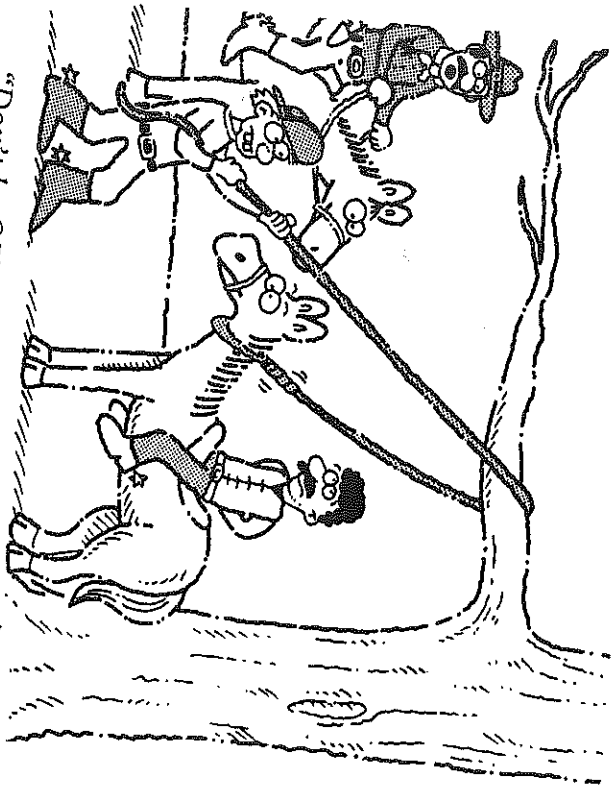


OBTUSE

(ob tuse)
insensitive; block-headed,
slow in comprehension

Link: NOOSE



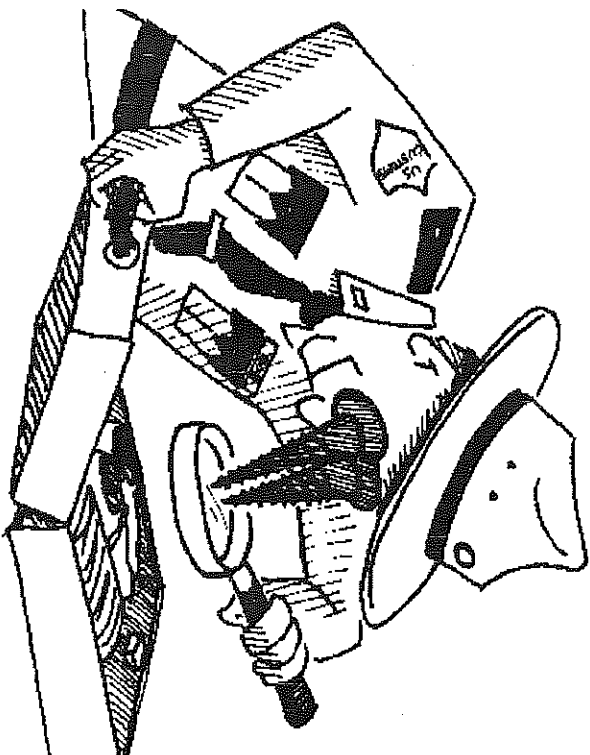
"Don't be OBTUSE, the horse-thief gets the NOOSE, not the horse."

- ❑ Hazel was so OBTUSE she thought a watched pot of water never boils.
- ❑ The OBTUSENESS of some people is due to their unwillingness to accept new ideas.
- ❑ Don't pretend to be so OBTUSE. You know the idea of business investing is to buy low and sell high.

SCRUTINIZE

(SKROOT uh nyze)
to look very carefully; to examine

Link: SCREW EYES



"U.S. Customs officials have SCREW EYES when they SCRUTINIZE baggage."

