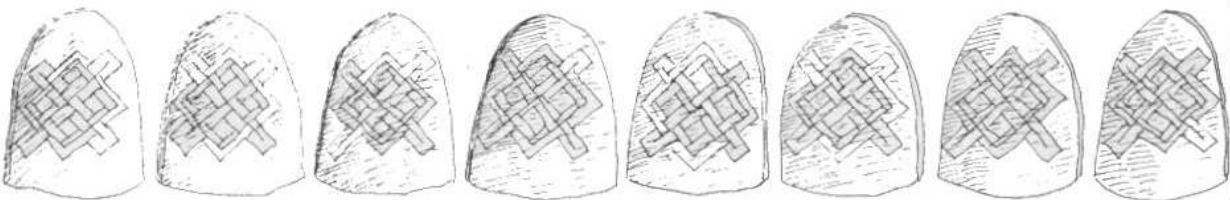


ARMCHAIR
TREASURE
HUNT 1989-90



WORDS-PAUL COOMBS PICTURES-BRIAN JACKSON

The players settle back in their chairs, the lights are trained over the black and white of the age-old, endless battle, the clock is started and the opening moves in another Armchair Treasure Hunt commence...

Somewhere within half a mile of the M25 I have buried a small box. Your task is to find it. Clues can be found in the following sets of general-knowledge questions, including the coded message, and in the accompanying pictures. There will be prizes for the first finder of the box as well as for the best solutions to the entire puzzle.

The answer to each of the questions is a single word or a short phrase. It is no secret that the first letters of each non-numeric answer spell out another question, the answer to which may (or may not) be useful in locating the Treasure. Use surnames except where stated and omit 'the', 'an' etc. if necessary. You should ensure that all your answers fit this connecting sentence. If they do not then either you are wrong or you have found an answer other than the one I was after. In the latter case, you should try to find 'my' answer. Marks will only be given for alternatives if they are accompanied by some sort of justification.

The marking scheme gives most points for those questions found to be the hardest. Marks will be awarded for answers to the 64 numbered questions and for finding the treasure (earliest finders getting the most points). There are no marks available for anything else.

If you find the treasure-box, then read the instructions inside. Replace it in its original position, having consideration for later finders. There is a possibility that the box will be found by someone unconnected with the competition; if you are sure you have reached the right place (you will know if you have!) and there is nothing there, then please try to contact me.

There is no 'entry form' - any piece of paper is fine so long as the answers are legible. You need not justify any of your answers unless you wish to; in most cases, the single word or short phrase for each one is sufficient. However, some extra information is required for a few of the answers, as you will see. Don't forget to attach the ticket from the Treasure-box if you find it.

There are four prizes, all of Harrods vouchers. The first finder of the Treasure box will get £50. There will be another £50 for the person gaining the most marks and there are also second (£30) and third (£20) prizes in this category. No person/team may win more than one prize. Also note that this year's £50 prizewinners will not be allowed to win prizes in the 1990/91 competition (if there is one).

Entries **must** reach me by Friday, January 5, 1990. Answers and results will be sent out as soon as possible after this, but **only to people who have entered the competition**. If, by any chance, the Treasure has not been found, then additional clues will be issued, again only to those people who have entered. I suggest that all entrants keep a copy of these questions, together with their answers.

