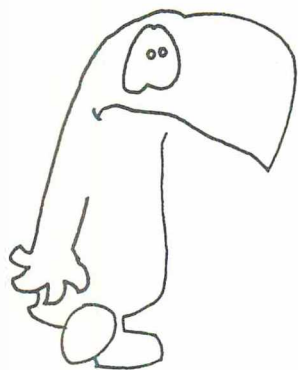


NOUS



???



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2002

2002

2002

2002

2002

About a year and a half ago, Nous 3 came out. At that point Jean and I both lost interest in the idea of putting out a fanzine. In the course of unpacking after my move back to Minneapolis from Los Angeles, I discovered some material I enjoyed and thought other fans would enjoy...and what with feeling guilty about the contributors who'd sent the nice material and some fans who'd sent sticky quarters, it occurred to me that it would be nice to put out a Farewell Issue of Nous.

So....

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Nous 4 comes from Jean and Ruth Berman (much to Jean's surprise, who won't know about it till it shows up in her mailbox -- sorry about that, o co-editor), 5620 Edgewater Boulevard, Minneapolis Minnesota 55417. Should anyone want copies of this issue, there are some extras for 25¢ each; subscriptions are not available for sale, nor trade, nor contribution, nor letter of comment.  
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Exchange: scribbled back and forth at a con instead of listening  
to whoever was yattering by Jean Berman and William Rotsler:  
p. 10: illustrations by Rotsler  
other interio illos by Ken Fletcher.  
Bacover rats by Ken Fletcher. Mouse by Jim Young  
July, 1969  
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# HUNTING THE WILD COGNATE

by ELIZABETH APPELBAUM

Etymologies are fun. They are useful in understanding and memorizing words, but they are interesting in themselves. The latest edition of Webster's New World Dictionary has outstanding etymologies (World Publishing Company, Cleveland, 1966, College Edition), and one can pass a pleasant, sleepy evening thumbing through it. The wonderful novelty of the new edition is the inclusion of Indo-European roots whenever possible.

Scholars have reconstructed the Indo-European language, long extinct. From it descended Sanskrit, Greek, Latin, the modern Romance languages, and the Germanic languages, including English.

Knowledge of etymologies is essential to understanding any language, but, for some reason, dictionaries from a foreign language into English rarely give etymologies. Of course, you can turn to a good dictionary for natives, but that requires great skill in the language. The student of Romance languages can get the etymology anyway by thinking up English cognates to the foreign words and looking up the cognates in our dictionary, but it requires more ingenuity to discover English cognates for German words.

In the puzzle below, knowledge of German is not necessary, just resourcefulness. In some cases it took me a few days of thought, off and on, to find the cognate. This is the sort of puzzle you can pleasurably dwell upon while washing dishes.

In cognate hunting, the following hints are helpful: frequently the literal translation is itself a cognate, particularly with simple words, but sometimes cognate words have meanings that are only distantly related; different parts of speech can be cognates -- e.g., nouns can be cognate to verbs; although English is basically a Germanic language, it has many words of French origin, thanks to the Norman conquest, and, while high-brow words are usually of French, Latin, or Greek origin, words of a common or rustic character are often of Anglo-Saxon -- and ultimately Germanic -- origin; consonants mean everything; vowels mean nothing; ignore the "en" at the end of German verbs; some specific rules for German-English cognates are:

		Examples	
German	English	German	English
d -----	th	denken --	think
g or ch ---	y	Tag -----	day
h -----	h (AS)*	Haupt ----	head
h -----	c (L)*	Haupt ---	capital
m -----	mb	dumm ----	dumb
ss -----	t	besser --	better
t -----	d	Tod ----	death
v** ---	f (AS)	vater ---	father
v -----	p (L)	vater ---	paternal
w -----	w (AS)	whippen --	whip
w -----	v*** (L)	whippen -	vibrate
z -----	t	Zahn ---	tooth

\* AS means words of Anglo-Saxon origin; L means words of Latin origin.

\*\* the German v is pronounced f.

\*\*\* the Latin v was probably pronounced w.

## puzzle

German word	meaning	English cognates
1. Zeit -----	time	_____
2. Zimmer ----	room (of a house)	_____
3. wissen ----	to know	_____
4. weigen ----	to bend	_____
5. Gewalt ---	power (Hint: <u>ge</u> is a generalizing prefix. Concentrate on <u>walt</u> )	_____
6. schliessen -	to finish (Hint: <u>aus</u> means out, and <u>ausschliesslich</u> means exclusive)	_____
7. wohnen ----	to live in; to dwell	_____

answers on page 9.

