



To The Editor:

To accept an argument I think you would agree that it inevitably becomes necessary for one to purchase the prime example given to drive home the major contention of a polemic. It is precisely here, however, that Will's proposition for "The World Role of the United States" (Nov., 1971) seems to fail.

Will gives us no criteria, beyond some examples, for making a decision as to when the "world role" of the U.S. righteously involves the use of force. He offers "no 'general theories' of international strategies and tactics" for this purpose. He decides, instead, to gain our faith in this by the examples of the war against Hitler, and by our intervention into Viet Nam. We are told these actions are at once of the same character, and thus are both positive examples of "extensive good works" abroad. But for this faith one must accept Will's contention that our military action in Viet Nam is "morally mandatory." Accordingly, we have no

moral options to our action there. If one is convinced so far, then the results of the war there provide us with a special "precedence in teaching nations how to live."

I would agree with Will that the Viet Nam war provides "general axioms of practical wisdom learned by personal coping" with this particular case of the exercise of our power. But in an ironic way. That is, to the opposite of what Will would try to convince me that the war there has shown. The results of the Viet Nam war do not disturb Will's rightful vision of our "manifest duty to use our great power on behalf of those principles we believe in." To make sense of such a statement, however, one must name the principle in question, an explanatory step that Will does not take. The results of the Viet Nam war have proved to me that the principle of *physically* intervening in the civil war of another nation (an action which anyone would agree we took in Viet Nam) is not an acceptable guideline to our world role. And by saying this I insist I am no less an advocate of the moral duty of great power to commit good deeds than Will is, but rather a more rational and heedful one.

Sincerely,  
Patrick Groff  
San Diego, California

To The Editor:

Back in '68 they told me if I voted for Hubert Humphrey the United States would move closer to a *detente*

with the Red Chinese and those Russians. They told me if I voted for Hubert Humphrey the government would have a tighter hold on the economy and our dollar might be devalued. They told me if I voted for Hubert Humphrey we would move closer to a minimum annual income and our great cities would be polluted with food stamps. They also told me if I voted for Hubert Humphrey that our sacred federal bureaucracies would be infested with key agents of the Council on Foreign Relations. All in all, I was told if I voted for Hubert Humphrey our country would move further down the path of socialism.

Well, darn it if they weren't right! I voted for Hubert Humphrey and it has all come to pass! I wonder whose big thumb has been on the trigger?

Reminiscently,  
Mort Hornsaw  
Gig Harbor, Washington 98335

To The Editor:

Bob Tyrrell's review of Columbia's Tchaikovsky album (*December Alternative*) was on the mark and necessary. Especially, necessary! For too long, the agents of Nut Cracker Suite have oligopolized Tchaikovsky sections of good record shops only to leave the effect of relegating one of Modern Music's three geniuses to a sentimental but nonappreciative position in listening land. Until now!

As for the other two Masters, Mahler and Sibelius, the former has been discovered by the contemporary musical establishment, by Everest Records. (Better renditions of his symphonies are being prepared by Columbia.) However, Johan Julius Christian Sibelius is still ignored. (i.e., the recording of his works are generally seedy, prepared only by minor league companies. The exception is London Sterio's Ricci adaption of Sibelius's *Violin Concerto* Longon Symphony Orchestra-Fjeldsta).

Part of Sibelius's raw treatment can be ascribed to a suspicion by ideological Disk-Studs of his Finnish patriotism which was, to be sure, complete and unabridged. Finns are tough people. They are brooding, melancholy, temperamental versions of the old Hungarian. (wit: How like Chopin is Sibelius on the piano!) Tempered in spirit by a history of oppression, they react with a fierce anger and a sensuous enjoyment which is more energetic than it is tender. As composers, they are in the Wagner class — albeit, Hungarians left us with, respectively, more fishermen and gypsies than music men. However, Sibelius waits to be appreciated, and I believe Bob Tyrrell is worthy of the task. *Rechtes Uber!*