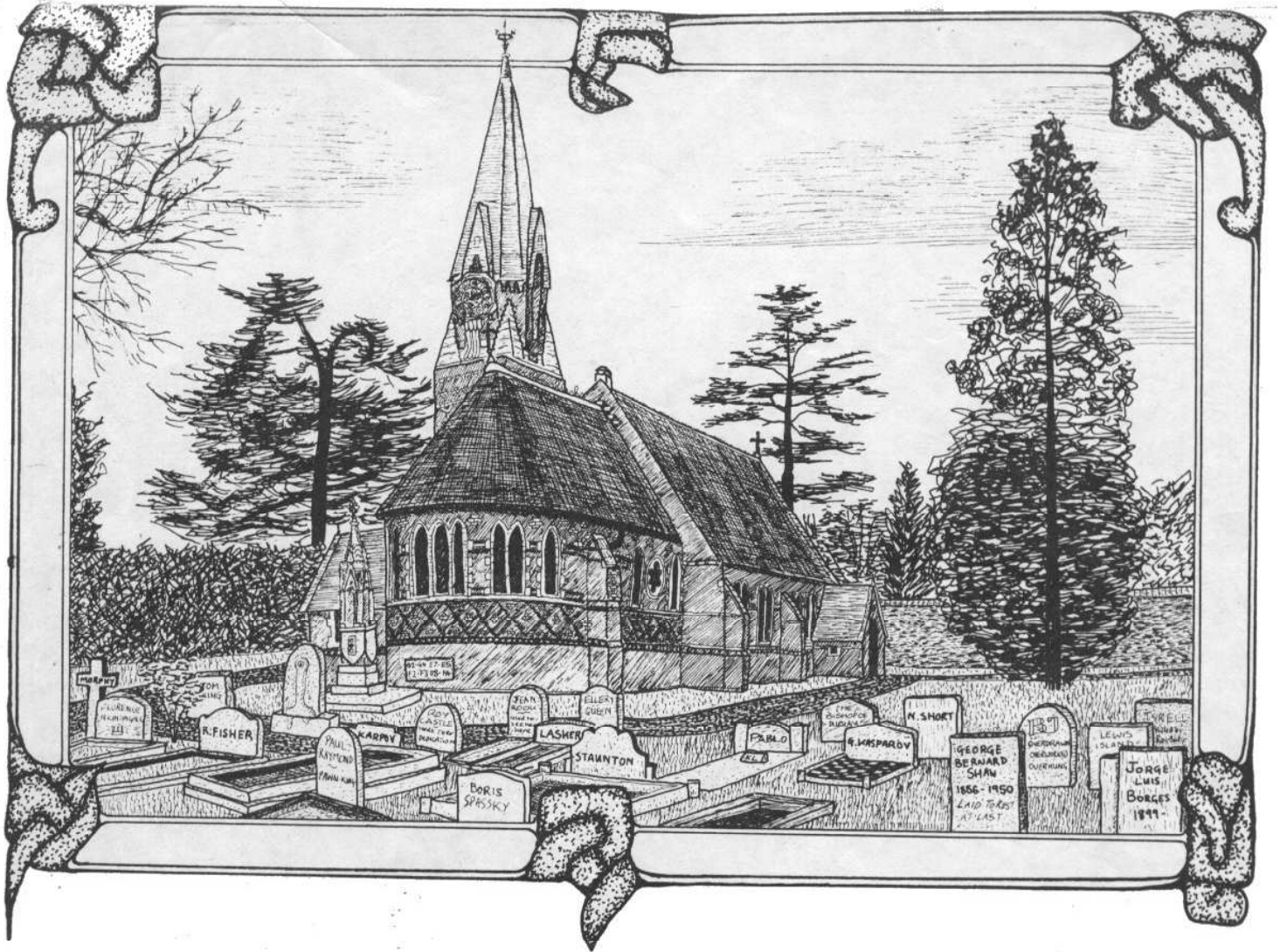
Thanks are due to Brian Jackson for the illustrations, to Richard Monger (BAe) for many of the questions and to the Sports and Social Club for the prizes. Thanks, too, to all the other people who have given me questions to use. Some of you will be rewarded by finding that at least you can answer one of them this year.

The puzzle, I should warn you, is a whole netful of red herrings. It is best to ensure that you have all your pieces in position before attempting checkmate. Oh, and Berry's paradox should be ignored throughout.

Good luck...

