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Edward Schlinski: a life recalled

by Peter Berlinrut

When Ed Schlinski died suddenly (and prematurely) January 27, he had been a resident of Roosevelt almost thirty years. I met Ed in New York City in 1947 and we had been friends ever since. At that time he was a man groping and not sure which way to turn. Born in Boston but reared in Brooklyn, he had outgrown important parts of his past. Brooklyn was both a wound but also a badge of successful initiation. The radical movement, whether Communist or Trotskyist, was an exploded hope that nevertheless could not extinguish a sensitive social conscience. His combat experience in World War II offered no horizons. He had just returned from a trip to Chicago to visit Saul Alinsky, whose book Reveille For Radicals had impressed him. Alinsky was rallying disillusioned radicals with the counsel to set off on a fresh and more humble track: to integrate their lives with the communities in which they resided, making any progressive politics merely a part of a totally shared experience. Ed liked that but he wasn't convinced.

He wasn't sure but what his past had already fastened a fate or a lifestyle on him without his even

knowing it. He reminisced that in the part of Brooklyn where he was reared, any strong, well-grown kid had a ready-made role to fill whether he liked it or not: enforcer, ally, participant in the fights on the block. When he grew to adolescence, the radicals told him that the only people who really counted and possessed honor were those who worked for a living with their hands. And when the Trotskyites got him as member or sympathizer it was he who was assigned to distribute their literature in the toughest neighborhoods, those dominated by the Stalinists. Ed, being essentially a gentle man who abhorred violence, resented being cast as a tough or hard guy in his early years. By 1947 he vowed to be his own man, never again to be jockeyed into a role on the basis of being or having something that people could exploit. He had played as many false roles as he could stand and falseness became an enemy he was hyper-alert to, able to scent miles away in himself or anyone else.

He visited me several times after I moved here in 1953. He looked around, liked what he saw

(Cont'd. on next page)

Edward Schlinski

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in Roosevelt and within a few months acquired a house here. The one part of his past that clung to him was his livelihood. Long after he repudiated the idea that people who worked with their hands were the real chosen ones of history, he still clung to the view that a person's livelihood and how he pursued it was as much clue to his moral status as anything. And the person who worked with his hands couldn't dissemble, his performance being immediately discernible to anyone with eyes to see. With a flair for the mystery of matter in its everyday intrusions, Ed had picked up automobile repairing in his Brooklyn days and he had worked at it out of a mixture of pride and resentment: pride out of his conviction that honest work was a main pillar of civilized life; resentment out of the stirrings in him for some deeper meaningfulness that was being denied. Just what these might be, he wasn't sure. Pushed into a corner, he would intimate this meant a life in which inner discovery was a main idea and human authenticity its main product. And if he served this view in a negative way by generating anathemas against human falseness, he was well aware of it and repented it.

In the early 60's Ed became an active member in the Hightstown Human Relations Council organized in behalf of better racial integration. And he did not stint energy and initiative to cooperative housing groups both in Hightstown and Cranbury. His interest and skill in home repairs got its start there.

One of the suppressed sides of Ed that came forward early in his stay in Roosevelt was his talent

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 in graphic art. Ben Shahn, always on the alert for fresh and genuine work, was quick to recognize Ed's promise and did everything he could to encourage and to sponsor him. Overlooking Ed's innocent disdain for finesse and technique, he saw what seemed to him the more important thing: a charged impulse to record the human encounter with actuality, especially in its social context. Ben saw something else he liked: Ed's scorn for art fashions, art babble, art fatuity and his strong resolve to be his own master in his work. I think it was a good period in Ed's life. Later Jacob Landau also did what he could to help launch a career for Ed. By then he had turned from serigraphs, line drawings, temperas to papier mache sculpture. Also by then he had worked his way through some rather heavy-handed work satirizing social evils to more affirmative strains. The stern moralist in him broke out in a papier mache sculpture, The Seven Deadly Sins, a theme that no other artist I knew was exploring. I remember the painting of a tree newly leafed in spring that he worked on for many hours before giving up and it spoke to me of what was most basic in him: a lyrical impulse. He loved music passionately and all the more impressively for never making a show or profession of it: he simply melted apart when his daughter Julia played something on the flute that he liked.

Ed gave up on his career in art and none of the explanations I have heard strike me as being entirely right. One goes that he wasn't able to make any kind of living with it. Another says that he was faced with too many obstacles in his private life to have the freedom for art. A third has it that he came to art too late in life and couldn't

harmonize its requirements with habits long formed in early years. A fourth (told me by a mutual friend who claims Ed himself revealed it) was that he was a social being by temperament and needed the immediate company of people to be at his best whereas art demanded long hours of solitude. The truth may well have been a combination of all these factors. My own version isn't too far from any of these: there was something about physical work in a social context that put Ed in his element as nothing else could. It bestowed authority on his view of life, it gave him a command of being that he craved. It established human authenticity as nothing else could. And if a last human word had to be a lament, an outcry, there was nothing like physical sweat and hard carpentry to evoke it.

