

Mother Sets Off Chain Reaction in Illinois. A mother complained to the Sheriff about the immorality of a library book brought home by her daughter in Olney, Illinois. The Sheriff wrote to the Governor about the complaint. The Governor asked the Secretary of State, who is also Librarian of the State Library, which sent the book to the Olney Library, to look into the matter. The Secretary of State issued a directive to the Assistant Librarian of the State Library, who set the library staff to work on implementing it. The offending novel was banned, the directive continuing: "You shall likewise take out of circulation all books now in the library which are in the same category as the book named, that is, books of a salacious, vulgar or obscene character. You are hereby notified you shall not order books in this classification in the future."

Eight thousand volumes (400-500 titles) were culled from library shelves.

Within 48 hours after the story hit the newspapers, the Governor commented that while school children should be protected against obscene literature, adults were "capable of determining their own reading tastes" and are entitled to a wide choice of books; and the Secretary of State said that the action by the Assistant State Librarian Helene Rogers had been "overzealous."

In other news dispatches Miss Rogers was reported as commenting, "I am sure our librarians were not overzealous, but simply carried out the directive as it was stated," and, "If I was overzealous by removing too many books, it was because the secretary and I did not understand the same meaning of words in the order." In Urbana, three members of the Illinois State Library were quoted as opposed to the withdrawal of books from general circulation. Robert Downs, Director of the University of Illinois Library, said, "I believe the directive should be immediately withdrawn." One week later, at Christmas time, no action had been taken by the Secretary (who was in Florida with his ill wife) or by his office.

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Censorship and Controversy. This is the title of a 56-page booklet issued by the National Council of Teachers of English. The publication gives books and the use of books in classrooms and school libraries considerable attention. Included in it are the Freedom to Read statement, the ALA Library Bill of Rights, and "Attacks on Textbooks," issued by the American Textbook Publishers Institute and the American Book Publishers Council. The booklet may be obtained from the NCTE, 8110 S. Halstead Street, Chicago 20, Ill. for \$.75.

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Freedom to Read. "The Freedom to Read" statement of the Westchester Conference has been widely reprinted; a few examples: Saturday Review, July 11, '53; Library Journal, August '53; ALA Bulletin (along with President Eisenhower's letter to the Los Angeles Conference) November, 1953. The statement has been translated into Japanese in Japan; and it has received favorable notice in India. It is a job in itself to keep up with the comments and reprinting of excerpts, but we want to note two especially. On last August 8, School and Society published a powerful editorial comment on the "freedom of reading," quoting from the statement. And the October Connecticut Libraries commented also, from which we set down here one paragraph:

"The ears for whom this message from ALA was intended were not only those of politicians, or of the public at large. The manifesto was essentially a message to librarians, sent with a clear awareness that it would become mere rhetoric if it did not endorse principles that are active policies of local librarians everywhere throughout the nation. It is to be hoped that in libraries where these policies are not pursued, the manifesto will encourage them into active existence."

From Charles Bolte of the American Book Publishers Council comes word that copies of the "Freedom to Read" statement can now be obtained from the Council, 2 W. 46th Street, New York 36, at the following rates:

Up to 25 copies.....	no charge
50 copies.....	\$1
100 copies.....	\$2
1000 copies.....	\$15

This has been made possible through the generosity of Sidney Satenstein of American Book-Straford Press.

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Freedom and Censorship in Georgia. A Georgia state regent who favors separate schools for Negroes and whites warned the editors of The Red and Black, student newspaper at the University of Georgia, that state funds making up two-thirds of the paper's budget, would be cut off unless the editors changed their editorial policy on segregation. One set of editors resigned in November. A second group could not stomach the difficulties any better in December, and also resigned.

