

Puzzle

As usual, we give our beloved readers two puzzles of Sam Loyd to make in their spare time. First, we will present you the solutions of the puzzles in the previous Aenorm.

Domestic complications

Mrs. Jones was the daughter of Smith and the niece of Brown, so there were but four persons. \$100 was contributed, \$92 spent and each received \$2 in the distribution.

The Yacht Race

Unfortunately, there was an error in this question, the length of the first three quarters and the last three quarters should be unequal. The puzzle can still be solved, but becomes relatively easy. It immediately becomes clear that the time it took to complete the first leg of the triangle should be equal to the time of the last leg. We can then solve for the time of the first leg by solving

$$(x/4) + x + 10 + x = 270,$$

where x is the time of the first leg. This gives $x = (4/9) \cdot 260$. Therefore the total winning time is 356 minutes and 40 seconds.

We only received one correct solution of the puzzles of the previous Aenorm, so Simen Hoving is the winner of the book token!

The new puzzles for this edition are:

Tell mother's age

Readers often tell us they like age puzzles, so we decided to please our readers and choose an age puzzle of Sam Lloyd.

One of the trio in the picture was having a birthday anniversary. This aroused Master Tommy's curiosity regarding their respective ages, and in response to his queries his father said:

'Now, Tommy, our three ages combined amount to just seventy years. As I am just six times as old as you are now, it may be said that when I am but twice as old as you, our three combined ages will be twice what they are present. Now let me see if you can tell me how old is mother?'

Tommy, being bright at figures, immediately solved the problem, but then he has the advantage of knowing his own age. Are our readers able to solve this puzzle with only the data

regarding the comparative ages of father and son?

Jealous Couples

The VSAE is celebrating its 45th anniversary this year, and therefore a ball took place on March 14th. In order to get to the location, the couples had to cross a river with a small island in the middle of the river. The boat was only able to carry two persons at the same time. As it is hard to find a date among econometricians for our male students, the men were extremely jealous and none of them permitted his date to remain at any time in the company of another man or men unless he was also present. Nor was any man to get into a boat alone when there happened to be a girl along, on the island or shore, other than the one who was his date. This leads one to suspect that the girls were also jealous and feared that their dates would run off with another girl if they got the chance. If there were four couples and just one island in the middle of the river on which any number of people can stand, how many trips would the boat make to get the four couples safely to the ball without breaking up any relationships?

Solutions

Solutions to the two puzzles above can be submitted upto May 1st. You can hand them in in the VSAE room, room C6.06, mail them to info@vsae.nl or send them to VSAE, for the attention of Aenorm puzzle 59, Roetersstraat 11, 1018 WB Amsterdam, Holland. Among the correct submissions, one book token will be won. Solutions can be in both English and in Dutch.