiken SC

### 41. REVERSED FIRST-LETTER CHANGE (4 \*1, \*5) (HELP = 4 \*1 = not MW)

I just ran a HELP in PLEA—  
Start and finish right in Seoul.  
No one placed ahead of me!  
(For any longer, I’m too ol’.)  
=Mr E, Portland OR

### 42. PADLOCK (5, 7, 6)

An inn should have ONE  
That are TWO, even fun  
(But respectful, of course);  
And a LOCK for your horse.  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

### 43. TRANSPOSAL (9, ^4 ^5) (WORDS = NI3; SWORD = ^4 ^5 = not MW)

The wistful adult may recall  
School days joyous and effervescent.  
Still some havoc tends to befall  
Even the noblest adolescent.

Sticks and stones may break my  
bones,  
But WORDS will never hurt me, it’s  
thought.  
Cliques well-known yet make for  
groans,  
And leave the cast-out teen for  
naught.

With Lindsay Lohan as our guide,  
We say, “The limit does not exist.”  
Our youthful egos need not divide.  
The lesson? SWORD should not be  
missed.  
=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

### 44. LAST-BIGRAM CHANGE ([5 4], 9) (clued in order)

I verified the memo—  
There’s an OPEN on the page.  
The game’s afoot between us,  
And it’s reached a crucial stage.  
“So, how are things in Persia?”  
“It’s a lovely day, and CAGE!”  
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

### 45. FOURTH-SOUND CHANGE (8, 7)

I missed out Halloween this year;  
Just couldn’t find the usual gear  
To scare folk with ONE looks from me.  
To meet my offspring’s urgent plea:  
“No candies!”, I had need to cook  
And found thoughts in a Magyar’s  
book.  
To make a TWO, that’s what I’ll do.  
That’s how we came to stew with stew.  
=ANDREAS, Vancouver BC

46. COMBINATION LOCK AND  
DROP (5, 5, 4, 7, 3)

“Only adults,” reads the rule,  
“PE go in deeper end of pool.”  
When PAd this sign, I knew that they  
EA E to use the PEA end. Yay!  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

47. REVERSED REPEATED-  
BIGRAM DELETION (\*3 \*5)

If you want just the truth—no fake  
news,  
The SHORTing of different views—  
Watch LONG each weeknight.  
He gets most things right.  
=R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

48. REVERSAL (4) (A, B)  
REVERSAL (4) (C, D)

Songs are made by As and Cs.  
My hearing's low,  
So, this I know:  
I can't hear but Bs and Ds.  
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

49. OVERLOADED LETTER BANK  
(7, \*3-\*4-\*5)

Did I see her lift catches to let her  
remove a  
Big lid from each box that she got on  
Vancouver  
From natives there? No—and I don't  
quite recall  
If I *ever* have seen her BIG boxes at  
all.  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

50. FALSE EXTREME WNFR (3, \*8)  
(\*8 = non-MW usage)

When orbiting Saturn, keep your  
charge...  
=A-PLUS, Pittsburgh PA

51. SPOONERGRAM (3 \*7, \*4 \*6)  
(\*7, \*4 \*6 = not MW)

“Our numbers don't yet cut the  
mustard—  
We need more for cheap dijon.  
And when we get there”, I say,  
flustered,  
“We'll JEMMY DON for DEMIJOHN!”  
=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

52. TRANSPOSAL (\*7, 4 3)  
(4 3 = not MW)

STAR is a nation that sounds  
ungrammatical  
As a subject or object when used with  
a verb.  
The leaders erenow could be labeled  
fanatical;  
They closed off their land and said,  
“Do not disturb.”

Life under general leaders had  
hardship,  
Reversing the rules from colonial past.  
These TSARs in their uniforms  
tightened their grip,  
But in the last decade things opened  
up fast.  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

53. TRANSPOSAL (7)

We have all heard it said  
Of a hunk caped in red  
That he's *faster than a speeding bullet*.  
One whose path is narrow  
Is *straight as an arrow*.  
A caper? He wouldn't think to pull it.  
How often, it does seem,  
The use of CAREM CREAM  
Figures in our speech, I do daresay.  
One more example:  
*I'm a Rocket Man's* a sample.  
Wait, that's off (but a stone's throw  
away).  
=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

54. LETTER BANK (7, \*12)  
(PETE = not MW)

Last month, my Gibson Flying V  
Was ruined by a ring of tea.  
I've learned my lesson. I won't let  
My Fender PETE become a PET.  
=LINKO, London UK

55. WORD DELETION (8)

You want your IN to be the best?  
You have to TOTAL—that's the REST.  
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

56. LETTER BANK (9, 9 2 1 4 4)  
(LONG = not MW)

I hate that song.  
I hate that song.  
I hate that song.  
I hate it.

It just goes on,  
And on, and on,  
And on, and on.  
I hate it.

Nobody knows  
Just how it goes.  
Do not suppose  
You know it.

Don't sing it, no.  
Don't wing it, no.  
The thing is, yo,  
You'll blow it.

You will, not may,  
Mess up some day.  
It is, I say,  
The worst song.

I'll take no more.  
I'm out the door.  
I'm SHORT before  
The first LONG.  
=WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

57. OVERLOADED TRANSPOSAL (5)  
(can be sung in the '70s by  
Deborah Harry)

Note that Na<sub>2</sub>O forms part of the mass  
Of window panes, cause it's part of  
glass!  
(Hope you enjoy this tune about that  
Na-full stuff—it's really FLAT.)  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

58. HOMONYM (3 5, 4 ^4, 7)  
(clued in order)

The family's bellicose spinster has  
fanned  
Many flames of desire—she's in high  
demand.  
But she's quite pugnacious. She may  
one THERE you  
And stir up a conflict. But peace will  
help. To  
THEY'RE Bernice, it's helpful to reach  
a THEIR so  
You may hit it off (I've no promises  
though).  
=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

59. FALSE PLURAL (3, \*4)  
(clued in order)

Regardless of milieu Olympic,  
A queen should never live in a DIM PIC  
After paying the toll and crossing the  
WHEEZE!  
So call up the cleaners, if you please.  
=A-PLUS, Pittsburgh PA

60. CHANGE OF HEART (5, 6, 4, 7)

A good hostess gift to take to a ONE  
Could be phalaenopsis, a popular TWO.  
It's a real THREE that more fruit isn't  
brought,  
Straight from the FOUR, with taste  
through and through.  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

61. ONE (11, 4. 5 \*3)  
(ONE, \*3 = not MW)

After her *Baywatch* stint, Anderson  
went  
To school to help doctors and patients  
and sent  
Us a card: "My career TWO's here. I  
help withstand 'ick'."  
It goes without saying this verse is  
Icelandic.  
=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

