

THE SPANISH STUDENTS

The student unrest in Spain is not to be taken lightly. Spanish students not only are much more politically conscious than university students in Anglo-Saxon countries but they also are much more influential. To be sure, the agitation is not directed against the Franco Government or the Generalissimo. It takes the form of a clash between pro and anti Falangist university students. Spain is a totalitarian country with a sin-

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gle political party—the Falange. For three days running now there has been rioting between the student groups. This does not mean that anything politically dramatic is in the offing, for the chances are all against that, but the student unrest is symptomatic and it could conceivably turn out to be the beginning of the end of the Franco regime—allowing for a prolonged ending.

The Falange has long been discredited even though it has had a political monopoly. It is highly unpopular in the trade-union movement and there is great opposition to it among the students. The quality of university teaching and scholarship standards since the end of the civil war has been generally very low, as it always is in any fascist country where political conformity rather than scholarly attainment becomes the criterion for appointment. Students are graduating year after year and finding no jobs in medicine, law, teaching or other professions. Intellectual life, generally, is suffering.

Generalissimo Franco and the Falangist leaders, as always, blame the traditional scapegoat of communism, but the Communists are weak in Spain today and the real enemy of Franco, as of all totalitarian dictators, is liberalism, not communism. There is no reason to look further for the answer to the student unrest. Spain is suffering from the inherent strains and stresses of a totalitarian regime that has now lasted seventeen years.

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12. II. 56

Querido amigo:

Le adjunto un recorte del editorial del Times del viernes. Las cosas de España entran en una nueva fase. Quizá sea el comienzo del fin. Por ahora habrá probablemente una intensificación represiva. Hoy hay muchos datos en el Times.

¿Qué trae la prensa ahí?

Lo de Marias está ya arreglado: vendrá el día 15 de marzo. [Acabo de leer un artículo de Marias en Insula. ¿Por qué tendrá esa manía de ~~ser~~ "bautizar" cosas y hechos? Como si no tuvieran nombres ya, los mismos que él les da]

Sus ojos (ni los míos) no lo creerán: la Srta. Smita ha hecho ya sus exámenes escritos. Me reservo la opinión. Ya veremos cómo se sale de este atolladero.

Le adjunto un recorte de una hojita publicitaria de nuestro college. Disgusto de Mrs. Casland: única errata en la h^a.

Solita con Alberti y yo en el ensayismo. "Dopado" y escribo. A ver si cumplo con mi "deber" este año, para cuando ud. venga. Recuerdos a todos.

Un abrazo, Juan

JOEY

JOSÉ FERRATER MORA, Licenciado, Professor of Spanish and
MANUEL ALCALÁ, Litt.D., Associate Professor of Spanish
Philosophy

¿Podría conseguirme algunos ej. del número, *Il cres*, en q. salió mi art. de "liberal"? Si el Sr. Iglesias (q. no responde a una carta mía) los tiene y se los da, ¿puede recortar mi art.º y enviarlo a L. Besti por indicación de Poggioli? Se lo agradeceré de antemano. Ha habido una referencia a mi art. en una ~~se-~~manario italiano, Il mondo.

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