



HOW'S YOUR SPORTS CAR I.Q.? Few new national pastimes have become more conspicuous in the past few years than the national pastime of owning and driving a sports car. And even for ordinary citizens who drive nothing sportier than a '49 Ford the new craze has provided a pleasant and interesting by-product, for no Sunday drive is complete these days unless you come across at least one foreign

model whose name and origin you have never heard of. Now Random House, taking note of the trend, has published a handsome volume, by John Wheelock Freeman, called "Sports Cars" (\$12.50) and containing more than 250 illustrations of a great variety of sports cars, six of which are shown here. Can you guess their nationalities and their names? For answers turn page upside down.

in this book he pauses for a brief but formal analysis or description of the person to whom the events have been happening. Each time the gist of the passage is a simple affirmation of unchanging identity—loyalty to love in changing beloveds, loyalty to art in *not* changing either manner or concept, and again on the other hand loyalty to Socialism in accepting its Russian transformation as being still Socialism. It seems to me a highly romantic idea to think of oneself as the same yesterday and today and forever.

The fourth Book, consisting of two hundred pages, best demonstrates what seems to me Mr. Kent's refusal to submit to the "autobiographical" process of life. It recounts the last thirty years with emphasis upon his personally courageous but personally disastrous political activities. He proudly calls his concern with injustice to others a "weakness of character"; this is consistent with his frequent use of humorously tinged self-deprecation as a more tolerable form of self-justification. The basic

generosity of Mr. Kent's motives is so clear and strong that one doesn't mind Mr. Kent himself saying so. But in a mixed world the same kind of act may be good or bad according to circumstances, though the motive may be the same.

In picture-making Mr. Kent has contributed an extremely influential personalized manner in the field of black-and-white illustration; in this he has developed his basic skill as an architectural draftsman into fluency, even suppleness, of line and into boldness, even impressiveness, of contrasted light-and-dark. In this book 170 examples are repeated from the past and ninety-six new ones added. On inset pages three lithographs and two sets of tableware are given, and fifty-six reproductions of oil paintings, which suffer from a weakening grayness of tone. But there are also eight good color reproductions of oils from Monhegan and the more remote regions visited by the painter in his search for what he once called "the rhythms of eternity." If these are successfully communicated in visual

terms, they can give the imagination the conviction of reality in the art. But is this aim compatible with the visual realism which Mr. Kent thinks is the distinguishing characteristic of his painting? For my part, I don't see in his oils either reality or realism. I see only the mannerism of a vision imposed by the painter upon all his material—a mannerism quite as obvious as that in black-and-white, but much less appropriate to the medium. The earlier a painting is in Mr. Kent's career the better it is likely to be; he was then more willing for the physical substance of pigment to remain visible and pleasure-giving in impasto and brushwork.

The sports cars shown here are:
 British Jaguar (upper left);
 Italian Ferrari (left center);
 U.S. experimental Chrysler (lower left);
 British Aston-Martin (upper right);
 British Austin-Healey (right center);
 Italian Alfa-Romeo Type 2500-C (lower right).

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Are Subversives Really Subversive?

THERE is much to suggest that the impassioned pursuit of "internal security" is subsiding. The voice of the Senator from Wisconsin has been strangely muted; former Senator Cain has spoken up resoundingly (and unexpectedly) for the old verities of due process; Harvey Matusow, whatever his motives, has shaken the political-informer system; and even the Department of Justice has made certain minor and tacit admissions of past error.

But the massive edifice of "internal security" built up over the past ten years stands virtually unimpaired. People are still being hauled up by the hundreds, if not the thousands, before secret tribunals on anonymous charges of "security risk"; they are being suspended and often fired not only from Federal employment ("a privilege and not a right") but from jobs in great areas of wholly private employment in the defense and maritime industries as well. A large part of the FBI's activities are still those of a secret political police; and it is asking authority from Congress to extend its pursuit of potential (not actual) spies, saboteurs, and "subversives" through further wide areas of private industry. And the Attorney General is still clinging as doggedly as ever to the basic rationale, the still unproven assumptions, on which this remarkable structure rests.

This appears very plainly from the stenographically recorded interview—"Shall Doors Be Opened to Spies and Subversives?"—which Brownell gave recently to *The U.S. News and World Report*. Under the friendly questioning of his interlocutors the chief legal officer of the United States drew a

fairly clear picture of the political police structure over which he presides. It is engaged, as Brownell frankly puts it, on a "drive to exterminate the Communist Party and Communist espionage in this country." To these ends it feels it necessary to use the eavesdropper (or wiretapper), the police "plant," the paid informer, the anonymous accuser, the protected volunteer gossip, the self-incriminatory oath, the secret trial and conviction—the immemorial and probably indispensable weapons of any war upon heresy. All are repugnant to a society which founded its institutions upon a belief that heresy (whether political or religious) was no longer of importance to government and heretical opinion no longer a proper subject of governmental concern. Nor has the Attorney General any direct legal mandate to "exterminate the Communist Party." But he defends this structure of inquisition and extirpation on the grounds of the overriding national interest in the face of extreme peril.

There are probably few today who could deny that American Communism does actually represent what can only be described as a political heresy, and that as such it raises some dangers. It operates by concealment, misrepresentation, confusion of issues, and clandestine infiltrations; its first allegiance seems always to a hostile foreign power; it has probably somewhat facilitated (though of this we have had no proof in recent years) the espionage operations which that power, like most others, of course carries on here. Because of these unpleasant characteristics it cannot be treated like an ordinary political

party, or even an extreme radical schism which remains within the basic postulates of American politics. It seems to demand at least some controls beyond those normally applied to political thought and action in this country; while if one grants that nothing less than extirpation will suffice then one must be ready to accept the methods of inquisition and though policing which communities have always applied to the extirpation of heretical belief.

BUT is there anything in fact to sustain the necessity for such extreme measures, or to substantiate the Attorney General's picture of the peril from which he is defending us? It grants that the internal security system is often at variance with established ideas of individual right; but he insists that in such cases "the general welfare of all our people is paramount to any one individual," or that no individual's rights may extend farther than is "consistent with national security." It is a "solemn obligation" not simply to take precaution against Communism but to take "every possible precaution to safeguard against any disaster that could result from disloyal people or those who are security risks being placed in any position where irreparable harm could result"—however slight apparently, that "irreparable" harm might be.

Those who have been inclined to question such sweeping claims to irresponsible police power are brusquely divided by the Attorney General into two groups: "the Communist conspiracy, their apologists, and dupes" and "sincere persons who have never been confronted with the awesome responsibility for internal security and who do not know the hard facts." But if there are any "hard" facts which remain unknown it is mainly because of the persistent unwillingness or inability in the Government to give a straight account of them. One never receives from the Attorney General or similar spokesmen anything permitting a concrete estimate of the extent or danger of Soviet espionage in this country, of the degree to which the Communist heresy is in fact promoting espionage, of the extent to which it has installed or may install "trained saboteurs" in vital industries.

One receives only such vague and at times almost preposterous generalities as the Attorney General once more repeats here, as in the statement that even the few Communists remaining in the country (Party membership is estimated to be down to about 23,000) are a peril because similar small Communist groups in

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