

Reaction Against "Librul" Bigotry

One of the most interesting and perhaps significant books of the year is "God and Man at Yale," by William F. Buckley, Jr., who was graduated from that venerable university with the Class of 1950. Young Buckley takes his alma mater "to pieces." These are his principal charges:

Yale, which was dedicated to the service of God when it was founded in 1701, has become a place where religion is flouted and ridiculed in the classrooms.

Yale, which has always been a citadel of liberty and American patriotism (it has produced many heroes, among them Nathan Hale) is in the hands of socialists and collectivists who are doing their best to undermine our institutions.

"Academic freedom" has become a fetish with blind or indifferent administrators who permit faculty members to use this as a cloak to cover subversive indoctrination of the young men of Yale with anti-religious and anti-capitalistic and un-American dogmas.

What is happening at Yale is happening at most of the major universities in the United States, endowed or state-supported.

Having read the book with some care, and also some of the critiques of it by competent reviewers (some of them Yale men who know the place), let us say immediately that in our opinion young Buckley presents a distorted picture. Emotional feelings have guided his selection of many of the facts and citations with which his book is documented.

(The title of Buckley's book is evidently a paraphrase of the old slogan "For God, for Country and For Yale" which Harvard's sharp-tongued Copeland used to say was "the greatest anti-climax ever phrased by man.")

Nevertheless, the book is worth reading, far beyond the confines of "the Yale family" because it is a sincere effort by a very young man to describe his reactions to some of the prevailing educational patterns. Buckley himself may be on the fanatic side, but he does not stoop to any of the "smear tactics" employed by the Chicago Tribune, the Zell crowd and many others who have been attacking the public schools and colleges.

So far as we can discover, this is not the vengeful outburst of a young man who was slighted or ignored during his college years. On the contrary he was editor-in-chief of the Yale Daily News, class orator, a member of the famous Torch club and Skull and Bones. He was "BMOC." His first attacks on the "academic patterns" were made in the editorial rooms of the News and he provoked stimulating debates pro and con. He was a good editor.

This book is worth careful consid-

Eisenhower Makes Himself Available

At last Eisenhower's "hat is in the ring." This is not surprising. For many months his posture has been one of receptivity. He has, however, cleared the air as to his political preference. After a lifetime of political neutrality in the Army, he casts his lot with the Republicans. In our view, this is a great break for the Republicans and bad news for the Democrats. This ends the long search of the GOP for an inspiring name. It leaves the Democratic Party with Truman, barring the discovery of some magnificent champion between now and convention time.

The Republican nomination, however, is not "in the bag" for Eisenhower. As Republicans go, Eisenhower classifies as "a liberal" and there is a powerful faction in the Republican Party which wants no truck with any "liberal." Already Eisenhower is a target along with General Marshall in the smear campaign which is being conducted by the China lobby and other reactionary groups. There are many possibilities and even probabilities.

MacArthur fans may interpret Eisenhower's bid as laying down the bars for military men and that may create a strong demand for MacArthur.

Taft supporters are not likely to be cordial to the newcomer who offers to grab the plum for which Senator Taft has been striving for so many years.

Eisenhower's statement that he will not campaign actively for the nomination will be the first point of attack by his opponents.

We happen to be among those who like and admire this position. There are

eration in every university community because it presents the reactions of a young man, deeply religious (apparently hard-shelled Presbyterian, although we have been unable to ascertain his affiliations), deeply patriotic who came back from war to enter Yale and found his four years there rather shattering to some of his illusions. We can hear some good friends saying:

"What's wrong with that? That's what a college education is for—to make a man think, to make him question all of the stereotyped beliefs and assumptions about the kind of world he lives in and about himself in relation to this world."

We'll "buy that." We'd hate to see students shielded from any of the cruel facts of life, kept in ignorance of the great storms which rock the world "outside." We'd hate to see them "stamped and stenciled." The college years are a time for challenge and selection.

The thing we see in this book is the beginning of a rather healthy opposition and antagonism to what we would describe as an OVERBEARING LIBERALISM. It had its parallel some 40 years ago in youthful rebellion against an OVERBEARING CONSERVATISM in most of our schools. It is a protest against the BAD MANNERS and INTOLERANCE, the one-sidedness of many of our professional and professing liberals.

The danger of young Buckley's book is that it will be taken as a sort of text for the forces of violent and retributive reaction. One reviewer (Frank D. Ashburn in SRL) says:

"Torquemada, reincarnated in his early twenties, with all his benefactions in posse, is a fascinating figure, even though the lineaments are faintly reminiscent of George D. Gundelfinger. This book is one which has the glow and appeal of a fiery cross on the hillside at night. There will undoubtedly be robbed figures who gather to it, but the hoods will not be academic. They cover the face."

Education becomes sterile where teachers are forbidden to be apostles and to speak freely those things which they deeply believe. It becomes equally sterile where the teacher becomes a bigot, intolerant and sneering at any other belief. Education is a search for truth, through the exchange of knowledge and experience. The dissenter is not always a crook or a dunce.

