

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Tentative Suggestions, ...

Mann, Klaus

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Tentative Suggestions,

as a basis of discussion between the respective editorial staffs and the business managers of the two magazines, Free World and Decision, with regard to a closer collaboration between the two organizations.

Reasons which make this contact desirable and organic:

The far-reaching conformity in the political purposes and the general attitude of both organizations;
both magazines are the only ones in this country to represent a definite cosmopolitan, super-national outlook;
many writers appear simultaneously on the Editorial Board or the contributors' list of both periodicals: President Edward Benes, Thomas Mann, Freda Kirchwey and Max Ascoli (all of whom are members of both editorial boards;) Count Carlo Sforza, G.A. Borgese, Alvarez Del Vayo, Robert Sherwood, and many others whose names are connected with both enterprises.

The basic difference between our respective approaches:

Free World is an essentially political magazine, whereas Decision is primarily devoted to creative writing and problems of a more general moral or scientific nature.

This basic difference excludes any possibility of competition between the two magazines.

Decision tries to be in the sphere of literature what Free World wants to become as a political organ.

Practical forms of collaboration:

Needless to say that both magazines are to maintain their complete independence financially as well as editorial.

What I propose is a clear definition of our respective spheres of interest and a productive coordination of our editorial policies.

Free World and Decision, both serving the same ideals with different means, must not repeat or contradict each other, but rather ought to integrate and to complete one another.

Decision may ~~renounce~~ certain political topics the discussion of which we had been considering - for instance, the problem of post-war Reconstruction. We would leave the general political aspects of this comprehensive theme to the contributors of Free World and content ourselves with the specifically cultural and intellectual implications.

Similar schemes of co-operation may prove feasible in other connections as well.

If the editors of Free World wish to devote a special issue, or a series of articles, to any particular sector of international politics - say, the problems of the Scandinavian countries, or the Balkans, or the Dutch Empire - Decision could deal with the same matter from a different, i.e. literary, angle - by presenting an anthology of Scandinavian writings or an essay on cultural conditions in Java.

Decision could become a mouthpiece of certain literary groups connected with the political movements represented by Free World - Czech writers close to the circle of Dr. Benes, Italian anti-Fascists, the literary speakers of Free France, the exiled Spanish intelligentsia, the various Austrian and German refugee groups, etc.

It may be advisable that the respective editors of the two magazines meet at least once a month to exchange their projects and opinions.

will have own material on political subjects that has been gathered to us by the editors of F.W. but, may exchange lit. papers

There are, of course, many ways to emphasize and to intensify the correspondence of our views and interests. To mention only a few of these technical possibilities:

the two magazines could exchange every month space to announce one another's current or forthcoming publications;

an exchange of mailing lists could be considered;

the Free World Association could reserve a certain amount of radio time for the discussion of literary matters which would be handled by ~~Decision~~ a representative of Decision;

Decision could devote its September editorial to the aims and ~~and~~ activities of Free World;

a scheme might be worked out offering combined subscriptions to the two magazines on a special rate. I would consider it most desirable to have The Nation participate in such a scheme: Free World would be thus offered either in combination with Decision or The Nation or both. These subscription offers could be circulated by direct mail and through the medium of our respective magazines - if possible also in The Nation. The formulation of these business proposals may serve as an opportunity to stress our moral and political solidarity.

The editors of Decision may even consider to refer to this essential solidarity in form of a subtitle appearing on our front page. I would have no objection to presenting Decision as a "literary organ" of Free World, even if our contact is to remain so non-committal as both parties involved are planning and desiring it.

I have discussed these matters with the members of my editorial staff as well as well as with Mr. M. A. Miss F. K., Mr. W. A., Mr. A. D. V., and Mr. Dolowitz. I would like to continue these conversations and proposals. I think that a group of interested people (including the names mentioned above) may meet in the near future. This would also be the natural opportunity to inform the editors and possibly the editorial staff of F. W. in the editorial and prospects of D. Things in this