Problems

Send Submissions to:
Lynne A. Price
TUG Macro Coordinator
Calma R&D
587 Lakeside Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Paragraphs in tables

Problem #1: It is occasionally useful to produce tables in which the contents of some fields consist of entire paragraphs. At the last TUG meeting, Mark Blanford suggested the following technique:

\input basic
\DefineFont{cmmis10}{bigfont}
\vfill
\begin{tabular}{|l|}
\hline
Input \end{tabular}

which can be used to produce the following:

this is a test of this $x$ Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party. The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Ha ha ha.

A second paragraph uses a larger font in order to test what is really going on and does this work?

Hanging punctuation

Problem #2: The term "hanging punctuation" describes punctuation symbols that extend into the margin so that line-initial and line-final letters will be aligned even when followed by punctuation. The following paragraph illustrates the technique:

'Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party.' 'Hope this works.' "Do you also?" 'Hope it works, I mean.' 'In quotes.' 'In single quotes.' "In double quotes." How now brown cow? "The rain in Spain stays mainly on the plain." This is a sentence. I should take the time to look for a nicely typeset book that has paragraphs, paragraphs, and paragraphs with hanging punctuation, so that I will have examples of characters, such as periods, commas, and quotation marks, that "protrude" into the margin. If I am lucky, this rather short, and very disjointed, paragraph will illustrate what I need to use to debug these macros.

The problem for this column is to prepare a file PUNCTUATION.TEX, so that the input shown below will produce the above paragraph. A solution will be given in the next issue.

\input punctuation

"Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party." 
"I hope this works." "Do you also?"
"Hope it works, I mean." 
"In quotes." "In single quotes." "In double quotes." How now brown cow? "The rain in Spain stays mainly on the plain." This is a sentence. I should take the time to look for a nicely typeset book that has paragraphs, paragraphs, and paragraphs with hanging punctuation, so that I will have examples of characters, such as periods, commas, and quotation marks, that "protrude" into the margin. If I am lucky, this rather short, and very disjointed, paragraph will illustrate what I need to use to debug these macros.

\input \vfill \end

Hint for Problem #2: Users of versions of \TeX\ that do not provide the \texttt{\textbackslash fx} control sequence may want to modify the input slightly, by inserting backslash characters before punctuation symbols.