PUZZLES

THE STRANGE BUSINESS OF THE LETTER "T"

As a rest from this ceaseless solving and ciphering and perspiring generally, puzzlers this week are offered the strange business of the letter T. It's an old story, but every time it turns up it seems to be new, for everyone forgets the answer.

Scattered about this page are four reproductions of queerly shaped pieces of card, or wood, or other stiff material. They should be cut out and, if a properly artistic job of work is desired, pasted on suitably rigid material.

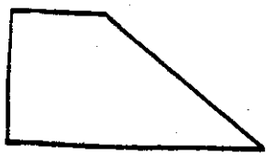
From them it is possible to make a letter T, the usual shape. It is a plain block letter, with no funny corners or silly serifs. Of course, you are not allowed to cut or distort the pieces in any way.

ANSWERS:

Boffini: R.W.C. was the first correspondent to state flatly, that all those rods, poles and perches, in plain language, make two miles 3in. Boffin, we understand, is still dissatisfied.

— *(Problem from R.G.).*

Paddy the Pup: Sunley and Sadly approach each other at the rate of 3½ + 2½, or 7 m.p.h., and so take 12/7ths of an hour to meet. During that time



Paddy the Pup, travelling at 10 m.p.h., will cover 17 1/7th miles.—*(Problem from R.W.C. Answer from H.G.L.).*

Appleton to Duckborough: With an accusation that P.J.Q., who sent this problem, is a kindred spirit of R.G.'s, R.W.C. states that the distance from Appleton to Butterville, reduced to plain terms, was 18 miles, which made everything nice and easy.

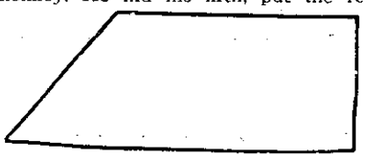
Over the Counter: He gains, and to those correspondents who painfully worked out that 58800 counters would cost £10 at 49 for 2d., giving a profit of 1d. on the sale price, we offer commiserations. They wasted their time on a problem of mental arithmetic, because one forty-eighth is greater than one-fiftieth.—*(Problem from R.G.).*

Pig in the Poke: Use Roman numerals. —*(Problem from L.W.).*

PROBLEMS:

Coco-nuts

Five sailors and a monkey shipwrecked on an island, spent their first days gathering a pile of coco-nuts One night they lay down to sleep with plans for dividing the pile the next morning. But during the night one sailor wakened, and, to make sure of his share, divided the pile into fifths. There was an odd one, which he gave to the monkey. He hid his fifth, mixed up the other four-fifths in the pile, and went back to sleep. Now, although they had all taken such precautions against night starvation as normally lie within the power of castaways well away from onions and lettuce, all the men that night were restless. Soon another wakened, and with the same intention, divided the remaining pile into fifths. Again there was an odd one, and again it was given to the monkey. He hid his fifth, put the re-



mainder back in a pile, and dropped off to sleep. And so each of the men wakened in his turn, to divide the pile into fifths, secrete his own, and replace the others.

In the morning the five sailors divided what was left of the pile among themselves and it came out even. At least how many coco-nuts did each sailor get in this final division?—*(Problem from H.G.L., who says it can be solved with secondary school mathematics. For the experts he offers an opportunity to supply a formula which could be used to find the original number in the pile).*

Condensed Crossword

This is the second condensed crossword. Each clue covers one word of four letters:

Clues across:

Spill
Sometimes you do it against it
Never fry here
A square deal in canvas

Clues down:

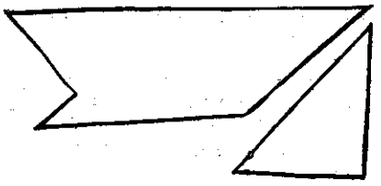
Definitely not poisoned
Is it the sweetest thing?
Sez me
Closely confined

Answer to last week's:

Firs
Idol
Veto
East

Fish Story

Thomas and Henry were discussing the relative sizes of the fish they had caught during their holidays. "This is no fish story," said Thomas. "One of the largest fish I caught on the trip was



a very unusual one. Its head measured two and a-half feet. Its body was one foot less than the combined lengths of its head and tail, and its tail was one-half of a foot less than one-half of the total length of its head and body." Henry, a bit of a mutt, could not imagine what the size of the fish might be from that description. Can you?—*(Problem from Laurence Hayston, New Brighton).*

What's the Word?

Three parts of a cross and a circle complete. Two half-circles and a straight line meet. Right angle triangle stands on two feet. Two half-circles and a circle complete.—*(From F.G., Wellington).*

CORRESPONDENCE

Jack May (Taupo): But to get the three pieces the mechanic would have to cut them, which would make at least five operations.

R. L. Matthews (Whare Flat): Many thanks, but we had come to a similar conclusion: that (1) personal attention is necessary and/or (2) that a series could not be maintained. Most of the "teasers" have already been in the Page.