Dan Lacy, Managing Director of the American Book Publishers Council, met with members of the Georgia Literature Commission, charged with reviewing "obscene literature" for the state. After the conference, the chairman of the commission said that they would recommend to the state legislature that the power of censorship over individual book titles should be returned to the courts--and he implied that this was what he thought the commission favored--or ask for a large appropriation to hire a large staff to read every book going on sale in the state.

Georgia was also the scene of a strong and substantive speech by Mr. Lacy on "Freedom and Books" before the Georgia Library Association October 24. Mimeographed copies may be obtained from the American Book Publishers Council. (The substance of the address also just appeared in the January Nieman Reports, along with "For Free Minds," by Harvard's President Pusey.

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No Dice. On Feb. 6, 1952 the New York State Regents appointed a special Regents Commission to investigate any textbook about which there was a complaint of subversion. According to a dispatch to the New York Times of Oct. 12, 1953, almost twenty months later, the three-member commission has not yet found it necessary to act.

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Akron Library Talks Back. In October three almost identical letters came to the Akron (O.) Public Library from the Sons of the American Revolution, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Daughters of the American Colonists. The letters "vigorously objected to and opposed any propoganda under whatever guise in our public schools and public libraries that intend to undermine our Constitution and substitute a World Government, which is at the present represented by the United Nations whose glaring Un-American activities are being daily revealed."

Neither county nor city school boards in Akron took action. But in November the Akron Public Library Board adopted a statement of policy which was supported in a strong editorial in the Akron Beacon Journal. Because the "form letters" may be a part of a national campaign, we set down the library board statement in full:

The Public Library is an educational institution whose major responsibility is to collect, organize and lend printed material on all subjects. Where different opinions occur on any topic, it is the duty of the library, within the limits of its resources, to represent all points of view. In controversial questions the staff in their official capacities should maintain an impartial position.

There are certain questions, however, which are not controversial such as the inalienable rights to freedom and to the franchise and the responsibility of loyal citizens to be informed on the problems of the day.

The right of free citizens to strive for world peace through negotiation and association has likewise been widely accepted by our people. Since membership in the U. N. has been approved by an overwhelming majority in Congress and since, as a result, our own government has become a very important member of the United Nations, the Library regards it as a duty to encourage its patrons to read, study and discuss all phases of its structure and activities.

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Academic Freedom. On December 17, Senator McCarthy announced that a bill was being prepared for Congress that would end gift-tax exemptions for those who supported educational institutions that employed "Fifth Amendment Communists." The announcement came as a climax to an exchange of telegrams between the Senator and Harvard University President Nathan Pusey, who refused to fire Harvard Professor Wendell Furry for using the Fifth Amendment as grounds for not answering the Senator's questions.

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Overseas Libraries. Dispatches in the New York Times of October 28 and in the New York Post of the following day indicate that the restoration of books to U. S. Libraries in Germany have not followed out the thorough policy revision issued in July (see Newsletter, Vol. II, No. 1, p. 5). Books by Walter Duranty and Vera Micheles Dean, for instance, are still withdrawn.

An even worse situation is reported in Japan in "Memo from Tokyo: Battle of the Books...a U. S. Defeat," U. S. News and World Report, Oct. 23, p.109-11.

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Conclusion in Brooksville, Florida. After weeks of argument, the allegedly communist books and magazines removed from Brooksville's public library (see Vol. II, No. 1, p. 11) have been ordered returned by the county library board. But the county board has reappointed the member of the public library board who caused the removal and failed to reappoint two members who opposed him. For further details, see Publishers Weekly, Oct. 5, p. 1838-9.

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Massachusetts Subversive Activities Commission. The Massachusetts General Court has passed a bill creating a seven-member special commission with sweeping powers to investigate "subversive activities" in "educational, political, governmental, and industrial fields." In the words of the law, the commission's purpose will be, in part, to investigate and study "the diffusion within the commonwealth of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries, or of a domestic origin, and attacks the principles of the form of government as guaranteed by our constitution and all other questions in relation thereto that would aid the general court in enacting any necessary remedial legislation."

