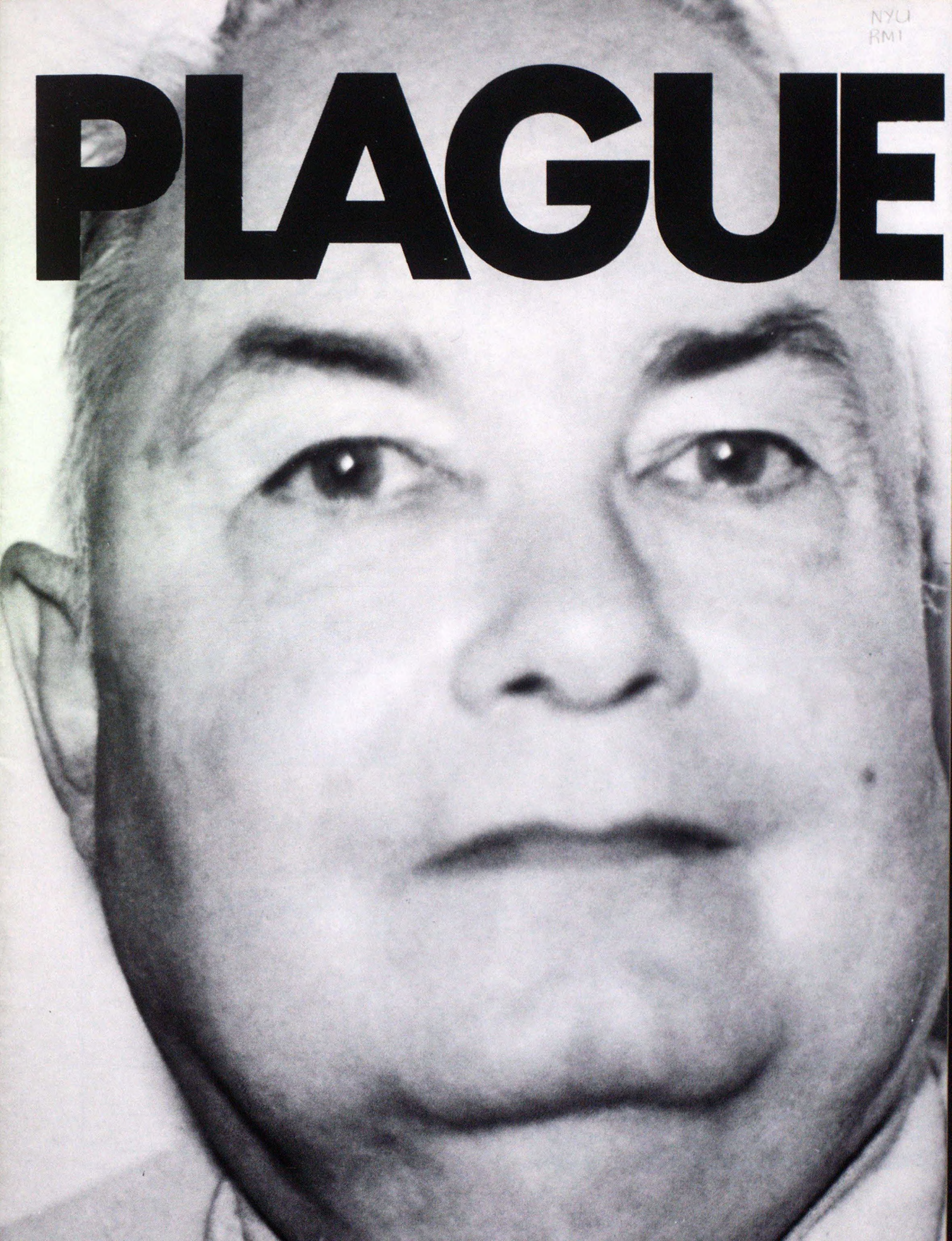


# PLAGUE





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# Letter From The Editor

A few months ago, one of the copyboys in my office was reading a small magazine that had the word "Plague" written on the cover. In all my years of publishing, I had never heard of such a thing.

"What the hell is that?," I asked the copyboy.

"Oh, this?," he answered sheepishly, "It's a humor magazine put out by students at NYU."

I grabbed the magazine out of his hands, and thumbed through it. So this is what the kids are reading, I thought. Personally, I didn't see what was so funny about it. But if that's what the kids were buying, then that's what I was going to be selling.

I called the *Plague* office, and offered to buy the magazine. The kids wouldn't sell. Alright, I says, let me give a little call to the bigwig of the whole operation.

I hadn't spoken with John B. since we used to sell racing forms two-for-a-quarter outside of Aqueduct. But the Prez remembered me right away, and just as quickly accepted my little "donation" to NYU. The bottom line is that I now own *The Plague*.

Now don't go getting all upset because *The Plague* is out of the hands of students and into the hands of a professional. I hereby promise to maintain the same level of integrity found in all Butch Kowalski Publication; publications like *The Weekly World News*, *UFObservers*, *Man O'War*, and countless other titles. All publications carrying my name also carry with them a certain level of quality.

To be honest, this is my first attempt at publishing a humor magazine. But it shouldn't be too much of a problem—I'm told that I actually have quite a sense of humor. For example, did you hear the one about the Polack who took a bubblebath by farting in a puddle?

And that's just a small taste of the funny material in store for you in this month's issue. Enjoy!

Yours in Publishing,

*Butch Kowalski*

Butch Kowalski, Ph.D.



**Butch Kowalski, PhD**  
**Editor-Publisher**



**Editor Kowalski and NYU President Brademas reminiscing old times.**



**Butch Kowalski's**

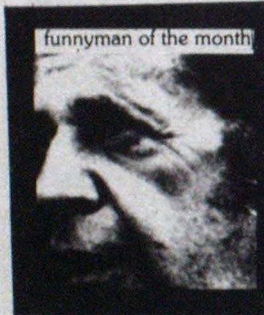


# PLAGUE

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### Editorial

The following is the fourth in a series of *Plague* editorials:

God demands private enterprise.

That's our opinion what's yours? We'd like to know. Editorial replies (in seven words or less) may be sent to Butch Kowalski's *Plague*, 21 Washington Place, NY, NY 10003, Box 80. We will print any reply we agree with.



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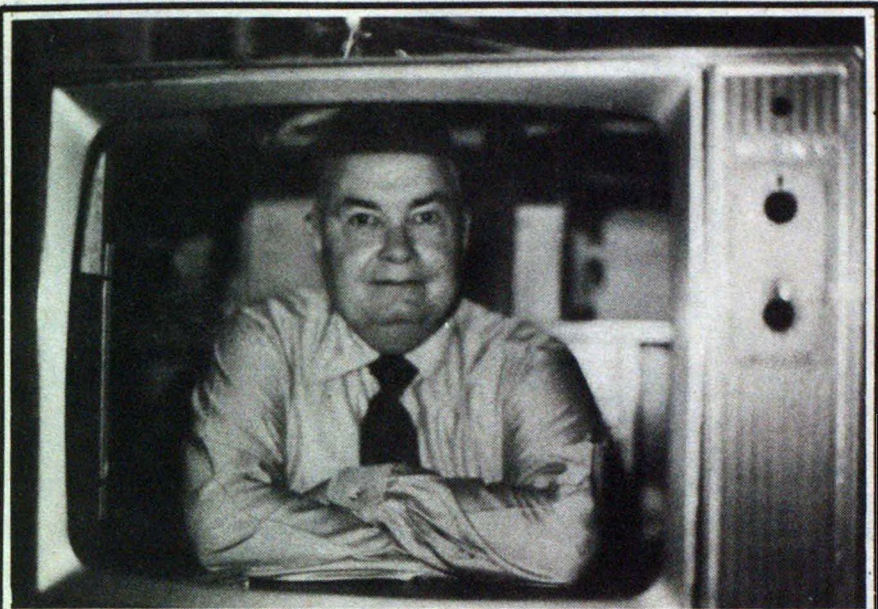


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# Plague Interview

Claude McCoy



**Bud**

## “BUD”

*“Late Night” star Calvert DeForrest, a/k/a Larry “Bud” Melman, speaks about life as a star.*

**DeFORREST:** I just got a call from Letterman. I have five fan letters; they wanted to know what to do with them. I said, “Forward them.”

**PLAGUE:** Any signs of a fan club yet?

**DeFORREST:** I have a couple of them. I have one in Chicago. I have Melman tee-shirts.

**PLAGUE:** You have that all licensed?

**DeFORREST:** I don't know about it being licensed.

**PLAGUE:** Well, you want to get a share of the tee-shirts...

**DeFORREST:** You see, when it gets to the financial end of it, I don't know what's up and what isn't. I leave that up to them.

**PLAGUE:** Well, I guess we'll start with the basic question: I guess what everyone wants to know is what Calvert DeForrest is really like off-camera?

**DeFORREST:** Somewhat on the order of, I guess, Larry Melman. He's not as crazy to do things “Bud” Melman would do, ordinarily.

**PLAGUE:** How did you get your start as an actor?

**DeFORREST:** Well, acting I've been doing practically all my life. I've done off-Broadway, done a lot of NYU movies - six or seven of them. In fact, that's how this got started, with an NYU movie.

