



- February passed thus: on February 15 President Bill Clinton outlined his economic plan in a nationally televised address. On February 16 the stock market dropped 83 points.

- In religious news, Mr. Ronald Mason, Imperial Klaliff of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, has apologized to the United Methodist Church for the unauthorized appropriation by some of his Klansmen of the church's logo, which incorporates both cross and flame in an admittedly fierce symbol. In Mount Pleasant, Texas, city manager Mr. Clay Collins's superabundant curiosity has gotten him in hot water. He has had to resign his high post after admitting that he drilled a peephole between the men's and women's comfort stations in City Hall, and three female frequenters of the second floor toilet intend to pursue the matter in court lest the rogue "escape with a clean record." February witnessed a continuation of last month's outbreak of anti-Hinduism in New York State. Last month there were over 100 cows poisoned in Canastota, New York. This month the New York Department of Sanitation reported an outbreak of garbage truck thefts. More than eleven of the majestic machines have been filched since last August and vanished without a whiff. In Miami, a federal agent—still unidentified—arrested a Mexican zoo official who was attempting to smuggle a stolen gorilla from the United States. The agent had disguised himself in a gorilla suit and secreted himself in a cage, which Mr. Victor Bernal, 57, director of zoos and parks for the federal district of Mexico, intended to transport into Mexico until the disguised agent produced his credentials, causing Mr. Bernal to scream and attempt an ill-considered escape.

- With the most brilliant intellect since Jimmy Carter seated on the American throne, the realms of the American intelligentsia are in a veritable rapture of renaissance. Mr. Dick Kirby of Orchard Park, New York, bested defending cham-

pion Mr. Walter Parrott of Doe Run, Missouri, in the 17th annual National Wild Turkey Calling Championships. Sociology students at Franklin University, upon discovering Mr. Carnell Cobb and Miss Penny Rush cohabiting amorously in a common trash bin, pitched in and paid for the couple to have a church marriage and honeymoon before returning to the garbage bin. The marriage was performed by the Rev. Harry Anthony, a 45-year-old student and man of the cloth. Whilst the newlyweds were on holiday, their garbage bin was emptied and refilled three times, assuring the couple of a fresh supply of greens and piquant fragrances. Yet pockets of Republican benightedness remain. Just before the beginning of Black History Week at Williams College, it was discovered that anti-black slurs scribbled on the entryway of Williams College's Black Student Union were actually the work not of Whitey but of Mr. Gilbert Moore, Jr., a student of color. Mr. Moore was suspended from the school despite his indignant protests that he had clandestinely posted the epithets as part of a class project for his course on anarchism. The Black Student Union that exploited the slurs for days after being notified that they were the work of a fellow black has also been placed under a white cloud. Finally, the National Endowment for the Arts can forget about receiving grant proposals from Mr. Fred Kennedy Glenn, the admired practitioner of the postmodern plastic arts. Mr. Glenn's career was put on hold after police in Atlanta, Georgia, charged him with involuntary manslaughter in connection with the death of Miss Sophia Pastel, a 33-year-old transsexual. Mr. Glenn was injecting silicone purchased from an auto supply store into the callipygian Miss Pastel so as to enlarge her shapely buttocks when she suddenly and without warning croaked.

- On February 5, Congress passed Bill Clinton's family leave bill, and Dr. Aaron R. Folsom of the University of Minnesota

School of Public Health reported that women's waist-hip ratio is a more accurate indicator of a woman's longevity than the more commonly used height-weight calculation, and the former measurement is a great way to meet girls. Secretary of State Warren Christopher (not to be confused with Christopher Warren) declared that the United States would use "the full weight of American diplomacy" to assuage conflict in Bosnia, whereupon he flew to Beirut and seemed to have disappeared completely by the end of the month. Secretary of Defense Les Aspin entered the hospital complaining of chest pains. At Berkeley, that undergraduate Adonis who had immobilized campus authorities by padding the campus stark naked in protest of "social repression" was finally expelled thanks to the ongoing evolution of Liberalism. Originally Liberal devotion to free expression restrained campus authorities from suggesting that the naked student even wear a deodorant. But now neurotic feminists' complaints of sexual harassment have superseded free expression as a Liberal value and so the authorities expelled their tormentor for sexual harassment. Once again we see that the only enduring Liberal political value is not freedom, not order, but disturbing one's neighbor—in this case, the Naked Neighbor.

