

Miss Spaulding?) I mean you got a guy on the assembly line picking up his paycheck and there is a little envelope in it and he says, "Uh-oh, this looks 'official.'" He clearly is not happy and you can tell by the use of the word "official." On the other hand, when I get a piece of junk mail sent out bulk rate that says on it "_ O_ f_ f_ i_ c_ i_ a_ l notification" I tend to throw it out, but it is clear

THE MT VOID

Page 2

somebody thinks the word "official" demands some sort of respect.

Anyway, the usage becomes all the more mysterious in what I just heard on Evelyn's radio station. A brand of bottled water is now the "official water of the New York Marathon." Now I like water. In my recent run around Southeast Asia, I discovered I liked water a whole lot. After running around Malaysia and just pouring sweat out of my back and all over my shirt I really liked water. One of the people I was traveling with commented with awe and admiration, "You're a _ g_ o_ o_ d sweater." I would take a long drag on my bottle of water and think to myself, "Ah, a skillful blending of hydrogen and oxygen in just the proportions I like." But that is it. That is the water I like. Two parts hydrogen, one part oxygen. That one gets first place, second place, third place, and honorable mention. Its only serious competition is deuterium and as far as I am concerned it isn't even in the running since it is radioactive and also you wouldn't want to carry it around Southeast Asia because it is too heavy.

But now H2O has competition. Someone else is claiming to be the official water of the New York Marathon. I am not even sure what that means. Do you get thrown out if you drink something else? Are you disqualified for drinking the wrong water if you prefer H2O? Water is something basic. Do other marathons have official water? How long before someone starts selling tanks of SMOGGO, the official air of the new York Marathon?

Mark Leeper
MT 3D-441 957-5619
...mtgzy!leeper

A belief is not true because it is useful.
-- Henri Frederic Amiel