**PLAGUE:** King of the Z's, right?

**DeFORREST:** Yeah. Karl Tiedman and his friend, and Steve Wynan. They wrote it, they co-produced it, and did everything. They showed a clip of the movie on David's show, and it just seemed to go over. You know, David sort'a liked what he saw. That was it.

**PLAGUE:** It was a good film.

**DeFORREST:** It was very good.

**PLAGUE:** Anyway, it was from that Tiedman and Wynan were hired?

**DeFORREST:** Uh-huh. They're no longer with the show, though.

**PLAGUE:** Oh, they've left?

**DeFORREST:** Long since departed. I outlived them.

**PLAGUE:** What was the first thing you did on the show? The very first appearance of “Bud” Melman.

**DeFORREST:** Well, it was introducing David.

**PLAGUE:** Was that the very first show?

**DeFORREST:** That was the opening show. It was sort'a a la Frankenstein.

**PLAGUE:** When was that?

**DeFORREST:** In January. That was the first time I was on... that was the first thing they gave me to do. And then it was all Melman Bus Lines. Then it graduated up to skits and working with David, interviews...the perennial “Night Before Christmas”...



## "Well, acting I've been doing all my life"

**PLAGUE:** *How well do you get along with David Letterman?*

**DeFORREST:** Very well. He's very easy to get along with.

**PLAGUE:** *How would you rate him as a comedian?*

**DeFORREST:** Very good. He's got a dry sense of humor.

**PLAGUE:** *Prior to the show, when you said you did off-Broadway, was it always comedy, or—*

**DeFORREST:** No, I did some dramatic acting.

**PLAGUE:** *Any shows we might recognize?*

**DeFORREST:** *Philadelphia, Here I Come...* the dramatic ones I can't think of.

**PLAGUE:** *Streetcar Named Desire?*

**DeFORREST:** Yeah, I did that.

**PLAGUE:** *Oh, you did?*

**DeFORREST:** I played the doctor.

**PLAGUE:** *When did you first appear on stage?*

**DeFORREST:** I don't want to date myself.

**PLAGUE:** *You don't have to date yourself. That's okay.*

**DeFORREST:** I'd rather not. It's been quite a while.

**PLAGUE:** *Is this the first television that you've done?*

**DeFORREST:** Actually, it is the first time. That's funny... that's the title of my movie (*The First Time*).

**PLAGUE:** *Yes, it is.*

**DeFORREST:** Starting its fifth week, by the way.

**PLAGUE:** *Do you know if that's going to be distributed nationally?*

**DeFORREST:** Well, Charlie (Loventhal) is trying to distribute it, but New Line is giving him a hard time. In fact, it was supposed to be entered in the Cannes Film Festival and they wanted him to use his print, and that's the only one he's got, so he couldn't very well use it. So it's not going in. But he's had offers now for ten scripts, all for major studios. All on the strength of *The First Time*.

**PLAGUE:** *I hear you have two other films coming out.*

**DeFORREST:** Well, *Waitress* is already released, and then there's *Nothing Lasts Forever* in September.

**PLAGUE:** *And that's with...?*

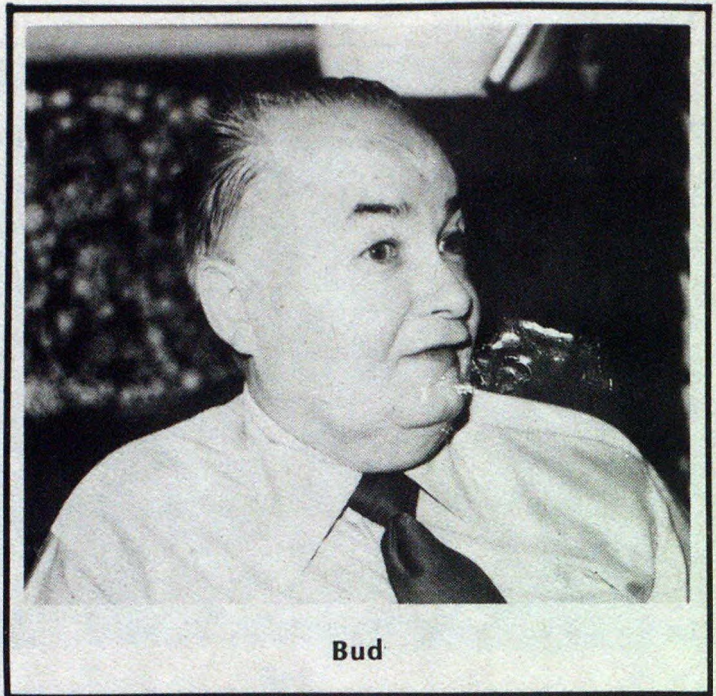
**DeFORREST:** Bill Murray, Imogene Coca, King Donovan...

**PLAGUE:** *Do you have—?*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, I have a big part. I'm in nearly every scene.

**PLAGUE:** *What is your role? What's the story, if you can give us that?*

**DeFORREST:** I'm a passenger on a bus, instead of driving. I don't know how they got to that. It's a case of these elderly peo-



Bud

ple that go up to the moon and when they get there, there's no way for them to get back to earth, so they have to stay up there. And they have Eddie Fisher entertaining them in the Sky Lounge...Y'know, really off-the-wall, but terrific. Tom Schiller directed it.

**PLAGUE:** *From Saturday Night Live?*

**DeFORREST:** He's great. He used to be on *Saturday Night Live*.

**PLAGUE:** *Did he write it, too?*

**DeFORREST:** Yeah, he wrote it. It's a great movie.

**PLAGUE:** *What's Bill Murray's part?*

**DeFORREST:** Bill Murray is the tour conductor. Great guy.

**PLAGUE:** *When will that be coming out?*

**DeFORREST:** September or October.

**PLAGUE:** *Did you get that role as a result of your appearances as Melman?*

**DeFORREST:** No, that had nothing to do with that. I got that as an open audition, where there must've been hundreds trying out. They wanted people that looked 1950's, who had that look, that style. And elderly people. So, I happened to fit in, and they kept building-up my part day-by-day, gradually. It got bigger and bigger, so they can't cut me out of anything because I'm really with everybody in the scenes. So, if they cut me out they have to cut the rest out. I don't think they're going to do that.



"Must've been six or seven (NYU films) but I never remember what they are."

**PLAGUE:** Besides Tom Schiller, is anybody else from the old SNL involved?

**DeFORREST:** Well, Lorne Michaels. He's the producer.

**PLAGUE:** Will there be any other films after that?

**DeFORREST:** Not so far. I did a taping in Chicago. I don't know what it's for, but whatever it was, they liked what they saw. I did standup comedy.

**PLAGUE:** We were at the opening of *The First Time*.

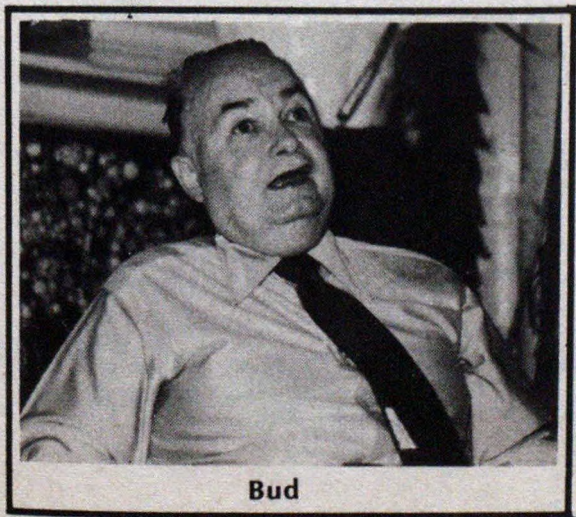
**DeFORREST:** You were?

**PLAGUE:** We were the ones who called you Mr. DeForrest, on the line. I noticed that when you came out, you were sort'a surprised by the reaction you got from the audience. Are you surprised by the way people react to you?

**DeFORREST:** No, but the crowd...I didn't really expect there were going to be that many. I knew there'd be people, but I didn't expect anything like that amount.

**PLAGUE:** It's particularly interesting that Wallace Shawn, who's been in any number of movies was there, but everyone on line wasn't really interested in him. They wanted to see Calvert DeForrest.

**DeFORREST:** Well, I'm amazed too, because they were building Wallace Shawn up because of *Dinner With Andre*. In fact when I went on David's show to be interviewed about the movie, they asked me to mention Wallace Shawn. Of course, you're not allowed to mention anyone on the program, so I couldn't get his name out. But Charlie said to mention it, y'know? He's a big star. If I could've gotten it in, I certainly would've. Just one of those things.



Bud

**PLAGUE:** Are you friends with Wallace Shawn?

**DeFORREST:** No, I never met Wallace before.

**PLAGUE:** For *King of the Z's*, you said the character of "Bud" Melman sort'a metamorphosized from it. I've noticed a similarity in the role in *King of the Z's* and "Bud" Melman.

**DeFORREST:** Well, "Bud" Melman came from the people on the *Letterman* show. They made up the name.

**PLAGUE:** But wasn't the name similar? Like *Mer-man* or something. Anyway, how did the character develop? The writers completely did that?

