

# A PUZZLING CONCLUSION

BY KEN WEBER

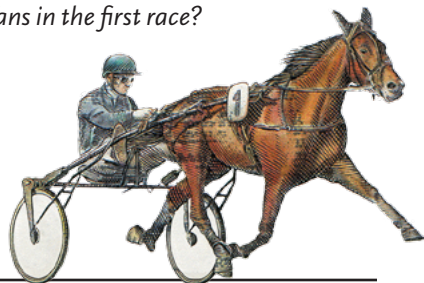


## Between Rosemont and Belwood

Moira, Marv and Gene realized they could only catch the first four races at Mohawk because they were expected at a wedding. When they picked up Papa Joe in Rosemont to drive to the track together, he immediately objected to that decision, but by the time they reached Belwood he had agreed in exchange for a commitment from the others that each of them would bet on a different horse in all four races.

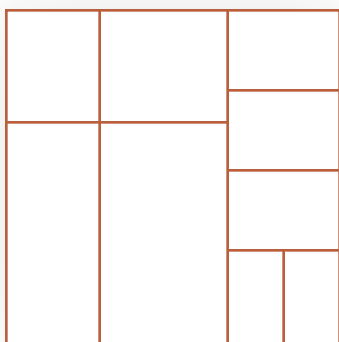
The strategy, as it turned out, had mixed results for at least one of them managed to bet on the slowest horse every time. In the second race, Gene's horse came in dead last, while Moira's horse came in second. Papa Joe picked the winner in the third race, and in that same race Marv's choice came third. In the fourth and last race, Moira's choice, a horse named Paradox, won by a nose over Papa Joe's pick. It was a photo finish.

*What were the results for these four racing fans in the first race?*



## At Home in Amaranth

When Miss Jean Mable, a student teacher attending normal school in Toronto, went home to Amaranth for the Christmas break, she took with her a two-part assignment to be completed before her classes resumed in January. The first requirement was to specify how many four-sided figures there are in the diagram below. The second asked her to develop a simple method for solving the first part that younger pupils in a typical one-room school would easily understand.



A – How many four-sided figures are in the diagram?

B – Offer a teaching method as required by the assignment.

## Something for a Stormy Night

Insert the 26 letters of the alphabet into the 26 empty boxes below in order to make 26 different words of four letters or more in length. The challenge in each row is to use your choice of letter, together with *some* of the letters already there, to make the word.

Each row in the grid has letters you can't use. In the second row, for example, inserting the letter 'O' will make the word ROBBERY (or RUBBERY if you prefer to insert a 'U'). The letters 'C,U,M,C,O' preceding and the 'L' at the end simply fill the row.

Letters already in the grid do not move.

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

## Silas Renarm Raises Eyebrows

No one is sure if it was coincidental or deliberate, but Silas caused quite a stir on one of his yearly passes through Palgrave to sell his stimulating elixir. Just before the trip in question, Albion Township had been the only township in Peel to vote "wet" in a prohibition referendum, and here was Silas offering this as his customary children's puzzle: Four wooden matches in the shape of a cocktail glass!

There was a penny inside, and the challenge was to turn the glass upside down and get the penny out by moving only two matches. Successful solvers, of course, could keep the penny.

Children enjoyed the puzzle, and the elixir sold well so it appears Silas was forgiven



*Can you invert the glass and get the penny out by moving only two sticks?*

## 5-Digit and 4-Digit Numbers from Mr. Stuart

At S.S. #15 Mulmur in Kilgorie, Mr. Stuart felt the arithmetic challenge immediately below was not terribly difficult because with patience, a pupil could use simple trial and error to determine the answer.

Write a five-digit number in which the digits add up to 18. There can be no zeroes. The first two digits must be the same, the fourth digit twice the first one, and the last digit twice the third.

So Mr. Stuart added another challenge that in his opinion was rather more difficult.

What four-digit number translates this equation:  $4 \times abcd = dcba$ ?

*Your solutions to these challenges?*