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IN THIS ISSUE-

Free Speech Is For Everyone.....Geo. Dunne.....	Pg. 7
Catholicism and the Presidency.....I. A. Smith.....	11
Vatican Over the White House.....Martin A. Larson.....	13
Three Cheers for Harper's Magazine.....	18

And Other Articles

THE BIBLE, A JUMBLE OF SUPERSTITION AND CONFUSION

By James Hervey Johnson

What is the Bible? It is the name of a book containing the writings of primitive, barbaric Jews and later unknown, superstitious men. It contains garbled and distorted versions of previous religious superstitions and tables written some time a thousand years before Christ and probably up until the year 400 A.D. It is a conglomeration of the myths, stories, garbled and twisted histories; the superstitious beliefs of so-called prophets who told the people that unless they followed the policies of the prophets, dire calamities would ensue. It is the histories, or reported histories of the kings and rulers of Palestine; the rules and laws of the Jewish priesthood; the obscene poems of sex-minded rulers, and the story of the alleged savior Jesus Christ told by 4 writers in conflicting and unbelievable writings.

in the obscurity of centuries.

Despite the propaganda of the priests the book is not a holy or sacred book; it is not even a factual history, nor an accurate reflection of the times during which it was written. Its only value is as a partial record of the beliefs and boasts of a part of the Jews who moved in a small portion of the ancient world, not as big as one of the average states of the United States. Its value has been exploited and magnified a thousand fold by the priests who use it and the imaginary God it tells about as a background for fooling and exploiting the people whom they are able to induce into believing that the Bible is proof of supernaturalism; that it is proof of a God; that it is proof that the priests are representatives of God, with power to reward and punish those who follow, or fail to follow their demands or suggestions. If they made the demands without having the imaginary God and his devil and his savior son and the mythical heaven

The writers of the early part of the Bible were unknown. The people they wrote about are mythical or semi-mythical, and the events are veiled

and hell, little attention would be paid to them, so they use the supernatural paraphernalia to add strength to their childish and even insane doctrines, dogmas and tall tales.

Most of us were indoctrinated with Bible worship before our minds were mature and we had enough intelligence to reason. In Arabia the children are forced to sit for hours a day, year in and year out while the Imam, or Mohammedan priest makes them repeat, endlessly, like parrots, the writings of the Koran. Hindu children are taught the mythology of Siva and other Hindu gods. We are taught that the Bible is sacred, truthful and beneficial. For the rest of our lives we are never free from reverence for this mess of superstition and we accept what the clergy has taught us because we do not have either the time or the desire to investigate the facts: or we fear criticism, boycott or slander if we do. In Catholic and Mohammedan lands non-believers who fail to show reverence for the sacred books, or render lip-service to the rituals demanded by the priests are jailed, murdered, imprisoned or persecuted. Some people are just too dull mentally to comprehend the facts when they are before their eyes.

Now let us analyze who wrote the Bible—and other “sacred” books, for they are all in the same class. The Bible was written by ignorant men of ages ago. One man wrote the story of creation, that a god made the world in 6 days and rested because he was tired, on the seventh. Was the anonymous writer of Genesis on hand at the creation of the world from nothing? Did he have a ringside seat. If he was there how could Adam have been the first man? And if God created the earth from nothing how could the man have seen it because he would not have been there and there would have been no such thing as nothing.

If the man who wrote the preposterous story of the creation was not there how did he know about what happened? Who told him, and how did the teller know the facts? The proof that whoever told this fable was ignorant lies very easily in the statement that God made light—two or three days before he made the sun. The story teller didn't have enough sense to know that there could have been no light before the sun.

So it is with every statement in this ancient mess of verbal jargon—all were written by individual men, ignorant of any scientific knowledge and actually devoid of common sense, with every evidence that they were unusually superstitious and many of the writers probably insane.

The story of creation was by one man. Should his word be taken in place of modern scientists with all the modern telescopes, and instruments of learning plus thousands of years of accumulation of knowledge since the Bible stories were written by men who didn't even have eye glasses, to say nothing of telescopes which were invented many centuries after the alleged birth of the alleged savior.

One man wrote the story of Joshua stopping the sun for twelve hours so he could slaughter his enemies and steal their lands and wives and murder their children. This ignorant old fable teller didn't know that the earth turned on its axis, and that the sun did not revolve around the earth. Would a thinking man believe that the sun had ears and could hear Joshua say, “Sun, stand thou still!” and that the orderly operation of the universe would obey the words of an ancient Jew? There were no radios, no radar, no loudspeakers. No telegraphs, not even any mail service; no planes, no balloons, and it is doubtful whether Joshua could have been able

to use thought transference because that is supposed to be possible only between human brains.

I would rather take the word of scientists, that the earth turns on its axis, that there is no power to stop the earth turning, that no man could stop either the earth or the sun, and that it is much more reasonable to believe that some old story teller lied to a bunch of gullible people and that priests have been cramming this lie down the throats of children and childish minded adults ever since.

It was one man who said that Jonah was swallowed by a whale or a big fish, remained in the animal's belly for three days and was vomited up on the shore. A man without air would die in less than five minutes, if he was covered with the digestive juices of the whale he would be disintegrated in a few hours and would have passed out of the whale as feces, nor could the whale have gotten close enough to shore to eject Jonah on dry land, and can anyone tell me why a self respecting whale would want to swallow an old goat like Jonah anyway? I will take the word of scientists and biologists in place of the myths of the priests. Later I will tell you why they told such stories.

Of course it is not possible to give a thorough analysis of all of the stories of the Bible, but I do want to make the point that each story was the word of one man, an anonymous writer, and all of the stories are against common sense, against science, against the authority of the great students and scholars and against the accumulated knowledge of thousands of years of research.

In those far off times, men travelled by horse or camel if they had one. Most people walked. Twenty-five miles was a big days journey, and a dangerous one through land over-run by wild animals, who could only be

controlled by spears and bows and arrows; through lands controlled by predatory tribes, and over trails, with no bridges. Men had little chance to learn. There were no libraries in Palestine or in the deserts. Only a very few priests could write. Most men were slaves or serfs who worked all day to make a little to eat and support their annual production of children.

Only the rulers and the priests lived lives of ease. Not one man in 5000 could read, and there was little to read if he could. There were no microscopes or telescopes. Disease was thought caused by demons, or was the sign of the mythical gods' wrath.

The story of Jesus tells how he thought an insane man was possessed by demons, who could talk, and that Jesus could order them out into a herd of hogs and the man could become instantly sane. No scientist or psychologist would support such a fantastic story. Men thought the world was flat. America had not been discovered. The people lived in huts and tents, among their animals. The rulers robbed and pilfered their subjects and the priests exacted their ten percent of the crops or animals. The average man would be murdered if he opposed the teachings of the priest or ruler, and he had little opportunity to disprove what he was taught to believe. Even the priests dared not dispute the doctrines of their superiors. There was no freedom of speech, and no printing. Manuscripts had to be laboriously copied from one to the other, possibly after the first one had begun to deteriorate, and the copyist would insert his own words to take the place of those he could not read or understand. Meanings of words varied from village to village, and from generation to generation. For centuries, changes were made as the copies were made, meanings were lost in translations. There were no dictionaries nor ency-

(Continued on page 5)

THE LIBERAL

EDITORIAL

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Another Convention of the American Rationalist Federation has been held, the 6th annual gathering. While no phenomenal growth or achievements can be reported nevertheless the very fact that the Federation is now entering its seventh year of existence with no internal dissention and complete harmony on activities for the future argues well for substantial progress and growth.

