

NEW ENGLAND

(Continued from page 28)

her own felicity which highlights her sketches, a most refreshing communication, after the neuroses, disillusionments, nostalgic regrets, and nervous breakdowns which have been so generously shared with us by other authors.

Just Merchandising

YANKEE AUCTIONEER. By George H. Bean. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1948. 248 pp. \$2.75.

Reviewed by JOHN T. WINTERICH

FEW are the American homes, be they ample country houses or one-room apartments, whereof the occupants are unable to point to some oddment among the furnishings and remark, "I picked that up at an auction." Mr. Bean's sprightly narrative is the story of the oddment, its original owner, its most recent purchaser, and the man who got seller and buyer together. He is more concerned with the craft of auctioneering than with the personality of the auctioneer, be it himself or another. He does take time to explain how he got into the game (it was quite by accident), and he does offer his personal views on auctioneering as a career, but in the main he tells of the joys and hazards, the prose and poetry, of auctioneering.

There is the weather hazard, obviously—an element of as vast import to an auctioneer as to a farmer or a big-league umpire. There is the fire hazard, not so much fire on the premises as somewhere else. One of Mr. Bean's sales was interrupted by an alarm that drew off a good share of his customers, but it was only a henhouse, and they soon returned. There is the traffic hazard. Once an automobile crash on an adjacent corner took his audience from him in a body. And at least one road disaster was a help—a milk truck slewed around on a main highway and blocked traffic; motorists had to detour past a Bean auction.

There aren't many tricks in auctioneering, nor is there enough "psychology" to distress the bidder. It is straightforward merchandizing. The auctioneer is as essential in the general economy as the manufacturer and the retailer, and a tremendous convenience to buyer and seller alike. A George Bean auction must be fascinating entertainment into the bargain. Not everybody may be able to get to one—for those who can't, there is "Yankee Auctioneer."

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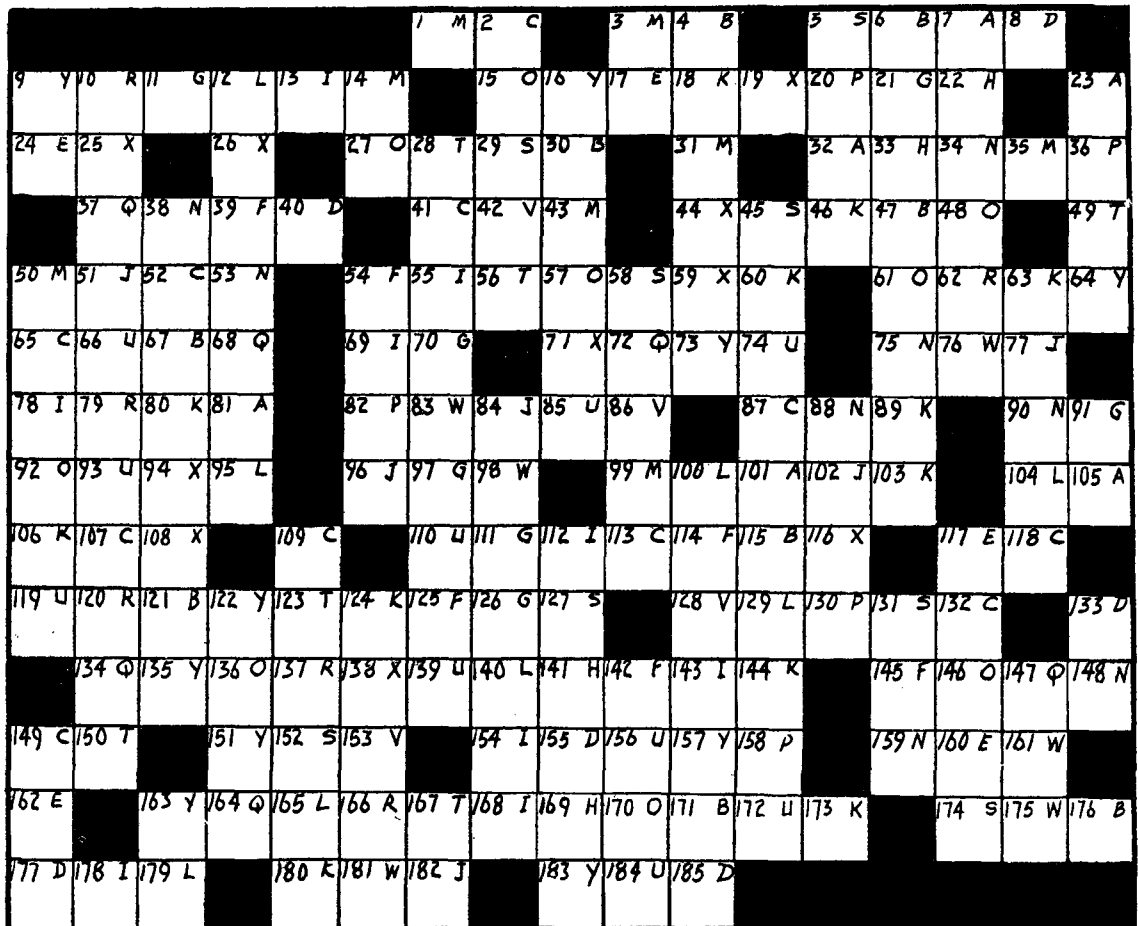
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By Elizabeth S. Kingsley