We see this book as raising a warning sign against the bigotry and bad manners of those many liberals, whom we call "libruls" who flatter themselves that they have found the only truth.

many who feel that "the office should seek the man." Eisenhower has a long record of achievement which, to our way of thinking, is sufficient evidence of his fitness for a presidential nomination. However, this is not the way professional politicians think. Old political race horses have a habit of announcing:

"My friends have persuaded me to run. I am in the hands of my friends."

This is usually a lot of bologna. The candidate is usually as busy as a bird dog trying to scout out a few friends and he usually does this by proliferous promising. Eisenhower indicates that he may stay on his job in Europe and actually leave the entire primary and pre-convention campaigning to his friends. This entails certain dangers.

1. Unless his promoters have a very tight organization all kinds of loose statements may be made in his behalf.
2. If there is a tight organization there will be a wall that he is the stooge for a tight little gang.

It will be almost impossible for Eisenhower to remain out of sight and say nothing. It will be necessary for him to make certain minimum statements to clarify his position and inform the voters as to where he stands on the most urgent issues of our times. There may come a point where it will be fitting for him to resign his European command.

This will be one of the most interesting campaigns in many years. The wheels within wheels have only begun to revolve.

Marquis Childs

Ike's Bid Turns On Bright Light

WASHINGTON — The status of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower as a candidate for the Republican nomination for president—and no one can any longer doubt that he is a candidate—has been put in a clearer light. Furthermore, the Eisenhower organization has in the past ten days been greatly strengthened.



CHILDs

A tough-minded realist in that organization is saying confidentially that if the Republican convention were to be held tomorrow, Senator Robert Taft would have about 400 delegates on the first ballot and Eisenhower about an equal number. This would not be enough to nominate and an open fight would then be on.

One consequence of the changes of the past ten days is that the Eisenhower organization will be prepared to make an effective bid for support when the Republican national committee meets in San Francisco next week. Present in Eisenhower's behalf will be such loyal and active supporters as Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., official head of the movement, and Sen. James Duff of Pennsylvania.

But also hard at work at San Francisco will be some back-room boys who know a lot about the practical business of GOP politics. One will be Herbert Brownell, campaign manager for Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and a veteran of the hard-bolled Dewey organization. Another will be J. Russell Sprague, Republican national committeeman from New York. These two will work as a team, with the resourceful Brownell, a New York lawyer, in the background.

THE ORGANIZATION

Finance chairman of the national Eisenhower organization is to be Howard C. Petersen, Philadelphia lawyer and banker who was assistant secretary of war at the end of World War II. An able Dewey man, Thomas Stevens, will direct Eisenhower headquarters in New York, which in all probability will become the focus of the drive for the nomination.

Directing the formation of Eisenhower-for-president clubs throughout the country is Arthur H. Vandenberg Jr., son of the late senator from Michigan. Vandenberg has told friends that he is giving up any political ambitions of his own so he can devote full time to the Eisenhower movement. He will be assisted by one of the ablest public relations experts in the country.

The fact of an Army regulation specifically forbidding any form of political activity, whether direct or indirect, for officers on active duty raises some interesting questions bearing not only on Eisenhower but on Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Until Eisenhower retires from his SHAPE command in Europe—his close associates do not expect this now until May—and specifically requests inactive status, he will be bound by the regulation.

AND MACARTHUR?

So far as the records show, MacArthur has never asked for retirement or inactive status and the defense department therefore shows him on "active duty with no assignment." Technically he is assigned to the "chief of staff with station in New York."

The rank of five-star general is so new, and the law creating it so broadly drawn, that where the powers, privileges and perquisites begin and end is uncertain. But the Army regulation approved in November, 1950, and amended in May and again in October of last year, seems to close the door on all political activity. Paragraph 17 of that regulation says:

"Members of the Army while on active duty will not use their official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the course or outcome thereof. Such persons while on active duty retain the right to vote; to express their opinions privately and informally on all political subjects and candidates. . . .

"They will not be permitted to participate in any way in political management or political campaigns. The foregoing prohibition includes activity at political conventions or on political committees, participation in political campaigns; the making of political speeches; the publication of articles or any other public activity looking to the influencing of an election or the solicitation of votes for themselves or others. . . .

The regulation provides that a member of the Army who retires may become an active candidate for office. Or he may accept nomination after it is tendered to him without his solicitation.

Both in the Pentagon and at the White House there has been discussion of the fact that MacArthur wore his uniform while making public speeches that by a broad definition were political. This illustrates one of the touchy issues bound to arise when politics and generals are mixed. It is a new development in our political life and one that deserves the closest scrutiny.

SO THEY SAY—

The net gain was zero. We are back on page one, paragraph one. This is where we came in.—Rear Adm. R. E. Libby, at a recent Korean truce talk.

In America, almost as much as in Russia, you must think what your neighbor thinks that it pays to think.—Bertrand Russell, noted British philosopher.