It has been increasingly apparent that the federation form is correct for a nation-wide organization. Former organizations, with a national office and local branches as subordinate groups have been unable to survive because there was no local authority. A federation of active, autonomous societies, working unitedly through elected national officers, responsible to the societies is proving to be a vital setup. The convention report is too late for this issue of the LIBERAL. It will appear next month.

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(Continued from page 3)

clopedias, except in the centers of Greek, Roman or Egyptian culture, and there were no centers of culture where the Bible was written. Copyists deliberately interpolated and twisted meanings to suit their own ideas. How then could any sane, intelligent man attribute much worth to any of these ancient writings?

It is true that the New Testament is said to have been written by four men, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, two of whom claimed to be contemporaries of Jesus and the other two his disciples, but their four versions of the life of Jesus are conflicting and impossible to reconcile. Briefly they claimed that Jesus was born of a virgin, sired by the Holy Ghost, an angelic portion of God with power of materialization; that Jesus walked on water, revived stinking corpses, cured blind men by rubbing spit in their eyes, healed the sick by manifesto, was crucified, resurrected in three days, ascended to heaven in the body, and rules the world.

Now what authentic support do we have for their stories. Not the slightest. There were no scientists to investigate the alleged stories. Was Mark there? Did he have his eye on the so called Virgin Mary all her days and nights? I doubt it. Then how did he know that she was a virgin? And for the sake of argument, what if she was? Who saw the God Jesus talked about? Who saw the "Holy Ghost." As the great Thomas Paine said, it is far easier to believe that some writer or some priest lied than it is to believe these ridiculous stories about Jesus Christ—or any of the rest of the miraculous, supernatural, superstition that makes up the Bible—or any of the other so-called sacred books.

Why do these ridiculous stories

have the color of truth? Why does anyone believe them? It is because it is to the benefit of the priestly clan to perpetuate them. They can gain power to have their own way if they make the people believe that they have a special knowledge of how to influence or control their bogey-man God. If they can make men believe this superstitious rubbish, they can and do live lives of ease with special privileges while those forced or influenced into believing that the priests are worthy of worship or control do their work for them, pay their taxes for them and allow them to get richer and richer day by day until they own a large proportion of the land and wealth of the nations they rule or their puppet rulers control.

Intelligent men will investigate the facts, and will take the facts of science and knowledge rather than the writings of some primitive superstitious ignorant man as true.

"Sheep" is the Right Name

Headline in the N. Y. Times says that the World Council of Churches has proposed a code to halt "sheep stealing" that is, different denominations of Protestants luring one another's "sheep" into their folds. Just what methods are used to convince the silly sheep to believe that the spiritual fields are greener in one denomination is not mentioned.

What Was She?

A woman testifying at a prayer meeting said: "I ain't what I oughter be; and I ain't what I'm gonna be; but anyway, I ain't what I was."

DEMOCRACY IN POST-WAR

ITALY

By Edd Doerr

During the twenty plus years of Mussolini's (mis)rule in Italy, democracy all but completely vanished. But what of democracy in Italy since Il Duce's demise? In many respects it has been restored, but in some very important respects it has not. I need only cite the Bellandi case, and the recent case of the Rome daily "Il Paese Sera."

In the latter case, the Italian Ministry of Exterior Relations received a note from the Vatican demanding the prosecution of the Rome daily "Il Paese Sera" for the publication of an article by the French novelist Roger Peyrefitte, whose books "The Keys of St. Peter" and "The Knights of Malta" had previously angered the Holy See. The Vatican's official news and propaganda organ "Osservatore Romano" said that the first page of Peyrefitte's article contained "ignoble insults against the Supreme Pontiff" which were "villainous, scurrilous, ignorant, presumptuous and ridiculous." (These pretty adjectives must have been gathering dust since their previous use on Paul Blanshard and Avro Manhattan.)

According to Mussolini's Lateran Pact of 1929, which the post-Mussolini governments have never repudiated, the Italian government may prosecute (or persecute) any newspaper which says unkind things about the head of any state. The Pope is, of course, the dictator of Vatican City, the last (official) remnant of the once extensive Papal States.

Freedom of speech and of the press, then, are not as safe in the Italian "democracy" as they should be. Further, this incident indicates

that the present Italian government is less "liberal" than the ones which preceded Mussolini, which governments were about as anti-clerical as those of Mexico of the past three decades.

A further lesson to be learned is that making "deals" with the Vatican is a sure way to erode all of the basic freedoms.

There is an organization in England named "Friends of Friendless Churches." Apparently a good many of the old established parishes of the Church of England have so few parishioners who care a hoot about going to services that they do not warrant the expense of maintaining them. The "Friends" are now suggesting that these unused buildings be used for educational purposes. With this we heartily agree, but education in natural science not supernatural nonsense.

Steve Allen's Problem

Louella O. Parsons, the leading Peeping Tom of Hollywood is talking about the big battle that Steve Allen is waging "to think as he pleases." Steve has been talking and writing freely for several years on subjects that religionists just can't bear to have criticized. So it look like Steve may have to go. Sponsors do not like performers who antagonize listeners.

"Vital religion has always suffered when orthodoxy is more highly regarded than virtue; and the Scriptures assure us that at the last day we shall not be examined on what he thought, but by what we did."

—Benjamin Franklin

FREE SPEECH IS FOR EVERYONE

By Geo. Dunne

George D. Rockwell has recently emerged from obscurity to make the headlines in the nation's newspapers. Whether George considers himself a reincarnation of the late but unlamented Schickelgruber, is not clearly stated. But at least he feels that his destiny is to carry Adolf's swastika onward to triumph.

Rockwell has formed an American Nazi Party and has been speaking in public places in Washington, D. C. for some time, without interference. Recently he tried to do the same in New York City but Mayor Wagner refused to permit him to speak in the city's famous rostrum, Union Square, where everyone else, including communists hold forth.

We doubt that there are more than a very few Americans, (if they can be called that) who do not hold the actions of Adolf and his cohorts in abhorrence and loathing. It is unbelievable that anyone would want to repeat such abominations here and certainly no one should be permitted to do so.

But, there is an issue involved here that is far greater than Rockwell or other screwballs of his type. The Basic question is this: Is the Mayor of New York empowered by law to suppress free speech to those, who he expects, will say things that he does not approve of? In this particular case many persons, even some Liberals will feel that Mayor Wagner is doing right to suppress advocacy of Naziism, it is an evil thing.

