

## The Ring-tum Phi

Washington and Lee University's Twice-Weekly Newspaper

Friday, February 9, 1968

### Symposium Week

The nine days between Feb. 7 and 15 this year ought to have been called Symposium Week. Not only have we been treated to the annual IFC-sponsored CONTACT Symposium, but beginning on Tuesday of next week the Glasgow Endowment Committee will present a three-day literary symposium on "Approaches to Shakespeare." All of this, naturally enough, set us to thinking on the subject of symposiums, or more particularly, symposiums at W&L.

This year's CONTACT program was, as always, beautifully planned and executed; the eminence and variety of the speakers if anything even surpasses CONTACT's performances in the past. But it is to the Glasgow Committee that W&L owes special thanks this year for restoring some balance to the aims and subjects of what has been called "the symposium experience."

CONTACT was conceived in 1964 with the avowed purpose of offering "varying viewpoints and approaches to an overall intellectual problem." It has certainly achieved that aim in the four years since then. CONTACT is undoubtedly one of the best intellectual symposiums around—alas. Since 1965, when it took a socio-economic-political look at "The American Experience"; through 1966, when it took a socio-economic-political view of "The City"; and into 1967, when it took a socio-economic-political view of "The Crumbling Establishment," CONTACT has exhibited a depressing socio-economic-political sameness as to topic. Now, in 1968, if it is true that we have succeeded in dispensing with the sociology and sociological economics, we still have the politics with "What's New, Pachyderm?"

Now, we have absolutely no objection to any of these fields of knowledge. The topics which have been covered by CONTACT are such that they cannot help but be of pressing interest to any thinking student—for that matter, to any thinking American. Certainly the discussion of such subjects is a valid function of an intellectual symposium. It is not, however, the only function.

It has been argued that these topics appeal to a larger percentage of the student body than do other topics, and (adds the cynic) that attendance is bad even then. This is a distortion of the intellectual aims which CONTACT professes to further. We are not dealing here with a quantitative matter. CONTACT is not a Broadway play. Success is not measured by the size of the crowd. This would seem to be an obvious point. It is so far from being so that during last year's fraternity-administration tussle the low attendance of CONTACT could actually be used as proof that students in general are anti-intellectual. This is preposterous. There are a very large number of persons at this school—serious students, with serious intellectual commitments—who do not go to CONTACT simply because they do not want to hear another four days of sociology, sociological economics, and politics. Yet at a school which calls itself a liberal arts institution, they run the risk of being called anti-intellectual.

That is why our special admiration and gratitude goes to the Glasgow Endowment Committee—for having the courage and good sense to recognize that Shakespeare can be as important, as exciting, and as crucial to our times as "What's New, Pachyderm?"; and for undertaking a three-day seminar with the full realization that it will not attract a crowd as large as CONTACT's.

The Glasgow Committee has made the first step in the right direction. We hope, in fact, that it will be possible for them to maintain a yearly seminar of this nature in the future, either in place of or as a supplement to the writer-in-residence program which the Committee has traditionally sponsored.

Unfortunately, we cannot look to the Glasgow Committee for much more than such initial encouragement as it is giving by holding the Shakespeare symposium. By the terms of the Glasgow Endowment, the Committee is limited to sponsoring programs which encourage literary ends. It is therefore up to CONTACT to remedy its own shortcomings and present a really varied series of topics in the coming years. Why not a symposium on modern music for 1969? Some of the major modern composers, folk singers, blue singers, etc., would be no more difficult to obtain than Mr. Goldwater. Or perhaps a look at modern art? Or at modern theater (led by Richard Schechner, who attracted so much attention here in October). Or history. Or philosophy. Or modern poetry. Or mathematics. Or any of the sciences.

None of this should be construed as an attack on the admirable concept and institution that CONTACT is. But perhaps a new look is needed at CONTACT's original purpose: "to offer varying viewpoints and approaches to an overall intellectual problem." That problem is not to be found only in sociology and politics, but in any field of knowledge where there are men doing new and important things. That field and those men belong at CONTACT.