62. LETTER BANK (3 4, 2 4 5 2?)  
(neither MW)

Club abrim, the house lights dim,  
A lone beam on the diva.  
The crowd keen to hear the queen  
Unleash her splendid SHIVA.  
Reaching low, she works up slow,  
And now lets loose the thunder!  
Why no cheer? What's happened here?  
One fears there's been a blunder.  
Now chagrined, her patience thinned,  
Into the mike she cries "sheesh!"  
Then she snaps, gives it two raps,  
And hollers, "VIVA HASHISH"  
=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

63. LETTER BANK (7, \*10)  
(MEET = not MW)

Last month, my Gibson Firebird  
Was painted red. Now that's occurred  
I've learned my lesson. I won't let  
My Fender MEET be colored MET.  
=LINKO, London UK

64. PHONETIC ALCHEMISM (4, 3 4)  
(full credit to October #21)

We've made it into Raqqa; ISIS having  
long since ONE.  
They're TWO from here to who knows  
where, toward the setting sun.  
=R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

65. PHONETIC REBUS (4, \*1 3)

A

Do you like this flat?  
Do you like it a lot?  
If you THIS AND THAT  
Write another... or not.  
=WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

66. LETTER BANK (\*6, 4 3 5)

BASE's act did not involve  
A hammer or a nail, to SOLVE.  
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

67. HOMONYM WNFR (\*7, 1 3 2)

SEVEN, THE PHRASE ONE THREE  
TWO  
A story where wishes come true...  
=QT-OH, Acton MA

68. LETTER BANK (11, \*8 10)  
(\*8 10 = not MW)

The ape of Sumatra said, "People now  
see us  
As not *P. abelii*, nor *P. pygmaeus*,  
But some brand-new species of Pongo!  
Of course, like our cousins, we do bear  
live young, guy;  
We don't produce small seedlike cells,  
like some fungi,  
By SHORTZ. (That's unknown to us  
LONGO.)"  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

69. FREEWHEELING BIGRAM  
SHIFT (5.) ""\*4, 9) (clued in order)

"An epic is the *Iliad*;  
It tells of great ABET, though, sad  
About its cruel and violent fate  
(Of being BEAT) might say, 'Not  
great.'"  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

## 70. SWITCHBACK (5)

Thailand once was called Siam;  
Burma now is Myanmar.  
Persia changed to be Iran.  
A renamed world both near and far.

Rulers, kingdoms come and go;  
Some are ZERO and long gone.  
Temples, pagodas, COREs and such—  
Shrines remain and carry on.  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

## 71. CONSONANTCY (\*9, 8)

In the Smokies of ONE  
The dwarf crested iris  
Is famed for its beauty  
As well as its DONE.  
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

72. FIRST-LETTER CHANGE  
(\*6, 2 4) (MOMA = \*6 = + var.)

Many cities can be seen  
Within the bounds of MOMA:  
Napoli, Venezia,  
Torino, Bari, ROMA.  
=NUCKY, Hoboken NJ

## 73. REBUS ([6 8]) (online 11C)

Iffer you scoffffer at laws  
You might pay a ffineer for your  
crime.  
Iffer you are a TWO WORD  
The law may be harsher this time.  
=QT-OH, Acton MA

74. OVERLOADED SIXTH-LETTER  
CHANGE (6)

In Seoul, in 1988,  
Greg Louganis was CONFLATE,  
Showing skills I venerate.  
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

75. LETTER BANK (6, 11)  
(after September 87)

Italian food—that hits the spot;  
LONG al ragu, a steaming pot.  
And then some SHORT, if 'twas too hot.  
=LINKO, London UK

76. CONSONANTCY (3, 2-2, 3)  
(SIM = NI3) (clued in order)

Oh! To play the age-old game  
Where sweetfish on a string (uncouth!)  
Go up and down and up again.  
Did SAM play SOME with SIMs in  
youth?  
=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

77. FREEWHEELING DELETION  
(7, 2 1 3)

Taping ducts must WET HER for  
Duct tape, whether good or poor,  
WHETHER otherwise, why do  
People call it that? It's true.  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

78. PALINDROME (8—\*4 5)  
(can be sung)

You're the taupe!  
You're like beige or khaki!  
You're the taupe!  
You're (like tan) not tacky!  
You're the earthy tone that one big  
Arizonan town  
Has as background, e'er,  
Without DUDE seen there  
Are, like you, light brown!  
You're a hue no outré-hued stuff is!  
You are neutral, the way that buff is!  
I'm about the color (though duller) of  
minty Scope,  
So I'm jealous, 'cause I'm green and  
you're the taupe!  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

79. REVERSED PALINDROME  
BEHEADMENT (\*7)  
(INITIAL = findable)

His heirs have LAIT the folks who made  
The lauded film INITIAL.  
They say it made their ancestor  
Seem crude and superficial.  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

80. OVERLOADED LETTER BANK  
(9, 3-5 4, 12, 4 2 9)  
(9 = NI3; 3-5 4, 4 2 9 = not MW)

"The jelledest jelly ever made," he  
Claims, "was some a certain lady  
Jarred, then sold while in the non-  
Bikini swimming costume. John  
Had given such a lustful leer  
It guaranteed that people here  
Would question John's good faith."  
He's wrong.  
(It wasn't that UNCOMMON LONG.)  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

81. REBUS (\*6)  
SUBER (\*6) (same solution)  
(reading includes non-MW material)

# E

In Athens, see,  
The dark is ME.  
=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

82. PARTIAL METATHESIS  
CHARADE (10)

A TOTAL foundation does laudable  
work,  
From those at the top to the lowest  
ranked clerk.  
It's not just the NOE with a seat at  
the TWO;  
It takes skills and money to do what  
they do.  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

83. PHONIGMATIC REBUS (\*5 \*8)  
(not MW)

SOL was a charmer whose dynasty  
none  
Can match in the Hills while the  
angles rerun.  
=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

84. OVERLOADED LAST-LETTER  
CHANGE GROUP (3, 4, 4)

Heed the sky. A storm is nigh.  
Our safest option: stop and tie.  
The harbor's got a perfect spot  
Between that sloop and yonder yacht.  
I long to stand and eat on land.  
I'm sick of food that's dried or canned.  
So sail we might by morning's light,  
But here I want to SOL tonight.  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

85. LETTER BANK  
(\*3 \*7, 8 6, 5-9, \*15)  
(SEA, EASE, SEAS, SASSES)  
(EASE = NI2-findable;  
SEAS = + spelling; SASSES = NI2)