However, if he can suppress free speech to those whom you are against he can also suppress free speech in advocacy of things which you approve. The U. S. Supreme Court in two notable decisions recently has

emphatically ruled that the authorities of the city of New York cannot prevent the expression of views or the showing of a motion picture that some official disapproves of because of his personal view point. The first case was that of an itinerant preacher who was arrested for speaking on a street corner without a permit when the police Commissioner had denied him one on the grounds that his criticism of Catholicism irritated his listeners to the point of disorder. The Supreme Court held that the city ordinance that required persons to have permits was unconstitutional. Free speech, said the court, is a right belonging to every person and is so stated in the supreme law of the land, the Constitution. It is not something granted by the Constitution, it is an inherent right, and the Constitution says the U. S. Congress cannot make any law limiting it. Therefore the N. Y. City ordinance saying that a person must ask permission to exercise that right is trying to do what is forbidden to the U. S. Congress.

The second case was that of the motion picture, *The Miracle*. The N. Y. City Commissioner of licenses threatened to close the exhibitor's theatre if he did not discontinue showing the picture which he claimed was sacrilegious. The case went to the U. S. Supreme Court and the court ruled that the word had no definable meaning—that what was holy to one man might not be to another and no official could interfere with the showing of a movie just because it hurt HIS feelings.

The American Civil Liberties Union is upholding Rockwell's right to speak. Its board of directors issued a statement which says: "Rockwell has

correctly stated that the N.Y.A.C.L.U. abhors the totalitarian philosophy he expresses, but what it thinks of his views has no bearing on whether he has been denied a constitutional right to speak. Unless this right is maintained for EVERYBODY, the principle of free speech is endangered."

Emanuel Redfield, counsel for A.C.L.U. said, "The real test of the right to speak comes in just such critical challenges as this case, involving a group hostile to everything we believe in. I believe, therefore that this challenge must be met if the guarantee of freedom of speech is to be meaningful."

The important point is that censorship of this type, which says we know what you are going to say and we don't like it and we are not going to let you say it, is wrong. Free speech means that you may say what you please but if what you say is unlawful you can be prosecuted under existing law. You may not exercise free speech in an illegal manner by crying fire in a crowded theatre, or put a soap box in the middle of a busy street to make a speech. This calls for restraint under police powers to preserve public order and peace. This is quite different from saying it can't be done under proper circumstances.

We must remember what Voltaire is quoted as saying, "I do not agree with what you say, but I will defend your right to say it."

"It is widely supposed that a person who does not accept any religion is thereby shown to be a non-religious person. . . . The adjective 'religious' denotes nothing in the way of specific entity, either institutional or as a system of beliefs."

—John Dewey

Blue Law Inconsistencies

Another item from the Boston Herald points out the utter absurdity of Massachusetts' Sunday Blue Law and quotes a federal district court decision which called the law "an almost unbelievable hodgepodge" of conflicting rules and regulations governing conduct on the Sabbath. Examples shown are that a man cannot legally wash his car, paint his house or buy a hot dog at a roadside stand on Sunday but he can go bowling or target shooting at a gallery. Of course, this nonsense is just part of the silly medieval hodgepodge called religion which pious fanatics insist shall be rules of conduct in the United States. The U. S. Supreme Court is going to review this decision as well as similar decisions in Pennsylvania and Virginia. It is very likely that the lower courts' decisions will be upheld.

Church, Castro and Religion

In Cuba the Catholic Hierarchy are crying that they are having a hard time and may have to suspend services because of hostility on the part of the Government and some of the people. This is not an unusual situation for the Church. They go right down the line with some dictator like Batista, enjoy full recognition with financial and other support and close their eyes to all the crimes and abuses against the people. In this way they become identified in the minds of the rebels with the dictator. When a revolution succeeds and the ill gotten gains of the Batistas, including the clergy are taken from them they yell religious persecution.

The "Fall of man"—From a scientific point of view is an idle nursery tale; from a moral point of view, it is a vicious slander against the human race. Man arose; he did not fall.

—Daniel DeLeon

KENNEDY FOR PRESIDENCY?

(Reprinted from the British Freethinker)

We shall soon know whether the American Democratic Party has decided to nominate a Roman Catholic for the Presidency.

As the Convention nears, the problem gets no easier. Fair-minded commentators are agreed that Senator John F. Kennedy is honest, sincere, and liberal in outlook, as well as personally charming. If he weren't a Roman Catholic he would seem a very good choice for Presidential candidate. It is his Catholicism that raises doubts in many minds. Why?

Pure bigotry, is the usual Roman Catholic reply, and of course there are lots of Protestant and even Atheist bigots. But it is by no means as simple as that. To quote Senator Kennedy's Administrative Assistant, Theodore C. Sorenson, in an address to the Washington Ethical Society, D. C., on April 10th, 1960:

The issues of public education, an ambassador to the Vatican, our relations with such nations as Spain or Colombia, our own religious liberties and traditional separation of Church and State, even the use of our foreign aid for birth control—these are legitimate questions because they involve public policy. No one should feel bigoted about raising them, and no candidate should feel persecuted if he is asked them.

We may agree with Mr. Sorenson's addendum that, "It is unfortunate that all of our Presidential nominees have not answered these legitimate questions on religion with equal candour" to that of Senator Kennedy. The Senator's own sincerity is not, we repeat, in question. When he says he would not allow "ecclesiastical pressures or

obligations of any kind" to interfere with his conduct as President; when he declares federal aid to parochial schools to be "clearly unconstitutional," we believe he speaks honestly.

The only question is, can he practise what he preaches? For he most definitely does not preach the official attitude of his Church. That official attitude was stated by Father Thomas Brummel, C.M.F., Secretary of Faculty at the Claretian House of Studies (affiliated with the Catholic University of America) in the Washington Post, April 28th, 1960, when he was rebuking Senator Kennedy for his public statement on birth control. Father Brummel said:

The Catholic Church teaches that a Catholic in public o....ce should act like a Catholic, forming his judgments in public affairs according to Catholic morality.

In making his statement on birth control, Senator Kennedy must have known he would incur ecclesiastical rebuke; he showed himself prepared to flout "ecclesiastical pressures and obligations"; and he has frankly earned our admiration in his staunch upholding of the principle of separation of Church and State. We think that, if elected President, he could and would keep his word to put the obligations of that office before those of the Roman Catholic Church. We think, furthermore, that his tolerance and integrity would throw into relief the absence of these qualities in the American Roman Catholic hierarchy, which would be quite unable to resist condemning him for acting like a President and not a specifically Catholic President. C.McC.

THOMAS PAINE SEALS

200 Seals.....50 cents

THIS IS AUTOMATION PLUS

A reader tells us that in the lobby of a restaurant along a thruway in one of the Northeastern states there stands a row of three coin-operated vending machines. From the first you can get the Lord's Prayer, stamped on a medal. From the second, a St. Christopher's Medal. And from the third a daily horoscope. As we become more and more automated perhaps one will also be able to get a Hebrew mezuzah, a voodoo talsiman, or even a couple of turns of a Tibetan prayer wheel. Why not? One can't get too much protection in these days of heavy traffic.

Another reader sends us a clipping showing a preacher and his wife and four children titled "Pastor Rebukes Parish, Says He's Underpaid." The holy man goes on to say that in industry better wages are paid and complains that even though he was promised \$5,700 he receives only \$4,800 per year. Well, any industrial worker that gets \$4,800 per year has to put a lot of effort into his production, far more than any preacher puts into his job. Likewise in industry articles worth while are produced while if all preaching was discontinued and all preachers vanished the national income would not be affected. Our reader comments that if the preacher would turn his collar forward and his trousers backward he might avoid more trouble in the future.

