PASTOR'S REPORT

PUBLISHED BY THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

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FROM PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings from Pasadena! We had a very fine conference of the International Directors last week. They are an extremely loyal and enthusiastic group of men, and it was an inspiration to be with them.

The highlight of the conference was our four-hour visit with Mr. Armstrong in Tucson. In a very special way, on this occasion, I think all of us realized that we were in the presence of God's Apostle. Mr. Armstrong was exceptionally warm and heart-felt, and what he had to say to us was obviously inspired by God.

Before the luncheon in his home, we had the opportunity to perform four ordinations: Mr. Bram de Bree, Director of the Dutch Work, was raised to Preaching Elder; Mr. Stan Bass, Director of the Work in the Caribbean, was raised to Pastor; Mr. Walter Dickinson, Director of the Spanish Work, was raised to Pastor; and Dr. Roy McCarthy, Director of the Work in South Africa, was also raised to Pastor rank in Christ's ministry!

Needless to say, this was very inspiring and encouraging to everyone present. There were a lot of wet eyes and some heart-felt congratulations.

All is going well here at Pasadena. The income is holding fairly steady at about 8-10% increase, and The PLAIN TRUTH list is again growing.

The College staff tells me that this year's incoming freshman class looks truly outstanding! Many are near the top of their high school classes, have excellent SAT scores and really seem to be motivated more than in recent years. So this certainly indicates that Christ must be preparing us for real GROWTH in the future by having these young people trained ahead of time!

Now for the perennial BAD news. During this time of "testing" in the Work of the Living Christ, it seems that many drop out or have to be terminated from God's Work, and it is my duty to keep you informed.

So here goes.

Dennis Pyle refused to come in on sabbatical and has resigned from the ministry. Jim Redus also refused to come in for his sabbatical and has resigned. Dennis Adams has been terminated from the ministry as he wants to pursue a secular vocation.

On a much more serious note, Daryll Watson has been terminated and disfellowshipped for disloyalty to God's Work. He is already actively cooperating with the enemies of Christ's Work. Jack Martin has also been terminated and disfellowshipped. He, too, was found actively assisting

the enemies of this Work. And I am very sorry to report that David Robinson whom we worked with personally for many, many hours on his problems, has had to be terminated and now disfellowshipped because of gross disloyalty to Mr. Armstrong and this Work.

If we, ourselves, are going to be loyal to Christ, then we must heed the command of His Apostle: "Mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which you have learned; and avoid them " (Romans 16:17).

Again, we are being "tested" on the key issue of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD! Some of these rebels try to talk and reason and argue and somehow "slide" the whole matter into another realm. But it is just plain DISLOYALTY to the government of God which all these men and all of us have preached for years.

Fellows, read again I Samuel 8:1-7. The account here certainly indicates that there was a genuine problem and that Samuel may, in fact, have been slow in acting on it. But even though virtually "all" (verse 4) the leading men of Israel decided to rebel against the government of God through Samuel, did that make it right?

NO!

For God said to Samuel: "They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected ME, that I SHOULD NOT REIGN OVER THEM!"

Down through history, carnal men have ALWAYS seemed to find "fault" with God's government through His human instruments. Note Acts 7:35--"This Moses whom they refused, saying, 'Who made thee a ruler and a judge?' The same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush."

Later, they rejected Samuel. And still later, they crucified Jesus Christ.

Weren't there some "real" problems extant that the Israelites stumbled at in the days of Moses and in the days of Samuel?

Of course!

But the rebels failed to see the BIG PICTURE! They failed to recognize that, in spite of "real" problems that these men of God had and that you and I also have, they were still dealing with the government of GOD! And, as God told Samuel, when we reject a tried and tested white-haired patriarch or apostle, like Samuel or Mr. Herbert Armstrong, we are rejecting GOD!

Well, fellows, excuse me again for preaching. But all of us need it once in awhile--including me--and it appears that many of us need it at this particular time. For it is so easy to forget that the Living Christ is directing His Church--fashioning and molding us, trying and "testing" us--and preparing those who are loyal for responsibilities in His soon-coming government over this entire earth.

I know that the vast majority of you are loyal, and have stood firm with us through these several years of trying and testing. Thanks very

much for your loyalty, your hard work and your enthusiasm. Let's all keep it up, build loyalty and unity in all those entrusted to our care, and help Mr. Armstrong prepare this Church as the bride of Jesus Christ. You will be rewarded--eternally.

With Christian love,

Roderick C. Meredith

ANOTHER BOOK BY MR. ARMSTRONG NEARS COMPLETION

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong's latest book for commercial distribution, to be published by Everest House in hard-cover format, will be distributed free to members at the coming Feast of Tabernacles! The title of the book is Tomorrow--What It Will Be Like. The text of the book is essentially the same as The Wonderful World Tomorrow, which is still in free booklet format. The hard cover book is now in the final stages of design, and final galleys have gone to Mr. Armstrong for his approval.

The Incredible Human Potential is now in many bookstores across the nation and is being read by some book reviewers. The reactions to the book from the book trade press have been positive.

A few people are still confused about the purpose of publishing Mr. Armstrong's books commercially. The first thing to remember is that we are not doing this for financial gain. The purpose is to reach a new group of people. To quote Mr. Armstrong's Co-Worker letter of September 26, 1978, "Millions of people constantly buy books in bookstores--and these are people we may not be able to reach in any other way. THIS OPENS TO GOD'S CHURCH AN ENTIRE NEW MEDIUM FOR PROCLAIMING CHRIST'S GOSPEL TO THE WORLD."