- In Ottawa, Ontario, the United Church of Canada suspended the Rev. Christopher Bowen for posing naked and turgid for a homosexual magazine. The Rev. Bowen's suspension is for six months, during which he is to undergo psychological tests. Prayer was not mentioned. NBC admitted that it had furtively set off incendiary devices beneath a General Motors truck to demonstrate the combustibility of GM gas tanks. The National Cancer Institute released a study suggesting that lesbians have a higher incidence of breast cancer, in part because of their well-known contempt for mammograms and many other forms of modern communication. After his failures in nominating Mrs. Zoe Baird and

Judge Kimba Wood as attorney general, President Clinton tendered the name of Miss Janet Reno, a Florida prosecutor with a decidedly more conventional life-style. She is nulliparous, and in no need of nannies. In another nasty skirmish in the battle between the sexes, a Frenchman successfully had his girlfriend indicted for poisoning him after she, an AIDS carrier, inadvertently infected him with the HIV virus during a session of "tough love." Mr. Arthur Ashe died of AIDS contracted from a blood transfusion. Two paragons of the Imperial Judiciary perished: Judges Gerhard Gesell, 82, and David Bazelon, 83. Both died of natural causes. And in Perugia, Italy, Mr. Ferruccio Lamborghini, 76, builder of luxury speedsters, shuffled off this mortal coil.

• The condom cabal suffered a grievous setback when New York City Public Schools Chancellor Joseph Fernandez was let go by the New York Board of Education on February 10. Yet the evangelists of the sex manual, the condom, and children-of-the-rainbow zoo sex were greeted by some good news in chill February. Fifty-eight-year-old Dr. Joycelyn Elders is coming to Washington as President Clinton's Surgeon General, and she is bringing her "Ozark Rubber Plant" with her. The aforementioned educational device is, in truth, an ugly floral design sprouting condoms from its stalks, which this insufferable windbag has kept on her desk at the Arkansas Health Department. There she has been health director for five years, presiding over a staff of 2,600, duds who can boast the second-highest infant mortality rate of any state, the sixth-highest rate of primary and secondary syphilis, the twelfth-highest rate of gonorrhea, and a dozen other health calamities too disgusting to mention. Through all these years no photographer has ever managed to snap a picture of Dr. Elders with her mouth shut. A note attached to her Rubber Plant reads "Blooms mostly at night. Blooms vary in length, depending on owner. Blooms may wilt in chilly atmosphere." When Dr. Elders does take up her safe sex campaign in Washington, do not be surprised if she imports from Russia Mr. Boris Zolotov, the respected faith healer. He has been traveling Russia instigating orgasms in Russian women that carry with them no threat of communicable disease or impregnation. He uses mental telepathy, fills a room with Russian cuties, asks "Who wants an orgasm?" and through powerful dirty

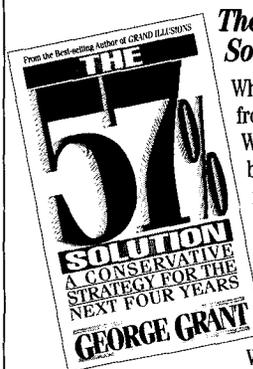
thoughts of the utmost cogency brings the women to climax without ever touching their persons.

• *Crisis*, the journal of lay Catholic opinion, observed its tenth anniversary and made Mr. Michael Novak editor-in chief. At the end of the month the largest, most high-spirited, national meeting ever of the Conservative Political Action Conference awarded *The American Spectator* its accolade for journalistic excellence. Why the high spirits? Well,

there is confusion in the Republic. President Clinton is raising taxes to assuage the federal deficit and raising spending to jump-start an economy now growing at 5 percent. As for his Co-President, boasting of her exquisite concern for the nation's health, she is banning smoking from the White House and urging the admission to our shores of immigrants infected with the AIDS virus. Happy Days are here again!

—RET

Where Do We Go From Here?

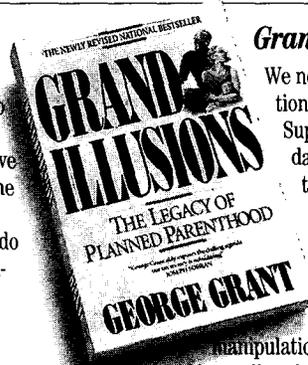


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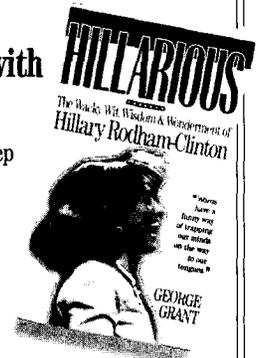
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All You Can't Eat

Sandy Hume's gustatory guide to Clinton's Washington was informative ("All You Can Eat," *TAS*, February 1993), but I believe the President, his Partner, and the American people also have a right to know about the innovative McDonald's at 1909 K Street, N.W.—waddling distance from the White House.