DEFINITIONS	WORDS
A. Reputed first Methodist preacher in America (1728-73).	7 32 23 101 105 81
B. Passed through or experienced [change, etc.].	121 171 4 115 57 176 6 47 30
C. Translation of "Bab el Mandeb" (3 wds.).	41 87 65 149 113 2 107 132 109 118 52
D. French woman author (1726-83; "Memoires et Correspondances," 1813).	40 177 155 8 133 185
E. A liqueur made from brandy, flavored with peach or cherry kernels.	160 117 17 162 24
F. In a manner tending to injury and mischief.	54 39 142 125 114 145
G. Name of two brothers, theatrical managers in the Nineties.	70 111 91 97 11 126 21
H. First name of Russian-American composer in this country (1882-).	33 22 169 141
I. Philosophical poem in nine books by Wordsworth (1814; with "The").	178 55 78 143 168 13 112 69 154
J. English Parliamentary leader and regicide; "Memoirs" (1617?-92).	102 84 77 182 51 96
K. Nickname for Delaware (2 wds.).	103 106 180 144 46 63 89 173 18 80 60 124
L. American dramatist (1896; Pulitzer Prizes, 1936, '39, '41).	165 129 140 95 104 12 100 179

DEFINITIONS	WORDS
M. Indian of Muskogean tribe amalgamated with the Creeks (Georgia).	50 31 43 99 35 1 14 3
N. A natural adjunct or endowment.	159 90 148 75 88 38 34 53
O. Acting wildly or excitedly.	170 15 61 27 146 136 57 92 48
P. Famous palace in Florence, Italy.	82 130 36 158 20
Q. Popular nickname for Missouri (2 wds.; with "State").	68 37 72 147 134 164
R. The beautiful son of Latona (Rom. myth.).	137 166 120 10 79 62
S. Pseudonym of sensational journalist, Elizabeth C. Seaman (1867-1922).	58 29 152 45 127 5 131 174
T. Diversified with small detached objects.	123 28 49 56 167 150
U. Sagacious; of good judgment.	74 184 119 85 172 156 139 110 66 93
V. British soldier, custodian of Napoleon at St. Helena.	153 42 128 86
W. Emanating from the positive terminal of an electric source.	175 76 98 161 83 181
X. Humorous sketches by T. C. Haliburton (1843-4; "or, Sam Slick in England").	138 71 108 44 25 116 26 59 19 94
Y. Civil War play by Bronson Howard (produced successfully, 1889; pub., 1897).	64 157 135 16 9 122 183 73 151 163

DIRECTIONS

To solve this puzzle you must guess twenty-odd words, the definitions of which are given in the columns 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).



JANUARY 8, 1949

Solution of last week's Double-Croctic will be found on page 40 of this issue.