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*The United*  
**AMERICAN**

A MAGAZINE OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP

THE MAN WHO CAN HONESTLY SAY TO  
THE WORLD: "I AM AN AMERICAN"

**Y**OU WHO HAVE taken an oath of allegiance to the United States of America and raised your eyes toward the flag that symbolizes the faith in your new allegiance, should bear in mind that your citizenship is of no real value to yourself or to the country of your adoption, unless your heart speaks in accord with your lips and unless you can open your soul before your God and Maker and conscientiously and out of a full heart say: "I am an American!" If you have the courage of your convictions you should have no trouble in repeating this declaration, by which you have sealed your citizenship, in the face of all those who scoff, doubt and sneer. You may at times feel discouraged, you may have just cause to be hurt and your heart may be deeply wounded when thoughtless Americans, lacking the true American culture and refinement, make fun at your speech because of your accent and limited vocabulary, but if you remain true in your allegiance; uphold and obey our laws, fighting without malice and vindictiveness for the things you know to be right, living and working for the American principles of freedom, justice and equality, then your life will be a constant vindication of your faith and your citizenship will be a credit to yourself, the country and the people you came from and an inheritance to your American children which they will be proud of for generations to come.

No matter what your race or nationality may be, no matter your religious belief, if you have embraced the common faith of all Americans and accordingly subordinated all your other interests in life, then you have stricken the hyphen from your life and you have a just equity in all that is proclaimed American—even the hundred per cent Americanism—which cannot be invalidated by any amount of insinuations and crudely expressed indictments by those whom fate gave the breath of life on American soil.

AUGUST, 1923

PORTLAND, OREGON