

TELL TALES

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There are many questions this conscience of public officialdom has to ask of Judge Babcock and the Bar Association.

If he is a "conscience of public officialdom", after being named as a co-conspirator in a Federal indictment, then Al Capone should have been given the humanities award for setting up soup kitchens for Chicago bums.

Greenspun asks a question, with:

What does a litigant in a matter involving one of the world's richest men have to do to get elementary justice in Nevada courts?

This is an easy one to answer. All a litigant has to do in this case is return \$4,000,000 in cash borrowed at three percent interest seven years ago without any portion being repaid to date, give back the \$2,250,000 in cash that was paid for a heavily mortgaged, about-to-be foreclosed golf course. Hand over the unused portion of the \$500,000 advance for advertising which was ignored for years until the item was discovered after Maheu's ouster.

Do all this Hanky boy and then you may deserve "elementary justice."

Greenspun's got more questions:

Why is the Supreme Court of Nevada silent when its orders are arrogantly and defiantly being ignored?

He never gives up no matter what proof is offered.

We'll let 249 members of the bar answer that one. What we can't understand is how a man like Greenspun can sell his soul, even for \$10,000,000.

Will the judge tell us who spoke to him about taking the matter out of O'Donnell's hands and keeping it himself, or would he rather tell it to a Grand Jury.

When falsifying facts prove useless, Greenspun resorts to threats. He knows all about Grand Juries, getting immunity for turning state's evidence. If there is any telling to be done, why don't Greenspun tell it all to his readers?

It's a cinch Judge Babcock does not sleep on a mattress of \$10,000,000.

The good judge will be around a whole lot longer than Greenspun. You can go to sleep on that.

Meyer Levin

by RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

When the immortal Maurice Samuels left us, virtually the only non-professional Jew remaining to us who deals with normative Judaism, was Meyer Levin.

Perhaps Arthur Cohen would be in this category, too.

But Levin is unique.

He is profoundly interested in conveying to his readers the teachings of mainstream Judaism, not exotic Judaism (as do Singer, Potok, and others).

In my opinion writers like Bellow, Roth, Mailer and Malamud don't expound Judaism; they expunge it.

Meyer Levin has been around for several decades.

His "In Search," is one of the most telling delineations of what rational Judaism is like.

His Israeli books, such as "The Settlers," have relayed acutely and accurately the saga of Judea recapta.

Meyer Levin's latest book, "The Obsession," courtesy Simon & Schuster, particularizes the details of the writer's long-standing gripe against Kermit Bloomgarden, Lillian Hellman and Otto Frank.

Levin once dramatized Anne Frank's diary. His version was bypassed in favor of a Hellman script. Levin feels that it happened because his drama was "too Jewish." He maintains that prestigious figures in the media and periodicals don't want Jewishness properly presented.

This "obsession" has produced a most gripping volume; it is really the continuation of Levin's autobiography. And, believe me, it's eminently worth reading. Try it.



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

A MUST WHEN IN THE RENO AREA

JOE CONFORTES

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