--Roger G. Lippross, Publishing Services

SUBSCRIBER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS PRODUCE RESULTS

As Mr. Herbert Armstrong has stated during recent months, though enemies have tried to harm God's Work, it continues to go forward in strength and power nonetheless.

In the Subscriber Development area alone, we estimate that the recent receivership problems cost us from 3/4 to 1.4 million dollars in lost income! But, God has blessed us with growth in spite of the temporary setbacks.

A Three-Year Overview

The main thrust and goal in Subscriber Development is to HELP PEOPLE--to help them grow spiritually and become more involved with God's Work. It has been, and still is, a TEAM EFFORT. Mr. Armstrong approved and helped to establish the Program, and so his input and guidance has been instrumental in the Program's success.

The cooperation of other departments has also been invaluable. Many departments, such as Editorial, Publishing Services, Data Processing,

Ministerial Services, etc., have given MPC their support and are therefore involved in the results given below:

> The end of June 1979 marked 36 months of Subscriber Development activities. In that time we had the opportunity to create 16 major mailing programs, besides maintaining six other programs that were already in existence before Subscriber Development began. From these 22 programs came 444 mailing packages or involvement letters, comprising 20,724,595 letters and advertising 135 pieces of literature.
>
> These involvement letters have produced encouraging results. In the past three years 11,828 people on the mailing list, with whom we all have worked, became baptized members.
>
> In addition to helping these new members, our mailings helped to produce 21,938 new donors, over 60,300 co-workers, and 81,038 Correspondence Course students. We hasten to give God thanks for the new growth!

As mentioned, the recent receivership disruption did hurt our early 1979 responses, but the stituation is improving now and we anticipate a gradual climb back to the progress of the last three years.

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP?

A Local Elder of God's Church would like to have a middle-aged white lady (preferably a WCG member receiving third tithe assistance) to live in his home and help care for his wife who is partially confined to bed due to injuries from an auto accident, and who suffers from hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) and a heart condition. The lady would also be responsible for cooking and housekeeping. Free room (private) and board will be furnished in exchange for services rendered.

Any Pastor who knows of any widow or other qualified lady who would be interested in accepting this offer to relocate in Montgomery, Ala. (a city of about 155,000 people with a local WCG church of about 200 in attendance) and live in a nice quiet neighborhood just outside the city limits with a man, his wife and 17 year-old son, please contact Jack C. Sheppard, c/o R. K. Henderson, Jr., P.O. Box 11421, Montgomery, Ala. 36111 or call 205-264-4604 after 6:00 p.m. CDST for further details. An early reply will be greatly appreciated since the need is urgent.

--Richard Rice

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SOUTHERN AFRICA
(Dr. Roy McCarthy, Regional Director)

We greet you with good news from Southern Africa. Good news, that is, as far as God's Work is concerned. The area presently administered from the Johannesburg office consists of South Africa, Zimbabwe/Rhodesia, Namibia, Lesotho, Botswana, Bophuthatswana, Swaziland, and Transkei.

Our total PLAIN TRUTH circulation is 80,000, of which 50,000 are distributed by mailing and the remainder on newsstand outlets in various super-

markets and hypermarkets. Our response to the latter still averages out at 4%. What we like about our mailing list is the fact that 50% of our subscribers are readers who have renewed again and again.

New Subscribers

New subscribers have been added to our PLAIN TRUTH mailing list as follows:

1. Newsstand Distribution responses: 5,200 since January 1979. We increased our newsstand distribution by 14,000 in the month of September 1978. Total newsstand distribution is now 30,000 per month.

2. Referral Program Responses: Our PLAIN TRUTH wrapper carries an offer of an introductory copy of the PLAIN TRUTH to a friend of the reader. We find that 30% of those who receive the sample copy also request a year's subscription. Since January we have added 5,200 new subscribers, averaging about 900 per month. Excellent results for a no cost program.

3. Word of mouth responses: Monthly we receive approximately 500 requests for the PLAIN TRUTH from those who have been introduced to the magazine through personal contact with another reader.

Renewals

Our mailing list is subject to an ongoing renewal system. The reader is given three opportunities to renew. The results are good. Presently we have a response rate of 64%.

Bible Correspondence Course

Since January 1979 we have added 4,900 to those already on the Correspondence Course. We still find the Correspondence Course the most valuable means of leading people towards the Bible and the Church.

The Church

The Church is growing and our membership at the end of May, 1979 is 1,239. This is a 6% increase compared with this time last year. Our overall attendance is 7% higher now, averaging about 1600.

Finances

Our Holy Day offerings year to date, including Pentecost, are 10.5% more than in 1978. Our monthly money income is up 13% year to date. However, we continue to face a climbing inflation rate--now at 12.6%. This will go up, some say, by as much as an additional 1.9% because of the energy crisis and price of gasoline. Our litre now costs us 54 cents (45.76 U.S. cents) which is 2½ times what is paid in the United States. The recent 15% increase in the price adds 1200 US dollars to our office fuel bill every month.

There was to have been a 50% increase in postal tariffs in October, 1979, but this has just been postponed. A temporary relief only.