According to the American Civil Liberties Union, the rights of witnesses "appear to be better safeguarded than in similar laws. According to the statute, the subject of any investigation must be clearly stated before witnesses are summoned. Witnesses may be advised by counsel while testifying and may add a statement at the conclusion of the hearing.

"Any person whose name is mentioned or who is identified through the testimony of others may file a statement or appear personally on his own behalf."

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Kinsey. According to an Associated Press Dispatch, the Kinsey report on "Sexual Behavior in the Human Female," has been cited as forbidden reading for Roman Catholics in the diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky. According to a dispatch to the New York Daily News, the book is sold "under the counter" to American colonels and generals in Germany but is barred from army post exchanges and snack bar

newsstands. In Medford, Massachusetts, the City Council demanded that the city library restrict circulation of Kinsey to adults, and the librarian commented that this was already library practice.

According to an AP dispatch from Chicago, a group of science writers have taken Dr. Kinsey himself to task for demanding to check accounts of a speech before they are published. "Those of us who know you as a sincere scientist, often unfairly attacked, do not attribute [bad] motives to you," was the writers' comment. "However, we do regard the condition you lay down as tantamount to censorship and a violation of freedom of the press."

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Continued Story in Texas. A fierce debate over the inclusion of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights in history textbooks used in Texas schools was won November 9 when the State Board of Education voted 9 to 3 to include the document.

In San Antonio, a newly appointed public library board had still to worry over threats of book burning and book branding (see Newsletter, Vol. II, no. 1, p. 1). Because of interference with its normal processes, the library was a half year behind in its book purchases and was operating with a reduced budget. Under the leadership of Maury Maverick and Marie Halpenny, the New American Activities Committee, formed for defense of intellectual freedom, is publishing a bulletin and has obtained a charter from the State of Texas.

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Minute Women. In October, the Houston (Texas) Post published a series of ten articles on the Minute Women of the U. S. A., Inc., by reporter Ralph O'Leary. Basic to their activities, according to O'Leary, is an undemocratic organization without a constitution or by-laws, without parliamentary procedure to guide meetings, and without an opportunity to introduce motions from the floor; the agenda of meetings is arranged beforehand by the chapter chairman and her policy council or executive committee.

"There are no elections of officers or policy council members. All are appointed, from the national officers on down through those in local chapters." The founder of the organization is Mrs. Suzanne Silvercruys Stevenson, a "one-time refugee from Belgium," and she took her inspiration, so she said in 1951, from a militant women's crusade in 1949 which cleaned up an ugly situation of crime and violence in Gary, Indiana. In 1951 Mrs. Stevenson, a Catholic, came into serious disagreement with the associate editor of the official paper of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Antonio, over some of the principal policies of the Minute Women.

Minute-Women effectiveness in action is obtained by a telephone chain--a pyramid organization of phoning similar to a chain letter scheme. A woman at the top of the list in each chapter gets instructions from local officials. She calls five women in the chapter and relays the message. Each of the five women then relays it to five on her own list, each of the successive twenty-five pass it on to another five, and so on until the whole membership is reached. (A membership of 625 could

be reached with astonishing speed, by no more than four layers or series of calls.) Furthermore, there is a check-up on efficiency. Anyone who fails to reach anyone of her own group of five is supposed to report the fact to headquarters in 24 hours.

By this method business can be conducted not in open meetings but by word of mouth or by quickly-called closed meetings. Moreover, women can belong to the organization for months without knowing that friends or acquaintances are also members. "Mrs. Stevenson's more remarkable innovation, however," says O'Leary, "was adoption of a simple procedure which makes the Minute-Women group potentially a thousand times more effective than the usual civic, fraternal, patriotic, business or other organization." He quotes her as emphasizing again and again, "Minute-Women act as individuals--never as a pressure group." (Five hundred letters or calls of individual protest to a governmental bureau, public agency, or business concern will carry far more weight than the same number of protests from an organization representing 500 people.) Mrs. Stevenson has been quoted as saying that she had notified all Congressmen to disregard any communications they received which were signed "Minute Women." The Women make their influence felt, but only "as individuals."

