

the Phoenix Nest

BALLADE OF THE OLD-TIME ENGINE

WHAT is this huge box painted red and buff,
That pulls a train, whose silly squealing wail
Is like a frightened rat I'd like to cuff?
A Diesel Engine's passing down the rail?
Give me the dragon that could make me quail,
Who spat his fiery breath, whose mouth was red,
Whose thunder shook the very hill and dale.
Now speed alone is king, romance is dead.

Where is the black smoke rising in a puff
That could have made the atom bomb turn pale
With envy? Wild Eight Wheeler, you're the stuff.
A Diesel Engine's passing down the rail,
It has no song to lure me on its trail,
Its Porter has no time to nod his head,
The Engineer to wave; haste must prevail,
Now speed alone is king, romance is dead.

My Iron Horse, belligerent and tough,
I miss the belching snorts you would exhale,
Your violent pulse's chuff, and chuff, and chuff.
A Diesel Engine's passing down the rail,
And it will take me swifter without fail,
No sudden jolt will jar, no soot will spread,
At ease the streamlined Limited will sail;
Now speed alone is king, romance is dead.

ENVOY

Old Locomotive, whistle like a gale,
Roar your great swan song like a thoroughbred!
A Diesel Engine's passing down the rail,
Now speed alone is king, romance is dead.

EDA H. VINES

* * *

One of the most versatile literary men who ever lived was the late Andrew Lang. In my autumn-tide as "laudator temporis acti se puero," though not, perhaps, exactly the "castigator, censorque minorum"

which properly follows in Horace, I make no excuse for turning to him again. What more charming love lyric than that on page 24 of "Ban and Arrière Ban, a Rally of Fugitive Rhymes"? It is called "Lost Love" and has been a favorite of mine from youth. Some day when I make a small and extremely personal anthology of the things in verse from the past that haunt me most, it will be there, along with Arthur Symonds's "As a Perfume Doth Remain," Arthur Upson's "Out of the Conquered Past—," and others. But what suggestion for the light versifier of today in Lang's "Ballades" and other light verse! His ballade of "Difficult Rhymes," for instance:

A rhyme to "cusp," to beg or steal,
I've sought from evensong to prime,
But vain is my poetic zeal,
There's not one sound is worth a "dime":*
"Bilge," "coif," "scarf," "window"—
—deeds of crime
I'd do to gain the rhymes thereof;
Nor shrink from acts of moral grime—
Why, why are rhymes so rare to Love?

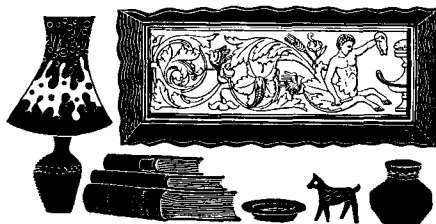
And in "New Collected Rhymes" (Longmans 1905) there is a cricket parody of Emerson's "Brahma" that likes me well:

If the wild bowler thinks he bowls,
Or if the batsman thinks he is bowled,
They know not, poor misguided souls,
They too shall perish unconsolated.
I am the batsman and the bat,
I am the bowler and the ball,
The umpire, the pavilion cat,
The roller, pitch, and stumps, and all.

But a ballade (again) that will more stir the emulousness, I have no doubt, of my readers is that on "The Food of Fiction," in which Lang praises "Scott's or Ainsworth's 'venison pasty,'"

In cups of old Canary drowned,
(Which probably was very nasty,)

*Not being an American the word dime seemed to Lang to need inverted commas.



the beefsteak pudding that Ruth made to alleviate Tom Pinch's affliction, and

The cakes and ham and buttered toast
That graced the board of Gabriel Varden,
In Bracebridge Hall the Christmas roast,
Fruits from the Goblin Market Garden,
And if you'd eat of luscious sweets
And yet escape from gout's affliction,
Just read "St. Agnes Eve" by Keats—
There's nothing like the food of fiction.

