

white, and if they had to choose some degree of black-white mixture for themselves they would go long on the white and short on the black. And yet, perhaps because an honest admission of it is so rare, there is something heart-breaking about a black woman's

admission of something that whites take for granted.

Miss Channing almost seems to think of herself as a white woman trapped in a black woman's body. To the extent that rising racial consciousness finally prompts whites to rally to their nation and their culture she ap-

plauds it. At the same time, it can only cause whites to think of her as different from themselves, and to the extent that white racial consciousness may exclude her she fears it. Among most blacks, of course, her views are anathema. Here may be the ingredients of tragedy. •

## Sacrificing the Best

David Starr Jordan, *War and the Breed*, Beacon Press, 1915, (abridged reprint by Cliveden Press), 127 pp., \$12.50.

### An essay on the dysgenic savagery of war.

reviewed by Thomas Jackson

**T**oday, the welfare state is the most powerful force working to lower the genetic level of the population. Any system that forces the responsible and hard working to support unlimited procreation by the incompetent can only drag down the average. In this little book, David Starr Jordan reminds us that war is even more ruthlessly dysgenic. The very best of a nation's men are cut down in battle, often before they have had even a single child.

Jordan wrote this book in 1915, one year into the great, fratricidal struggle that desolated so much of Europe and set the stage for an even more terrible struggle. He saw the Great War as only the latest and most horrible of the butcheries that have retarded the evolution of the race. This contemporary and abridged reprint is illustrated with 28 full-page photographs and brief biographies of some of the young Britons who were needlessly sacrificed in that war. Their strong, honest faces are a silent reproach to governments that were willing to snuff them out without issue.

Jordan offers several reasons why war sends a nation's best to their deaths. First, armies do not accept the feeble-minded, sickly, or deformed. Second, among those who serve in combat, it is the bravest, most intelligent men who make the best soldiers and who are therefore relied upon by commanders when combat is most desperate. Finally, until recently, all



Captain M.A. Fitzroy left his studies at Oxford to join the Seaforth Highland Regiment. He was killed on April 16, 1915, leaving no children.

European nations had military traditions that drew their best and most patriotic sons to the colors.

Jordan makes the point that this has always been the case. Though he may press the point a little too far, he argues that it was war that brought down Greece and Rome by slaughtering their best men. The Greeks were not unmindful of the terrible genetic risks of war, and at one time took precautions against them. Every one of the Spartans who died in the defense against the Persians at Thermopylae was a volunteer, but no man who had not already had at least one son was

left behind to guard the pass. Later, during the Peloponnesian Wars, hard-pressed Greeks could no longer hold their childless men in reserve.

Jordan notes that the burden of empire so decimated the Romans that whole tribes of aliens and even slaves were made into legionnaires. Horace, writing near the beginning of the Christian era, recorded the consequences:

Our grandfathers sired feeble children; their's

Were weaker still—ourselves; and now our curse

Must be to breed even more degenerate heirs.

The British, too, have suffered both from the losses of war and from the great outpouring of adventurous men who sought their fortunes in the colonies. The exertions of empire and the costs of two world wars have changed the character of the British. Jordan quotes Havelock Ellis: "The reckless Englishmen, who boldly sailed out from their little island to fight the Spanish Armada, were long since exterminated; and an admirably prudent and cautious race has been left alive."

Under Napoleon, France too reaped a gruesome harvest of Europe's best men. In the emperor's time, soldiers were chosen for their height, because tall men made a more fearsome impression on the battlefield. Jordan writes that the wars of the Republic and the First Empire notably diminished the stature of Frenchmen. The declining average height of a population can be measured; the other qualities that

were lost—bravery, dash, and intelligence—cannot.