Objectives of the Minute Women are, "actively to fight Communism in every form" and "to demand the removal of Socialism and Communism in our federal and state governments, and in our educational system and demand the teaching of our American heritage in our schools and colleges." But somewhat over a year ago when the organization placed advertisements in seven newspapers throughout the country asking support of legislation to prevent President Truman from sending more soldiers to Korea without consent of Congress, its leaders were embarrassed to have the Communists pick up the advertisements and use them for their own propaganda in Korea.

The undemocratic form of the organization also awakens echoes for those acquainted with Communist methods. John Lautner, the head of the Communists' "internal control commission" for New York State in the 1930's and '40's, testified about a similar type of organization within the Communist apparatus ("Subversive Influence in the Educational Process," Hearings before the Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act and Other Internal Security Laws of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Sept. 8, 9, 10, 23, 24, 25, and October 13, 1952, p. 244-55).

Lautner described a "so-called three system," frequently used within Communist or Communist-controlled groups in 1948 and 1949, and perhaps more recently. A top co-ordinating committee appointed a group of three party-members--a "political person," an "organizational person," and a "union mass-organization person." Each of these three persons were ordered to assign three other party members for similar jobs on the next lowest level, each of the nine three more, and so on down for as many levels as needed. Five levels, for instance, could integrate 363 people into a fairly tight structure.

For secret or "underground" purposes one of the chief values of such a structure lies in the fact that any single member of it knows no more than six party members in the total group--the three he appointed on the next lowest level, the other two in his own triangle, and probably the one who appointed him on the level above. "This structure only

worked in a descending manner," Lautner testified. "A lower level could not get in touch with anybody on a higher level. The initiative at all times came from the level above. If there was no initiative there, then the thing below was dormant."

Because undemocratic methods may not be immediately understood, the Minute Women, like the Communists, have confused some people. They have thrown their influence around in Los Angeles, Denver, and elsewhere. In Columbus, Ohio, they recently intimidated merchants (except for the powerful Ohio Farm Bureau) into removing the United Nations flag from their windows. In San Antonio the scheme to brand some five hundred books in the Public Library came from a former Minute Woman and she received valuable support from members of the group. In Houston Deputy Superintendent of Schools, George W. Ebey, lost his job last May in large part because of "underground" activity, it is now charged, on the part of Minute Women. The Ebey case is being investigated by the National Education Association.

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The Customs and the Post Office. Libraries continue to have difficulty in spite of considerable effort, in importing certain materials from behind the Iron Curtain. The obstruction, as with such a publication as Irybuna Ludu, (Warsaw) seems to be the Post Office, which considers some of the issues of the paper "Unmailable" and refuses to deliver them.

A story of November 9 in the Washington Star carries the charge from editors of the domestically published New World Review that the Post Office is censoring their magazine. A notice from the Post Office said four issues were regarded as unmailable under section 36.5 of the postal laws and regulations. (Later issues have been held for inspection.) The section specifies that the mails shall not carry any matter advocating urging treason, insurrection or forcible resistance to any law of the United States. The editors said the magazine does not and never has advocated any of these things.

A story by Peter Kihss in the New York Times of October 11, reports that the Bureau of Customs and the Post Office Department have recommended to the Department of Justice changes in the law interfering with the receipt of publications from behind the Iron Curtain and reviews other elements of the problem.

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Foundation Investigation. A story of October 17 in the Washington Post on the special committee to investigate tax-exempt foundations, reports serious differences between Representative Wayne L. Hays (Ohio), ranking committee Democrat, and Republican Chairman Carroll Reece (Tenn.) over the qualifications and selection of several committee staff members. How soon the committee will be ready to hold sessions is a matter of speculation. The committee is renewing the work of a committee which last year generally praised foundations.

