

political book notes

*Public affairs books
to be published in March.*

The American Catholic: A Social Portrait. Andrew M. Greeley. Basic, \$15.

The American Monomyth. Robert Jewett, John Shelton Lawrence. Doubleday, \$8.95.

Baseball and the Cold War: A Soliloquy on the Necessity of Baseball. Howard Senzel. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, \$8.95.

Books That Changed the South. Robert B. Downs. Univ. of North Carolina, \$10.95.

Carl Rogers on Personal Power. Carl Rogers. Delacorte, \$10.

The Children's Rights Movement: Overcoming the Oppression of Young People. Beatrice and Ronald Gross, eds. Doubleday/Anchor, \$9.95/\$3.95.

The CIA's Secret Operations: Espionage, Counter-Espionage, and Covert Action. Harry Rositzke. Reader's Digest, \$12.95.

The Collapse of Liberal Empire: Science and Revolution in the Twentieth Century. Paul N. Goldstene. Yale Univ., \$10.

Convention. Richard Reeves. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, \$10. A highly entertaining account of the 1976 Democratic National Convention, featuring whores and lieutenant governors as well as presidential candidates, by the former political writer for *New York*. However, the author's mind, which can be very good, is not on conspicuous display here.

Denial of Justice: Criminal Process in the United States. Lloyd L. Weinreb. Free Press, \$12.95.

Does Anybody Give a Damn? Nat Hentoff. Knopf, \$8.95.

FSO-1. Harris Greene. Doubleday, \$7.95.

The Future of the Humanities. Walter Kaufmann. Reader's Digest, \$8.95. The author says we have too many teachers of the humanities who are scholastic technicians focusing unimaginatively on narrow slices of learning. On the other hand, he finds far too few Socratic critics "committed to rigorous examination of the faith and morals of the time, giving pride of place to those convictions which are widely shared and rarely questioned." He urges an interdisciplinary approach that would restore life and relevance—a word whose recent abuse he fully understands—to the humanities by courses that focus on important issues and draw their materials from the entire range of knowledge. Thus a course on punishment would use Greek tragedies, Russian novels, philosophy, anthropology, religion, and law. In all of this the author is undoubtedly right, about how to save not only the humanities but also the subject called Political Science, which desperately needs a similar opportunity.

Gates of Eden: American Culture in the Sixties. Morris Dickstein. Basic, \$11.95. This is an ambitious attempt to define the 1960s—its roots, its music, art, fiction, and journalism, its politics, and its consequences. It's a fascinating subject, which is why it's been written about so often, and because of that the book doesn't say anything strikingly new. Dickstein is a smart man with a keen eye for intellectual history, but this isn't the brilliant synthesis of the last two decades that he seems to have intended it to be.