

of the press were shocked by the suppression of one of the great newspapers of the world, *La Prensa* of Buenos Aires. The dictator shut down the paper and ordered the arrest of the editor. But why? Because he had decided that the kind of material which was being printed should be subject to penalties and restriction for the protection of his concepts of national security, public order, and safety — not to mention his own reputation.

Such a study of the civil and political rights written into this Covenant clearly indicates the inadequacy of the definition of their nature, and also presents the danger to their continued possession by American citizens through the restrictions placed upon these rights by the words of the Covenant. It should be noted that in the First Amendment to the American Constitution, the restrictions are placed only upon Congress.

If the American delegates to the United Nations, and to the Commission on Human Rights, are zealously devoted to the interpretation and the protection of these rights, and truly desire an extension of the same measure of these rights to other peoples in the world, they will demand that Articles 13 and 14 of the Covenant be rewritten in this manner:

The States Parties hereby involved shall make no law prohibiting the free exercise of religion, nor abridging the freedom of speech,

of the press, and of the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition for a redress of grievances.

No mandate to do any more, or any less, than this ever has been given — or ever could be given — to representatives of the American government who take part in international discussions of the rights of worship, speech, and assembly. No other statement than this is needed to preserve the rights already possessed by Americans and protected by their Constitution. No other statement than this can ever extend these rights in their full and complete meaning to other peoples of the world.

Economic Objectives

LET US now consider the list of social and economic objectives which this United Nations Covenant would elevate to the status of human rights. You may again be struck by the remarkable similarity of these ideas in the Covenant and the same ideas in certain totalitarian constitutions:

ARTICLE 19

The States Parties to the present Covenant,

1. bearing in mind the link between the rights and liberties recognized and defined above, and the economic, social and cultural rights proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;