In a press release, Reece commented on foundations:

"...Special consideration is being given to various suggestions as to how the committee may fairly yet accurately ascertain the role played

by tax-exempt foundations indirectly in fostering the collectivist trend within the U. S. since 1920." (see our Vol. II, No. 1 issue, p. 9.)

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Guilt by Association with Will Scarlet? According to United Press dispatches in November, Mrs. Thomas J. White, Republican member of the Indiana Textbook Commission, advocated a ban on the story of Robinhood and on references to Quakers from all school materials because they are being used to further the purposes of Communism. Governor George Craig, former national commander of the American Legion declined to commend on Robinhood, but defended the Quakers as "patriotic." The Indianapolis Superintendent of Schools refused to remove either the references or the textbooks from city schools.

After the news story had spread as far as London and Moscow, Mrs. White said she had not requested a ban on such reading materials though she stood by her opinion of the Robinhood story. The Indianapolis Times editorially supported its own reporter and a U. P. correspondent, who had interviewed her separately, as to the authenticity of her first remarks.

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Pre-Censorship. The United States Supreme Court will review the ban on the French film "La Ronde" in New York State and the ban on "M" in Ohio. Grounds of the bannings were, respectively, the corruption of public morals and the promotion of crime. But more significant may be the Court's clarification of whether motion pictures are protected by the free speech guarantees of the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

One of the busier divisions of the American Civil Liberties Union has been the National Council on Freedom from Censhrship. It has fought the banning in Jersey City of "The Moon is Blue," a film which, incidentally, seems to have thrived economically on efforts at censorship. It has protested plans to set up a code for motion picture exhibitors on the ground that vague standards of obscenity and indecency are better clarified through application of appropriate state laws than in exhibitors' pre-censorship. And it has protested the action of the Motion Picture Association of America (which, incidentally, has fought state motion picture censorship boards), in refusing to give its seal of approval to "Cease Fire," a war film on Korea, until the words "hell" and "damn" were deleted.

As we go into type, the Quebec Film Censorship Board has banned the film "Martin Luther"; "The French Line" has opened in St. Louis without the seal of the Hollywood Production Code; and a meeting has been called to consider rewriting and updating the Code, under which Hollywood studios have operated since 1930.

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Presbyterian Letter. In November the General Council of the Presbyterian Church sent an extended message to members of 8,000 congregations across the nation. The letter took exception to the purely negative "police problem" method of dealing with Communism, noted the preference for falsehood over fact "if it can be shown to have greater propaganda value," and criticized acceptance of "the uncorroborated word of former Communists," many of whom "have done no more, as we know, than transfer their allegiance from one authoritarian system to another."

The message read further: "Treason and dissent are being confused. The shrine of conscience and private judgment is being invaded. Un-American attitudes toward ideas and books are becoming current...."

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Freedom of Information. Newspapermen who have been critical of governmental regulations and actions excluding the public and the press from access to information hailed President Eisenhower's order of November 6 to federal agencies as a welcome "tearing of the paper curtain in Washington." According to an AP dispatch, the new order, which went into effect December 15, a) limits to fewer agencies the power to use security classifications, b) forbids the heads of 17 agencies to delegate the classifying authority to anyone else, c) improves the definitions of security classifications, and d) provides for a review of classification operations.

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References. We can't offer any full list of recent material on intellectual freedom. But we note that the Southwest Review devoted its fall issue to articles on freedom of thought, and that a generous section of the fall Antioch Review is given over to "civil and academic liberty." One of the most thoughtful of current articles is "Some Observations on Intellectual Freedom" by David Riesman in the winter American Scholar, an article one might call "controversial" if that had not become a dirty word. Another publication, which can be used for discussion, is "Censorship for the Mass Audience: A Protection or a Threat?" in the Sept. 15, 1953 issue of "Platform," published by the magazine Newsweek. The November 15 Antiquarian Bookseller carries "Prohibition is Back--for Books" and "Censor's Choice: A checklist of Banned Books" by Herbert E. Stanton.