He had strong distrust of people out for an easy living. For a time he held a job in New York under the Lindsay administration running a rehabilitation shop for ex-drug addicts. He leaped at the opportunity to do something for these humanly mangled lives. That was one time in his life when he wasn't hurling anathemas at human falseness and failings; it was a time he affirmed life and living by putting every ounce of energy in him to help these sad and wasted people. I used to listen to his adventures with total absorption and the process of disillusionment that worked him over step by step was as sorry an epic as any I can remember. First he learned that many of his clients were still addicts. Secondly, that the roots of their problems lay beneath any plausible surface, beneath any redemptive effort that he or the staff could initiate. What really aroused his fury and disgust was

(Cont'd. on next page)

Edward Schlinski

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the manner and bearing of the psychologists or social workers in the enterprise, blandly complacent, content to draw their pay and hold semi-weekly conferences to no avail whatsoever, ready to write learned reports on alleged progress. I can see and hear Ed at our kitchen table with his unmatched gift for caustic improvisation, "My dear friend, you haven't heard anything until you have heard an Ivy League guru with three doctorates in everything, sucking on his pipe with great meditation and saying, 'what our clients need is a sense of wonder!' Imagine, a sense of wonder!" He was given every incentive to stay on but he threw up his job (and the career it could have guaranteed) and went back to carpentry and an honest living.


Sainthood was a fate that Ed felt he had no calling for. It was enough to be human, truly

human and if in the course of that a person left a hurt here and there in his wake or fell below a human level, that had to be understood, accepted, forgiven. Nor usually was he laggard in feeling contrition and tendering an apology where he realized one was due. And he left ample room for the likelihood that his actions were occasionally less than flawlessly gracious and perfect. The one standard that he clung to and honored was that any human life had to ring right, on an existential scale of exquisitely fine calibration. Perhaps any definition of 'ringing right' might be hard to come by or differ from person to person but the instinct for it was universal and inexorable. Ed Schlinski's life rang right to an impressive degree and for those of us who knew him, it will keep ringing a long time.

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Council Proposes 1983 Budget

by A. Weiner

The operating budget for 1983 proposed by the Borough Finance Committee totals \$142,537.32. This figure represents an increase of \$9900.00 over 1982. The rise in expenditures will require that a new ordinance be adopted which will allow for an increase from a 5% cap to a 7.5% cap. The "cap" is the limit in additional spending that is allowed over and above the previous year's total. This year New Jersey municipalities may opt to increase the previous limit by another 2.5%. That choice requires that the local government forego any further appeal to the community for spending increases for the current budget.

In Roosevelt, the lower rate of increase would produce an additional \$6600.00 for operating expenses. The extra \$3300.00 added by the new cap of 7.5%, which brings new expenditures to the nearly \$10,000 mark, does not necessarily require a rise in taxes to borough residents, according to Borough Auditor, Art Kulback. He suggested that such new taxes will not be proposed until the outcome of state and federal budget appropriations indicate that new local revenues will be necessary.

Discussion on the resolution for budget and cap increases mainly centered on the issue of sufficient time for full hearings and consideration before final adoption.

The new budget and ordinance will receive official publication

in the Messenger Press. A public hearing will be held March 8 at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall.

Other items of business at the regular February meeting include:

* The Public Utility Committee report that the rusty water problem is being solved.

* The Public Property Committee report that new street lighting and improved sanitary facilities in Borough Hall are in process.

* The First Aid Squad Blood Drive fell short of its goal. 65-70% of last year's donors contributed.

* Changes in collection dates on water and sewage bills are to be announced shortly.

* John Soloway was appointed coordinator of the Gipsy Moth spray program.

* Jeanette Koffler was appointed Liaison Officer to the County Office on Aging.

* The Borough Recreation Committee will sponsor the Co-operative Story Hour.

* Low bid for a waste line for the water treatment plant was submitted by Kosen Brothers and accepted by the Council.

* SCAT Service was awarded the contract for senior citizen bussing for 1983.

Blizzard of '83

by Amanda Rose

As a child in Roosevelt, I always welcomed snow. Snow meant "snow-days" which was synonymous with "No school!" However, the blizzard which invaded our community and much of the eastern coast this weekend was not met with the same enthusiasm as blizzards past. For this year, the storm struck when many of us were off from school for the long weekend.

Americans are notorious for feeling responsible for the weather - either taking the blame for a rotten day, or credit for a beautiful one. As a teenager in Roosevelt, of course I took the weather as a personal affront. For not only would there be no school closing, but on a four day holiday, I would be trapped in the confines of Roosevelt.