GERMANY
(Mr. Frank Schnee, Regional Director)

The highlight for the German-language churches in June was Mr. Frank Schnee's series of weekend visits to the various church areas. During his seven-week stay, Mr. Schnee visited and preached to each church area, devoting himself to current projects and planning ahead for the '80s with expansion in mind. The membership greeted Mr. and Mrs. Schnee enthusiastically, again demonstrating that recent events revolving around the receivership have had no negative repercussions. Instead, many members have indicated that this persecution of the Work has further bolstered their conviction that this is indeed the end time. Mr. Schnee returned to Pasadena in the middle of July.

In June Alfred Hellemann, local elder serving Austria and Bavaria, visited our lone member in Poland, Victor Przybylla (pronounced Chee-bee-lah), and his wife and six children. Despite their isolation, Mr. Przybylla's family is doing well and he himself is growing in faith. His wife is not baptized but is becoming increasingly friendly to visitors from the West, Mr. Hellemann reports. Mr. Przybylla hopes church members everywhere will pray that more religious freedom (and thus the opportunity to preach the Gospel more freely) will soon be allowed in Poland. The success of the Pope's recent visit will probably result in more leeway for other churches too, Mr. Przybylla feels.

Office

As usual with the summer school vacation beginning, our incoming mail decreases in comparison with other months of the year. We are using the additional time to plan our efforts for 1980. This project with all the different considerations involved, will undoubtedly take several months to complete. Also, office members are now able to take their vacations without leaving others behind inundated with additional work.

Income

The mail income for the year to date is up 8.5% over last year. At present our Holy Day offerings are up 14.4% over last year.

--Compiled by Rod Matthews, International Office

ON THE WORLD SCENE

IMMIGRANT, ILLEGAL ALIEN TIDE ENDANGERS PUBLIC HEALTH: For the past several weeks the news from South East Asia has been grim: hundreds of thousands of hapless refugees thrust out of Vietnam and onto the high seas. Appeals to many nations for permanent resettlement of these unfortunates have often fallen on deaf ears, especially in the nations surrounding Vietnam. Reason: most of the refugees are ethnic Chinese, and Chinese already form sensitively significant minority communities in the area.

Much of the resettlement burden therefore has fallen on the United States, which already has swallowed up 250,000 of them. More will be arriving soon at a rate of 14,000 a month.

Public health authorities are now showing great concern over the impact of the refugees on the rest of the population. They are equally concerned

also with the threat to public health as a result of the enormous and never-ending influx of illegal aliens, mostly from Mexico. Nobody even knows how many illegals (oh, excuse me, "undocumented workers") there are in the United States. Estimates vary wildly from two to twelve million!

The diseases these people bring with them, according to an expert in social work at the University of Southern California, "are all third world kinds of health problems," the sort that the United States wiped out years ago largely through sanitation and public education. But now, according to a lengthy report in the Los Angeles Times (July 23, 1979) the immigrant tide, carrying with it a panoply of communicable diseases "could...move the country back toward 19th-century standards of public health."

Some examples of the scope of the problem, specifically in L.A. County, a major entry area for both refugees and illegals, are as follows:

Tuberculosis is increasing in L.A. County at the very time it has declined elsewhere in the U.S.; Malaria cases in California have been doubling annually for the past three years; Leprosy (not indigenous to L.A. County): 255 cases in 1978--a ten-fold increase since 1954; and, a near-epidemic outbreak of shigellosis, a dangerous intestinal parasite in the East L.A. barrio. (Given the gastro-intestinal parasite problem, one wonders about the safety of some restaurant meals. The restaurant industry in big cities could hardly exist without illegal workers.)

Public health officials, strained as they are for funds to fight the diseases because of tax cutbacks, are also worried about future outbreaks of measles, polio and other communicable diseases, due largely to the extremely low level of immunization among illegal aliens. The illegals present a veritable disease time-bomb merely because of their sequestered existence: they are loathe to contact public health authorities out of fear of being discovered and shipped back across the border. Their often crowded living conditions foster disease. And being in the country illegally they have avoided mandatory public health screening before entry in the first place.

Thus, it could very well be that one of the main factors contributing to the prophesied disease epidemics to hit the United States will be the immigrant tide swamping America's shores.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

July 23, 1979

MEMBER'S HOTLINE WORLDWIDE EDITION

MR. ARMSTRONG BEGINS NEW TV FORMAT, TAPES FEAST MESSAGES

On Sunday, July 15, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong began taping a new format for the World Tomorrow television program. The new programs will be interview style with longtime friend and announcer Art Gilmore. These programs are now being taped in Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong's home in Tucson in lieu of the old format where Mr. Armstrong preached sermons to live audiences around the United States.

For starters Mr. Armstrong taped more than two hours worth of questions and answers. This new series will be topic oriented and the first two topics covered were on government--"Which Shall We Obey--Civil Government or God's?", and an inside look into Mr. Armstrong's personal meetings with world leaders. These programs should be airing on the stations starting around the middle of August to the first week of September.

Two weeks ago, Mr. Armstrong delivered for videotaping two Feast messages; one for the opening Friday night session, and then another for the keynote sermon for the first morning of the Feast. This year he delivered the sermons from his home with a small audience sitting in front of him between the cameras, whereas last year Mr. Armstrong taped his Feast message at the Auditorium P.M. services.