Greyhound Bus post houses are doing their bit to keep travelers pious by placing a paper mat under customers' plates suggesting they say grace before eating. Prayers for Catholics, Protestants and Jews are printed thereon. Pagans and Atheists get no notice, being beyond saving perhaps?

THANKS, MR. BAUDIS

We have received a phonograph and radio from one of our members, Mr. Edw. E. Baudis, Philadelphia. Gifts such as this enable us to add to the value of our lectures and other gatherings. We also have a tape recorder and quite a number of tapes recorded by well known freethinkers.

We need a motion picture projector for which we already have a screen. Any reader having a usable projector which he would donate to the League is urged to let us know about it.

In a month or so our Sunday Night Forums will be resumed for the Fall and Winter season. Watch LIBER-

President Grant on Schools

The free school is the promoter of that intelligence which is to preserve us a free nation! If we are to have another contest in the near future of our national existence, I predict that the dividing line will not be Mason and Dixons; but between patriotism and intelligence on the one side, and superstition and ambition on the other. . . . Encourage free schools and resolve that not one dollar of money appropriated to their support, no matter how raised, shall be appropriated to any sectarian school! Resolve that either the State or Nation, or both combined, shall support institutions of learning sufficient to afford to every child growing up in the land of opportunity, a good common school education, unmixed with sectarian sentiments. Keep Church and State forever separate. (Address at Des Moines, Iowa, in 1875.)

"I do not believe that any type of religion should ever be allowed to be introduced into the public schools of the United States."

—Thomas A. Edison

CATHOLICISM AND THE PRESIDENCY

By Luther A. Smith

Sovereign Grand Commander

(Masonic)

Considerable speculation has been going on lately as to whether the sentiment of the American people regarding the election of a Roman Catholic to the Presidency has changed since the Al Smith campaign. Some who favor a Catholic for President utter such expressions as "the people have grown up since then," "they no longer nourish religious prejudice," and "bigotry is out of date."

Such thinking is erroneous and does not represent the attitude of the great majority of the people of the United States. Religious prejudice among non-Catholic church members is almost nonexistent. Religious belief as such, is not the problem which bothers the voters when a Catholic candidate is involved. There are 255 different non-Catholic church groups with some fifty million members in this country living and worshiping together in peace and harmony, and nothing would please them more than to have their Catholic neighbors join them in mutual manifestations of good fellowship and friendly hospitality, which neighborly attitude is well-known to Catholics and non-Catholics. The Catholic laymen in most sections of the United States would welcome the opportunity to associate freely upon terms of social and religious equality with their non-Catholic neighbors, but so far all efforts to make this possible by obtaining from their ecclesiastical superiors the necessary liberalizing concessions have been unsuccessful. In fact, more "iron curtains" are being

continually erected by the Roman Catholic Church to isolate Catholics from non-Catholics. This regrettable situation is the result of a basic dogma of that Church that the Roman Catholic is the only true church and its religion the only true religion, and that all others are frauds and counterfeits. When this claim is combined with the well-known teaching that the Pope is the Vice-gerent of God on earth and divinely commissioned to convert the world to Roman Catholicism, the cause of the religious wars and persecutions of which the histories are full are more easily understood. The awful tragedy of the situation is that the aims and purposes of the Pope and his political hierarchy are the same today as they have been during the past fifteen hundred years. Everywhere and always they reach for political power and when they obtain it they force upon the state and the people their system of religious intolerance with all its consequences of educational and social controls and practices. Spain, Colombia, and Italy are just three modern examples.

It is therefore obvious to all citizens of the United States who will look the facts squarely in the face that there is a great gulf between the government and the ideology of the Vatican which is a church-state under the autocratic control of the Pope and the system of free institutions established by the Founding Fathers under which the people are the sovereigns and enjoy the blessings of civil and religious liberty.

Among American citizens there should be no question or suspicion of allegiance to any foreign power, but in the case of the Roman Catholic citizen, his church is the guardian of his conscience and asserts that he must obey its laws and decrees even if they are in conflict with the Constitution and laws of the United States. The Pope even tells the Catholic judges in this country to apply the rule in making their decisions in cases before them.

The logical conclusions from these considerations would indicate that whatever bigotry is in evidence in the United States is exhibited solely by the Roman Catholic hierarchy; that the Canon Law of the Roman Church and the directives of the Pope validate the fears of the people that the dual allegiance of American Catholics is a present danger to our free institutions, and lastly that the people in passing upon the qualifications of a Catholic candidate for the Presidency will be guided by their knowledge of history and their great store of plain old-fashioned common horse sense, and their innate caution not to gamble when their liberties and the national security are at stake.

No Religion on the Campus

The Arizona Board of Regents has ordered all religious centers removed from secular campuses. The ruling resulted from a controversy over the Newman Center at the State University of Arizona which serves some 2,300 Catholic students. Last February the president of the University notified the Rev. Frederic Curry, director of the center that the building was wanted for university use. His bishop protested to the regents but the regents voted 6 to 2 to remove all religious centers from State university campuses. Good work, regents.

The Bible Can Be Useful

Langston Hughes, an American negro writer relates that he gets hundreds of letters from African natives who have read his book on African literature. Some send him gifts, others want things. He says that when he referred requests for Bibles to the American Bible Society they refused to send them saying that the natives used the Bibles for wrapping paper, toilet paper, and cigarette paper. Too bad there are no statistics on what sent to various parts of the world have been put to such good use. Since not one in a million of primitive peoples can read the percentage is proportionately of the millions is probably high.

WHO BURNS THEM?

The National Fire Protection Association says that church fires caused damages estimated at \$15,000,000 during 1959, a sharp increase over the previous year. It seems queer that Jehovah who knows all permits buildings to burn which his devotees have erected in his honor and in which they sing his praises. If he let only false, heretical, Protestant churches burn that would be understandable because they do not sing his praises in the correct and complete manner. But he lets the buildings of the One True Church, in which everything is done strictly in proper order, burn just as readily as the rest. Truly the ways of the Lord pass all understanding.

Positive Proof

A religious goldfish said to its skeptical bowl-mate, "Certainly there's a God! Who do you think changes our water?"

THE VATICAN OVER THE WHITE HOUSE

By Martin A. Larson

John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Catholic candidate for the presidency of these United States, uttered, among others, two especially Gargantuan misstatements in his acceptance speech. He said that he didn't want one single vote because of his religion; and he declared that his religion was "not relevant." The fact is, his family having already paid the Vatican two million dollars in cash, in advance, on the barrelhead and, beyond all question, having made secret and decisive future commitments to the same international tyranny, Jack Kennedy expects the Hierarchy to deliver to him on Nov. 8 every Catholic vote, whether normally Democratic or Republican, in the United States. The fact is, further, that Kennedy must hoodwink millions of Protestants and Secularists to vote for him, because his own religionists are a minority. It is for the benefit of these and these alone that he declares his religion to be "not relevant." The fact is, of course, that the only real issue in this campaign is whether the American people shall or shall not place a subject of the Pope, a foreign prelate, with his monstrous claim to infallibility, in the White House. If the people of this country were today truly awake, they would know that in this campaign we face a struggle with the Roman Hierarchy on one side and the American people on the other.

