



# bulletin FOR MEDIATORS / FACT FINDERS

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FROM ERWIN KELLY

Missing from the last issue of the PERB Bulletin for mediators and fact finders was "Harold Newman's Cloudy Crystal Ball." It was not there for the first time since the Bulletin began in February of 1970. Its absence caused all of us to realize how much we missed his words and the silence cried out for someone to speak, and so it seemed appropriate for me to try.

Tuesday, January 24, was a happy day for all of us at PERB for on that day, in a ceremony in the Red Room of the Capitol, Harold Newman was sworn in as the second Chairman of PERB since the beginning of the Taylor Law in 1967. Present at the ceremony, in addition to the PERB staff, were Harold's wife, Rita, his sister, Ruth, and his mother, Julia, a grand and absolutely charming lady of four score and ten who will ask when offered a ride in a car, "Do you have the steam up?". It was a joyous event. The commencement of Harold's term as a member of the Board also unfortunately signaled the end of another for effective with the beginning of Harold's term, Professor Crowley's ended. Professor Crowley along with Dr. Helsby had been a charter member of the Board and he, too, will be missed. At present, we have a two-person Board, Harold Newman and Ida Klaus.

One of the highlights of the "Cloudy Crystal Ball" were the quotes which first began to appear with some regularity in late 1972 and early 1973. I wish to offer another one which is from a Mailgram sent to Chairman Newman by his brother, Arthur.

"A chap by the surname of Newman  
was distinguished for 'striking' acumen  
Had that been a Verb  
His future at PERB  
Would die before it got bloomin'."

Do you think that light touch runs in the family?

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The literature these days seems to be filled with comment on the Liverpool decision and its effect on arbitration in the public sector. It would seem that one of the effects would certainly be for the parties to take a long hard look at their arbitration clauses and this may well be one of the central issues in the upcoming round of negotiations this spring. If you are not familiar with the Liverpool case, I suggest you become so.

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We have decided to make the numbering of our impasse cases coincide with the State fiscal year which runs from April 1 to March 30. Prior to this we numbered our cases on a calendar year. Therefore, we will continue counting 1977 cases up until March 31, 1978 and will start the '78 cases thereafter.

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