Artaxerxes, in Leeds, at the movie  
*Attack*  
*Of the Amazon Lungfish*, was taken  
aback,  
Not by how the weird beast (in the  
family SASSES)  
Leapt out from the screen (he was  
wearing those glasses  
With circularly-, and not SEAS,  
lenses), but  
By the fact that the film was in  
English, since what  
He, at heart, wanted most was a SEA  
flick (that bloke  
Had a deep EASE to know what folks  
meant when they spoke).  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

# 86. PHONETIC FALSE ADJECTIVE (3, 5)

I won't tell GOAL to GOALIE;  
She'd only go more slowly.  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

# 87. FALSE SOURCE (6, 6) (CROCS, NILE) (can be sung)

Casey would waltz with a strawberry  
blonde  
At the office; CROCS  
And underlings stared as they  
danced—him dark-haired,  
Her (as said) with locks  
Like sea silk of gold (that's the NILE  
that can hold  
*Pinna nobilis* mollusks to rocks)  
Commingle with copper from Cyprus  
atop her—  
Where both punched clocks.  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

# 88. METATHESIS (6)

I'm up on a ROCK at the rear of the  
train,  
Observing the sights and gazing at  
stars.  
I'm thinking a lot about life's  
connections,  
Not CORKs between words or those  
between cars.  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

# 89. PALINDROME CURTAILMENT (\*9; 2, 2) (OH WOW = not MW) (\*9 = NI2 spelling)

OH WOW! OHWOWGRUBURG is hot.  
And calm and poor and boring? Not.  
This city rocks! It shakes like jelly.  
Smaller than, but cool as, Delhi.  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

# 90. ENIGMATIC REBUS (6 3, 2, 5)

teehee

The barmaid giggled, "Please come in!  
I guess, like all of Odin's kin,  
You're gonna buy some mead for  
swilling!  
(Pints here go for half a shilling.)"  
"No," said Loki. "To a READ, er,  
Spent on nonnutritious mead're  
Fine; a quasi- one like me  
Needs vitamins that ale has. See,  
My not-real-Aesir bod, my sweet,  
Can't have support so incomplete."  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

## ANAGRAMS

# 91. DIRTY ROOM =A-PLUS, Pittsburgh PA

# 92. SO, SEE A SHORTSTOP CLOUT HARD HOMERS IN WIN (3 \*5 \*6 ^8 \*7 \*6) =TE-ZIR-MAN, Margate FL

## FORMS

# F-1. RECTANGLE

Across:

- 1 Pre-Xmas festival
- 2 Skull science
- 3 Capable of being litigated
- 4 Like a carousal

Down:

- 1 Cicatrix
  - 2 With the bow
  - 3 Filmmaker Jacques (Amende)
  - 4 Les États-\_\_\_\_\_
  - 5 Random profusion
  - 6 By no means
  - 7 Resembling a wing
  - 8 Wolf
  - 9 Snow cavity
  - 10 Positive votes
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC

## F-2. INVERTED PYRAMID

Across:

- 1 Time associated with a shopping frenzy
- 2 Brown and seven others
- 3 Colleague of Lake and Palmer
- 4 Chelsea clothes frame
- 5 Old \_\_\_\_ (Satan)
- 6 Type of ball, bar, or bill

Down:

- 1 Blood type
  - 2 Chinese distance, about 1700 feet
  - 3 Hail or farewell
  - 4 S-shaped curve
  - 5 Möbius's 3-D friend?
  - 6 Search around
  - 7 Rubbed out: arch.
  - 8 Sikorsky or Larionov
  - 9 Pester
  - 10 Scottish one
  - 11 Men's or women's club
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC

## F-3. INVERTED PYRAMID

Across:

- 1 Maine to California, to Alaskans (Brewer's Dict of Modern Phrase & Fable)
- 2 Nail size
- 3 Aunt Margarita, maybe (U of Chi Sp. Dict)
- 4 Racemic alternative

Down:

- 1 Racemic alternative
  - 2 Breath gas (MW-findable)
  - 3 Thinker
  - 4 "Queen Wheat City"
  - 5 Former electronics giant (Brands & Their Cos.)
  - 6 USDA project engaging youth's heads, hands, hearts and health
  - 7 Engine type
- =NEWROW, Brookline MA

## F-4. VWLLSS RCTNGL

Across:

- 1 Permission to do this sort of form?
- 2 "Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night", and others
- 3 Petrarchan work
- 4 "Jiggery pokery" might start one (MS Encyc of Lit)

Down:

- 1 Turned on the spot
  - 2 A chest of drawers with a wardrobe on top
  - 3 Bogey, for one
  - 4 Oil source
  - 5 Outpatient place
  - 6 Not borrowed by someone
  - 7 Contractual phase
- =AI, Charlottesville VA

## F-5. DOUBLE SQUARE

Across:

- 1 First name of a seasonal letter addressee?
- 2 Last name of a seasonal letter addressee?
- 3 It's Latin for "elsewhere"
- 4 Relocated
- 5 Ångström or Celsius, for example

Down:

- 1 Fraudulent operations
  - 2 Permit
  - 3 Like a greenhorn
  - 4 Rode the London Underground
  - 5 Out of the way, as for future use
- =JO THE LOITERER, Basking Ridge NJ

## F-6. SQUARE

- 1 Persian
  - 2 Nerve cell impulse carriers
  - 3 Lists
  - 4 Muddle
  - 5 Discharge
- =LEXMAN, East Moline IL

## F-7. INVERTED PYRAMID

Across:

- 1 Field full of wild animals
- 2 Like Pepin the Short
- 3 You and many of your friends, I  
might guess (not MW)
- 4 Dilbert's home page
- 5 Has no difficulty
- 6 Wonder Woman's first name?
- 7 Compass bottom

Down:

- 1 Red cap letter
- 2 Soda brand
- 3 Turn to port, perhaps
- 4 X-Man X, for one, for short
- 5 Circle going around a circle
- 6 Van Gogh's mane subject of 1883  
([www.vangoghmuseum.nl](http://www.vangoghmuseum.nl))
- 7 Garden brighteners
- 8 ...*Journey*... man?
- 9 They're big and bad but not wolves
- 10 Jarring items
- 11 Gp. that stretches from Canada to  
Argentina
- 12 £1.05
- 13 Club that shortened its name by  
75% in 2010 (not counting "The")  
=SCARAB, St. Paul MN

## F-8. SQUARE

- 1 Top drawer
- 2 Popular operating system named for  
an engineer (Wikipedia)
- 3 Empty and insubstantial
- 4 Audio system component
- 5 Put forth  
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL



## F-9. DOUBLE SQUARE

Across:

- 1 Hanukkah month
- 2 Eventually
- 3 User
- 4 Ceremonial dinners four months  
after 1 Across
- 5 Involve
- 6 Made in the prevailing mode

Down:

- 1 Touches gently
- 2 Purpose
- 3 Boring
- 4 Hereditary
- 5 Rise from obscurity
- 6 Familiarized by study  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

## F-10. TRIGRAM SQUARE

- 1 "Get outta here!" – or, the tag on a  
squirrel's Christmas gift?  
(NI3-findable)
- 2 Christmas gift holders hung by the  
chimney with care
- 3 Excited Christmas gift opener,  
typically  
=al dente, San Jose CA

## F-11. SQUARE

- 1 Savings, smarts or skills, say
- 2 Seven sad days to sit
- 3 Starchy stiffeners
- 4 Subset of outcomes
- 5 "Sweet? Sour? Salty?" sense  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

## F-12. VARIOGRAM SQUARE

- 1 Acting like a vandal
- 2 Refrain part commonly heard at this  
time
- 3 Trumpets
- 4 Nebraskans, for example
- 5 Smoother  
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

## F-13. PYRAMID

Across:

- 1 With 1 Down and 9 Down,  
fermented bean sauce
- 2 Code of conduct (Wikipedia)
- 3 Thomas Moore's "\_\_\_ Rookh"
- 4 Entrance
- 5 Agreed!

Down:

- 1 See 1 Across
  - 2 Uganda mountain people  
(Wikipedia)
  - 3 Laboratoire national de métrologie  
et d'essais (Wikipedia)
  - 4 Sly
  - 5 Group of clay soils
  - 6 History Muse
  - 7 Air Nippon's code (Wikipedia)
  - 8 Tapuyan people, or their language
  - 9 See 1 Across
- =NEWROW, Brookline MA

## F-14. VWLLSS PRMD

Across:

- 1 Stat for Zack Greinke
- 2 Wagnerian heroine
- 3 Certain Analysis of Variance sets of  
values (CRC Std Math...Formulae)
- 4 Brazilian fascist (OED2)
- 5 Claude E. Shannon's 1948 landmark  
proposal
- 6 The Stanford-Binet and others
- 7 Term introduced in 1890 by William  
James

Down:

- 1 Second word of an anthem
- 2 Absence of diversity
- 3 Lake that got its name from a First  
Nations language
- 4 Provoke
- 5 Death leads to it, some think
- 6 David Copperfield's field (not MW)
- 7 1740 music setting for a James  
Thomson poem

- 8 They're often not serious
  - 9 Of equilibrium in the earth's crust
  - 10 He's associated with Ariadne,  
Phaedra, Hippolyta and the Minotaur
  - 11 Run-of-the-mill
  - 12 Put out, as publications
  - 13 Fifth word of an anthem
- =AI, Charlottesville VA

## F-15. VWLLSS NVRTD PRMD

Across:

- 1 Line from "The Rime of the Ancient  
Mariner" (Bartlett's)
- 2 Gene Kelly vehicle (VideoHound)
- 3 Source of inspiration for Thoreau
- 4 Sushi ingredient
- 5 Like seawater
- 6 Yorkshire river

Down:

- 1 River flowing SE to the Mississippi  
River
  - 2 River to the North Sea, inhabited  
according to folklore by Peg Powler
  - 3 With "The", a Robert Frost poem  
about a colt and falling snow
  - 4 Flowering shrubs with a Bristol  
Snowflake cultivar
  - 5 Permafrost regions
  - 6 Water crowfoot genus
  - 7 Maker of *The Volga Boatman* in  
1926 (Wikipedia)
  - 8 Nine Ball in the upcoming *Ocean's 8*  
(Wikipedia)
  - 9 The Hans Hass \_\_\_\_, given for  
oceanographic contributions
  - 10 City on the Red River
  - 11 \_\_ Brook, near Port Chester NY
- =AI, Charlottesville VA



## F-16. TRIGRAM SQUARE (see note)



=al dente, San Jose CA

## EXTRAS

X-1. ANAQUOTE (\*1'1 4 2 5 2 6 2 1 6 2 5, 3 \*1'1 8 4 2 7 2 4. \*4 \*6 2 \*5 \*3 ^4 ^3)

ANE ANM ASA BAB DAV DIE EGU ELF  
 ERP HBU HIN IDL IES IKE KER KOF  
 LYJ MYS OFL OFT PET PRO RNE RUT  
 SEE SER TIM TOT UST UST XPO YIN

=V, Bellevue WA

X-2. VERTICAL ANAQUOTE (2 4 6 3 7 4 4 4 3'2 6 5 6 1 9. \*3)

A G G H H H I M N N N O O R R S S T T U U Y Y  
 M N N G H W H R E I R D U I O O Y D E I U A N  
 E A E C C I D N E I I P O O E L P S S E R O N

=R/EDS, Ste. Anne de Prescott ON

X-3. ANAQUOTE

(2 3 7 7 2 4 3 11, 4 3 10 - 3 4 3 3 12.  
 \*4 \*11)

ACU ADR BLE DDE EAD ECT ERO ESP  
 ETE ETH EVE FAC FTO FYI GEN HEH  
 HIM HIS IED INA LAR MAG NBE NGB  
 NTH RRI RRY SEL THE UNI UTT WAS

=R/EDS, Ste. Anne de Prescott ON

X-5. ANAQUOTE

(3 3 7 2 3 8 3 5 2 5 2 6 5 5. \*7)

ALL COL EAD EIR EST LIN LOU NGE  
 OMA ORA QUA REE RTH RYA SOF TAP  
 THE THE THR TTE UEN VAL

=V, Bellevue WA

X-6. SHUFFLED QUOTE

P \_ \_ \_ \_ \* A A E N . E A \_  
 E T E \_ D \_ D \_ E E M E I O M \* H O S  
 E T H E E G N R T I S N E J T S  
 I V H R Y S O V V R S T R N

=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

X-4. VERTICAL ANAQUIP

(5 2 2 \*1 2 6.)

E E H I N O R S T  
 E N I N A L D I I

=V, Bellevue WA

**X-7. DOWNS AND UPS AND DOWNS — by ANDREAS, Vancouver BC**

Across answers are to be entered normally. Down, Up, Down, ... answers are to be entered sequentially with answers starting in the cell numbered 1 and proceeding down the first column, up the second column and so on, with the first letter of one word immediately following the last letter of the previous word.