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MAD'S "JUDGE OF THE YEAR"

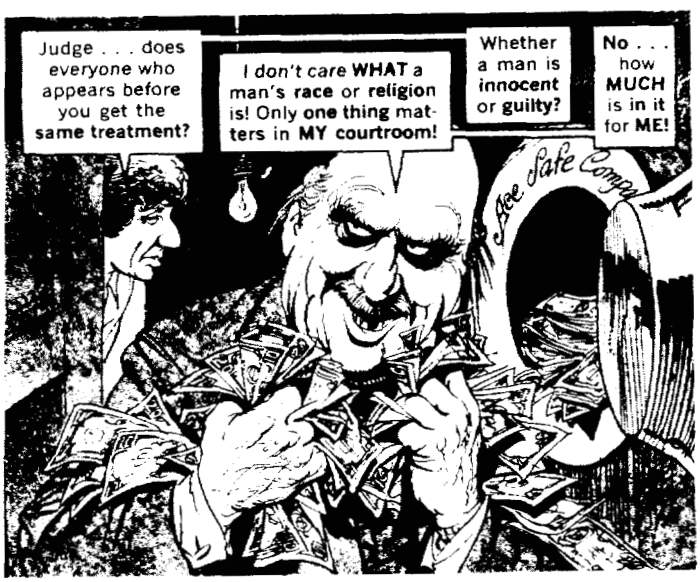
Editor's Note: The "Reproaching the Bench Dept." of the September '79 issue of Mad magazine contains a zany spoof of the judicial process. Mr. Rader requested that it be duplicated in the MEMBER'S HOTLINE for the enjoyment of all our readers. The article begins on page two. (Permission was granted by E.C. Publications Inc.)

REPROACHING THE BENCH DEPT.

Hi! I'm **Broadway Joe Nomyth!** If you're wondering why I still call myself **"Broadway Joe,"** it's because **Broadway** is in about the **same shape** as **my career**—a **disaster area!** Ex-quarterbacks **aren't** exactly **in demand!** Which is why I'm doing this **idiotic interview!** It was either work for **MAD,** or back to being a **waterboy** for the **Rams!** Anyway, I'm here to interview **Justice Spurious Kickback,** who's been selected as...

MAD'S "JUDGE OF THE YEAR"

