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RES GESTAE

April 1, 1966
Vol. 19, No. 11

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A
POORPERFECT
PUBLICATION

The Weekly Newspaper of the U-M Lawyers Club

NEWSBEE: Washington Assails Law Club Hike

Top Administration officials in Washington expressed grave concern today over the 6% hike in Lawyers Club rates, terming the hike "inflationary, and beyond the President's wage/price guideline of 3.2%." Speaking before the National Press Club, Council of Economic Advisers Chairman Gardner Ackley predicted that unless the Law Club price rise is rescinded, the Administration will have to adopt stronger measures to counteract the cost/push factors that are propelling the economy up the inflationary spiral. So far, he said, high-pressured attempts to impose the guidelines on the Lawyers Club have failed, noting that the Club has refused to send anyone down to Washington to "talk this thing over." "We've had our eye on the Club for several years" he continued, "as they stand alone among management in refusing to listen to the White House. Last year they raised rates 25%, an increase the effects of which have been felt up and down the breadth of the nation and was instrumental in the 1965 spurt of the wholesale price index by 4.1%."

"We were able to persuade U.S. Steel, Alcoa and R.J. Reynolds to rescind price hikes, but not the Lawyers Club. We induced George Hamilton IV to cancel a singing engagement at the Club but even then they didn't get the message. You'd think in time of war"

Budget Director Charles Schultze was even more emphatic. He said this year's increase will be passed on to the consumer much as was last year's increase. "The owner of a men's clothing store in Detroit, faced with the increased cost of maintaining his son in the Lawyers Club, will raise the cost of suits, shirts and ties, and thus pass the cost on to consumers who must in turn compensate by demanding higher wages. The nation's economy will be thrown out of balance. The same effect will appear wherever there's a man whose son is living in the Law Club - a Chrysler executive in Detroit, a wholesale confections man in Cleveland, a law professor in Brooklyn, a dairy farmer in Rantoul, Illinois, etc." We can expect the price of clothes, cars, candy, taxes and milk to rise if the Law Club increase is allowed to stand.

The Law Club, for its part, isn't saying much beyond such expletives as "We had to do it," or "Inflation's coming, we need funds to pay for it." But the Club is quietly preparing for battle. All pictures of LBJ were recently ordered off the walls of professors' offices, students are being carefully screened by the admissions office to weed out suspected pro-Administration rascals and a huge holding of Treasury Bonds and stockpiled pork chops are being readied for possible dumping on the market if Washington continues its pressuring.

Similarly, Johnson has ordered a cut in poverty funds for the Club, a cut in the free lunch milk distributed here, and reportedly has asked the Justice Department to investigate possible violations of federal law in removing any of those "Do not remove under penalty of law" tags from the pillows.

With both sides girding for a protracted war of pressures and counter-pressures, the prospects for a settlement before August appear dim.

- Barristers Named Defendant in Defamation Suit -

A group of the Law School faculty have filed suit in Detroit Superior Court, charging the Barristers with publishing defamatory material which materially injured them in their reputation and good name. The suit, a spurious class action on behalf of the entire faculty, asks a cool \$1,000,000 in damages. Named as defendants along with the Barristers is a mysterious D. A. Kahn whose name, preceded by the words "approved by," appears on all the posters, Follett's bookstore, who allegedly supplied the poster board and magic markers, and Look, Life, Saturday Evening Post, Colliers (?), Woman's Home Companion, Ladies Home Journal, Time and Newsweek magazines, who allegedly supplied the material from which the defamatory matter was constructed.

The suit grew out of the Barristers' current campaign to publicize its forthcoming Crease Ball - the high-water mark of the Ann Arbor social season for years. The campaign included the posting of various posters around the law school humorously satirizing faculty members and calling attention to what they might be expected to do at the Crease Ball.

Newsbeet, cont.

Apparently, however, this year's posters went too far, and injured the depicted professors in their reputation (in the popular sense) - or in the words of one of the plaintiffs, "diminished the esteem, respect, goodwill and confidence in which we were held and excited adverse, derogatory or unpleasant feelings against us."

The complaint listed several concrete adversities that have resulted: Kamisar has his TV contract cancelled by CBS, Leavell's children have been placed in a special speech class for correction of their southern accent, Lugar has found local merchants refusing to give him ice, Wright has been refused permission to get up on top of the world and look down, and Hawkins says anonymous telephone calls to his home and office have picked up.

The Barristers had no comment on the charges except to say "It's great for publicity." Their lawyer Irving Fink IV of the Legal Aid Society termed the charges "ridiculous" and an "attempt to quash social comment, one of the peripheral rights of the First Amendment, which were made a duty of every citizen by the Nuremberg trials." He said he is preparing to counterclaim against the faculty, charging theft of the posters. He noted that the posters have been disappearing regularly from behind their masking-tape sinews, a pattern which suggests more than mere accident. He concluded, "The dance is April 2d by the way."

- Right Reports Talking With Martian -

Professor El Heart Right (in your heart you know he's) of the Law School cast the nation into a tizzy today when he claimed to have talked with a Martian last Saturday night, near the Huron Bridge. He said that the language barrier prevented the two from really understanding each other. But "we could feel a certain rapport between us." He added, "The Martian was obviously quite intelligent."