1							2						
3								4					
5							6						
7							8						
9													
10													
11							12						
13							14						
15						16							
17							18						

**Across**

- 1 Prodigy making comeback dissecting an English bloom (7)
- 2 Kit with piece of coal lighting fires (6)
- 3 Capricious amigos probing my dislike of tying knots (8)
- 4 Writings overlooking earliest wines (5)
- 5 Albert's manufactured facial ornaments (7)
- 6 Complete neglect once identified by accepting blame (6)
- 7 Formerly ageless seabird found within borders of Europe (6)
- 8 Support for wood I color, putting on spray (7)
- 9 Stop Russia for one securing military intelligence decision (13)
- 10 Spot small countries tackling radical controls (13)
- 11 Investor, originally with plenty, worried like a loser (7)
- 12 August is dry and mostly clear (6)
- 13 Section for part of bone in edible fishes' mouths (6)
- 14 Uncle's claiming half of arable keys (7)
- 15 Temptress about to be consumed by lust, for example (5)
- 16 It feels number with unlimited ice in beer to maintain temperature (8)
- 17 Couples, with rare hole in one after birdie at the first, close to leaders (6)
- 18 Upset tot swallowing take away seafood (7)

**Down, Up, Down,...**

Before noon, had run and walked  
 By the sound of it, empty areas where  
     spare tires are sometimes found  
 Robber's gang stashing equipment  
 Live, thanks to Londoners creating  
     prototype  
 Revolutionary provided home for  
     police officers  
 Occasionally nasty bites covering  
     author  
 Whispers "Time flies"  
 Web handler's secondary support  
     receives low grade  
 Space rocket often overshoots moon  
     initially  
 Turn back to study poet with view on  
     liquor  
 Recipe put in letter  
 Traps catching leader of stolen bikes  
     in Glasgow  
 Start to seal spout in fall  
 Name the volatile gas  
 He can't adapt Friday Times cryptic  
     not ready after editing  
 Order limits to security check  
 Release last of chateau's *Enfants*  
     *terribles*  
 This can make racy din! (2 wds.)  
 Shoddy goods pair of rascals stuffed  
     into drawer  
 Watch over senate payments  
 Scarlett wanting nothing east of South  
     America's desert region  
 Fancy stores stocking collection of  
     books — and noisemakers?  
 Middle Easterner repairs audio  
     component  
 Howard's End  
 Reportedly it may be short way to  
     communicate  
 Announced French flower is healthy  
 Fire can seem half-extinguished  
 Ages when workers lost power  
 Uplifting vocal music getting excellent  
     marks on the score  
 Admits lead-free challenges for some  
     drivers

## AUGUST SOLVERS

The August 2017 *Enigma* had 81 flats, 7 forms, 7 crypts, and 8 extras. 29 solution lists, representing 63 solvers, were received.

BanterWeight/Dragonfly/Libra, DelphiRune/Papayagi/RUGame?, /dev/joe/Vraal/Tinhorn/Om Nom, Dischorran, Donimo/Wordsmix/Quicks?lver, George Groth/Ai, Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball, Joker/LeXman/Lirath/YoMama, Loki-5, Lyric/Munro, Philana/Mercury, R/EDS/415 lb of snake, Treesong, and Witz/Andreas had completes. Alice/A-Plus/Arachne/Hot/Ming had a flat complete.

Welcome, new solver AroundEve!

Accepted: 16–MISPOSTED, DESPOTISM; 18–CESI UMBER for BARI UMBER; 34–SHACKLES, HACKLESS; F-3–TAP, TIE LINE for ZAP, ZIP LINE; F-6–STOWED UP for STORED UP (3). Not accepted: 36–(T)ERROR (2); 47–SAVOR, SAILOR, AVAIL.

—QUICKS?LVER, Solutions Editor

FLATS/FORMS/CRYPTS/EXTRAS SOLVED (\* = complete): Ajde 19/0/\*/2. Alice/A-Plus/Arachne/Hot/Ming \*/0/0/0. AroundEve 60/5/0/0. Badir 55/1/\*/1. Barkis/QT-Oh/Noodle Noggin 72/\*/6/\* . Endgame 52/3/\*/2. Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity 74/\*/\*/\* . LaDiDa/Glee 66/\*/0/6. Linko 62/\*/\*/\* . Newrow/Jerg 77/\*/\*/\* . NJ Ninja 43/\*/\*/5. Paragon 58/6/\*/6. Pebbles 70/\*/\*/7. Sue++/D. Ness 75/0/0/0. Tyger/weefoot/Wolverine 55/4/\*/\* .

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: FLATS: 1–25/2, 2–28/16, 3–28/1, 4–21/3, 5–27/6, 6–28/4, 7–27/1, 8–21/2, 9–29/2, 10–27, 11–27/1, 12–28, 13–26/4, 14–28/1, 15–29/1, 16–23/2, 17–29/4, 18–25, 19–25/4, 20–24/2, 21–25, 22–27/7/1, 23–18/10/1, 24–21/2, 25–25/1/1, 26–29/3, 27–24/1, 28–23, 29–27, 30–23/8, 31–27/2, 32–20/1, 33–26, 34–26/6, 35–17/3, 36–26/1, 37–28/7, 38–26/2, 39–26, 40–28/2, 41–29/1, 42–17/3, 43–22/3, 44–28/6, 45–26/4, 46–27/2, 47–22/1, 48–23/2, 49–24, 50–20/2, 51–25/4, 52–25, 53–27/7, 54–25/3/1, 55–28/3/1, 56–26, 57–24/1, 58–19/5, 59–22/3, 60–27/1, 61–23, 62–23/2, 63–29, 64–26/2, 65–22/3, 66–29/1, 67–23/2, 68–21/5, 69–28/2, 70–27/4, 71–23, 72–29, 73–26/4/1, 74–24, 75–27/3/1, 76–29/9/1, 77–29/4, 78–28, 79–27, 80–29/1, 81–28. FORMS: 1–23/10/2, 2–24/2, 3–26/7/1, 4–25/3/1, 5–21/2, 6–24/6, 7–23/1. CRYPTS: 1–25/1, 2–25/4, 3–25/1, 4–25/3/1, 5–25/2, 6–25/1, 7–24/2. EXTRAS: 1–25, 2–25, 3–21/1, 4–21/3, 5–23/1, 6–21/2, 7–23/1, 8–22/13/5. MISCELLANEA (\* = not tabulated): KU-1–10, KU-2–13/8, "Demystifying the Cryptic Clue"—\*/1.

KUDOS (! = top kudos): Alice 2, 6, 37, 59, 68. Anomaly 2, 23, 34, 37, 55!, F-3, C-2. A-Plus 1, 22, 46. Arachne 22, 54, 59, 76. AroundEve 2, 17, 27, 38, 40, 44, 46, 48, 67, 68, 76!, F-1. Badir 2, 30, 54, 76, F-3, C-6, X-8, KU-2. Barkis 2, 76, C-5, X-8, KU-2. DelphiRune 2, 6, 19, 30, 43, 44, 53, 58, 65, X-8, C-4. /dev/joe 17, 20, 23, 30, 42, 51, 58, 68, 77, F-1, F-2, F-3!, F-4, F-6. Dischorran 14, 19, 30, 34, 59, 64, 69, 75, 77, KU-2. Donimo 2, 23, 50, F-1. Dragonfly 13, 22!, 44, 45, 53, C-1, X-8. Hot 2, 6, 17, 22, 23, 34, 37, 76, F-3, X-8!. Jo the Loiterer 5, 11, 16, 23, 30, 34, 45, 53, 62, 70, F-1!, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, F-6, F-7. LaDiDa 6, 15, 22, 69, KU-2.