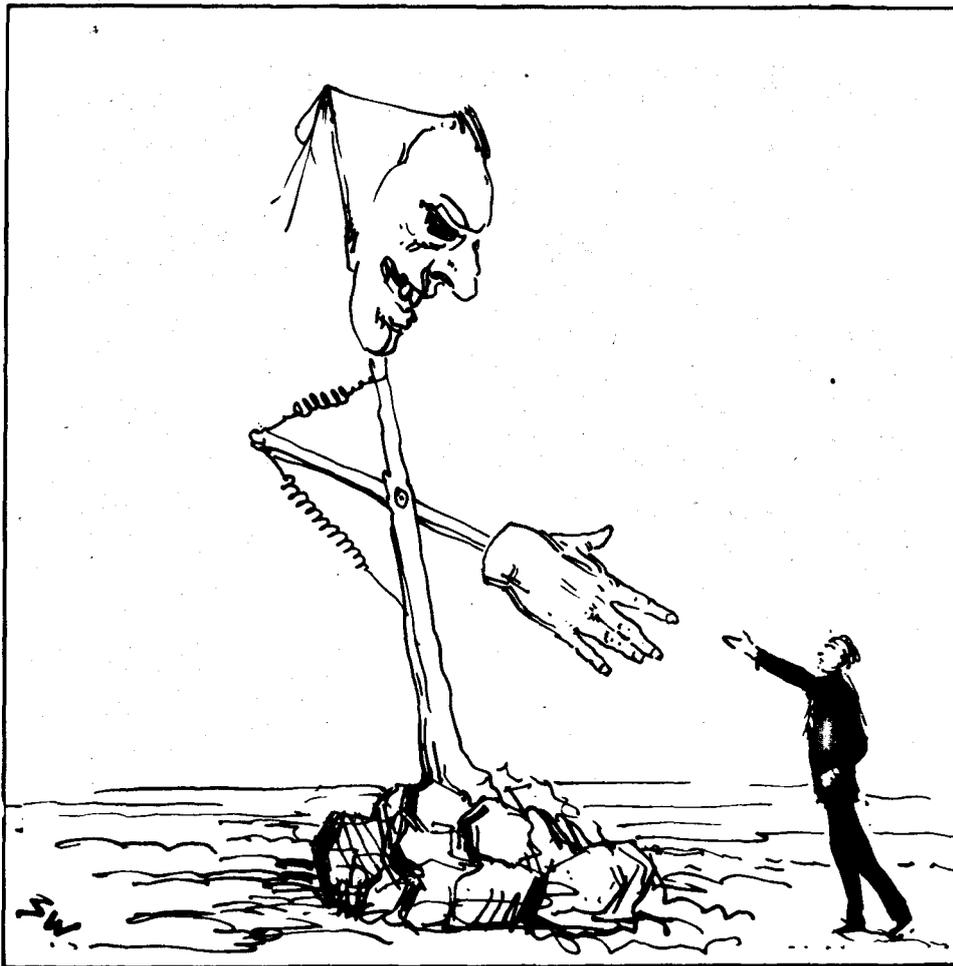
Ronald F. Docksai  
Flushing, U.S.A.

To The Editor:

I recently came in contact with your November issue of *The Alternative*. I found it a refreshing change from the usual.

I am anxiously awaiting your next issue.

Sincerely,  
Charles Wood  
Plymouth, New Hampshire 03264



A Political Machine

12,759 pages. It took Irish freedom fighters five days to murder their first British soldier of 1972. And in Toronto Mr. David Wilfred Todd was arrested for leaving his wife in a friend's meat freezer. Maurice Chevalier passed away as did Earl Dean who is still renowned for his 1915 invention of the Coca Cola bottle.

• History was made by the women's liberationists when Milwaukee's bureau of sanitation abandoned its prohibition against employing women to shovel snow. The National Organization of Women's Mrs. Roxey Bolton again demanded that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration refer to hurricanes as "him-icanes," to be named after men rather than women, as is the present custom. And the revolution came two steps closer to consummation when in a flush of traditional American idealism, Senator Jacob Javits and Rep. John McDonald nominated Barbara Jo Brimmer and Valerie Shoen to the Naval Academy.