The losses that Napoleon inflicted on Europe come into perspective when compared with casualties during America's own fratricidal war. At Gettysburg, our bloodiest battle, 163,00 men were engaged and 37,000 killed or wounded. At Napoleon's defeat in 1813 at the Battle of Leipzig, 440,000 were engaged and 92,000 killed or wounded. However, the greatest loss France suffered under Napoleon was during the Grand Army's retreat from Moscow in 1812. Of the 400,000 men who had set out to discipline Russia, only 20,000 returned. It is testimony to the martial vanity of man that Napoleon, who once said that "a boy will stop a bullet as well as a man," should still be a hero to the French.

Of course, tanks and machine guns soon made modern war even more murderous. The Battle of the Somme, which dragged on for four months in 1916, claimed over 600,000 British and French casualties, and an unknown but roughly equal number of German casualties.

It is fortunate that war does not kill off the best of the women along with the men—at least it did not before the era of civilian bombing. However, as Jordan explains, war often so thins the ranks of the better men that the women they would have married may be unable to find husbands.

In today's climate of enforced silence on genetic matters, it is instructive to note how unself-consciously Jordan wrote about the dysgenic effects of war. At the time, he was chancellor of what became known as Stan-

ford University, and his concerns about the genetic quality of the race were widely shared. He quotes many others—journalists, professors, and even poets—who issued the same warnings about the effects of war.

Neither Europe nor America has fought a major war since 1945, so an entire generation has been spared. Moreover, the technical means to wage mass war and the disappearance of the gentleman-soldier tradition mean that future conflicts may be more akin to indiscriminate massacres than to selective, dysgenic killing.

Today, welfare is a greater threat to the gene pool than warfare. ●

*War and the Breed is available for \$14.00, postage included, directly from Cliveden Press, 6861 Elm St, Ste. 4H, McLean, VA 22101.*

## O Tempora, O Mores!

### The Richness of Diversity

A federal judge, Sonia Sotomayor, has accepted for trial an unusual job discrimination case, in which the plaintiff claims she was harassed because she does not speak Tagalog, the native language of the Philippines. Juanita McNeil, a black woman, worked on the pediatric nursing ward



of Bellevue Hospital in New York City for six years until, she claims, she was forced from her job. She says that her Philippina supervisor withheld promotions, gave her undesirable assignments and "us[ed] the Tagalog language as a discriminatory weapon" by giving instructions to the largely Philippina staff in a language that Miss McNeil could not understand.

### Canadians See the Light

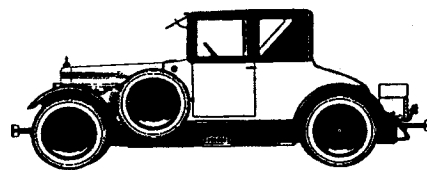
Canada accepts more immigrants, as a percentage of its current popula-

tion, than does the United States, and whites are finally beginning to object. According to a recent poll conducted by the Immigration Department (yes, Canada has one), more than half of all citizens are "really worried that they may become a minority if immigration is unchecked." The poll also found that it is people who live in cities—and who get their impressions of non-white immigrants first hand rather than from the press—who most object to Canada's changing population. The government has been preaching the idea that to know immigrants is to love them, but has regretfully concluded that "familiarity breeds contempt."

### GM Sees the Light

General Motors has parted company with Ford and Chrysler and has told minority suppliers that they will have to start meeting the same price and quality standards as all other suppliers. There will be a grace period during which concessionary standards will be dismantled, and even after that period, GM will maintain a "mentor" program to guide non-whites through the corporate bureaucracy. Other than that, they are on their own.

We hope that GM stands firm despite the howling this change will



provoke. At a time when non-white preferences are expanding everywhere, it is encouraging that a major company should be moving the other way. Ford and Chrysler are expanding their minority hand-holding efforts, and Ford is setting up a financial company to help non-whites start auto-parts companies.

### Chicago Sees the Light

A study conducted by Loyola University's Center for Ethics has found that racial and ethnic divisions are the most pressing problems on the minds of Chicago-area professionals. In an open-ended questionnaire, lawyers, doctors, preachers, politicians, and businessmen were asked "What are the most pressing ethical issues facing the Chicago community?" Racial division was the most