bankrupt Social Security system, they exempted themselves and instituted a private retirement plan. It's only been since 1983 that *new* members of Congress and Federal workers have been brought under Social Security. They've known all along that the system cannot compete with private retirement plans. Why then do they support it for the general public?: It's a way of guaranteeing a certain number of votes every year. To vote against Social Security is political suicide.

Public education is a similar political football. The National Education Association (NEA) is one of the most powerful political lobbying groups in the nation. Some have called it the fourth political party behind the Democrats, Republicans, and the Media. The NEA uses its long political arm to force an anti-Christian agenda on the American people and then promotes it through a pagan curriculum. Parents are effectively shut out.

Are the private schools better? Yes! Isn't the NEA for quality education? Not necessarily. They want control. They know that they cannot control thousands of independent schools, so they work to outlaw private education that does not come under the forceful hand of the State bureaucratic structure that the NEA had a hand in putting into office.

The NEA works to elect political candidates that fit their social agenda. The NEA supports abortion on demand, homosexual rights, the ERA, unilateral disarmament, sex education without moral restraint, and a whole host of concepts that most parents would and do abhor. Education has effectively been taken from parents and turned over to people who do not have the best interests of our children in mind.

The American Enterprise study will be ignored or explained away by the NEA. The actions of public school teachers, however, is comment enough.

Whose Constitution? An Inquiry into the Limits of Constitutional Interpretation

"Ultimately what is at stake, as the title suggests, is whose constitution will govern this country. Will it be the written document drafted by the Framers, ratified by the people, and passed down, with amendments, to us? Or will it be an illusive parchment upon which modern-day judges may freely engrave their own political and sociological preferences?

"[F]or the Framers, the fact that the Constitution was in writing was not merely incidental. They recognized that a written constitution provides the most stable basis for the rule of law, upon which liberty and justice ultimately depend. As Thomas Jefferson observed, 'Our peculiar security is in the possession of a written constitution. Let us not make it a blank paper by construction.'

"The rule of law is fundamental in our society. To be effective, it cannot be tossed to and fro by each new sociological wind."

The above excerpted remarks were made by J. Clifford Wallace, judge of the United States Court of Appeals. You can receive the full text of of Judge Wallace's remarks by writing to, *IMPRIMIS*, Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan 49242.

Christian Bashing: Part II

The "Myth" of Secular Humanism

Judge Brevard Hand's decision in the Alabama textbook case sent shock waves through the liberal establishment. Of course, the general public does not know what to make of the whole thing. Those individuals in positions of influence use this ignorance to their own advantage. The tactic is to pretend that an enemy does not exist, and those in opposition are doing nothing more than "tilting at windmills." Those opposed to "secular humanism" are portrayed as buffoons who look for evil under every rock.

This tactic is best illustrated by those who propose unilateral disarmament. For them, the Soviet Union is a misunderstood nation. The Soviet leadership does not want to rid the world of the anti-Marxist views of the United States. How is it that we can describe the Soviet Union as an "evil empire"? They want to be our friends. We are told that the reason the Soviets are aggressively extending their Communist dogma through force is because they feel threatened by the West, specifically the United States. The shooting down of an airliner that killed 269 innocent passengers, one of whom was *Congressman* Lawrence P. McDonald, is explained away. We're told that the Soviets felt "threatened" by the airliner's "intrusion" into their air space. We should be more understanding. Their response was like that of a wounded lioness using all the means at her disposal to defend her cubs. You see, even with a civilian airliner, we are the aggressors. There is no "enemy" out there. Sorrowfully, the general public often falls for this propaganda. Krushchev once said, "we spit in their face and they call it dew."

Since 1917, 56 countries have fallen to the communist empire. Forty one nations have fallen since 1945. Since the secularists have had control of the government schools, nearly three generations of young people have not heard how Armenia fell in 1920 and Surinam fell in 1982. History is ignored and forgotten to perpetuate the myth of Soviet non-aggression. The

same tactic is followed by the secularists when it comes to espousing their own ideology. We are told that humanism actually is the ideology that brought us out of the Dark Ages. What they don't tell us is that humanism gave birth to Marxism, Stalinism, and Nazism. Of course, the slaughter of millions of unborn babies world-wide goes unnoticed by those who are humanism's loyal defenders.

One letter to the editor of a national weekly magazine fell for the humanists' trap. The religious elements of secular humanism are thought to be a myth. It is unthinkable that there could ever be such a hideous belief system. The secularists have done a good job of pulling the wool over the eyes of deceived Americans. I feel more pity than anger for this person.