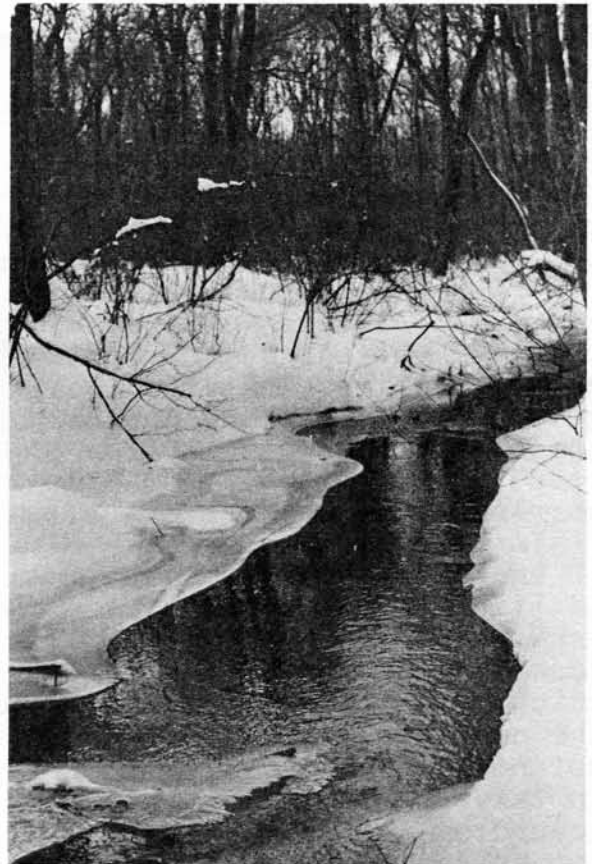
And so, while immersing myself in Emerson's essay "Nature," and trying not to dwell on all my weekend's now non-existent activities, I still found myself wallowing in self-pity as I watched the thick blanket of snow fall from above.

Snow in the mass can be deceiving and can pose quite a paradox. How could this beautiful substance be the cause of dangerous road conditions and ruined plans? White -- emblematic of purity and good can have a contrary effect on those it touches.

Being angry at the snow, I left my house only once the entire weekend -- to retrieve the newspaper from the "Trenton Times" box on the front lawn. But being snowed in had some advantages. It allowed me to become reacquainted with my family and Roosevelt friends whom I rarely see, as most of my activities are out of town. As for

completing my Emerson assignment -- well, at least it is not due until next week.

Other Rooseveltians used this time more productively, I am told. My mother finally



*Town Snow scene
(Photo by Evan Alter)*

cleared out the darkroom which had become nothing more than another storage closet and my sister baked bread (which took five hours to make and 10 minutes to eat).

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E.T. found its way "home" to the Terry's front lawn through Jan's artistic endeavors. And sitting in my house, I saw from the window Jim and Diane Dulicai cross country skiing up Pine Drive. A few people even managed to go jogging in spite of the snow and slush.



*Snow Sculpture "E.T."
by Jan Terry (Photo by Evan Alter)*

Acting on assumption, since, as aforementioned, I never left my house, I'd venture to say many fires were built, delicious meals consumed, and driveways shoveled. The ambulances were working so I'm sure no babies were born at home. Conceived. . . ?

Those who had to get to work did so by clearing their driveways early in the morning (some depositing the snow on their attached driveways). There was neither mail nor newspaper delivery Saturday, and on Sunday, many homes were deprived of "The New York Times" until about 10:30 a.m.

On the whole, Roosevelt survived the snow surprisingly well -- there were no cases of hypothermia reported and the siren went off only once. For the people in Roosevelt, as long as there was enough food in the refrigerator (several clever Rooseveltians were seen in area supermarkets on Friday morning storing up food for the imminent snow-storm) and no power failure, everyone survived a relatively painless Presidents' weekend.

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Congregation Anshei considering change

by Andrea Lakin

In these times that "BASIC is replacing Hebrew as the new sacred language," and individual's "jog and diet, instead of pray and keep kosher to keep death at bay," ("The Lamentations of Rabbi X" - N.Y. Times Sun. Jan 30, 1983) The board and members of Congregation Anshei Roosevelt are faced with a decision to make a change from Orthodox practices to Conservative practices. "The reason the board is putting this decision to the members," explains board member Michael Ticktin, "is that we feel the Conservative approach to Judaism may be more appropriate to our own lives."

Ticktin went on to define the three approaches to Judaism - Orthodox, Conservative and Reformed. The Orthodox believe that the Bible is a source of law and is unchangeable. The Reform movement, which came out of 19th century Germany, disregarded the culture and observances of the Orthodox Jews and believed in what they perceived to be the prevailing culture (For example they wanted to do away with using the Hebrew language in their services, and change the Sabbath to Sunday). Conservatism is a step back from that; a reaction to the Reform movement. Conservatives feel that the Reform movement went too far. They believe that a certain amount of change is desirable but that the culture should not be lost. "Conservatism accepts the basic principles of Judaism," says Ticktin. "They want to change

with the times while retaining the tradition." This appears to be the philosophy of many synagogue board members.

Synagogue board member Sol Metzger said that he and many of the other board members felt that the Orthodox approach was "inconsistent with the nature and lifestyles of the membership community." Metzger claimed that most people are not schooled in Orthodox Judaism in this town and are not able to participate in and enjoy the services. "You need a background in Hebrew, otherwise you get lost in the services... Conservatism is a different brand of Judaism and more flexible." He hopes that one of the changes that will come with Conservatism is to open the prayers to more English, and make people more interested in the services. Metzger went on to say that they would hope to hire a Conservative rabbi who is trained to live in a community like ours, where residents are interested in Judaism, but not in the structure of Orthodoxy. He hopes the change will bring in new members and more participants and would like to see the synagogue used as a community center. Currently it is limited to Sabbath and holiday services.

