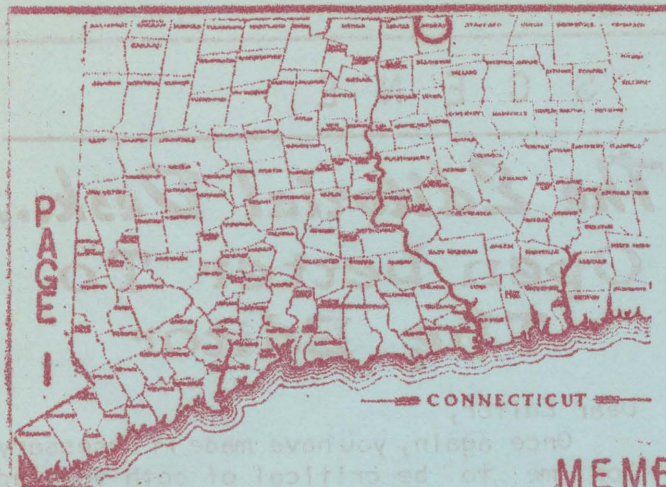


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PAGE 1

# THE WEEKLY SCENE

SOMERS CONN.

MEMBER OF THE PENAL PRESS

VOLUME XIV

MAY 1 1960 1970

NUMBER XVIII

## Court Nominee Predicts Death Penalty End

VIA THE BRIDGEPORT TELEGRAM

ROCHESTER, Minn. (AP) — Supreme Court nominee Judge Harry A. Blackmun says he is personally opposed to the death penalty and would not be surprised if it is ruled unconstitutional soon.

But Blackmun, who has upheld the death sentence in past legal decisions, stayed clear of saying which way he would vote if he is confirmed for the nation's highest court.

The soft-spoken, graying judge may become the tie-breaking member of a Supreme Court now thought to be deadlocked on whether the death penalty should be banned as cruel and inhuman.

The legal struggle has halted all executions in the United States for nearly three years, with more than 500 prisoners waiting on "Death Rows" across the country.

He faced the death issue in a 1968 case in which he upheld legally the sentence of an Arkansas Negro convicted of raping a white woman. He said in his ruling this was "particularly excruciating for the author of this pinjon who is not personally convinced of the rightness of capital punishment and who questions it as an effective deterrent."

I suspect one day the court will take such a case and decide it. Now I think this is the kind of issue that the Supreme Court should decide, because it necessarily represents a change in a decision.

The same case in which Blackmun voiced his personal views against the death penalty is now pending before the Supreme Court on appeal and is the source of most speculation that the justices are deadlocked 4-4 on the death issue.

The court heard the appeal in March 1969, but when the ninth seat was left empty by the resignation of Justice Abe Fortas under fire last May, the Supreme Court postponed the

case, awaiting a new hearing which has yet to be scheduled. The "cruel and inhuman" issue is not part of this appeal, and Blackmun would be ineligible, anyway, to vote on his own ruling. But there are 66 other death cases being pressed before the Supreme Court by civil liberties lawyers, and the cruelty question is woven into most of them.

"Maybe we are progressing in our attitudes and in our 'mastery'—that's in quotes, we don't have it mastered—but in our attitudes toward criminal law, I think today people have different attitudes toward such extreme punishment. Now, not everybody agrees. But it wouldn't shock me if the Supreme Court would do it."

The death penalty debate is virtually certain to bring questioning at the Senate hearing next week. Although senators have applauded Blackmun's record as a judge, they have been wary about giving blanket support for the nomination after the turmoil of the last two fights.

The judge said he is going back once more through all 900 cases he has handled in 11 years on the bench, sifting them for any possible issue that he feels the Senate should know about.

Blackmun refused to put labels on his legal thinking, but did make these comments:

His court philosophy—"I guess in a way I'm brought up in the Frankfurter tradition. My answer is that my record has to speak for itself."

Change in court rulings—"Law is, in part, social. Man is a social being. I can't get alarmed when they overrule a prior decision, especially if it is 5-4. Who is to say that five men 10 years ago were right whereas five men looking the other direction today are wrong?"

Social protest by the young—Blackmun said he had great faith in the younger generation that it is more idealistic and more involved. But he added, "I have no sympathy with violence... We can't bring the structure tumbling down around our ears."



CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY

Continued on Page 2

MAY 7 1970

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT



### Court: cont.

The avalanche of appeals, and unsolved legal tangles, have halted all executions since a Colorado man died in the gas chambers in June 1967. At least 502 persons are now on "Death Row." Some have been under death sentence for a decade or more.

At issue is the Eight Amendment's ban on "cruel or unusual punishments." Blackmun cited the same ban two years ago in an opinion striking down the use of the whip in Arkansas prisons. He said at that time the whipping "offends contemporary concepts of decency and human dignity and precepts of civilization which we profess to possess

### LOANS

#### Loan Policy Set Up For Parolees-to-Be

HARTFORD—The Department of Correction has established a policy whereby institution heads can make a loan in an amount not to exceed \$100 to inmates prior to their release on parole.

This loan will be available to those parolees who have no more than \$200 in their account, and request initiated by the assigned parole officer. These loans are interest free and no repayment will be required for the first 30 working days. Thereafter, payment will be made on a weekly basis over a period not exceeding 10 weeks, or a total of 14 weeks from date of the note.

The purpose of this arrangement is to provide assistance for individuals who are released from the institution on parole who have either the necessary funds nor enough community resources to support themselves until they have the opportunity to earn wages.

## The Editorial Desk... Open Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Once again, you have made it necessary for me to be critical of both you and your staff. Also the powers that be. I was told that you and your staff were placed in that office because you have a little more formal education than most of us, but this is not always evident as it should be. For one thing, your intelligence fails to inform you that this caged world in which we live is based on 99% "Gripe." So pray tell how do we write about the things that plague us without the inflection of the proverbial "Gripe."

May I suggest that the most intelligent and diplomatic means of presentation available be employed, and still the vulgar head of "Gripe" will rise to enslave what ever logic we may use to avoid it.

Item: It seems to me that years ago down at the old prison in Wethersfield, that the staff reporters would get off their fat haunches and go out and get the news. Instead of sitting behind a desk and begging for contributions. "How do I know, I was there."

Item: It seems to me that we're in for another long hot summer without covers over the bleachers. But I know, this is not news. After seven years of inmates sweat in the big yard, how could it possibly be news?

Item: I have been told by several people that last week, they heard on radio and TV also from the Hartford Courant, that the Department of Corrections had made public a plan by which prospective parolees may borrow money to aid them upon release.

Now first let me say that I read "Qu. Paper" religiously. And I have never known you and your staff to be scooped or something of such magnitude and importance to the inmate population. And until I know different, I will continue to keep faith in you. (Smiles)

Continued on page 3

### NOTICE

The deadline date for submitting articles for the summer issue of the Bridge is May 15th.