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More Available Literature. The response to our offer of material on intellectual freedom in our last Newsletter was highly gratifying. We have replenished such supplies as were exhausted and still have at least a few copies of almost everything--except the bibliography "Let Freedom Ring," which is available in slightly revised form in the November ALA Bulletin. In addition we also have: 1) an article on whether basic Communist works are a menace in public libraries by the editor of the Springfield (O.) Sun; 2) "They Want Tailored Schools," by Robert A. Skaife, field secretary of the Defense Commission of the National Education Association.

We are not yet certain that money will be available to offer reprints of the extensive material on intellectual freedom in the November ALA Bulletin, but if we can afford the reprints, announcement should appear in the Bulletin at an early date.

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Barometer in Intellectual Freedom? The Gallup Poll on December 5 reported that two out of three Americans believed that a Communist-sympathizer should not be allowed to speak publicly in their community.

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England and Canada, Too. The December 5 Publishers Weekly, p. 2240-41, reports a trend toward censorship and attempts at censorship in England and Canada.

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Judgment in St. Paul. On November 6, Municipal Judge James C. Otis of St. Paul, Minnesota, has handed down a 25-page decision in the City of St. Paul vs. Harry Fredkove, to the effect that the book Women's Barracks, by Tereska Forrest, "does not have a substantial tendency to deprave or corrupt by inciting lascivious thoughts or arousing lustful desire in the ordinary reader in this community in these times." The question of obscenity, with which the book was charged in a city ordinance is carefully, thoroughly and historically explored in a decision which may become one of the legal landmarks in judgments on obscenity in literature.

Quotes: "With the possible exception of the State of Massachusetts and scattered municipalities in this country, few cities or states appear to have made provision in the law for censorship by way of 'previous restraint.'...

"In a city such as St. Paul there is, strictly speaking, no censorship whatever... Under our philosophy of government, the possibility of a criminal prosecution or a civil action for damages is deemed sufficient restraint and censorships over irresponsible or improper statements of writings....

"...it is the opinion of this court that book-sellers may not escape their responsibility by pleading ignorance....

"...the argument has sometimes been advanced that other literature which is widely circulated contains material equally objectionable. Obviously there is no merit in this position....

"The City has advanced the argument that obscenity is self-evident and suggests that its existence can always be determined by rigid, ageless and immutable moral laws. With such a concept this and other courts vigorously disagree...."

Judge Otis runs the full gamut of the law in the case and in his decision gives weight to the testimony of two specialists in literature, a professor of English at the University of Minnesota and a literary critic on the Minneapolis Sunday Tribune.

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Freedom to Read in Kalamazoo. The Kalamazoo Public Library has never made any bones about the fact that it had Communist materials on its shelves. Recently when several anonymous telephone calls suggesting removal of certain books from the shelves were received by Librarian William Chait, he recommended that the Board of Education support a specific policy for the library. As a result, the board adopted the seven-point Freedom to Read statement of the Westchester Conference of the ALA and the ABPC, and the Kalamazoo Gazette gave the story excellent coverage.

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What Parents Don't Know About Comic Books. Under this title Frederick Wertham continues an established campaign against comic books with an article in the November Ladies Home Journal, an excerpt from a book of his to be published by Rinehart and Company under the title Seduction of the Innocent. Dr. Wertham, consulting psychiatrist for the Department of Hospitals, New York City, calls for censorship of such publications.

"The type of juvenile delinquency of our time cannot be understood unless you know what has been put into the minds of these children," writes Wertham. "It certainly is not the only factor, nor in many cases is it even the more important one; but there can be no doubt that it is the most unnecessary and least excusable one."