Paul Coombs SH/4 Ext. 1462
Home: Stevenage

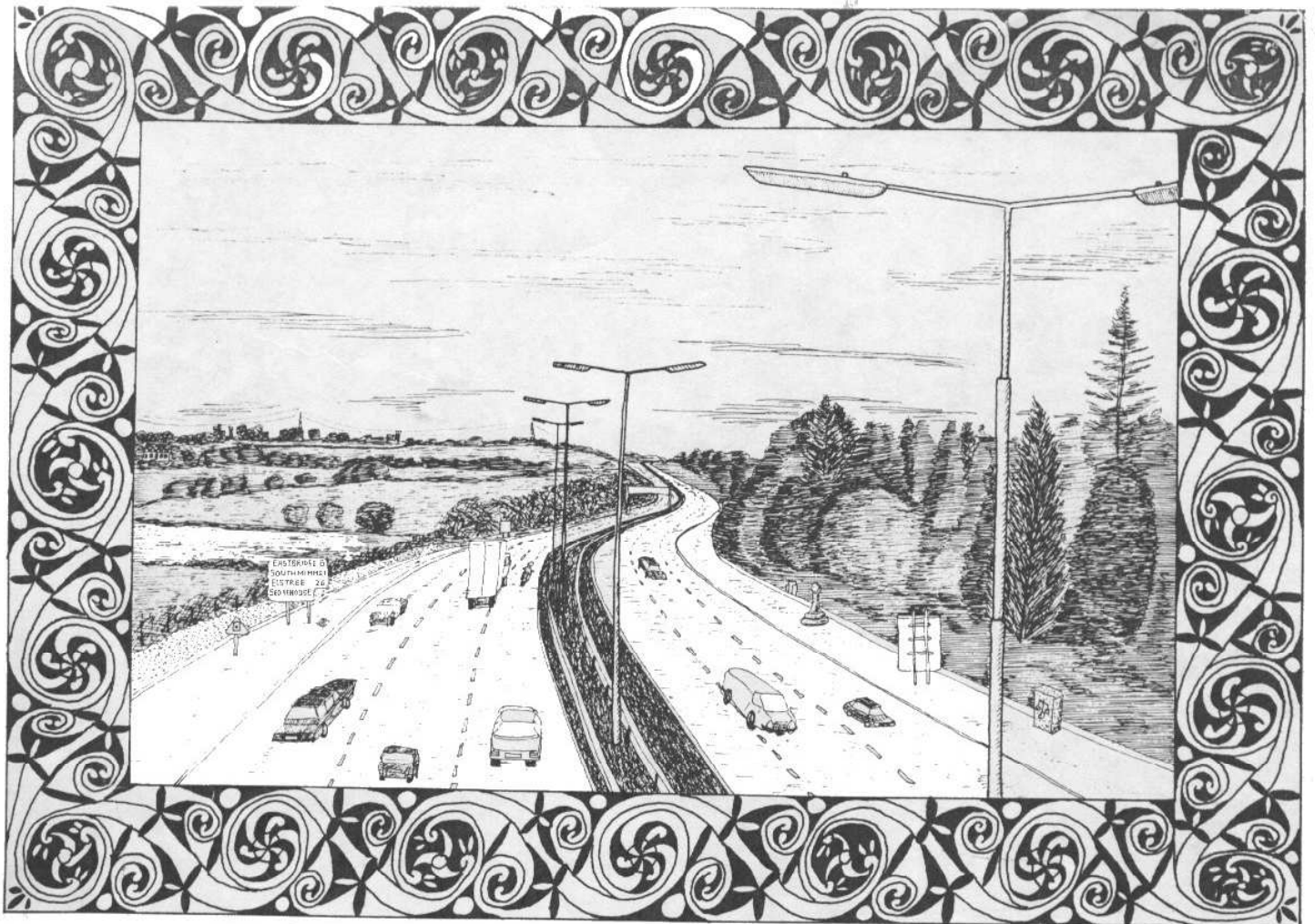




SECTION A
 TL219150

1. Which early aviator had an island named after him?
2. Who first introduced tobacco into France?
3. What is the next in this series: 1843, 2348, 2682, 3236?
4. Who painted "Apoplectic Cardinals Harvesting Tomatoes By The Red Sea"?
5. By how much are 1988 £1 coins more valuable than 1983 £1 coins?
6. Who campaigned for the US presidency under the slogan "You can't beat somebody with nobody"?
7. Which singer was once a goalkeeper for Real Madrid?
8. What is the main use of an alkyl benzene sulphonate?