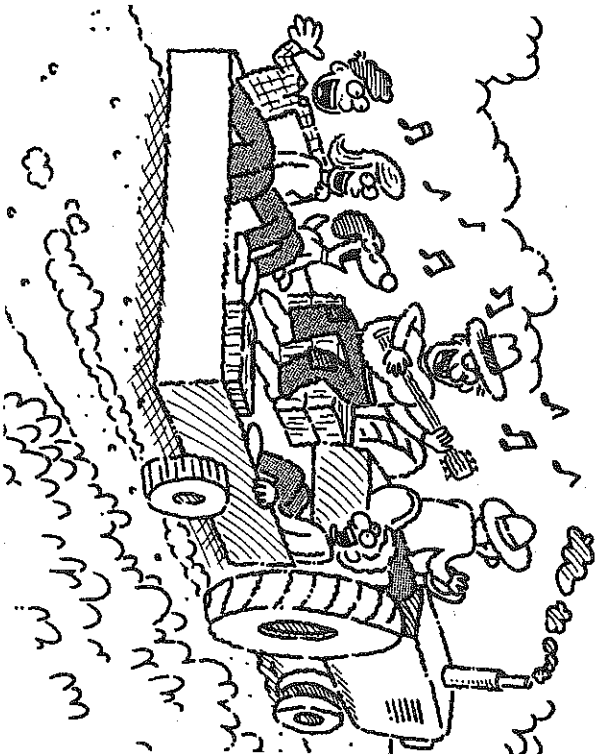
- ❑ Newspaper proof readers SCRUTINIZE an entire newspaper each day.
- ❑ Each soldier's uniform is SCRUTINIZED by his commanding officer.
- ❑ I SCRUTINIZED all the books in the library and found several I had wanted.

CONGENIAL

(kun JEAN ee ul)

pleasant to be around;
social, agreeable

Link: JEANS



"Folks in JEANS are very CONGENIAL."

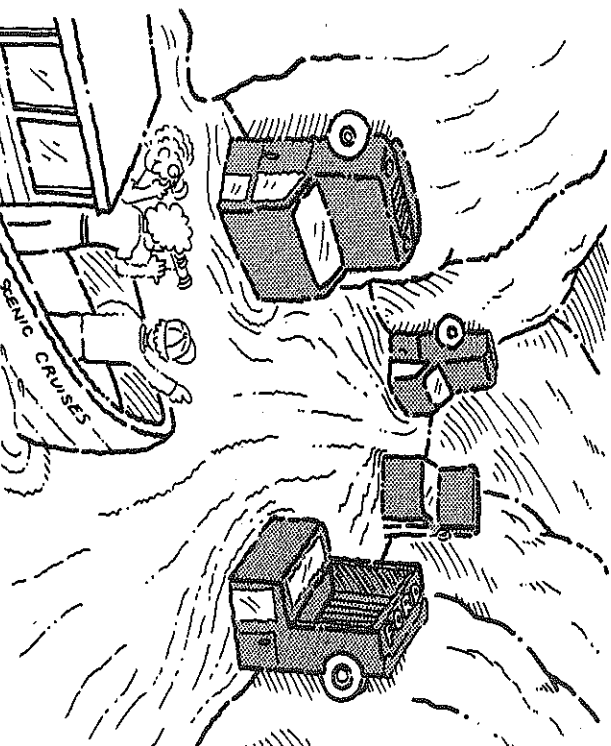
- Dr. Armstrong was very CONGENIAL, always a smile and a kind word for his patients, and candies for the children.
- Miss Florida was voted Miss CONGENIALITY in the Miss America pageant.
- The atmosphere at the property appraiser's office is CONGENIAL. Everyone enjoys their job, and visitors are welcome at any time.