## NOTICE!!

#### INTRA-MURAL SOFTBALL APPLICATION

Requests are now being accepted by the Recreation Department for all those who wish to play Intra-Mural softball. The Intra-Mural softball league will be a slow pitch league only. If you wish to have your name added to the Intra-Mural list, please fill out the form below and send it to the Recreation Department.

Please Add My Name To The  
Intra-Mural List

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
LUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ HOUSING UNIT \_\_\_\_\_



## ★ OPEN LETTER ★ — CONT —

Item: Concerning that incident in the Auto School wherein an inmate was saved from being fatally injured. As you well know, seldom is an inmate if ever given credit for anything which might enhance him in anyway. Its just not the way the cookie crumbles around here baby. "How do I know, I helped to beat out the flames." (It would never be reported correctly anyway).

Item: W.J.C.R. Radio has been a subject of constant concern among the inmate population. It seems that for the past year, they have been having something other than technical difficulties with their broadcasting. But evidently they are having problems with getting the proper authorities to take action.

I myself, am an avid Jazz fan. But I haven't been able to hear it on my wall speaker for sometime now. But now you take Country & Western nights, and its turned up so loud that it blasts you right out of the room. Now I wonder how that can be?

It seems to me that someone is sticking their "clammy greasy" fingers in the works. Maybe you should suggest that they put a guard on the volume controls.

Now Mr. Editor, you can throw this mildly critical bit of testimony into your waste basket if it steps on too many toes. But some things just have to be said. You say theres no news for you to print, well you come on out of that plush office of yours and you will find it. (smile)

**BIG STAN:** First of all let us say that it is nice to know someone DOES read the SCENE. We welcome & expect criticism, and hope to see more of it. We know there is room for improvement and we are trying.

I don't know who misinformed you about our educational abilities because there are certainly men here who are further educated. I think our desire to work in this particular field would be more appropriate.

I falsely used the word "gripe" as a synonym because if anyone has "gripes," surely it is this publication staff. What we don't want is the man's version of how he feels towards another man, or the institution itself. We definitely want to hear the "gripes" in hopes that correction will come about. Your remark and suggestion are most logical - but we're sorry to add, not ones that haven't been confronted by all of us before.

You may be absolutely right in saying the staff reporters would get up off their fat haunches and go out to find the news. However, new regulations prevent us from doing this at the moment; word is changes are in effect and soon we hope to be able to do just that. Here too, we will be asking for contributions and assistance.

As for covering for the bleachers this year it would be news and it is planned to be done this year.

I was also informed of the news release, but not in sufficient time for this week's issue nor for official capacity. We don't have access to all the local papers all of the time and if it isn't read and/or seen by us, how can we print it? (The article appears in this week's issue on page 2).

I do know, but why is an inmate seldom given credit. I don't go along with "thats the way the cookie crumbles", yet I won't delve on my personal opinions just now. You helped, but didn't bother to report, why? There are some inmates who do have compassion, even when confined, or so I think anyhow.

Let's let the authorities answer the problem of WJCR, with your suggestions, backed by many others.

Thanks for the compliment, but our "plush" office doesn't have anywhere near the comforts of our cells.

By the way Big Stan, your's is the first letter we've received in many "moons" - that is just another small part of the reason why we ask for contributions: Keep them coming!!



# SMILE POWER



"IF YOU'RE A BOY, YOU EAT TOO MUCH.  
IF YOU'RE A GIRL, YOU'RE PREGNANT."

## THE PORCUPINE

by Ogden Nash

Any hound a porcupine nudges  
Can't be blamed for harboring grudges.  
I know one hound that laughed all winter  
At a porcupine that sat on a splinter.

A fellow who just returned  
from North Africa said: "The  
Sahara Desert is all waste be-  
cause it is all sand and no  
bikinis."



GRAFFITI by Leary

BEN  
FRANKLIN  
GOT HIS  
JOLTS WITH  
WHITE  
LIGHTNING

For chronic gripers about  
the home team, the bowl  
season is about to start.

Now that winter's about  
done for, they'll be sealing  
those bus windows that  
haven't stayed closed since  
last November.

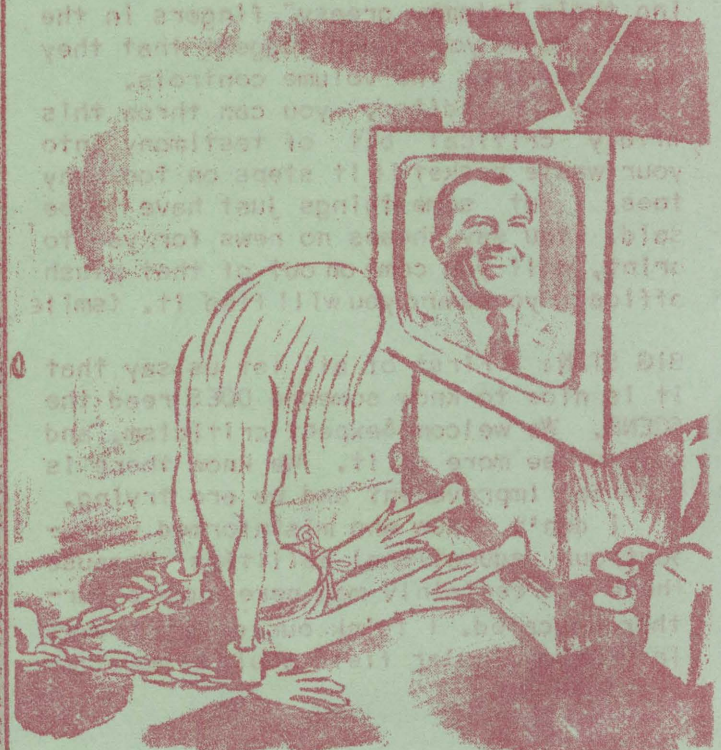
The office wolf belongs in  
accounting: He has a good  
head for figures.

About the only thing you get  
from a guarantee these days  
is eyestrain from reading the  
exclusions in the fine print.



● Egotist: A person of low taste, more interested in his self than he is in us.

● Diplomat: A man who can convince his wife that she would look fat in a fur coat.





# LEGAL NOTES

By: Mohan

## IMMUNITY

The following is an act concerning immunity from criminal prosecution and judicial investigations into commission of crime, passed by the regular session of the General Assembly as of June 1969.

