MINCING WORDS By James Collins

In our travels, and in our working environments, we run into interesting and memorable people. This short story is a compilation of the paragraphs and phrases initiated by a manager at the FAA. For purposes of disguise, we shall refer to him as Charlie Character.

Mr. Character, a senior-level manager at the FAA, had a medical condition, which caused him to intersperse words that he meant to say, with other words in his vocabulary. These other words or phrases were somehow related in his mind. When he was going to make a presentation or address a large meeting, there was always maximum attendance. People fought to get up close so they could hear firsthand the gaffes that he would generate. For years after the event, people repeated these stumbles, and a small collection evolved. I am taking this opportunity to present, in no particular order, the phrases that cause so much humor in the FAA.

- "I am up to my knee pits in work."
- "I give my left arm to be ambidextrous."
- "I'll meet you at 2 o'clock. We better simonize our watches."
- "I can't do anymore; I've only got two pairs of hands."
- "One of my men is sick. He's home in bed. He had a cute vagina attack."
- "Two heads are thicker than one."
- "Six of one... 12 of another."
- "It's bad out there; it's a blazing blizzard."
- "You can only kick a dead horse to death."
- "This is turned into a pone and doggie show."
- "You know that McDonald's and Burger King are in cannutes with each other."
- "He's able to use both hands he's ambidangerous."
- "He has to be careful. He has a damaged cartridge in his knee."
- "When your back is up against the wall, or you can do is turn around and run flatout."

I tried to obtain more of these hilarious statements but the person who had compiled a more extensive record had retired. I was unable to reach him.

THE END