During Inauguration Week, this McDonald's introduced a new sandwich called the MegaMac. The MegaMac has the same infrastructure as the Big Mac, but it replaces the Big Mac's flimsy beef wafers with two strapping quarter-pound patties. The 1909 K St. McDonald's also has done something right for our times by reinventing the french fry. The technique is a closely guarded secret, but the chefs at 1909 K have devised a way to engorge their fries with nearly three times as much grease as the average amount at other McDonald's outlets. Elvis Presley would not be in Heaven today had it not been for similarly innovative restaurateurs in Memphis.

I hope you'll give 1909 K Street's break-the-mold McDonald's its rightful place among today's profiles in the courage to change. —*Joseph P. Duggan*
Washington, D.C.

Man in the Grey Flannel Suit

Enjoyed as usual your cover on the February issue, done by David Turner, of the new secretary of state, Warren Christopher.

I was surprised, however, that Christopher was not pictured in his light grey worsted or medium grey flannel suits, often with white stripes and wide lapels, which make him stand out in a sea of navy-blue suits like something out of the Eisenhower era.

So far, it looked to me like that's all he stands out on, but Daniel Wattenberg's article enlightened me on his mediocre record as a "Hard-Line Appeaser."

—*Hanna D. Maynard*
South Pasadena, Florida

Holy Cow!

Regarding Grover Norquist's "The Real Mandate" (*TAS*, February 1993): I admit Mr. Norquist writes from a tax-question perspective. In spite of that viewpoint, to

ignore the results of the election in Iowa when considering what "winds" are blowing is regrettable.

In Iowa, the only state considering an Equal Rights Amendment, President Clinton won quite handily while the ERA lost. This in spite of a flood of out-of-state "Mother's Milk of Politics," i.e., money, at the close of the campaign.

—*Harry D. Oakley*
Holstein, Iowa

Grass Tactics

"Clinical depression" is how Tim Ferguson describes the demeanor of conservatives in California as a result of the 1992 election (" . . . And I'll Cry if I Want to," *TAS*, January 1993). He raises the question whether these results can be interpreted as a rejection of conservative values by the voters.

My answer is that it is too soon to throw in the sponge. Having walked precincts and spoken to civic and church groups on behalf of candidates and initiative propositions, I have the impression that the electorate has a solid conservative element in it. Why, then, did it vote against Republican candidates and propositions? Probably because the electorate was confused about complex issues and its perplexity made it vulnerable to manipulation of symbols over substance.

It is important to understand that Governor Pete Wilson's welfare-cutting Proposition 165 was not perceived as a referendum on liberal-socialist values. The size and complexity of that proposition allowed it to be easily misrepresented as (1) a power grab by the governor, and (2) a mean-spirited turning of one's back on the poor.

Church lobbies were especially influenced by this latter image. For example, the Catholic bishops of California were persuaded by their lobbying organization in Sacramento (the California Catholic Conference) to order that a statement in opposition be read from the pulpit of every Catholic parish throughout the state on the grounds that Prop. 165 was a rejection of the poor. Pro-life organizations also recommended a "no" vote on Prop. 165, perceiving it as a logical extension of Governor Wilson's policy to promote abortion as a way of reducing welfare pay-

ments. Pro-life opposition could hardly be attributed to liberal-socialist conviction.

Ferguson did not comment on another ballot measure, Proposition 161, which would have allowed *any* medical professional to administer euthanasia to terminal patients. As extreme as it was, this proposition began the campaign season ahead (80–20 percent) in the polls, largely because of voter misperception. It was defeated, 60-40, due in part to a spirited grassroots campaign. . . .

The election of 1992 was an unusual one, in which many perturbations obscure the reading of possible underlying trends. One such trend might be the persistence and growing influence of activists motivated by Christian convictions. Bruce Herschensohn won their support, owing to his forthright pro-life, pro-family stand. He is not a photogenic candidate, yet he came from way behind to a dead heat on election eve against a candidate who was lionized and sanitized by a cheerleader press establishment. John Seymour, in contrast, with "moderate" Republican plumage, with Governor Wilson's blessing, and with a vociferous "pro-choice" stance, was never close to beating his opponent. . . .

—*Lawrence Scrivani*
Cupertino, California

I found Tim Ferguson's article interesting, but there were a couple of important omissions.

The first omission was the real impact of the Bush campaign, which cost us eleven GOP legislators (starting with Herschensohn). The Bush campaign was a drag on the ticket (when it was not invisible). Bush-Quayle '92 mined money out of California and spent it other places, which made this state a two-man race between Clinton and Perot. This freed the California Democratic party to focus on the tasks of registration and turnout, and it did its best job in decades. The TV news in the San Francisco Bay Area brazenly broadcast video clips of activists rounding up homeless people to go in, register, and fill out absentee ballots, using Clinton as carrot and Proposition 165 as stick. This explains the figure of 6 points used by

(continued on page 70)