

**Barry Levine
shatters the
myth of the
victimized
immigrant.**

**BENJY LOPEZ
A Picaresque Tale of
Emigration and Return
Barry B. Levine**

Using the first-person technique pioneered by Oscar Lewis, noted sociologist Barry B. Levine records and analyzes the life story of a Puerto Rican emigrant. "one of the most colorful characters to make an appearance in sociological literature.... Barry Levine has that increasingly rare gift, the sociological ear. In this book we have the result of his listening."

—Peter Berger

"A labor of love for Puerto Rico and its plight, and a fine piece of scholarship." —Ignacio Garcia, *Nuestro*

"Levine has rescued Third World man from indignity...I believe that few works will better demonstrate the circumstances of the Puerto Rican in New York than this one."

—Miguel Barnet,
Caribbean Review

\$12.95 at bookstores, or direct from the publisher

BASIC
BASIC BOOKS INC
10 EAST 53RD ST NEW YORK 10022

**COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS:
REFLECTIONS ON THE FUTURE
OF AMERICA**

by Daniel Patrick Moynihan

(Atlantic-Little Brown; xv + 348 pp.; \$12.95)

Kenneth W. Thompson

No one should underestimate the intellectual powers and political ambitions of Daniel Patrick Moynihan. In a time of all too visible mediocrity in American politics, the junior senator from New York towers above most of his colleagues. By dint of hard work, broad experience, and political flair he commends himself to important segments of the Democratic party and independents as a presidential prospect for 1984. He has surrounded himself with a tight-knit coterie of devoted if fanatical followers who have staked their future on their "philosopher-king." He has been "right" politically for millions of Americans as ambassador to the United Nations, Carter critic, and spokesman for larger defense budgets. With his latest book he appears to be taking one more step in his march toward a higher calling.

Yet for educated Americans who have suffered a famine of superior minds in high places, Moynihan's meteoric rise in politics continues to provoke debate. They ask if energy is matched with prudence. Are bold formulations grounded in wisdom? Some would question Moynihan's sense of history. Is it reasonable to believe that the same patterns which lead to the formation of domestic political parties are suited to the building of coalitions in the international community? Moynihan, for example, celebrates the Wilsonian worldview and national self-determination as the only goal for Americans, one that "has not only succeeded at the level of a norm but has also largely been implemented." Hans J. Morgenthau, on the other hand, contended that the liberation of Central and Eastern European nationalities "in the name of self-determination" led to "the destruction of the old imperial order [that] at once called forth...new imperialisms" and finally Hitler's dominion over Czechoslovakia and Poland. Morgenthau cited the observation of the *London Times*: "Self-determination, the professed principle of the Treaty of Versailles, has been invoked by Herr Hitler against its written text,

and his appeal has been allowed" (*Politics Among Nations*). Does Moynihan give away too much when he equates the claims for equality in the world with collectivist states? Has he forgotten that the American national purpose was stated by the founders as "equality in freedom"?

What is unsettling about Moynihan, given his extraordinary ability and promise, is his willingness to subordinate truths he understands to his own purposes. In politics as in personal life, norms exist in tension with one another, leading to Holmes's statement that it was not men of principle he admired but men who could find their way in a maze of conflicting principles. If the tragic fate of Woodrow Wilson provides one abiding lesson, it is that liberty must be weighed in the balance with order and equality; it is not the only goal worth pursuing. That America's adversary, the Soviet Union, has chosen to subordinate every moral and political end to a single political purpose hardly justifies emulation in the name of liberty. The world is populated by peoples and nations struggling to achieve their particular destinies, and America's cause is best served by an example of firmness in pursuing our several moral and political purposes and by an understanding of others' purposes rather than by "shouting from the housetops" about a single national goal that has not been fully realized as yet even under the most blessed of circumstances.

We hope the senator will grapple with these issues as he marches on.

**WAR OR PEACE? THE SEARCH
FOR NEW ANSWERS**

ed. by Thomas A. Shannon

(Orbis Books; xiv + 255 pp.; \$9.95 [paper])

James T. Johnson

Just war theory and pacifism are widely thought to have little or nothing in common. Historically, this is a legacy of times past, when the just war approach marked Catholic doctrine and pacifism was characteristic mainly of radical Protestant groups. Still today many pacifists and just war proponents appear to regard each other with the wariness of mongoose and cobra. But the traditional distinctions between

these positions have started to blur, and a sort of dialogue has begun. Protestants today often employ just war categories; and though the institutional Catholic Church has not embraced pacifism, Catholics have discovered pacifism as a form of personal witness. In the vanguard of this latter development was Gordon Zahn who, though a Catholic, was a conscientious objector in World War II and has been prominent in pacifist circles since. These thirteen essays have been gathered to honor Zahn. They are all worthwhile contributions to debate on restraining war; collectively, they provide a useful introduction to contemporary moral and religious developments in issues of war and peace.

