

March 12, 1962

Professor Francis Wormuth  
University of Utah  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Professor Wormuth:

Staudinger has made your review of Political Justice available to me. It is the first review which showed that the reviewer understood what I wanted to convey. Justice Douglas in the Washington Post read me a lecture on my colossal misunderstanding of the first Amendment in general and Learned Hand in special. Cahn of New York University in the New York Times played the parlor game trick of the American liberals: how can you be so cruel to have no passions? Moreover if something is disagreeable why not better deny its existence, and therefore goes on discussing the impossibility of drawing a boundary line between political and criminal justice, at the example of some cases which I did not discuss. Unnecessary to say that I am more than grateful for your excellent analysis of my endeavor which so exactly describes what I wanted to accomplish. I knew beforehand that you would think the job worthwhile to do; I am proud that you are of the opinion that I achieved my goal.

Unfortunately there are many printing and spelling mistakes in the book, some the fault of the press some my own. Doubtlessly you noticed some of them; I therefore take the liberty to enclose an errata sheet.

I was very sorry to hear that you could not come to the school at least for a year. I tried to get them a decent replacement which is not easy. Columbia is a big place and I don't feel quite at home there, but the students don't seem to mind my unorthodox ways.

I hope to have an opportunity to talk to you one of these days. With many many thanks and kindest regards

Sincerely yours,

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
SALT LAKE CITY

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
ORSON SPENCER HALL  
ROOM 252

April 5, 1962

Dear Otto,

I am glad you liked the review. It did not fairly represent the proportions of the book, but I believe it was a fair report of the purpose and merits.

It was inevitable that the book be misunderstood. This happens to anyone who tries to do anything novel. Of my own much more modest effort at reinterpretation Chester Barnard said that it was evidently a college textbook, too difficult perhaps for undergraduate students but at the right level for upperclass students. Only one reviewer identified the purpose: he said severely that this

was not what we were taught in school.

Nevertheless your book will have a real impact. I have already reorganized my constitutional law course in these terms; it was a bitter pill for a conceptualist like me to swallow, but I swallowed it. And I have started a Ph.D. candidate on a thesis on the crime of "social dissolution." The Commercial Decisions in the United States make sense in no other terms.

I am sure that other reflective people will begin immediately to incorporate your contributions in their teaching and research.

I like the New School but I am sure they could not and should not pay me what I would need to justify a move; and my wife refuses to live in New York. My position here has improved so materially that I fear I shall never be able to move; this is a pity, for I want to return to the East.

Yours,  
Francis D. Woodworth