Board member Steve Halpern considers the idea "acceptable." Halpern claims that "basically we are all Conservative but the synagogue isn't ... We're not viable at this point." Long time board member Nat Richter agrees. "We have reached a

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critical point. Are we going to have a synagogue in Roosevelt or not?...Making a change may be our only salvation; it may pull us through. We need to recreate an interest that has been lax for years."

One problem facing the changeover is that the salary for a Conservative rabbi is higher than that of an Orthodox rabbi. The board will explore the possibility of a part-time Conservative rabbi, once the final decision has been reached. Member Paul Eichler says that "They (the board) will have to convince me that they can get a Conservative part-time rabbi, that will serve our purpose" before he casts an affirmative vote.

The synagogue, which was erected on Homestead Lane in 1956 was built to replace the original synagogue that was located along the path from the school to Pine Dr. The original building, a small wood structure, was built by the government and given to the Congregation to be used as a synagogue. As membership grew, so did the need for a larger synagogue. The money for the new building was raised by the sisterhood who organized card parties, picnics, bingo and dances for fundraising. Shirley Eichler, an original sisterhood member who was active in fundraising said that the sisterhood was "the backbone of the synagogue."

That situation has changed today according to Leah Bookman, president of Congregation Anshei's sisterhood "we have a non-functioning sisterhood - no one wants to work." Recently

the sisterhood commissioned artist George Ivers, Art Director of Cybis Porcelain in Trenton, for a fundraiser of a limited edition of prints. Bookman feels that there is little interest in the synagogue. "It will make no difference if they change from Orthodox to Conservative... the town is changing and there is less of a Jewish population."

At the next meeting* the synagogue board and general membership will have the opportunity to vote on this crucial issue. A two-thirds vote of the members present will allow the board to amend the charter formally.

* Ed note: The meeting was Feb. 21, and will be reported on in the next issue.



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SENIOR CITIZEN'S MEETING -
FEBRUARY 1, 1983

by Helga Wisowaty


We were informed of the evening meeting at the Borough Hall for those interested in the selection standards for the RSCHD. This is the second draft. Many of us attended and were given the latest report on the progress of this program. There will be a notice on our Bulletin Board informing us when accountants will be available at the Hightstown Library to help with tax forms. This service is free.

Elly Shapiro, who is studying gerontology at Trenton State College, gave a slide lecture on "Aging - Myth or Reality." This group of pictures concerned

with aging deviated from the usual "cut and dried" idea of Seniors that casts everyone in the same mold. Elly injected humor (via a cartoon) - sweetness in a child's note to her in appreciation of her teaching his class about aging. She then dispelled the many fallacies so often associated with all Senior Citizenry.

Her (Elly) comments about the pictures and the statistics showing the growth of Senior Citizenry were clear and the underlying feeling of Elly's knowledge of, and caring for our generation, left us with a happy feeling and enjoyment in an afternoon well spent.

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NUCLEAR FREEZE GOES TO WASH.

A group of Roosevelt residents along with members of the East Windsor Committee for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) will join the Princeton Freeze Coalition early on Tuesday morning, March 8th, to ride down to the Capitol to lobby Congress for a new resolution on the nuclear arms race.

The national Nuclear Freeze Campaign is calling for a nationwide Citizens Lobby to support a broad cross-section of Representatives and Senators who plan to succeed in this session of Congress in passing a US/Soviet nuclear weapons freeze resolution. The new Congress is expected to reflect the huge vote the Freeze received in the last election.

In addition to the lobbying action, PROXY forms are available which read "the bearer is representing me in Washington, C.C. Please vote for ... an immediate US/Soviet freeze as an essential, verifiable first step toward reducing the nuclear arsenals on both sides." The plan is for "lobbyists" to carry hundreds of signatures from every congressional district to the Capitol to demonstrate continued support for such a resolution.

M. Vitolo and A. Weiner, representing the Roosevelt Committee for Nuclear Disarmament (RCND) met with the newly organized East Windsor group which is headed by Sharon Ahern of Cranbury in order to coordinate activities.

The East Windsor chapter has just initiated a Nuclear Freeze Sabbath throughout the area for February 25-27 in which clergy of many religious affiliations - Protestant, Jewish and Catholic - will deliver sermons on the dangers of nuclear war and conduct a drive to sign up proxies and participants for the Lobby in Washington.

The East Windsor CND is also holding an open meeting on March 3 in the First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown, 318 North Main St. The topic will be "STOP VS START", a discussion on the Freeze proposal in contrast to the Reagan program on nuclear arms reduction. There will be a speaker and a slide show titled "Stop vs Start."

