

Van Doren

Continued from page 28

gates are open to a new flood of anti-intellectualism. Let them lament. But let them be told that they themselves are principal bearers of the infection. The disease itself is compounded partly of vacuity, partly of the adulation of the mass-media that allows even the semi-literate to think of themselves as thinkers, and partly of an intellectual immorality I must call The Public Relations Mind. The basic trait of that mind is that it accepts public appearances as the basic test of principles and that it cannot in fact distinguish between appearance and principle.

Let Ike and the Congress turn their attention to what has gone flabby in the American mind, a flabbiness to which Ike's prose and the shenanigans of a Public Relations Congress have contributed as much as any sideshow in the land. Certainly a nation more dedicated to its best principles and less complacent about itself—a nation, let us say, with its mind tuned to Jefferson and Lincoln rather than to gobbledygook and the hard-sell—would have found no need to make so much of the incident.

The item of perjury aside, what is all the noise about anyhow? Who can produce an actionable grievance out of the affair? I can find only three victimized parties.

THE first party consists of all the losers. They showed up in what is legally known as "good faith"—meaning that they were as itchy as you or I should have been for the Big Cash—and they were used and dropped. Maybe, as a test case, all the losers should sue the sponsors and the networks for \$129,000. That could get expensive, but perhaps the networks could find new sponsors and come up with a new hit show, one that could bring in enough to cover all possible damages. I am sure we have judges who, though they could not be fixed, would not mind putting on pancake make-up for such an appearance.

A second victimized party could conceivably consist of the Guaranty Trust and the Manufacturers Trust, the banks that sent vice presidents flanked by bank guards to deliver the super-sealed envelopes. Certainly if the show was legally a fraud, the prestige of the banks has been fraudulently exploited. That show might be fun, too.

The third victimized party is Charles Van Doren, a bookish young man who walked into a plushy mouse-trap. To be sure he was paid off in what seemed to be very fancy cheese. The fact remains he is still as much victim as villain.

What he is a victim of, aside from a touch of natural greed, is that soggy blur that passes as the mind of the over-fed American who insists on a school system in which no one flunks, and on colleges everyone can get into whether or not he is prepared for the work. What has been lost from intellect in such minds is a sense of disciplined criteria. What has been substituted is vacuity. Lacking criteria, these intellectualoids settled for a tin god. Now, self-betrayed and indignant, they are turning their vaguely squinty eyes to Washington and are cheering the Federal noises that promise the nation a new, air-conditioned, three-speed, self-lubricating, all-purpose public mentality.

WHAT I want to say is: Bah! You asked for it. This is your life. The price is right enough. You've got no secrets. People are . . . well, never mind. But tell me, boys and girls and Federal gentlemen, has anyone had time to think of Mr. Khrushchev lately?

—JOHN CIARDI.

The Nourishment of Memory

By George Abbe

A gentle master came to here:
he cut a small loaf from the air,
he sliced a cool taste from the green of shadow hanging in the trees.

Before my unbelieving eyes,
from cupboards of exquisite praise
shaped by the birds who frame the day,
he took my meat, he gave to me.

And was I strong? And did I shout?
My master's skin was pleasure-brown;
his eyes recalled the great fish lost
below the bridges of my past.

And yet, and yet the wish he gave
made me, a moment, weak to live;
the flesh and firm of this wild food
broke shock across my hidden blood;

until, through grief, I felt my veins
swell with the corpuscles of sun;
until, through pain, I sensed the fire
I owe dominions of the pure.

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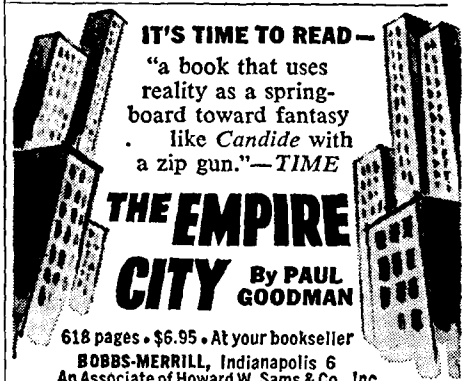
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By Doris Nash Wortman

DEFINITIONS

- A. Colloq. for those who possess worldly things.
B. What Ruskin named the law of human life ("Stones of Venice").
C. Permanent representative of U.S. to U.N.
D. Old French or Provencal poem in which two characters hold a debate.
E. Egyptian personification of the heavens, as consort of Geb, the Earth.
F. Flying-catching warbler of eastern North Amer.
G. Trademark for a special alphabet board, used to get spirit messages.
H. Followed by Word V (the whole preceded by "A"), first of Barrie's novels to be widely known, 1889.
I. Esculent.
J. Device for collecting mowed grass.
K. Settles in temporary habitations.
L. Early book of poems by Robert Frost (3 wds.; 1914).
M. Russian oculist in Poland, who invented Esperanto, 1887.