## The Ring-tum Phi

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8 P.M. Tonight in Evans Dining Hall

# The Pros and Cons of Goldwater

## Melnik: Pro

By W. WILLIAM MELNYK

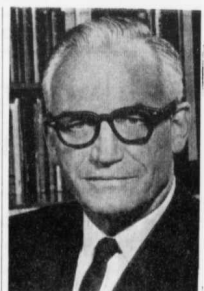
Kenneth Paul Shores, the distinguished Canadian liberal with whom I am sure our leftist colleagues on campus are acquainted, has commented that "we are observing the nascent and growth of what bids fair to become as astonishingly popular indigenous American sport called giggling at Barry Goldwater."

To paraphrase California's Governor Ronald Reagan, the trouble with our liberal friends is not that they are ignorant, it's that they know so much that isn't so. For if the liberal establishment believes it won a decisive victory in 1964, it is sadly mistaken.

They beat Barry Goldwater four years ago, but the fact so often overlooked is that the Goldwater campaign created a grass roots movement so great in size and dedication as to virtually assure a Republican victory this November. A new Republican Party emerged from the defeat in 1964. A party with direction, purpose, and support. And it was Barry Goldwater, with the aid of his vitriolic leftist antagonists, who was primarily responsible for that rejuvenation.

### Best Fund Raiser

It is well known that Goldwater has been the best fund-raiser the party has ever had, and in 1964 his campaign received hundreds of thousands of contributions in five dollar amounts and under. For the first time, the Republican Party was able to obtain considerable grass roots financial support in, five or ten dollars at a time, in, five or ten dollars at a time, in response to the Goldwater philosophy and the Goldwater image.



As a result, the Republicans will enter the '68 campaign with their biggest war chest in history. And the money will have come from what has been traditionally considered Democratic territory: John Q. Average American.

But more important than money, Goldwater has been responsible for a tremendous increase in manpower. All those members of Youth for Goldwater, Citizens for Goldwater-Miller, and the dozens of other ad hoc organizations, did not, dear liberals, disappear into the woodwork on 4 November 1964. They joined the ranks of the Republican Party to continue their crusade, and here is where grass roots support for the GOP is most impressive. Gone are the days of non-ideological Republican "Me Too-ism." These new supporters are young, enthusiastic, and above all dedicated to the belief that Barry Goldwater was right.

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## Dunbar: Con

By ROBERT DUNBAR

Today our little community is being graced with the presence of one of this country's most colorful performers, the Hon. Barry M. Goldwater. It has been more than three years since this man represented the Republican Party in the most recent presidential election. And during the past couple of years, Mr. Goldwater's audience has become quite aware of, perhaps, an even more colorful conservative in the person of William F. Buckley Jr.

All this is not to imply that Mr. Goldwater has been inactive since his defeat in '64, but rather to point out that his image in the minds of most Americans is probably fairly faint.

For this reason I would like to consider the character of our distinguished guest.

### Ambassador Was a Chimp

First, he is amusing. Yes, Barry has a wonderful sense of humor which, no doubt, helped him land the GOP nomination in '64.

After being nominated by Washington's Alalfa Club in their mock "national convention," Mr. Goldwater delivered an acceptance speech in which he said the following: "I don't want to seem critical. But our first ambassador in space was a chimp. And so far he's the only one in the State Department who hasn't made a mistake."

And at the same time, Mr. Goldwater is very casual. He is an excellent speaker who quickly captivates his audience by such realizations of his potential as President as this: "I would be grateful if I said that I was fully qualified for the office. I seldom play golf."

### "Where are you from?"

This leads us to a very important facet of Barry's character—he is honest. Mr. Goldwater is really quite a political satirist, something quite unusual for a politician. He is a political realist who "tells it like it is."

Thus his comment about our government: "How is it that our government did better against General Giap than they did against Cuba?" And he gave us an indication of what his state-of-the-union message might be like: "For example, I'm going to propose a constitutional amendment

## Letters To The Editor . . .

To the Editor:

In commenting upon the recent visit of former Vice-President Richard Nixon, it would seem that he treated the campus to a preview of the new Nixon campaign style. Relaxed and well poised, he delighted his audience with his references to "Doc's," "going down the road," and the nationally publicized mock convention. Other comments, however, in a speech billed as "nonpolitical" opened the door to controversy. Mr. Nixon deplored the peace movement in the United States and attempted to place the blame for the continuing war upon the dissenters. If there were only unity, he exclaims, then we could quickly clean this thing up and keep the communists in North Vietnam. Somehow that sounds like a familiar refrain that has been sounded somewhere else before.