For years, we have seen the insidious advance of the Catholic political machine to power. And how is it done? It is possible, because every Catholic is under orders from his priestly superior to vote for those candidates favored by the Hierarchy;

and, trained to subservience, the Catholics obey. Should any Protestant minister attempt to tell his congregation, either in public or as individuals, how to vote in political elections, he would be pitched headlong from his pulpit. That is one of the differences between Catholicism and Protestantism. The Catholic organism is an authoritarian theocracy, actual or incipient; which means that in this communion religious and civil authority are inseparable and that both, in the final analysis, reside with the priest, who is always the master of his parishioners.

The Protestant churches are independent and democratic communions, in which the members control their pastors. Furthermore, they own their own property, which Catholic laymen never do. For this reason, when twenty per cent of the population in a large city are Catholics, they can elect practically all the officials of the community. The method is to put forward good Catholics who have become well known (sometimes baseball players or football coaches) and against whom there is no concentrated hostility. Thus it is that in Detroit, for example (and the same condition obtains in dozens of cities), the mayor, eight of nine councilmen, and many other elected officials are Catholics. Both of Michigan's senators and many of its representatives in Washington are the same.

The result is that the Church receives countless special privileges beyond the reach of the great majority, who are, of course, Protestants and Secularists. The Roman Churches violate a whole galaxy of laws with con-

temptuous impunity; they operate saloons and gambling casinos within their walls, which bring in enormous incomes; they send out their young children to beg in the streets; they operate profitable but illegal devices which bring in money. No newspaper dares discuss any of this, for fear of a heavy boycott. The rest of the population must not only obey the law: they must also be silent concerning the criminals, on pain of being branded "bigots" or "intolerant fanatics." If any group offers a protest, this dies in silence.

And so the great majority of Americans are now living under the rule and discipline of officials of all kinds, senators, legislators, mayors, councilmen, judges, police chiefs, etc., whose first allegiance is to a foreign and theocratic state, the very nature of which is wholly and intensely abhorrent to the principles which lie at the base of the American republic.

Not content with all this power and representation, which is already far greater than proportionate, the Hierarchy is now stretching out its grasping talons to seize upon the highest prize of all: the White House. Naturally, to deceive the innocent, Kennedy and some of his ecclesiastical advisers and supporters, now declare their allegiance to American principles. These are Jesuitical lies; these men have no twinge of conscience in perjuring themselves before heretics and infidels, since their acts are calculated to redound to the glory of the Papal God.

As I contemplate the event which took place in Los Angeles on July 13, 1960, I feel as if a foreign army had landed on our shores, and, with gonfalons flying high, were now marching into our heartland practically unopposed; or, rather, as if its opponents were saying only that some of its leaders were incongruously paired,

that its general was too young, that we need a more experienced leader to cope with the Communist threat. Almost no one dares to say that under the banners of this army is the greatest enemy of all: the enemy which reduced Europe to a hell-on-earth for a thousand years; which has murdered twenty-five million persons in Spain during a period of 1600 years to keep its power intact and which today holds that tortured land enthralled under fascist and theocratic despotism; which created the conditions making Communist revolutions the order of the day in Cuba, Central America, Mexico, and South America; which has made of Italy, Portugal, and countless other lands human deserts of poverty and degradation; which has already seized power in Belgium and Holland, and is advancing by giant strides in Germany, England, Canada, and now, at last, in these United States, the last refuge and bastion of freedom and individual creative enterprise.

Perhaps the reader wonders what changes would occur with a Catholic in the White House. These alterations would, of course, at first be almost imperceptible; the Hierarchy is not so stupid as to provoke a quick or decisive reaction, from the great majority. But the march of the Vatican would be predetermined, carefully planned, and inexorable. What follows would be the approximate program of a Catholic administration, once its power was well consolidated:

1. Violations of the First Amendment, as now interpreted by the Supreme Court, would become far more frequent and would go unheeded and unpunished.

2. As soon as the Catholics achieve a majority on the Supreme Court, the McCollum and Everson decisions would be rescinded and reversed, and contrary interpretations would be de-

creed, so that public money could go to Catholic parochial schools even more heavily than to "the Godless," or public schools. This is already being done in Holland, Belgium, West Germany, Italy, Canada, England, and all Latin American countries.

3. Under the guise of banning salacious literature, a stringent religious censorship would be imposed on all books sent through the mails, sold on news stands or in stores, or stocked in public libraries. Similar restrictions would be placed upon radio and TV programs and upon all material published in magazines and newspapers. All publications which openly oppose the program of the Hierarchy, such as CHURCH AND STATE, the Masonic INSPIRATION, and all Humanist or rationalist journals would, as a matter of course, be barred from the mails and outlawed, as inimical to the public morality.

4. All information concerning, and facilities to accomplish, planned parenthood would be outlawed, as immoral and sacrilegious.

5. A national law would be passed forbidding divorce for any cause whatsoever, which would, of course, result in such immorality and degradation of women as is frequent in Catholic-dominated countries.

6. Religiously mixed marriages would be outlawed: that is, they would have no validity in the courts, any more than a casual instance of fornication now possesses.

7. It would become practically impossible for anyone except a practicing Catholic to get any decent job in government, industry, education, communications, or anywhere else. All Catholics and particularly their children would be segregated from all "heretics" and "infidels" by an iron wall of separation.

8. There would be an enormous increase in the number of tax-free busi-

ness enterprises owned and operated by the Hierarchy: it would take over wineries, breweries, distilleries, gambling houses, race tracks, banks, utility companies, etc., etc., ad infinitum, as it has done in Spain and elsewhere. With money so obtained, the Church would rapidly become the owner of most of the wealth in the entire country.

9. Money allocated to public, secular universities would be so reduced that these institutions would be unable long to operate; the great private universities, which live on income from investments and private gifts, would soon find their incomes vanishing. The only "education" remaining would be the indoctrination offered by the Catholic system, which is today growing by leaps and bounds because of the favor it enjoys in free America.

10. In order to hasten the day of a Catholic majority, huge sums of public money would be used to subsidize enormous Catholic families, as with the French habitants of Quebec, who frequently have from twenty to twenty-five children.

Something like the above would be the graduated steps by which the Hierarchy hopes to turn our beloved America into a Catholic Country, under the Pope and his God. This process might require from fifty to a hundred years; possibly less. The final steps, once the Catholics constituted an assured majority, would follow a pattern something like this:

1. The Church would take over not only the utilities, as well as the banks, but also the industries, in a fascist-theocratic state.

2. All Humanists, Rationalists, Masons, and outspoken Secularists would be hounded out of society or into abject silence by a campaign of persecution paralleled by that of Con-

stantine the Great from 325 to 335, and those which have occurred in Spain and other Catholic countries.

3. Once all this is accomplished, the Hierarchy would turn its guns upon the "heretics," i.e., the Protestants. They would be subjected to every conceivable harrassment. Since "the Godless," i.e., the public, schools would by this time probably have disappeared, the Protestant parochial institutions would be heavily taxed and subjected to a hundred restrictions. As in Italy, a Protestant congregation would have to obtain a special police permit for each meeting; or, perhaps, as in Spain, each attempt would result in priest-incited violence.

