

should be able to move in search of better conditions.

That freedom may be diminished during the next few months. The British government is said to be considering a ban on foreign firms advertising in British newspapers and magazines for scientific and technical staff. This would cut off American scientific agencies, both government sponsored and privately owned, from their most promising source of material.

Just what this would mean to American aerospace and electronic companies has been described by Mr. William Douglass, a recruiting agent for big American and Canadian firms. He says: "There is no doubt that the scientifically trained man in Britain is vastly superior to his American equivalent."

He has a much more specialized expertise which is most valuable."

The proposed ban will not only disappoint American scientific agencies, but it will infuriate all those British scientists who are desperately anxious to find freedom outside their native land.

British scientists concede that such a ban would slow down the brain drain, but they doubt whether, by itself, it would effectively block it. Unless the socialists ban emigration altogether, scientists say, a determined man or woman will always find a way.

The British fight for freedom has been going on for centuries. It is unthinkable that the spirit which animates it will ever be extinguished. ♦

IDEAS ON LIBERTY

The Ranks of Bureaucracy

IF EVERY PART of the business of society which required organized concert, or large and comprehensive views, were in the hands of the government, and if government offices were universally filled by the ablest men, all the enlarged culture and practiced intelligence in the country, except the purely speculative, would be concentrated in a numerous bureaucracy, to whom alone the rest of the community would look for all things: the multitude for direction and dictation in all they had to do; the able and aspiring for personal advancement. To be admitted into the ranks of this bureaucracy, and when admitted, to rise therein, would be the sole objects of ambition.

JOHN STUART MILL, *On Liberty*

The PURPOSES of ANTITRUST

HAROLD M. FLEMING

THE BASIC PURPOSES involved in the enforcement of the antitrust laws of the United States — like those behind many other activities of the U.S. government — are obscure and in some cases contradictory.

These regulatory activities of "the Government," might be expected to reflect an emotionally integrated Higher Personality, at peace with itself and without serious inner conflict. But certainly in the antitrust activities, this is not so. The aims of the two enforcement agencies — the Federal Trade Commission and the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice — are palpably confused. So are the laws. So is Congress. And so are businessmen.

There are broad reasons for looking into those purposes. The

Mr. Fleming, for many years New York Business Correspondent of the *Christian Science Monitor*, is a prominent free-lance writer on business and economics.

Sherman Antitrust Act has been called a part of the American "economic constitution." The enforcement agencies and the courts have vastly enlarged its meaning from the fairly simple and brief act of 1890 whose drafters were chiefly concerned with federalizing the common law about conspiracies and monopolies. So unambitious seemed the original concept that the House of Representatives passed the final version unanimously, 270 to 0; for some years after 1890 "the Sherman Act" meant the ill-fated Silver-Purchase Act of 1890; the original drafters of the Antitrust Act seemed unconcerned when it remained virtually a dead letter through the speculative mergermania of 1901; and the present antitrust laws, as interpreted, would horrify Senator Sherman. For the genealogy of today's antitrust (as interpreted) runs back, not to Sen-