I wonder if the accounts of food in modern fiction are really up to those in the fiction of yore? Which reminds me that, hidden away in one of those unexpected little open courts down in what is roughly known as The Village, where one may stumble upon congeries of tiny houses, two playwriting friends of mine possess a small habitat that they insist upon calling "Yore." Not such a bad idea at that! In the present horrific state of the world it lays a healing hand upon the fevered brow!

* * *

THE LONG SKIRT

My dear, I saw it in the hall and I
Just had to gallop right upstairs and try
It on at once and see if it would fit.
Now take a look—what do you think of it?
Well, do you like it, dear—I mean, do you
Like me in it? I really hope you do.

Of course it's long, but it's the style,
you goon,
The thing for cocktails in the afternoon.
Oh, don't be dense, the bobby socks have no
Connection with the skirt at all. You know
I hadn't time to change. Don't be so curt.
You needn't look at them, it's just the skirt.

What silk stuff? Where? Oh, don't be such a sap
The zipper wasn't closed. Now there's no gap.
Nice, isn't it? And useful. Watch this stunt.
See, you can twist and wear it back to front.

No, not to hide the silk stuff! Can't you see
That when the zipper's fastened that won't be.
It's so it won't get shiny like the pair
Of trousers that you use for wear and tear.
Look, does the long skirt—wait now, yes, it zips—

The Saturday Review

Does it make me look fatter round the hips?

Oh, you're so aggravating. When I said I didn't change, I meant it. Use your head!

For goodness' sake you really don't suppose

I'd wear house slippers out in tailored clothes.

You think I'd wear a new suit with a soiled

And knotted, foul, old, torn, bandanna coiled

Around my head? May I remind you that

I told you, yesterday, the purple hat!

How do you mean "old-fashioned girl effect"?

The coat and skirt together are correct

In their proportion. Look, it comes to here—

No, down to here—and here it has a stream

Of buttons that are really just a dream.

Well, do you like it? Do you? Hope to die?

I didn't ask you for a prophecy?

You just have no imagination and You can't recall a thing, you only stand

There gawking and reverting like a fool

To silk and slippers, idiotic drool That hasn't anything to do at all

With if you like the skirt I bought for fall.

To know what it will look like? That's a laugh.

I'm sorry, no, I have no photograph. Oh, well, it's no use showing anything

To you because you're simply maddening.

You're just a darn wet blanket and a bore—

Is that so? Well, I'm glad I slammed the door.

HELEN GERRY.

* * *

WILLIAM ROSE BENÉT.

LITERARY I.Q. ANSWERS

1. Daphne, in "The Sleeping Beauty," by John Collier. 2. "Annie Laurie," by William Douglas. 3. "Trilby," by George DuMaurier. 4. Katisha, in "The Mikado," by W. S. Gilbert. 5. "Snow White," by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm. 6. Beatrice Rappaccini, in "Rappaccini's Daughter," by Nathaniel Hawthorne. 7. Diana Devereaux, in "Of Thee I Sing," by Kaufman, Ryskind, and Gershwin. 8. "Cinderella," by Charles Perrault. 9. Portia, in "The Merchant of Venice," by William Shakespeare. 10. "Nana," by Emile Zola.

WALLACE (Continued from page 29)

I think that Wallace, despite occasional inconsistencies, now makes more sense than most of his detractors. This supposed dreamer strikes me as being actually a hard-headed man with a grasp of basic realities. Unlike the bulk of American commentators, Wallace has a sharp realization of the role of economics in politics. He is not fooled by the shibboleths that are currently used to whip up national hysteria against the Soviet Union. He knows what interested groups are behind them. His own approach is pragmatic and experimental; and he has a world vision that is profoundly moral and, if I may be permitted to say so, deeply religious.

Wallace appeals to the conscience of America and he speaks with the voice of conscience, and because of that—because he prods many an uneasy soul—so many hate him in self-defense. For this reason one regrets that he has found it necessary to organize a Third Party. To be sure, the difference between the Democratic Tweedledee and the Republican Tweedledum is precisely zero, but a Third Party will not change that. It cannot win. It can only make the two Tweedles worse dee-dums. It can only bring about what Wallace so rightly dreads, more militarism and certain war. Wallace could have performed a magnificent service to his country and the world if he had remained within his party—a powerful critic, an incessant prodder, an arouser of conscience.