# COMUS BE-DEVILED

edited by Nan Braude from a number of papers

The Lady in Milton's Comus stands for "Virtue," or, perhaps more concisely, "virtue under attack and too meek to be able to make its defense completely independently." Chastity is the main subject of Comus and are related to temperance and virginity. Chastity is strictly Christian while the latter two are natural, belonging to other religions as well. The poem is an allegorical treatment of how chastity is gained.

In Comus chastity engenders a strong will. [The Lady] knows [Comus] is evil and nothing he can do or say is good, (just as he can feel her chastity in the wood before he sees her and desire it). He does not merely rape her -- he tries to get her to [succumb]. She refutes him with logical rational answers. This would somehow seem to equate her with the Soul in its reasoning powers. He tells her she is a bad borrower of Nature's gifts, she is not using her lent limbs well. The Lady is in fact telling nature not to give such gifts anymore and to keep them within her own bowels. God is offended at prudish celibacy that wastes his organic abundance. She is in fact holding back the natural human responses for a state of being (chastity) thus showing that she is not real.

"Oh!" she cried and sent a plea to Heaven. Thyrsis must call on Sabrina, the sea goddess, to release the Lady from the rock on which she is transfixed. It is significant that the person who releases her is Sabrina, herself once a virgin. This in itself represents the power of Chastity that descends from heaven to aid floundering souls. The Lady, now obtaining all the ingredients, is able to rise.

The Jayne essay treats Comus as an allegory, while recognizing, however that Milton had to deal with certain disadvantages, such as the Bridgewater. Visions of the Lady's soul float through his interpretation as segmented into 2 parts. These two movements of



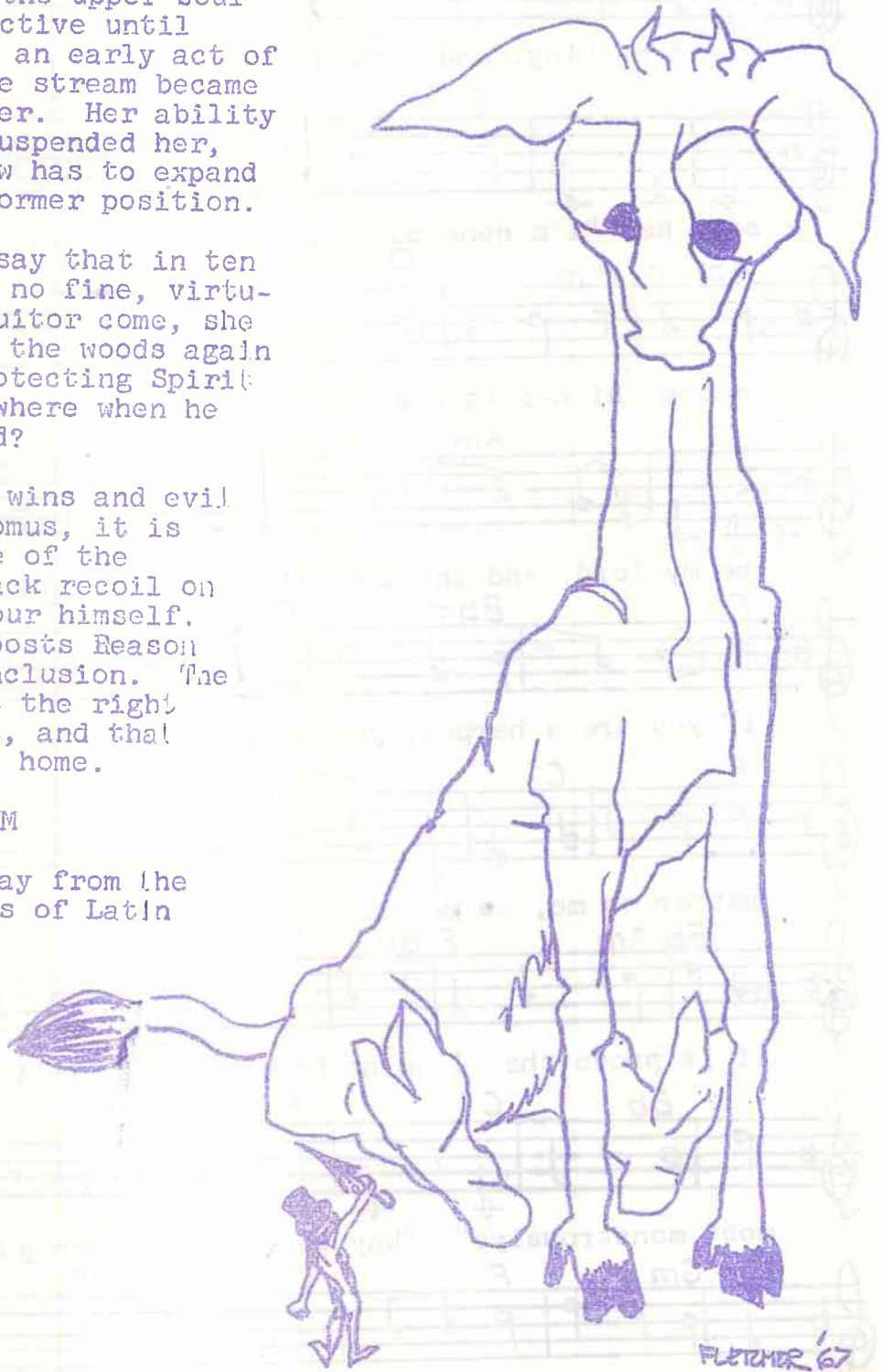
thought are not opposed, but rather normal inuendoes of the mind, expressed by Milton in large formative images. The lady represent the upper soul but mens is inactive until Sabrina (who in an early act of jumping into the stream became chaste) helps her. Her ability to reason has suspended her, and her mind now has to expand to recall her former position.