WRITER: LOU SILVERSTONE ARTIST: GEORGE WOODBRIDGE



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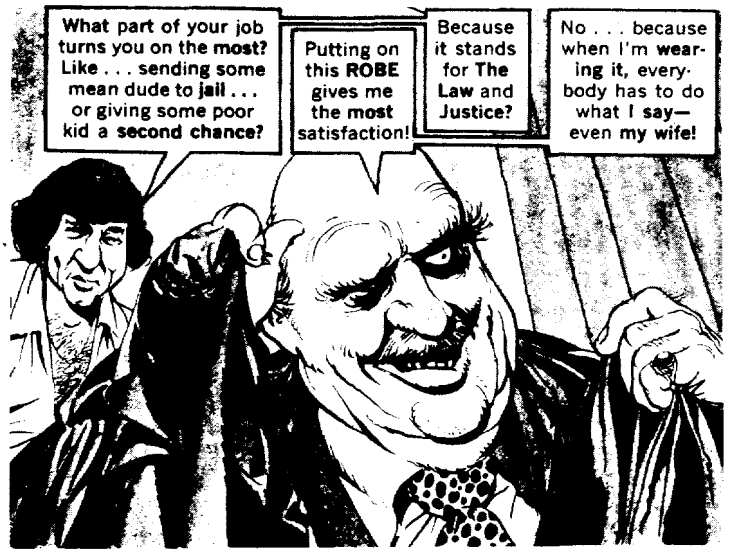
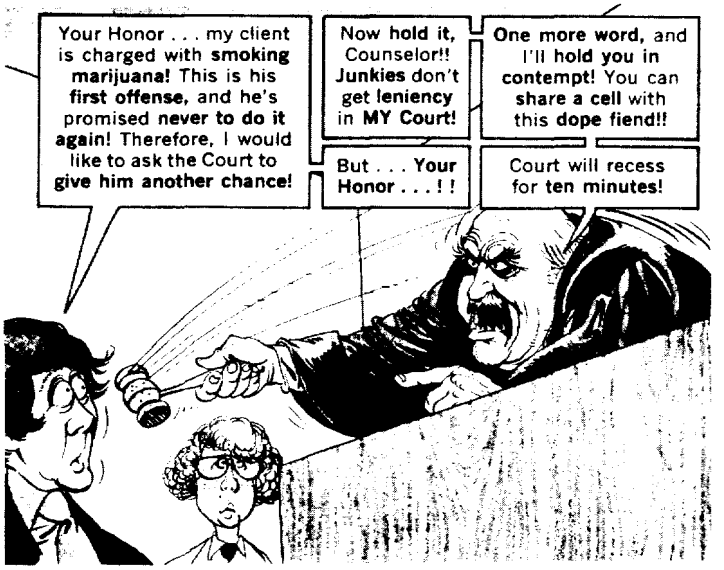
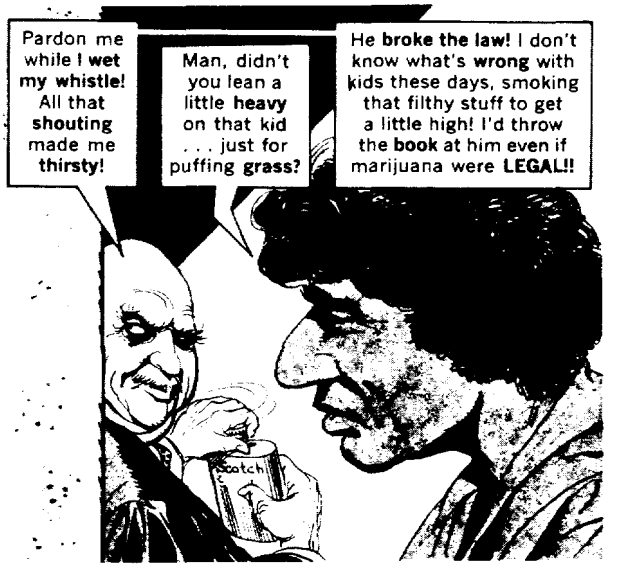
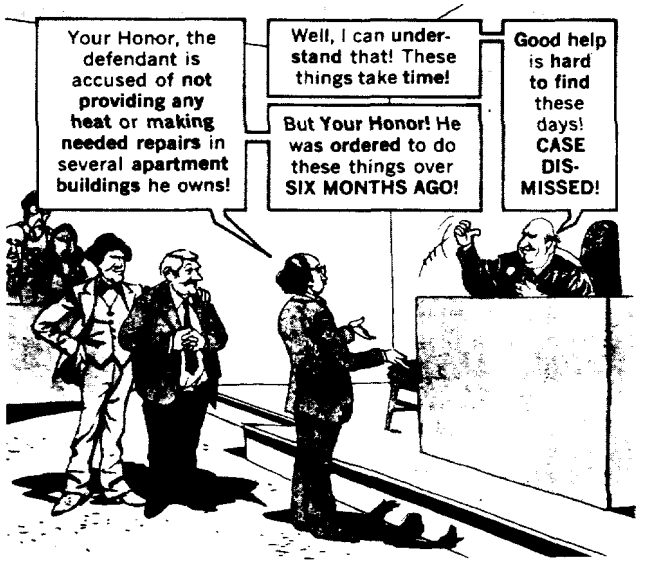
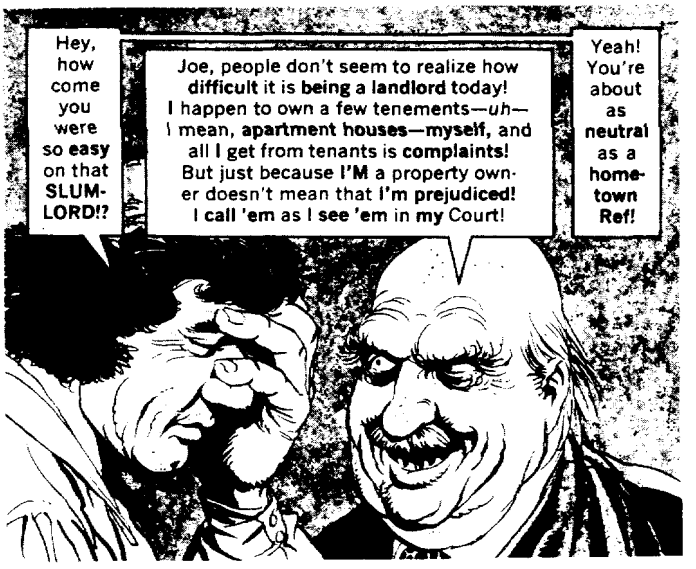

What part of your job turns you on the most? Like . . . sending some mean dude to jail . . . or giving some poor kid a second chance?
Putting on this ROBE gives me the most satisfaction!
Because it stands for The Law and Justice?
No . . . because when I'm wearing it, everybody has to do what I say—even my wife!

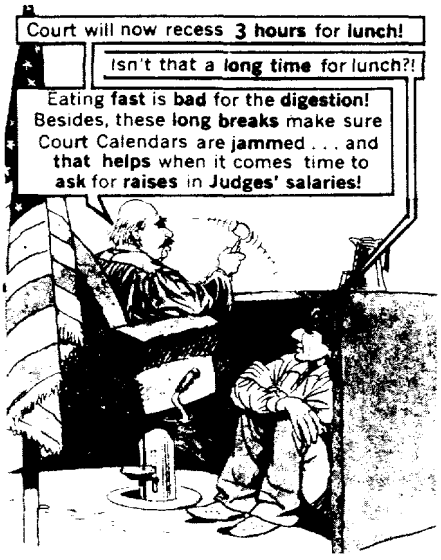
Hear ye . . . hear ye! All rise! All rise! This Court is now in session! Honorable Judge Spurious J. Kickback, presiding!
Isn't this fantastic?! Nobody sits down until I give them the word!
I can relate to that! The same thing used to happen to me when I walked into a Singles Bar!!

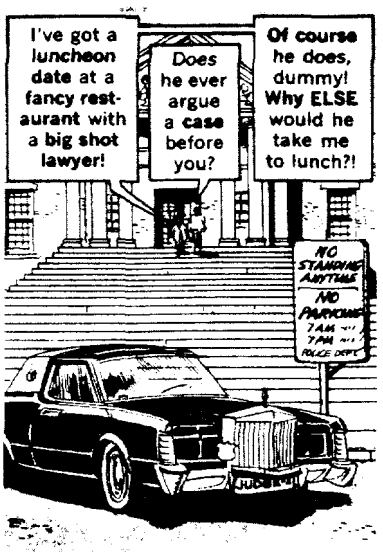

Your Honor . . . my client is charged with smoking marijuana! This is his first offense, and he's promised never to do it again! Therefore, I would like to ask the Court to give him another chance!
Now hold it, Counselor!! Junkies don't get leniency in MY Court!
But . . . Your Honor . . . ! !
One more word, and I'll hold you in contempt! You can share a cell with this dope fiend!!
Court will recess for ten minutes!