For those interested in joining the Citizens Lobby, the Princeton CND has announced a chartered bus leaving the Princeton Shopping Center at 7 a.m. on March 8, arriving in Washington at 11 a.m. The program for the day includes District Caucus conferences, a noon rally and meetings with NJ Representatives and Senators. The return trip is scheduled for a 4 p.m. departure to arrive back at 9 p.m. The fee is \$20.00. Interested "lobbyists" or proxies may call 443-3044 (Vitolo), 448-2358 (Weiner) or 443-3084 (Ahern).

Roosevelt Community and School CalendarMarch 1983

1	Tuesday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
2	Wednesday, 10-11 a.m.	Story hour - Borough Hall
3	Thursday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
	2:00 p.m.	Senior Citizens meeting - Borough Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Fire Company meeting - Borough Hall
5	Saturday, 8-5	Boy Scouts - Borough Hall
7	Monday, 8:00 p.m.	Agenda meeting - Borough Hall
8	Tuesday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
9	Wednesday, 10-11 a.m.	Story hour - Borough Hall
	8:00 p.m.	Council meeting - Borough Hall
10	Thursday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
14	Monday, 8:00 p.m.	Bd. of Ed agenda meeting - R.P.S.
15	Tuesday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
		Food Co-op
16	Wednesday, 10-11 a.m.	Story hour - Borough Hall
17	Thursday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
	3:30-5:30 p.m.	4-H - Borough Hall
	7:00-11:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts - Borough Hall
	8:00 p.m.	Bd of Ed meeting - R.P.S.
		St. Patrick's Day
20	Sunday, 11:00 a.m.	Park Commission - Borough Hall
21	Monday, 8:00 p.m.	Synagogue Board meeting - Congregation Anshei Roosevelt
22	Tuesday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
	8:00 p.m.	Senior Citizen Housing meeting - Borough Hall

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23 Wednesday, 10-11 a.m.
8:15 p.m.

Story hour - Borough Hall
Finance Committee - Bd. of Ed - R.P.S.

24 Thursday, 10-11 a.m.
3:30-5:30 p.m.

Exercise class - Borough Hall
4-H - Borough Hall

27 Sunday

Food Co-op Dinner

28 Monday
8:00 p.m.

Passover begins - first seder
Planning Board - Borough Hall
Ad Hoc committee - Bd. of Ed - R.P.S.

29 Tuesday, 10-11 a.m.
8:00 p.m.

Exercise class - Borough Hall
First Aid meeting - Borough Hall

30 Wednesday, 10-11 a.m.

Story hour - Borough Hall

31 Thursday, 10-11 a.m.
3:30-5:30 p.m.

Exercise class - Borough Hall
4-H - Borough Hall

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N.J.: hazardous waste in the waters

by Naomi Brahinsky

Second of two articles; the first appeared in the January, 1983 issue of the Bulletin.

The Meadowlands where the sports stadium stands consists primarily of landfill. There are small and larger dumps where illegal dumpers have for years unloaded tens of thousands of chemical waste drums. Each year in New Jersey 350,000 gallons of toxic slush simply disappears ... through illicit handling. Near East Rutherford is Berrys Creek which, in the early 1970's, the DEP attempted to restore as an environmental learning center. It was found that mercury had contaminated the soil there for as much as three feet below the surface. The contamination was traced to a defunct company which had operated at the headwaters of the creek and used it as a dump for residues from its mercury reclamation process. About 300 tons of mercury had been released into the creek. So overwhelming can the effects of minute amounts of mercury be that it is unsafe to eat fish that contains more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of a percent per million. Because it is a basic element it can last indefinitely in the environment.

The state attempted to sue the company responsible for the contamination and seal the dump with clay to stop water infiltration. Presently, however, five pounds a day of mercury seep into the waterway threatening nearby homes while the lawsuit drags on. The New Jersey Academy of Sciences has observed that "mercury contamination appears to be statewide with a

potential longterm hazard existing within the northern estuary system".

A typical inexpensive method of hazardous waste disposal has been renting a lot and filling it with unlabeled barrels of chemicals. Eventually these wastes seep through the containers into the soil and into the groundwater. Often tracking down those liable is impossible as these dumps and landfills are frequently operated through a labyrinth of corporate titles and subsidiaries. The N.Y. Times reports that "Some 'midnight dumpers' offer cut-rate disposal of chemicals instead of safe removal that might cost thousands of dollars per truckload. Typically the dumpers set up a phoney garage where trucks parked 'for repairs' release poisons into a handy storm drain. Or they mix toxic wastes with ordinary garbage, even with heating oil for sale to landlords at bargain prices." This dumping will ultimately poison ground and surface water and enter into the food chain posing risks to large segments of the population. These dumps also have been known to explode, pollute the air and poison by direct contact.

The social consequences of this contamination are immense. Mysterious, vague and severe illnesses that are frequently debilitating have been connected

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to water sources tainted with hazardous wastes. Communities have been forced to cart their water from tanker trucks, purchase bottled water and live with the anxiety of disease to themselves and their unborn. It often takes years to identify the problem and its source leaving communities befuddled.

The EPA is the main regulating body for water pollution control. Until its creation, the problem was largely managed by crisis. Before the Clean Water Act, water pollution was regulated by determining the desired use of a particular body of water, e.g., swimming, fishing, drinking, and then establishing water quality criteria to protect that use. Thereafter, each discharger of wastes was assigned its share of the particular load. This system made for minimal controls and extensive variation in practice.