**DeFORREST:** They did it.

**PLAGUE:** Did you help at all?

**DeFORREST:** I did nothing. I went along with whatever they had in mind as far as skits and things like that. Fluffs that were made weren't intentional; they were my own. They weren't planned. Definitely. And I don't think I could have planned it. Just came off that way.

**PLAGUE:** Speaking of fluffs, there was one show—

**DeFORREST:** Oh, God!

**PLAGUE:** ...the Christmas show.

**DeFORREST:** Nobody ever forgets that.

**PLAGUE:** It was a very memorable moment of TV.

**DeFORREST:** Maybe to you, but not to me.

**PLAGUE:** What was going through your head when that happened?

**DeFORREST:** Embarrassment. How can I get out of here?

**PLAGUE:** Could you go through the story? What exactly did you expect would happen before you started?

**DeFORREST:** I expected I would have a book with the recitation of the "Christmas Carol", not a French Catechism. Unlucky for me, I never knew the whole "Christmas Carol", so of course the first three lines were all I knew, then I was on my own...it was Spanish, it was French...Oh, my God, how am I gonna get out of this? And the little kids didn't know what the Hell was going on. They couldn't have cared less. I was lucky I was wearing the beard and the makeup because I would've really gone through the floor.

**PLAGUE:** Do you have any background in improvisation?

**DeFORREST:** Yeah, I've done improv, but not to that extent, the way it turned out that night.



**"Melman...likeable, warm guy...a little kooky at times."**

**PLAGUE:** *I noticed they're starting to experiment with the character of Larry "Bud" by introducing a brother... Larry "Chuck"?*

**DeFORREST:** Yeah, my son, "Chip".

**PLAGUE:** *No, there was another show when you came on with a beard...*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, yeah! When I played my own brother! They tried to find somebody that looked like me. Eventually they came to the idea of using me and I played my older brother. I thought it was cleverly done.

**PLAGUE:** *Beside Late Night, have you had any other TV offers?*

**DeFORREST:** No.

**PLAGUE:** *Just staying with Letterman.*

**DeFORREST:** Well, I'm satisfied. I mean, I owe it all to David Letterman.

**PLAGUE:** *As far as the character of Larry "Bud", has Dave had any input?*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, yeah, he has a lot to do with the writing. They have meetings and he's in on the meetings and he puts in whatever's necessary to add. David changes the script during the show. He'll say, "Don't you think Calvert should have this to say or that to say?"

**PLAGUE:** *So it's a continuing process even while the show's being taped?*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, yes! 'Cause you never know up until the time it's on what it's going to be like.

**PLAGUE:** *That's part of the thing that makes it interesting.*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, and how! Definitely, I wouldn't want it any other way.

**PLAGUE:** *Where were you brought up, Calvert?*

**DeFORREST:** Well, originally I was brought up upstate, Minnesota, New York. Then I moved down to Brooklyn at a very early age.

**PLAGUE:** *Did you want to be an actor?*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, that, yes!

**PLAGUE:** *All the way back. What influenced you to become an actor? Was there something you saw—a show, maybe?*

**DeFORREST:** No. It extends from my mother's side of the family. They were in theatre. So I got it quite naturally.

**PLAGUE:** *Is that all you ever wanted to do?*

**DeFORREST:** Nothing else.

**PLAGUE:** *Never wanted a bus line or anything?*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, no! I don't even drive! I don't know where they ever got the idea of making me a busdriver.

**PLAGUE:** *Through the years, were you always able to sustain yourself by getting acting jobs?*



**Bud**

**DeFORREST:** Oh, no, I have a part-time job. You can't sustain yourself...unless you're a Robert Redford.

**PLAGUE:** *Even now, I mean, now that you have the role on Letterman. Is it enough?*

**DeFORREST:** I still feel that way, 'cause there's always the question "How long will it go on?" You know the business. It could end tomorrow. David could go off to the West Coast.

**PLAGUE:** *But Late Night is going to stay in New York?*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, definitely.

**PLAGUE:** *How do you think it would be in California? It wouldn't be the same. It needs New York as background.*

**DeFORREST:** It's funny 'cause there'd be nobody here doing a show from New York. They'd all be out there. What would be the sense of it? We need somebody here to host.

**PLAGUE:** *Well, except for Saturday Night Live, there's nothing really else done in New York.*

**DeFORREST:** Yeah, but how often is SNL on?

**PLAGUE:** *Speaking of SNL, I was wondering, do you have any idea of the reaction of David Letterman or anyone else to the skits they've been doing about the show on SNL?*

**DeFORREST:** I think they get a big charge, 'cause one night they did a take-off on David and one on me.

**PLAGUE:** *Have you seen Tim Kazurinsky's?*

**DeFORREST:** I saw David's take-off. It was wonderful.

**PLAGUE:** *Joe Piscopo does him very well.*

**DeFORREST:** Beautiful! I didn't like the one they did on me. Not that I'm bragging, but I don't think it went off well...this guy was hunched.



**"Well, I'm satisfied. I mean I owe it all to David Letterman."**

**PLAGUE:** *Were you flattered nonetheless?*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, sure! Anybody does a take-off on you, it's a great compliment. I love it.

**PLAGUE:** *What's your typical work-week? What sort of schedule do you have?*

**DeFORREST:** I usually work Tuesday through Friday - 3½ days a week, whatever - and I work in Brooklyn, so it makes a full week. Then I did a stint at Caroline's...a second week with Pee Wee (Herman). He asked me to be in the show. I sort'a came out at the end of the show. Nobody was supposed to know I was there, but the whole bar would be buzzing, "Gee, Larry 'Bud' Melman!", and then I'd go to a table. While poor Pee Wee's doing his act, they'd say, "And there's Larry 'Bud' Melman!" Pee Wee would go through the act like he didn't know I existed.

Then, at the end, he'd say, "Well, we have a very famous person in our audience. I know you won't know him by his real name, but as soon as I mention his other name, you'll know who he is!" "Oh, Larry 'Bud'!" They'd go crazy! And then I got up and he'd say, "What do you do outside of David Letterman? I hear you had a wonderful trip to Mexico. Tell us about it."

And then he said, "And I understand you've done three movies. Would you mind telling us about them?" I said, "No," and then I went on and mentioned *Waitress*. Then I mentioned *The First Time*.

It's funny, but the night I was at Caroline's the people from *Waitress* were there. I didn't know it and they didn't know it. They got hysterical because I mentioned *Waitress*.

**PLAGUE:** *When will the video be out that you did with Pee Wee?*

**DeFORREST:** I don't know. Pee Wee was trying to get it on David's show. I've done another one. He wrote it and directed it. It's called "The Lemonade Stand" and we shot it in the Village. It's a short movie, and he's trying to get that on David's show.

**PLAGUE:** *Of all the people you've met who've been on the show, do you have any favorites? Is there anyone you've met?*

**DeFORREST:** Swoosie Kurtz. She was so nice. And then there was Mark (Hamill). . . Michael Davis, the guy who's in *Sugar Babies*. . . the juggler. . .

**PLAGUE:** *When the interviews are going on, what do you do? Are you around the set?*

**DeFORREST:** Well, I'm usually in the Green Room waiting 'till they call me to go on, 'cause that's what I usually do. Then, they'll come out and get you and say, "You're on."

**PLAGUE:** *Is it still fun for you to go out before an audience?*

**DeFORREST:** It's great. It's great. And the reaction you get, you can't believe it. It's really beautiful.

**PLAGUE:** *Your character's caught on quite a bit.*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, yes.

**PLAGUE:** *Is it very gratifying? You said you've been doing this all your life. Is it gratifying to latch onto a character like this?*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, God, yeah! And I don't pay for meals! It's great! Honest to God, it's beyond belief. Roy Rogers, I walked in there and went up to the guy and ordered my food. He said, "Larry 'Bud' Melman!" I said, "Yeah." He said,



**Bud**



# "Oh, God yeah! And I don't pay for meals! It's great! Honest to God!"

"How do you get to see the show?" I said, "You can either write in, or sometimes I'm able to get the tickets." He said, "Can you get me some? I need about two." I said, "Sure." So, he turned to the guy next to him and said, "Don't mind. He doesn't have to pay for this." That was a meal free there!

So then where I work I got two free meals. At Wendy's. One guy came over and said, "Oh, Larry 'Bud' Melman! Give me your autograph!" I said, "Sure." "Meal's on me." So, the next day I walk in, this other guy comes up to me and said, "Oh, you're waiting to get something?" He said, "Try this last line here. Go way down on the end, by the door. So I thought, 'What the hell am I waiting by the door for?' So he said, 'What do you want?' I told him what I wanted. He said, "All right. It'll come out in awhile." I said, "How much is it?" He said, "Oh, this is on me. All I want is your autograph." I said, "You are terrific! You mean to say this is all I have to do? Oh," I said. "I love doing this!"

Sure, it's not work at all. I don't expect it—I really don't—and when they do it, it's like wow! They're getting more of a charge out of it than I am! I mean, all they want is an autograph!