SECTION B

THE ROAD FROM DICK WHITTINGTON'S
BIRTHPLACE

1. Which club are the current Olympic cricket champions?
2. Which sweet wine is made from grapes grown on the slopes of Vesuvius?
3. In which language is this palindrome:
Sane volema kara rara kamelo venas?
4. If $a^b \times c^d = abcd$ where a, b, c, d are single-digit integers, then what is the value of the four-digit number $abcd$?
5. What was the first man-made artifact to break the sound-barrier?
6. Whose picture decorated the atom bomb dropped on Bikini?
7. What was Florence Nightingale's favourite pet?
8. Which English word contains the letter-sequence GNT?



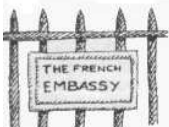


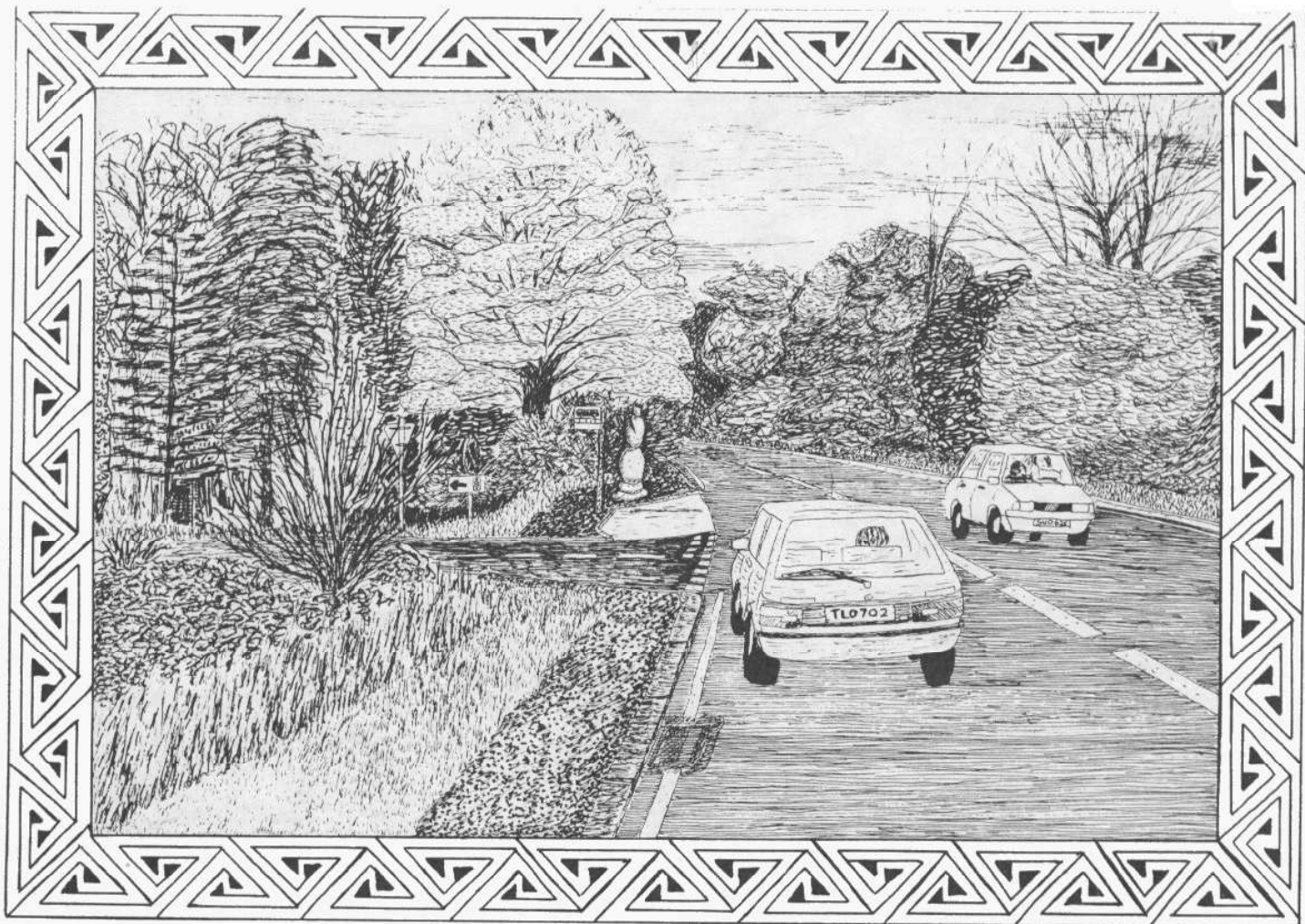
SECTION C



The Fox and Bull Inn by the River Westbourne

1. What is the next line in the song that begins "E ringa pakia waewae tahahia"?
2. What is the least integer which cannot be named in fewer than 25 English syllables?
3. What did Kitty Fisher do with the £50 note given to her by the Duke of York?
4. What sort of creature is a caprimulgus?
5. Who sculpted the statue of Eleanor Rigby in Liverpool?
6. Which boxer's real name was Arnold Cream?
7. From which work did Aldous Huxley take his book title "Antic Hay"?
8. What name is given to a chart showing various shades of grey, against which the density of smoke can be measured?