a long narrow inlet from the sea
between steep cliffs or hills

Link: FORD

FJORD

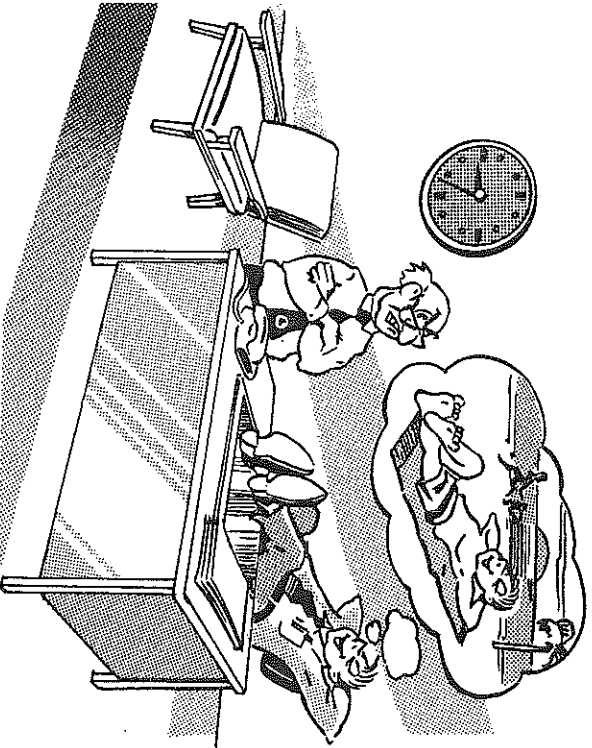
(fyord)



"FORDS in a FJORD."

- Norway and New Zealand are two countries noted for having the most scenic FJORDS in the world.
- FJORDS are generally deep so that large cruise ships have more than enough water to navigate up their length.
- The Grand Canyon could be the grandest FJORD of all, if only it were on the coast with an inlet from the sea.

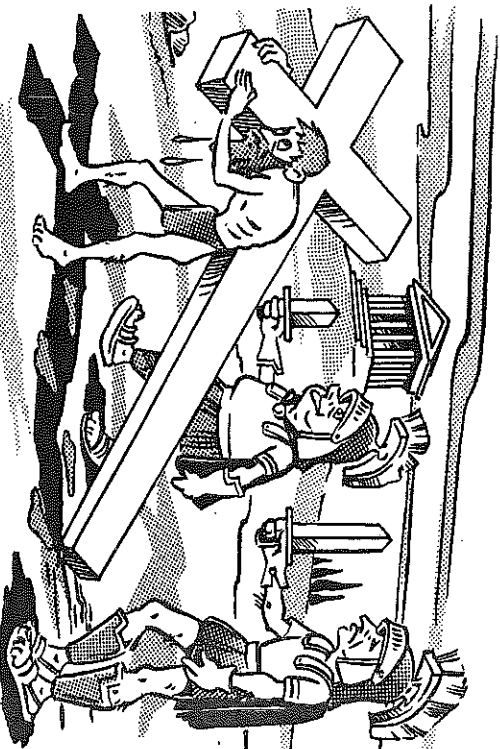
ASPIRE
(ass PIRE)
something one hopes to achieve; goal
Link: RETIRE



"Jim ASPIRED to RETIRE early and become a man of leisure."

- ❑ Tim ASPIRED to be the valedictorian of his class at graduation and studied hard to reach that goal.
- ❑ The counselor told Jim's parents that his problem in school was he didn't ASPIRE for anything. He had no goals or career direction.
- ❑ As a young child, General Custer had ASPIRED to become a musician, but later decided to become a general instead.

