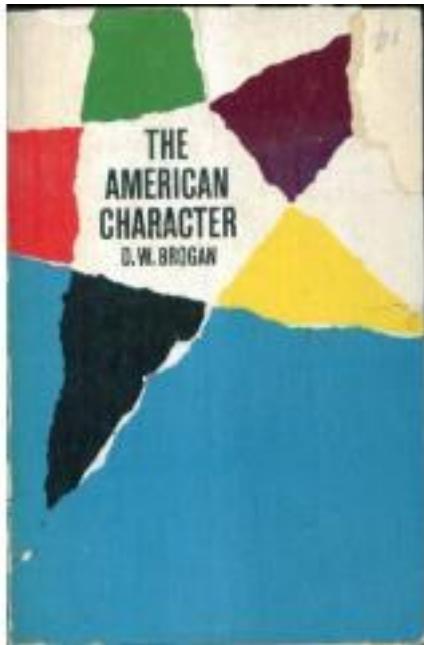


The American Character,



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try TO o~x" a quarter century ago, it would never have occurred to most U.S. citizens that the good or bad opinion of the rest of the world was anything to dwell on, much less worry about. By whatever standards, this was the land of the free and the home of the brave. Only a fool would claim that everything was dandy, but only a misanthrope could

deny that any people in history had been given so clear a chance to determine their earthly fate or that any nation had done so much with its opportunity. The U.S. was bursting at the seams and supremely confident.

Now, when we are midway into the 20th Century, something seems to be gnawing away at that confidence. Never have Americans looked at themselves so hard, never have they been so bewildered by foreign sniping. In a day when millions of U.S. tourists have seen the sickening scrawl, "Yankee Go Home," an examination of what we are and how others see us is not only inevitable but salutary.

By all odds the most interesting and meaningful starting point is The American Character, by D. W. Brogan.

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