### PUBLIC ACT NO. 631, SEC. 2.

Section 54-47 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof: (a) Whenever it appears to the superior court for any county that the administration of justice requires an investigation to determine whether or not there is probable cause to believe that a crime or crimes have been committed within the county, said court may order an inquiry to be made into the matter, to be conducted before any judge of said court or a state referee designated by it. (b) The chief prosecuting attorney for the circuit court may apply to the chief court administrator or an order that an inquiry be made to determine whether or not there is probable cause to believe that a crime or crimes within the jurisdiction of the circuit court have been committed. If the chief court administrator is satisfied from the application and any other papers or evidence submitted in support thereof that the administration of justice requires such an inquiry, he shall order that it be made and shall appoint a state referee, or after consultation with the chief judge of the circuit, any three judges of said court to conduct the inquiry, with the assistance of the office of the chief prosecuting attorney. If it appears to the chief court administrator that the matters to be investigated are such as are usually prosecuted in the superior court, he may appoint a judge of the superior court, or a referee to conduct the inquiry and direct the state's attorney for the county to assist such judge or referee in the conduct of the inquiry. (c) Such (inquiry) inquiries shall be con-

ducted in public or private as said court or chief court administrator orders. The attendance of witnesses and the production of documents at such (inquiry) inquiries may be compelled by subpoena, signed by any official authorized to issue such process. If any witness properly summoned fails to appear or fails to produce any documents included in such subpoena, or if he fails to answer any proper question, the judge or referee conducting such inquiry may report the matter to the state's attorney for the county wherein the investigation is being conducted and such state's attorney may file a complaint setting forth the facts at any criminal session of the superior court in such county. The court shall thereupon issue a citation to such witness to appear before said court and show cause why he should not be punished as for a contempt, and if, after hearing, the court finds that he fails to appear without due cause or failed to produce any document properly to be presented to the judge or state referee conducting the investigation or failed to answer any proper question in the course of such investigation, it may punish him as it might a witness failing to appear, to produce a document properly to be considered or to answer a proper question before the court. Witnesses may be examined by the judge or state referee conducting the inquiry, (or) by the state's attorney or chief prosecuting attorney, or by any other attorney or attorneys appointed by the court for such purpose. The official stenographer of (said) such superior or circuit court or his assistant shall record any testimony so taken. At the conclusion of such inquiry the judge or referee conducting the same shall file with the court a report and the court shall direct whether, and to what extent, such report shall be made available to the public or interested parties. Any transcript of testimony taken at such (Continued on next page)



# Legal:

(Continued from preceding page)  
 inquiry shall likewise be filed with the court and it shall have the same powers with reference to it as it has with reference to the report; provided any person accused of crime as a result of such inquiry shall have access at all reasonable times to the transcript of his own testimony given by him in such inquiry.

## COMMENT

It would seem that any person summoned before such an inquiry would receive immunity as to what he testifies to regarding state prosecution. However, is this same person immune from federal prosecution should his testimony lead to a violation of the federal statutes? If not, then the state cannot guarantee immunity to federal prosecution, therefore is it constitutional to punish a person for refusing to testify on the ground that he is not receiving complete immunity? The state does not have the power to grant a person immunity from federal prosecution, and the question presented is: Is Public Act No. 631, unconstitutional in that it takes away a person's Fifth Amendment right by forcing a clause of immunity which actually does not exist?

# HELP WANTED

We are looking for help from you, the population. In order to make the Weekly Scene more enjoyable to you & our "outside" reader we would like to reprint more of the articles which appear in the daily news papers. If you receive the Hartford Courant, New Haven Register, Waterbury Republican or Bridgeport Post, just to mention a few, we would appreciate having the use of your paper when you are through reading it. Or if you see an article which would be interesting to others, submit it to us for use.

# purloined editorial

BRIDGEPORT POST

## The Jail Stalemate No Longer Funny

There may have been elements of humor in the speed with which those towns that were suggested as sites for the new Hartford and New Haven correctional centers rejected the proposals. But as our Capitol Correspondent, Mr. Morse, pointed out in his Sunday column, the situation now is strictly not funny.

For years, the state has known that its three biggest jails — those at Bridgeport, New Haven and Hartford — are among the worst in the country. In 1967, we took their control away from the counties and put them under a new State Department of Correction, staffed by professionals. In its last session, the General Assembly appropriated some \$15 million to tear down and replace the three jails which, for all that they have been renamed "correctional centers", are still in most regards monstrosities out of the last century.

Preliminary plans for modern, escape-proof structures exist. In Bridgeport, fortunately, there is enough land adjoining the old jail so that a new correctional center can be put up at the old site. Ground will be broken there in the fall and the new structure should be ready for occupancy 18 months after that. But the Hartford and New Haven projects are stalled by the local objections that are raised to every site that is proposed.

Mr. Morse estimates that about 25,000 wretched individuals are held for a shorter or longer term in the three institutions each year. Some, of course — those who have been denied or cannot make bail — have not been convicted of anything. Most are short-term offenders serving sentences for misdemeanors. Many are young; except in special circumstances, the juvenile courts do not protect youngsters after their sixteenth birthdays. Many need institutional treatment of the sort that none of our old jails can offer. And for those who could be rehabilitated and trained for a better life, there is almost nothing.

The money to build the new correctional centers is available. We have been promised that as soon as definite sites for the two new institutions are made known, work can start on the final plans and ground can be broken in a matter of months. And finally, while there is no such thing as absolute assurance that no one will ever escape from a penal institution, we have the promise that the new correctional centers will be as nearly escape-proof as modern knowledge makes possible.

As Correction Commissioner Ellis MacDougall says plaintively, "I just think if people will listen objectively, I can provide the answers." Unhappily, no one as yet has learned how to legislate objectively.



SAT.

