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A Hex History Mystery: Who Posed the Puzzles?

From December 1942 through August 1943, Piet Hein wrote a series of newspaper columns on Hex, then called Polygon. Most columns featured a puzzle. But Hein publicly professed to being a poor Polygon player: how had he crafted 49 perplexing puzzles?

In October 2017 Bjarne Toft and the speaker solved this Hex history mystery. I will give clues and then reveal the true Polygon puzzlist. I will also mention some open Hex problems. All this and more will appear in *Hex, inside and out: the full story* by Hayward and Toft, CRC Press, January 2019.