

This Section is designed to get you through a menopause. In a quick preview I can only mention a few of the recommendations. Here are some of them.

- 1/ On no account look to see what is in your filing cabinets and desk drawers. What you will find can only harm you. Get an illiterate stranger to take away the whole lot and burn it.
- 2/ If, like me, you can't resist a brief look, then at least suppress anything that gives away your mistakes. Send it all into storage under the wrong name and reference number. And here again remember that there may be a deserving junior who will make his name sorting out the mess.
- 3/ When deciding which colleague is to inherit which case, pick out those with impossible clients, those which have gone horribly wrong, those with no future but trouble. Then aim them in the right direction. Do not miss this opportunity to pay off old scores.
- 4/ On any new case that comes your way, take a totally optimistic view. You have been cautious for long enough. Let yourself go. Never mind the merits. Tell the client he can't lose, but that if he should, then the firm will pay his costs. Issue a writ before he has any second thoughts.
- 5/ On any administrative matter in which you have a diminishing say, particularly one which involves spending money, take a stand so broad and far-reaching that it scares the pants off everyone.
- 6/ Be frank and open with colleagues, clients and opponents. Tell them exactly what you think of them. (Sorry ladies and gentlemen, but here there's an awful lot crossed out by my wife. Pity.).
- 7/ If you have any trouble with your colleagues, play your ace. Threaten To Stay.

I'm tempted to linger on this Section, but we have to move on to Section 1V which is headed **Saying Goodbye**.

During your closing few months it is pretty certain that various of your good old friends will take you out to a farewell lunch. Each of them will almost certainly offer you a dry martini. When you are about half-way through it, your good friend will undoubtedly say something on the lines: "but why on earth are you going? you look young and fit. Your news came as a complete surprise....."

Here, as the handbook will explain, your answer depends entirely on how much you want a second dry martini. If you are lusting for it, then a fairly reliable answer is:

"They've chucked me out." This will probably get your friend looking in the direction of the wine waiter. Even better is: "well, as a matter of fact I'm going offshore for a bit. There's this stupid misunderstanding with the Inland Revenue....." This will cheer up your friend to the point where he signals the wine waiter to come. But if you want to be absolutely sure, then by far the best is to look thoughtful and say "Doctors' orders I'm afraid." If you can then quietly slip in the word 'terminal' that second dry martini will immediately be in front of you.

But suppose now that one martini is enough. Suppose you say to your good friend: "I've never felt better. They want me to stay, but I want to go off and do other things while I still have energy to do them." Here you will see lines of worry forming on your