THE REPORTER Puzzle

No.141 Acrostickler®

by HENRY ALLEN

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DIRECTIONS

- 1) Each crossword definition contains two clues. One is a conventional synonym, the other a pun, anagram, or play on words
- 2) Letters from the acrostic should be transferred to the corresponding squares in the crossword, and vice versa,

 3) The initial letters of the correct words in the acrostic will, when read down, spell out the name of a prominent person the Acrostician.

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ACROSS

- 1. Subject of opus by the Acrosti-
- What a saint might do to combat evil as Ugo does (3,4).
- 31. Law to keep dentists employed? (1,5,3,1,5).
- 61. Makes tea on rocky hillsides.
- 68. The stranger devoured to make stranger.
- 91. Will the ewe swear in our former state? (2,2,4).
- Cinemas slim if I leave.
- 121. Paste too much.
- 128. Favorite color of the Duke of Wellington (4,4).
- 151. A tear broken in ties for agreements.
- 160. Ousts from former charms, they say.
- 181, Improved relatives or finer narrations? (6,9).
- 211. Let the dust die when conned.
- 219. Resist quietly and stick to it.

DOWN

- 2. Tests each shortly the things they will.
- 4. Tearful girl found in with a decoration last.
- Gape and shed ice.
- 10. Not active unless you cast it.
- 12. Understanding of a pilot's pun-
- 14. Most ate the plant stalk.
- What you find to use in retirement?
- 94. Pulled out a plot of land in the middle.
- 122. The Nez Perce point briefly to some objective impression.
- 128. Part of the foot necessary for marching well?
- 130. Obsolete surplus?
- 134. Every limit when Acrostickler author finds a shilling and a penny (3,4).
- 141. 31 across might be described as such a law.
- 162. If you get sick in an afterthought, bring these.

- 183 47 103 149 163 135 39 73 3 217 65 157 27 51 83 13 139 209 French statesman noted for his craftiness (10-8).
- 45 179 161 123 87 A group or series of six.
- C <u>11 23 101 75 201 35 213 29 173 125</u> To bring about.
- 193 197 203 19 69 31 155 171 Obstruct.
- Ε 15 177 85 41 7 189 A metrical foot.
 - 43 49 223 151 121 Dates of persons' deaths.
- 133 57 37 141 A small European fresh-
- 77 109 169 63 187 219 25 Something taken out.
- 165 1 71 95 21 175 59 Longpinsused in cooking.
- 33 181 145 199 97 55 195 Turns something towards an object.
- 129 91 117 Stood for election.

1

м

- L 137 53 205 61 Units of energy
 - 143 9 221 211 185 "The priest continues what the _____began." Dryden, "The Hind and the Panther."
- 17 191 215 207 225 105 Long-legged birds.
- O 5 81 167 153 Behold!
- 131 89 93 "For ever piping songs for __.'' Keats, 'Ode on a Grecian ever_ Urn."



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decidedly fits the crime: Nicholas is condemned to watch a pornographic film starring Lily Montgomery and, still strapped to a rack, to observe her in a real act of copulation. But even this is far from the end of his trials, or ours. The reader whose curiosity equals that of the hero (and he must surely be a masochist) follows Nicholas through further ordeals, all directed at his rehabilitation. When the novel ends, as it was bound to do, in a whopping anticlimax, it is hard to say whether relief or resentment predominates.

If the case against Nicholas as a man was clear-cut, the case against Fowles as novelist is less so. Despite the preposterous assumptions of his story, he does induce avid suspension of disbelief for long stretches of lucid prose. Both his narrative skill and his intellectual pretensions are exceptional; the former deserves and the latter demand serious consideration.

As a technician Fowles commands respect even though, or rather because, his mode is conventional. His effort, here and in the morbidly ingenious *Collector*, to stretch the limits of realism by use of fantastic subject matter merits applause. Facile at invention and style, Fowles easily fulfills the external requirements of fiction, and by so doing provokes us all the more with his internal failures. Like a vaudeville magician himself, he seems hopeful that quickness of the hand will deceive the mind.

His pretension to something more than entertainer is, however, registered in an introductory quotation. This claims that the popular definition of "magus" as "mountebank in the world of vulgar trickery . . . has the same correspondence with the real symbolical meaning that the use of the Tarot in fortune-telling has . . . to the secret science of symbolism."

If we take this hint seriously and seek religious allegory in the godlike actions of the magus, we must call Fowles's novel irreverent, for his magician is at best a second-rate miracle worker who, although wealthy enough to play what he calls "the godgame," resorts to fake Modiglianis when he wants to im-

press his victims. On the other hand, if we pursue another of the novel's erudite suggestions, we may consider it a philosophical metaphor and Fowles "a sort of Empson of the event." In that case, too, we must blame the novel, for as a metaphor is it not only overextended but hopelessly mixed, a jumble of vast platitudes neither systematized nor disguised by their elaborate staging.

If, in last resort, we simply judge the novel at face value as a story of sin and redemption, we can grant it originality and yet find that it lacks the dimension implied by its massive paraphernalia. At this level the novel fails in elementary human terms, for Nicholas never justifies the care lavished on him by heroine, magician, or author. From first to last, he is mean, petty, commonplace, a bore. With Nicholas as target for miracles, it must finally be said that the godgame is not worth the candle.

The Poet As Critic

ALFRED WERNER

THE PAINTER OF MODERN LIFE, AND OTHER ESSAYS, by Charles Baudelaire. \$6.95.

ART IN PARIS 1845-1862, by Charles Baudelaire. \$7.95. Phaidon Publishers; distributed by the New York Graphic Society.

Art criticism got off to a start only in 1759, when Denis Diderot, the brilliant man of letters, began to review the mammoth exhibitions called Salons. His reviews, also called Salons, are still readableone wonders how many of today's reviews will be two centuries hence! The actual father of modern art criticism, however, was the Symbolist poet Charles Baudelaire, whose lengthy but never boring surveys of art in Paris under Louis Philippe and then under Napoleon III are now at last available to us, superbly translated and edited by Jonathan Mayne, in two well-designed and well-illustrated volumes.

Picasso once argued that it would be better if all critics were poets, and wrote poetry instead of pedantry. Baudelaire, however, felt that every

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