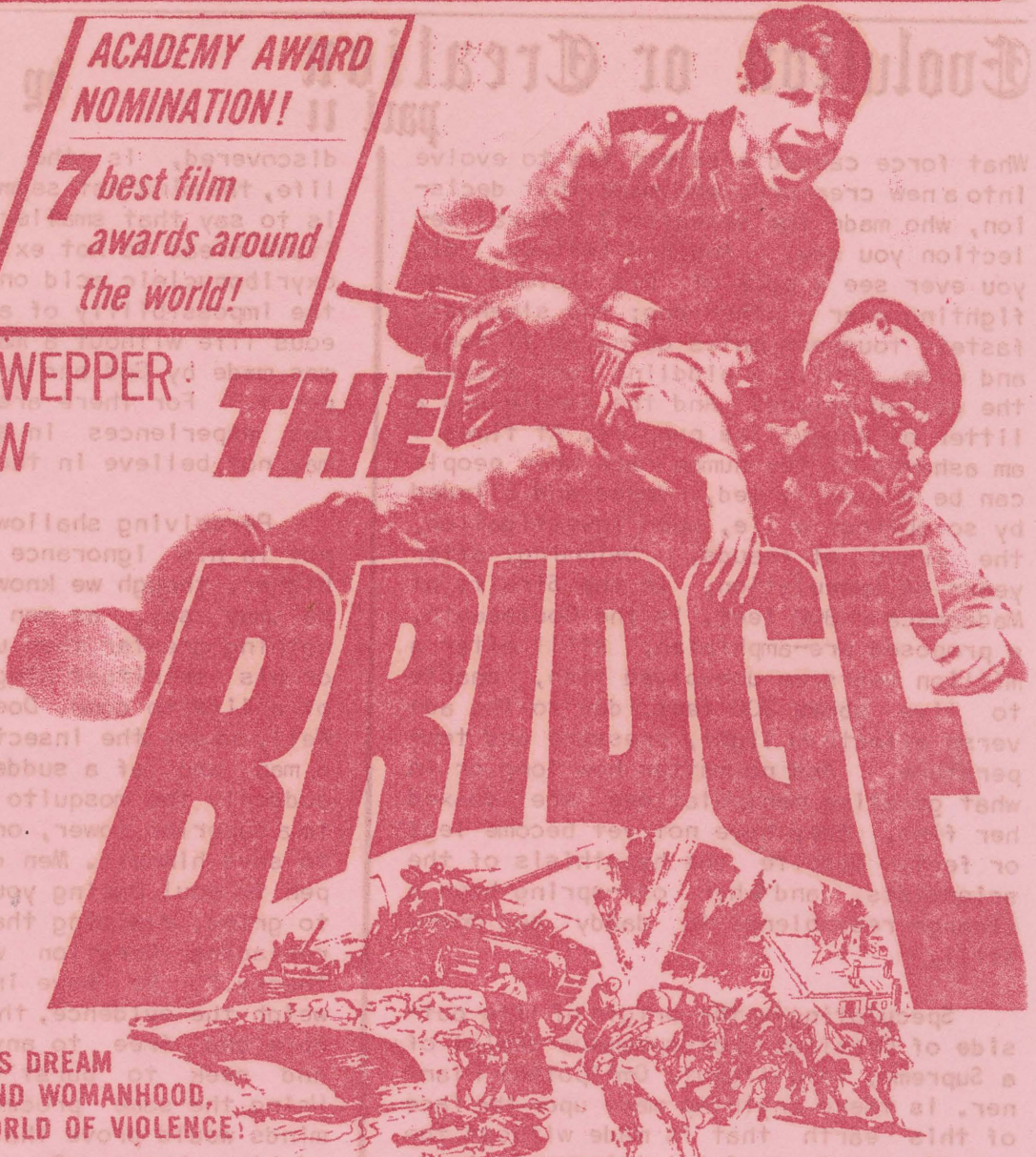
ACADEMY AWARD  
NOMINATION!

7 best film  
awards around  
the world!

WITH Folker BOHNET · Fritz WEPPER ·  
Cordula TRANTOW

THE

# BRIDGE



BOYS AND GIRLS DREAM  
OF LOVE, MANHOOD AND WOMANHOOD,  
ONLY TO DISCOVER A WORLD OF VIOLENCE!

102 MINUTES

## FRANZ DOCTOR

izy Kendall  
gel Green

James Booth  
Capucine

During World War I a German sub lands three people on the British coast. Two are captured. One of them, James Booth, is tricked into talking. He tells them the third person is a woman, Suzy Kendall, and that their mission was to assassinate Admiral Kitchener. Suzy has a problem with morphine addiction, but manages to get sufficient information before returning to the sub, which then torpedoes Kitchener's ship, killing him and 700 men. Kenneth More, a British officer, is determined that the famous "fraulein doctor" (Suzy) must be killed.

2 minutes - 11 short - Rated "M" (Drama)  
Q, and C Blocks are first for the Sun-  
y Night at the Movies. 5/3/70

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SUN.



# Evolution or Creation

part II

by Tom Fowler

What force caused a select few to evolve into a new creature, who made that decision, who made the selection? Natural selection you say. Another fallacy, did you ever see a pack of big vicious dogs fighting over another dog; the sleekest, fastest toughest males going at it tooth and claw, while a piddling runt answers the call of nature? And the female has a litter of doggy-like puppies. At times I am ashamed of the human race when people can be so easily led, duped and blinded by so obvious a lie, upon investigation, the fraud of frauds. Swimming, after years of speculation, in the Straits of Madagasca at 800 feet, is the Coelacanth, a proposed pre-amphibian, still after a million years an unevolved fish, unable to live above 800 feet, due to the adverse affects of light, pressure and temperature. And no matter how long or in what gyrating manipulations she coaxed her fins, they have not yet become legs or feet, despite the hypothesis of the scientists, and her off-spring have a strange resemblance to daddy and mommy still.

Speculating on the origin of life outside of Creation is blasphemous denial of a Supreme, Intelligent, Omnipotent Planner. Is there anything made upon the face of this earth that is made without the use of some type of intelligence? America would not be going to the moon without intelligence and finite calculations. But some wretched atheists demand that a mindless nothing (nature) created the awesome universe and its life and set up the infinite balances; oxygen from the plant life, carbon-dioxide from the animals, to be used in turn by the plants, the sunlight that causes photosynthesis, producing chlorophyll using the energy of the sun to convert organic elements into starch usable by animals, which turn it into protein and vital elements for our lives. Intricately balancing the wonderfully efficient systems, only recently

discovered, is the building blocks of life, the minutest segment yet found, (who is to say that smaller microscopic spiritual areas do not exist?) The DNA - deoxyribonucleic acid only adds credence to the impossibility of accidental spontaneous life without a Master Planner. Man was made by God and men deny it at their peril. For there are great and marvelous experiences in store for those who may not believe in their Creator.

Perceiving shallowly, a mosquito can not in his ignorance be aware of things higher, though we know that there is, so he may say, as men often do, there is nothing greater than us, we can't see God or his spiritual Kingdom or any example of a life to come. Does that make it so? Well, so say the insect until along comes a man who of a sudden; slap, wop, bam, suddenly the mosquito is rudely awakened to a superior power, only it was too late to save himself. Men don't let that happen to you! Duping you are men with axes to grind, claiming that there is no God, replacing Creation with a "fraudulent-theory." We have intelligent minds to weigh the evidence, the evidence is available and free to anyone who would look and seek to burst the big lie-bubble. Using the same procedure the scientific minds would prove that the moon was made of blue cheese. Espousing and uncovering the conspiratorial utterances and figments of power intoxicated imaginings of fools is the greatest need in our world today. The basis of communism and socialism, of any shade is evolution. The formulators of public opinion and mores ignores and denies the worth of an individual, making a man just a cell in the social organism as if society were the entity rather than the individual. The "head" being the intellectual socialist-evolutionary and the "body" being society. The Socialist One World Planners base their program on evolution, not on (Continued next week)



# GET SMART' TEAM TELLS IT LIKE IT IS...

On Thursday, April 23, 1970, at 10:00 A.M., a group of young men from the Westfield Trade School, Westfield, Mass., visited our Institution to attend a "Get Smart" program. The "Get Smart" team usually goes to the school, but they are not allowed to cross the state-lines so this group came to us.

The meeting got under way with Mr. McCune, the Vocational Supervisor at Somers, and Mr. T. Healy, a state school teacher. Mr. Healy introduced the members of the "Get Smart" team and later in the program he participated in the question and answer session.

