

"THE LISTENER" CROSSWORD

(Solution to No. 635)



Clues Across

1. In tears on account of a fatty substance.
5. If the object is one's eye, wept.
8. Confused tones in the beginning.
9. Her coal gives rise to a disease.
10. Lame.
11. Or in Panama.
13. Resign in a way.
15. Rested in order to abandon.

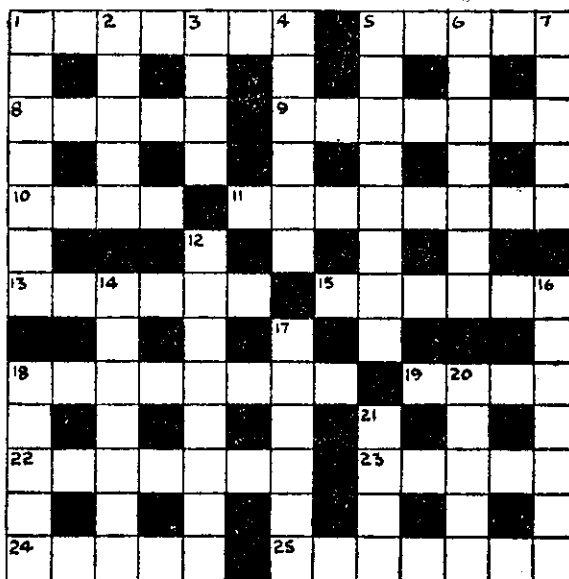
18. Meditates, as in a mirror?
19. I am taken out of Spain for a short distance.
22. Behead this bird twice for the weapon.
23. Beaten track.
24. Outer case.
25. Variegated with a fruit in the middle.



Clues Down

1. Most upset over her.
2. As in eel.
3. Seen from below, these rodents would be found in the sky.
4. Recant in a very sweet way.
5. Irritates.
6. Preamble.
7. This play features one of the signs of the Zodiac.
12. Complete form of triangle.
14. Blow up with a tin leaf.

No. 636 (Constructed by R.W.H.)



(continued from previous page)

"Just members of the family," Susan interposes hastily, anxious not to lose a good opportunity to get the family problem-child safely settled. "Will you come to Jimmy's birthday?" she invites, every inch the future sister-in-law.

"Hell!" says Jimmy. "I'm not having girls to my party."

"You're having me," says Susan firmly. "And me," pipes three-year-old.

"O.K.," says Jimmy, outnumbered. "Girls only if they bring presents."

* * *

"WHAT did you learn at school today?" I ask Jimmy about a week later.

"We didn't learn anything."

"What did you do then?"

"We didn't do anything."

"Didn't you have singing?"

"Yes, but I didn't sing. Only girls sing."

"Oh," I say.

"Hubba Hubba Ding Ding, I know something," quotes Jimmy, smacking his lips.

"What's that?" I ask.

"Just something we learnt at school. You say that to chaps who've got a girl-friend. It makes them feel all squirmy."

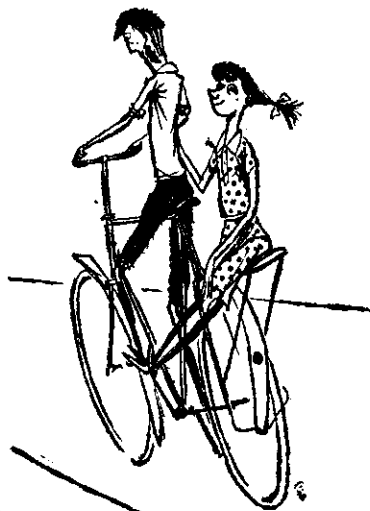
"Oh," I say.

* * *

"I'M going to play with Garry today," announces Mary at breakfast.

Jimmy is shocked. "You can't do that," he explains, "because he's a boy, and if you play with him you'll be his girl-friend."

"Yeth," lisps Mary, pleased.



Jimmy, with uncharacteristic patience, unbends to further explanation.

"Then I wouldn't be able to play with him when I come home from school because he'd be a sissy because he's got a girl-friend. I'd have to say Hubba-hubba ding-ding."

Mary is entirely unmoved.

"I like Garry," she says stoutly. "His mother has chocolate biscuits."

