



I was just thinking...

AFELLOW who works in my office building is furious because the plastic cups in the coffee machine on the floor above are nicer than the paper cups in the coffee machine on his floor.

He sees this as a dark plot.

In an office building nearby, it has become fashionable to leave without notice. You just don't show up some morning and, if anyone calls, you say you quit.

Or you ask the boss for a couple of days off to be interviewed for another job. You have every right to be insulted if he refuses, because you've already told him you'll keep this job if nothing better turns up.

All these people and I went to different schools together. That is, it was the same school, but I'm apparently older. I can remember when getting a job was an achievement, not something to fill in the gap between 9 and 5. And double time on week ends.

The female-type applicants who appear in my office no longer bother with high heels and gloves. They wear bobby socks and chew gum and sometimes their fingernails are

dirty. Or their sweaters are wash-and-shrink.

And they're not so much conscious of their qualifications as of the freewill offering of a prospective employer. They remind me of the mink-draped cleaning woman who quit working for my mother because she found our basement depressing.

Sometimes journalism students appear at my typewriter to "interview" me for a class report. In days of yore, they wore eager faces and brought eager minds.

Now they usually ask two questions:

How much money do you make?

How many hours do you have to work?

Horatio Alger must be spinning in his grave. And I guess J. C. Penney and other self-made men are pretty corny. I imagine it's antiquated to believe that a job is more than a plastic cup, a 35-hour week, and double time.

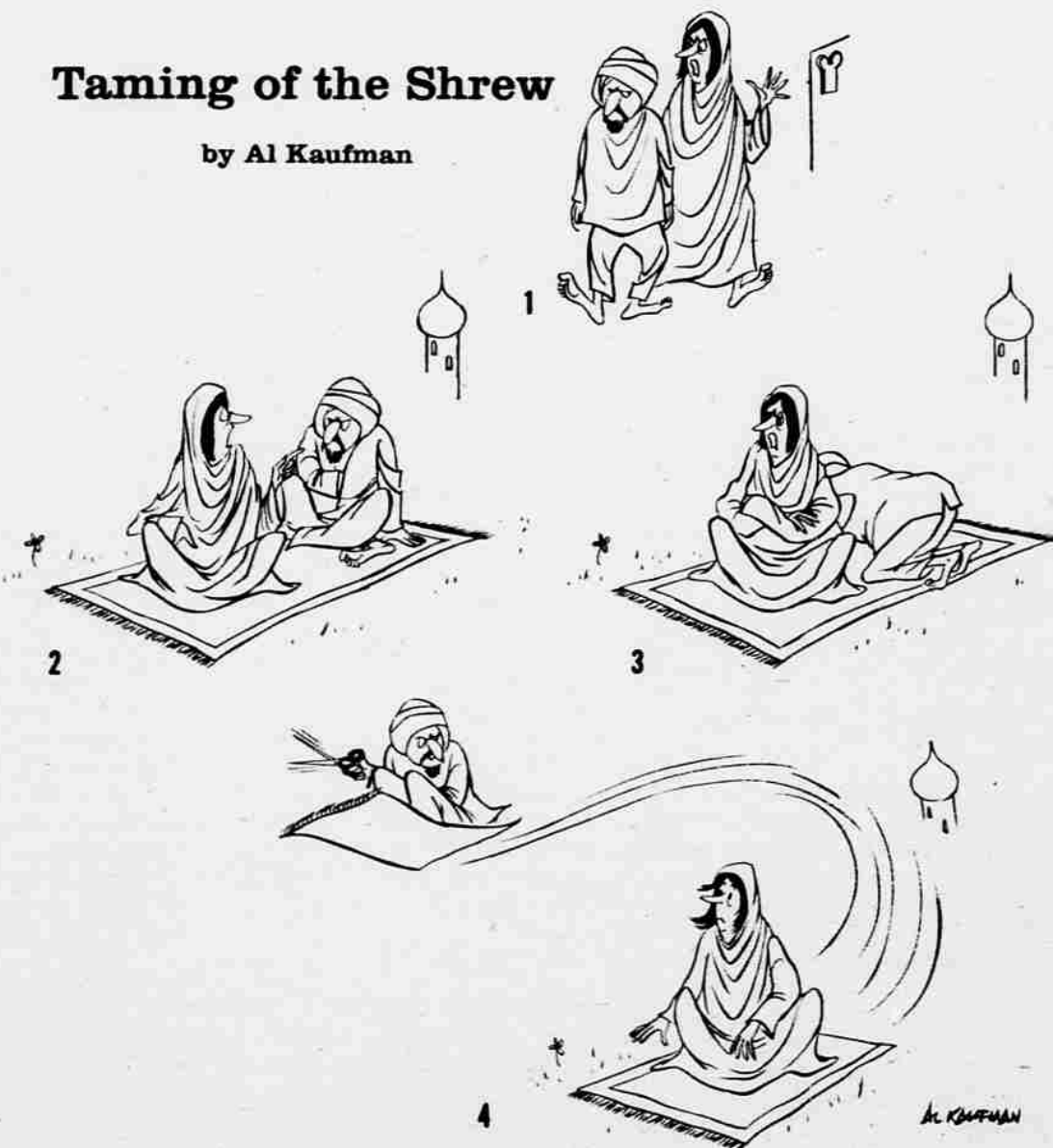
I'd just like to know what happened to all the people who used to treat their work as a challenge?

It's lonely here for us old-timers.

Patty Johnson

Taming of the Shrew

by Al Kaufman



"I Don't Like The Catholic Church BECAUSE..."

Ask many non-Catholics to finish this sentence in 25 words or less, and their answers might surprise you.

Some of them, no doubt, would attribute their opposition to doctrinal differences. They might be critical of some or all of the Seven Sacraments accepted by Catholics. Others might not like the Church's ritual and devotions, or even the Catholic attitude on social questions.

But none of these is the dominant reason for the opposition of some people...and the unwillingness of others to inquire into the truths of Catholicism.

The great stumbling-block is the unwillingness of many people to believe that Priests and Bishops and a Pope...all men like themselves...are vested with divine authority to speak for God.

They refuse to believe that another human being has the authority to forgive sin, even though Christ told the Apostles: "Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; whose sins you shall retain, they are retained." They reject the idea that God delegated any of His powers to mere men, even though Christ gave Peter the power "to bind or loose on earth," and promised the disciples: "He that heareth you, heareth me."

Those who reject the discipline of the Church will contend, at times, that God would not have delegated His powers to any but the spiritually perfect...and there are no such people. In contradiction of this, Christ clearly *did* appoint deputies to teach His gospel and...though He did not

make them personally immune to temptation and sin...He guaranteed them against error in the teaching of His gospel.

It is quite possible that a perfectly sincere person...after fully investigating the Catholic religion...might not in good conscience be convinced that he should become a Catholic. But if it is true...as claimed since the time of Peter...that the Catholic Church is Christ's true church, those seeking religious truth should not be deterred by personal objections to some aspect of Catholicism which may become acceptable to them upon investigation.

"What Do You Find Wrong With The Catholic Church" is the title of a frank and highly interesting pamphlet just published. It discusses freely why more than 400 million people throughout the world gladly accept the discipline of the Church, and why many others reject it. Upon request we will mail you a copy free...in a plain wrapper. Nobody will call on you. Just ask for Pamphlet No. FM-54.

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