Many other experts--juvenile judges, welfare workers and police officials--are not so certain of the direct connection between comic books and crime. As to the censorship proposal, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch omitted comic strips dealing with kidnapping after the Bobby Greenlease case broke in Kansas City. The Christian Science Monitor commended the Post Dispatch for its action and pointed out that newspapers do exercise some control over comic strips not present in independently published comic books; "...the fact is that even some of the daily strips," said the Monitor, "when published in book form, add offensive features which would not be permitted in newspaper columns...."

Two other newspapers, the Rutland (Vt.) Herald and the Greensboro (N.C.) News disagreed with the idea that censorship of comics was a sound solution. A fuller report on this item and on censorship of pocket-size books will be found in the November 6 and 27 issues of the Bulletin: Recent Censorship Developments, issued by the American Book Publishers Council, 2 West 46th Street, New York 36.

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Trouble in Vermont. A New York Times dispatch from Shaftsbury, Vermont of October 28 carried the news that an official textbook history of the state had been banned by the school board from use in the local schools for being "subversive," although board members had not read it. Later stories in Vermont newspapers indicated that the Governor, other prominent citizens and the newspapers had come to the defense of the book. Two of the three-member board resigned and presently the book was returned to school library shelves. Then the third member removed a second book, Our Neighbors in the Pacific, because it was written by "the Owen Lattimore gang." At a town meeting to elect two new members to the board, a resolution was passed asking the school board not to remove books until a full report was made to the entire town.

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Illenka in Washington. Recently the American Legion Post in Aberdeen, Washington proposed sending a committee to remove "pro-communist" books from the Aberdeen and Hoquiam Public Libraries. Controversy had begun over Illenka, a story book about a Russian girl written for children in the lower three grades.

Librarian Florence K. Lewis of Aberdeen announced, "Libraries always will reserve the right of being convinced that a book is communistic in content, or salacious or undesirable in any way." She cited

the ALA-ABPC manifesto on the Freedom to Read and commented, "Local libraries are not weakening on this score just because an organization or individual attacks our choice of books." Latest reports have it that the American Legion is now sponsoring a children's reading program in cooperation with the two libraries.

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Anti-Communist Textbook Law in Alabama. A law coming into effect in Alabama January 1 states that no textbooks can be adopted by the state textbook committee, board of education, or any other public body or official without a statement by the publisher or author "indicating clearly and with particularity" that the author is or is not a "known advocate of communism or Marxist Socialism." (See Publishers' Weekly, Dec. 12, p. 2313.)

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Potential Threats in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Free Library Commission reports potential threats of censorship in that state. Walter W. Botsford, commission secretary, has said that the adult education program in one community is under fire because some of the supporting funds come from the Ford Foundation; that in other communities programs have been attacked because they deal with world affairs, the United Nations and United States Foreign policy. Botsford issued a statement for the commission restating the public's right to read and learn. "We also believe," his statement continued, "that one of the most important duties of the public library is to provide information and reading matter and films on these issues and provide all adults with an opportunity to meet and discuss them on an informal and reasonable basis."

In Milwaukee the District Attorney first suggested that three books-- Hemingway's To Have and Have Not, Mailer's The Naked and the Dead, and Jone's From Here to Eternity--be withdrawn from Public Library shelves. Then he just asked reassurance that the circulation of these books were restricted to adults. Two of them, already had been so restricted, and librarian Richard Krug said that the third, after 16 years, had now been added to the restricted list, "solely because" of the undue curiosity which the district attorney had stirred up.

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News of Book Burning Abroad. One of the many interesting items turned up by Frank Kelly in an extended round-up of the year's events and trends in censorship for the American Book Publishers Council comes from a survey by the International Press Institute. More people in Britain, France and Italy read about President Eisenhower's views on book burning than about his views on the U. S. Air Force budget.

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Paul Bixler

(from Antioch College,
Yellow Springs, Ohio)