An attempt to rectify this makeshift policy is found in the Clean Water Act. On October 18, 1972 Congress overrode then President Nixon's veto to produce this piece of comprehensive legislation. It recognized the need for policy to prevent, reduce and eliminate the discharge of pollutants by 1985 and prescribed enforcement techniques. But time has shown that those companies that comply with the law suffer an economic disadvantage because compliance is expensive. Consequently, the increased cost of water treatment is passed on to the consumer by the steel, chemical, coal, petroleum and paper industries.

Federal government sympathy to industry has limited EPA responsiveness to environmental groups. In July, 1982, the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group testified that the EPA response rate to enforce the Clean Water Act was less than 14% of 4327 violations reported.

This nonenforcement is a message to those who pollute to continue doing so. President Reagan has seen compliance as hard on business and so has postponed enforcement of water cleanup for an additional four years.

In 1976 Congress enacted the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). This law attempts to apply controls over the management of hazardous waste throughout its entire life cycle. Additionally, it attempts to identify the owners of abandoned and uncontrolled dump sites. Unfortunately, often the owners of dump sites cannot be found. New Jersey, in recognition of the problem, has set its own policy to make such dumping a felony.

A report in the Times shows, however, that "After 10 years and expenditures of more than \$50 billion the drive to clean up the nation's waters appears to be faltering. Federal funds for treatment plants have been cut and deadlines for cleanup have been extended. The new rate for federal subsidies is at a drop of 60%." The Reagan proposal claims to give states more flexibility in tailoring water quality standards to the specific use of their own streams and other bodies of water. However, this view disregards the fact that Planet Earth is one system all of which is affected by attacks on its individual parts. Water in particular is not the commodity of one segment of the population. Water systems merge through surface and ground water and affect the food chain when ecosystems are contaminated.

New Jersey, with its rank as number one hazardous waste generator, continues to lag behind other states in assessing

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N.J.: hazardous waste

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the overall quality of its surface waters. Water quality statewide has remained static for the last five years. Presently all of New Jersey's water supplies are tested regularly for bacteria. They are not tested for chemicals, however. To correct this there is a bill in the state senate to require those water purveyors who supply 1000 or more customers with well water or water from reservoirs to test for toxic chemicals once a year.

To attack this problem of the mass poisoning of humans, more effective federal and local law enforcement must regulate the location of waste landfills, assess the toxic chemical content of wastes, require the labeling of waste containers and monitor the water quality of nearby communities after landfills are completed. Industries must be made responsible for their toxic wastes even after they have been turned over to processors and should be more closely regulated as to on and off site storage.

To accomplish the goal of clean water there is a need for greater social action. Communities must develop coalitions to educate the public, accumulate information and seek enforcement. As stated in the Times, "Negative publicity for the illegal dumper's corporate clients would promote compliance." The EPA has recently organized a team of 25 investigators to deal with the problem nationwide. This response is obviously inadequate for such a massive problem and means that it is essential for communities to monitor their local waters. In Bordentown, New Jersey, a group known as Help Our Polluted Environment (HOPE), according to the Times, "defeated plans to build a 2 million gallon storage farm for toxic chemicals upstream from intakes for drinking water. HOPE

mobilized public reaction in the form of a referendum that led to an ordinance prohibiting bulk chemical storage in the community."

It is up to the communities to use their power to see that the lag between a law's passage and its implementation is minimized and to assure that policies are stringent enough to safeguard people and the environment and to help develop regulations that are well-grounded scientifically and legally. Water is a non-renewable resource, necessary for the continuation of life on the planet. Should it be seen as a commodity to be used carelessly by industry or a precious resource for all mankind?

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Council Proposes 1983 Budget

by Bob Clark

The January 31 meeting of the Roosevelt Planning Board sent one developer to the Borough Council to seek approval for a road and another to wait for a minor subdivision until he dedicates a road. Mayor Leon Barth, members Peter Berlinrut, Lynn Frank and Ralph Seligman and alternate Steven Halpern also conducted the annual board reorganization. Mel Friedman was elected Chairperson, Lynn Frank Vice-Chairperson and Pat Antosky Secretary by unanimous votes. With Berlinrut abstaining, John Bennett was elected board attorney.

David Yeger revealed his intention to develop six lots along the closed portion of Lake Drive. Yeger said that he did not wish to complete construction of the portion of the roadway fronting two lots owned by others. Since the land had already been subdivided some years earlier, the board did not have jurisdiction, and Yeger was referred to the council for consideration of any changes to road approvals previously granted.

After lengthy discussion of the meaning of conditions previously attached, the board gave its final decision to David Glassman concerning his application to divide his 15-acre tract bordering Cemetery Road into two lots. The board unanimously clarified an earlier resolution making minor subdivision approval subject to dedication to the borough of a 25 ft. wide stretch

of Cemetery Road along the edge of Glassman's property.