MARTYR
(MAHR tur)
someone willing to sacrifice and even give his/her life for a cause; also one who pretends suffering to gain sympathy
Link: HARDER



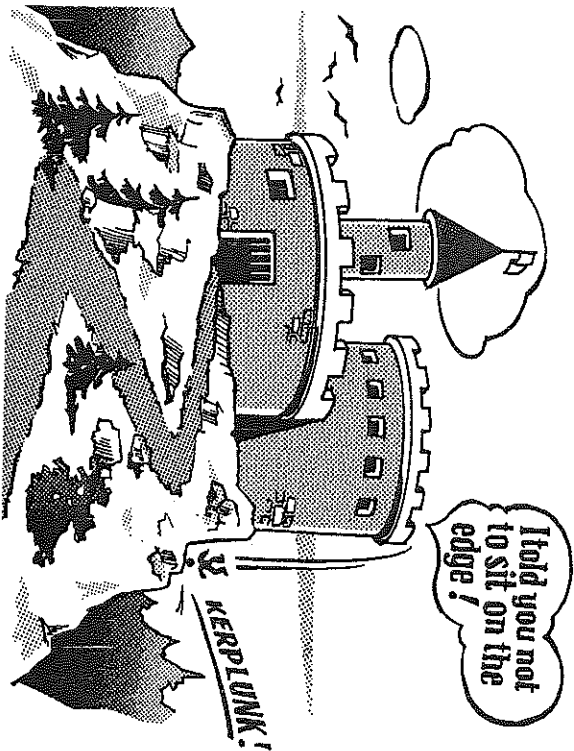
"It's HARDER to be a MARTYR."

- ❑ She was a professional MARTYR, all-suffering for her children, or so she would tell them ten times a day.
- ❑ Joan of Arc was undoubtedly the most famous MARTYR in modern history, burned at the stake because she refused to go against her beliefs.
- ❑ Jack was a MARTYR to his job; he worked seven days a week and rarely took a day off.

CITADEL

(SIT uh duh)
a fortress overlooking a city;
a stronghold

Link: SIT WELL

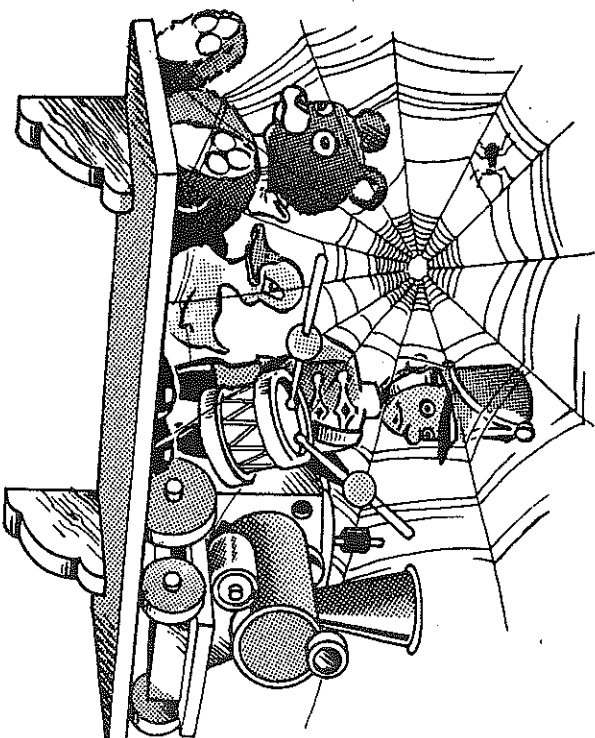


- ❑ Charlie was a CITADEL of strength, always there for you no matter what.
- ❑ West Point is considered a CITADEL of military learning, a fact easily understood when you come to understand that most generals attended West Point.
- ❑ There are many ancient CITADELS in Spain; they are among the attractions most visited by tourists.