Pardon me while I wet my whistle! All that shouting made me thirsty!
Man, didn't you lean a little heavy on that kid . . . just for puffing grass?
He broke the law! I don't know what's wrong with kids these days, smoking that filthy stuff to get a little high! I'd throw the book at him even if marijuana were LEGAL!!
Scotch

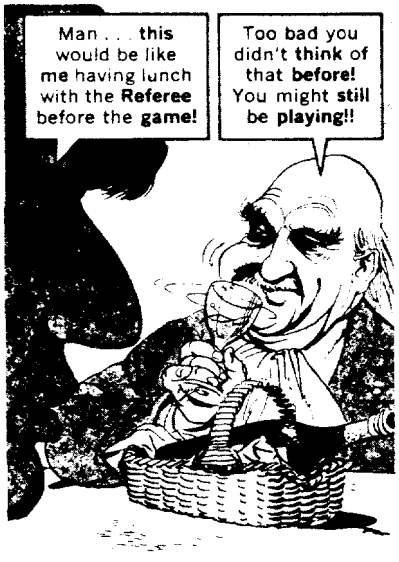

Your Honor, the defendant is accused of not providing any heat or making needed repairs in several apartment buildings he owns!
Well, I can understand that! These things take time!
But Your Honor! He was ordered to do these things over SIX MONTHS AGO!
Good help is hard to find these days! CASE DISMISSED!

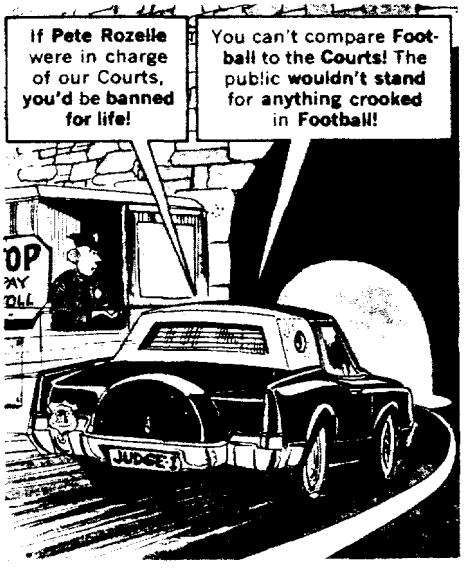

Hey, how come you were so easy on that SLUMLORD!?
Joe, people don't seem to realize how difficult it is being a landlord today! I happen to own a few tenements—uh—I mean, apartment houses—myself, and all I get from tenants is complaints! But just because I'M a property owner doesn't mean that I'm prejudiced! I call 'em as I see 'em in my Court!
Yeah! You're about as neutral as a hometown Ref!

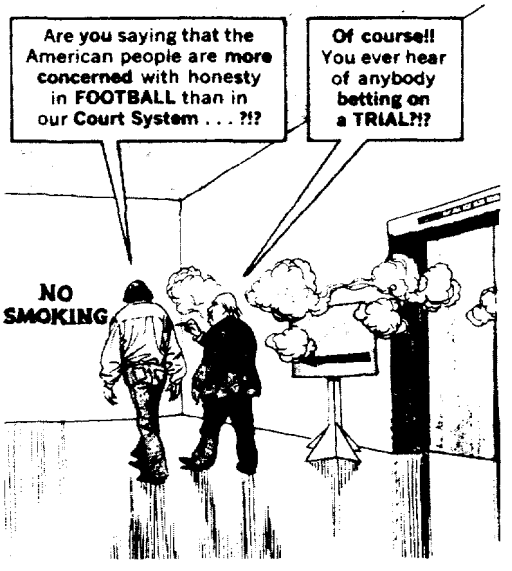

Court will now recess 3 hours for lunch!
Isn't that a long time for lunch?!
Eating fast is bad for the digestion! Besides, these long breaks make sure Court Calendars are jammed . . . and that helps when it comes time to ask for raises in Judges' salaries!

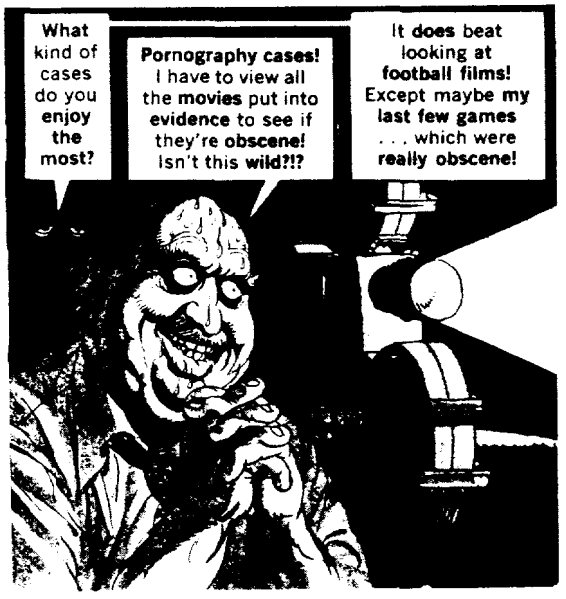

I've got a luncheon date at a fancy restaurant with a big shot lawyer!
Does he ever argue a case before you?
Of course he does, dummy! Why ELSE would he take me to lunch?!
NO STANDING ANYTIME
NO PARKING
7 AM
7 PM
POLICE DEPT