Linko 2, 8, 17, 24, 37, 38, 54!, 65, F-1, F-5, X-4, KU-2. Lirath 23!, 30, 35, 58, X-7. Lyric 5, 9, 26, 62, 73, 80, C-2, X-4, X-8!. Mercury 5, 8, 13, 60, 66, 67, C-2, X-5. Munro 4, 23, 73, 75!, X-8. Newrow 2, 22, 23, 53, F-1!, F-6. NJ Ninja 2, 7, 9, 19, 32, 34, 37, 44, 55, 70, F-1, F-3, F-6, X-8!. Noodle Noggin 77, C-5. Pebbles 2, 3, 13, 22, 34, 36, 50, 73!. QT-Oh 2, 53, 76. Quicks?lver 2, 4, 5, 16, 24, 31, 35, 43, 45, 47, 51, 53, 55, 57, 58, 64, 65, 68, 76, F-1, F-6, C-4, X-3, X-6, X-8, KU-2. R/EDS 4, 20, 23, 25!, 43, 44, 48, 68, C-7. RUGame? 2, 37, 42, C-4!, C-7. Treesong 5, 13, 26, 30, 31, 42, 53, 70, 73, 75, 76, F-1, F-3, X-8!, KU-2, "Demystifying the Cryptic Clue". Tyger 1, 26, 37, 40, 41, 51, 70, 77, F-4!, F-6, C-3, X-8. Witz 5, 19, 23, 30, 45, 51, 58, F-1, C-2, X-8!. Wordsmix 2, 35, 44, 76, X-4, X-6, X-8, KU-2.

## SEPTEMBER SOLVERS

The September 2017 *Enigma* had 104 flats, 11 forms, 7 crypts, and 7 extras. 27 solution lists, representing 59 solvers, were received.

/dev/joe/Vraal/Tinhorn/Om Nom, Dischorran, Donimo/Wordsmix/Quicks?lver, Joker/LeXman/Lirath/YoMama, Loki-5, Philana/Mercury, and Witz/Andreas had completes.

Accepted: 16—RUNT UNTENTED for AUNT UNTENTED; 19—TOY for GOY; 58—SCION for SINEW (6); 62—BITTER for MORBID (3); 87—PINERO for PERONI; 89—FLATTEN [flat ten] (2). Not accepted: 58—SEINE for SINEW.  
—QUICKS?LVER, Solutions Editor

FLATS/FORMS/CRYPTS/EXTRAS SOLVED (\* = complete): Ajde 20/0/\*/2. Alice/A-Plus/Arachne/Hot/Ming 101/0/0/0. AroundEve 57/0/0/0. Badir 68/9/\*/0. BanterWeight/Dragonfly/Libra 93/\*/\*/\*\*. Barkis/QT-Oh/Noodle Noggin 77/\*/\*/\*\*. Brym 0/0/4/0. DelphiRune/Papayagi/RUGame? 102/\*/\*/\*\*. Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity 101/\*/\*/\*\*. Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball 103/\*/\*/\*\*. LaDiDa/Glee 84/\*/0/\*\*. Linko 73/3/4/0. Lyric/Munro 95/\*/\*/\*\*. Newrow/Jerg 79/\*/\*/\*\*. NJ Ninja 38/\*/\*/\*\*. Paragon 78/10/\*/\*\*. Pebbles 84/\*/\*/\*\*. R/EDS/415 lb of snake 103/\*/4/\*\*. Treesong 102/\*/\*/\*\*. Tyger/weefoot/Wolverine 89/\*/\*/\*\*.

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: FLATS: 1–24, 2–26/2, 3–21/3, 4–21/3, 5–22/13, 6–19, 7–18/6, 8–26, 9–26, 10–25/10, 11–19/1, 12–18, 13–24/4, 14–26/2, 15–22/10/1, 16–21/8, 17–24/2, 18–25, 19–26/2, 20–15/1, 21–18/3, 22–23, 23–24/1, 24–17, 25–17/1, 26–21/10, 27–23/3, 28–26/4, 29–26, 30–16/2, 31–18, 32–15/4, 33–22/4, 34–22/6, 35–24/6, 36–24/1, 37–22, 38–26, 39–19, 40–25/3, 41–16, 42–25/2, 43–23/1, 44–24/8, 45–25/4, 46–25/2, 47–22/1, 48–23, 49–18, 50–24/1, 51–25, 52–19/13/5, 53–24, 54–17/1, 55–17/1, 56–26/1, 57–24/8, 58–24/1/1, 59–21/1, 60–11, 61–20/1, 62–22/3, 63–22, 64–19/3, 65–19, 66–26/3, 67–20, 68–13/4/1, 69–24/1, 70–25/3/1, 71–26, 72–19, 73–16/2, 74–21, 75–25/6, 76–25/8, 77–13/1, 78–26/1, 79–25, 80–24, 81–24, 82–19/3, 83–17, 84–20/1, 85–21, 86–22/1, 87–24/2/1, 88–25/4, 89–22/2, 90–26, 91–25/1, 92–14/2, 93–23/1, 94–22/2, 95–21/4, 96–25/4, 97–23/3, 98–22/3, 99–26/1, 100–17/1, 101–24/5, 102–25, 103–26/9/1, 104–23. FORMS: 1–22, 2–22, 3–22/7/1, 4–22/1, 5–22, 6–22/9/1, 7–22, 8–21/2, 9–23/4, 10–22, 11–22/2/1. CRYPTS: 1–23, 2–24,

3-24/2, 4-23/1, 5-22/2, 6-21/7, 7-22/2/1. EXTRAS: 1-22, 2-21/1, 3-21/1, 4-22/2, 5-21, 6-21, 7-21. MISCELLANEA (\* = not tabulated): CF-1-\*/2, CF-2-\*/2, CF-3-\*/2, CF-4-\*/1, CF-5-\*/1, CF-7-\*/3, CF-9-\*/1, CF-11-\*/1, CF-12-\*/3, CF-13-\*/1, CF-16-\*/3/2, CF-17-\*/1, CF-19-\*/1, CF-22-\*/1, CF-23-\*/2, CF-24-\*/2, CF-26-\*/1, CF-30-\*/2, CF-33-\*/1, CF-34-\*/2, "Kapry Korn's Obituary"-\*/1.

