

Fine, sympathy from the judge

Two men who wrote "horses smell better — BUG A UP" on a billboard poster were each fined \$235 and placed on 12 month good behavior bonds in Parramatta District Court yesterday.

Cradled in the arms of the law

Two juvenile wrongdoers had Queensland police scratching their heads yesterday.

A 7-year-old stole his parents' cheque book, made out a cheque for 60 cents and tried to cash it at his school tuck shop.

He was ticked off by the Juvenile Liaison Bureau and is now a free man.

Another seven-year-old stole a motor-cycle and tried to have it filled at a petrol station.

He, too, escaped with a stern rebuke.

A jury took almost three hours to find Neville Bruce Biffen, 31, technician, of Marne St, Vacluse and Geoffrey John Coleman, 23, research officer, of Foucart St, Rozelle, guilty of maliciously injuring a Marlboro cigarette advertisement, the property of Philip Morris Ltd, on January 6, 1981.

Imposing the fines, Judge Loveday said: "I have great sympathy for anyone who is crusading against cigarette smoking.

"As a person who believes that smoking has a deleterious effect on our community, I admire any person who does what he can to eradicate this problem.

"The commission of this crime is of the highest idealistic nature," he said.