Third Party or no, "Toward World Peace" ought to be read by every man and woman who can read. The issues it raises should be debated up and down the land, for they are issues of life and death. They are issues rarely discussed with honesty by our controlled press or with candor by the current one-party Congress. In "Toward World Peace" the American people have their chance to find out what Henry Wallace stands for, which is not what his misrepresenters say he stands for. And whether the nation accepts or rejects Wallace's ideas, it should give them a fair hearing. I am convinced that some day the people of this country will be thankful that amongst the 145,000,000 Americans there is at least one great national voice that is not afraid to stand up and speak out in a very grave crisis. I do not happen to agree with his Third Party, but I think that Henry Wallace is in the great American tradition.

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MEDICAL STUDENT, veteran, culminating year of working with the dead—looking forward to gainful summer working with the living. Suggestions? Box 746-Y.

PERSONABLE, INDEPENDENT MALE, half idealist, half realist, welcomes correspondence with young school teacher. Box 747-Y.

PRAYING MANTIS EGG CASES, each guaranteed to hatch 200 to 500 young, which immediately start to protect your garden against many injurious insects. Even the 4-inch adults are harmless. \$3.50 each postpaid; 3 for \$10. Box 748-Y.

EDUCATED, capable widow, forty, wants position, housemother, college dormitory, sorority, fraternity house, or housekeeper—private home. Box 749-Y.

SUMMER RENTAL. House, pastoral setting, 20 minutes to beach. Antique furnished, automatic equipment, Bendix, dishwasher, etc., 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. One hour N.Y.C. Fifteen hundred. Holmdel 9-6302. (N.J.)

GAY, INTERESTING WORK desired by student graduating Yale. Will do anything, travel anywhere, temporary, permanent. Personable, ex-bombardier. Box 750-Y.

FAIRY TALES DO COME TRUE at Sedgfield Inn, Greensboro, N. C., where lucky mortals will find tranquility, miraculous food and other distinguished guests. Golf, tennis, riding. Ideal spot for creative work. Four college libraries nearby. Write for descriptive folder O.

SOS! Three desperate damsels need four-room or larger apartment in Manhattan, N.Y.C. Cold water flat acceptable. Reasonable rental. Consider buying furniture. Village preferred. Box 751-Y.

YOUR HOBBY, intellectual, sophisticated, or plain pleasant pastime—brings you greater pleasure through Hobby Enterprise, Program. Box 369, GPO, Brooklyn, N. Y.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT—Information discreetly developed. Any matter, person, problem, anywhere. Personal Business assignments, representation undertaken. Nationwide. Officially licensed, bonded service. Established 1922. Reasonable. Confidential. William Herman, 170 Broadway, N.Y.C.

GREEN SHADOWS, Lyme, Conn., quiet, informal country life; good food, comfortable beds.

ENJOY OLD WORLD CHARM in America's oldest City. Valencia Hotel, St. Augustine, Florida.

HOTEL ALGONQUIN, 59 West 44 St., N.Y.C. 18. Half a block from Fifth Avenue. We are offering special week-end rates for Friday, Saturday and Sunday (three nights). Single room and bath, \$12, double room and bath, \$17.50, sitting room, bedroom and bath, \$23.50. Excellent restaurant. Within walking distance of better shops and theatres.

YOUR FACTFINDER: Investigating any problem in the fields of psychology, sociology, economics. Preparation of articles, speeches. Broad European-American experience. E. P. Hillpern, 14 East 80 St., N.Y.C. 21.

TO LET FOR SUMMER: Beautiful, furnished year around home on Lake Megunticook overlooking mountains, near ocean. Camden, Maine, \$1,000. Bradstreet, 23 Pine St., Waltham, Mass.

