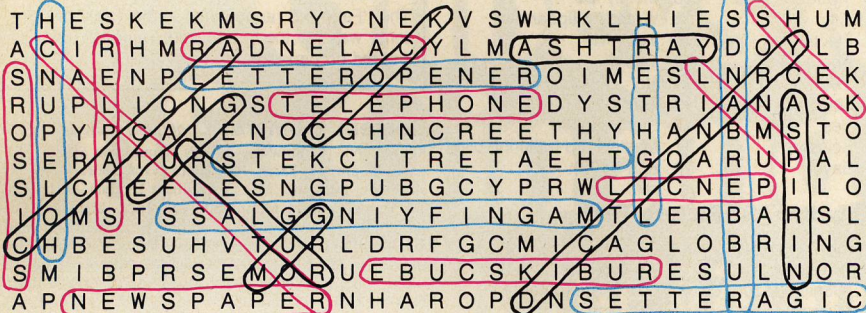


28 A Messy Desk (Part 1)



39 Cryptic Warm-Up Puzzle

ACROSS

1. CHAMP. The letters of CHAP ("fellow") surrounding ("eating") the letter M ("piece of meat") form the answer, CHAMP ("to chew vigorously").
4. MEDAL. The word MEDAL ("Olympic award") sounds the same as MEDDLE ("tamper"). The phrase "we hear" indicates the homophone.
5. STRIP. The word STRIP ("band," in the sense of a narrow piece of cloth) is the letter S ("ship's first") plus TRIP ("voyage").

DOWN

1. CAMUS. The name CAMUS ("author of *The Stranger*") reading down spells SUMAC ("tree") reading up ("climbing").
2. ADDER. The letters of DREAD in "unnatural" order spell ADDER ("snake").
3. POLYP. The word POLYP ("small sea creature") is literally found in "roly-POLY Porpoises."

39 Cryptic Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Calisthenics (in the classic)
- 8 Reverie (Revere + i)
- 9 Arbiter (rarebit)
- 11 Spree (see + PR)
- 12 Fatheaded (Theda deaf)
- 13 Casserole (loses race)
- 15 Poles (two meanings)
- 16 Urges (oUR GESTures)
- 18 Desperado (road speed)
- 20 Sharpener (Pen + sharer)
- 23 Aisle (I'll)
- 24 Smitten (s + mitten)
- 25 Courage (our + cage)
- 26 Frankenstein (tanner's knife)

DOWN

- 1 Caverns (cans + very - y)
- 2 Largeness (lass + green)
- 3 Sheaf (she + a + f)
- 4 Heartless (she's alert)
- 5 Noble (piaNO BLEakly)
- 6 Citadel (dialect)
- 7 Crash courses (two meanings)
- 10 Rediscovered (Red + is + covered)
- 14 Ordinance (Darlen con)
- 15 Premature (E.R.A. term up)
- 17 Glazier (g + lazier)
- 19 Abstain (a ban sit)
- 21 Put-on (not up)
- 22 Rocks (two meanings)

53 Call Our Bluff

The phony Piltdown stories are "Hitting Stride," "Whale of a Tale," and "You Only Go Around Once."

The true stories—Greek Drama, Investigate Before You Invest, Mrs. Czermak's Descent, A Difficult Patient, Harassment, Traffic, Hare Trigger, Liebestodt, Dead Ducks, and Walking Iron Mine Collapses—are reprinted from *True Remarkable Occurrences* by John Train. Copyright © 1978 by John Train. By permission of Clarkson N. Potter, Inc.

38 Trailblazer

The path begins in square A1 (low number—14) and proceeds to square E2 (high number—47).

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	14	37	36	35	34	33
2	15	38	39	40	47	32
3	16	X	42	41	46	31
4	17	18	43	44	45	30
5	20	19	24	25	28	29
6	21	22	23	26	27	X

18 It Costs an Arm and a Leg

First, to make things clear as glass: a fiddle is a pretty sturdy folk instrument built by fit folk. A loon isn't so crazy; sure it has a weird call, but that doesn't make it Bellevue material. A wink is very quick in duration: usually from .28 seconds to .1 seconds. An owl isn't particularly wise, falling somewhere in intelligence between a chicken and an elephant. The Irish are about as lucky as anyone else, although the Notre Dame football team is often in the Top Ten. And now for the quiz:

1. b, A bat is partially blind.
2. c, Clonmel, Tipperary, in Southern Ireland, is 3,381 miles from Manhattan.
3. a, A comedy sketch on prime time TV shows like *The Carol Burnett Show* costs \$889 minimum.
4. d, At a mannequin supply house, arms go for \$18.50, legs for \$100.
5. b, The average adult's belly holds two quarts.
6. c, Blondes average 140,000 hairs on their heads. (Brunettes average about 105,000 hairs, red-heads about 90,000 hairs, and the hairs on an ex-catcher's head vary.)
7. a, The early bird rises about a half hour before dawn.
8. d, The moon is on the average 238,857 miles from earth.
9. b, The skin is $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$ inch deep.
10. c, Land snails move about two inches a minute.
11. c, Lightning moves 299,792 kilometers per second (the speed of light).
12. a, Swallows return to Capistrano annually on March 19 (and leave promptly on October 23).
13. b, Fish drink like teetotaler Carry Nation. (Fresh water fish don't drink water, they absorb it; alcohol kills them.)
14. a, Duckfeathers are .013 to .063 grams.

Questions from *Easy Answers to Hard Questions* (Fawcett Columbine, New York). © 1979 by Randy Cohen.



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