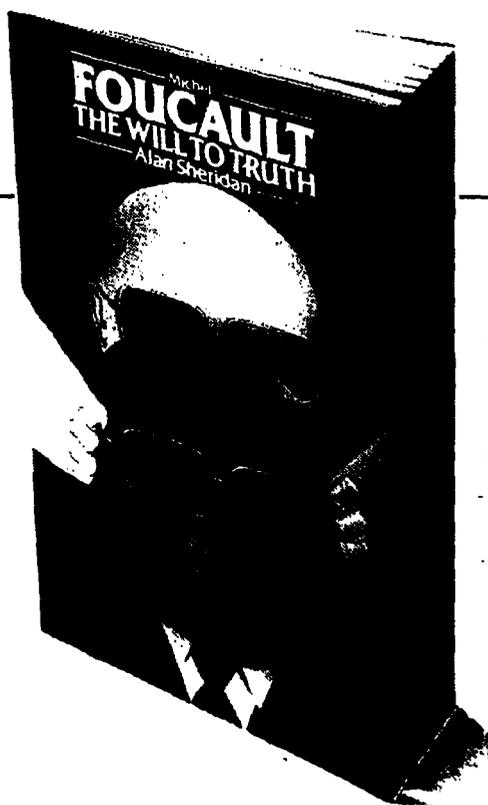
The overall theme, as defined by Shannon in the introduction, is "the search for peace as illuminated by the just-war theory and pacifism." The essays are grouped into three sections: "The Just War," "Pacifism," and "The Church and Pacifism." The attempt is to provide balance, but the appearance of a thesis-antithesis-synthesis relationship among the parts of the book is somewhat deceiving, since the essays in the two latter parts tend to converge in focus and content, in contrast with the first three essays of Part I. The fourth essay, by Joseph Fahey on the Pax Christi movement, would fit better in Part III.

This imbalance continues in Zahn's afterword, where he offers little in the way of a critique of Parts II and III while directing a sustained critical response against the just war tradition. Of course it would be unfair as well as unrealistic to ask of Zahn, who consistently has supported the pacifist cause and rejected just war arguments, that he distance himself from his past in order to produce an evenly weighted, nonjudgmental comment on the essays in this volume. But his perception of the nature of the just war tradition seems frozen in past judgments; the afterword does not really grapple with the dynamics of contemporary just war ideas as they are represented in the first three essays.

Nonetheless the book succeeds in conveying the energy and development of recent debate on the morality of modern war. While specialists will learn from only a few of the essays, the real value of this volume is for nonspecialists, including students, and it will likely soon be showing up on reading

lists for undergraduate and seminary ethics courses. One of the book's accomplishments is to provide a brief history of some major currents in recent religious discussion of morality and war: the Pax Christi movement, both Catholic and Protestant social ethics, statements from conferences and agencies of the World Council of Churches, the growth and rationale of Catholic objection to the Vietnam war and support for the idea of conscientious objection to military service. But some substantive advances to the debate are found here too. Bryan Hehir's exploration of how the just war ethic has been treated in

recent Catholic theology is an exceptionally incisive essay, comparable to the best of John Courtney Murray's analyses of this subject two decades ago. Equally good, though quite different, is Eileen Egan's sensitive examination of how the "works of mercy" implied in the Beatitudes have been treated—and eroded—in Christian tradition. At its best, religious concern over morality and war coalesces into a single stream within which differences of opinion, conscientiously held, correct one another. Many of the essays in this volume exhibit such coalescence, including these two. [WV].



"An excellent guide for the novice, and a coherent argument for the initiated."

—*Worldview*

From his dazzling tour de force *Madness and Civilization* to his latest enterprise, the six-volume *History of Sexuality*, Michel Foucault has produced a series of works of bewildering scope—an investigation of Western man's will to knowledge, truth and power.

In this first full-length study of the famed philosopher/historian, Alan Sheridan, his translator of 18 years, covers Foucault's entire output—a virtual guidebook of recent French intellectual thought.