EXPEDITION FOR BOYS to American Southwest. Recruiting beginning journalists, naturalists, radio operators. Two months of field work under competent staff. Prospectus available. Hillis L. Howie, Community School, 5400 De Mun Avenue, St. Louis 5, Mo.

CIGARETTES—Popular brands; minimum 3 cartons. Price \$1.45 per carton postpaid. Send check or money order. Ace Mail Order Co., East Orange 52, N. J.

LAW STUDENT, male, desires diversified correspondence. Interests are practically unlimited. Box 740-Y.

PERSONALS

GO WEST, YOUNG MAN—but where? Widely experienced, well-educated, happily married, socially agreeable, artistically creative, ingenious, adaptable, successful executive would swap excellent Eastern career for interesting Western opportunity among congenial people, scenery. No tenderfoot, no snob. Box 739-Y.

EVERY PICTURE AN ENLARGEMENT! . . . New Electronic developments give you bigger and better enlargements at the same pre-war prices. Any 8-exposure roll developed and printed Enlarge size, only 25¢; reprints 3¢ each. Fast, accurate service guaranteed. Send for free mailers today! Enlarge Photo Service, Box 791 P, Boston 2, Mass.

BRITISH SUBJECT delighted with N.Y.C. must have 2-room Manhattan apartment to prolong visit. Box 771-Y.

SUGARING IS ON in the Vermont woods. We tap the trees, gather the sap, boil to syrup and send you the delicious product direct from the sugarhouse. There is no substitute for fresh genuine Vermont Maple Syrup. \$2 a quart; \$3.75 half-gallon; \$7 gallon, express collect from Forest Farms, Jamaica, Vermont.

ENGLISH SPEAKING GENTLEMAN desires improving Spanish wishes to correspond educated Spanish speaking girl. Box 772-Y.

ROSAMOND THAXTER, KITTELY POINT, MAINE. Gerrish Island estate. 5 baths. Private beach. 38 acres. 1000 season. Sacrifice, \$35,000.

DID YOU MISS—advertisement, "One Female Available" last issue? Look it up!

HEMLOCK HOLLOW. Private wooded retreat in Western Maryland Alleghenys. Swimming pool, tennis, badminton, mountain stream, 60 acres beautiful woods comfortable living. Limited number guests. For information, reasonable rates; write: Yell, 3856 N. Keystone Ave., Chicago, Ill.

HAVE YOU BEEN HAUNTED by a book that you cannot find through ordinary bookstore channels? Let us be your book-sleuths. No charge or obligation. Just send us your book and magazine wants, all subjects, all languages. Box 773-Y.

SUGAR HILL, NEW HAMPSHIRE. 11 room house, Western Ranch type, 6 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, dining room, large living room, picture window, kitchen, pantry, 2-car garage, completely furnished. Unsurpassed view. Green Mountains (Vermont). White Mountains (New Hampshire). Spring water. For sale, \$18,000. Rental season, \$1700. M. H. Fisher, Owner, 70 Pine Street, N.Y.C. Digby 4-5944.

YOU CAN RE-LIVE THE WAR between the States in the pages of "Photographic History of the Civil War" by Brady and Miller, 10 huge volumes of actual photographs and text, \$59.85; also Harper's Weekly, civil war period, 1861-1865, bound, 250 weekly issues, thousands of illustrations and pages; \$87.50; also New York Tribune, 20 immense large folio volumes, civil war period, 1861-65, over 2000 daily issues, \$785; add volumes of Brady history, as above, \$7.50 each; add volumes of Harper's Weekly, as above, \$19.50; single issues, \$1.50 add volumes, N. Y. Daily Tribune, as above, \$39; single issues \$2.50. Send for free list of Civil War books, Confederate and Union. Box 774-Y.

YOUR HOBBY, intellectual, sophisticated, or plain pleasant pastime — brings you greater pleasure through Hobby Enterprise Program. Box 369, GPO, Brooklyn, N. Y.

HUSBAND AND WIFE, young, capable, have time, energy—plus \$100 to invest. Know of anything good enough? Box 530-Y.