4. All freedom of thought in science, politics, religion, philosophy, economics, or anywhere else, would, of course, be strictly forbidden.

5. This country would rapidly retrogress into barbarism; the march back to the Dark Ages would begin on that day when, if it should happen, John Fitzgerald Kennedy is installed in the White House.

Reader, do you smile at all this? If you doubt the accuracy of the picture, go to Cuba, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Mexico, South America: anywhere that the Catholic Church has been long in power. There is no basic moral or intellectual difference between homo sapiens in these countries and in those where a secular or Protestant culture exists. Yet the difference between the two cultures is greater than that between day and night: it is rather the contrast between a well-kept meadow and a subterranean dungeon. And yet, too, the only wall separating the two is that philosophy and those values by which the Catholic hierarchy lives and rules and which it enforces upon its victims.

Should the Pope and his minions

consolidate their power in these United States, there will be no escape from it, probably for centuries to come, except through a Communist revolution, which would simply replace the theocratic tyranny with its obverse twin, the Communist dictatorship. Many people have found the Roman theocracy so terrible that, at last in utter anguish and despair, they have turned to the Kremlin for relief. This is what Cuba has done; the same is happening in many other countries.

Is this horror to be also the ultimate fate of the land founded in the ideals of Jefferson and Franklin and consolidated in the sweat and blood of Lincoln?

If you support or if you do not oppose the candidacy of Kennedy, you are taking your place among the enemies of this nation.

In the name of humanity and reason, we beg of you: Do everything in your power to keep Kennedy and the Vatican out of the White House!

President Theodore Roosevelt Said

As quoted in the New York Herald-Tribune in 1924, Roosevelt said: The Roman Catholic Church is in no way suited to this country and can never have any great permanent growth, except through immigration, for its thought is Latin and entirely at variance with the dominant thought of our country and its institutions.

A cannibal chief was quizzing his son as to why he had broken from the old ways. "Surely son," he said, "If God didn't mean for us to eat people do you think he would have made them out of meat?"

A. L. ACTIVITIES IN VERMONT

A new item in the Boston Herald is captioned, "Legion Protest Puts Crimp in Vermont Educator's Russian Trip." School Supt. Allan J. Heath told the School Board in Bennington, Vt. that he wanted to accompany a group of American educators on a tour of Russia. Hundreds of American educators, from college presidents and professors down, have made similar trips to examine the Russian educational system both in theory and practice. The Bennington School Board approved of Heath's trip and voted him leave of absence and funds for travel.

The American Legion and the V.F.W. protested and the board reversed its decision to finance the trip, however, saying Heath could go if he paid his own way. It would be interesting to know whether the other members of the group are standing their own expenses and if not who is.

Russian educators and scientists, even farmers and agricultural experts have been allowed to visit the U. S. to examine our systems. It seems foolish not to allow our people of the same groups to examine theirs. But the "chair borne patriots" of the American Legion, as U. S. Senator Young, of Ohio, called them seem to fear that there is grave danger that any Americans visiting Russia are so weak minded that they will turn into Reds.

Taking No Chances

Mike a member of the Faith, was dying. He was receiving his last rites and was asked "Have you made your peace with God?" "Yes," replied Mike. "Have you denounced the Devil and all his works?" "Well," said Mike, "I wouldn't say that, I'm in no position to be making any enemies right now."

Top This If You Can

A former Dallas, Texas minister of the Church of Christ has been indicted in Chicago as the leader of a six-man robbery gang that garnered \$30,000 in two supermarket heists. The minister says he took a whirl at the games in Las Vegas and lost \$20,000 of his family's money, given to him to invest. He and his pals are accused of robbing a supermarket in a Chicago suburb on Oct. 11 last. Not content with this they played a return engagement at the same store on Jan. 2. But they over played their hand when they tried a third raid and were all arrested.

No wonder the Reverend gentleman lost at Las Vegas if he played the same system at the tables. He ought to have sense enough to know that the same number or color seldom comes up three times in a row. Well, he says he wants to plead guilty and serve his time. No doubt he also wants to emulate St. Paul and preach to the souls in prison. He certainly is qualified to give a sermon on crime doesn't pay. Maybe he can convert an atheist or two if there are any in the big house. No use to waste his time on the thousands of inmates who are already Christians.

The Power of Prayer

In Pasadena, Calif., a baby girl died of poison she drank while her mother and father prayed and meditated. "Through our prayers we believed Lorella would be all right," said the mother, "we didn't want to believe she was dead." A doctor was called three hours too late. The parents are Christian Scientists. Is this religion? If so, do you want any of it?

THOMAS PAINE SEALS

200 Seals.....50 cents

THREE CHEERS FOR HARPER'S MAGAZINE

In the May issue of Harper's appeared an article by Richard E. Rovere titled "Eisenhower and the New President." In a note accompanying the article it was stated that Rovere wrote the book "Senator Joe McCarthy," a book which aroused the anger of McCarthy's supporters and admirers because it portrayed Joe very unfavorably. It might be mentioned here, incidentally, that but for his sudden demise he might possibly be the presidential candidate now instead of Kennedy. Of course, Joe was a Republican but both his and Kennedy's bosses care nothing about party labels.

Harper's favorable mention of Rovere and his book was more than Luke E. Hart, the head of the Knights of Columbus could take. He wrote to Harper's as follows:

"I was disappointed and disgusted to observe in the note accompanying the article "Eisenhower and the New President" (by Richard H. Rovere, May) a reference to the fact that the author wrote the book "Senator Joe McCarthy" and that you should give that as a token of esteem. . . .

In my opinion Rovere's book is the most disgraceful publication that has come off the press in recent years. . . . A person who could write such a book should not be allowed to write anything else for decent people to read and the fact that you allow him to write the lead article in your magazine raises a serious question in my mind as to whether it is worthy of any further consideration.

I note that you have published our advertisement "Who are these Million Men They Cail Knights," on the left hand page near the back of the book. . . . This is another indication of your lack of consideration for things that are worthy. . . . I am going to give serious thought to the question as to whether we should not discon-

tinue entirely the publication of advertising in Harper's.

Luke E. Hart, Supreme Knight,
Knights of Columbus.

Here is a sample of what constitutes a very powerful weapon of control over the press of the United States by Mr. Hart and his fellow religionists. He tells Harper's that by printing anything that he does not like they risk losing revenue from advertising. And not only from the Knights but from other advertisers as well. Had this missive been addressed to almost any other magazine or newspaper its editor would have done a belly crawl, begged forgiveness and promised never, yes, but never, to repeat its sin. Mr. Rovere would be blacklisted and his name, even in an obituary would never be seen again in that particular sheet.

But Harper's editors seem to be made of sterner stuff. They told Mr. Hart off in this style. No equivocation—no if, ands or buts.

Here is what they said:
From the Editors:

Four Comments: (1) Regardless of our opinion of it (which happens to be high) Mr. Rovere's book was mentioned because it is a relevant fact. (2) Placement of advertising in Harper's is decided entirely by its business department. (3) Advertisers rarely try to influence Harper's editorial policy, and never succeed in doing so. (4) In this country neither Mr. Hart nor anyone else is authorized to decide whether an author should "be allowed to write anything else."