The remaining 25 ft. width of the right-of-way had previously been dedicated by Rainbow Properties in order to obtain subdivision approval for its tract on the other side of Cemetery Road. Although the road is a right-of-way, the borough could control its development and maintenance if it obtained ownership.

Glassman said he objected to the dedication condition since the road "has monetary value" and the board "turned down" his offer to dedicate the road two years earlier as part of another development proposal. He said that he might take steps to challenge the condition, but the planning board stood by its decision.

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Love of Words

Without alleged to stand on

by Josef G. Solomon

On the radio this morning, some reporter informed me that a man had been arrested and "charged with allegedly murdering" another man. To borrow a line from Winston Churchill, "That is a piece of arrant pedantry up with which I will not put." (Actually, of course, this example is closer to pederasty than to pedantry.) Anyway, my complaint is this: To charge someone with allegedly committing murder is to accuse him of being accused. That is, the man was charged with murder, not with alleged murder. He is alleged to have committed murder, and that is why he was arrested.

And now comes before us a headline for an article on the Supreme Court's decisions on the exclusionary principle (that evidence illegally obtained cannot be used in court against the defendant). Brace yourself:

"High Court Appears Ready to Gut Heart of Fourth Amendment"
Look, fella, the heart does not have a gut. If it had said "...Gut Heart Out of...", I would be willing to believe it was a typographical error--"Gut" for "Cut". As quoted, it's a bone-head error. To dignify it, it's a mixed metaphor. Don't they read what they write? If they don't, why should I? By the by, a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a metaphor?

A Public Spectacle

Some performers make concert appearances in order to promote the sales of their records, but are careful to make those records only in the recording studio,

where they can control everything, and edit as necessary. Others take a chance, and record an actual public performance, in which case we are told that it was "recorded before a live audience." Think that one over. Does it cause you to picture someone who is singing in the morgue? The audience would probably give him a very cold reception.

There's a lot of that nonsense going around. America is supposed to be the land of the practical and realistic, and yet we bathe ourselves in extra verbiage--not to mention Using The Wrong Word (adv.). I'm speaking not of bureaucratic jargon--gobbledygook, bafflegab, or whatever you want to call it--but of our ordinary discourse. At a misnamed place where I once travailed, a new man was hired. My first trip past his office convinced me that he was the Right Sort: On his office door was a sign saying "Department of Redundancy Department".

Unnecessary Redundancies

Why do people throw in these extra words (when they're not trying to be funny)? It changes the meaning of the sentence, and causes them to say things they probably didn't mean to say. Here, the answer may be simply that the reporter is trying to avoid a lawsuit, and so is careful not to suggest that the arrested man actually did anything for which he deserved to be arrested. In German class, the teacher informed

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us that newspapers in Germany had to be very careful in that regard, because the laws on libel offered little protection to the newspaper. Accordingly, she said, sentences in German newspapers were full of verbs in the subjunctive mood, rather than the indicative. The reason for this is presumably that one of the uses of the subjunctive mood is to express a statement contrary to fact, as in "If I were king", instead of "If I was king". She never brought in any newspapers to show us, and so it remains an unverified assertion--maybe it should be expressed in the subjunctive.


Well, if past history is any kind of a guide, people will continue to use extra words--for example, this very sentence. What kind of history do we have, other than past history? That's what "history" means. Well, let us continue on. By definition, of course, redundancy isn't wrong; it's just not necessary. Some redundancy is so common that it sneaks right past our sensors. (That word is "sensors", not "censors".) "Mental telepathy" is a good example. You almost never see that noun without that adjective. Is there such a thing as "physical telepathy"? Is there any kind of telepathy except mental? Then why not omit the adjective? I speak not to professional writers, of course--they get paid by the word. How about "subterranean tunnel"? Can you picture a tunnel in mid-air? Yesterday, an announcer told me the ocean water temperature. (Ignore the hyphens--he did.) Inasmuch as he is not likely to tell me the ocean fish temperature, or the ocean seaweed temperature, he could have contented himself with just telling me the ocean temperature. Presumably, these people went to school. Presumably, they learned better.

Why do they revert back to these superfluous redundancies? Maybe it's the only direction in which they know how to revert. But, then, even well-known celebrities continue to persist. Things like that bring my morale to a low ebb. Have you ever heard of a high ebb? Perhaps old Scrooge did: "Hi, Eb."

I hope you appreciate, dear reader, that I offer these columns as a free gift to the people of Roosevelt. What kind of a gift isn't free? (In German, "Gift" means "poison"--and does that cause inter-language problems!) But don't be too quick to judge from superficial appearances. There's another kind? My favorite quote on the subject: "She only seems profound on the surface. Deep down, she's really superficial."

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Book talk

What is my old book worth?

by Alison and Bob Petrilla

Ed note: We are happy to introduce to readers of the Bulletin a new feature. The authors, trading as R. & A. Petrilla, Booksellers, are engaged in the purchase, sale and appraisal of complete libraries as well as fine individual manuscripts and books. Their business was established in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in 1970. They now live and work in Roosevelt.

