

Trials in Tact

First Series Competition Results

SAVOIR-FAIRE announces the results of the "Trials in Tact" Competition as under:—

FIRST PRIZE, £2/2/- MRS. MASON

SECOND PRIZE, £1/1/- "A TRIER."

THIRD PRIZE: To be decided between FIAT PAX,
MISS N. JOHNSTON and SENGAL (tie).

Will the three competitors who have tied for third place please "play it off" by sending in their solutions to the following problem; Savoir-Faire's decision to be accepted as final.

Special Problem.

MRS. A. is staying on a long visit with Mrs. B. in a country town. At Mrs. B.'s house, Mrs. A. meets Mrs. C., a comparative newcomer to the neighbourhood. After being out one morning, Mrs. A. comes in and remarks to Mrs. B.: "Oh, I met Mrs. C. this morning, and she has asked me to go to tea at her house on Thursday." When Mrs. A. returns on Thursday afternoon, Mrs. B. enquires: "How was Mrs. C.?" Mrs. A. replies: "Oh, quite well, but very disappointed that you did not go. The first thing she said was, 'Where is Mrs. B.?' I forgot to tell you the other morning that she asked you, too, so I said this afternoon that you were too busy to get away." What should Mrs. B. say or do, or say and do?

For solution by Fiat Pax, Miss N. Johnston and Sengal only.

Answers to be postmarked not later than May 1, 1930.

The following is a summary of marks gained by all competitors over the whole period of ten weeks:—Mrs. Mason, 48; A Trier, 39; Fiat Pax, Miss N. Johnston and Sengal, 38; Jean, Te Puke, Natural, and Priscilla, 37; Radex, 35; Clara, 32; Anon, Bonza, Duplex, Ginger, Zenobia, 31; Kummel, Lucid, Pumpkin, Verity and Yum-yum, 30.

Under 30 and over 20: Apple-pie Mary, Deerfoot, Equity, Frances, Grace, Haven, Irene, Jonquil, Listener-in, Myra, Mayflower, Michael, Nomen, Olivia, Query, Radio, Rosa, Scylla, Summit, Thames, Tuner, Topaz, Undine, Viola, Wynward, Weaver, Xylonite, and Xerxes.

Under 20 and over 10: Miss Rachel Baker, Miss Rhoda Green, Kia Ora, and V.L.A.

10 Marks and under: Absolve meam animam, Arabella, Aussie, Azure, Floor-board, Fairy Godmother, Fanny, Freckles, Leon, M.A.B., Mary, Nintz, Only Me, Pact, Patience, Phillipa, R.V.S., Mrs. Watson and X.L.

Some of the competitors with the lower scores, of course, only started towards the end of the series, and in many cases scored high marks for the solutions sent in.

Cheques have been forwarded to first and second prize-winners, 10/6 to Miss Rachel Baker for Problem No. 5, adjudged the best sent in during the series, and 5/- each to Miss N. Johnston, Ginger, Mrs. L. G. Neilson, Mary, Natural, Fiat Pax and Sue for their published problems.

Judge's Comments.

AT the risk of reiteration, I must again comment on the pleasure I have received from the numerous letters from competitors, stating how much this little feature has been enjoyed. One writer goes so far as to say that the various A's, B's and C's have developed into household friends, and that the first thing that she and the members of her family do upon receiving the paper, is to turn to the "Trials in Tact" page, to see what further troubles have befallen their friends. Another writer considers the competition instructive as well as entertaining, and yet a third one declares that the practice in dealing with these problems is giving her confidence in dealing with daily happenings—and so on. For my part, I look forward each week to the opening of the solutions, and feel that I am beginning, in many instances, to know the personalities, although not the identities, behind the pseudonyms.

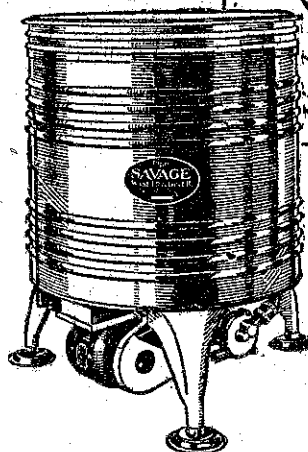
The first prize-winner, Mrs. Mason, is to be congratulated greatly on her high score, 48 out of a possible 50! For some time, it looked as though she would continue to score full marks throughout the series—indeed that she could do no wrong—but on two occasions the little left unsaid or left undone just caused her to fail to win full marks. One is left wondering if Mrs. Mason is ever caught at a disadvantage. I feel sure that if by any chance she were, she would be clever enough to turn the tables.

The second prize-winner's score is also a very creditable one, averaging practically four marks for each problem. Signing herself "A Trier" she attains a very high standard, and tries to some purpose. Our hearty congratulations to you, also, "A Trier."

Immediately behind come three competitors tying for third place. The third prize was considered too small to divide, so it was thought that the "sporting" way would be for the three concerned to tackle another problem between them, and we hope they will think so, too.

Many competitors who won high marks for particular solutions failed to achieve a corresponding total score, owing to their not beginning to compete until late, or to their missing a problem here and there. It is worth while, therefore, both to begin with the first of the series, and, once started, to persevere in spite of an occasional failure.

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