

## The Cryptic Crossword

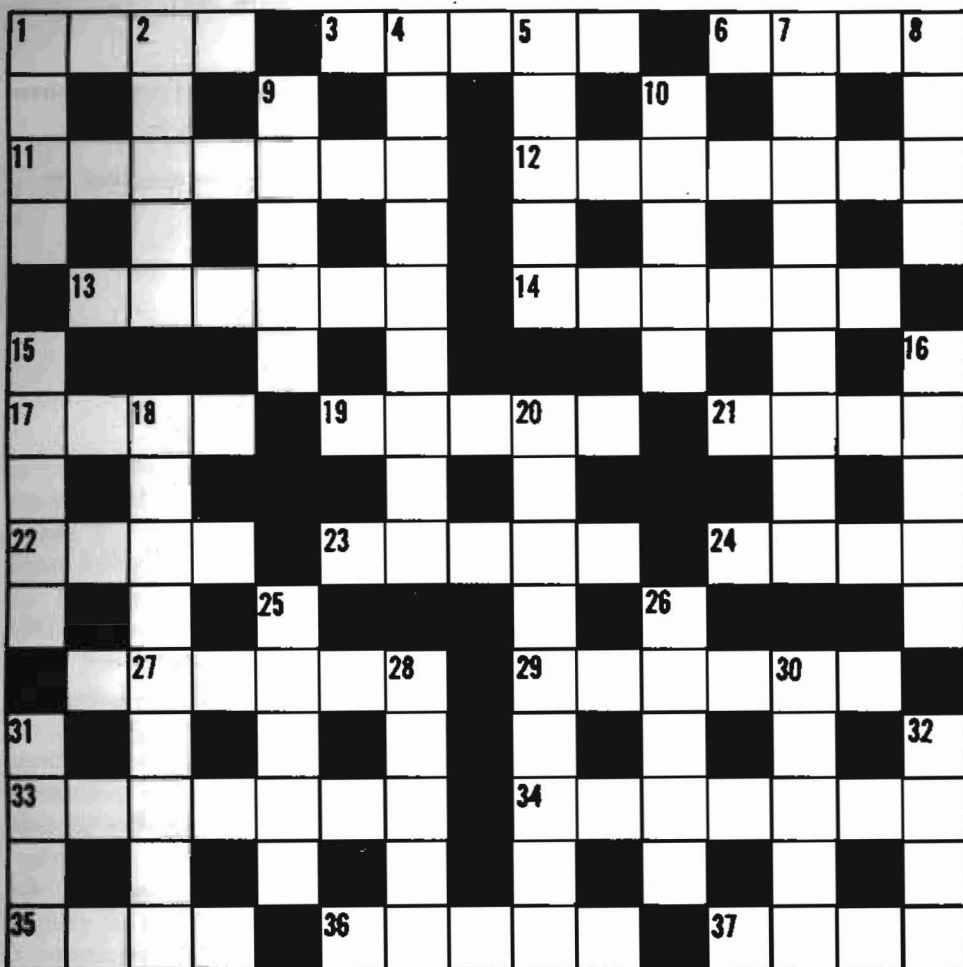
The easy (?) crossword puzzle with which we started this issue of WORD WAYS was a typical American puzzle, with straightforward definitions. For the benefit of our British friends, we are presenting an English-style crossword puzzle here, with cryptic or enigmatic clues.

The author of this particular puzzle, Mr. Walter G. Leight of Bethesda, Maryland, has constructed the puzzle in accordance with certain self-imposed restraints intended to make solving the puzzle a snap: (a) a 15 x 15 grid with a symmetrical pattern of blacked-out squares such that, generally, only alternate letters of a horizontal word intersect with letters of vertical words; (b) to compensate for the reduced mechanical help available, definitions consisting of at least two separate clues leading to the required answer word; (c) multiple clues that are deliberately misleading and cryptic, involving anagrams, hidden words, plays on words and on wording, etc.; and (d) the theme indicated by the title of the puzzle recurs in many of the clues and answer words.