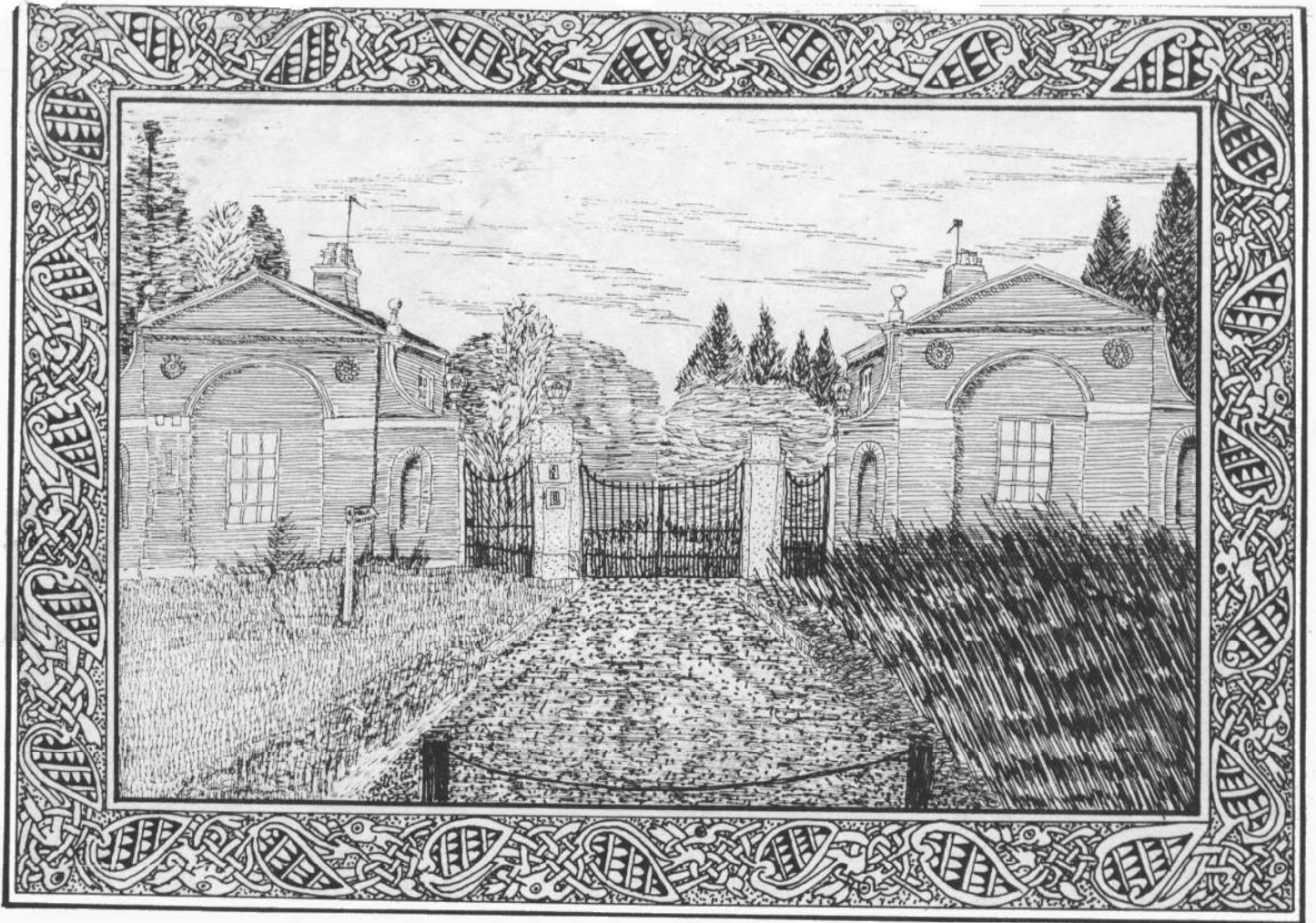


SECTION D

In the smallest borough in England until 1967

1. Which book begins "They came through on the hot line at about half past two in the afternoon"?
2. Who, after the Vice-President, is next in line for the US Presidency?
3. A bag contains a counter that has an equal chance of being either black or white. A white counter is then dropped into the bag and the bag shaken. Then a counter is drawn from the bag and found to be white. What is the percentage chance of the remaining counter being white?
4. Whose dream led to a poem about an ancient mariner?
5. Who is the little girl with the balloons on the BBC test-card?
6. What was the first name of the man accused in the "monkey-house scandal"?
7. Whose parents were Sarek and Amanda?
8. What was the profession of Willie Lowman?





