

Opinion

Unpacking the courts

Chief Justice Burger's criticism of the excessive litigiousness of American lawyers does not mean he is questioning the responsibility of new, nor are his complaints about the resulting crowding of the nation's courts. But as the number of lawyers increases in America, and as the volume of litigation grows, Burger's case becomes increasingly convincing.

Recently he spoke to the American Bar Association's annual meeting in Chicago where once again he cited the accumulating caseload of America courts, the "developing awareness that the traditional litigation process has become too cumbersome, too expensive, and the need for a better way to resolve many of the disputes that now end in court. Burger's own recommendation to the assembled lawyers is to put more focus on negotiation and arbitration, particularly in divorce, child custody, adoption, personal injury and probate cases.

There are, as he suggests himself, too many other forces in contemporary life that drive clients and their lawyers into the courtroom. As

he points out, "Remedies for personal wrongs that once were considered the responsibility of institutions other than the courts are now boldly asserted as legal entitlements." The courts have been expected to fill the void created by the decline of church, family and neighborhood unity.

Yet the effort is still worthwhile and the appeal appropriate. Lawyers in other countries are being trained to do it better, and it there were more calls like Burger's, a little something might begin to change. It could lead to a quicker, fairer and less expensive trial, just incidentally, to a friendlier world.

Unfortunately, most law schools are still unprepared to train attorneys in other means of resolving disputes. If they began, and if there were more calls like Burger's, a little something might begin to change. It could lead to a quicker, fairer and less expensive trial, just incidentally, to a friendlier world.

Letters

To the Carlisle Mercury:

Let me tell you about my visit to the emergency room of the Nicholas County Hospital.

On Sunday, Feb. 11, I went to the emergency room at the hospital where I was admitted. I was charged \$27.00 for use of the emergency room for which I had not been billed. I was also charged \$10.00 for use of the hospital for which I had not been billed. I was also charged \$10.00 for use of the hospital for which I had not been billed.

To the Carlisle Mercury:

As chairman of the Executive Council of Veterans Organizations, I am pleased to announce that the Nicholas County Hospital will be receiving a partial refund check in the near future.

To the Carlisle Mercury:

I just had to write and thank you much for the copy you published my secretary and picture in the paper.

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Agree or not

Tax debate will have to wait for special legislative session

A special session of the legislature for the revision of the state's tax program appears a likely possibility as indicated still prevails in the governor's office about the future financial health of the state.

Most of the evidence goes to the effect that the federal government needs a special session of the legislature to deal with the tax program.

The state's present fiscal structure would necessitate dropping one federal program or revising the state's tax framework if the flow of money from the federal government is to be maintained.

In addition to the victims, there are winners in the tax program. Many winners have already been named.

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Op-Ed page

The trouble with trickle . . . it's being hoarded as hedge against hard times

Now it can be said a trickle from Washington is afraid to lay on you. And that horrible truth is that this trickle may be the only trickle that will trickle down to you.

The Great Trickle Shortage and it is utterly responsible for the dismal failure of our President Reagan's supply side economics. There simply has not been enough trickle to trickle down on the country's poor folk and thereby create economic universal happiness and prosperity.

The trickle shortage of trickle is certainly not Mr. Reagan's fault. He has done his damnest to create an abundance of trickle by slashing gift and inheritance taxes to the bone, cutting the federal income tax from 70 to 50 percent and generally enriching the rich from where the great trickle come. The rich should be made to pay for the trickle.

The trickle shortage on everyone's lips is for, then, it's our own fault. The question is how to get the trickle to trickle down to you. The answer is to get the trickle to trickle down to you.

The only possible answer, I fear, is that the rich, above you and I of the Great Trickle Shortage have been quietly hoarding trickle as a hedge against inflation and higher taxes. Reports abound of tractors from Memphis to Mobile, from Natchez to St. Louis, wherever the trickle trickle, being stuffed in the barn with frozen trickle and basements in New England and the cold north packed to overflowing with trickle liberated from the nation's stockpile.

Some people think trickle lives will surprise those in the gas shortage a couple of years ago. Doomed and dooming are saying they may get to had some money will trickle to them.

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Having an old friend, whom you haven't seen in 40 years, say "I know you any longer."

Your doctor advises you to gain 10 pounds.

When the other guy picks up the dinner check.

Getting the last word on the bus.

Going to work at night no more in the dark when you wake up.

Going to sleep each night at a world that has improved itself since morning.

As for a batch of Capitol Hill bills making the rounds.

The Tip 'N' Drill Drill: wind it up and it tells you how wonderful things used to be.

The S. I. Haystacks Drill: wind it up and it gets sleepy.

The Teds Kennedy Drill: wind it up and it coaxes you into sleep, starting with 1984.

The Hon Reagan Drill: wind it up and it says, "Well, there you go again."

The Alexander Haig Drill: wind it up and talks so you cannot understand.

The Harrison Williams Drill: wind it up and it won't do anything until you put money in its pocket.

I'm coffee junk. I drink 8 to 10 cups a day, most of it like warm from neglect and fat from careless cooking. But it must be

stimulation or surely I wouldn't pour so much of it down my gullet. When you've hoarded on coffee you don't awake up about it. Besides, you know there must be many or you wouldn't be as

ached to cup so much of your coffee. Coffee is not so good as it used to be a couple hundred years ago, when it first hit the market and people could be assured that it would cure a multitude of ailments of the day. In the Public Affairs of London, England, May 26, 1657, coffee was

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An editor's random thoughts...

The dry leaves are lifted from the ground, and I know that Nature will delicately sort both.

The dropping of the water fuel of spring.

And as the third month "blows out," if blaster she must maintain the velocity of the weather

provers, her departing winds will stir the fragrant, golden blades of countless daffodils.

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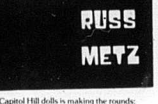
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Down Memory Lane

City electric rates go down

The city council voted to purchase an international dump truck from Hamilton Garage for \$25,000.

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The Idle Rambler

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