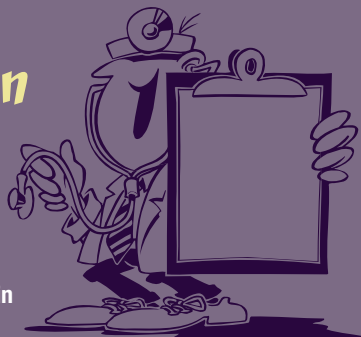


Disorder in the American Courts



These are excerpts from a book called *Disorder in the American Courts*, and are things people actually said in court, word for word, taken down and published by court reporters that had to remain calm while these exchanges were actually taking place.

Attorney: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

Witness: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

Attorney: Do you know if your daughter has ever been involved in voodoo?

Witness: We both do.

Attorney: Voodoo?

Witness: We do.

Attorney: You do?

Witness: Yes, voodoo.

Attorney: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice, which I sent to your attorney?

Witness: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.

Attorney: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

Witness: No.

Attorney: Did you check for blood pressure?

Witness: No.

Attorney: Did you check for breathing?

Witness: No.

Attorney: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

Witness: No.

Attorney: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

Witness: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

Attorney: I see, but could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless?

Witness: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law.

We are probably going to irritate a number of people from three very large states in the US of A. Still, we really like the writing (i.e. sarcasm) of H.L. Menchen who is responsible for the following:

(Los Angeles) Nineteen suburbs in search of a metropolis.

New York: A third rate Babylon



(Texas is) The place where there are the most cows and the least milk and the most rivers and the least water in them, and where you can look the farthest and see the least.

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“Even with efficiency gains and new technology or alternative ways to generate energy, oil demand will continue to rise, such that by 2030 it could be almost fifty percent higher than it is today.”

Rex Tillerson
President of ExxonMobil Corp.

We saved an article from the January 2005 issue of *Oil & Gas Journal* (nearly three years old, but still very pertinent). It quoted Rex Tillerson, President of ExxonMobil Corp. Parts of that speech got our attention, AND with which we agree:

“We see energy demand growth a bit less than two percent a year, which is about what it has been doing the past two decades. Economic growth will actually exceed this if the world continues to be more efficient with its use of energy,” he said. “Nevertheless, even with greater efficiency, the total amount of energy used by 2030 will have increased by almost two thirds.”

Most of that increase will be in oil and natural gas, which Tillerson said “will retain about three fifths of the total energy supply. Natural gas will grow at a rate slightly higher than oil and could provide one quarter of all energy by 2030.”

OTHER ENERGY RESOURCES

“Coal will grow more slowly than natural gas. But the emphasis on coal, of course, will be on clean-burning technology. Coal will be especially important for electricity generation in China,” Tillerson said.

“Hydropower is a relatively small source (of future energy). It is site-limited, but there will be some modest growth in China, India, and a few other developing countries. Nuclear growth is less

than half of that of fossil fuels, with declining overall capacity in Europe, even if some new plants are eventually built in developed countries. The majority of the large biomass component is in the developing countries from the burning of wood and animal dung. In developed countries, there is some biomass from wood waste and garbage, said Tillerson. He noted there is “a lot of talk” about energy contributions from solar and wind. ExxonMobil expects supply from these sources to increase as rapidly as ten percent a year.

“That’s a huge compounding growth rate if you think about it against other sources of energy, largely aided by technological advances, but also by government subsidies and mandates,” Tillerson said. “However, even with this very high growth rate, by 2030 the share of energy supply from wind and solar will amount to less than one percent of the world’s total energy demand.”

Tillerson said, “The enormity of what our petroleum industry delivers day in and day out is not well understood by the public and, regrettably, by many policymakers. This gives rise in some circles of well-intended, but

misplaced views of the role that alternatives can play in the future energy picture. For example, you would need to cover (with solar power equipment) four city blocks of Manhattan to provide an energy equivalent to one very average Exxon or Mobil corner retail gas station.”

“Even with efficiency gains and new technology or alternative ways to generate energy, oil demand will continue to rise, such that by 2030 it could be almost fifty percent higher than it is today. That’s a volume approaching 120 million barrels per day of oil, so if something is going to replace it, it’s going to have to be very large,” said Tillerson.

“For the foreseeable future, the world will be increasingly dependent upon the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the Middle East for energy.”

“That’s not an ideological or policy choice,” he said. “It is simply a reflection of where resources are to be found and how much energy will be needed to ensure continued global economic growth. There is very little that can be done to materially alter this reality with regard to conventional oil.”

Alex Chisholm