WORDS

98 129 169 43 4
166 14 104 61 122 171
159 49 70 94 112
57 21 113 149 37 62
12 86 37
81 15 96 132 51 35 152 163
72 82 19 162 148
144 46 174 26 114 54
126 140 115 66 107 170
52 139 90 100 33 175 147
154 38 40 59 83 22 32
118 41 23 79 85 29 91 136 105 17 133
108 142
36 141 42 75 130 28 95 9

DEFINITIONS

- N. One law of justice in Exodus xx (3 wds.).
O. Dentalgia.
P. Amer. Army officer, head of Civilian Defense, 1944.
Q. Floating, usually without control.
R. Great river of Africa, 2600 miles long.
S. Due to motion.
T. Put on as a theatrical presentation.
U. Nickname of a popular contemporary older actor whose name is really George Hayes.
V. See Word H (2 wds.).
W. Legendary British tribal prince who married Hengist's daughter Rowena, around 450 A.D.
X. Chief goddess of Babylonian pantheon.
Y. Packed in a graduated series.
Z. Patient lady whose story was told by Boccaccio, Chaucer, etc.

WORDS

138 103 58 151 163 45 68 10 65
1 92 156 18 172 77 165 134 124
2 173 20 48 53 116 158
5 143 67 145 50 155
56 117 13 3 160
131 55 125 110 73 11 80
78 97 25 39 153 44
88 69 84 120 111
99 146 6 74 137 121 34 176
109 27 128 102 7 167 135 89 47
164 101 64 71 16 106
87 161 30 60 150 127
119 93 168 8 24 76 123 157

DIRECTIONS

To solve this puzzle you must guess twenty-odd WORDS, the definitions of which are given in the column headed DEFINITIONS. Alongside each definition, there is a row of dashes—one for each letter in the required word. When you have guessed a word, write it on the dashes, and also write each letter in the correspondingly numbered square of the puzzle diagram. . . . When the squares are all filled in, you will find that you have completed a quotation from some published work. If read up and down, the letters in the diagram have no meaning. . . . Black squares indicate ends of words; if there is no black square at the right side of the diagram, the word carries over to the next line. . . . When all the WORDS are filled in, their initial letters spell the name of the author and the title of the piece from which the quotation has been taken. Of great help to the solver are this acrostic feature and the relative shapes of words in the diagram as they develop. Authority for spellings and definitions is Webster's New International Dictionary, Second Edition.

		1	O	2	P	3	R		4	A	5	Q	6	V	7	W	8	Z	9	M	10	N	11	S	12	E	13	R				
14	B	15	F	16	X	17	L	18	O		19	G	20	P		21	D	22	K	23	L	24	Z	25	T	26	H		27	W		
		28	M	29	L	30	Y	31	E	32	K		33	J	34	V	35	F	36	M	37	D	38	K	39	T		40	K	41	L	
42	M	43	A			44	T	45	N	46	H	47	W	48	P		49	C	50	Q		51	F	52	J	53	P		54	H		
55	S	56	R	57	D			58	N	59	K	60	Y			61	B	62	D		63	F	64	X	65	N		66	I	67	Q	
68	N	69	U	70	C			71	X	72	G			73	S	74	V	75	M		76	Z	77	O	78	T	79	L		80	S	
81	F	82	G	83	K	84	U			85	L	86	E	87	Y	88	U	89	W	90	J		91	L	92	O	93	Z		94	C	
95	M	96	F			97	T	98	A	99	V	100	J	101	X	102	W	103	N		104	B	105	L	106	X		107	I	108	L	
109	W	110	S			111	U	112	C			113	D	114	H	115	I	116	P	117	R	118	L	119	Z		120	U	121	V	122	B
123	Z	124	O	125	S	126	I	127	Y			128	W	129	A	130	M	131	S	132	F		133	L	134	O	135	W		136	L	
137	V	138	N	139	J	140	I			141	M	142	L	143	Q		144	H	145	Q	146	V	147	J		148	G	149	D	150	Y	
		151	N	152	F	153	T	154	K			155	Q	156	O		157	Z	158	P	159	C		160	R	161	Y	162	G	163	N	
164	X	165	O	166	B			167	W	168	Z	169	A	170	I		171	B	172	O	173	P	174	H	175	J	176	V				

Solution of last week's Double-Crostic will be found on page 15 of this issue.

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