

democracy and the preparatory steps for making it a mobocracy are already far advanced. With the tyranny of a completely lawless dictatorship as the ultimate stage and goal.

Of course none of this just happened. The tremendous forces at work, deliberately to speed up this degeneration of our republic, can best be typified by the large foundations. They have for decades been working under the secret but visible directive: So to change the economic and political structure of the United States that it can be comfortably merged with Soviet Russia. They have set the pace for the whole demagogic tribe that—many of them unaware of where they were heading or who was pushing them—has sought not only to make us a *democracy* but to convince the American people that we are supposed to be a democracy. For acceptance of that change, from a republic, is an all-inclusive step of tremendous importance on the road to the rule of a Communist tyrant, with neither laws nor precedents nor traditions to restrict his cruel power. The glorification of "majority rule" as the un-checked and immediate arbiter of the fate of minorities and majorities alike is the great and dangerous criminal fraud, which our forefathers so much feared, and tried as well as they knew how to prevent.

In summary, democracy is government by majority vote, whether direct in a pure democracy or by one step removed in a representative democracy. It provides no protection of the rights of minorities nor even of the best interests of the majorities themselves, against the sudden whims of the electorate or the results of the voters' gullibility. And those who, through ignorance or greed or indifference, will allow their glorious republic to be converted into so despicable a pretense of civilized government, deserve the ultimate enslavement into which that transition is designed to lead them. But the framework of what was given us by our ancestors is not yet destroyed. The destruction now going on can be stopped and inner damages can—with enough determination—still be repaired. Ours is a republic, not a democracy. Let's keep it that way.

On The Difference Between **A DEMOCRACY AND A REPUBLIC**

Historically both words, *democracy* and *republic*, have been used with a wide variety of meanings and shades of meanings. Nor is there any denial that these shades overlap to some extent. But there is a tendency, permitted by even some of the best dictionaries, to regard *democracy* as the generic term, and a republic as merely one species of democracy. This is not supported by either etymology or history.

The word *democracy* comes from the Greek, and is concerned from the very beginning with the form of rule, or the source of governmental power and the method by which it is exercised. It meant rule by the people instead of rule by an autocracy or oligarchy. And so rapidly and completely did demagoguery cause this rule by the people to degenerate into mobocracy that by the time of Aristotle it was considered very unflattering to any government to speak of it as a democracy.

The word *republic* comes from the Latin, and designates only "the public affairs" or the "common weal," without regard to how those public affairs are conducted or the common well-being is achieved. None of the Greek city states, in which democracy originated, ever had a republic, or anything resembling one. But since then, and before the Communists deliberately prostituted so much of our language into deceptive reversals, the term has been applied, almost universally and with ready acceptance, to such widely different states as Rome in its earliest centuries, Venice, Poland in the 16th through the 18th centuries, the United Netherlands Confederation of the same period, the Swiss Republic, various French governments, and the United States of America. Some of these were monarchies (even at times absolute monarchies), some were oligarchies, and some were *representative democracies*, so far as the form of government is our concern. But what made these states *republics*, in the minds of statesmen and political scientists and historians and the informed public, was the fact that each of them (in theory, anyway) was ruled according to the well established laws—whether set forth by statutes, by precedents, or by written

constitutions—and not simply by the whim of the monarch, or of the oligarchy, or of a temporary majority of the voters. "The rule of laws, not men," is one of the soundest of all the copybook maxims. And it is the essence of the whole difference between a democracy and a republic. Democracy is the rule of men, not bound by laws—or tradition or precedent—when ever mob psychology can be built up by demagogues to support the demagogues disdain for the restrictions of law. A republic is rule subject to laws—and tradition and precedent—which laws cannot be changed except by due and deliberate process according to their own provisions.

Except when utilized by very small units, such as a tiny Greek city-state or an American township or village, democracy has never worked satisfactorily as a form of government. Especially when the size of the unit becomes such that "pure democracy" is no longer practicable, and it is necessary for the voters to select representatives to make the actual decisions and do the governing for them, does the deterioration into a mobocracy always become rapid and disastrous. The whole life cycle of a "representative democracy," from early stability through mobocracy and murderous cruelty to counter-revolution and stability once again, was telescoped by the French Revolution into a period of a few short years. This was because of the excessive steam pressure of the forces at work. But the pattern was an exact one for the course of a "representative democracy," as a form of government for large units, nevertheless.

Although our republic was established before the French Revolution had supplied this horrible example, our founding fathers were well aware of the faults and dangers of a democracy. They wanted no part of one for our national government. In fact, while our constitution goes so far as to guarantee a republican form of government to each of the several states, it does not even mention a democracy or a democratic form of government once. And one of the very few times the Federalist Papers (which tell us most of what we know about the thinking that went into our constitution) even mention a democracy, is in Federalist Paper No. 10, where Madison does so in order *to show us its disadvantages*.

If Washington and Hamilton and Jefferson and Madison and all of the other great men of our constitutional convention had not believed that a constitutional republic was the best of all forms of government, they would have provided something else. For theirs was a clean slate on which to write. They did so believe, and both man's age-old experience with government and his most carefully reasoned theories support their choice.

But a republic, even if in the form of a monarchy or an oligarchy, does presuppose the ultimate responsibility of the governors to the governed. A king "by divine right" cannot head a republic, but only a king by—in theory, anyway—the consent of the governed. So that the governed do have the inherent right, and usually the opportunity, to make changes even in the basic laws through which the republic functions. And when the governmental form is the same as that of a "representative democracy," the danger of a breakdown of the legal guard rails of the republic is always present and usually becomes worse with time. So that the greatest fault of a republic is the likelihood of its deteriorating into a democracy. And of this, too, our forefathers were well aware. When Benjamin Franklin was asked, at the end of the Constitutional Convention, "What have you given us, Mr. Franklin?", his answer was: "A republic, Madam, if you can keep it!"

His fear was well founded. For today, because of the utterly unjustified and steadily increasing violation and disregard of our constitution itself, we have already gone far towards losing that protection of laws, against the schemes of demagogues and the whims of the electorate, which made us a republic instead of a democracy. The formerly slow erosion of our constitutional guarantee became a rapid rotting away under the Franklin Roosevelt Administration and those which have succeeded it. First, the Executive Department began to attack and circumvent the Constitution. Then the Legislative Department began supinely to surrender its rights and to fail in its duties under the Constitution. And then the Judicial Department began, in brazen and criminal violation of the oaths of office of individual justices, to change the Constitution by fiat of the Supreme Court, and of lesser courts. Until today the conversion of our republic into a