Hurrah for Harper's editors. They tell Mr. Hart and his Million Knights in very concise language that his idea that because he buys space in the magazine he buys the right to say what else goes into it is incorrect. And also that his view that an author who writes something he does not approve of should be barred from future writing is not authorized in this country. The implication is there

that if Mr. Rovere writes something else in the future that the editors of Harper's like they are going to print it without first asking Mr. Hart's permission. This is Americanism.

Mr. Hart's views are Romanism. He is quite consistent with the laws and philosophy of his Church. His ecclesiastical superiors claim the right to censor all literature and to prohibit publication of anything that is contrary to their views. They cannot prevent publication in this country legally so they use the threat of boycott and financial loss for that purpose. They have a censorship over their own subjects, including Mr. Hart, that they must not write anything without first getting approval from the censor. They must not read anything that the censor rejects. The Hierarchy would like to extend this authority over every American.

Unfortunately both American tradition and law as expressed in the Constitution will not permit this. Hence the threats of boycott are used on motion picture producers and exhibitors; newspaper and magazine owners and editors; book publishers, politicians, government officials, and any and all that express any views or opinions contrary to the views of the Hierarchy.

We urge every reader of the LIBERAL to write to Harper's editors, 49 East 33 Street, New York 16, N. Y. congratulating them on their courage and expressing the hope that they will be able to maintain this stand in the future regardless of all pressures.

"He that would make his own liberty secure must guard even his enemy from oppression, for if he violates this duty he establishes a precedent that will reach to himself."

—Thomas Paine

CONTENTION IN DADE COUNTY

At the same time that the public school authorities in Dade County, Florida, which includes the city of Miami is faced with a suit to discontinue a dozen or so religious practices some religious fanatic demands that Aldous Huxley's book, "Brave New World" and George Orwell's "1984" be banned from the schools. A clergyman's wife charges they are both immoral. Her demand has been complied with.

But the demand of several parents that religious practices be discontinued is being fought vigorously. Both sides say they will appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court if they lose the decision in the lower court.

How far religion has been intruded into the public schools can be judged by the charges made. They number eight. (1) Reading of the Bible in classrooms and use of school facilities for Bible instruction after school hours and distribution of religious literature in schools. (2) Prayers and grace before meals. (3) Singing of religious hymns. (4) Christmas, Easter and Hanukkuh programs. (5) Placing of crosses and other religious symbols in schools. (6) Religious exercises at graduation ceremonies. (7) Conducting of a census among children to determine religious affiliations. (8) "Religious tests" for teachers and other school employees who are asked if they believe in God.

This looks like the public schools have been "captured" as P.O.A.U. terms it when Roman Catholic influences intrude such matters into public schools. But in this case it is Protestants doing the same thing. The American Civil Liberties Union is helping the complainants. We hope the P.O.A.U. will do the same.

Rationalist Organizations Directory

American Rationalist Federation

P. O. Box 255, Rockford, Ills.
Secretary, R. S. Blois. A national organization of societies and individuals.

Rationalist Society of St. Louis, Eldon Scholl, Secty.

2218 St. Louis Ave., St. Louis 6, Mo.

Friendship Liberal League, Inc.

Mazie S. Wolf, Secy.,
5233 N. 5th St., Phila. 20, Pa.

Jefferson Freethought Society, 2618 W. Fond du Lac Ave.

Milwaukee 6, Wis.

Voltaire Society,

P. O. Box 7954,
Chicago 80, Ills.

San Diego Freethinkers Society,
Julius Switra, Secretary-Treasurer
1262 First Ave., San Diego 1, Calif.

Cleveland Czech Rationalists,
Ant. Belson, Secty.,
5149 Fowler, Cleveland 7, Ohio

Twin City Secularists,
Box 5132,
St. Paul 4, Minn.

Iowa Rationalist Society
3632 Jones St., Sioux City 4, Iowa
Elmer E. Hansen, Secretary

Secularist Society of So. Calif.
Milton Thor, Secretary
Meets Monthly, 2nd Sunday, 2 P.M.
800 S. Plymouth, Ruskin Art Club

If you are not already a member of the society in your area, join; If there is none in your area start one! Write to Secretary R. S. Blois, A.R.F. for information and guidance.

GET ACQUAINTED

The following persons want to get

acquainted with other LIBERAL readers in their areas, with the possibility in mind of forming a group or society. Contact them and also get your name here if you too want to get organized. Names will be printed in three issues without charge. Remember, as isolated individuals we are powerless - as an organized, nation-wide movement we will be powerful and our voice will be listened to attentively.

Bert E. Boseneller, Route 1, Sterling, Ills.

Harold V. O'Reilly, 2119 Oak Bay Ave., Victoria, B. C., Can.

Dave Bartholomew, 819 S. 3rd Ave., Bozeman, Mont.

Lewis F. Kennedy, 1500 N. W. 11th St., Oklahoma City 6, Okla.

C. E. Robel, Lewiston, Idaho.

Anthony F. Bruns, 10740 Woodbine St., Westside Village, Palms, Los Angeles 34, Calif.

Wm. F. Mills, 620 Third Ave., Lewiston, Idaho.

John U. Holub, Rt. 4, Richland Center, Wis.

Wayne Weatherhead, 300 Michael Blvd., Hurst, Texas.

Harold Henry, 2015 Ethel Ave., Waco, Texas.

George R. Clements, P. O. Box 366, Sebring, Florida.

Frank Proster, R.D. 3, Box 147, Geneva, Ohio.

Irwin H. Brodsky, 417 E. 89th St., New York 28, N. Y.

Albert Dahlin, Box 24, Gheen, Minn.

Ed. Pearson, 49 Fifth St., West Sayville, New York.

Harry M. Cleaver, Jr., 4888 Harlou Dr., Dayton 2, Ohio.

Napoleon F. Jones, 3010 S.W. 15th Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Alfred J. Smith, Jr., 120 Orchard Knoll Dr., R.D. 2, Horseheads, N. Y.

D. W. Blakeslee, 1211 Morningside Ave., Pittsburgh 6, Penna.

J. S. Faubus, Combs, Arkansas.

Gratefully Acknowledged

We thank the readers listed below for their donations and support of the League. Battling against established reaction is not an easy job. We are doing all we can to preserve our Constitutional and traditional freedoms, but we must have finances to carry on. Get your name (or initials) into this column as often as you can. Donations listed are for those received July 15th to August 15th.

R. L. Chitty, J. Dobrinek, Mr. and Mrs. Hux, H. W. Ilinitch, H. Koos, 50 cts. J. Benjamin, N. F. Jones, V. H. Marozzi, \$1. J. F. Depke, \$1.50. M. Saraff, \$2. R. C. Essex, G. E. Julian, \$2.50. R. H. Dix, G. D. Greene, D. L. Otten, 3.50. L. Brunzell, C. R. Nay, \$5.00. F. Choha, \$15. H. Mongold, A. Vena, \$20. A. Vena, Home fund \$15. Total, \$104.50.