In discussing the role of the United States in the world today, Mr. Nixon brushed aside the nation's misgivings about the war. In his view, our mission is to save the world from communism. The problem with this view is that it can not be achieved by placing the United States in the role of world policeman endowed with sweeping powers to maintain order throughout the universe. Those who ascribe to this view talk about the responsibilities of power, but in Sen. Fulbright's view, it should more appropriately be called "the arrogance of power." It presents a flattering self-portrait, but one totally out of tune with the realities of the twentieth century. If the United States once possessed such power, it was the product of a time we can not now recall. The determination of people to chart their own destiny, which is expressed in rising nationalism, and the emergence of nuclear power in the other world, are realities that American foreign policy can no longer ignore, even if Mr. Nixon chooses to do so.

In addition, the conflict in Vietnam can not be reduced to the simple formula of the United States vs. World Communism. This convention ignores the nationalistic element in the struggle, the unpopular and undemocratic government in Saigon, the destruction of the Vietnamese countryside, and the displacement of thousands of refugees. Mr. Nixon insists that the debate here is on secondary issues, but it is deeper than that. It goes to the nature of the threat and the means employed to deal with that threat. This is what the dissent is all about. Our actions abroad can not be reconciled with our traditional values. The dissenters are telling us that we must create a role for ourselves that is compatible with our traditional values. If we are fighting to preserve democratic institutions, then we had better inform some of our allies who are operating without much regard for the freedom

America says we are defending in the world. It is a sad spectacle. From Latin America where the military in charge, to Africa where supposedly idealist regimes are as totalitarian as their military counterparts, to Greece, the cradle of democracy, where the colonels rule unchallenged, the reality of the U.S. dilemma is made plain.

How can we police the world when events abroad are beyond our control, and even more importantly when our own cities are unsafe and shun infested? Our primary responsibility is to keep this nation strong, and not to embark on grand adventures abroad. The world has little need for a new imperial power, but there is a great need for moral leadership. Secretary McNamara has said that "The decisive factor for a powerful nation, already armed, is the character of its relationship with the world." Our mission is not to impose our will by force, but to lead the free world by example at home and compromises abroad. Mr. Nixon showed no real awareness of the difficult and painful problems involved. The best that can be said about his performance is that it was a new Nixon with superb stagecraft, but singing the same old song of unadmitted hard line anti-communism, spiced with euphemisms and patriotic exhortations.

Sincerely,  
Leslie Smith, Jr.  
Law '69.

Dear Sir:

An excerpt from an article by staff writer Richard Corrigan on the editorial page of the Washington Post reads: "The students, young men who were too young for the first grade when Nixon became Vice-President of the country, received him with loud applause. Only one hostile question, from an anti-war student up in the balcony, was uttered during his hour long appearance, and that was met with hisses and frowns and rollings of eyes."

"Washington and Lee, in Lexington, Va., is an old school (founded in 1749) with old school ways, having a radical contingent that would fit in a Volkswagen."

A similar reaction occurred when a student questioned W&L's coat and tie tradition. The [Tuesday] Ring-tum Phi asserted that the majority of students wear coats and ties, and since the student in question had matriculated at W&L he should have accepted the tradition of coats and ties.

Any threat of change to the system is looked upon with contempt and derision. The "old school" ways are perfect. Any student with a dissenting opinion is radical and furthermore wrong. Keep up the good work, fellas. After all W&L is "fat city," is it not?

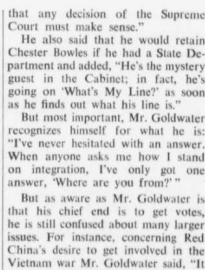
Yours Truly,  
Ray Antonacci

that any decision of the Supreme Court must make sense."

He also said that he would retain Chester Bowles if he had a State Department and added, "He's the mystery guest in the Cabinet; in fact, he's going on 'What's My Line?' as soon as he finds out what his line is."

