

polls. Twenty-one, said Mr. Truman, is a better age for enfranchisement, and 24 would be better still. . . ."¹⁸

" . . . The history of civilization shows that society constantly tends to become more and more complex. Consequently the period for fully responsible citizenship has tended to become longer. That is one of the reasons why children remain in school longer than did their parents and grandparents. This proposal to lower the voting age runs directly counter to human experience. . . ."¹⁹

"This [the proposed amendment

B. *Nearly all representative democracies have a minimum age requirement for voting of at least 21 years.*

" . . . Many factors contributed to the rise of the simplifying [sic] tyrants of our age, but the greatest factor that enabled Lenin, Mussolini, Hitler and Mao Tse-Tung to ride to power was their success in capturing and misusing the youth of their countries, especially among the student groups whose book learning had not yet been tempered by practical experience. It is significant that the great majority of the democracies have kept the voting age at 21 or higher. . . ."²¹

" . . . Leaders of radical movements understand that patience is not a par-

C. *The argument that "those old enough to fight are old enough to vote" is specious. Physical maturity is quite different from political and social maturity.*

" . . . To my mind, the draft age and the voting age are as different as chalk is from cheese. The thing called

granting the franchise to 18 year olds] is a rather drastic extension of the principle of equality or, to use the contemporary jargon, another step toward 'broadening the democratic base' by removing more of those distinctions which, to an earlier generation, seemed to have been imposed by nature itself. . . ."

"Another effect . . . would be to accelerate the tendency toward government by executive innovation and improvisation; for younger men and women are by temperament more easily persuaded that difficult problems can be solved by heroic remedies. . . ."²⁰

ticular virtue of the young. Throughout the ages, radicalism has had the greatest appeal to the youth between the ages of 18 and 21. So with the communist movement today. In the Middle East and in India and Pakistan, and in Italy from where I have just returned, the most intense and concentrated action of the communist movement has been in the universities where concentration is upon the youth exactly between the ages of 18 and 21. Hitler and Mussolini understood this: they advocated and accomplished the granting of the vote to the eighteen-year-olds. . . ."²²

for in a soldier is uncritical obedience, and that is not what you want in a voter.

¹⁸ Washington Post, Jan. 11, 1954, at 10, col. 2 (editorial).

¹⁹ Statement of Dr. Alonzo F. Myers, Professor of Education, New York University, *supra* Note 1 at 15.

²⁰ Washington Post, Jan. 11, 1954, at 10, col. 2 (editorial).

²¹ N. Y. Times, Jan. 12, 1954, at 22, col. 3 (editorial).

²² Statement of Representative Emanuel Celler, *supra* Note 1 at 15.