Who is to say that in ten years or so, if no fine, virtuous Christian suitor come, she might not go to the woods again and tell the Protecting Spirit to protect elsewhere when he comes to her aid?

But virtue wins and evil gets his, and Comus, it is suggested by one of the brothers, will back recoil on himself and devour himself. Divine action boosts Reason to its happy conclusion. The masque says that the right side always wins, and that everybody dances home.

#### ADDENDUM

Milton turned away from the common injections of Latin poetry.



# SCHMENDRICK'S SONG

Am F Am Bb C F Am F C

" I am no king, and I am no lord, and I am no soldier at arms,"

F Bb Bbm F

said he. "I'm none but a harper, and a very poor harper, that

Am F Am Bb Cm F Bb F Bb

am come hither to wed with yo." "If you were a lord, you would

C Am F Am F C

be my lord, and the same if you were a thief," said she. "And

F Bbm C F Am

if you are a harper, you shall be my harper, for it makes no

F C Am F Am Cm Fm

matter to me, to me, For it makes no matter to me." "But what

Bb Am F Bb C F Am

if it prove that I am no harper? That I lied for your love

Bb C F C Bb F

most monstrously?" "Why then I'll teach you to play and sing.

Gm F C F

For I dearly love a good harp," said she.

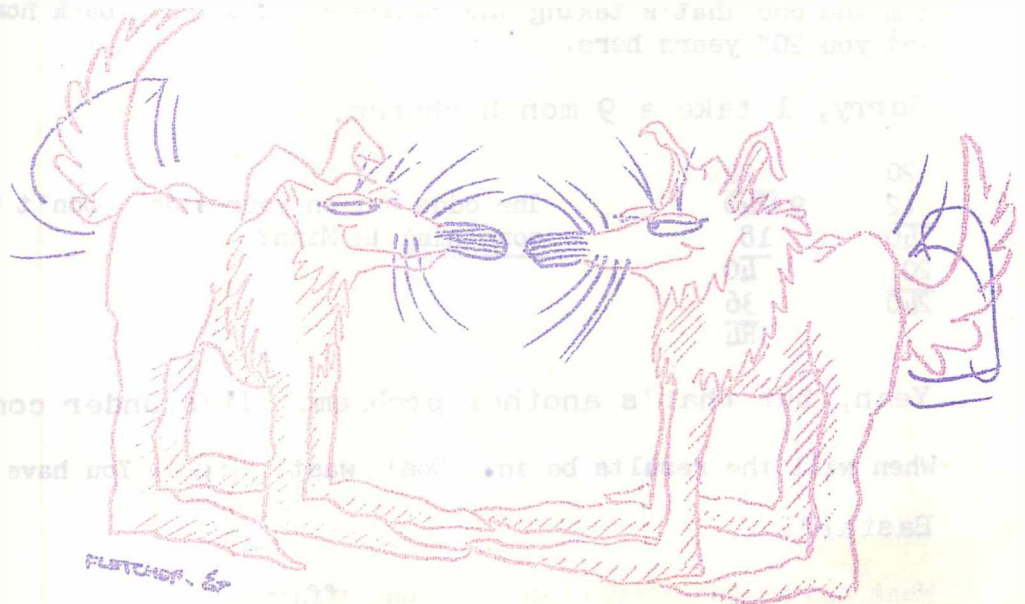
words: Peter S. Beagle  
 music: Len Bailes



# puzzle - ANSWERS

Answers based on the dictionary, except parenthetical remarks. The list of answers is not exhaustive.