KUDOS (! = top kudos): Alice 5, 44, 75, CF-4, CF-16!. Anomaly 5, 10, 26, 40, 70!, 76, 88, 103, F-3, F-6, F-9, C-6. A-Plus 5, 7, 19, 26, 32, 52, 82, CF-12. Arachne 4, 13, 33, 44, 52, CF-7. AroundEve 15, 16, 21, 27, 62, 86, 87!, 101. Badir 7, 13, 16, 43, 44, 52!, 57, 76, 94, 98, 103, F-6. Barkis 15, 16, 21, 34, 44, 52, 96, C-6. DelphiRune 5, 35, 55, 64, 82, 88, 89, C-3, C-5, C-6, CF-2, CF-5, CF-7, CF-13, CF-16, CF-17, CF-22, CF-23, CF-24, CF-30, CF-34. /dev/joe 2, 10, 26, 68!, 70, 75, F-3, F-6. Dischorran 4, 5, 26, 42, 61, 70, 73, 91, CF-3, CF-19, CF-30, CF-33. Donimo 10, 11, 15, 33, 34, 75, 92. Hot 5, 7, 10, 32, 34, 35, 42, 44, 57, 97, 100. Jo the Loiterer 10, 52, 57, 103, F-3, F-4, F-6, F-8, F-9, F-11. LaDiDa 2, 4, 16, 23, 30, 44, 45, 54, 62, 66, 88, 97, X-4. Linko 5, 7, 16, 26, 35, 44, 57, 59, 64, 76, 97, 103!, CF-7, CF-12, CF-23, CF-26. Lirath 15, 25, 33, 52!, 62, 68, C-6. Lyric 10, 26, F-3!, C-3. Mercury 33, 35, 45, 57, 66, 69, 76, 78, 96, 99. Munro 95, C-7!, X-4. Newrow 3, 16, 34, 75, 101, F-6!, F-9. Next Lingo 3, 28, 46, 52!, 103, F-3, X-2, X-3. NJ Ninja 10, 14, 28, 40, 46, 56, 66, 76, F-6, F-11!. Noodle Noggin 17, 19, 35, 52. Papayagi 26. Pebbles 5, 10, 27, 28, 35, 45, 47, 52!, 76, 89, 95, C-6. QT-Oh 10, 13, 15, 20, 34, 52, 101. Quicks?lver 5, 7, 15, 16, 26, 32, 57, 68, 73, 76, 84, 95, 96, 98, 103, F-6, F-8, C-6, CF-1, CF-2. R/EDS 15!, 30, 57, 77, 92, 103, C-5. RUgame? 5, 15, 26, 57. Treesong 3, 5, 7, 10, 13, 15, 16, 21, 27, 34, 44, 52, 68, 82, 94, 95, 103, F3, F6, C7, CF-1, CF-3, CF-9, CF-11, CF-12, CF-16!, CF-24, CF-34, "Kapry Korn's Obituary". Tyger 5, 14, 17, 28, 36, 40, 45, 50, 52!, 76, 87, 93, 103, F-3, F-9, C-6. Witz 5, 15, 26, 32, 52, 58!, 64, 75, 88, 101, F-6, C-4. Wordsmix 75, 96, 98, 101.

## OCTOBER SOLUTIONS

1. LI vein's ideal ternary ad [live (=be) inside alter (=doctor), nary a D] 2. si si, Isis 3. SUBer, REbus 4. plight, flight [p(=piano)/f(=forte)] 5. phrased, hard-pressed 6. brain, barbarian 7. pre-Antiochus, *Pithecantropus erectus* 8. urbanest? a Ken [U, R, B, an E, S taken] 9. sausage, assuage 10. great apes, eat grapes 11. beret, braggart 12. p(AL)ooka; Ar(k)ansas 13. Boyle's law, Boleslaw; B/c-oleslaw 14. future, folklore 15. ghost ale, go stale 16. EGret, GALah, BUbo, MINivet 17. limerick, rice milk 18. sternmost, torments, monster, sermon 19. lawlessness [law (=constitution) less N, esS] 20. HEra, BRine, EWe; ARArat, MAine, ICe rink 21. past a teen, preyed on [astatine, radon] 22. Camels, mescal 23. *The Art of the Deal*, *The Dart of the Eel* 24. en[sor(cell)e]d 25. Reno va(ca)tion 26. kobold, lobo 27. hoopskirt, scoop hurt 28. Eric Clapton, narcoleptic 29. NARRation, COatrack, LEGal, PSYche 30. beach, boccie 31. diproton, no torpid 32. auricular, oracular 33. gabbing, big bang 34. Arachne; acne, rah 35. chameleon, comedian 36. coins, icons, scion, sonic 37. sidekick, psychic 38. bays, sassaby; breadths, bastard hartebeest 39. head of state, 'stead of hate 40. demerara, MD 41. air mattress, StairMaster 42. sestet, tsetse 43. proselyte, polyester 44. no admittance, contaminated 45. caber, labor 46. nascent 47. Aquino, quinoa, Joaquin

48. disgust, discussed 49. media, Medea 50. tchotchke, babka 51. Creston, cornets 52. tarragon, arrogant 53. stealing tea leaves [STEALING, TEA leaves] 54. con(Geri)es 55. banal, analog, bog, anal 56. residing, ringside 57. idolater 58. arbiter, rarebit 59. Evian; Dasani 60. imports, Soroptimist, motor spirit 61. garnish, future, gash, furniture 62. aprons, no pasaran 63. vertical, Calvert 64. fa(iry ri)ng 65. allergen, gentry, tryst, staler, alert, taller 66. methanol; on the lam; Helena, Montana 67. catoptric [C atop tri-C] 68. hubris, scammer, humor, scabrous 69. national, alienation 70. berate, brat 71. Donald Trump fires Steve Bannon 72. Special Agent Dale Cooper 73. double play 74. beer cans 75. hip-hop artist 76. promiscuity 77. *One Thousand and One Nights* 78. Adonis 79. course in Euclidean geometry 80. Cersei Lannister 81. medium-rare steak 82. Hurricane Harvey KU-1. Daenerys Stormborn of the House Targaryen, First of Her Name, the Unburnt, Queen of the Andals and the First Men, Khaleesi of the Great Grass Sea, Breaker of Chains and Mother of Dragons 83. the death of Jerry Lewis 84. Amazon buys Whole Foods 85. *The Dark Tower* starring Idris Elba 86. *Game of Thrones* 87. Robert Graves' *I, Claudius*

- C-1. If it weren't for Philo T. Farnsworth, the inventor of television, we'd still be eating frozen radio dinners!
- C-2. I often quote myself. It adds spice to my conversation. George Bernard Shaw (probably repeatedly)
- C-3. Harris and Asner outsourced coffee lover Valdez in popularity poll, proving that two Eds are better than Juan.
- C-4. Trump plans Iran deal renegotiation to occur appropriately on Halloween, calling it "tricky treaty."
- C-5. Gym sign: "Food is the most abused anxiety drug; exercise the most unappreciated antidepressant."
- C-6. Average newspaper's bluff. Agitate Republican with Texas tea. Helper's bad idea. Delight: fish back after gulf. CRAG/ROIL/AIDE/GLEE
- C-7. Foxy chatterbox critiques lummoX Sox player who takes Botox treatments, Maalox after chicken pox.