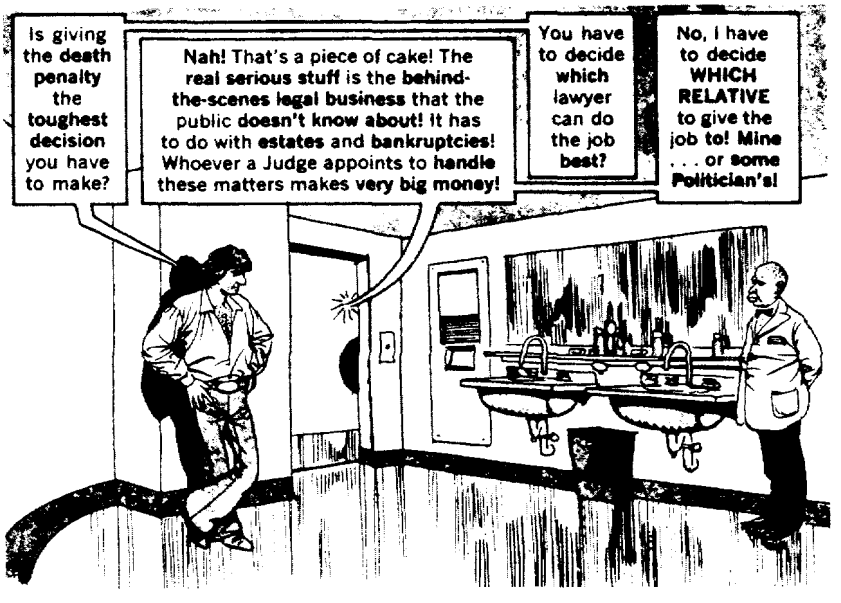
But isn't this a—a conflict of interest?
It doesn't conflict with MY interest!
Mine, either! Kickback, I've got to run! Enjoy your lunch . . . and I'll see you later, in Court!

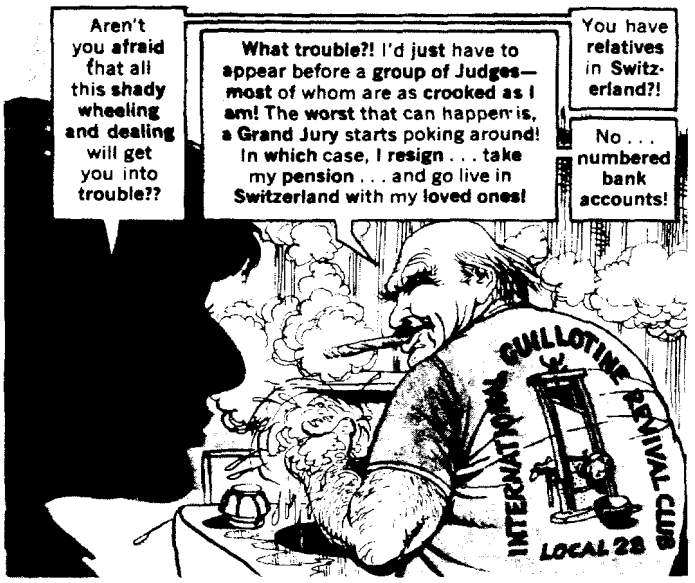

Man . . . this would be like me having lunch with the Referee before the game!
Too bad you didn't think of that before! You might still be playing!!

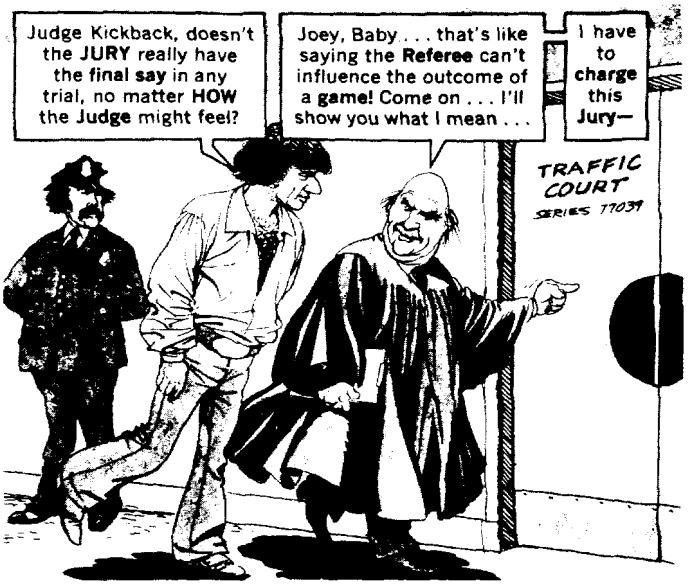

If Pete Rozelle were in charge of our Courts, you'd be banned for life!
You can't compare Football to the Courts! The public wouldn't stand for anything crooked in Football!
JUDGE