Marie Owen (Christchurch): The answer to semolina most certainly is a lemon. Is a lemon semolina round another way? Or is that still obscure? When you catch on, they're fascinating. Do try again. As for clue 14, it was lost in transit between printer and press, and it must be admitted that did make things more difficult.

R. Noble (Feilding): Hope our letter helps you along.

G. Tisbury: It does not seem now that we can do anything about the alcohol. Sorry.

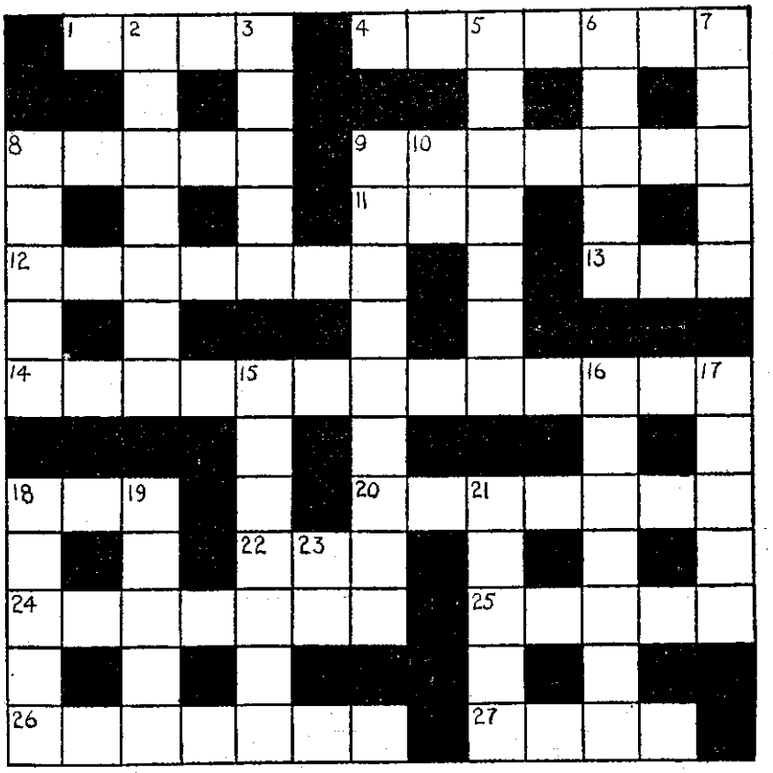
The LISTENER CROSSWORD

(Answer to No. 8)

■	■	E	C	H	E	L	O	N	■	■
S	■	B	■	A	■	R	■	V	■	G	■	S
K	R	A	A	L	■	R	H	E	N	I	S	H
E	■	N	■	E	■	A	■	R	■	L	■	E
L	I	K	E	N	I	N	G	■	S	L	O	E
E	■	H	■	D	■	T	■	W	■	Y	■	P
T	R	O	J	A	N	■	C	R	A	F	T	S
O	■	L	■	R	■	P	■	A	■	L	■	H
L	O	I	N	■	P	L	E	T	H	O	R	A
O	■	D	■	V	■	A	■	H	■	W	■	N
G	R	A	V	I	T	Y	■	F	R	E	A	K
Y	■	Y	■	L	■	E	■	U	■	R	■	S
■	■	P	E	T	R	E	L	S	■	■	■	■

The Listener Crossword (No. 9)

(Constructed by R.W.C.)



Clues Across

1. Search the belfry for the clue to this thrust.
4. A sacred beetle distorted to represent characters.
8. If you are 14 across, you probably often make one.
9. The bricks were given relief.
11. Well to the fore in England at present, and once through Tara's 'alls.
12. The Senior Service in a New Zealand mandate is upset to find itself a rower.
13. Some are this when they seem to be silly.
14. It is only as a pal men treat me—perhaps that makes me this.
18. Overturn a vehicle and disclose an underling.
20. Prove to tower above.
22. Palindromic exclamation.
24. Sat upon to unyoke.
25. Being upset by a wild party.
26. Add a line to a small hat.
27. You're sure to get this trick.

Clues Down

2. The more geometry the closer.
3. A bare fish with no tail.
5. Soda pie gives rise to fat.
6. A pronoun and two prepositions—these are negligible.
7. He stole an hour one spring, but gave it back in autumn.
8. When 5 down accrues, you get a politician and a magistrate.
9. Shuffle onto an alp.
10. Either will give you a hint.
15. We give this away; its Ectopic.
16. A temporary dwelling is upset ever us—no wonder we get lockjaw!
17. A slip which may give rise to prayers.
18. A novel by Evelyn Waugh.
19. Let be, even if it does ruin your teeth.
21. "It hath been sung at festivals, On —— eves and holy-ales." (Pericles)
23. The villain's favourite exclamation.