**PLAGUE:** *Do you have any family?*

**DeFORREST:** I don't have any family. Lone wolf.

**PLAGUE:** *You're self-made?*

**DeFORREST:** Yeah, I guess.

**PLAGUE:** *Besides acting, what other things do you like to do?*

**DeFORREST:** I love going to the theatre... musicals.

**PLAGUE:** *Have you seen anything in particular you like?*

**DeFORREST:** I've seen everything and I go back to see them again. *My One and Only*.

**PLAGUE:** *Any favorites right now?*

**DeFORREST:** I loved *Show Boat*, but that's closed. Donald O'Connor. In fact, the ones backstage—I'm a nut on autographs—they all wanted my autograph. And then *Mame*. I know Jane Connell very well. In fact, I went up to her and asked for her autograph. She said, "Oh my God. I'd stop anywhere for a star and sign." I said, "What do you mean?" I said, "Jane, you're the star of this show!" She's the one playing Agnes Guich. So, it's like that.

**DeFORREST:** Even with the box office guys. They know me. The one at the Broadhurst, where *Amadeus* is... something embarrassing happened. I went to *Amadeus* 'cause Mark was in it. I brought somebody with me, and I thought I had the tickets for the show. I didn't.

I didn't know what to do, but this guy at the box office remembered me and, listen to this, his name is Lee J. Cobb! Remember the old actor? He said to me, "I swear to God, Calvert, that's my name!" He wants to get on—two of them want to get on the show. One does bad impressions, and I've forgotten what the other one does.

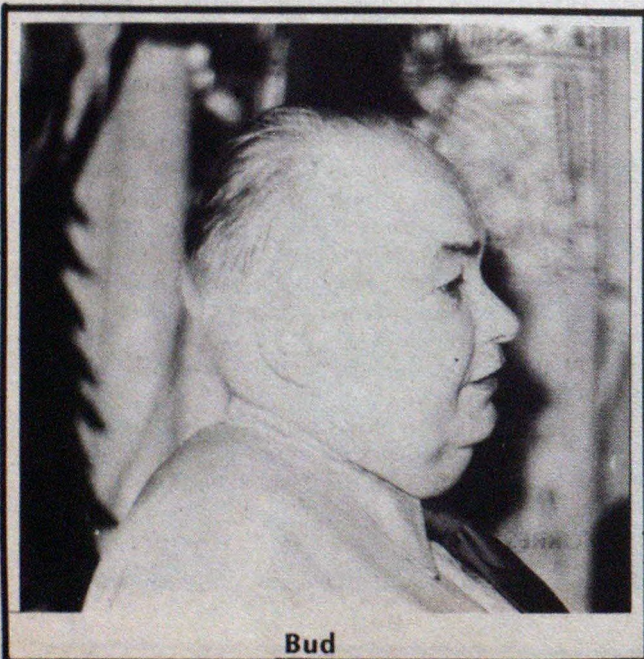
So anyhow, I said to the guy at *Amadeus*, "Gee, I haven't got my seats. What am I gonna do?" And he said, "Don't worry, Mr. Melman! Don't get upset! I'll get the House Manager!" House Manager takes me down, puts me in an Orchestra Seat. All I had was Balcony! It's knowing the right people.

**PLAGUE:** *How did you get the role in The First Time? How did you meet the director?*

**DeFORREST:** *The First Time* was through an audition.

**PLAGUE:** *How many films did you do at NYU?*

**DeFORREST:** Must've been six or seven, but I never remember what they are. But who would've thought from an NYU film this would happen? So it shows you, never turn down an NYU film. You never know where it's gonna lead.



Bud



# "I don't do much dancing but a little singing. Dancing, I have two left feet."

**PLAGUE:** When you said you did serious acting— if you wanted to do a serious role— would you find that Larry "Bud" Melman would hamper that?

**DeFORREST:** No, you forget all about it. I can turn him off.

**PLAGUE:** Have you been reading any scripts for anything new?

**DeFORREST:** No, but I did get a call from my answering service that some women is doing a Broadway musical and she wants me for it.

**PLAGUE:** How would you like that? You said you like Broadway musicals.

**DeFORREST:** I'd love it!



**Bud**

**PLAGUE:** Have you ever done a musical before?

**DeFORREST:** A little singing, but I've always done straight roles.

**PLAGUE:** Would this be a singing and dancing role?

**DeFORREST:** I don't do much dancing, but a little singing. Dancing, I have two feet left. I did that once on *Letterman*. I don't know how well it came off. I had a hat and cane. Did you see that?

**PLAGUE:** Yes.

**DeFORREST:** And then I did singing twice from *A Chorus Line*. "What I Did for Love." I mean, I wouldn't hang my career on it, y'know.

**PLAGUE:** Would you attempt it on a Broadway stage if you got the part?

**DeFORREST:** If I got the part? To be on Broadway? Why not?

**PLAGUE:** What sort of TV shows do you watch?

**DeFORREST:** I love movies.

**PLAGUE:** What movies do you go see?

**DeFORREST:** Well, I mean the classics. Like Bette Davis ones.

**PLAGUE:** Have any favorites?

**DeFORREST:** Bette Davis is my favorite. Last night I watched HBO. *Time After Time* with David Warner and Malcolm McDowell. The one where he chases Jack the Ripper in the Time Machine.

**PLAGUE:** When you go to the movies, besides the old ones do you usually go to comedies? Do you like dramatic ones? Of the current films, is there any you particularly like?

**DeFORREST:** I like dramatic ones. But there aren't that many around.

**PLAGUE:** If you got the chance, would you like to—not that there are many around—but would you like to do a film that was a throwback to the old ones of the '40s?

**DeFORREST:** Oh, I'd love to.

**PLAGUE:** In those films, how do you picture yourself? What kind of role? If you could have the run of any kind of role in a '40s-type film, what would you like to play? A heavy? Did you ever think to yourself, "In any old film. I wish I could play...?"

**DeFORREST:** I'd like a comedy role like Frank McHugh did in *42nd Street*, something like that. Or maybe a producer-type that Warner Baxter played there. I love any of those nostalgic things. They usually get me. I'm great for that, 'cause I grew up on *The Flirtation Waltz*, *42nd Street*, that type of movie. The original *7th Heaven*. I love tear-jerkers. Now, *Voyager*, anything like that.

**PLAGUE:** Are you a romantic, Calvert?

**DeFORREST:** Oh, yes.

*(It is at this point that the Plague interviewer slips from the broken chair in which he had been sitting. There is a loud crash.)*

**DeFORREST:** Oh, my God. We don't want to lose you.

**PLAGUE:** That's why I told you—



# "Oh, no I don't even drive. I don't know where they got the idea of making me a busdriver."

**DeFORREST:** That's why you told me not to sit there. We can lose him, but not me, right?

**PLAGUE:** Well, you're the star. It wouldn't be right to appear on national TV with a cast.

**DeFORREST:** Oh, all right. Okay.

**PLAGUE:** Do you ever envision a Larry "Bud" Melman Show?

**DeFORREST:** Yeah. But then, I'd like it to be all about theatre and movies. It wouldn't be what David does, 'cause he does sports and all the other jazz, which I'm not too hep at. But, if it stuck to theatre and movies... y'know, nostalgia. Yeah, I guess I could handle that.

**PLAGUE:** A Joe Franklyn-type show?

**DeFORREST:** Oh, yeah. I'd love that.

**PLAGUE:** Have you ever been on that show?

**DeFORREST:** Never.

**PLAGUE:** Would you want to be?

**DeFORREST:** Frankly, no.

**PLAGUE:** Why not?

**DeFORREST:** I haven't heard too many favorable things about it. I mean, once you've been on, that's it. And after that, I mean, where do you go from there? I haven't heard of many people, y'know taking off.

**PLAGUE:** You think it could actually hurt your career?

**DeFORREST:** Yes, I think so.

**PLAGUE:** Have you ever been invited on any other talk show?

**DeFORREST:** Uh, no.

**PLAGUE:** Do you have any favorite bits of yours that you enjoy, your favorite Larry "Bud" Melman episodes on the show?

**DeFORREST:** Not that Christmas thing. I didn't mind the interview with Jack and Elaine (LaLanne). I enjoyed that. The last thing I enjoyed was talking with David about my movies. Then I was really steady, y'know, no problem. Like, sometimes, even knowing I'm getting along with him, I get sort'a awed by him.

**PLAGUE:** Was he actually surprised that you were in so many movies?

**DeFORREST:** That's what he said. He said, "Three movies? I haven't even done one!"

**PLAGUE:** Would you be interested in starring in a film?

**DeFORREST:** I'd love to! Why not? (Laughter.) Sure, if somebody'd ask me!

**PLAGUE:** A drama or...

**DeFORREST:** I'd like a comedy.

**PLAGUE:** When you're approached for a project, say, an NYU film, how does that work? Do you get to see the script, for instance, with King of the Z's, or what?

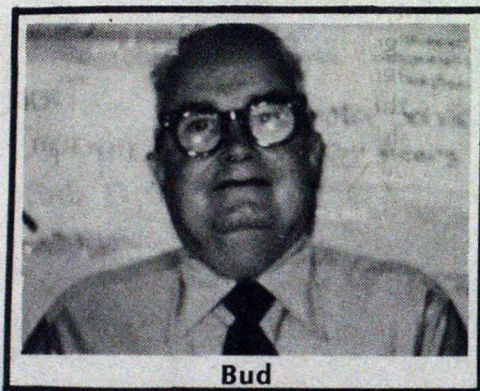
**DeFORREST:** Some of the times, it worked that you'd do one, and the director of one would say, "Gee, I'd like to use you for another one." Or the cameraman of that would be the director in the next one, and he'd say, "Well, how about doing mine?" And one would always lead to another, and it got so I'd be in six or seven right in a row and they'd be shown at the festival that they had.