"Hubba-hubba ding-ding," says Jimmy. But he doesn't seem to get any real pleasure from it.

* * *

ANOTHER week or so passes. Susan and George have taken over the task of finding out how Jimmy's getting on at school. I have long found his conversation unrewarding.

"Who're you sitting next to now Johnny Palmer's gone up to Primer 2?" asks George.

Jimmy doesn't answer, but a slight smirk lifts the corners of his mouth.

"Geoffrey Todd, Andrew Folsom?" pursues unperceptive George. Still silence.

"He's sitting next to a Girl!" shrieks Susan.

"He's sitting next to Diana Hopkirk," says Prudence calmly.

I feel a quiet satisfaction. Trust little Jimmy. Quite the term's most eligible debutante (I don't know her family) and very generous with her fairy cycle.

"Hubba hubba Ding Ding!" shriek three voices in unison, and three fingers point in triumphant scorn.

"Hubba hubba Ding-Ding yourself," retorts Jimmy smugly, grabbing the last bun.

16. "Oh what a — web we weave When first we practise to deceive!" (Scott).

17. Packed.

18. Takes a chance.

20. Gem found in 24 across.

21. Overturned saucepans.

"YES, bright is the ring of words, when the right man rings them, and I suspect Stevenson of writing that in some moment of literary frustration. We all know those moments. I know when I try to 'ring' a few words they come out with all the glittering sparkle and ring of a cold-boiled potato falling on to an eiderdown."—From an NZBS Book Shop talk.

SANDWICH MAN

ICE skating carnival is shouted
From swinging boards that swing no chances

To him, who, time's limp down-at-heel,
Is done with all the days and dances.

And youth will stare and smoothly plan
With strength alive, and ruddy, restive—
What though it rants from a roving stick
If the flag be out and foolish, festive?

The sandwich man with the fiery word
Has burnt-out eyes and blackened palms,
And yet he starts a storm of pleasure
Clutched within the final calms.

He has his own cold carnival,
As clamped by boards and years he totters,
Skating the thin ice of age,
A wisp for whom no marvel matters.

—J. R. Hervey

"YOU can't always agree with Aristotle, of course. For example, as a good New Zealander I looked first to see what he said about the sheep, and he does the sheep a grave injustice. 'The sheep is naturally dull, and stupid; it saunters away to lonely places, with no object in view.' Well, if that's so, then a whole lot of us are both dull and stupid — sheepish, in fact — because there are moments in the hurly-burly of modern life when there's nothing nicer than a 'saunter to a lonely place with no object in view'—in fact the doctors recommend it."—From an NZBS Book Shop talk.

AVOID THIS!

WORMALD BROTHERS
(N.Z.) LTD.
Equipment for
FIRE PROTECTION
AUCKLAND, WELLINGTON
CHRISTCHURCH, DUNEDIN
Fire Protection Engineers.
Since 1889

WB
BROTHERS INDUSTRIES
THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Stopped-up systems Relieved naturally!

Poor elimination is mostly due to poor digestion because 80% of digestion takes place in the intestinal tract. Such poor elimination can't be helped by digestive powders and stomach purges. Carter's natural prescription unblocks systems stopped-up from simple causes by promoting the flow of liver bile—one of nature's most vital digestive juices, which helps natural elimination. Carter's removes only waste — not food — another reason why these little pills help you feel so much better. Mildly persuasive . . . not habit-forming . . . get Carter's Little Liver Pills at your chemist or store today.
Distributors: Fassett & Johnson Ltd., Levy Bldgs., Manners St., Wellington, C.3. C2-8

Protect* yourself now against Colds with 'ANTI-BI-SAN'

A course of Anti-Bi-San now can help to give you protection against colds throughout the winter. Anti-Bi-San acts through the blood-stream and assists your natural resistance during the treacherous winter months. Let Anti-Bi-San help to safeguard you against infection this winter.

'ANTI-BI-SAN'

Guards against colds

* In the majority of cases, Anti-Bi-San provides protection against colds within ten days of the start of treatment.

Send for free leaflet to the
Distributors:—

FASSETT & JOHNSON LTD.
Levy Building, Manners St., Wellington.