Right described the Martian as "very similar in appearance to earthlings." He was about 4'5" tall, and weighed approximately 95 lbs. He was very dark complected, with short black hair covering a good portion of his face. His ears were similar to ours, only they were at right angles to the side of his head. His eyes were green, his nose rather long and hooked just a bit. He was wearing, according to Right, black boots, black trousers that seemed to flair just a bit at the bottom, and a black jacket made of a smooth plastic-like material that buttoned up the back. The sleeve of the jacket had the figures NASA embroidered on it. Hanging on his chest was a souvenir the Martian had obviously picked up on one of his previous trips to earth - a red swastika with the words "Hell's Angels" inscribed.

Confronted with the explanation of recent "saucer" sightings around Ann Arbor, which was offered by special Air Force investigator Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who termed the sightings swamp gas and not UFOs, Right said "There's a lot of gas alright, but it's not coming from any swamp." He added, "The Air Force has to find an explanation for everything, but this time they missed the boat - or should I say plane?"

Asked how he persuaded the saucer to land, Right said, "Well, I figured that since pi is the same throughout the universe - 3.1415 - I would try flashing my car lights 3 times, 1 time, 4 times, 1 time, etc., and the thing would come down and land. The plan worked."

In Detroit, Hynek, a bit dismayed over the new evidence, said he would talk with Right about the matter but said he was "doubtful" to say the least. "I still contend it's swamp gas. That was my theory - a good one too - and I'll stick with it, until persuaded by a preponderance of the evidence I'm wrong - I believe that's how you lawyers say it."

- ABA Announces Top 15 Books -

The ABA this week announced the "These Make Justice" awards for the top 15 bestselling law books of 1965-66. The winners are:

1. "Douglas on Family Law" (West Hornbook Series) 23 pp., with Suppl., W. O. Douglas.
2. "How the West Was Won," J. Israel.
3. "Tape Recording for Fun and Proffitt," Y. Kamisar.
4. "Friendly Persuasion: A Field Study of the Chicago Police Department," B. J. George.
5. "A Moveable Feast," M. Langer.
6. "My Fair Lady," U-M Law Review Staff.
7. "The Lawyers Club on Misappropriated Property, or: Finders Keepers," K. Stein and H. Groves, Eds.
8. "The Scar: Forty Pages of Living Color," R. F. Proffitt. Published by Time-Life Wonder Books. Foreword by L. B. Johnson.
9. "Crisis in Black and White," 2nd of the Series: "A March Through the South," R. Steinheimer.
10. "Frank-ly Speaking," F. Allen.
11. "The Model Supreme Court Act," the A.L.I.
12. "The Model A.L.I. Act," the Supreme Court, (Black dissents, Suppl.)
13. "Last Exit to Brooklyn," A. Miller, 3rd in the trilogy "Tropic of Washtenaw."
14. "A Long Day's Journey into Night: A Photo Essay of the U-M Law Library," G. Cooney, in conjunction with Board of Directors Foundation.

Newsbeet, cont.

15. "Pleading and Joiner," C. Joinder.

Honorable Mention: "My Way," F. Schmedlapp.

"Memoirs of a Moderator," (Unexpurgated and Unabridged) 4 volumes,
with index to Reviews, J. Julin.

Art Dulemba, Wm. H. Conner and Steve Petix

WEEKENDER: Our Gal "Sel."

The weekend cinema offers a diversified program for those who are not contemplating inebriation at the Crease Ball.

---The State rings in with "Gidget Goes Sorority," a clean-cut comedy about a surfer (Sandra Dee) who puts her board away long enough to make the campus scene and look for a husband (Fabian). Doris Day plays her mother, a sorority alumna who forces Gidget's long-suffering father (Jimmy Stewart) to make a sizeable contribution to save the "House." Get there early for this one; long lines are predicted.

---The Campus will have "La Dolce Vaca" ("The Sweet Cow"), an Italian farce which won the Best Picture Award at the recent East Lansing Film Festival. The film takes caustic pot shots at the Riviera Jet Set (an original topic), but is receiving recognition for Victor Mature's best performance in years. Try to see this one before it leaves town.

---Cinema II, which has given this column so much trouble, is, as of press time, scheduled to show "A Levine Trilogy," featuring a sampling of impresario Joseph E. Levine's finest motion pictures. The three scheduled films are "Hercules," "Jason and the Argonauts," and "Hercules, Jason, Ulysses, and Samson Meet Ursula Andress." Italian speaking students will find this program irresistible.

---The Michigan will have "Our Gal in D.C.," a gutsy black and white drama about a highly aggressive and "successful" lady lawyer who claws her way to the U.S. Supreme Court by the age of 35, only to find true happiness is really lying elsewhere. The cast is headed by a newcomer, Selma Kaye, a strapping sweetie. The male lead is Wally Cox (of "Mr. Peepers" and Dash Detergent fame), who plays the husband our gal comes home to. The Reviewers say you'll have to see her to believe it.

---Finally, the Cinema Guild will have a risqué documentary called "The Best of Army Hygiene Training Films," a collection of award-winning "slices of life" shot just before World War II (1940). The Supreme Court called this one "absolutely without redeeming social importance" in a famous 9-0 opinion (Katzenbach v. U.S. Army, 369 U.S. 123); nevertheless it could well be the pick hit of the weekend. The short subject will be "more Experimental Films," - i.e., the films shown after you walked out of the Ann Arbor Film Festival.

And so, wherever you are, have a happy.

--Jay Witkin

STAFF:

The usual bunch of idiots.

**APPROVED BY
D. A. KAHN**