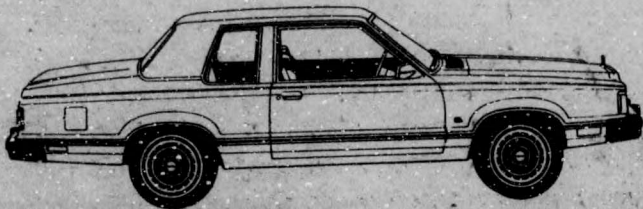


Brownsworth on speaking

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Humor by JONATHAN BLANCHARD

A few years back, I read a book on how one might become a proficient speaker. Feeling at the time that was just the thing for me. "Why Jonathan" I said, "that's just what you need. Become a fine speaker, an outrageous wit, loved by ladies of breeding and enjoyed by the mass-the advertisement agreed with me. Why within days my popularity would increase at least twofold.

So I gathered together the few dollars needed, and sent for what I hoped would be a "new life as the life of the party." without summing with my loyal, if not loveable, bartender - Redinald Stevens Brownsworth, whom you probably came to know as "Brownsworth."

Realizing my folly, I rushed to the University Club, in which I am known as "two year man", meaning I have access to the house Port but not the Wine Cellar.

"Brownsworth" said I "it has come to my mind that I am not a proficient speaker."

"Indeed sir?"

"Indeed Brownsworth, my chats, content wise are as good as the next, however

they seem to be lacking in the delivery. This is due, I am sure, to the fact that as a speaker, I am sub-proficient." "Much like Cyrano in his dealings with those of the fairer sex?" "Very much so Brownsworth, you've struck the problem amidships!"

Brownsworth, being a talent for such things, can always be counted on to make my insurmountable problem, completely mountable. "Do I take it you are perterbed by this and have designs to remedy this as soon as possible?"

Brownsworth also has a habit of alluding to the obvious, which is not so much upsetting as it is a waste of time. However, it takes nothing away from the successful conclusion of the problem, and it is his way. To continue "Brownsworth, I am adamant! To this end I have sent for a book on the topic, (very impetuous of me, not consulting Brownsworth and all.) and I expect to have the problem licked within days."

Brownsworth was obviously taken aback for, for his eyebrow raised almost an eighth of an inch, the Falklands only ranked a sixteenth. The Jury is still out on whether or not this was due to my zeal, or my lack of con-

cultation. Be that as it may, time was of the essence. Brownsworth could do himself great harm if he retained a look of surprise, for that matter any other emotion you care to name. God knows what he could do to himself if he ever smiled.

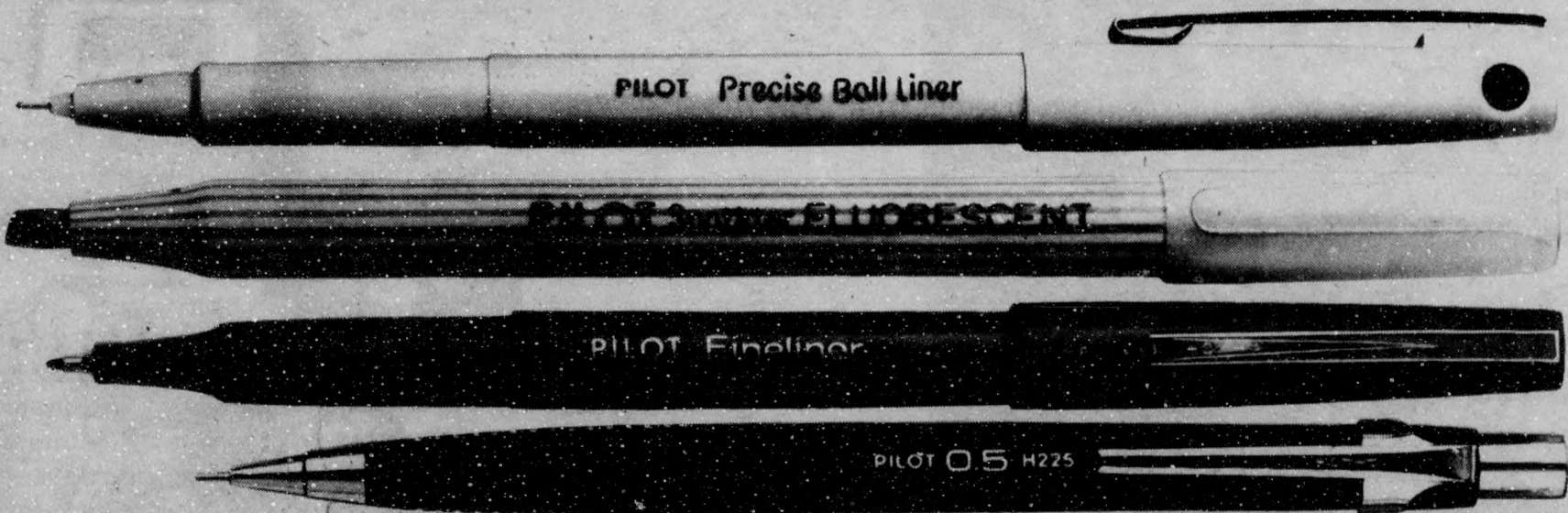
"Fear not Brownsworth, I expect to be consulting you at every turn."

A flat lie, however it seemed to save the day.

"Sir" said Brownsworth, "I feel I must recommend against such a tact. It has been my experience that such things are advertised in the back of pornographic publications and as such are of disreputable origins. In my youth, (Brownsworth was never young, of this I am sure). I sent for a collection of the Bards works, it was advertised in the over leaf of a copy of Fanny Hill. (My heart sank) I sent my cheque to the rotters and they started sending subscriptions to numerous playhouses about town. You can understand my intemperate reaction, as I belong to the Old Vic, Old Boys ass. On the whole, a bad business, I believe my solicitor is still in litigation. I should put a trunk call through and inquire."

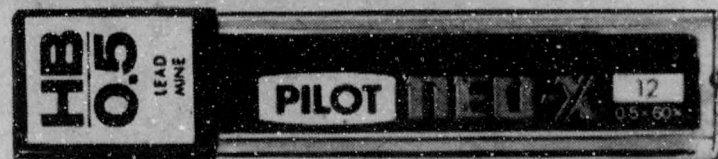
(Continued next week)

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