The Shepherd

SOLACE

"Thy rod and they staff they comfort me." Ps. 23:4
When Troubles or Disappointments come . . . Just look about you and find some . . . Hard work on which to concentrate . . . Then tell yourself into a state . . . Of sheer exhaustion so you'll sleep . . . Then if a Book of Psalms you'll keep . . . Beside your bed and read a few . . . And think on them, believe them true . . . Soon to their pattern you'll conform . . . And you can ride out any storm.

JULIEN C. HYER

You Stop Poking Around Down There



In the Editor's Mail Bag

STANDS WITH DAVE

EUGENE (To the Editor)—Every once in a while a reference is made in your paper concerning our responsibilities of the world leadership. As also referred to in George Hopkins letter.

Now just off hand, who is capable of leading the free world? Are we to lead the free world simply because we have been supporting most of it, with billions of dollars the American taxpayers have to raise?

Now according to my belief, and I believe it is backed by the Constitution of this United States, (unless amended by our recent administration), every man has the right to live and worship as he sees fit. That however does not give any person the right to force his belief or opinion on others. My neighbors can be a Catholic, Protestant, Atheist, Communist, a Teetotaler or a drunkard. As long as any person or any nation does not infringe upon the rights of others that is as it should be.

Therefore, in my opinion (which may be considered of no value) all Americans should be in America. If called upon to go into the armed services of this country I would refuse on my Constitutional rights. But if this country were directly attacked, I would be one of the first to join as before.

Who, sincerely believes that any conflict between two parties or two nations can be settled and not become more complicated by the intervention of one or more persons or nations? I.e. the conflict in Korea and the United Nations. This brings to me the obvious deductions, that it is a waste of our money, a waste of the lives of our men in the services to back up the well meant but futile and costly expenses of the United Nations in both money and lives. That leaves me standing pat with Dave Hoover.

Before this nation goes abroad to lead other nations, I would say

we should clean our own house. First cast the beam out of our own eye.

One man's opinion.
Earl L. Kelley,
1970 Van Buren St.

Seven Persons Die In Apartment Blaze

WESTFIELD, Mass. — (AP)—At least seven persons perished in a \$1,000,000 five-story apartment-business block fire Sunday night. Firemen still poured water into the smoldering ruins more than 12 hours after the blaze, punctuated by three distinct explosions. Fourteen persons were believed to have perished at first, but six later were accounted for. Fifteen persons were injured.

McNARY WORK RESUMES

UMATILLA — (P)—Work resumed on McNary Dam Monday after a four-day lay-off because of ice and sub-freezing temperatures.

Editor's Mailbag

THE R.F.D. A TRIBUTE

I live out on the R.F.D. I look it over quick, then I look it over slow, then I look it over fast. There are ads galore, comes in tons, from garden hoses to sporting guns, pictures of tubes and tires, all hunting prospective buyers. It pays to vertize I guess, and R.F.D. papers come to me, I like to see them through to see, what my fellows claim to do, some successful, others blue. I also see the daily papers to keep in touch with all the capers, the politics try to do, to get the votes of and you. I open all the best first, I like to know the best worst. Someone will tell how had fun, the next perhaps with a dun. Young friends of mine tell of wooing. The next will start me chewing. One tells of trouble brewing, the next a note that needs renewing. Then I read the daily news, paper tells me where to choose many things they think I can from oil or wood to chicken. There are lots of things come the mail, things that uplift things that pale. And as I feel somehow it must be mail time now. I hasten to the "you bet," and find he's been ready yet. I know our rulers say the R.F.D. will never say they claim it's running at a loss so are lots of other things "gosh." Yet when election comes 'round and politicians get the ground, in seeking votes for you and me. They overwork R.F.D. Our mail man tries to on time, be weather wet or fine. It's nice for folks like me and me who live out on R.F.D.

F. E. HAYES
Rt. 2, Box 106,
Eugene, Oregon

THANK YOU NOTE

JUNCTION CITY — (To the Editor)—I want to thank you for printing my letter in your paper in the time of distress. Also neighbor and readers of your paper, and the Red Cross for sending me and my family.

The Welfare office at Eugene did give me an order of \$5.00 groceries and said I would be to get rid of our furniture and back to Michigan or be on our own as that was all they could for. But thanks to the church neighbors and friends my husband did not go hungry.

We are now reinstated and drawing our check from Michigan A.D.C. grant.

I sure appreciate your kindness in printing my letter in your paper. Thanking you.

FLORENCE FOX

(I would like to have the your mailbag to let the friends and neighbors know I appreciate their help.)

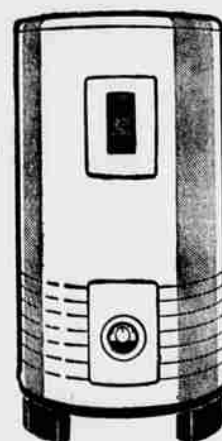
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