

Client Finds Lawyers Protect 'The Club'

EDITOR:
Is the State Bar of Michigan under the jurisdiction of our State Supreme Court? Has it become a harbor for confidence men with legal degrees, who are unsupervised and uncontrolled? I appealed to the State Bar July 12, 1967, concerning a lawyer's handling of a condemnation case for me, and presented evidence which might indicate collusion between him and the company which instituted condemnation proceedings. Furthermore, have proof that he failed to keep his written word to me, and I have proof that he was untruthful in

his written reply to the Bar. And the Bar has knowledge of this.
On Sept. 10, 1969, I received a phone call from an individual who said he was of the State Bar of Michigan. He gave me a fragmentary report of the Grievance Committee's opinion of my complaint, omitting any mention of the question of collusion between the lawyer and the company—then told me, when I asked, that I would be notified in writing as to the final opinion.
On Sept. 24, I received a letter from the Bar. It appears a clever contrivance which sounds officially decisive, yet

says nothing. It does not even state what the opinion was. It merely says the case is concluded.
This, together with documents which seem to illustrate a cobbled attempt by the Bar to prevent me from having an impartial witness attend the April 15, 1969, hearing of the matter, gives this entire matter the appearance of a much-used game, to protect a "member of the Club", regardless of his prior actions.
Is it from the ranks of such as these that we elect our judges and our legislators? Three certified letters to Chief Justice Brennan, dated July 15, Aug. 16, and Sept. 29, 1969, have brought no response. Yet Mr. Brennan, in a Detroit newspaper on Oct. 31, is quoted: "If the Bar is dragging its feet to ensure the court would take the necessary action."
And from the same article: A bill to put licensing of lawyers' fees in the State is bottled up in the lawyer-dominated House Judiciary Committee.
Is it from the ranks of such as these...

JOHN SPRENGER
Northville

Teacher Tenure Act Threatened

EDITOR:
The Wayne school board has made an irresponsible and unwarranted attack on the Teacher Tenure Act of Michigan.
This act was passed to prevent unjust dismissals of teachers. Before its passage, teachers in order to keep their jobs, had to attend the right church, buy at certain stores, vote a certain way, contribute to certain presents and in some cases the female teacher had to be especially nice to the boss. The Tenure Act stopped these practices.
This law gives the school district three years to evaluate the teacher. The U.S. government takes six months to judge its employees. The Tenure Act requires the school district to present evidence to justify the dismissal of a teacher, which frequently many districts are unable or unwilling to produce.
The board, made up of one school superintendent, two teachers, one school board member and

MRS. CLARA McDONALD
Wayne

The 'Impetuous' Mr. Rather

EDITOR:
Hurrah for Mr. Agnew!
In an article appearing in the Nov. 23 issue of the Observer-News, Dan Rather is quoted as saying that Mr. Agnew's speech "made me mad." Well, I must confess that Mr. Rather's intemperance in attacking about the vice president distressed me deeply.
Mr. Rather belongs to a small, often invidious class of so-called news analysts who are convinced that they have the God-given license to attack, vilify and smear at everything and everybody who dares to disagree with their ultra-liberal viewpoints. They further believe that freedom of the press was invented for their own exclusive use. When Mr. Agnew tries to appropriate a little bit of that freedom for himself, the TV crowd gets hysterical and they cry, "It's Agnew as if Fatherhood itself had come under attack!"

What Mr. Rather seems to have overlooked is the fact that the patient always do not belong to the networks; they belong to the American people. And while Mr. Rather is entitled to his opinions, it is doubtful that he has the right to propagate them unchallenged over the airwaves.
Mr. Rather is also quoted as saying that "I feel most of us, by and large, keep reports fair. If we don't, we should look for other jobs." Well, I believe Mr. Rather to be a man of his word, and therefore, I wish him lots of luck in his hunt for a new job.
JOHN W. SCHLUEP
Livonia

Criticism From The Right
EDITOR:
Time and again your editorials have been filled with unfavorable criticism of James O'Neil.
What is his crime? Could it be being a true American with high Christian morals?
If my memory hasn't failed me, did your paper also attack Senator Griffin and defend Abe Fortas during his nomination for Supreme Court? Your editorials certainly are consistent.
Mr. O'Neil does not need defending and that is not the intention of this letter, but only to let you know that the people are aware of the Leftist journalism our supposedly official newspaper prints. Yes, Livonia is a waking up with no thanks to you.
R. SPENCER
Livonia

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Spencer's memory is incorrect. Observer-News, Inc. took no editorial position on the Griffin vs. Fortas issue.

He's OK! They're Great!
EDITOR:
My wife and I would sincerely like to thank Officers Daniel Harvey and John Price of the Westland Police Department for rushing our son to Wayne County General Hospital the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 11.
They were even so thoughtful as to stop by our home today and inquire about his condition. He's O.K. I
They're great!
MARTIN MORAN
Westland

Land Vs. Property Tax
EDITOR:
Reference your Nov. 19 Observer-News Point editorial on "How To Reform Antiquated Tax." I must confess that having earned my respect for your well-considered opinions over the last few years, that you appointed me here in your apparent lack of understanding of some fundamental economic principles. I agree with you in that we should "go whole hog" and do the job (tax reform) right, but I disagree with your assumed premise that the "property"

READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited to 300 words. Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause. Please type or write plainly. The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

Land Vs. Property Tax

tax is a useless relic of the past. A property tax is really two taxes, a tax on the site value of the land, and a tax on the improvement to that land. The latter tax is and always has been obsolete, the potential of the former have hardly yet been realized.
What also disturbs me is that you make an effort to dissociate the generation of, or holding, of wealth separate from property. If by property you mean the land, I am sure you can see that the idea of generating wealth on this planet without having a place on which to stand and do it is an absurd thing to propose—but that is what you have done.
I do agree with you that the "key assumption" of our nation's tax system is that people ought to pay taxes roughly according to their ability to pay, but I further suggest that this makes as much sense as charging different prices in the supermarket for the same loaf of bread. The graduated "what-ever" tax, an original Marxist idea incidentally, is unjust because it penalizes those who make an effort to generate

wealth, benefiting themselves and the community.
J.A. ESTY
Lathrup Village

UF Thanks Us And You

EDITOR:
The 1969 Torch Drive is now history, the brightest page in metropolitan Detroit's 21-year record of leading the world in united fund raising.
And much credit for this recent \$30.6 million success must go to this metropolitan community's many fine newspapers such as yours. Without your year-round cooperation and support, such an impressive victory truly would have been impossible.
So count yourself among the thousands of loyal, hard-working volunteers who helped Detroit crack the \$30-million mark and continue the nearly 200 vital services benefiting us all.
Because of you and other equally dedicated residents, our city proudly could boast the "We're all we've got" campaign banner and prove to the world "We were enough."
We at the United Foundation extend our warmest thanks and best wishes for your continued success.
MARGARET F. ANZINGER
Public Relations
United Foundation

On Rat Control
EDITOR:
We appreciate Mr. Keeth V. Keeth's letter on the rat situation in the city of Plymouth. We also are deeply concerned. Rose Exterminating Co. has been servicing Daily Drive-in since the day we opened for business. Rose Co. comes monthly without call and move often when called. They not only spray inside the building to control bugs but also check the creek area for rats.
We realize this is a major problem and not easy to deal with. We also feel that if everyone tried to control the problem, not only the creek area, but all of Plymouth could be free of rats.
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