**PLAGUE:** Did you enjoy doing them?

**DeFORREST:** I loved it. I love doing it. Me, knock it like a doubter? Please! No, I tell everybody, it's a great thing to do it, because you never know.

**PLAGUE:** How does it compare working on a student film as opposed to a major, well, commercial-release film? Would you compare one to the other on any stage of difference?

**DeFORREST:** Well, I don't know. I'd say the hours. You work just as hard on both, y'know. As far as that goes, there's not that much difference.



**Bud**

**PLAGUE:** If you had to sum up the character of Larry "Bud" Melman, how would you describe, say to someone who'd never seen him, or how do you visualize the character?

**DeFORREST:** How do I?

**PLAGUE:** If you had to describe him.

**DeFORREST:** I don't know. Likeable, warm guy. I think he's a little kooky at times. He does things that ordinarily I don't think he would do.

**PLAGUE:** Such as?

**DeFORREST:** What I do on the Letterman show! I mean, normally I certainly wouldn't do things, say things like that, but it's just happened to come off that way. And David seems to love it.



# Psychic's Psoapbox

Norman  
The Omnipotent

Welcome. Or as the Incas put it, *Khokmara tun*.

Funny people, those Incas. But, enough of frivolity.

This will be the first in a series of columns in which I shall attempt to answer any and all questions sent to me by the ancient gods, I shall thus attempt to calm the many troubled souls that are but a reflection of the uneasy world around us.

"But, Norman the Omnipotent," I hear your anguished psyches cry, "I am only a student of meager means. I have not the funds with which to compensate you for your expert aid, although I do indeed require your help. What can I do, oh Norman the Omnipotent?"

Fear not, my children. Through the graces of the gods and *The Plague's* benevolent publisher/philosopher king, Butch Kowalski, PhD, my services can now be yours at no cost to yourselves. "Oh, Norman the Omnipotent," your karmic selves call to me, "this is too good to be true! How can I, a lowly supplicant, send my questions to you, and thus gain peace and everlasting happiness?" Well, my children, all you need do is write to the following address: The Psychic's Psoapbox, *The Plague*, Box 80, 21 Washington Pl., New York, NY 10003. You need not include your last name or home address. I know who you are.

Since this is my first column, however, I have received no letters as of yet. Thus, I myself shall compose some letters concerning the problems of fictitious readers. My answers, the product of my link to the astral plane, will be accurate and absolutely correct nonetheless.

Dear Norman the Omnipotent,  
My life lacks all meaning and purpose. I have helplessly floundered upon the shore of life, much in the manner of a beached sperm whale. I see no future, no direction, no path for me to follow. Tell me, oh Norman the Omnipotent, what I should do?  
Mary

Dear Mary,

I have gazed beyond the crimson veil and seen the cause of your dilemma. You have been buffeted about by the winds of indecision and have lost all direction. But fear not. The gods, in their wisdom and mercy, have imparted unto me an answer to your dilemma: You must set yourself a goal, as well as a path by which to pursue it.

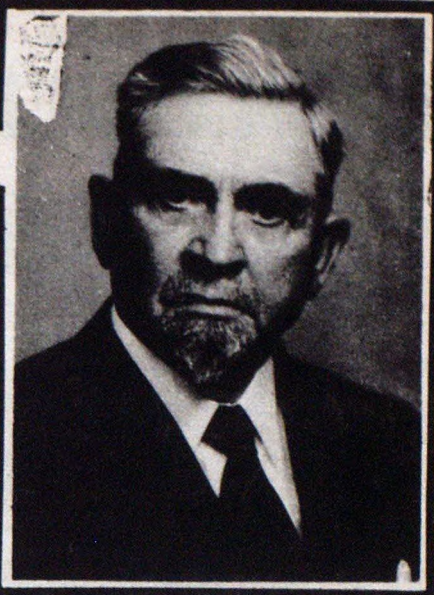
Yet, you ask, what should that goal be? At this time, when the seven moons of Azragar have formed the Tao Chi constellation, the stars suggest a goal of meaning and worth, one which shall bring you respect from others and lead to your helping those in need.

Or skip all that and buy a Cuisinart.

Dear Norman the Omnipotent,  
For years, I have carried my late grandfather's pocket watch as a link to his memory. Three weeks ago, though, I somehow lost this sentimental keepsake. I have thoroughly searched my home numerous times, but to no avail. Where, oh Norman the Omnipotent, is my late grandfather's watch?  
Jonathan

Dear Jonathan,

I have encountered your departed grandfather many times in the land beyond the shadows and know him well. I have put your question to him and received a reply.



It seems that, unknown to you, the watch stopped working some weeks ago. Knowing your attachment to the watch and being the man he was, your grandfather reached out from the beyond and took the watch to be repaired by one of the finest Swiss clockmakers of the fourteenth century, Hans von Glucksman. It should be ready a week from Monday.

Dear Norman the Omnipotent,  
My life is a shambles. My wife has left me. I've lost my job, even my dog won't speak to me. I have been seriously considering suicide. What, o Norman the Omnipotent, should I do?  
Marvin

(Not my real name)

Dear Marvin (Not your real name),

It matters not that you have not signed your true name, for though you are just a fictional character, I know who you are. Your name, I believe, is Richard, and you live in Bethpage, Maryland.

Richard, I have consulted with the gods and given your problem the contemplation it deserves. After much deliberation, I have come to the conclusion that you should indeed commit suicide. The stars suggest blowing your brains out with a .45 automatic. Good luck.



# Here's What I Think!

Jimbo Bullhead

*Publisher's note: Jimbo Bullhead's Here's What I Think has been syndicated in several hundred newspapers and publications, most notably the nationally distributed Butch Kowalski's Weakly World News. Since Jimbo is under exclusive contract to me, Butch Kowalski, PhD, he has kindly consented to adding The Plague to his impressive list of journalistic forums.*



My kids dragged me to that movie, that *Jedi* thing or whatever, at the Mall a while back. Well, let me tell you, by the time I got out of that theater, I was fit to be tied.

Just what are these movie big-wigs trying to do to our kids?! I mean, here the kids are, with everything they could ever possibly want, right here in the good old US of A. But after that movie was over, I'll be darned if I didn't hear at least twenty kids say how great it'd be to live in outer space! Where would we be if all of our good, able-bodied boys went gallivanting off to other planets instead of building up and defending this great country of ours? I'll tell you where we would be: We'd be in Moscow, that's where we'd be!

And what about those "cute" and "cuddly" furry creatures? I heard a lot of kids saying how they'd like to meet up with those things. I couldn't believe my ears! If I ever saw some alien hairball coming up my lawn, I'd pull down the old shotgun and start blasting away! Darned if I'm going to trust some creature that can't even speak English!

Whatever happened to good movies like *Yankee Doodle Dandy* or *King of the Cowboys*—movies about America, made by Americans for Americans? Personally, I'm shocked that President Reagan (a fine actor himself) could allow trash like this to be produced and shown to impressionable children. Maybe what we need is a president who isn't so liberal.

And that's what I think.

## THINGS NOT TO DO

By Jimbo Bullhead

Here are some things you should not do.

1. Do not permit disrespect to be shown to the Flag.
  2. Do not dip the Flag to any person or any thing.
  3. Do not place any other flag above the Flag of the United States.
  4. Do not use the Flag to cover a statue or monument to be unveiled.
  5. Do not let the Flag touch the ground or floor, or trail in the water.
  6. Never use the Flag to cover a table or a desk or as drapery. Use bunting of blue, white and red, and place blue uppermost.
  7. Do not drape the Flag over the sides or back of a vehicle or boat.
  8. Do not use the Flag as part of a costume or an athletic uniform.
  9. Do not put lettering of any kind on the Flag.
  10. Do not use the Flag in any form of advertising.
- Do not display, use or store the Flag so that it may be easily soiled or damaged.



# Fishin' & Stuff

Andy Mack

Well, the best season fishing-wise is, of course, always summer. Every summer for as far back as I can remember has brought with it some kind of excitement to anxious anglers... and this past summer, luckily, was no exception. So let's get right to it.

Those snappers have really been snappin' around in the Great Lakes Region. Friends of mine that live up there say that they ain't seen nothing like it in years.

And last Thursday, Mrs. Beulah Jones reported to me that her daughter, Beatrice, had twins last week! Nice goin', Beatrice! (Just between you and me, I can remember little Bee-Bee way back when she was knee-high to a grasshopper. Believe me, that's going back-chuckle, chuckle)!

Bee-Bee's Aunt Barbara (who, by the way, is Beulah's sister) happened to be visiting them right about when the two tykes popped out of their new mommy. But no coincidence there—Barbara had known that Bee-Bee was knocked up for quite a few months.