We wish it were possible to reply individually to all the letters of praise which we receive from those who send their money to help the cause. We just do not have the time. Nevertheless, it helps our morale greatly to know that our efforts are appreciated. Thanks to all of you. We will do our best to merit your continued support.

Blue Books

As announced in the August issue we have arranged with the publishers of the Big and Little BLUE BOOKS to distribute their books to our readers, for exactly the same cost as the publishers charge. Numerous readers have asked for free catalogs and sent in orders. These books cover the whole range of knowledge including some of the finest freethought and rationalist writers, Joseph McCabe for example. Send for descriptive catalogs from us and order by number from Librarian Choha, F.L.L. Paine Center.

Book Reviews

THE ROLLICKING SHORE, by E. R. Karr. 208 pp. \$3.50. This novel is a spicy dish of Rabelaisian wit and Voltairean satire fit for any free-thinker with a sense of humor. Allie is a boy with a freethinker father, with whose ideas he goes along, and a pious uncle, critical of all sinners except himself, for whom he has little admiration.

Allie's idol is Jack Moon, the hero of a novel called the Beachcomber, by Robert W. Service. Moon is a composite of Bernarr McFadden, Sandow and Shakespeare. Allie, by weightlifting and other exercises and right living has developed physically to several years beyond his middle-teen age. Like his hero he held girls in reverence, but wanted as little contact with them as Ferdinand the Bull wanted with matadors.

Allie spends three howling summer vacations in Vino, which might be any of several towns along the lake shore west of Cleveland. Without the slightest effort he acquires a reputation of Don Juan-Casanova proportions in a series of fortuitous adventures in which he manages to get shot by a friend's outraged sister, earn the ire of an over-zealous priest, get seduced by the lovely girl his bloodless uncle wanted to marry and gets mixed up in a hilarious fracas at a funeral of a freethinker some of whose relatives want him buried religiously notwithstanding his expressed wishes otherwise. In one episode Allie is lured into Big Ann's cat-house by his town boy pal under the pretext that he can buy fishing tackle there. To escape, when he realizes the true nature of the establishment he dives from an upper window into the nearby river. The story spread rapidly and everyone believed he jumped to escape paymnt. Under all is the por-

trayal of the hypocrisy of religious pretensions by many of our "respectable people." Order from the Librarian, F.L.L.

"THE THINKER'S HANDBOOK," by Hector Hawton, 248 pages, card cover, 75 cents.

"The Thinker's Handbook" is an invaluable work of reference for free-thinkers and rationalists in refuting the vindications of theologians to bolster religious beliefs, which have time and again been revealed as utterly hollow and intellectually bankrupt. The apologists and defenders of the various schools of theistic religion have, in many instances, seen the "proverbial handwriting on the wall" in the literal interpretation of their beliefs and premises, and have resorted to deceptive rationalizations in order to somehow sustain their unfounded assumptions and dogmas. Hector Hawton dissects and analyzes the evasions and hollow plausibilities of the defenders of the tottering faiths, and proves with penetrating logic that theism is inherently weak and cannot be sustained under rigid examination. The excellence of such a volume as "The Thinker's Handbook" cannot be overestimated in the field of religious controversy.

"A PICTURE BOOK OF EVOLUTION," by Rear Admiral C. M. Beadnell, R. N., 284 pages, cloth cover, \$2.50.

"A Picture Book of Evolution" is an excellent guidebook for students and laymen desiring an intimate understanding of the theory of evolution in all its aspects. In this volume the highlights of astronomy, geology, and plant and animal evolution are vividly illustrated by pictures, with textual explanations and commentaries by the author in non-technical language.

Here the infinite variety and complexity of inanimate and animate evolution is set forth in language understandable to the average layman, with a wealth of scientific data and knowledge presenting all the facets of evolution from star dust to man, and brought up to date in the light of the latest scientific discoveries.

Voltaire Society Brochure

The Voltaire Society, P.O. Box 7954, Chicago 80, Ills., has reprinted their brochure "Why Not A Catholic for President?" It shows very effectively "Why Not!" They may be had for \$5.00 per hundred or proportionately for lesser amounts. Write to the society for information or orders.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

I find old and out of print books. Send me description of your wants. No service charge. I will donate 20% of the gross profits of sales mentioning this notice to the LIBERAL.

Albert Hirsch, Bookfinder
1101 W. Columbia Ave., Room 111,
Chicago 26, Ills.

Watch the Booklist

There are frequent additions and deletions in our booklist so watch for changes each month.

Dear Editor:

The Principles and Policies on the back of your letterhead is great. In a more enlightened age such statements will be treasured as is the Declaration of Independence.

—Roy Lee, Colo.

THOMAS PAINE SEALS

200 Seals.....50 cents

BOOK LIST

SIXTY YEARS OF PSYCHIC RESEARCH.....	Jos. F. Rinn.....	6.00
PEOPLES PADRE.....	Emmitt McLaughlin	3.50
THE RELIGION OF THE OCCIDENT	Martin A. Larson	6.00
WARFARE OF SCIENCE WITH THEOLOGY	Andrew D. White	6.00
DECLINE AND FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE	Edward Gibbon - (3 Vol.)	9.00
BRADLAUGH AND INGERSOLL	Chapman Cohen	1.00
WE TOO HAVE A STORY	Julianne Carra	1.00
RUINS OF EMPIRES	Count Volney	2.50
CRUX ANSATA	H. G. Wells	1.00
MAGIC AND RELIGION	Sir James G. Frazer	.75
THE ESPERANTO TEACHER	Complete Course	.45
LETTERS AND ESSAYS OF A POPE	Frank C. Hughes. (Satirical)	.50
BIBLE AND ITS BACKGROUND	Archibald Robertson. (2 Vol.)	1.50
BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT	Charles Fort (4 Complete books)	6.00
THE DOLLAR AND THE VATICAN	Avro Manhattan	3.75
SUPERIOR MEN	James Hervey Johnson	.75
ESSAYS IN SCIENCE	Albert Einstein	1.25
ONE, TWO THREE AND THE UNIVERSE	Soren Dahl	.50
CATHOLIC IMPERIALISM AND WORLD FREEDOM	Avro Manhattan	3.75
EVOLUTION OF THE IDEA OF GOD	Grant Allen	.75
AMERICAN FREEDOM AND CATHOLIC POWER	Paul Blanshard	3.50
RATIONALIST ANNUAL 1955-56-57-58-59	each	.75
WHY I QUIT GOING TO CHURCH.....	Rupert Hubbes	1.50
ESSAYS IN FREETHINKING	Chapman Cohen. (4 Vol.)	4.00
SCIENCE AND THE SUPERNATURAL	Anton J. Carlson	.35
THE MIND IN THE MAKING	James Harvey Robinson	.75
THE SOUL OF A PRIEST	L. H. Lehmann	1.25
FORGOTTEN WOMEN IN CONVENTS	Helen Conroy	1.25
THE PRIEST, THE WOMAN AND THE CONFESSIONAL	Father Chiniquy	1.25
FIFTY YEARS IN THE CHURCH OF ROME	Father Chiniquy	3.75
WHY WE FEEL AND ACT AS WE DO	Ambrose G. Beltz	1.00
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