• In education the University of New Mexico made headlines by expanding its Navajo language program — it now includes 66 students. Accompanied by his heavily armed wife, Stanford professor H. Bruce Franklin held a press conference to calmly discuss the university's surprising attempt to fire him. At the Pardeeville, Wisconsin annual watermelon eating championships a Chicago teacher spit a watermelon seed 37 feet, four inches to win the seed spitting event. And at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association Professor James Parsons, Ph.D. called upon "responsible and tough-minded scholars" to use psychedelic drugs to aid in their researches. Professor Parsons describes himself as an expert in Chinese bear paw consumption.

• Bella Abzug had a throat operation, and "Miss Nude America," Valerie Craft, was charged with indecent exposure in Evansville, Indiana. On 24 January an assortment of six religious and intellectual leaders led by the Very Rev. Philip Berrigan went on trial in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania where Berrigan told reporters his purpose was to attract attention. Bonny Bong, a monkey residing in Santa Barbara, California received a one week jail sentence for scratching. And humanitarians became edgy when word came from Kinshaasa, Zaire that President Mobuto has agreed to "liberate" the pygmies from their "wild state."

• But for the livable world crowd it was another catastrophic month. Two giant redwoods near Mill Valley, California assumed horizontal positions. Despite government promises to save the whooping cranes there remain only 59, two more than last year. Prospects dimmed for the endangered black-footed ferret of White Rock, South Dakota. The only two in captivity are males and anyone knowing the whereabouts of a female should contact Senator George McGovern. In the Everglades

rescuers toiled furiously to free a rare two legged musk snake trapped in a highway construction mishap. It later expired while being rushed to the Mayo Clinic. And though Shiek Mujibur Rahman was released from West Pakistan, the Radford, Virginia city council voted to kill an estimated 150,000 starlings — so taking one event with another there was adequate reason for gloom amongst ecology buffs. But the Associated Press got a chuckle on Mrs. Dorothy Irwin of Sylmar, California when it sent out a picture of her sitting dazedly before the pile of toothpicks that had been her house before it was shredded by a bulldozer sent to the wrong address.

• On 19 January David Hoffman of Bloomington, Indiana set out to break the world record for showering held by Peter Schell of Germany, and on 24 January President Nixon unveiled his third straight deficit budget dubbed by his colleagues as a full-employment budget. On the following day he announced that should the enemy agree to a cease fire throughout Indo-China, a prisoner exchange and internationally supervised elections open to all parties in South Vietnam, the United States would withdraw totally from South Vietnam within six months. The following day everyone, from James Reston to Senator Fulbright, agreed that Mr. Nixon's plan was a generous and thoughtful initiative. But no one, from Senator McGovern to Congressman McCloskey, thought it would be accepted by the enemy. They were right. The crisis sickens. □

#### EDITORIAL (continued from page 3)

1968 following was never reliable, and now like the locust it has moved on to the more bountiful corn of Pious George from the Prairies.

But Mr. Agnew seems to have more encouraging prospects. The media took it as a great surprise recently that President Nixon endorsed his place on the "winning team." Their astonishment when the obvious intruder into their smartly conceived dream world is never unexpected. It is not as though they have not bamboozled themselves before. Did they actually think that with the restiveness of the conservatives Mr. Nixon would cut his last thread with such a large ideological bloc? What other philosophical bloc will support him? Did they think that the only Republican with a grip on the affections of the blue collar workers would be expendable in an election year? Did they think that, in an election that is appearing to shape up as a test of truth in government, Mr. Nixon would discard one of the few men in public life who has distinguished himself even with his enemies as a man of candor?