Anyway, Barbara goes and tells everyone about her husband, Bobby, who's been havin' more and more trouble with the gout. Wouldn't you know the damned gout goes and gets worse, even though he's takin' medicine and everything else under the sun for the confounded thing? He says the summers have been gettin' worse and worse for him. Poor Bobby. Well, we've still got memories of those Fourth of July picnics, right Bobby?

Bobby and Barbara are far from the blues, no matter how bad the gout gets, cause their daughter, Brenda, just got accepted into the United States Navy! Beaming Aunt Beulah went on for hours about her talented niece. "I don't like to brag," Beulah tells me, "but that niece of mine just may be the first woman president this nation of ours will ever see." Bee-Bee, now in her family way, also had nothing but praise for her talented cousin.

The Roberts family visited me last week just to say hello. They tell me that everything's going just

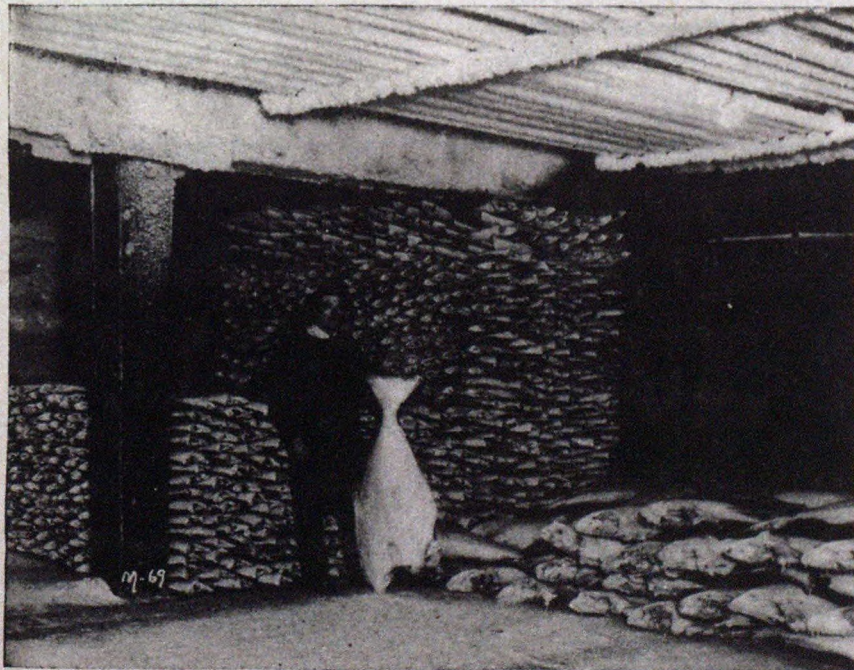


fine in Rye, New York. I told them that the last time I was in Rye I got into a little fracas with the owner of the Shangri-La Diner up there. Sheila Roberts gave me a little wink, and whispered that grumpy Al Lewis (owner of the Shangri-La) still has a broken window in his car. It's a damn shame that there always has to be a rotten apple in a town of otherwise fine folks. Well, I guess I showed him, anyway.

Peter Roberts is doing just fine with his new route... The Post Office gave him his choice of routes as a gift for his fifteen years of service with the Postal Department. His lovely children, Peter, Jr., and Paula, both inform me that they want to work for the post office, too, when they get older. Naturally, I asked Sheila what she thought of the idea of a family full of postal department workers. Always the joker, Paula tells me, "A whole family of slow workers? I'd have to keep dinner warm until midnight!" Yesiree, It's always a joy to see the Roberts family.

Well, every time I start to write this column I always think to myself I'll never have enough to fill it. But now that I'm rolling, I could just go on for pages about the Bergen family, the Bradfords, and countless others.

But until next time, I'll see you at the fishpond...



FISH



## MAN FROM THE SEA by Pamela Kent

Harlequin Books  
157 Pages  
75¢

Within the chiaroscuro portals of Bamborough Castle, a princely gentleman startles timid Louise Falls. "Haven't I seen you somewhere before?" the dashing figure asks. Louise, the orphaned daughter of a vicar, blushes.

*Man From The Sea* continues as above, surprising the reader with characters set in unforeseen situations. Pamela Kent has learned to remove the many cliches found in some of her earlier Harlequin Romances (*Meet Me In Istanbul*, *Nile Dusk*, *Moon Over Africa*), and has replaced them with intriguing plots and fascinating character descriptions.

Captain Nicholas Wentworth, heir to Bamborough, is a perfect example of the well-drawn character. "He smelled delightfully of after-shave lotion and tobacco," gasps Louise, adding significantly, "and he was a man of the sea!" There is also, we learn, "an extraordinary wholesomeness and a very definite masculine appeal about him."

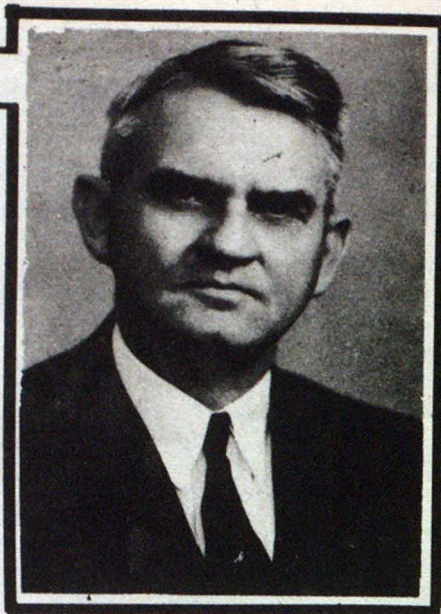
Louise, unlike the debonair Captain, is merely a servant within Bamborough. Although she knows deep down inside that only she can make the Captain happy for the rest of his life, she is brushed aside by the svelte, neighboring widow, Mrs. Frankie Stephens. Imagine little Louise's anguish when she first sees Stephens, "looking as delectable as a gin-sling in a very hot climate in her backless top of pale lemon-yellow worn with beautifully tailored slacks of lime-green linen." Kent magically borrows descriptive colors from Trix cereal television commercials and transforms them into poetry.

In a clever turn of circumstances, Louise sprains her ankle while walking one evening near the water. She had observed earlier that the sea was "a breath-taking blue," and that the sands were "as yellow as a wedding-ring." This clever foreshadowing prepares us for what follows; a tender scene in which the Captain discovers the injured Louise, lifts her in his arms, and carries her back to her room!

Later in the novel, the Captain once again comes to her rescue.

He stops a drunken driver, and discovers that Louise is trapped in the car, desperately trying to escape. "Oh Nicholas," she whispers into his shoulder, "I loved you from the moment I set eyes on you!"

"I believe in fate," he replies solemnly, asking her to marry him. Whether or not she accepts becomes an intriguing guessing game for the reader.



*Man From The Sea* is actually a multi-faceted guessing game from cover to cover. Will they marry? Will he like her dress? Is she really prepared to perform the cooking and cleaning chores required of womanhood?

Kent keeps the reader suspended throughout, releasing unexpected developments slowly with each fascinating turn of the page.

Future generation will no doubt regard this book for years to come as the definitive romance novel of our generation. Bravo, Pamela Kent! Bravo, *Man Of The Sea*!



Man From The Sea: Sailing To Success





## Marty Allen Finds New Love



Marty and Binky Share An Intimate Moment

Handsome comedian Marty Allen has finally found a new love to replace his dear, departed wife, Frenchy.

It all began when Marty appeared on the TV special "Circus of The Stars" recently. He was paired in a comedy act with Binky the Bear, and it was love at first growl. "I never seen anythin' so beautiful in my life", says Allen. "And all that hair! He doesn't have as much hair as Frenchy did, but he's still somethin' else!"

Ever since they met, Marty and Binky have been sharing intimate dinners together and, rumors have it that they have set up housekeeping, "I won't say nuthin' ", Allen says about the rumors, "but I will say 'dis. We're totally enraptured with one another."

## It's Marriage For Red Buttons And Rosey Grier

Famed comedian Red Buttons, whose "never got a dinner" jokes have delighted millions, announced his engagement last week to former football player and star of *The Thing With Two Heads*, Rosey Grier.

The two lovers met one morning when Red was jogging on the beach with Troy Donahue. Rosey also happened to be jogging that morning, and when he passed the two, his eyes suddenly met with Red's. "It was love, beautiful love," says Red. It wasn't long before Red and Rosey became inseperable. "I've had many lovers in my day", says Rosey, "Red is the most wonderful lover I've ever had! He's wild, and he has the most incredible body."

Red has affectionately nicknamed Rosey his "big chocolate stud." Rosey, in turn, calls Red his "little honky bitch." Observers agree that they have never seen two people more in love. The marriage

will take place in early December, and Red and Rosey plan to be married in the nude. "We want to get started on the honeymoon as soon as possible", giggles Red.



