

## The Danger of

# CONFORMITY

**Be an individual, not just a unit of the herd**

*by L. A. Aleson, M.D.*

THE CURSE of the age is conformity. Our Constitutional Republic, founded by men of vision and dedication far transcending their time upon the basic principle that man is indeed a noble and sovereign creature endowed by his Creator with intelligence and with certain inalienable rights, has come upon sorry days. The men who dreamed the American dream and brought it into reality by a Declaration of Independence forged on the red-hot anvil of passionate but practical idealism, and guided by a Constitution whose wisdom and statesmanship has never been equaled in the annals of man, would indeed be horrified, shocked and saddened beyond measure were they to return to their America today.

No longer is the individual of any importance save as he contributes to the well-being of that artificial and altogether illogical and meaningless monstrosity called the group. In the quaint and irresponsible patois of our modernist progressive educa-

tionists, education should be and is group centered rather than child centered. From burp to baccalaureate our coming leaders are conditioned by these same educationists to stifle, control and stultify every faint semblance of individual initiative and meld all effort into the sordid, amorphous and enervating putty-like mass of the group.

To this conditioning process we, the responsible American citizens who should know better, have assigned the molding of the tender minds of our future citizens and in the ultimate the fate of our Republic. Discipline has been discarded lest it do something horrendous to the psyche of these tender minds. Competition has been eschewed on the naive Alice-in-Wonderland theory that in every race all should be winners and therefore all should have prizes. Controversial subjects have been tabooed because all must forever be sweetness and light in this most perfect of all perfect worlds about to

emerge from the chrysalis under the benign and omniscient direction of these our self-appointed gaulceiters.

Conformity in clothing, houses, automobiles, bridge and canasta can perhaps be lightly passed over like the itch or a slight case of the sniffles, but not so the deeper conformity of the mind, which is the carefully contrived and skillfully executed goal of those who would destroy America and her institutions of freedom based upon individual self-respect, individual responsibility and individual freedom. Today, conformity in attitude upon every socio-economic question has become a shibboleth which everyone must pronounce if he is to maintain any semblance of respectability among his fellows.

AS A PART of this conformity, every Goose-stepping little robot must be dutifully prepared upon every occasion to parrot the party line that our Constitution is a horse and buggy document; that profits and business are evil; that national sovereignty must be sacrificed in favor of world citizenship; that "human rights are more important than property rights"—(as if the former could exist without the latter); that freedom of speech should not be allowed everyone; that freedom of the press should be carefully restricted by central authority; that most people are not sufficiently intelligent to know what is best for themselves and therefore must look

to government for guidance in every phase of their lives; that our country has become so large and its activities so complex that the old-fashioned ideas of our Founders no longer can possibly apply; and so on ad infinitum, ad nauseam.

To point out that this philosophy of conformity, or rather conformism, is in direct violation of Nature's eternally changeless and fundamental law may seem trite, repetitious and banal; yet natural law can never long be successfully evaded. In all of Nature's countless billions of creations and creatures, from the smallest neutron to the greatest galaxy in the sidereal universe, or the paramecium to the mastodon, there is infinite variation. No two cells are ever just alike. In this infinite variation rests infinite capacity for development and improvement. By this process, Nature began with an amoeba and evolved a Mozart, and the same amazing and fruitful process continues and will continue notwithstanding mere man's stupid and misguided efforts to thwart it.

And what of the individual who, schooled in the traditions of the race, versed in the history of the Republic, trained by Church and home and long personal experience to honor his Country, his Country's Flag and respect his God, and who because his feet rest upon this changeless foundation of eternal verity resists this seemingly irresistible pressure to conform? The answer is simple. In the bright and

everchanging pragmatic lexicon of the collectivist, the individual is mentally ill and requires eradication by any and all available means. The most feasible means at the moment is his commitment to a mental institution lest by association with his fellows he infect them with some of the ideals and traditions of the ages, and thereby disrupt the plans of the Utopians. Commitment to mental institutions is being made increasingly easy by so enlarging the definition of mental illness as to include almost anyone who shows any manifestations of the ability to think independently, to reach conclusions by himself and to refuse to accept programs dictated from on high. The temerity to express such ideals in public is an unforgivable offense. Countless per-

sons have been committed to mental institutions on the flimsiest pretext when actually the only evidence of mental illness consisted in exercise of the God-given right to be an individual and not just another unit in the herd.

JUST AS MUCH as in the dark days of Valley Forge, America today needs the inspired and burning pen of a Thomas Paine to cut through the sham and deception of this ugly specter of collectivism—to clear the smog of conformity from men's minds and to free them for truly constructive ventures in a future without limitations imposed by little men of no vision who seek always conformity and mediocrity rather than freedom and excellence.

—Freedom Club Bulletin

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### *Banking Aided by Sephardim*

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An account of the prominent part played by Sephardim in the early history of the *Bank of England* was given by Mr. J. A. Guiseppi, Archivist to the Bank, when he addressed the Jewish Historical Society of England in the Gustave Tuck Theatre, University College, W. C. 1, recently.

By the end of the seventeenth century, he said, the Jews had firmly established themselves in English commercial life, their contact with relatives and friends abroad enabling them to carry on a considerable trade with foreign parts. A strong Sephardi element was to be found among the discount customers of the Bank of England at that time. The records showed, too, that the Sephardim were inclined to do business among themselves rather than with those outside their community.

Analysis had shown the Sephardi *holders of Bank Stock* in 1725 to be divided almost equally between *London and Amsterdam*. During the ensuing 70 years, Amsterdam substantially increased its holdings.

Commenting on those families whose names had been most constantly represented during the period he had reviewed (1694-1794), Mr. Guiseppi said that the record undoubtedly went to the Mocatta family, whose name appeared in the records in 1704 and was still to be found there 90 years later.

—*The Jewish Chronicle*, March 6, 1959

To the Raven Clan, The Great Emancipator was a man 58 feet tall

# unique memorial to LINCOLN

by Louise Cheney

A CHANCE meeting off the Alaskan coast in 1867 between the captain of a US revenue cutter and a tribe of canoe-borne Tlingit Indians inspired the subsequent erection of a unique memorial to Abraham Lincoln: a huge totem pole topped with a likeness of the Great Emancipator.

That year, the United States had purchased Alaska from Russia. One day revenue officers patrolling a channel in the Prince of Wales archipelago came upon a flotilla of speeding canoes filled with Indian families and, apparently, all their worldly goods.

Some sort of wholesale exodus, the captain decided, and hailed the lead canoe. Through an interpreter, he spoke with the tribal chief who told him that the frenzied clan belonged to the Raven phratry of Tlingits. They were fleeing their arch foes, the Eagles, who had been harassing and enslaving the weaker Ravens for years. The Eagles had, in fact, grown rich in the Indian slave traffic.

"You need never fear slavery again," the captain painstakingly assured the chief. "Alaska now belongs to the United States, and in that country enslavement of any human being, regardless of who he is or how little he may possess, is prohibited. No one who lives under the flag of the United States can be owned, and you are now under the protection of that flag. A man by the name of Abraham Lincoln, who was president of the United States a few years ago, signed a proclamation known as the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed all slaves."

The wonderful news was called from canoe to canoe. The now jubilant Raven Indians trailed the cutter until they reached a group of islands southwest of the archipelago. There they built a new village and settled into what they hoped was the promised new life.

When months passed and the Ravens were not once molested by the Eagles, the clan realized that the white captain on the government