

## Good News

► A group of fifty-five U. S. women—wives of American airline pilots and other flying personnel based in Britain—have raised \$1,000 to help send a British student to a university in the United States for a year. As a result Edward F. Cullen, a student of Cambridge University, England, will attend the University of Texas as a graduate student in chemical engineering in 1952-53. The idea was conceived when the group decided to "repay some of the kindnesses they had enjoyed in England" by sending a Briton to study in the U. S. and "further the exchange of ideas between the two countries." They collected money for the project by holding social events and raffles.

► New York's Governor Dewey has vetoed on constitutional grounds a bill designed to curb publication of "objectionable" comic books. The measure would have made it a misdemeanor to publish "comic" books or other books, pamphlets, or magazines dealing with fictional deeds of crime, bloodshed, or lust that might incite minors to violence or immorality. In a message explaining his veto, the Governor said the wording of the bill was so vague and unspecific as to be unconstitutional.

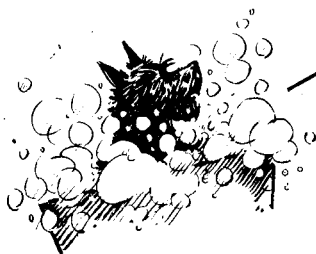
► Australia's Trade and Customs Minister, Senator Neil O'Sullivan, has announced that in view of the very special influence of books on the educational and cultural life of the country, the Government had decided that book imports should not suffer any cut in respect of the base year, 1950-51, on which the general import cuts had been imposed.

► In New York City the Federation Employment Service had good news for older workers: they can do a job as well, and in some instances better, than young persons. The federation, a non-sectarian, non-profit vocational guidance and employment organization, made a job performance study of 170 men and women between the ages of forty and sixty. Here are some of the results: 83 per cent of the workers equaled or bettered the production record of younger workers (42 per cent were judged to be better in their jobs and 41 per cent equal to the younger workers); 16 per cent were considered not as productive as the younger persons. Employers characterized 121 of the 170 sampled as better than average and described them as "trustworthy and dependable," "more reliable," "very cooperative," and devoted.



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## TRADE Winds

THE NEIMAN-MARCUS store in Dallas is one that loyal and voluble localites hold in special esteem. They feel—and rightly—that along with the *Dallas Morning News*, *Times-Herald*, E. De Golyer, the Art Institute, John Rosenfield, S.M.U., and some of the best bookstores in the country, Stanley Marcus's publicity-wise merchandising has brought Dallas nation-wide distinction and acclaim. When Jack Lait and Lee Mortimer, therefore, picked out Neiman-Marcus and its employees for some of their most withering blasts in "U.S.A. Confidential," the whole town knew there would be a prompt counter-attack. It came in the form of a rock-crushing \$7,400,000 libel suit against the authors, publishers, and manufacturers, on behalf of the store and fifty-four of its employees. Neiman-Marcus demanded \$2,000,000, the other plaintiffs \$100,000 apiece. . . . This suit, and others said to be in the offing, can come as no surprise to the men responsible for "U.S.A. Confidential." They must have known they would be called upon to substantiate some of their more serious charges in court. . . . It is encouraging to note how few hotheads seized upon this unparalleled opportunity to reopen a demand for censorship or police control of the books people read. This is one fight that seems to be almost won for the moment—but eternal vigilance will be required to make the victory secure.

ANOTHER FRONTAL attack against the forces that are trying to silence liberals in America is Merle Miller's "The Judges and the Judged" (Doubleday), a sober examination of the book "Red Channels" and the havoc it has wrought in radio and television circles. Walter Kerr, distinguished new drama critic

for the *New York Herald Tribune*, says, "It is certainly not appalling that the American public should show hostility to Communism. It is appalling that the American defense against Communism should take the form of blind and literally unreasoning panic. . . . This implies a fear that the American processes are not adequate to the challenge which confronts them—a fear that democracy will no longer do." . . .

ALISTAIR COOKE is one Englishman who has been trying valiantly to show his countrymen the good side of life in America today. For his exemplary broadcasts abroad in that endeavor, he has received a special award from the Peabody Committee. Now Knopf has selected the best of his radio talks for a book called "One Man's America"—and heartening, fine reading it makes, too. . . . Alistair Cooke's last book, "A Generation on Trial," along with Lasky and De Toledano's "Seeds of Treason," is likely to enjoy a healthy revival when Whittaker Chamber's "Witness" hits the bookstalls next week, if the reaction of advance readers to Mr. Chamber's sensational book are any criterion. . . . Speaking of the house of Knopf, young Pat's announcement of his engagement to his secretary, Alice Laine (who is much too lovely for him), has sent a hundred disappointed debutantes scurrying to swap their borzois for sackcloth and ashes. The wedding will take place in August. . . .

AVIATION—WHEN IT WORKS ON SCHEDULE—makes a lecturer's lot a happy one. It enabled me to visit Palm Beach, Miami, and Cincinnati—and be home in New York four nights after I set out. At Palm Beach, thanks to Rose Carlebach and the Sonnabend clan, I slept in