As the first speaker walked to the podium, the audience became extremely attentive and 'you could hear a pin drop.' William "Willey the Box", as he is better known, #23214 talked about the need of young people to learn to cope without drugs. He said he wasn't a "tough-guy," but as "soft as a California grape." He told how insecurity led to his drug problem and confinement.

The second speaker, Ron "Gabe", #21224 talked to the podium very slowly and told his audience about the 'hells' of prison life. "In prison," he said, "a man senses and knows the loss of his identity and dignity." He tried to reach these youngsters by saying, "Freedom is priceless" but breaking the law and coming to prison and will lead to a life of crime.

The third and final member of the team, "Demo", #23130 is also a drug addict. Curiosity of drugs was the leading factor which led him to addiction and prison. Only twelve years he lost more than any men will ever own and disgrace of it

all becomes almost impossible to live with. This doesn't have to be the way, but he tried it and now he knows that he failed.

The youngsters were then in for an added treat because being here they were also able to hear from the Crime Prevention program which is sponsored by the C.C.I.S. Jaycees. J. Smith, President of the Jaycees talked to the students about his life of crime and about the founding of the Crime Prevention program. Crime Prevention is the forerunner of "Get Smart" because when Crime Prevention was first put into action the inmates were not allowed to leave the institution for any reasons and in an attempt to reach the youngster of the country, the Jaycees would send tape recordings to the schools with answers to questions which were asked by the students. Now, the kids are more fortunate because they get to see the men they are hearing.

The chairman of the Crime Prevention program is also a drug addict and Mike, #23203, told how one day of experimentation with drugs led him to be 'hooked' for ten years.

Following Mike's speech the program continued with the students from Westfield asking the inmates various questions. At first, the youngsters were timid but then the 'ball' got rolling and some highly impacting questions and answers were heard. None of this was 'put-on' and the plain truth was spoken.

By: R.A.D.  
Editor



# NOTICES

Anyone removing or damaging their window screen is a candidate for a misconduct report.

FROM: William J. Sheridan,  
Assistant Warden

## JOBS

Since our last advertisement concerning Employment Opportunities for the men who will be leaving this Institution, and the large response that we have received from applicants to this program we have decided that in order to keep up with all of the applications to extend the date of application to at least one month before the parole board. This will give the applicant more time to be worked with, and a quicker Job Placement, and will enable those who haven't a definite date, a quicker response, by having the information already on file, and ready for release. There are opportunities for everyone being made available, but you have to give us more time fellows.

There will be a representative of this committee available to you for information, and guidance in the school area every night, in the Bridge Office, between 5:30 P.M. and 7:00 P.M.

FROM: E. Davis, Chairman & J. Conti, Co-Chairman

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

### INTERVIEW APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

HOUSING UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

RELEASE DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PAROLE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

## LIBRARY

A Book Fair will be held in the library on the following evenings: Tuesday, May 5, Wednesday, May 6, and Thursday, May 7, 1970. Inmates will be able to purchase books at this Book Fair. Over 3,000 books of the paper-cover type will be displayed for purchase.

### SCHEDULE

- Tuesday - May 5th - B, C, & D Blocks
- Wednesday - May 6th - E & H Blocks
- Thursday - May 7th - Q & J Blocks

The library will be closed on these days and will be used for the Book Fair ONLY!

## CHURCH

Catholic services are held in the Catholic Chapel every Sunday morning at 8:00 A.M. Confessions start at 7:30 A.M. in the chapel.

On Thursday, May 7, 1970, services will be conducted in the chapel to celebrate the "Ascension of our Lord" at 8:00 A.M. As we all know this is a Holy Day of Obligation. All members of the population are invited to attend these services.

Lastly, Sunday School Classes are held each and every Sunday morning in the school area starting at 9:30 A.M. These classes involve discussions of the text and teachings of our Lord. Rev. Mathew R. Shanley

## puzzle answers

### JUMBLE ANSWERS

- #1 - PATIENCE
- #2 - FIT & FIDDLE

ANDES	HAT	SOB
BORNE	AIR	EMU
ARETE	SLEEPER	
SAPS	SATING	
ASSISTS	TOAST	
REEL	RISEN	
WAD	CURED	RAW
	DEMUR	PETE
SEDAN	PAROLED	
EVICTS	CDLA	
REVERES	BITTS	
ERE	ALA	OCEAN
SYR	LED	TEDDY



# GOODBYE & STAY GONE

## The 'Big House' Ends a Grim History

Sing Sing is the "big house" of pulp literature and Edward G. Robinson films, where the electric chair was introduced in 1891 but was vigorously opposed by the famous warden Lewis E. Lawes, who served there from 1920-41. Under Lawes the prison took the nation's lead in prison reform, including introduction of a degree of self-government among the prisoners and of vocational education courses. In later days this included training in the operation of computers.

Now, after 145 years of use, Sing Sing Prison is being reduced to a way station for newly-sentenced prisoners en route to permanent quarters elsewhere in New York State's penal system. The prison is so old that the rising cost of upkeep and renovation is deemed unwarranted. Besides, newer state prisons are more escape-proof. Soon one-third of the 55-acre, high-walled Sing Sing complex will be sheared off to make room for a scenic highway.

In its time, because it was the destination point of any felon from the New York City area sentenced to more than one year in jail, Sing Sing housed the most infamous products of every genre of crime from axe-murderers to white-collar cheats, from Cosa Nostra gang member Joe Valachi to spies Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

Sing Sing derives its name from the Sin Sinck Indians, who roamed the Ossining, New York, area back in 1825 when convicts from the Auburn prison arrived with stones floated on flatboats down the Hudson to build the prison high on a hill. Until 1913 Sing Sing was located in Sing Sing, New York, but town fathers, embarrassed by the prison's notoriety, adopted as its new name Ossining, a historical name in the area.

For all that, few people have mourned the loss of the old prison more than community leaders. The prison operated with a \$4,000,000 budget and employed 522 persons, including 382 guards. Local people were hired, and much of the money was spent locally. Indeed, Ossining had asked that a new Sing Sing be built, but the state's Crime Control Planning Board said the cost would be prohibitive.

Thus a prison that was once feared and condemned is now sorely lamented by a modern generation that thinks in terms of rehabilitating prisoners rather than removing them forever from society.