DOLDRUMS

(DOHL drums)
a period or condition of
depression or inactivity

Link: DOLL DRUMS



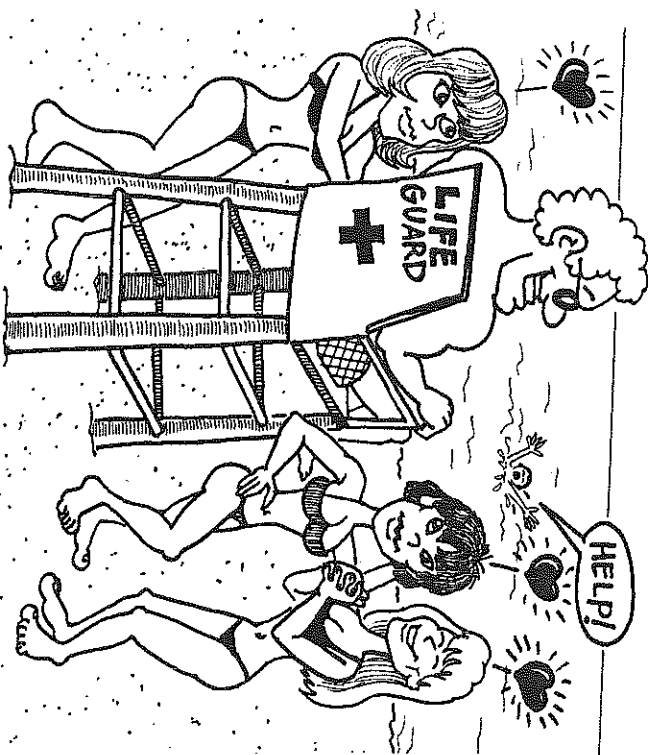
- ❑ Ever since Jackie's dog died, the little fellow has not touched his toys, moping around day after day in the DOLDRUMS.
- ❑ For thirteen days we were becalmed in the Horse Latitudes near the equator, our ship drifting in the DOLDRUMS without the faintest breeze to fill the sails of our vessel.

CONSENSUS

(kun SEN sus)

general agreement

Link: [SENDS US](#)



"We are in CONSENSUS, this guy SENDS US."

- ❑ After taking a CONSENSUS of the congressmen present, the bill to legalize nude beaches failed to pass.
- ❑ The CONSENSUS of the faculty was that no more chili dogs were to be served at the school lunch.
- ❑ A CONSENSUS is more than a majority, it means most everyone agrees.

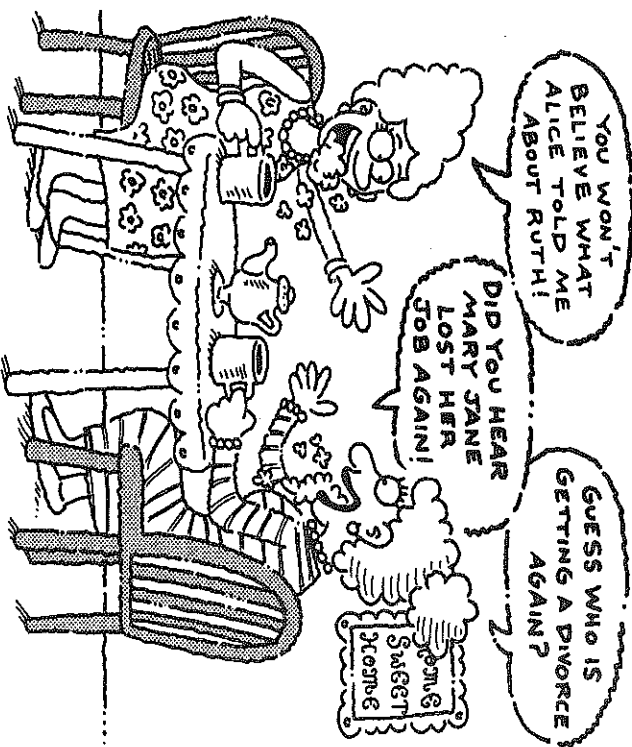
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BLATHER

(BLAH thur)

to talk nonsensically

Link: [LATHER](#)



"Karen and Allison BLATHERED until their mouths LATHERED."

- ❑ Everything the media reported about the supposed plane disaster never happened. It was a bunch of BLATHER by uninformed journalists.
- ❑ Children have great imaginations, and often BLATHER about ghosts that supposedly enter their rooms and either scare them or play with them.

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