1. Time itself is a cognate, as is tide. The Indo-European base is dai, meaning to part or to divide.
2. Timber. The base is dem, to build, seen in the Latin domus, house, from which we get domestic. The word tame has the same root.
3. Wit, witness, and wise are all cognates. The base is weid, to see, know -- seen also in idea and vision from Greek and Latin respectively.
4. Weak. (Obviously, if something is weak, it is easily bent.) The base is weig, to bend; it occurs in the Latin vicis, change, and in the English offshoot, vicissitude. The English word week and its German translation, woche, both stem from weig, with the basic notion, period of change.
5. Wield. The base is wal, to be strong -- seen in the Latin valere, whence valient.
6. Close. The base is cleu, a hook, forked limb, hindrance. Another German offspring is Schloss, lock or castle -- both senses are important in the title of Kafka's novel The Castle.
7. Wont, wean. The base is wen, to be satisfied, to be wont to do, seen also in Latin venus, love. (Cf. Venus, venerable, venereal, venery etc. After all, what did those ancient Indo-Europeans do for fun? They didn't have television. Doubtless they were wont to engage in Venus' Pastime.



# EXCHANGE

J EAN BERMAN

VS.

W ILLIAM ROTSLER



Sorry.

We were all 17 once.  
I've been 17 twice.  
Almost 3 times

Funny, you don't look it.

At cons, I feel it.

But so do I?

Yes, but you look it.

At home the age of consent is 16.

Sign this SIGN THIS

Is it a release?

If it isn't I'll give you your money back.

I pay you!!!

I'm the one that's taking the chance -- this isn't back home -- it's "18 will get you 20" years here.

Sorry, I take a 9 month chance.

20	24
12	9 240
40	18
20	40
240	36
	RL

The odds are on your side. Don't they have pills or something in Minn?

Yeah, but that's another problem. It's under consideration.

When will the results be in? Don't waste time -- You have a great mouth --  
Bastard.

What has my ancestry to do with our affair?

It's the principle, or lack of it.

Yours or mine?

The combination. Never trust a corporation.

I'm not interested in the mouth of any corporation...

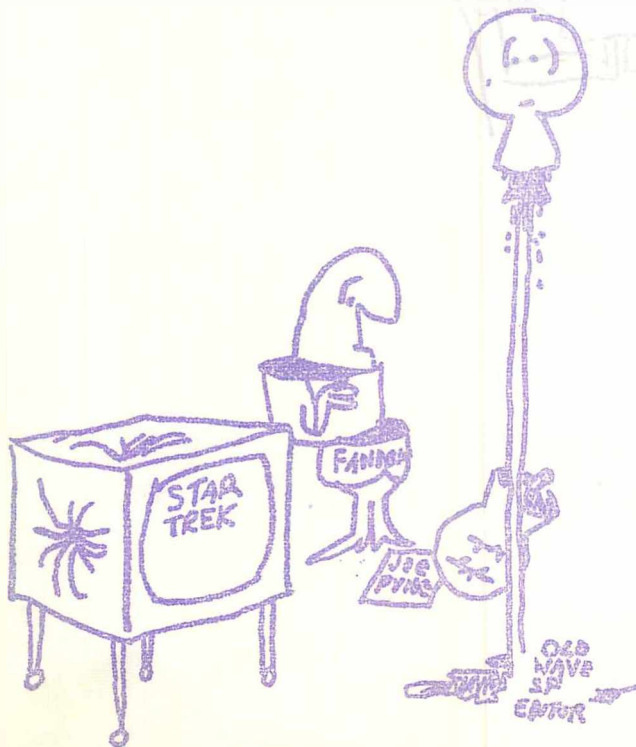
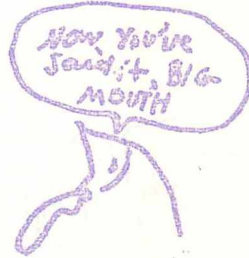
Now hold it. Who is the mouth in this corporation?

No, no, no, silly -- your mouth, and this idiot corporation you've dragged into this conversation...

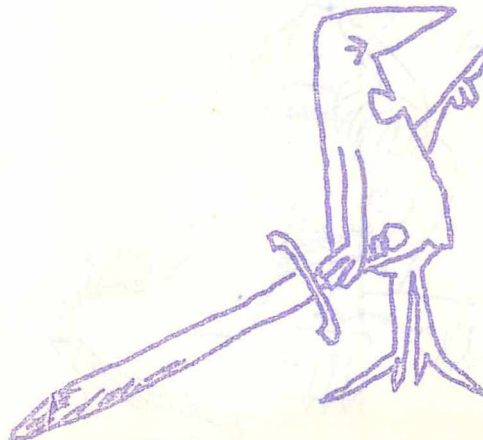
I'm sorry I mentioned it. For the record, you're as mouthy as I am.

2 mouths like that should get together.

That sounds reasonable.



TOMORROW  
THE  
WORLD!





FLETCHER '67

LESSEE...  
IS IT JEAN,  
OR IS IT  
RUTH?



STEV  
67



FLETCHER '67