

France's Le Pen: A Druid fairy tale

by Garance Upham Phau

"For wetnurse's milk Le Pen has sucked the sap of the tree France. . . . What is extraordinary about Le Pen is that no one has been able to shake him off his tree."

"His ideas are . . . deep as old Celtie. They come from the night of time. The oral tradition of the Druids has been transmitted down to him." (Jean Marcillacy, *Le Pen sans bandeau*.)

Many in the United States and France claim that the leader of the rightist National Front, Jean Marie Le Pen, supports policies favoring a strong Atlantic alliance. Such nonsense is not only absurd, it is downright dangerous. The Atlantic alliance ought to mean an alliance of republican nation states with a shared commitment to economic progress. But Le Pen, like Kissinger, proposes to do away with the nation state. His beliefs are "blood and soil" cultism, much as old Russia; behind him is the old oligarchs' plot to return Europe to the barbarian feudal regional entities of the pre-Renaissance era.

It is symptomatic of the degeneration of our Western culture that such an animal as Le Pen is not indeed laughed off his "tree." We quote from his program and biography *Les Français D'abord (The French Come First)* to locate his cultural and epistemological outlook.

The 'cemetery is the fatherland'

"The fatherland is the land of our Fathers, the soil . . . fertilized by their sweat and blood. . . . In the beginning there is the soil . . . all the living beings are by nature assigned to vital areas conforming to their disposition or affinities. It is the same for man and people. All are under the hard law of life and space. There is besides between men and their native soil an affinity which is not entirely summed up in the instinct of possession . . . they return there irresistibly as to a mother's lap. . . . The hardest trial of the Black Feet [French Algerians] was not that they gave up the fruit of their labor . . . but giving up their cemeteries. . . . Conversely a foreigner can . . . only integrate into the fatherland through a sacrificial act, 'the pouring of his blood,' then he is French, not through the blood received but through the blood given. . . . There are sites, on our homeland, military sites or large necropolises where this intimate mixture has reached such proportions that here man has become earth. Under the sky dome there reigns that same silence as in the large cathedrals. Seized with reverential emotion the visitor hushes,

walks on tiptoe . . . he is in the temple of the fatherland."

The notion of "vital space," that specific soil breeds specific races with a hierarchy of capabilities and intelligence defined by blood-irrigated soil, was at the core of Nazi belief structure. It is, moreover, central to the Russian cultural matrix, the underpinning of the "Third Rome." It is a form of primitive belief that predates Western civilization, characteristic of priest-ruled "human sacrifice" societies, which, after the Christian era, became known in the West as "Gnosticism."

Le Pen says that he is first and foremost a Celt of Brittany, who communicates with his Druid ancestors feeling their "pulses, intentions, protections," all their "manipulations." His biographer Marcillacy, a rabid Celt cultist, obscenely describes Le Pen over and over as a "tree," the tree being the Druid mode of communication with the earth/blood of ancestors. Marcillacy discusses shared belief in Druid magic with Le Pen.

When Julius Caesar arrived in Brittany, he reported finding a Celtic tribal society ruled by Druid priests practicing human sacrifices, worshipping oak trees and snake saliva. Later, in their Gnostic adaptation to Christianity, the Druids accepted the idea of one God only to reject Christ as the divine son of God, taking instead . . . "a snake." While we are not suggesting that Le Pen keeps a snake in the luxurious bathtub he inherited from the Lambert banking family, for the inquisitive we note that in Roman times the yearly Druid assembly took place in the city of Dreux, and that last winter, the National Front's entry into national prominence was when they won the mayoral race there.

Le Pen and his associates in the new right *Figaro Magazine* speak of the "need" to break with the tradition of King Louis XI that established the bourgeois-allied State as the agency ultimately responsible for policies governing the nation's economic development. Le Pen proposes to abandon all heavy industry. It was in 1464 that the Duke of Brittany became the rallying point for all the feudal houses of France and Europe and declared the "War of the Public Weal" against Louis XI. These oligarchs proposed "freedom" from state interference, tax cuts, the abolition of central government. Against them, Louis rallied the republican forces of the cities, industrial entrepreneurs and working people, in the first "American" revolution, and set up a state whose purpose was the realization of the highest rates of labor productivity through technological input, creating the highest potential relative population density yet achieved. The Dukes never forgave Louis, and today the descendants of those houses are on a rampage to break up Europe as a prelude to breaking up the United States.

But we may share a secret: The old Druids feared satire in the belief that it could create blisters on the mocked person's face. Should the French recover their Rabelaisian laughter, they might mock the Druidic fool until he puffs up and his blisters explode.