VIA HARTFORD COURANT



### THE NOSE KNOWS

By Ken Hopkins

**DEAR NOSE:** Is it true that girls who buy cheap hosiery are just trying to stretch their money?

#### WORRIED

**DEAR WORRIED:** No, they're just trying to get a better run for their money.

**DEAR NOSE:** A man told me that making love to a woman was 60% pleasure and 40% work. Is this true?

#### LOVER

**DEAR LOVER:** If there was any work to it, they'd have a hard time doing it. Does that answer your question?

**DEAR NOSE:** Why don't you run a Dear Abby or Ann Landers column in the Spectator?

#### SAM

**DEAR SAM:** The 25 cents a month we offered them, would put them in a higher income bracket. So they declined.

**DEAR NOSE:** How long is a long playing record needle?

#### SQUEEKY

**DEAR SQUEEKY:** On some of the songs they have out now, too long.

**DEAR NOSE:** I heard that Jim Spivey used to be a planter before he came here, is it true?

#### WANT TO KNOW

**DEAR WANT TO KNOW:** Yes, he was studying to be an undertaker.

**DEAR NOSE:** How come every time I send you a question you answer it with a question?

#### THE SCHOLAR

**DEAR SCHOLAR:** Do I?

**DEAR NOSE:** I have sent the Spectator a lot of poems, but they never print any of them. Why?

#### FLUSTERED

**DEAR FLUSTERED:** Did you ever hear the one about the Farmer's Daughter, we can't print that either.

**SEND KITES TO THE NOSE - SPECTATOR**

(Continued on page 14)



# THE ACTOR

## A Fiction Short Story

John glanced briefly from his apartment window towards the theatre located just down the street. He was able, even in the gathering gloom of the April sky to catch flashes of color as the mingling crowd gathered under the front lobby to await the opening of the doors. He was sure that it would be a good size crowd, the kind that made an actor strive to be at his performing best. If nothing else, he thought to himself, his performance this evening would probably be remembered long after his physical form had been turned to dust.

The gathering clouds visible over the rooftops gave evidence that rain was on the way, and quickly. If it held up until after his performance, so much the better. Rain would dispell a crowd from near the theatre, giving him a better chance to depart unnoticed. Though being an actor, an individual who needed large throngs to appear before on stage, John the man was an individual who guarded to a high degree his privacy.

John stepped to the bed to lie down for a few moments, moments he needed before he faced the crowd. He was a man whose mind was filled with the swirl and eddy of countless faces, names, dates. A man that sought to relax, but could not because, as always, his nerves were too keenly on edge. Acting was a life that called for constant demand. Each day a new role, a different interpretation of a character, every word and movement set by the man himself to be remembered long after the curtain had fallen. His role this evening was perhaps the most demanding of his career. Every line, movement and gesture had been rehearsed over and over until they could be recreated by John in his sleep. Everything had to be perfect, John's mind told him. For tonight's performance was to be the star of the crown of his acting ability. Tonight he would make history!

He rose and began to shrug himself into his topcoat, when the soft patter on the window signaled the beginning of the expected rainfall. The scowl that touched his face was gone in a second as he realized the early rain might prove a blessing in disguise. He had to keep his mind on the performance ahead and rain might keep passersby who recognized him on the way to the theatre from stopping him and detaining him with idle prattle.

The sudden chill of the night struck John as he reached the street, the rain slashing across the city aided by gusts of biting wind. He wrapped his scarf in closer about his face and hurried toward the beckoning warmth of the theatre.

A few late comers in the outer entrance cast glances of recognition as he stepped towards the barred ticket window to speak with the manager. A smile came to John's face as he leaned forward to speak to the other man, his full actor's voice surprisingly soft.

"I expect we have a full house this evening, Mr. Ford?"

"Yes indeed sir, even to standees in the rear of the house. A very good opening night crowd, thanks to the rain that started after they came in." The manager smiled not only for the size of the audience, but for the size of the piles of greenbacks in the cashbox. "If," he continued "tonight is any sign of the rest of the season, we'll make theatre history!"

"In that case, Mr. Ford, history is not to be kept waiting. It's time for the show to begin... isn't it?" Without a wait for the other's reply, John turned and strode into the semi-gloom of the theatre. The manager stared at his receding figure and closed the window shade (Continued on page 14)



# Actor

Continued from page 12)  
 against the invading rain and wind.

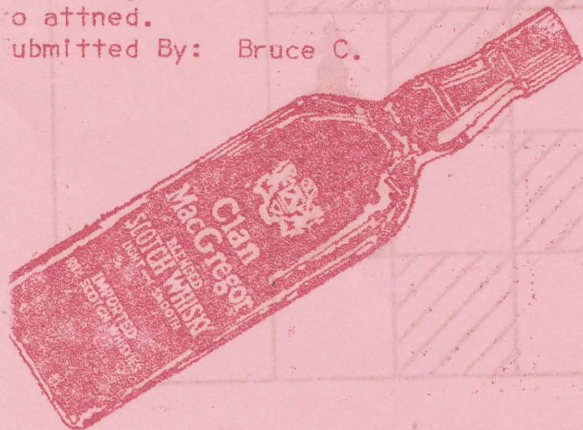
Mr. Ford returned to his desk and picked up the attendance ledger for the night's performance. He paused for a moment, thinking about the man who just left him. Actors certainly were strange people, he thought to himself, always so sorry about the size of the house. Well, no fear about that this evening. He had a fine crowd on his hand—and why not? A new play, a fine actress and the attendance of the President himself to add to the glamour of the evening. As far as the theatre went, this could prove to be a truly historic evening. One that even a actor like the one who had just entered the theatre, Mr. John Wilkes Booth would appreciate.

Ford finished totaling up the book, and for the night, signed his name with its usual flourish and added the date at the bottom.....April 14, 1865. He closed the ledger and leaned back in his chair. It looked to him as though this evening at Ford's Theatre would be a well remembered occasion.

# A. A. NOTE

On May 4th, we of Today's Group will hold our monthly (0) open meeting. If any of the active members have a friend interested or if you would like to acquaint yourself with Today's Group, you are urged to attend. We will be discussing what preparations are being made for our upcoming banquet. All members are urged to attend.

Submitted By: Bruce C.



# MR. X

QUESTION: I would like to know why an Inmate cannot wear his own sweater when going on a visit? We buy them with the approval of the administration and it would make the inmate feel more relaxed if he were allowed to wear his own clothing.

Signed: Ray Bosworth

ANSWER: The wearing of personal sweaters in the visiting room is not permitted in order to maintain a standard code of dress in this area.

Signed: W.T. Sheridan, Assistant Warden

# San Francisco Giants '70 Schedule

MAY						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					N 10 Pitts.	D 12 Pitts.
D 3	4	N 5 Montreal	N 6 Montreal	N 7 Montreal	N 8 N Y	D 9 N Y
D 10 N Y	N 11 S. Diego	N 12 S. Diego	N 13 S. Diego	N 14 L A	N 15 L A	N 16 L A
D 17 L A	18			21	D 22 S. Diego	D 23 S. Diego
	25	N 26 L A			N 29 Pitts.	D 30 Pitts.
D 31 Pitts.						