PIANO REFRESHER COURSE "Brush-Up," planned for you by a talented teacher, a Master of Music, comes to your door. \$1 for each lesson. Complete Course—Ten lessons. Send \$1 for first lesson to Forjedor Publishing Company, Box 103, College Park Station, Detroit 21, Michigan.

DAM THAT NOISE! Shut out those sleep-disturbing noises—radios, party going on upstairs, auto honking, and what not. Use "Flents Anti-Noise Ear Stoppers." Jeepers—are they good for sleepers since 1927! Trial box 25¢. Flents Products Co., SR2, 103 Park Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

GENTLEMEN! Are you tired of sex literature and sickworld articles? You can escape in the pages of Harpers, Atlantic Monthly, Century, etc. Magazines. Illustrated articles all subjects. First appearances of the Literary giants of the past. Single issues, \$1.75; 5 copies, all different, \$7.50; 20 copies, all different, \$20. Bound volumes, 6 issues, hundreds of illustrations, over 800 pages, scores of articles, \$10. Wonderful gift for father or grandfather. Box 775-Y.

DOUBLE-CROSTIC No. 734

Reg. U. S. Patent Office
By Elizabeth S. Kingsley

- DEFINITIONS**
- A. A Negro of the most numerous and powerful of the N-
lotic groups.
- B. American sculptor in Rome,
1819-95 (his father, associate
justice of the U. S. Supreme
Court; bust in Hall of Fame).
- C. Winning horse in several
Handicaps, 1945-47.
- D. Alexander the Great's favorite
musician (see Dryden's poem).
- E. Name by which Bethlehem is
known (Bib.).
- F. A small tambourine used in
Egypt.
- G. An Eastern county of Eng-
land.
- H. Italian composer of Impres-
sionistic School (1880-).
- I. Venetian gentleman in
"Othello."
- J. Kind of baseball played in a
gymnasium, armory, or the
like.
- K. Opera by Weber, 1826.
- L. The dauphin in "King John"
(Shakespeare).
- M. Satan (Arabian relig.).

WORDS

135 1 4 79 67

45 134 3 39 58

6 115 118 46 16 110

140 7 2 116 76 42 81 27 26

144 20 56 51 5 90 102

32 113 17 143

23 10 84 54 136 106 52

159 164 117 64 131 152 22 12 25

165 34 71 97 44 157 24 160

31 82 9 38 50 21

125 37 107 147 112 28

161 83 137 142 98

120 163 105 151 87

- DEFINITIONS**
- N. River in Spain and Portugal
flowing into the Atlantic
Ocean.
- O. One who believes in all re-
ligions.
- P. Minute detail, elaboration,
etc. (fine arts).
- Q. To indulge in antics (slang).
- R. Exclamation expressing im-
patient contempt or disgust.
- S. English-born author, actress,
educator in America (1762-
1824; "Charlotte" and "Lucy
Temple").
- T. Marking the commencement.
- U. English battle, June 14, 1645;
Cromwell and Fairfax defeat
Charles I and Rupert.
- V. An Italian emigrant (U. S.
slang).
- W. Offensive or musty odor.
- X. Dash; ardor (Fr.).
- Y. Novel by George Meredith,
1867.
- Z. American-born poet and critic,
now an English citizen.
- Z'. A space occupied.