I suspect that the President realizes that the media's antipathy toward Mr. Agnew derives not from his manners or from his criticism. What really arouses the media is that Mr. Agnew's speeches transcend mere legislation and suggest a wildly different view of man than that held by a majority of the press corps. Seeing men as flawed creatures, Mr. Agnew's view of man revives the view shared by our Found-

ing Fathers. It also seems to be the dimly perceived view of most Americans. Mr. Nixon knows this, and I expect his Vice President will remain on the national scene — at least until November of 1972.

R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr.

#### ACADEMIC DOGMA (continued from page 18)

Turks, old Turks and George Wallace have made it plain that the really fundamental academic dogma — intellectual neutrality — is a myth. When myths are called myths, they are about to be disposed of. So now the question is more fundamental: *power!* Who gets control of the only established church in America, the public school system? Who gets the toll which has shaped the minds of men in the last century?

If education is to be financed "democratically," i.e., through coercive taxation, and if the nation is really pluralist, how can the educational system reflect that pluralism without becoming multiply schizophrenic, then relativistic, then nihilistic, and finally a farce built upon a discarded myth? This, above all else, is the built-in dilemma of modern education.

This is why, in the final analysis, Nisbet's appeal is to a dead dogma. We cannot return to knowledge for its own sake, that old Greek ideal, unless we also return to the idea that knowledge must be built upon fundamental presuppositions, that these are ultimately religious in nature, that all men do not agree on these, and therefore, that serious education and serious scholarship will always offend someone or some group. To coerce them into financing any "uni"versity is to invite disaster. The tax-supported university is as a political issue; politics cannot be taken out of such a university; the university is like a church. Knowledge is power, whether you like it or not. Make those who want it pay for it. If you make everyone pay for it, the struggle for power will become increasingly intense as the tax base expands. In such political struggles, Hayek has warned in chapter ten of *The Road to Serdom*, the worst seem to get on top.

Education cannot be neutral. The state-financed Prussian universities in which the modern doctrine of academic freedom was born required such a neutrality dogma. A century later the result of that impossible dogma manifested itself: the German university of 1937. Indeed, it was the degradation of the academic dogma; the dogma is still degraded.

When the final ballots are in, we shall see if "them pointy-heads" command a majority, thus revising the academic dogma, if not in the minds of the relativists on the faculties then at least in the minds of the taxpayers. Personally, I'm not betting on the pointy-heads. The private universities and the private colleges may be in financial difficulty, but the politicians are willing to leave them alone. That, as this decade progresses, may become a singular blessing.

Gary North



# Brayings from the Barnyard

“Whom the gods destroy they first make mad.” Euripides

**ACLU REPORT, “THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION AND THE PRESS”**  
Report from a group of American Freedom Fighters regarding yet another U.S. atrocity:

There are some who say freedom of the press is now in the greatest degree of danger of being lost in America. There are some who say it is lost already.

**FREE OUR SISTERS**  
(A PAMPHLET OF REVOLUTION)

Another scholarly crusader for female idealism shows how vividly the Marxist perspective can elucidate the most baffling injustices and transform what could have been turgid prose into eloquence of a high order. Oh, Yahweh, that I might have a box seat for this glorious revolution!

What I want to get into is the whole question of contradictions. Women are surplus labor. When we go out and look for a job, we know that we're discriminated against. The question for us is, what are we going to do about it? What we have to figure out is how to work in our own particular ways. In other words, students are going to work one way, working-class women another way. ADC mothers are going to be into their own thing; there will be different forms of activity, “different strokes for different folks,” but that it fits together. This comes together into an objective movement that's real and beautiful. I think our strategy right now is to do those two things. Women should be in the movement as a whole. Imperialism affects us . . .

**THE HARVARD CRIMSON**

John K. Fairbank, noted scholar and master of moral wizardry, reports on the marvelous justice of history at work in the august parliament of nations:

The American defeat (in the U.N. voting) is what we deserve after 20 years of unrealism. It is unreal after 20 years to assume that Nationalist China represents the mainland....