But most important, Mr. Goldwater recognizes himself for what he is: "I've never hesitated with an answer. When anyone asks me how I stand on integration, I've only got one answer, 'Where are you from?'"

But as aware as Mr. Goldwater is that his chief end is to get votes, he is still confused about many larger issues. For instance, concerning Red China's desire to get involved in the Vietnam war Mr. Goldwater said, "It



is on this point that I think Americans need a real thorough education, on China... I don't think Red China wants any part of the war. I don't think Peiping would come into this war under any circumstances."

No, Mr. Goldwater, it is you who need a better education on China! Almost two years before Mr. Goldwater came out with this statement, the Red Chinese had assured for themselves a more direct link with the Viet Cong by inviting delegates from South Vietnam's National Liberation Front to establish a permanent headquarters in Peking.

"59 cents a head"  
I feel that quote mention of Mr. Goldwater's personal life is necessary.

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## Army Lieutenant Gives Views Of Man Behind Man With the Gun

By LT. LOCK HANDLEY, III

(Editor's note: Lt. Handley, now serving in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, is a past editor of the Ring-tum Phi. He graduated from W&L in 1966).

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. This is Henry Portent, your correspondent in Vietnam, with this week's Seventeenth Special Documentary feature on the progress of the war.

As a change from the usual war movies, this show will focus on the daily life of an obscure second lieutenant doing an unnoticed but rather trivial job in a secondary supply dump, thereby shedding light on the problems of those using heroes, the Support Troops. I know you would rather see war movies, but hell, a man could get shot out there.

### Lt. X

So here we see our subject, Lt. X, about halfway up the second sand dune from the left. Grubby, isn't he? . . . notice that he appears to have been walking through mud up to his knees. This is because he has been walking through mud up to his knees. After all, it has been raining for a solid week, which is why the picture is so lousy.

Here he is arriving at his office, which as you can see used to be a packing crate. It used to contain poncho liners, a very popular item with the troops in Vietnam. See that hole in the bottom left corner, about three inches across? No, it was not made by VC bullets, but by some enterprising serviceman, who then removed through it about three-quarters of the contents. No challenge is too great for Americans at war!

There are our hero's clerks, a basically lousy bunch though surly and demoralized. Notice how well furnished the office is, despite its rough exterior. All the supplies for fifteen thousand troops come into this depot. Some even go out again.

And here comes the first truck of the day! Decisively, Lt. X opens one eye and points at a hapless clerk, who snarfs, picks up paper and pencil, and sinks out into the rain.

This monster approaching the camera is a Rough Terrain Fork Lift. Lt.

X is using sign language to tell PFC Smith, who is more or less driving, where to put the stuff. PFC Smith generally drops every third box and runs over two others trying to pick it up again. His grace and skill have been compared to that of a drunken water buffalo.

### Specialist Brown

There goes our lieutenant to the main office for a cup of coffee, water dripping off the end of his nose. Here he is complaining to Specialist Brown about the quality of the coffee. Brown is making insouciant remarks to Lt. X in reply. The men are always making insolent remarks to Lt. X, who doesn't seem to know quite what to do about it.

This is Major Y, over at battalion headquarters. See how military he looks? Aren't his boots shiny? Major Y has what is known as a desk job, which means that he doesn't walk around in mud up to his knees much. Instead he calls our hero up to complain about his clerks' handwriting. Major Y likes nice neat handwriting.

Here is Lt. X again. He seems to be irritated, but possibly he is dropping kicking that wastebasket around the office to keep in shape.

Say, Lt. X, isn't it time for lun . . . where'd he go?

Here he is standing in the show line. When he gets to the head there will be pot roast and dehydrated potatoes again. This will irritate him.

### Mail Line

And this is the mail line. He won't have any mail. This is fully as predictable as the pot roast and dehydrated potatoes, but it will run his day nonetheless.

Well, back to work for Lt. X. Notice that the mud is now halfway up his thighs.

Our hero is nervous. He is pacing up and down.

And here comes the reason. Lt. Col. Z, the battalion commander, six feet two inches of rock-hard, West Point-trained, battle-tested keen-minded pain in the neck. He is taking Lt. X on a walk around the area.

Here comes our hero back again. See how pale he looks? All his hands are trembling.

What can be on this truck that

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