N—Night Game      D—Day Game  
 DH—Doubleheader  
 [White Box] Away Games      [Red Box] Home Games

# MOVIE SCHEDULE For Month Of May

- Saturday - May 9 - BABY LOVE
- Sunday - May 10 - STRATEGY OF TERROR
- Saturday - May 16 - YOUNG BILLY YOUNG
- Sunday - May 17 - SWEET BODY OF DEBORAH
- Saturday - May 23 - FLARE-UP
- Sunday - May 24 - CORRUPTION
- Friday - May 29 - TO BE ANNOUNCED
- Saturday - May 30 - SCREAM SCREAM AGAIN
- Sunday, May 31 - THE BOYS OF PAUL STREET

ALL MOVIES HAVE A SHORT WITH THEM



# CHESS

By **BRAD**

WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN TWO

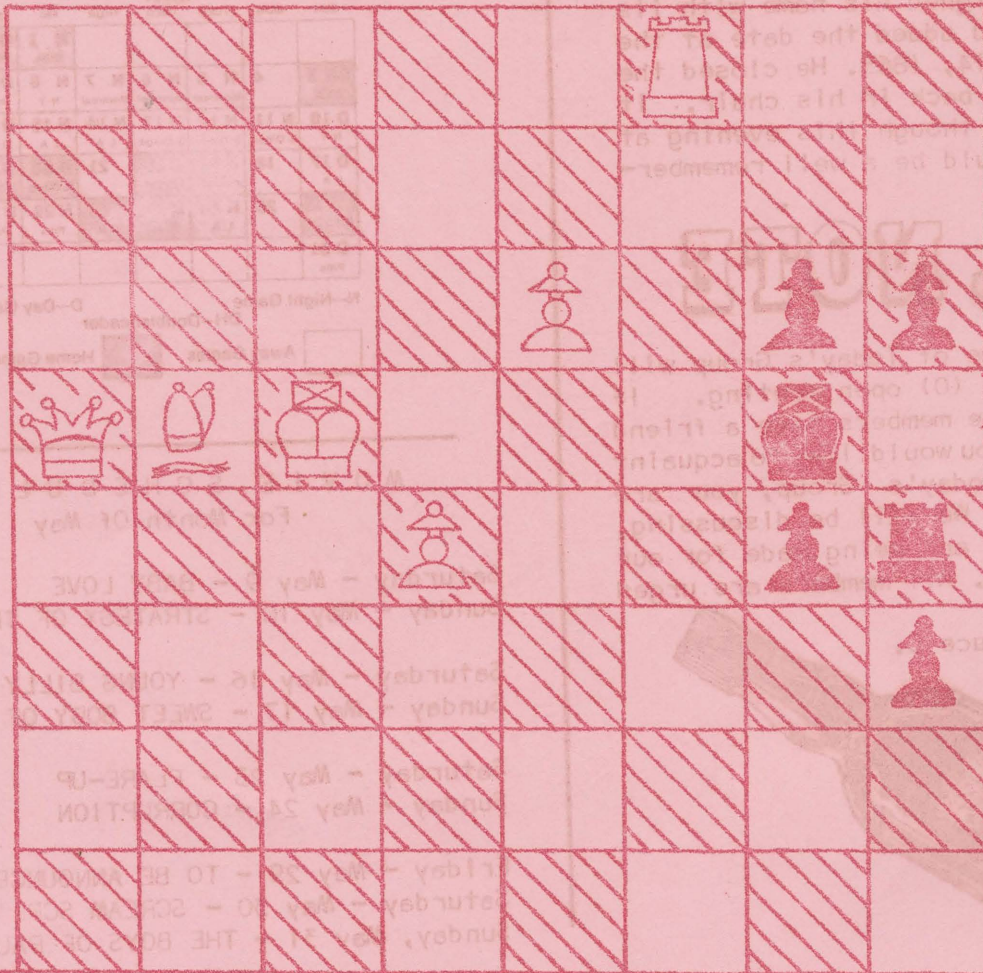
ANSWER FOR 4-17-70 PUZZLE

WHITE

- 1. Q-Kt 4
- 2. Q -B - 8
- 2. Q-K 6

BLACK

- 1. If R-K 7 than
- 1. If P-B 7 than





# THE RAP OF THE GAVEL

For the next few issues we are going to deal extensively with the question that is somewhat close to all of us in the event that we should ever find it necessary to call upon the court for assistance. The question of Jurisdiction of Writs in criminal proceedings; a writ of habeas corpus up to a few years ago was the exclusive post-conviction remedy for attacking jurisdiction on the following grounds:

1. Absence of the defendant from the court room during a portion of the trial.
2. Failure of the trial judge to comply with the allocution requirements laid down by the statute (as to defendant's rights).
3. Imposition of double punishment for the same act.
4. Complaints of an Ex Post Facto Law.
5. Double Jeopardy.
6. Unconstitutional statute.
7. Extensive prejudicial pre-trial publicity.
8. Conviction for a noncrime.
9. Failure on the part of the trial court prior to accepting a guilty plea from a recidivist to advise him of the possibility that he would receive multiple offender treatment.
10. Undue delay between conviction and sentence.
11. Failure by the court to order a psychiatric examination of the defendant before him as a sexual psychopath.

It is specified in 18 American Jurisprudence 2d Coram Nobis §1 that the writ of coram nobis shall issue also to review and correct an error on the record. This has become known as a petition for Writ of Error Coram Nobis. In New York during the early 1940's the Court of Appeals established this avenue as further post-conviction relief. Heretofore it had been obsolete and was subsequently revived in the Matter of Lyons v. Goldstein, 290 N.Y. 19 (1943).

Whereas habeas corpus was used to challenge a court on jurisdiction, or in exceeding its jurisdiction by imposing a heavier sentence than authorized by the statute, or with errors on the fact of the record, coram nobis, on the other hand, was designed to bring to the attention of the court facts not appearing on the record which tended to vitiate its judgment.

A review of coram nobis is appropriate.

Coram nobis is available to obtain judicial review of the facts as follows:

1. A guilty plea was coerced, or induced by unauthorized action by law enforcement officers, or by misrepresentation on the part of the prosecution or trial judge as to the sentence defendant should receive if he took a plea.
2. Defendant was insane or incompetent at the time of trial.
3. The trial judge was prejudiced against the defendant.
4. The state's attorney permitted false testimony to be used at the trial.
5. The state's attorney withheld exculpatory evidence from defendant counsel.
6. Counsel did not advise defendant of his right to appeal nor of the manner in which to do so.
7. Defendant's indigency prevented an appeal from being perfected.
8. To contest an already litigated confession which was found to be voluntary.

In some situations the same relief has been extended via both coram nobis and habeas corpus as follows:

1. A conviction obtained on an unsworn information.
2. Additional punishment for being armed when in fact not armed.
3. Improperly using a prior conviction for sentence as a multiple offender.
4. Incarceration for more than one year on a misdemeanor charge because of inability to pay a fine.

(Continued on next page)



(Continued from page 15)

Accordingly, technical distinctions between the two writs have been no bar to relief. Rarely, indeed, is a writ of habeas corpus dismissed because it should have been coram nobis, or vice versa.