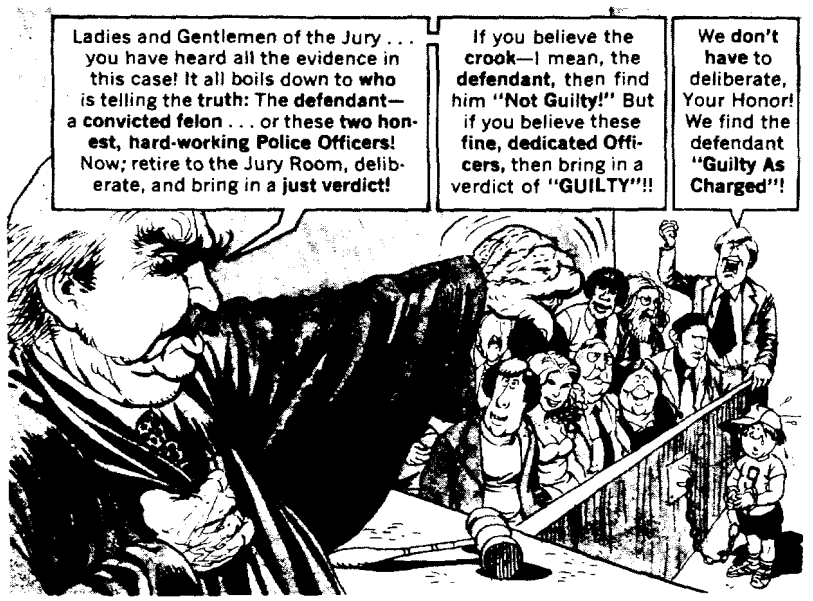

Are you saying that the American people are more concerned with honesty in FOOTBALL than in our Court System . . . ?!?
Of course!! You ever hear of anybody betting on a TRIAL?!?
NO SMOKING


What kind of cases do you enjoy the most?
Pornography cases! I have to view all the movies put into evidence to see if they're obscene! Isn't this wild?!?
It does beat looking at football films! Except maybe my last few games . . . which were really obscene!


Is giving the death penalty the toughest decision you have to make?
Nah! That's a piece of cake! The real serious stuff is the behind-the-scenes legal business that the public doesn't know about! It has to do with estates and bankruptcies! Whoever a Judge appoints to handle these matters makes very big money!
You have to decide which lawyer can do the job best?
No, I have to decide WHICH RELATIVE to give the job to! Mine . . . or some Politician's!


Aren't you afraid that all this shady wheeling and dealing will get you into trouble??
What trouble?! I'd just have to appear before a group of Judges—most of whom are as crooked as I am! The worst that can happen is, a Grand Jury starts poking around! In which case, I resign . . . take my pension . . . and go live in Switzerland with my loved ones!
You have relatives in Switzerland?!
No . . . numbered bank accounts!
INTERNATIONAL GUILLOTINE REVIVAL CLUB LOCAL 23

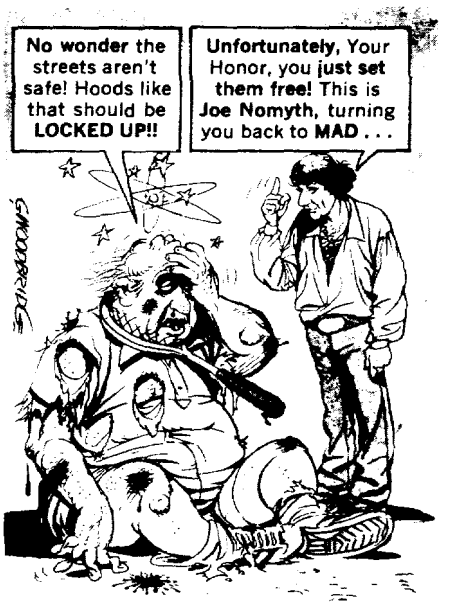

Judge Kickback, doesn't the JURY really have the final say in any trial, no matter HOW the Judge might feel?
Joey, Baby . . . that's like saying the Referee can't influence the outcome of a game! Come on . . . I'll show you what I mean . . .
I have to charge this Jury—
TRAFFIC COURT
SERIES 77039


Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury . . . you have heard all the evidence in this case! It all boils down to who is telling the truth: The defendant—a convicted felon . . . or these two honest, hard-working Police Officers! Now; retire to the Jury Room, deliberate, and bring in a just verdict!
If you believe the crook—I mean, the defendant, then find him "Not Guilty!" But if you believe these fine, dedicated Officers, then bring in a verdict of "GUILTY"!!
We don't have to deliberate, Your Honor! We find the defendant "Guilty As Charged"!

Your Honor, these two minors are accused of robbing and assaulting this man!
Were you boys ever in trouble before?
Nuttin' serious, Jug! Just rippin' off cars and kid-stuff like dat!
Okay, I'm going to take a chance on you two! Now, I don't want to ever see you two back here again! Case dismissed!

I dont' get it! How come you let those two punks go? They really worked that old guy over!
Sometimes, Justice must be tempered with Mercy! Besides, I've got no time for a long legal hassle! I'm already late for my tennis game!
And you know that tennis courts are more crowded than mine!

Help! Help, Police!
Shut up, creep, and hand over your wallet!!


No wonder the streets aren't safe! Hoods like that should be LOCKED UP!!
Unfortunately, Your Honor, you just set them free! This is Joe Nomyth, turning you back to MAD . . .
SMOOSHERS