

Grantham J, I presume

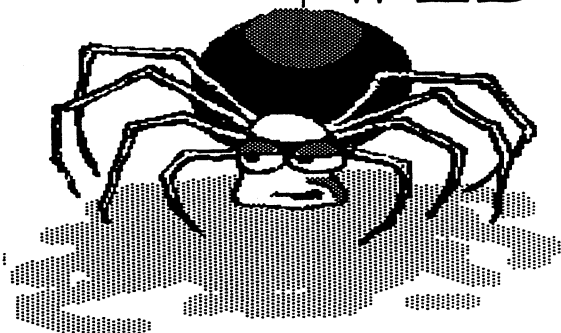
A story about Justice Sir William Grantham of the King's Bench Division was that, after protesting vainly to a man who was smoking in a non-smoking carriage, he sought to impress the offender by handing him his card, with a threat to have the man arrested. But the man left the compartment quickly when the train stopped, and took a seat in another compartment. Justice Grantham sent the guard to get the man's name and address so that he could be prosecuted. When the guard returned he said: "I wouldn't have him arrested, sir. I asked his name and he gave me his card. You see, he is Mr Justice Grantham, sir."

(*Victorian Bar News*
No 91, Summer 1994)

Australian trivia

Only one Australian capital city has an Aboriginal name — Canberra ... which means "young jackass".

THE SPIDER'S WEB



Sage client

Russell Sage's lawyer was delighted by the case his client had brought to him. "It's an ironclad case," he exclaimed with confidence. "We can't possibly lose!"

"Then we won't sue," Sage said.

"That was my opponent's side of the case I gave you."

(*Victorian Bar News*
No 91, Summer 1994)

Ankle-biters not found

Attorney H. Kalideen of Durban tells a tale of major malapropism in *De Rebus* (South Africa).

"I was instructed to attend to the registration of a mortgage bond on behalf of a financial institution. The borrower required the bond to be registered urgently. We informed him that an entomologist's report was required by the financial institution to which he replied that this was no problem and he would bring it in the next day.

"The next morning I was presented with a letter from his doctor confirming that his wife was beyond child-bearing age and that it was highly unlikely that she would have any more children."

(*Law Society Journal*
Law Society of NSW
Vol 33, No 2, March 1995)

Guinness goodies

The Gist was recently given the latest edition of The Guinness Book of Records. Here are some titbits:

* The longest word in Icelandic is *Haecstarettarmalaflutningsmaour*, which has 31 letters and means "Supreme Court barrister".

* The oldest recorded active judge was Albert R. Alexander (1859-1966), who was the magistrate and probate judge of Clinton County, Missouri, until his retirement at the age of 105 years and 8 months on July 9 1965.

* The longest will on record was that of Mrs Fredrica Evelyn Stilwell Cook, which was proved at Somerset House, London, on November 2 1925. It consisted of four bound volumes containing 94,940 words.

* In a crime prevention exercise, a team of 10 people succeeded in postcoding 841 bicycles in four hours at Beaumont College, Lancaster on April 16 1994.

(*The Gist*
The Law Institute Journal
Law Institute of Victoria
Vol 69, No 3, March 1995)

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