



TO OUR READERS: A NEW WORLDVIEW

There's going to be a change in your *Worldview*. It will happen in January. We hope you will like it. We believe you will.

First, the bare bones. Beginning with the issue of January, 1972, *Worldview* will become a monthly journal of approximately sixty to seventy pages. To signal that momentous change there will be a new format and design. And to make that change possible, there will be additional editorial and secretarial staff. *Worldview* will also have a distinguished editorial board made up of people who have made and are making contributions in their various fields: political theory, social ethics, history, sociology, theology, economics, and practical politics.

But, will these bones live? For they are only the necessary mechanics of this new venture. The real question for our readers is how these bones will be fleshed out, what the additional mechanics will accomplish. Why at this time, when many journals are collapsing and expiring, does *Worldview* attempt to extend its thrust and influence?

The basic reason *Worldview* is expanding is that the editors have faith in the work in which it is involved. We believe that what is changing America and the world goes deeper than the political, military, economic and social problems screaming across the headlines and airwaves. We are in the midst of deep cultural shifts which are reshaping the very ethical and religious values which underlie social reality. It is the purpose of *Worldview* to probe, to examine and occasionally to criticize or applaud these changes, these shifts. *Worldview* grapples with the policy *and* the premise, the *is* *and* the ought of public issues, trying to define the vital links between American interests and American obligations, between world politics and moral imperatives.

As all of us have learned by now, incomplete analyses can, in the play of power and politics, lead to disastrous consequences. *Worldview* aims to sharpen the analysis that shapes the action. How? By lively debate and deliberate dialogue. Factions and partisan politics are essential to change, but even ideologues now recognize the need to talk with those of opposing views. *Worldview* attempts to bring together within its pages the best expression of these differing views and attempts, further, to relate these views to the political, cultural and religious traditions from which they spring.

On a number of important fronts, *Worldview* is swimming against the tide. At a time when, according to a recent Roper poll, almost 65% of the American people believe the United States has lost its sense of direction, *Worldview* asserts a strong faith in the traditions which have provided that sense

of direction in the past—and can do so again. At a time when the present use of American power is the object of much indiscriminate criticism and abuse, *Worldview* subjects American power to a discriminating moral and political critique. At a time when religious and moral traditions are being rejected, criticized, abandoned—not without some reason—*Worldview* insists upon the present value and pertinence of these traditions. It is not an easy road that *Worldview* is traveling; it is, on the contrary, very demanding. It is also very exciting. We intend to make it even more so.

How do we plan to do this? How will the expansion of the journal affect the content—and the influence—of the journal?

We will not give up anything that is now included in the journal. We will still offer the kind and variety of articles to which you have responded favorably in the past. But we will be able to do much more. Many readers of *Worldview* indicated on the questionnaire they were recently asked to return to us that they would like a number of things the journal does not, cannot, now provide: longer articles, more book reviews, more correspondence, and wider coverage. These wishes and desires exactly correspond with the desires of the editor. He has frequently been frustrated by having to reject exciting and well-considered articles that were simply too long for a journal of this size. And we have been hampered editorially by having to limit the number of articles and letters that come to us from other countries.

The new *Worldview* will be able to add longer

articles that will dig deeper into the issues being discussed, and it will have a correspondence column adequate to the response that thoughtful and controversial articles provoke. It will offer sound judgments on more and a wider range of books than it now can, and it will comment, when appropriate, on the impact of other media, including the movies.

In addition, the new *Worldview* will solicit more views from other countries. Our focus will be on America and the use of its power, but the use of that power sometimes looks quite different from overseas. These views we will bring into an ongoing discussion and debate within the pages of the journal.

All of this is simply descriptive and fails to communicate the enthusiasm and excitement of the new editorial board of *Worldview*. For all things in this world there is a time—a time for birth and a time for death, a time for assertion and a time for quiescence. We believe that this is the time for *Worldview*—a time to make a much needed contribution in the vexed area of morality and politics, of religion and international affairs.

To our present list of contributors, now familiar to you as readers, we are adding a number of new writers: some well-known and some yet to be known, some well-established and some yet developing their views, some older and some younger. What they have in common, however, is a good grasp of what they discuss, a passionate concern, and an ability to write well, with you as a reader in mind—that is, clearly and interestingly.

THE NEW WORLDVIEW FROM OUR READERS

The new, extended editorial board hopes that you will continue with us on the demanding and exciting path that we are following. At more than three times the present size of the journal, the new *Worldview* will be considerably less than three times the price. Our new subscription rate will be \$10 for one year; \$18 for two years; \$25 for three years.

For our *present* subscribers only, we offer a one-year renewal for \$7. No matter when you are due to renew your subscription, next month or a year from next month, May or December, you can renew it now at this special rate. We are making this offer with the hope that you will respond to it favorably. Please, *now*, use the sub-

scription card bound into this issue. Send it with your check or simply send it with the direction to bill you later. This special offer cannot be extended to new subscriptions and will not be repeated next year.

We believe that if you renew now at the special rate of \$7 for one year you will be pleased with your decision. We know we, the editors, will be. The extension of *Worldview* is based less upon present finances—which are meager—than upon faith in the total venture. At this point much of our faith is invested in our readers. Please do respond to this invitation to the new *Worldview*.

J.F.