

No. 566

Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the book *Grushenka*, anonymous, published by Holloway House Publishing Co., California.

There was no appearance of the applicant. Mr Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the publisher's representative in New Zealand and made submissions.

DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

THE story of a Russian serf girl inside Czarist Russia—a story of utter degeneracy, cruelty, and violence—a story which the Tribunal cannot accept as being authentic. The publisher claims the book as being the first complete and authentic American edition of the story privately printed in Paris in January 1933, but this claim does not ring true. The book, because of its emphasis on violence and indecency, clearly offends against the provisions of the Act.

The Tribunal classifies this book as indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

10 October 1972.

No. 567

Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by Marketing Services (N.Z.) Ltd. for a decision in respect of the magazine *Cinema X*, Vol. 4, No. 4, published by Top Sellers Ltd., London.

Mr Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the applicant and made submissions.

DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

THIS magazine contains many photographs of scenes from films, together with some account of those films and more general material on film personalities. It is described on the cover as an "International Guide for Adult Audiences", but it cannot be accorded much significance as a guide to those interested in the art of the film. The illustrations depict a variety of sexual poses and incidents in a crude and garish way. The advertisements in the magazine reinforce our view that its treatment of sex is prurient and offensive.

The Tribunal classifies this issue of *Cinema X* as indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

10 October 1972.

No. 568

Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the magazine *Girl Illustrated*, Vol. 5, No. 17, published by Plant News, London.

There was no appearance of the applicant. Mr Heron, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the publisher's representative in New Zealand and made submissions.

DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

THIS magazine is a more sophisticated example of a kind of magazine that the Tribunal is familiar with from earlier applications: a series of photographs of nude or semi-nude girls who are associated in the text with the various countries and backgrounds they come from. Everything in the photographs and the text is calculated to provoke sexual excitement in a manner and to a degree that we judge indecent.

The Tribunal classifies this issue of *Girl Illustrated* as indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

10 October 1972.

No. 569

Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the book *The 9 Holes of Jade*, by Su-Ling, published by Holloway House Publishing Co., California.

There was no appearance of the applicant. Mr Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the publisher's representative in New Zealand and made submissions.

DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

THIS is the autobiography of a Hong Kong call girl named Su-Ling, born in the slums of Hong Kong and determined to rise above this humble origin. According to her story she is beautiful and not unintelligent and eventually achieves her ambition. But the path to success is a tortuous one and her story deals with bizarre experiences, perversion, and sexual indecencies.

The book has little literary merit. The story is contrived and has no honesty of purpose.

The Tribunal classifies this book as indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

10 October 1972.

No. 570

Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the book *The Erotic Duet* translated by Howard Nelson, published by Holloway House Publishing Co., California.

There was no appearance of the applicant. Mr Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the publisher's representative in New Zealand and made submissions.

DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

THIS book comprises "two long-forbidden works" of French erotica from the late nineteenth century. One of the stories tells of the customs of young ladies of that age and is by way of a series of dialogues wherein their amorous adventures are recounted. The other is in the form of an exchange of letters between two girl friends who have a lesbian relationship.

The emphasis throughout is on sex and perversion and both stories are presented in a manner calculated to exploit prurient interest. The authorship is uncertain. In the opinion of the Tribunal the book is indecent within the meaning of the Act.

The Tribunal classifies this book as indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

10 October 1972.

No. 571

Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the book *The Memoirs of Dolly Morton*, anonymous, published by Holloway House Publishing Co., California.

There was no appearance of the applicant. Mr Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the publisher's representative in New Zealand and made submissions.

DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

THIS is a reprint of a book reputed to have been written by one Hugues Rebell, and first printed in Paris in 1899. Its authenticity as the memoirs of a young girl who became involved in rescuing and transporting escaped slaves from the southern states of America to the north, is not established. Although the book contains detailed accounts of sexual activity and violence, looked at as a whole it cannot be classed as likely to corrupt in the hands of mature persons. Its impact is more a feeling of compassion for the victims of slavery and abhorrence of their aggressors. Nevertheless, the descriptions in the book of sexual and sadistic practices make it unsuitable for young persons.

The Tribunal classifies this book as indecent in the hands of persons under the age of 18 years.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

10 October 1972.

Consenting to Raising of Loans by Certain Local Authorities

PURSUANT to section 3 of the Local Authorities Loans Act 1956 (as amended by section 3 (1) of the Local Authorities Loans Amendment Act 1967), the undersigned Assistant Secretary to the Treasury, acting under powers delegated to the Secretary to the Treasury by the Minister of Finance, hereby consents to the borrowing by the local authorities mentioned in the Schedule hereto of the whole or any part of the respective amounts specified in that Schedule.