

TELL TALES

(Continued from Page 4)

he threatens a cross-examining attorney. Have you ever heard of this before? Can you imagine the contempt charges if you or we pulled something like this off? And Greenspun is an attorney, who should know better.

Greenspun's whole case depends on an allegation in his complaint: "with knowledge and consent of Howard Hughes." Here we have Greenspun admitting under oath there was no agreement with Hughes. How do you like that?

Now we come to Paul Price, who, up to now had been known, and accepted in the role of "Hatchet Man" for Greenspun. As "Hatchet Man" he could use his own manner and means to accomplish the assignment. But he is no longer in that questionable and dubious role. He is now a brown-nosing "Yes Man." Two recent examples.

In one case Price embarked on a most vituperative project to expose a proposed cemetery in Paradise Valley near a project of homes. Who would want to look out their living room window and see tombstones, he stirred up for a couple of columns. But lo and behold, Greenspun cut it short by jamming down Price's throat the fact that the proposed cemetery was land he, Greenspun had sold to a top union leader. Not a word, not even a peep of explanation by Price. The subject was ended.

More recently Price "exposed" a proposed plan by the Convention Center to book a huge convention in Las Vegas if hotel and motel owners would add a fee to each rental to help defray the cost of the convention. "It's illegal," screamed Price. "They should go to jail," etc., etc. "I have advice from foremost attorneys and law enforcement officers," bleated Price.

Then Greenspun explained the practice was logical, practical and legal. Price shut up like a clam.

Why is Price so determined to follow his boss's desire to discredit our courts, especially Judge Babcock?

Price, himself is involved in a libel action, in which he is accused of extortion. Recently depositions were taken. Contrary to propriety, in a pending case, Price wrote in his column various items that had been stated in the depositions. But he never mentioned what was stated in a most recent deposition. The part where one of the highest elected officers of our state, allegedly testified under oath that Price tried to shake him down for \$500 for a favorable press. Now you know why Paul is attempting to discredit our courts.

Here's Price's reflection on Judge Babcock. The phoney writer goes into a series of convictions, in other areas: A young punk fires a shot at a police officer in Oakland, Calif. The judge says this man deserves no mercy. A guy was arraigned on rape, kidnapping and four felony counts in Los Angeles. The judge doubled the recommended bail. An actor was fined and given probation for a barroom brawl in Van Nuys, Cal. He had to pay expenses for the victim. Here's Price's reasoning: You would never hear those words from a Clark County judge. If the guy is convicted Judge Howard Babcock probably will grant probation. This, by a writer for a Las Vegas newspaper!

Price proves himself the yessiest of the "Yes Men" kissing his boss on all cheeks, with a couple of columns on the Clark County Bar Assn.

"They are a bunch of damn fools, and sycophants," says Price of the Bar Assn. "The job of a dedicated newspaperman is to present the facts," says Price. Lets look at the facts:

Price stated that Babcock was the Calendar judge when the Maheu-Hughes legal battle commenced and Babcock should have assigned the matter to another judge, O'Donnell, who had already issued a temporary restraining order. This is a false statement by Price.

Judge Thomas O'Donnell was the Calendar judge at the time, and the case was assigned to Babcock. How about that deliberate, gross lie by Price?

Let us see whether this imitation of a newspaperman will correct a commission of an intentional falsification.

If he does it will be the first time, to our knowledge. But don't hold your breath.



JUDGE BABCOCK
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Clark County Bar Association recognizes the absolute right and obligation of the Press and the Public to freely express their opinions concerning the qualifications and actions of our Judges and Public Officials, including the right to criticize Public Officials, including Judges.

WHEREAS, there appeared in the Las Vegas Sun publication of February 10, 1972, under the column "Where I Stand" with the byline of Hank Greenspun, written with reference to the Honorable Howard W. Babcock, District Judge, in part but without limitation thereto, the following:

"However, if I were to sue some person of immense wealth, instinctively I must shy away from some members of the bench. Not too many but at least one.

"I would hesitate to appear before a judge who had been set down by the Supreme Court as being too solicitous of the rights of the financially powerful while totally ignoring the rights of the less affluent.

"Leave us face it. There is a belief among some people that \$2 billion can do no wrong and judges are people also and may be subject to the same beliefs.---

"It appears the good judge bent a little too far to accommodate one litigant and couldn't sit straight enough to give the other side equal opportunity to present its case. And much of the excess of jurisdiction involved ex parte proceedings which can mean one side visiting the judge in chambers without giving the other

litigant equal time or similar consideration.

"A concurring opinion holds that Judge Babcock 'was in excess of his jurisdiction and that it was not mere error'.

"What could it have been? I think here the less legally oriented could speculate on what the bias entailed.---

"The little guy can only look forward to the Nevada Supreme Court unless he gets lucky with a forthright judge. Fortunately for the Clark County judiciary, one bad apple doesn't spoil the entire barrel."

WHEREAS, in evaluating the statements hereinabove referred to, Clark County Bar Association believes them to exceed fair comment and the bounds of propriety, and

WHEREAS, said Bar Association believes the publisher of said newspaper has quoted out of context certain legal terms employed by the Nevada Supreme Court in its recent decision regarding certain of Judge Babcock's rulings in the case referred to in said article hereinabove set forth and has thereby portrayed our highest court as having questioned the integrity or impartiality of Judge Babcock in some manner; and

WHEREAS, our Code of Professional Responsibility provides that: "Adjudicatory officials not being wholly free to defend themselves, are entitled to receive the support of the Bar against unjust criticism,"; and

WHEREAS, the members of this Bar Association are in constant attendance before the Eighth Judicial District Court and have had the opportunity of observing and forming judgment as to the capacity and integrity of the Honorable Howard W. Babcock; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Clark County Bar Association declares Chief Judge Howard W. Babcock's professional and personal integrity is above reproach; that the Clark County Bar Association firmly believes that he truly exemplifies those necessary characteristics of a conscientious arbiter administering justice according to law.

The above and foregoing RESOLUTION was on the 24th day of February, 1972, duly moved, seconded and carried by vote of the entire Clark County Bar Association, with the exception of one dissenting vote, in attendance at a meeting called for such purpose, held at the Union Plaza Hotel at 12:00 noon, on the 24th day of February, 1972.

MICHAEL L. HINES, President,
Clark County Bar Association

ATTEST:
JAMES F. PICO, Secretary
Clark County Bar Association

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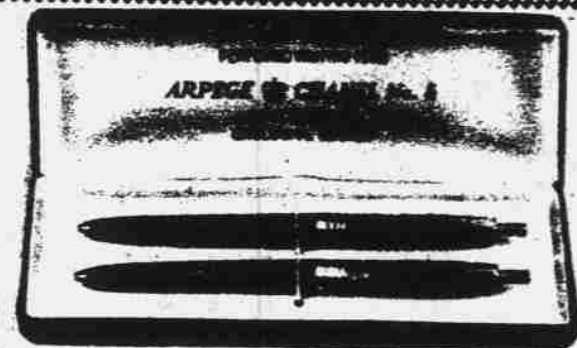
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