> U.S. District Judge W. Brevard Hand has ruled that 45 textbooks used in the Alabama public schools promote the "religion of secular humanism." Some religion! Secular humanism has no deities, prophets, clergy, sacred writings, hymns, creeds or churches. Nor does it have the myth of creation or afterlife. Indeed, secular means "not religious." Hand has used up years of valuable court time, wasted thousands of dollars in judicial costs and thrown the school of an entire state into turmoil over a case that turns on a contradiction in terms.

Is secular humanism a religion? Paul Kurtz, in the Preface to the *Humanist Manifestos*, writes that

> Humanism is a philosophical, *religious*, and moral point of view as old as human civilization itself. It has its roots in classical China, Greece, and Rome; it is expressed in the Renaissance and the Enlightenment, in the scientific revolution, and in the twentieth century. . . .
>
> In 1933 a group of thirty-four liberal humanists in the United States defined and enunciated the philosophical and *religious* principles that seemed to them fundamental (Buffalo, NY: Prometheus Books, 1973, p. 3.)

In another place Paul Kurtz, as editor of *Free Inquiry*, states that "The organized humanist movement in America is put in a quandary; for the Fellowship of Religious Humanists (300 members), the American Ethical Union (3,000 members), and the Society for humanistic Judaism (4,000 members) consider themselves to be religious" (*Free Inquiry*, Winter 1986/87, p. 5).

Notice too that Mr. Kurtz describes these principles as "fundamental." Humanists are secular fundamentalists. While Christian fundamentalists subscribe to biblical fundamentals of the faith, humanist fundamentalists subscribe to man-centered fundamentals.

The best way to counter the charge that secular humanism is no threat is by answering the charges made by those who believe secular humanism is a myth:

- "Secular humanism has no deities": For the secular humanist, man is his own God. I have a letter from a lawyer who wrote that, as a secular humanist, he is his "own god." The *Humanist Manifesto II* states that "no deity will save us; we must save ourselves." One of the attributes of deity is the ability to save.
- Secular humanism has no "prophets": Consider some of the signers of the 1973 *Humanist Manifesto*. Brand Blanshard, Antony Flew, and Sidney Hook could be considered humanistic prophets in the area of philosophy. Then there are Gunnar Myrdal, a Swedish "prophet" in the area of economics, B.F. Skinner, the "prophet" of modern behavioral psychology, and one of the "prophets" of the feminist movement, Betty Friedan.
- Secular humanism has no "clergy": You will probably find more secular humanists in clerical garb than you will in the scientific field. Henry Emerson Fosdick, former pastor of an American Baptist Convention affiliated church, referred to in the December 1974 issue of *American Baptist Magazine* as the most distinguished preacher of this century, had this to say about the virgin birth: "Of course I do not believe in the virgin birth or in that old-fashioned substitutionary doctrine of the atonement, and I do not know any intelligent minister who does" (Personal letter to Mr. W. B. Barnhart, Harrisburg, PA; January 31, 1954).
- Secular humanism has no "sacred writings": Here we could have a field day. Nearly every field of knowledge has at least one book that is revered as a "sacred writing": the bible of humanistic psychologists and psychiatrists, Sigmund Freud's *A General Introduction to Psychoanalysis*; the bible of evolutionary thought, Charles Darwin's *The Origin of Species*; the bible of modern statist education, John Dewey's *Democracy and Education*; and the bible of economic theory and practice since the mid-1930s, John Maynard Keynes' *General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money* (1930).
- Secular humanism has no "hymns": Of course, there is Frank Sinatra's "I Did It My Way" and Helen Reddy's "I am Woman." In fact, I heard one young humanist sing "A Mighty Fortress is our Man." Much, if not all, of Rock music is a veritable treasure of humanistic hymnology.
- Secular humanism has no "creeds": This is so obvious as to be laughable. The two editions of the *Humanist Manifesto* are written in creedal form. The most recent issue states: "We *believe*. . . that traditional dogmatic or authoritarian religions that place revelation, God, ritual, or creed above human needs and experience do a disservice to the human species" The word "believe" comes from the Latin word *credo* from which we get the word creed. Every humanistic organization has some creed that members must subscribe to. To be an atheist, one must *believe* there is no God. John Dewey's "Pedagogic Creed" begins with, "I believe that -- education is the fundamental method of social progress."
- Secular humanism has no "churches": The public schools are used as churches by the secular humanists. Horace Mann's philosophy is summed up in a 1972 biography: "What the church had