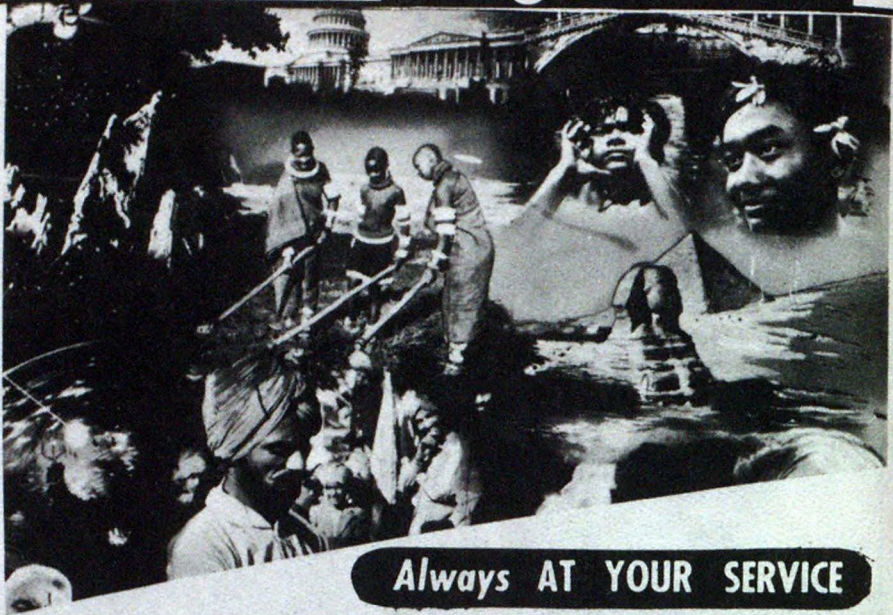
Red And Rosey Share An Intimate Moment





Alfred Forbes

## Plague News



Always AT YOUR SERVICE

**IMPORTANT!**

# OUCH!

An inventor in Salt Lake City, Utah, has developed what neighbors are calling a "revolutionary" contraption. The invention, labelled "Half-Mast," boasts on its package that it will "rid youths of the disease known as masturbation."

The device is intended to deter masturbation by punishing youths during "Phase One" of the sexual act. "Phase One," the package explains, involves the premeditated inklings that need to be aborted before a sexual act is committed.

"It's a simple process," explains its inventor, Horace Vandermeir. "When the youth thinks about masturbating, special masturbatory brainwaves are transmitted through a Master control panel attached to the patients back."

The punishment that follows such thoughts involves a tugging at the crotch by steel-enforced straps, and a crushing blow from an elevator pulley that is suspended over the head.

The ten years of developing the invention has left Vandermeir with three castrato singers as offspring, and a further goal; "to find a way of controlling Phase One."



Scientist Demonstrates "Half-Mast" On Chronic Masturbater



## Plague News

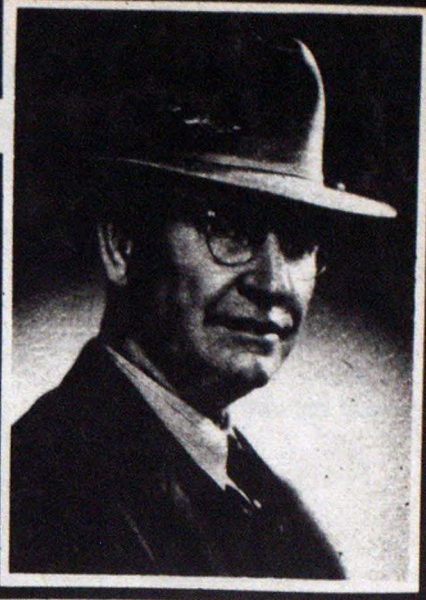
Sammy Jackson



**Always AT YOUR SERVICE**



**Washed-Up Actress Sports New Wardrobe**



**IMPORTANT!**

## NYUWS

Farrow Fawcett, tired of her existence as a useless waste of human life, has decided to do what many people in her situation usually end up doing—enrolled at NYU.

Ms. Fawcett, beginning this fall, will be taking "Woodworking and Its Practical Uses," a course being offered by the School of Continuing Education for students who want a degree, but are incapable of earning one legitimately.

Mr. Earl Hampton, the professor who will be teaching Ms. Fawcett, said that he "doesn't give a shit" that he will have the former celebrity in his class. "If I had my choice, I'd rather have Brooke Shields or something like that. Maybe, just out of spite, I'll flunk the bitch."

Ms. Fawcett, living on the sixth floor of the Rubin Dormitory, was unavailable for comment. Neighboring students have reported the sounds of hammer practice emitting from her room at all hours, and NYU security has received several noise complaints thus far.

NYU security, unable to think, declined comment.



# \$5 For Your Poems

Hillary Brooks



Jane Eats Dirt  
*She eats dirt*  
*Yes, she do*  
*She eat dirt - His Poo-poo*

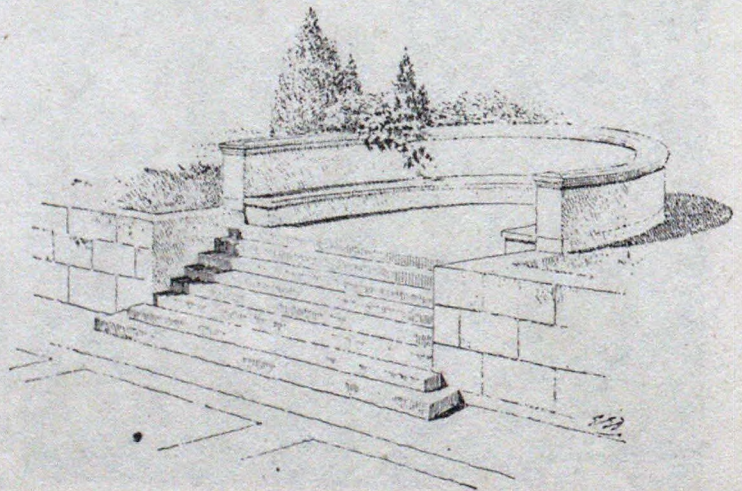
Lay Off My Ass  
*I got no grass*  
*I got no cash*

Fix My Hole  
*She's hot, she's not*  
*They're both gay—*  
*And hump all day*

German Waitress (Who Loves Joe)  
*German waitress we love you*  
*With hair so blonde and eyes of blue*  
*Your face is old, but your clothes are new*  
*I don't touch you, I just see...*  
*Your love, it isn't for me*  
*For it's only Joe you want to screw*

The Chicken  
*No head left*  
*Organs out*

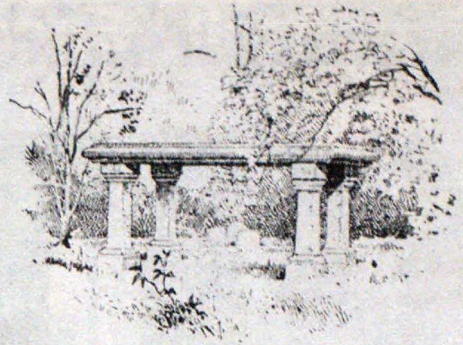
Man Eating Pizza  
*Lookie here!*



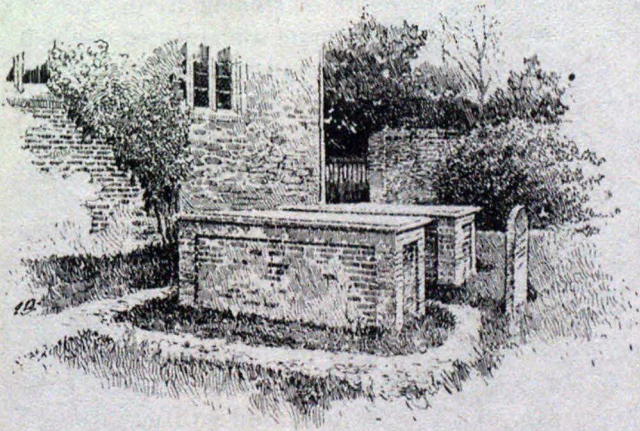


Ave. A

*Hamburger, steak, onion, veal  
Cost some money but makes for a meal  
You walk down the street  
But your heart skips a beat  
For right at your feet  
Is a bum wrapped in scum  
With nothing to eat*



*All Out Tonite  
See the people  
See them now  
People with flowers who say "wow"  
People dying, people dying  
People dying, dying, dying  
As we all are. . .*



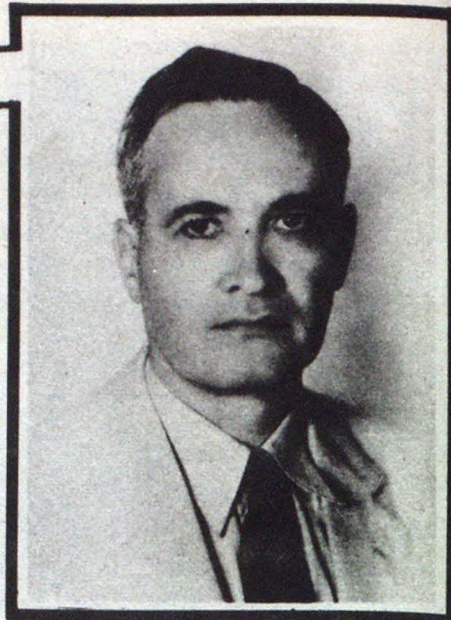
*For Whom Arthur Bell Tolls  
Too bad guys  
Hershey Highway is coming to an end  
There's a road-block  
And a toll-booth  
The toll is high  
High as the skies  
Too bad guys*



**he Plague Will Pay \$5 For Your Poems!**  
If you would like to be a part of this classy section of *The Plague*, send us your best poem. If we publish it, we will pay you \$5. Simply send your poetic masterpiece to \$5 For Your Poems, c/o *The Plague*, 21 Washington Place, NYC, 10003.