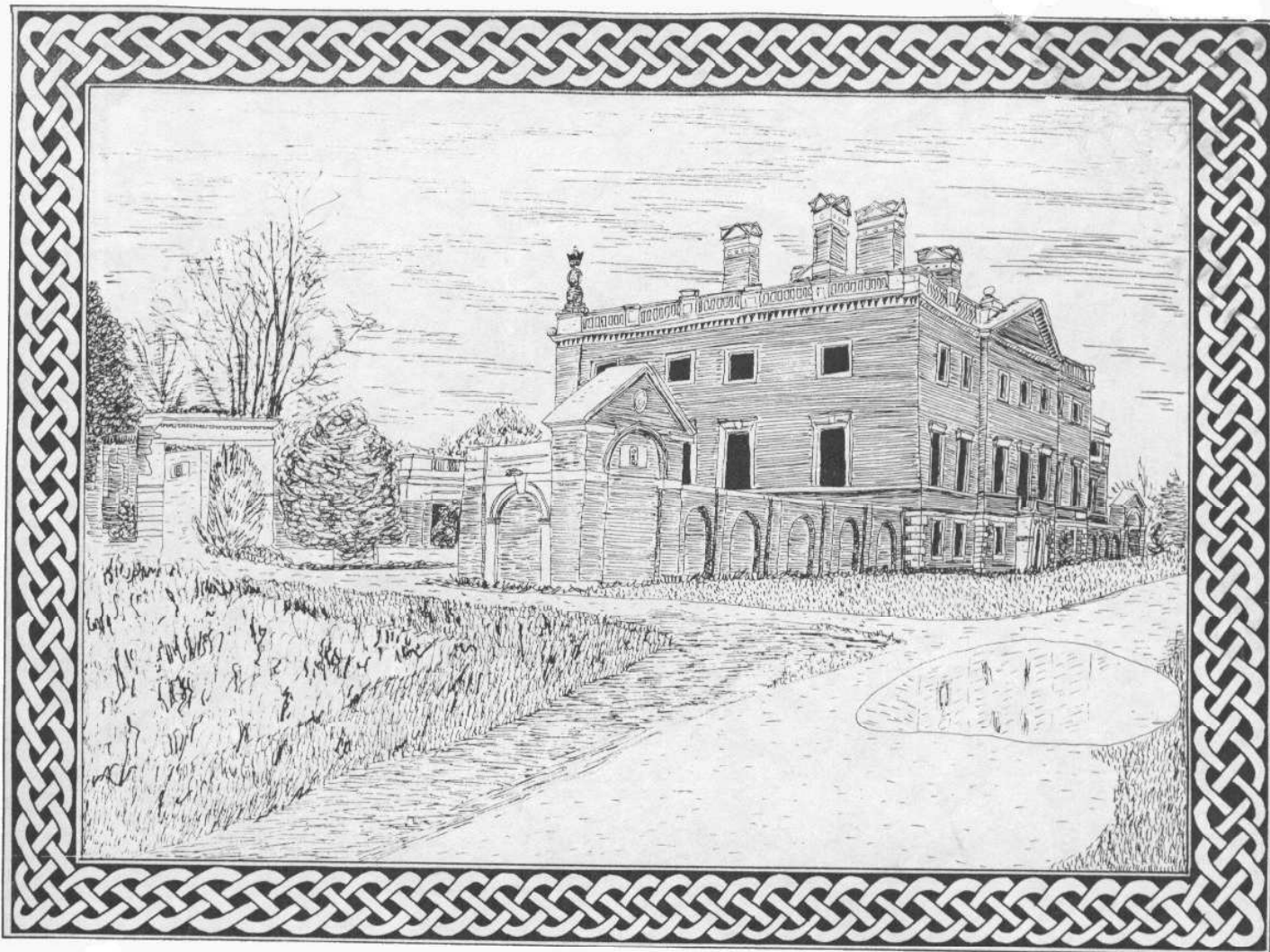
SECTION E



The largest house in Yorkshire

1. Who was billed as "The Essence of Eccentricity"?
2. Which University offers a degree in brewing?
3. Which Scottish king died when he accidentally rode his horse over a cliff in the dark?
4. Which London Underground station has the same name as one on the Paris Metro?
5. In "The Avengers", what was Steed's house-number?
6. With what unusual material did Ahab build a house?
7. Where, other than Belgrave Square, is it that "hearts may beat as pure and fair"?
8. On what date (in April) was Easter Day 1454?