Michel Foucault
The Will to Truth

by Alan Sheridan

\$8.95 paperback

A Tavistock Publication available in the U.S.
at your bookstore or from

 **Methuen**
733 Third Avenue, New York 10017

WAR OR PEACE?

The Search for New Answers

WAR OR PEACE?

THE SEARCH FOR NEW ANSWERS

Thomas A. Shannon, editor

War or peace?—the question for every age, but enlarged to global proportions in our own, is raised with new urgency in this book by a succession of distinguished Christians who have given their lives to a search for answers. Gordon Zahn, Paul Deats, Eileen Egan, Paul Hanly Furfey, Bryan Hehir, James Finn, Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, Walter Muelder, David O'Brien and Tom Cornell.

paper \$9.95

FAITH: CONVERSATIONS WITH CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGIANS

by Teofilo Cabestrero

Conversations with Ladislaus Boros, Georges Casalis, Jose Comblin, Enrique D. Dussel, Segundo Galilea, Giulio Girardi, Jose Maria Gonzalez Ruiz, Gustavo Gutierrez, Hans Kung, Jurgen Moltmann, Karl Rahner, Joseph Ratzinger, Edward Schillebeeckx, Juan Luis Segundo, Jean Marie Tillard.

paper \$7.95

At bookstores, or from:

ORBIS BOOKS

Maryknoll, NY 10545

Write for complete catalog



Briefly Noted

THE GEOPOLITICS OF INFORMATION: HOW WESTERN CULTURE DOMINATES THE WORLD

by Anthony Smith

(Oxford University Press; 192 pp.; \$13.95)

The subtitle has a contentious ring, and one feels the breath of moral condemnation throughout the first chapters of the book. But there is too much information about information, and whatever argument was intended is lost in that superabundance. Yet the book is valuable, and very valuable, for precisely the wealth of information that overwhelms its argument. The chapter on a new international electronic order contains startling facts that call the whole notion of territorial sovereignty into question: (1) airline bookings for the domestic flights of many European countries depend upon a computer in Texas, and all the information required by the fire departments of Sweden is kept in a data base in Florida, (2) American satellites collect data on the resources of developing countries whether they want the information known or not, and that information is available to American corporations under the Freedom of Information Act.

The North-South division of peoples haunts all disciplines today, but there is little, it would seem, to be safely concluded about the information aspect of it. The forces released by the modern information explosion escape the control of technical experts, communicators, and politicians. The Third World argues that the mass audience of the industrialized world exercises an unconscious and tyrannical control over information everywhere. It "is so powerful an agent in itself over the international machinery which gathers and shapes information that its appetite for 'wrong' or ill-judged information about the Third World is self-feeding, self sustaining." "There is no answer." "The struggle to escape from our bad image of the Third World is an essential stage in its struggle for independence. In this sense the journalism of the West is helping to arrest the historic process of development, and if there is any point at which the vicious circle of dependence can be broken, it is there, in the intractable issue of information, though it may take a leap of imagination among journalists to achieve it."

One finishes Smith's book with many questions, some new, some old but now more urgent. And one also has a much better understanding of how the developing technology of information may very well be doing an end run round most of our cultural and political assumptions. —J.B.

PAUL TILLICH'S RADICAL SOCIAL THOUGHT

by Ronald Stone

(John Knox Press; 180 pp.; \$7.95 [paper])

At the time of his death in 1965, Paul Tillich was likely the most influential theological thinker in America. He continues to be a major point of reference. In this brief and thoughtful study Professor Stone focuses on Tillich's thinking about the individual and society, with specific reference to his brand of socialism. Many of the relevant materials have been only recently translated and appreciated, as they date from Tillich's German period long before he became a major American figure. Tillich's social thought was in large part forged in conflict with the Nazism from which he would be forced to flee. His socialism was less orthodox Marxism than an effort to develop a theory of democratic society that could be integrated with religion and the formative values of Western culture. Thus unlike the sundry socialisms that go under the current banner of liberation theology, Tillich's problematic is perennial and is perhaps more urgent than ever in today's America. —R/JN

CONTRIBUTORS

Edith Kurzwel is author of *The Age of Structuralism: Lévi-Strauss to Foucault (Columbia)*. She is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Rutgers University.

James T. Johnson, author of *Ideology, Reason, and the Limitation of War and the forthcoming Just War Tradition and the Restraint of War*, heads the Department of Religion at Rutgers.

Kenneth W. Thompson is Commonwealth Professor of Government and Foreign Affairs at the University of Virginia.