

MAR 7 1974 • NYTimes

## On Criticizing a Nixon Critic

To the Editor:

Your Feb. 27 editorial "Questionable Questions" was wrong and gave an unfortunate inch to a man who will use it for a mile.

Miss McClendon's manners may need improving, but that is an insignificant matter, compared with the well-documented series of atrocious attacks on our nation's ideals by the man she criticized face to face.

Your newspaper has laudably been in the forefront of the steady, remorseless, logical countdown of the enormous scope of rascality which has been robbing our country of its good name apparently from the day this White House incumbent first darkened—I use that word advisedly—its door; to lend him comfort by castigating a fearless member of the press is splitting hairs to a nit-picking degree.

Beware a woman scorned! Let the good lady continue her spleen against the right one, not turn it on you to destroy a most useful enemy of the enemies of our land.

ROBERT T. PHILLIPS  
Chatham Township, N. J., Feb. 27, 1974