**THE NEW REPUBLIC**

That high-grade political analysis we have come to expect from *The New Republic* reveals Senator Muskie's fatal flaw:

We waited so long for Senator Muskie's formal confession of candidacy that when it came we found we'd lost our appetite....We must confess also to having been distracted throughout the TV talk by the senator's left index finger, as it repeatedly rubbed the thumb of the hand that gripped the arm rest of a borrowed wing chair, set in that empty room in a Maine summer house that

had been opened for the big occasion. It was as if all impulse, spontaneity and anxiety had been compressed in that gnawing gesture.

Featuring incomparably sensitive in-depth reporting, the illustrious *New Republic* always informs its readers of those recondite matters which might appear trivial or nonsensical to less aware writers but which compose the chemistry of momentous events, as every practitioner of the New Journalism knows. Read on and judge for yourself:

The recent rumpus over the use and abuse of “background” news cannot be intelligibly discussed without reference to the toilet situation aboard Air Force One....Most of the people who travel on the President's plane ride in the staff compartment between his private quarters and the rear section. The only facility (toilet) available to them is opposite the space in the rear section where a press pool of five reporters and three photographers are seated. Mere rank, it must be understood, does not admit anybody on the plane to the President's territory. This means that Cabinet officers and staff assistants of high and low degree must either exert remarkable control or confront the pool reporters at some point during all but the shortest flights.

**THE NEW YORK POST**

Harriet Van Horne, recorded live at the New York State Mental Hospital:

We are losing our freedoms. We are losing them more rapidly, more insidiously during these Nixon years than at any time since the First World War. Professor Harriet Van Horne evinces proof that even the most awesome intellects are capable of fresh, spunky insights into our Dark Age:

We are experiencing a tyranny over the mind of man that is virtually without precedent in modern times.

**THE NEW YORK TIMES**

That very same newspaper which recently secured “the people's right to know” reports a current in the news which may have eluded your sniffings:

Among the churches with military stockholdings, according to the report on religious investment practices, are those that never have been vocal critics of the Viet Nam War and of the growing militarism in the United States. (emphasis added)

**SHAKE IT FOR THE WORLD**  
BY SEYMOUR KRIM, HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION OF THE WORLD

When an elegant intellectual's day-dreams turn to barroom brawls, no good can come of it. Stay off the hard

stuff, Seymour:

We need art that screams, roars, vomits, rages, goes mad, murders, rapes, commits every bloody and obscene act that it can to express only a shred of the human emotions that lie prisoner beneath the sanitary tiles here in Adman's Utopia.

**EARL WILSON, PH.D.**

Famed journalist, Mr. Earl Wilson, has written a penetrating new study, *The Show Business Nobody Knows*, which abounds with fascinating vignettes such as the following, which show not only the intellectual side of Hollywood culture but its wit and brilliance to boot:

Mitchum is a gifted conversationalist, though his close friends say he sometimes soars on great flights of oratory that they cannot follow. However, there are gems to be found if you can afford to wait. He was a radio writer, among other things, when he first went to Hollywood, and he often converses like a writer today — at other times he sounds more like a convict.

“The only difference between me and other actors is that I've spent more time in jail,” he once said. Once when he was being questioned seriously by some young fans about his art as an actor, he said, “People think I have an interesting walk — like John Wayne. Hell, man, I'm just trying to hold my gut in.” Hee hee hee.

**THE NATION**

The intelligent *Nation* asks one of those questions that have troubled men's minds down through the ages:

How has it come to pass that the Cochiti high desert is now envisioned with retired couples driving golf carts to the shuffleboard courts? And how does it happen that Art Linkletter's picture covers billboards near Pagosa Springs, Colo., that Chet Huntley's picture covers billboards near Bozeman, Mont., and that both are selling land with all the dignity of frontier snake doctors?

**THE NEW YORK TIMES**

James Reston

A selfless statement of lunacy spotted in the esteemed *Times* of New York one day before the sagacious nations of the U.N. paid “their debt” to America:

“Accordingly, the members of the United Nations, if they really want to have a representative U.N. that all nations need, and if they want to get some control over the sudden diplomacy and capricious demands of the Nixon Administration, owe America their opposition on the China question.”