

types of government interventionists (be they fascist, communist, welfare-statist, or what have you) all make much the same offer: the exchange of freedom for security. Under any interventionist program, you give up some alternatives in your choice of actions. In exchange, you are promised security. Government interventionism is like prison.

If we carry the analogy further, we see that there is a lesson to be learned from the declining propensity to escape. The loss of freedom eventually becomes tolerated and even accepted. The likelihood that people will want to try to escape from interventionism declines as time goes by.

Persons with no desire for self-control, anxious for the security of lives planned and controlled for them by others, may view with patient resignation the prevailing trend away from freedom in the United States and in most other lands. Things are going their way.

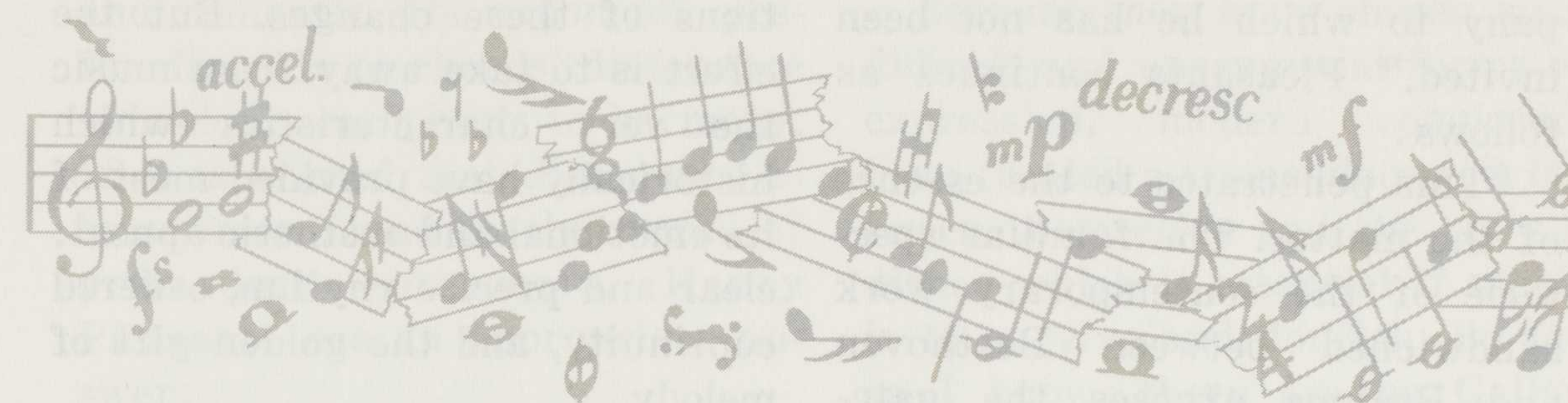
But anyone who views with alarm the growing interventionism will want to plan his escape soon. By tomorrow, or next month, or next year, he might have lost the will — and the capacity — to be free. The escape route, the path to freedom, lies in self-help, self-control, self-responsibility, self-reliance, self-improvement. And slow starters are unlikely to make it. ♦

IDEAS ON LIBERTY

An Empty Title

THE SAME LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION which is required for the protection of life and liberty, in all particulars in which life and liberty are of any value, should be applied to the protection of private property. If the legislature of a State, under pretense of providing for the public good, or for any other reason, can determine, against the consent of the owner, the uses to which private property shall be devoted, or the prices which the owner shall receive for its uses, it can deprive him of the property as completely as by a special act for its confiscation or destruction. If, for instance, the owner is prohibited from using his building for the purposes for which it was designed, it is of little consequence that he is permitted to retain the title and possession.

JUSTICE STEPHEN J. FIELD'S dissenting opinion
in *Munn vs. Illinois*, 94 U.S., 113, (1877)



MUSICAL FORCED FEEDING

WILLIAM HENRY CHAMBERLIN

A VIOLATION of cultural freedom, of the right to reject as well as accept, is the sandwich type program which has become standard for most American symphony orchestras. The sandwich takes the form of beginning and ending the concert with works of general appeal by composers of the classical and romantic schools, for example, Beethoven, Mozart, Bach, Brahms, Wagner, Tchaikovsky. The sandwich effect is produced by injecting between these acceptable compositions some outpourings of more or less raucous dissonance. The only way in which musical

conservatives can avoid an undesired assault on their eardrums is to walk out in the middle of the concert, returning for the last work. They cannot dodge the musical forced feeding by arriving late or leaving early.

The music commentator, Henry Pleasants — whose little book, appropriately entitled *The Agony of Modern Music*, is a precious possession for lay music-lovers who do not like predominant trends in modern music but lack the technical training and knowledge to know exactly why — hits off this sandwich method of programing very well. Quoting the modern composer, Honegger, as authority for the statement, "The contemporary composer is a gate-crasher,

Though best known for his skilled observation and reporting of economic and political conditions at home and abroad, Mr. Chamberlin also writes knowingly as a patron of music and the arts.