State courts are plagued with habeas and coram nobis post-conviction applications which today represents a difference without any distinction. Free minutes, free counsel and free appeals are available for the indigent. When one route has been exhausted another is tried. Sometimes two different routes are tried at the same time, for the same relief, on separate grounds.

The history of post-conviction habeas corpus and coram nobis writs in the state courts abounds in duplication and multiplicity of litigation, of time, effort and expense, with resultant congestion of calendars. This is particularly so in those four or five counties in which penal institutions are located, since habeas writs are returnable in the county where detained. Hearings are confined to those four or five counties in this state.

Coram nobis writs, on the other hand, are returnable in the county of conviction. Thus, a prisoner who wants a free ride home to see his family can also avail himself of this process. Let me hurriedly add that not all writs are thus motivated.

More and more collateral attacks are being made on convictions, if not to secure release from incarceration, or a change of scenery, then to prevent a multiple offender sentence in a sister state, to prevent deportation, or for the return of a driver's license.

To cope with this situation it would appear that a new all-inclusive post conviction procedure will have to be adopted. Jurisdiction should be in the county of conviction so as to spread the hearings among the eight counties. It may be accomplished by a coram nobis which is even broader in scope than habeas corpus or by a completely new motion.

It is evident that there is an essential need for new post-judgement remedies to replace or consolidate the following:

1. Coram nobis (brought in court of conviction).
2. Motion for resentencing (brought in court of conviction).
3. Motion for new trial on ground of newly-discovered evidence (court of conviction).
4. State habeas corpus (in county of detention).
5. Federal habeas corpus.

With increased appellate litigation due to free appeals to the indigent and the prolific employment of post-conviction proceedings all the state courts are inundated.

State legislation cannot curtail federal litigation, except that broader state post-conviction hearings may result in only a review by the federal court rather than a plenary action.

Two new proposed motions—"motion to vacate judgement" and "motion to set aside a sentence"—brought in the court of conviction would replace the present coram nobis motion. However, habeas corpus cannot be suspended (Art. I subdv. 4, of the U.S. Constitution).

The following proceedings are constructively proposed:

(1). Adoption of a centralized clearing house computer system to record all the proceedings instituted by a prisoner. Right now no one has any idea as to how many writs were sought, where they were filed, the relief requested, the hearings held, and the findings made. This could cut down duplication and multiplicity.

(2). Arrange for lawyers and competent law students to visit prisoners and to advise them of their rights. This could eliminate the endless stream of useless, frivolous writs needlessly clogging the calendar where there is no possible chance of success.

By: Steve Duffen







# WEEKLY MENU

Spring Cycle Menu #1 - May 3 through May 9, 1970

- SUNDAY**
- Citrus Fruit
  - Cold Cereal
  - Coffee Cake
  - Milk & Coffee
  - B.O.S.C.M.

- MONDAY**
- Stewed Prunes
  - Cold Cereal
  - Scrambled Eggs
  - Toast
  - Milk
  - O.S.C.

- TUESDAY**
- Tomato Juice
  - Hot Cereal
  - Pastry
  - B.O.S.C.M.

- WEDNESDAY**
- Grapefruit Sections
  - Groddle Cakes w/ Syrup
  - Cold Cereal
  - B.O.S.C.M.

- THURSDAY**
- Banana
  - Cold Cereal
  - Pastry
  - Muffins
  - B.O.S.C.M.

- FRIDAY**
- Apple Juice
  - Cold Cereal
  - Fried Eggs
  - Toast
  - O.S.C.M.

- SATURDAY**
- Blended Juice
  - Batmeal
  - Strussel Cake
  - Milk
  - Coffee
  - B.O.S.

- Roast Chicken
- Sage Dressing/Gravy
- Mashed Potatoes
- Green Beans/Ice Cream
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Yankee Pot Roast
- Brown Gravy
- Mashed Potatoes
- Peas & Carrots
- Jell-o w/Topping
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Boiled Franks/Cabbage
- Home Fried Potatoes
- Butterscotch Pudding
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Spagetti w/Meat Balls
- Grated Cheese
- Chef's Salad
- Jell-o
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Ham Steak (grilled) w/Mustard
- O'Brien Potatoes
- Spinach/Cherry Pie
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Fried Fillet of Flounder w/Tarter Sauce
- Au Gratin Potatoes
- Kernel Corn/Ice Cream
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Beef Stew w/Vegetables
- Hot Biscuits
- Pickled Beet
- Onion Salad
- Chocolate Pudding
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Crackers/Pastry
- Assorted Cold-Cuts
- Potato Salad/Coffee
- B.O.S.M.

- Chili Con Carne
- Boiled Rice
- Hot Cornbread
- Lettuce Salad
- Peaches
- B.O.S.C.M.

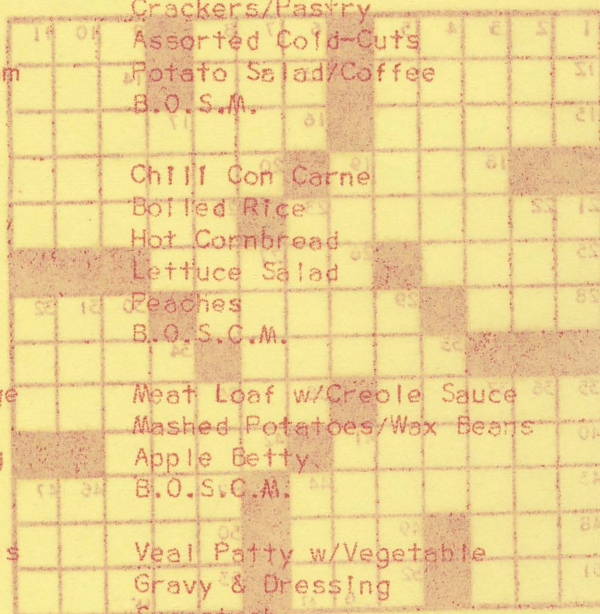
- Meat Loaf w/Creole Sauce
- Mashed Potatoes/Wax Beans
- Apple Betty
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Veal Patty w/Vegetable Gravy & Dressing
- Succotash
- Pastry - Boston Cream Pie
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Barbecued Minced Beef
- Buttered Noodles
- Carrots
- Purple Plums
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Manhattan Clam Chowder
- Baked Macaroni & Cheese
- Cole Slaw
- Banana Cream Pie
- B.O.S.C.M.

- Split Pea Soup w/Crackers
- Meat Hash
- Mixed Vegetables
- Fruit Compote
- B.O.S.C.M.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the sentence answer as suggested by the above caption.

AS A HE WAS

Now arrange the circled letters to form the sentence answer as suggested by the above caption.

OUR

ACROSS

- 1. 26. American mountain
- 2. Flood protection
- 3. Wave
- 4. Carried

Now arrange these four numbers to form four ordinary words.

COLE

OMET

BANCA

RYNO

OUR