

wherein he knows the spiritual satisfactions of being a self-directed, free man. But no "corner of tranquillity" exists after predators, by violence or the inoculation of deceiving ideas, have stolen from individual persons their own and, through sneaking and violent devices of suppression, have closed the avenues for private ownership of property.

Control of Cultural Environment

Another human value is one which no intelligent person, having once enjoyed, will surrender willingly: the value derived from being free to create the cultural environment to which he and his family will be exposed and within which, patterns of thought, taste, and character will be formed. This value derives not alone from respecting his own thinking and judgment, but from being free to pursue them in the selection of books, newspapers, magazines, furnishings and decor, works of art, radio and television programs, other forms of entertainment, religious institutions, and methods of education.

But this immeasurable human value can be had only when numerous individual persons are the respective private owners of numerous properties: newspapers, publishing houses, churches, schools, factories, radio and tele-

vision stations, theaters, mercantile establishments, banks and other financial institutions, and countless items of machinery and equipment.

The destiny of culture is the destiny of the private ownership of property.

The Means of Benevolence¹

No attempt is being made here to inventory all the human values that are made possible by and are dependent upon the private ownership of property. Yet another ought to be mentioned, because, although not the most fundamental, it is the crowning, irradiating capstone of the structure. It consists of the coexistence of benevolent impulses in the psyche of the individual person and his private ownership of the means by which to materialize those impulses in charitable giving. It is doubtful if many of us have a fitting appreciation of the manifold, far-reaching fruitfulness of that human value, although its personal gratifications have been widely experienced.

A reliable estimate based on various records is that in 1963 gifts made by citizens and institutions of the United States to

¹ The data used in this section is taken from *Senior Scholastic*, December 9, 1964, p. 8 et seq. and 1966 *Reader's Digest Almanac*.

philanthropic causes amounted to more than ten billion dollars. The varied purposes of those gifts embraced immediate help to the needy; religious activities; education in many areas; projects in art, literature, and other phases of culture; health, medical, and hospital care; scholarships, fellowships, advanced studies and research, and explorations in science.

Out beyond the realm of records and statistics, in those areas where countless kind persons ask no credit and no acclaim, are the continuing, numerous, silent gifts of money and valuable things from one to another.

Of the more than ten billion dollars in traceable charity, gifts totaling nearly eight billion dollars were those of individual persons. More than 50 million volunteer, unpaid persons, including three million of America's business and professional leaders, gave of their time and energy to carry on the benevolent services involved and to do the soliciting and gathering in of the gifts.

Nearly half of all this giving of private property was done for the support of churches and church-related activities, including church-affiliated hospitals. Another 15 per cent of the gifts made possible such welfare and educational activities as youth organizations, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and

similar programs, community planning for various phases of betterment, and projects for the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

Fifteen thousand foundations, endowed by gifts of private property, made possible major philanthropic enterprises by their contributions of 819 million dollars. Twenty-four of those foundations, the ones best known, having no purpose other than to promote through their benefactions the well-being and progress of human beings around the world, have assets of over six billion dollars.

The existence of numerous private schools and colleges, where independence of political controls and pressure groups can be retained, and religious and cultural ideals and disciplines can be maintained, is made possible only by gifts of private property. In the fiscal year, 1963-1964, 35 of the better known colleges and universities of our country received gifts totaling 343 million dollars. But numerous other colleges and universities received gifts. The total of all gifts of private property to education in one form or another in the year 1963 has been estimated to have been over one billion, seven hundred million dollars.

The contorted mind of the communist can only sneer at all this fruitage of human values from the private ownership of property. He