WORDS

111 30 122 89 13

129 128 154 100 75 33

155 121 138 148 139 94

145 61 86 114 156 15 96

146 19 123 93 11

126 99 73 101 91 130

78 149 69 41 95 108 59

92 162 68 80 124 48

150 153 63 66 57 36

29 77 88 49 132 14

18 35 103 74

109 127 8 70 65 141 53 47

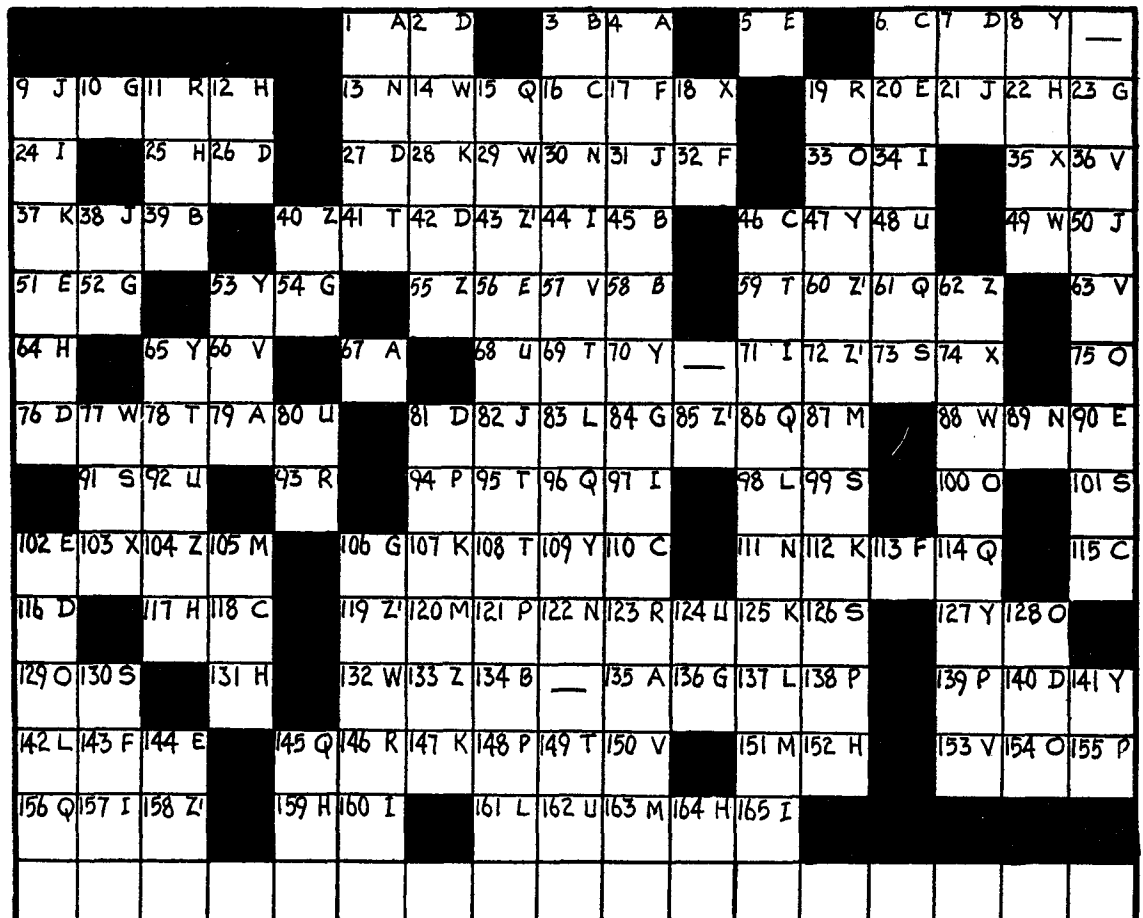
62 104 133 40 55

158 43 85 60 72 119

DIRECTIONS

To solve this puzzle you must guess twenty-odd words, the definitions of which are given in the column headed DEFINITIONS. The letters in each word to be guessed are numbered. These numbers appear under the dashes in the column headed WORDS. There is a dash for each letter in the required word. The key letters in the squares are for convenience, indicating to which word in the definitions each letter in the diagram belongs. When you have guessed a word, fill it in on the dashes; then write each letter in the correspondingly numbered square of the puzzle diagram. When the squares are all filled in you will find (by reading from left to right) a quotation from a famous author. Read up and down the letters mean nothing. The black squares indicate ends of words; words do not necessarily end at the right side of the diagram.

• When the column headed WORDS is filled in, the initial letters spell the name of the author and the title of the piece from which the quotation has been taken. Authority for spelling and definitions is Webster's New International Dictionary (second edition).



Solution of last week's Double-Crostic will be found on page 28 of this issue.