COMEDY OR TRAGEDY?

Faults Found In Faubusites

By PHIL BARBER

Last Saturday night the “Honorable Orval Faubus, Governor of the still sovereign state of Arkansas,” spoke to a capacity audience at the Houston Music Hall. Those who could not dare the inclement weather or who (understandably) found more enjoyable things to do on a Saturday night missed an amazing spectacle, a highly emotional little scene that it is difficult to say whether is profoundly tragic or merely ludicrously pathetic; for Orval Faubus, darling of the last-ditch segregationalists, spoke at the invitation of the Sons of the American Revolution (Paul Darrington Chapter) on the Bill of Rights and the encroachment of a tyrannical Federal Government on the same.

The Enlightened Ones

The more enlightened and liberty-loving citizens of Houston were present in the persons of representatives of the DAR, the Mayflower Society, the American Legion, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, two ministers of the Gospel and some 3000 inspired patriots who took advantage of the free admission.

Defender of the Law

After an invocation by the pastor of the Long Point Baptist Church, who prayed in the Name of Him Who said, “Ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free” that God might raise up courageous battle-worthy followers of men like Faubus who can lead us out of the chaos of uncertainty, Dwight Morrow introduced Faubus as a 32-degree Mason, a Baptist, a member of the Lions Club, the American Legion and the VFW, the nation’s foremost defender of the Bill of Rights, States’ Rights, and a “government of Law and not of men.” Faubus received a standing ovation (with at least one abstention.)

Object Persecution

Faubus then eulogized himself as the object of persecution by the Federal government, the national press (especially the Luce concern) and all radical pinkoes. He received a storm of applause (and previously many thousand (Continued on Page 5)
FAUBUS...

(Continued from Page 4) votes in Arkansas) in consolation. Faubus then noted the legislation he had passed to increase Arkansas' material prosperity (?) while she was fighting off the invasion of the "pink bollworm from Texas, the fire-ant from Florida, and the 101st Airborne from Kentucky." (More consolatory applause, another absence.)

**Down To The Meat**

Faubus then got to the meat of his address (or exhortation, as it were). He went through the entire Bill of Rights and cleverly showed how the Federal Government (He never says "national government") has abrogated almost all of these provisions in the Little Rock affair.

His **Reasoning**

Sample line of reasoning: The First Amendment guarantees (pronounced "garwenteesy") freedom of speech, but the US Supreme Court has recently struck down the right of the individual states to "control subversion" within their own borders. (The logical shift from freedom of speech to the right of the states to prosecute those who exercise the same was not quite clear, but Faubus received a rousing cheer all the same.) The Second Amendment guarantees the right to bear arms and to keep a state militia, but Eisenhower federalized the Arkansas National Guard against Faubus' wishes and thus deprived Arkansas of this right.

Quoted **Sam Adams**

Later Faubus quoted Samuel Adams, who demanded that soldiers be used for military purposes alone, and then blasted Eisenhower for using troops on purely political grounds. (Faubus neglected to say that it was he himself who first called out the Arkansas troops to bar admission of Negroes to Central High).

The **Conclusion**

Faubus ended his investigation of the Bill of Rights with the conclusion that the Constitution gives the Federal Government no right to interfere with the States' administration of their own schools. Even the 14th Amendment only says that citizens shall not be deprived of their lawful rights, "Lawful" here obviously applies to the law in the several states, not the national law of the Constitution interpreted by the Supreme Court.

The **Old Bugaboo**

But Faubus then shrewdly in-}

**It's Not Funny**

The whole affair would be hilarious if it were not for the fact (1.) that Faubus' rise to power represents the dying gasp of a decadent culture struggling frantically to survive, (2.) that the institutions (state government, local backwater aristocracy, and a large supply of potential storm troopers in the vast pool of ever available white trash) for a real exercise of tyrannical power can easily be marshalled behind such a man, and (3.) that Faubus' absurd insistence that he advocated a government "not of men but of law" so perfectly veils the essential moral flaw of the segregationalist argument while it effectually demagoguery. Faubus meanwhile mouthed platitudes about local determinism as police officers stepped into avert the making of a riot.

"**Despicable**"

The whole affair is simply despicable. Faubus is not worth wasting four paragraphs on. He is a petty opportunist who is making the most of stupidity, ignorance, bigotry, fear, hatred, economic insecurity, and deep-seated anxieties.

terjected the old bugaboo, the scarcely-concealed fear of Southern Whites about sex. Quoting statistics from David Lawrence's U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT on the percentage of unwed Negro and white mothers in Washington, D. C. schools, Faubus whipped the crowd into such an emotional frenzy that it could yell back a furious "Yes!" when he next asked if the Federal Government were not becoming a centralized despotism like Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union.

**Goons Moved Out**

The meeting grew somewhat disorganized as various goons moved out of the audience toward those few who shouted back "No!" or otherwise to Faubus demagoguery. Faubus meanwhile mouthed platitudes about local determinism as police officers stepped into avert the making of a riot.

"**Despicable**"

The whole affair is simply despicable. Faubus is not worth wasting four paragraphs on. He is a petty opportunist who is making the most of stupidity, ignorance, bigotry, fear, hatred, economic insecurity, and deep-seated anxieties.