- X-1. Friends are relatives you make for yourself. Eustache Deschamps
- X-2. Art, like morality, consists in drawing the line somewhere. G. K. Chesterton
- X-3. Man does not live by words alone, despite the fact that sometimes he has to eat them. Adlai Stevenson
- X-4. Health food may be good for the conscience but Oreos taste a hell of a lot better. Robert Redford
- X-5. A team should be an extension of the coach's personality. My teams were arrogant and obnoxious. Al McGuire, Marquette U.
- X-6. If you always do what interests you, at least one person is pleased. Katharine Hepburn's mother
- X-7. What this country needs is more unemployed politicians. Edward Langley
- X-8. Politics is the art of the possible. Otto von Bismarck
- X-9. *Across*: yardarm, toggled, iciness, maestro.  
*Down*: yttrium, ragtime, ailment, Modesto.
- X-10. *Across I*: bettor, wisdom, Wren, partite, tripe, goes, tepid, senates, on edge,

smell, paseo, seemingly, wagers, radio, irons, Anacin, steamed, award, stem, carer, Othello, ired, measly, Andrew.

*Across II:* Yamada, obsess, Rama, brothel, mated, brio, amend, yielded, daddy-o, slice, bayou, scents, orbits, aides, bores, *Ishtar*, stilled, heavy, Odin, taser, selects, Aveo, slides, dry run.

F-1.

S L I C E R  
M A N A G E  
A U T U M N  
C R O T O N  
K E T E N E  
S N O R T S

F-2.

C  
G A S  
P I N N A  
M U R D O C H  
H A L L O W E E N

F-3.

L H R V S W L D    Lee Harvey Oswald  
L N C Z L G S Z    Leon Czolgosz  
M R D R M R D R    "Murder! Murder!"  
*Liliom*, Henry, *Arcadia*, vizier, asylum,  
wager, lay aside, dozer

F-4.

A P   F R   E N   C H  
F R   E E   T R   I P  
E N   T R   E P   O T  
C H   I P   O T   L E

F-5.

S H E  
Y A M  
M V P  
S Y M M E T R I C  
H A V E   I O T A  
E M P T I N E S S  
R O E  
I T S  
C A S

F-7.

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

NOVEMBER HINTS AND DECEMBER EASY LIST

10—The 12 has appeared in earlier Letter Banks, but the 6 is different and clued indirectly.  
15—The two parts of the answer share a four-letter string.  
25—Rather old-fashioned phrases herein.  
December Easy List: 11, 13, 15, 21, 28, 36, 38, 42, 53, 54, 63, 67, 74, 86.

F-6.

S H R U N K E N  
 T O E N A I L  
 P U S H I T  
 A S T I R  
 T T O P  
 R O N  
 I N  
 P C T  
 P O K E  
 P I U S X  
 B R E N D A  
 B E E R C A N  
 O D Y S S E Y S

F-8.

SCHLEPPS  
 THEIDIOT  
 STAINEDGLASS  
 CHI ICY  
 HEN NON  
 LIE ERA  
 EDD DIG  
 PIG GOO  
 POL LUG  
 STAINEDGLASS  
 SCORIOUS  
 SYNAGOGS

F-9.

LAW  
 ODE  
 LOPSIDED  
 ADS RENO  
 WEIRDEST  
 DEE  
 ENS  
 DOT

F-11.

C  
 CAF  
 PARED  
 ROSTRUM  
 DISTORTED  
 SUPERFICIAL  
 VICAROFCHRIST

F-10.

CRACKSMAN  
 HURRICANE  
 IDEOLOGUE  
 DESPOTISM

X-10.

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

X-9.

YARDARM  
 T A I O  
 TOGGLED  
 R T M E  
 ICINESS  
 U M N T  
 MAESTRO

**CRYPTOGRAMS**

Edited by LEXMAN

C-1. Highs and lows.

yodaughter, Houston TX

\*G VDNKOL FDP M FODMF AYDP I UYNK UMISMY.  
 \*G UDT'L HTDR ROIL OM SIXMU LOMP RGLO, VNL  
 \*G RIF LYGZZGTK ISS UIJ.

C-2. The sincerest form.

See note.

8, Cambridge MA

U S S K Q N E S \* Z D U S H U X Q G ' C \* N Q H N M S U  
 Q U B F H N T U I J P N U E C L X I U S X C D K T H A S J S H A N E  
 Z U N J A D C Q U B F H N T U I J D K \* R X O B.

C-3. Mr. Clean.

raw, Ogdensburg NY

N B Q T - A T I V D P L Y M T J U V Y L R V Y A T : B N N V V P B A  
 D V U B G G T P B J U T M X Z B I S T P Y Z N L V G U R T N M V V L ,  
 U R T P V K K L J C A B U .

C-4. Sans critique.

JCRCVDM = not MW

WITZ, Vancouver BC

K W A C U J V D X H G D W X A U Z M V J M A C D U Z M  
 X M V Y W J V M T Q M J C V L M B C S W H D X M F W G C D U J A  
 D W B U E E M X M J D V D H B U W : " J C R C V D M Q M X M . "

C-5. Prairie life.

NOODLE NOGGIN, Annandale VA

H Y V Z E Q L V Q H K K P S A G V V C B V R K Q P E B K G M U W C V  
 Y V Q Q V M S B E Q C S H W V U , X S H C W C G K H B W P V W H .  
 U Y V C V U N Q W X V C W H E U " U K R - U V R " .

C-6. Yawn-stifling.

NEWROW, Brookline MA

V E R Y L O N N O G E S R L P E Y J N P O X B J G O G O N Q K R S S  
 M N J P Y Z J G O X ; L B O Q J N O  
 O S O V L N E O Y V O F B J S E I N J F B P V J S S Q M E N P Y I .

C-7. Stretched simile.

NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

Y U N W Z I S X P H X L Z Y S Z Y Z P H U Z A G M Z M X U W Z L  
 T R T Z S K U N T Y . Y X P Z W R J I A Z J K X G U W M S R Y T L X I Z  
 K R S W Y Y N D Z W U N B Z T U J E X X W .