The opportunity to gain "something for nothing" is an almost irresistible lure to most of us -- as shown by the overflow traffic of bargain-hunters at today's flea markets. And one of the best ways to get "something for nothing" is, as any flea-marketer can tell you (but won't), to scrounge a worthless object, buy it, and then dream up an explanation for pricing it at ten times the amount paid. Old books, those portable relics of the past, would seem ideal candidates for these transactions -- an assumption that most often turns the eager fortune-hunter into the possessor of a garage full of worthless volumes. Yet some -- a few -- books really can and do command high prices. How to separate the wheat from the chaff -- aye, there's the rub. In this monthly column, we plan to outline the basics of book buying, collecting, how to care for books, how to read dealer catalogues, &c., &c. If you have suggestions or comments, let us know. In this installment, we'll deal with a broad and popular question.

WHAT IS MY OLD BOOK WORTH?

Let's begin by acknowledging that age does not usually affect the market value of an old book. A 1654 copy of Livy's HISTORIARUM LIBRI, in a contemporary vellum binding and modestly priced at \$35, may well go unsold. (Just ask us!) And conversely, a book from the early 1970's may fetch several hundred dollars.

A second fact of life for book buyers is that rarity alone doesn't guarantee a high price. For example, in our latest catalogue we offered a book which our bibliographies located in only two major libraries in this country. Yet for our copy, bound in the original calf, we could justify no more than a \$30 price tag.

So what does determine the value of a book?

A number of years ago, a realtor confided to us (as we suspect he did to all his prospects), that the three major factors in determining the value of a property were (1) location, (2) location, and (3) location. In evaluating old books, it is tempting to stress the importance of condition much in the same way as the realtor emphasized location. For instance, a 20th century first edition lacking its original dust jacket may lose 50% of its potential market value. Similarly, books sporting dried-out leather covers, illustrations gone brown from dampness, broken bindings, missing pages, or any of the other myriad defects encountered in books that have not been cared

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for, face the marketplace with two strikes against them. Condition, then, is our number one factor of value.

Next in importance is the supply-demand balance. In other words, rarity alone is not enough -- the book must be desirable. A search of the holdings of the British Museum, Bibliotheque Nationale, or the New York Public Library would turn up file cards for thousands of rare books of which fewer than 10 copies are known, and which would nevertheless command only low prices if put up for sale. The reason is that no collector wants to own them. At the same time, many common books (including some under 10 years old) are worth a considerable sum. Why? Because the number of people who want to own copies exceeds the number of copies available.

Condition and desirability coupled with rarity, then, are the prime contributors to a book's value. Unfortunately, these factors are not easy for the non-professional to assess. Sure, you can attempt to evaluate your own books by using the reference works that may be available in the local library. But most libraries do not stock the kind of detailed works required for an accurate appraisal, and even if they do, the facts presented therein must be evaluated by an experienced eye, since the information, when viewed in a vacuum, often is misleading.

What is your old book worth? An appraisal will tell you.

A valid appraisal must be both well-researched and thoroughly documented. It should assign a realistic esti-

mate of value to your book or library. It must be able to withstand the scrutiny of the IRS (charitable donations, estate taxes, &c.) or to satisfy the stringent requirements of your insurance carrier.

Next month: How to care for your books. In the meantime, if you have comments on this column or inquiries about your own library, give us a call at 448-5510.

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It is requested that when visiting the Roosevelt Cemetery, the following rules be adhered to:


1. Walk behind and close to stones so as not to walk on the graves.
2. Do not climb or sit on grave stones.
3. Do not litter.
4. Drive and park cars on the designated roads not on the grass.

Everyone is reminded that there is a cemetery ordinance which visitors are expected to adhere to strictly.

Thank you for your respect and co-operation.

Borough Council
Cemetery Committee

Shirley and Paul Eichler express their thanks to all their friends and neighbors for their best wishes and help during Paul's illness.


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FIRE COMPANY NEWS

by Adeenah Yeger

Millstone Township Fire Company held its 4th annual dinner January 28. Steve Yeger, chief of Roosevelt, was honored along with visiting chiefs from Allentown, Applegarth, Freehold Independent, South Freehold and Millhurst fire companies. These are the fire companies which Millstone relies upon for mutual aid. Pat Archambo, a dual member of Roosevelt and Millstone, also attended with his wife Julia.

Roosevelt firemen just received new pocket pagers which

will replace the less-efficient instalerts in relaying fire calls. These will also enable many to respond to daytime calls.

Steve is in the process of ordering additional hose for the fire truck so that all parts of town can be reached more adequately. He has recently met with Mayor Barth and David Davies to discuss fire protection for the senior citizen housing. Mutual aid drills with Millstone are being planned.

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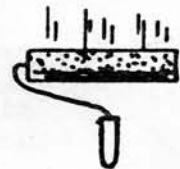
The Bulletin mis-reported the Borough Clerk's message in the last issue. She did not say the problem of loose dogs is an "epidemic."

INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR

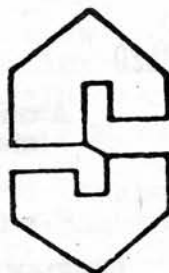


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