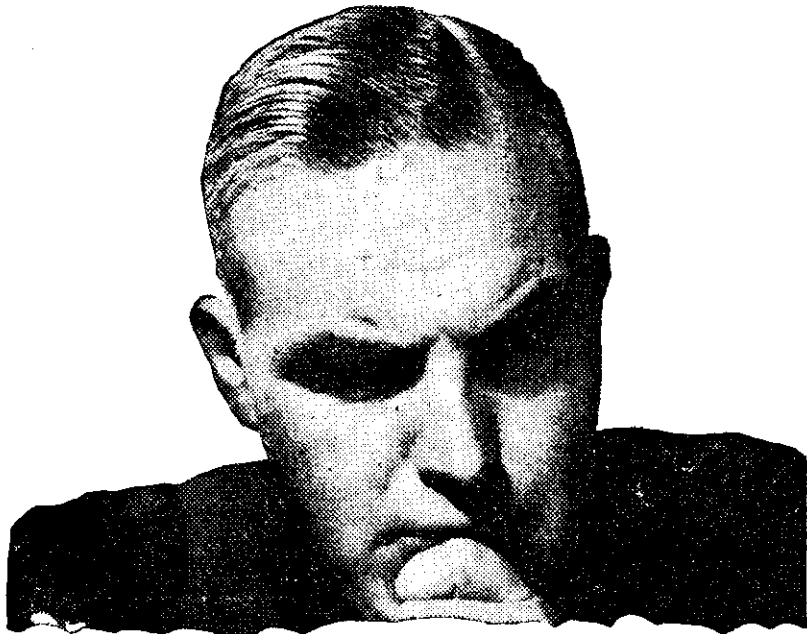


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PUZZLES

DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES

A SELECTION of domestic difficulties is offered puzzlers this week. A Wellington correspondent, E.A.C., has discovered parents who refuse to tell other people the ages of their families except in the most roundabout way. This annoys their friends greatly, but it serves excellently as material for The Page. Obviously, our readers love being annoyed. When they have finished quarrelling about "Time for the Guard," a problem which is causing a very great deal of trouble, let them set about the family affair, and the rest.

These are only a few of the many puzzles on hand at present. Those who have supplied material not yet used the PP must ask to wait in patience. He is grateful for their contributions but is still finding difficulty in making magazine space elastic, despite constant research.

PROBLEMS

Birthday Celebration

A man has six sons whose ages increase by the same number of years successively. All have the same birthday. On one of the birthdays the father said: "The total of my sons' ages is 48. If the common difference between their ages be multiplied by the age of the youngest, the product is 6." What are the sons' ages?—(Problem from E.A.C., Wellington).

Family Affair

A man has six sons whose successive ages differ by four years. The oldest son is three times as old as the youngest. What are their ages?—(Problem and answer from E.A.C., Wellington).

Fruit Square

Three apples and one pear are equal in weight to ten plums; and one apple and six plums weigh the same as a single pear. How many plums would balance that pear? — (Problem from R.C.J.M., Invercargill).

"Uncontaminated Aryans"

Wishing to produce the dramatised form of "Dodsworth," a certain German theatrical agent asked the author (Sinclair Lewis) and the dramatist (Sidney Howard) to sign formal statements certifying that they were uncontaminated Aryans. They replied in this vein:

"Dear Mr. Bartsch: We are afraid that with deep regret we shall be unable to give you certificates guaranteeing that we are Aryan. Who knows what ancestors we may have had in the last few hundred years? We really are as ignorant of them as even Hitler of his. In answering, please use our proper legal names: Sidney Horowitz, Sinclair Levy.—Sincerely, Sidney Howard, Sinclair Lewis."

Battle and After

One thousand soldiers lost heavily in an engagement. The survivors surrendered and were marched to a concentration camp. On the first day's march, one-sixth escaped. On the second day one-eighth of the remainder escaped and one died. On the third day, one-quarter of the remainder escaped. When they arrived at the camp, the remainder were put to work in four equal gangs. How many were killed in the first engagement?—(Problem from R.C.J.M.).

Pat and the Pig

In opposite corners of a field 100 yards square are Pat and his pig. The pig wants to run away from Pat and out of a gate in a corner diagonally opposite Pat. The pig starts to run and Pat too. But Pat does not see the point of the manoeuvre, and keeps running straight for the pig, which keeps running straight for the gate. Pat can run twice as fast as the pig. Can Pat catch the pig? If so, how far does the pig run? How far does Pat run?—(Problem from R.C.J.M.).

Move the Money

Take eight pennies and arrange them in a row, four heads first, then four tails. Now, moving only two consecutive coins at a time, rearrange them in four moves so that heads and tails alternate. —(Problem from R.C.J.M.).

ANSWERS

Who Killed Davidson? (August 30): Lewis. Dum, who set the problem, gives his reasoning: Harris must be innocent since statements one, two, and four cannot all be false. Harris's only false statement is "Sweeney is the guilty man." Sweeney is therefore innocent and the decision is between Lewis and Brady. Brady says: "Harris is right, Sweeney did it." This is obviously false, so Lewis is guilty.

CORRESPONDENCE

R. S. Noble (Feilding): Lewis was the man all right. You are wrong about the complexion. Lillian (Hawera): You were correct about Davidson. Glad you like the crosswords. Quota-

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD (Answer to No. 23)

M	A	G	I	C	C	A	R	P	E	T
O	N	N	A	E	C	I				
B	A	T	I	K		D	O	L	P	H
L	E			E	A	O	T			
I	L	L	U	M	I	N	A	T	E	
T	O	A	T	I	A	R				
E	M	P	I	R	E		H	O	L	D
R	E	G	P	N	D	O				
A		B	A	L	L	I	S	T	I	C
T	T	R	A							
E	D	I	T	I	O	N	S	C	I	O
S	D	N	E	K	O	G				
P	E	D	E	S	T	R	I	A	N	S