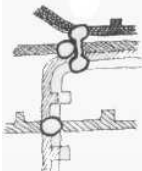


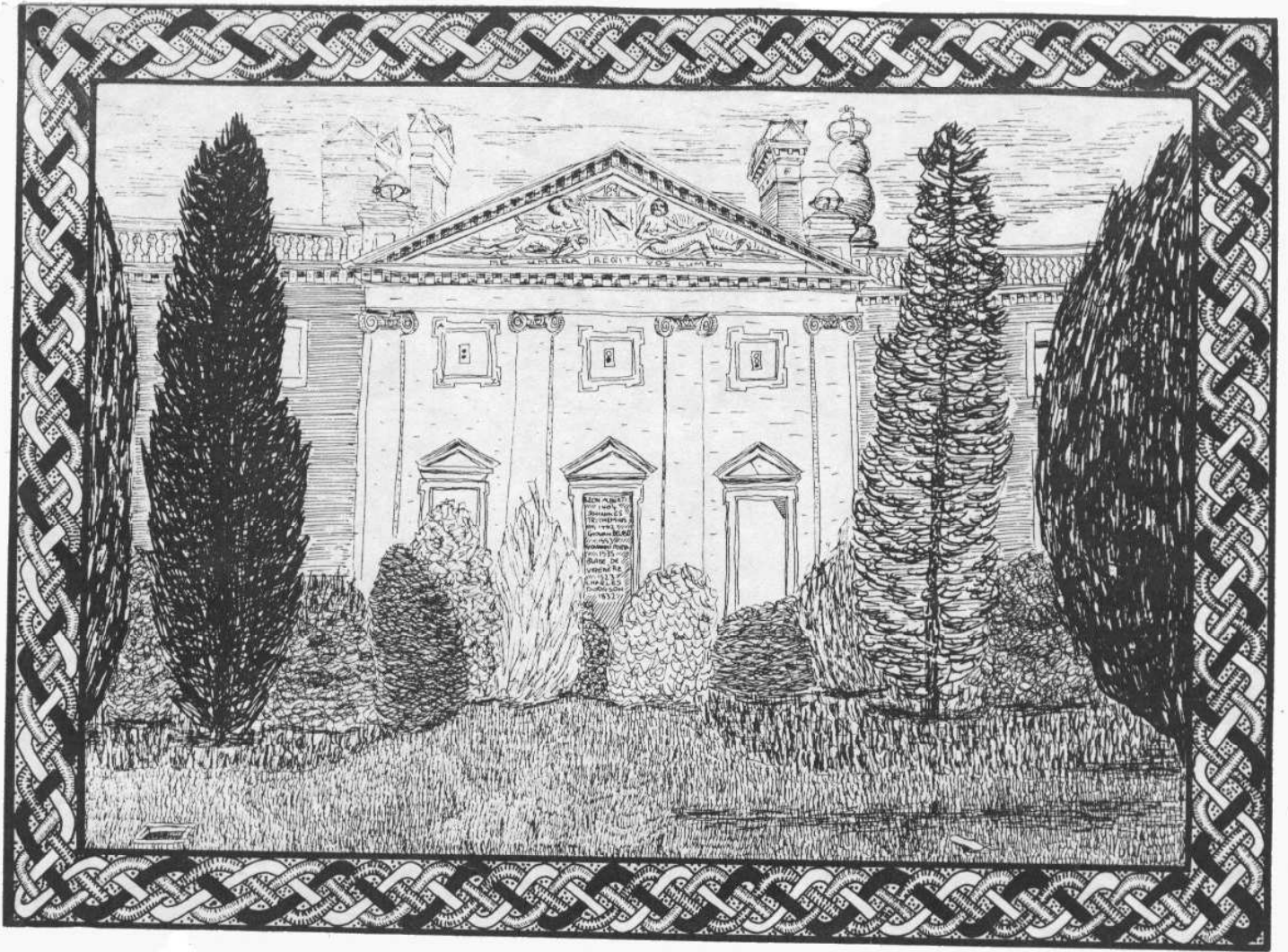
SECTION F



Where Augustus Egg introduced Dickens to Wilkie Collins in 1851

1. Where in Dorset do the pigs live near the brothers?
2. Which instruments make a dramatic entry at the end of the aria "Aprite un po' quegl' occhi" in Mozart's "Figaro", and why?
3. Who owned the horse 'Babieca'?
4. How many knights hung their shields in Branksome Hall?
5. Which Shakespearean character was a football player?
6. What dance can be seen at Bacup on Easter Saturday?
7. What name is given to the dish comprising slices of bread covered with watercress, stilton and slices of Doyenne de Comice and baked in the oven?
8. What is Ratatosk the squirrel's favourite tree?





SECTION 9



The site of the Garden Scene in Richard II

1. What is the highest common factor for all $n^2 - n$ for $n > 1$?
2. What, in summer, do the towns of Darlington, Tewkesbury, Lincoln and Rotherham have in common?
3. What is made from the pith of *Fatsia Papyrifera*?
4. Whose sanity was restored after someone travelled on a hippogriff to the moon in order to recover it?
5. What is the next in this series: J, A, J, W, U, T - and why?
6. Which song has been a UK top ten hit for four different artists?
7. Who captained the "Queen Anne's Revenge"?
8. In which film did Bob Hope co-star with Katharine Hepburn?

