

### LONE BOOK REVIEW

Hugh Janus. *A Guide to Bench Conservation*, Mister Fixit Books, Toronto (1990) 275 pages, 36 b&w illustrations.

This well written and beautifully illustrated book contains everything the bench conservator needs to know to make a full and successful career in this fascinating field. After a brief introduction, the author deals with the conservation of the following benches: park, justice, woodwork, flogging, and straining. The conclusion outlines the history of benches in general and traces their occurrence in the literature of the last millenium. There is little else to say, except to extoll the virtues and draw shutters over the limitations.

A companion volume, entitled *A Guide to the Other Kind of Conservation*, is promised in the near future. This will deal exclusively with the hands-off approach to the discipline and will be copiously illustrated with graphs and tables.

Hugh Janus

### SOLITARY LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dead Sir,

The coverage of pure conservation science in your purported journal is extremely slight. We are not convinced that survey papers of possible applications or future directions make intellectually or practically sound reading. You need more experimental work with real, verifiable results. For instance, we have been experimenting with a unique, universal un-ionic union on or in an un-anionic or non-ionic unguent with considerable success at the Caughthold Institute. Should we publish this work in your journal, or should we seek publication in a reputable source like the *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation*, or even *Studies*? We feel that until your editorial policy is streamlined considerably and made more relevant, you are simply not a competitor.

Ed Norsiam  
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