The theme of this particular puzzle—"Stolen Goods"—recurs frequently by association with many of the answers. In addition, based on a British form called "Printer's Devilry," each answer word has been "stolen" from its clue, wherein it was originally hidden as consecutive letters. After deletion of the hidden word, some liberties have been taken with punctuation and spacings between words, but all remaining letters are left in their original order. Thus, the definition "When you squash a bug *a messy spot remains*" contains the hidden word "games" (suggested by "squash," the name of various *games*). The revised clue might then be given as "When you squash, a busy spot remains." The required answer, when found, can then be inserted by caret (between the "u" and "s" of "busy") to restore the clue to its original form.

The correct solution to this puzzle will be shown in our next issue. In the meantime, prepare to feel thoroughly baffled!

"Stolen Goods"

Walter G. Leight  
Bethesda, Maryland*The Grid**Transverse Clues*

1. Sunning disciples followed a Pole, aching. (4)
3. Bra, she's told, là-bà! I dele'd doctor. A retreat, men! Top Hal! It is after ten. (Able reasoning!) (5)
6. He likes you as much as his own! (4)
11. Confronted by ponderous objects the men put the monsters for mobility. (7)
12. Diners of tare, found at Orne; tops for buses. (7)
13. Good sheep! Dog ran trams. (6)
14. Practice a chop in pro: it seems finished! (6)
17. Reformers promise end to civil sins; weep for office. (4)
19. For an English Bloom (Down, Sis!), at rack--which? Tow a Germoney! (5)
21. Upholsterer want-ads of a chair, sand pillows. (4)

22. It takes driving in: I've stolen, Dad, I'm eaten: lightened rates! (4)
23. The busy maid at lone dally our clothes. (5)
24. The brawl-er, place—me at one: Ach! Black eye! (4)
27. At the firing of a rash man, who has it, should get some balm. (6)
29. The Italian, Franco pled, early works with noble men. (6)
33. What Arab placed the monastery? Aki? (7)
34. With jet travel, no "when" or "maybe" used by airline personnel for correct address! (7)
35. The new type of carat: Ingrates! Attention! (4)
36. In melodramas the country girl is plagued in the city, forsaken by swindlers. (5)
37. If you want to, filing it doesn't really pay! (4)

### *Perpendicular Clues*

1. Lovers discovered, alas! Swears "Aha!" Her men don't notice! (4)
2. Black inks tainted piece of goods. (5)
4. A digest requires the briefest test language. (9)
5. A political blonde, dour domination. (5)
7. Physician, be gally when examining women! (9)
8. You might take on women if huge enough! (4)
9. The specie slack sawings. Oslo lit her song round. (5)
10. Its fastest to use ashore! (5)
15. Impassive arbiter was appealed, to wit: honor, year Ned by-passed ball. (5)
16. Tramp wakes and finds dog-ear, his own face. (5)
18. Lifting Alex is a man. Who is out of condition? (9)
20. DeGaulle's Caen sunders tan dingo, four allies! (9)
25. That phrase—"the bear"—this superb praise! (5)
26. Due to long play not being plea, Sing-Sing led in tire collection. (Maybe junked?) (5)
28. When ma met Eda, finest enough to keep us from buying anything! (5)
30. Four barbers razor us when hoarse. (5)
31. When ad I vasing sin to ox, seats are filled. (4)
32. U.N.-trained observer find sits easy to confound with square dances. (4)

\* \* \*

### SISTER STATES

The States of Illinois and Indiana are both Midwestern states, contiguous, and somewhat similar in outline on the map. Since both begin with the letter I, have a second I somewhere else in the name, and are consecutive entries in an alphabetical list of states, we would be justified in calling Illinois and Indiana sister states.

More significant, however, is a less obvious connection between the two states. The census of 1960 revealed that each state includes 18 cities and towns with a population of 2,500 or more that are also cities and towns in the other state with a population of 2,500 or more. The 18 "twins":

Aurora, Bloomington, Clinton, Danville, Decatur, Highland, Lebanon, Madison, Marion, Monticello, Mount Vernon, Peru, Princeton, Rushville, Salem, Shelbyville, Sullivan, Washington.

Any explanation for this curious phenomenon? Any parallels to it? Think!

### WORD WAYS