ANSWERS TO 2008 CRYPTOGRAMS

1. "Peace on the earth, goodwill to men from heaven's all gracious King!" The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing. — Edmund Hamilton Sears, Unitarian pastor

2. Lullay, Thou little tiny Child. By, by, lully, lullay. Lullay, Thou little tiny Child. By, by, lully, lullay. ... Herod the King, in his raging. Charged he hath this day His men of might, in his own sight, All children young to slay. — olde but goode

3. I saw three ships come sailing in On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day; I saw three ships come sailing in On Christmas Day in the morning. — Mary Time ditty

4. We are not daily beggars that beg from door to door, but we are neighbors' children whom you have seen before. — revealing stanza

5. Come they told me, pa rum pum pum pum.
A new born King to see, pa rum pum pum pum.
Our finest gifts we bring, pa rum pum pum pum.
To lay before the King, pa rum pum pum pum.
rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum. — percussive drool

6. See number 4.

7. The cattle are lowing. The poor baby wakes but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. — manger lullaby

8. The living language is like a cow-path: it is the creation of the cows themselves, who, having created it, follow it or depart from it according to their whims or their needs. From daily use, the path undergoes change. A cow is under no obligation to stay. — E.B. White

9. To see ourselves as others see us is a most salutary gift. Hardly less important is the capacity to see others as they see themselves. — Aldous Huxley

10. Society is like a stew. If you don't keep it stirred up you get a lot of scum on the top. — Edward Abbey, naturalist and author

11. Through the years, I have learned that there is no harm in charging oneself up with delusions between moments of valid inspiration. — Steve Martin

12. Recent tests put the United States in fourteenth place [in student science and math skills] in an international comparison. But at least we are still in the top ten! — Tom Reesor

13. Time is nature's way of keeping everything from happening at once. — restroom graffiti

14. If I were two-faced, would I be wearing this one? — Abraham Lincoln

original puzzles available on-line at www.uoregon.edu/~wright