# “IT”



I want to speak to you about....it. A subject often discussed & rarely understood, it has historically provoked a wide range of reactions and opinions, most of which tend towards the extreme. One can easily understand how the differences about it have caused dissention, emotion, and even violence. Even the most dispassionate and analytical find it a subject about which one must hold strong opinions.

The blind hatred it has generated has caused people to kill and to be killed. It has been blamed for the collapse of empires, the destruction of kingdoms, and, it has been said, entire civilizations have been crushed by its insidious weight and perverse demands. It has been despised and scorned, loathed and feared. It has been considered immoral and obscene. It has been labeled by some as proof of Satan.

Strictly speaking, it has never been prohibited in the United States. But, briefly in the latter part of the 19th century, and extending, in some areas of the country, into the 20th century it has been virtually against the law. While not successful, attempts to pass constitutional amendments to restrict it, to tax it, and otherwise inhibit it were nonetheless a major force in American politics of early part of the century. Similar to the more successful prohibitionists, it was considered by those organized to oppose it, to be “rude, foreign, and vulgar.” And, indeed perhaps more significantly, while it has never been illegal anywhere in the country, it has been and by some people it still is “a repunant depravity.”

Though mostly ridiculed and denounced there are those who support it. Its defenders dismiss the negative rhetoric as vicious and cruel-hearted. They see in it tremendous potential if used pro-

perly, and only the short-sighted, narrow mindedness of mankind stands in the way of using it to its fullest.

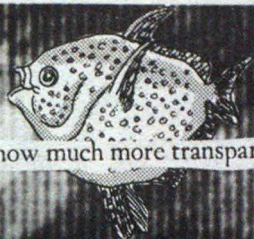
Through out history attempts have been made to stamp it out. Few, if any, have met with more than limited success. In ancient times a common punishment was death by stoning. By the Middle Ages more sophisticated methods were employed in the fight to suppress it. Chief among these was the none-too-subtle discouragement of being buried alive in a pit of gravel. This entombment would be done to all those accused, man or women, young or old. The accused would be left for two days and, the legend goes, the innocent would be dug out by wolves. If wolves dig out the accused then he was declared guilty and more serious punishment would follow.

# BOTTOM



# AVANT GARDE

Mr. L



How much more beautiful than our lives, how much more transparent than our characters, are they!







# MOVIES



**"THE FIRST TRIPLE CROWN  
OF MOTION PICTURES!"**

L.A. TIMES



## STAR WARS RETURN OF THE JEDI

PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED  
SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN

MAY BE TOO INTENSE FOR VERY YOUNG CHILDREN



A Lucasfilm Ltd. Production —  
A Twentieth Century-Fox Release Prints by Deluxe — TM & © Lucasfilm Ltd. (LFL) 1983

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### VIRGIN RAPE

SHE'S KIDNAPED  
AND FORCED TO  
SATISFY ACOELA  
STUDS AT THE  
SAME TIME



### THE BABYSITTER

BABYSITTER IS  
CAUGHT PUSSY  
PLAYING BY  
HORNY Metacercaria  
WHO SEDUCE HER



### SUCK OFF ORGY

TEACHER KEEPS THE  
GIRLS AFTER  
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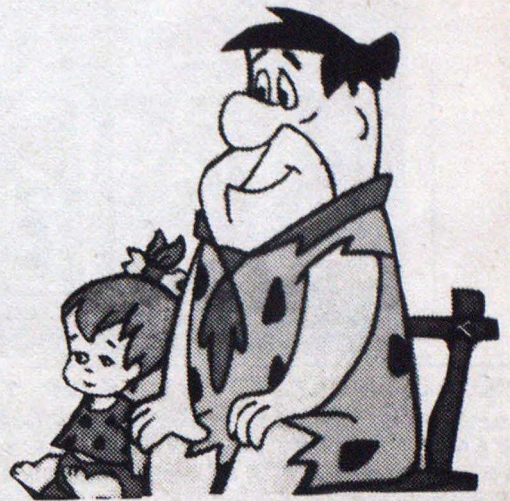
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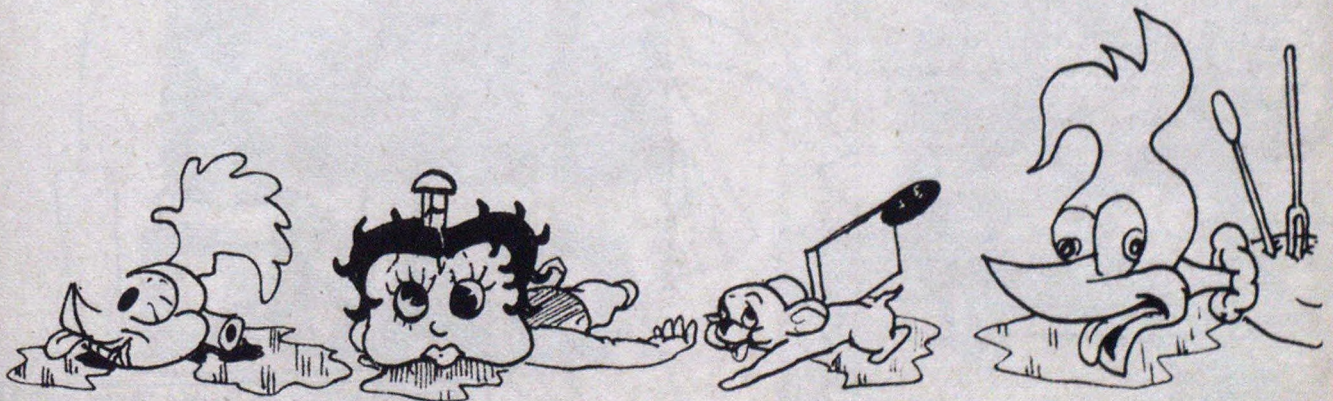
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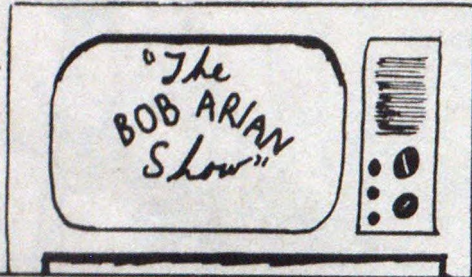
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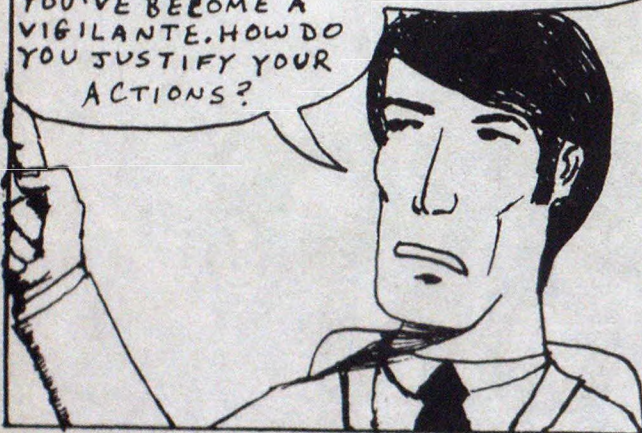


# THE ADVENTURES OF GOD

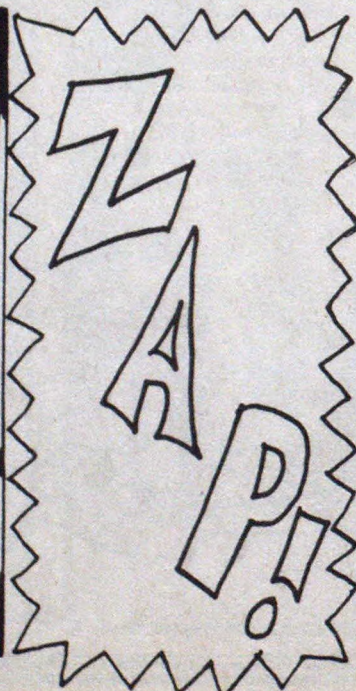
F.B. &  
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GOD, RECENTLY, YOU'VE TRIED YOUR HAND AT CRIMEFIGHTING. YET, YOU'VE BEEN NEITHER DEPUTIZED NOR SANCTIONED BY ANY RECOGNIZED LAW-ENFORCEMENT AGENCY. IN SHORT, YOU'VE BECOME A VIGILANTE. HOW DO YOU JUSTIFY YOUR ACTIONS?



I AM THAT I AM. AND I THINK MY RECORD CLEARLY SHOWS THAT THOU CANST EITHER BELIEVE IN ME OR FIND THYSELF TURNED INTO A HOUSEPLANT.



CRIMESTOPPER TIP #4: "AND ISRAEL SAW THE GREAT WORK WHICH THE LORD DID UPON THE EGYPTIANS...AND THEY BELIEVED IN THE LORD." (EX. XIV, 31)





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EARLY ONE MORNING ...

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*COMING SOON TO NYU*

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40 MINUTES LATER ...

# DEAD.







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