

September 28, 1965

Dr. Revilo P. Oliver
701 Ohio Street
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Revilo:

Just a short note to tell you how thoroughly I enjoyed your review of Singer's A THEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION OF AMERICAN HISTORY in the current American Opinion. Humanism, of course, is the "religion" of Walter Lippmann and Corliss Lamont, of whom the latter is a big wheel in the American Humanist Association.

I was quite fascinated by what you wrote about the Transcendentalists and the Secret Six. Obviously the Illuminati were at work in this country at the time and most probably exerting their influence through Hegelian groups like the St. Louis Movement and the Concord School of Philosophy. They were also working through the more rabid Abolitionist groups. I am inclined to believe that Horace Greeley, founder of the New York Tribune (in 1841), was an Illuminati. Margaret Fuller, his literary editor (1841-46), had also been editor of the Dial, organ of the Transcendentalists. She went to London in 1846, met Mazzini there, then went to Italy where she took part in the abortive Roman Revolution in 1848. Mazzini, of course, belonged to the same international conspiracy Marx belonged to and shuttled back and forth between London, Paris, Switzerland and Italy. He was a kind of Italian Lenin who never made good. Margaret Fuller, of course, died in a shipwreck with her Italian husband who had made her a Marquesa, while returning to the U.S. Greeley, as we know, was a great admirer of John Brown. He had peculiar people writing for his newspaper, like Karl Marx.

The St. Louis Movement is particularly interesting. It was founded by William Torrey Harris, a believer in Phrenology who had been converted to Hegelianism by Bronson Alcott. As Superintendent of schools in St. Louis, he founded the Journal of Speculative Philosophy and gathered around him a group of Hegelian "scholars" including Henry C. Brokmeyer, Denton J. Snider, John G. Woerner (who took part in the 1848 revolution in Germany and wrote for Greeley's Tribune) and Thomas Davidson, the "itinerant scholar" who just happened to found the Fabian Socialist movement in London in 1883. Harris became U.S. Commissioner of Education in 1889. "He labored especially to place education upon a psychological basis." Before that, however, he had moved from St. Louis to Concord, Mass., where he founded the Concord School of Philosophy. The St. Louis Movement begins in 1867. Just a few threads which might help us weave the larger fabric.

I have just finished reading Prof. Robison's PROOFS OF A CONSPIRACY, which I think we would to reprint in a paperback edition. Would you be agreeable to doing an Introduction to this new edition?

The other day, while in New York, I went through a copy of Henry Dana Ward's FREE MASONRY (New York, 1828) in which he quotes Adam Weishaupt at length to demonstrate the evil intent of the Illuminati (actually, he was quoting Robison's earlier book). I culled out a few quotes which I think will interest you.

The first is from a letter from Spartacus to Cato (Weishaupt to Zwack) dated February 6, 1778:

"At last, the trust-worthy alone will be admitted to a participation of the whole maxims and political constitution of the order. In a council composed of such members, we shall labour at the contrivance of means to drive, by degrees, the enemies of reason, and of humanity, out of the world, and to establish a peculiar morality and religion, fitted for the great society of mankind." (my emphasis)

I wonder if that is where Graham Wallas got ~~his~~ his ~~the~~ the book.

The next two quotes I jotted down at random from the book:

"No man is fit for our order who is not a Brutus or a Cateline, and is not ready to go every length."

"The seed is sown whence shall spring a new world; . . . perhaps it may be necessary to wait thousands and thousands of years"

So, according to the present rate of events, the conspiracy is doing much better than Weishaupt ever dreamed possible.

As you can surmise from the letterhead, I have joined Western Islands in the capacity of Editor. I once suggested to you that we put together a collection of your essays. Now that I am here, I hope to be able to get onto that project soon.

With kindest personal regards to you and Grace, I remain,

Cordially,

Samuel L. Blumenfeld

P.S. Please excuse the messiness of this letter. They have, as yet, not been able to get a secretary for me. So, I just sat down and started typing . . .

REVILO PENDLETON OLIVER
701 OHIO STREET
URBANA, ILLINOIS

15 October 1965.

Dear Sam:

Many thanks for your letter of the twenty-eighth of last month and the observations and quotations therein.

The great difficulty, of course, is that of distinguishing between conspiratorial organizations (i.e., founded as cover or front for members or penetrated and controlled by members), mere rackets to milk superstitious suckers, and theological oddities (e.g., the Muggletonians). Among the latter, my favorite sect is the group of English Protestants in Holland in the early Seventeenth Century who neatly painted themselves into a corner by discovering that:

1. Only those who are properly baptized can be Saved;
2. Baptism can be effectively performed only by a person who has been himself properly baptized and Saved;
3. The rite of baptism must therefore be performed by a person whose authority is transmitted from John the Baptist;
4. John performed the rite in Hebrew, the language which God understands;
5. But there is no living Christian who was baptized in Hebrew;
6. Therefore there is no living person entitled to administer baptism;
7. Whence it follows that all us guys are damned forever, and there ain't a damned thing we can do about it.

I doubt that Proofs of a Conspiracy is quite what Mr. Welch would want Western Islands to publish. If he should want to publish it, and should want me to do an introduction, I would write it.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

March 31, 1966

Dr. Revilo P. Oliver
701 Ohio Street
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Revilo:

I wish you would reconsider your forthcoming participation in the Fifteenth Annual National Congress of Freedom in Shreveport on April 14, 15, and 16. I understand that you will be sharing the platform with Richard Cotten, Ned Touchstone of The Councilor, and Opal Tanner White of The Cross and the Flag.

As you know, we are in the middle of a fierce battle with the ADL, which has just issued a new paperback book about our alleged anti-Semitism.

There is no doubt in my mind that they will use your appearance at the above-mentioned meeting as a further means to discredit us. This is just the kind of ammunition they have been hoping to get, since their case against us is such a flimsy one. I do hope, therefore, that you will reconsider your participation in that affair.

Incidentally, congratulations of your superb review of the Pohlovsky Papers. I haven't read the book yet, but couldn't help thinking when it appeared that Doubleday wouldn't be caught dead doing anything to upset "peaceful coexistence."

With kindest regards to yourself and Grace,

Cordially,

Samuel L. Blumenfeld

P.S. Our American Opinion hasn't come yet. Don't know why not. Our P.O. seems ok most of the time - So the article on Toynebee was oked? I thought it sure ventilated the hypocrite.

Mrs. R. P. Oliver

701 Ohio Street

Urbana, Illinois

26 May 63

Dear Mr. Blumenfeld -

Your good letter of 22 May has awaited RPO's return from "the world of the writer" as well as a recent jaunt to speak near St. Louis. He will bring the MSS, as well as me, to N.Y. and how about telephoning you after arriving on Fri (a.m. I think). We are being housed at the Waldorf-A. so I suppose you could leave a message there as to the best time to reach you. ^{Will call your home or office if no special message.} Miss McCloskey may have some arrangements made for ^{us} now & then but there will be some time somewhere for (1) me to ~~get~~ get my hair combed and (2) him to see you. I hope (1) and (2) do not coincide, as I'd like to talk with you too - or, rather, listen in on your conversation with Peirls; I learn more hearing him talk to others than I do talking to him myself or reading. And so I am blessed! And look forward to seeing you - à bientôt! Cordially

Grace Oliver