

Invaluable books for library

The National Park Service has announced plans to expand the Central High Historical Site to include a library. There is a need, I believe, to study the whole affair from a legal perspective. To that end, I recommend two books to be included in the library.

"Government by Judiciary" is one of four volumes of research written by Raoul Berger, a liberal Democrat. In this book, he examines some of the most controversial Supreme Court decisions of the last 50 years and finds that they were unconstitutional. One of the cases examined, *Brown vs. Board of Education*, was the basis for the court fight in Little Rock. Berger concludes that the Warren Supreme Court decision was not based on law but on the justices' own whims and values.

"Osro Cobb of Arkansas" contains the memoirs of the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas during the conflict over school integration. Cobb points out that prior to 1957, race relations in Little Rock had been free of friction, that the school board had drafted a plan for gradual integration and that there was little, if any, resistance to the plan.

When local authorities were faced with an armed insurrection of mostly outsiders, they had a lawful duty to protect citizens and property from harm. The federal court had a duty to enforce federal laws. In his book, Cobb gives a day-to-day account of the legal battle that erupted between these conflicting legal interests.

The conflict at Central High is a textbook example of chaos caused by activist federal judges.

JEWELL CARR
Cleveland

A decision for business

Re Thomas Chipman's recent letter: Gov. Mike Huckabee is against smoking in public places, and for this I applaud him. Huckabee seems to me to be trying to prevent children from having to breathe secondhand smoke. He is doing

this through education and raising public awareness, however, instead of bucking the Constitution that he has sworn to uphold.

Employees are not "forced to breathe the carcinogenic fumes for hours." I work in a non-smoking environment, and this is a choice anyone can make. The vast majority of food service jobs are not in smoking environments.

Parents have the right to decide if they are going to subject their children to an unhealthy environment. When I used to smoke, there was nothing I loved better than a cigarette after a nice meal. I would check, however, and if there were children at a nearby table, I would refrain. Smokers have a responsibility to be considerate of others, but there is always a

choice for everyone.

There are fewer non-smoking restaurants to choose from, and that will continue to be the case until people who do not smoke make a stand and choose not to patronize establishments that allow smoking. Businesses cater to the law of demand, and they are not going to modify business practices for people who will not place their money (and business) where their mouths are.

Whether to allow smoking is a decision the owner of the business needs to make, not the government.

JOSH KEMP
North Little Rock

Brave souls in Congress

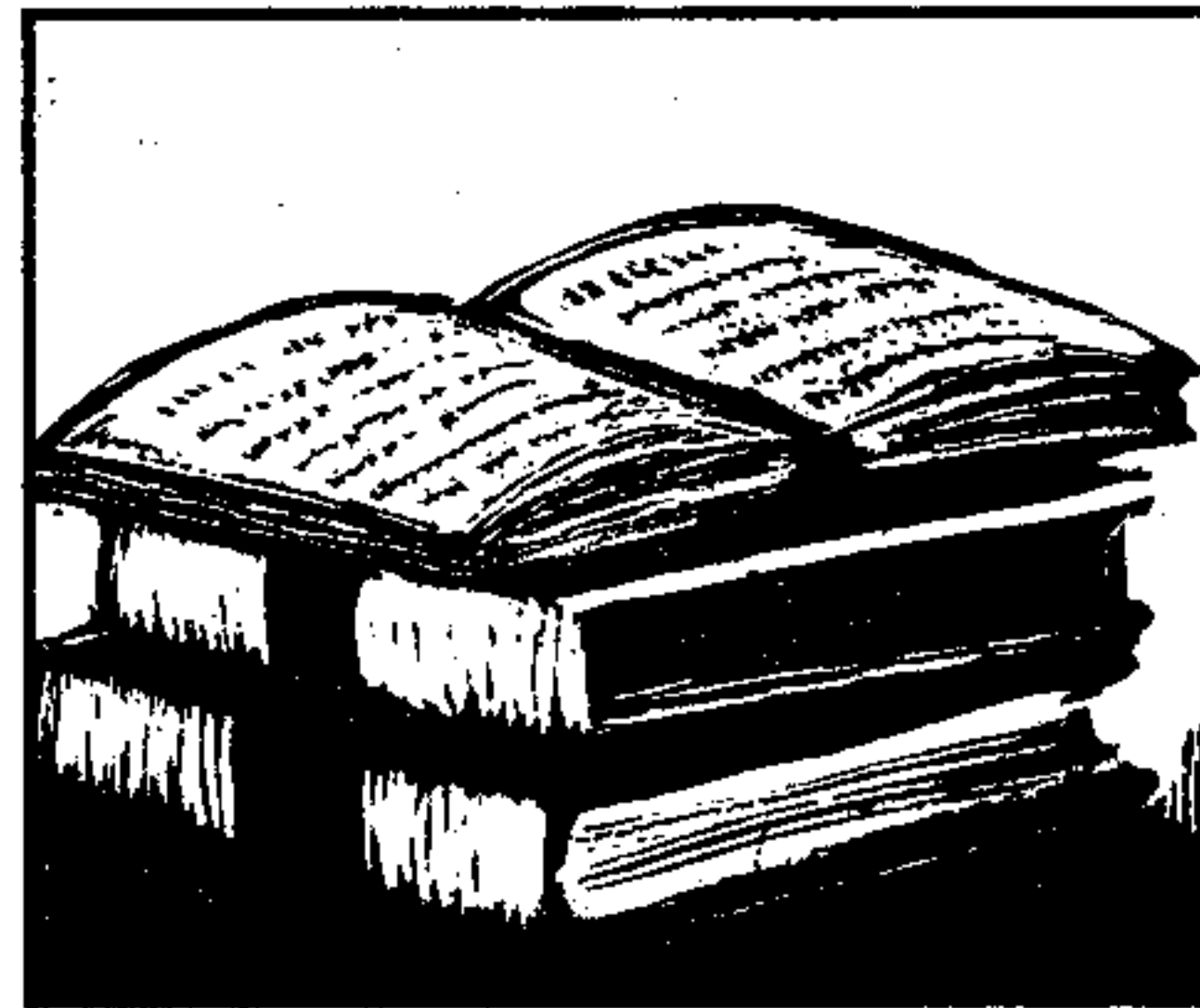
It seems that while we were having our "anthrax crisis" on Capitol Hill a few weeks ago, our esteemed people in Congress were voting themselves a nice, fat raise.

It would seem to me that it's business as usual in our government.

These brave souls who ran at the very minute the "A" word was mentioned deserve every dollar they can muster from the public trough, even if they had to do it in secret while this nation was still reeling from the attack of Sept. 11.

We all might want to remember this the next time we go to the voting booth.

JIMMY KAGEBEIN
Gillett



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