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A MAGAZINE OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP

EVEN BETRAYAL OF PUBLIC TRUST CAN
NOT DESTROY THE COMMON FAITH

WHEN MEN intrusted with high office in government betray public trust and confidence, they are guilty of dealing their form of government a heavier blow than all the revolutionary plotting and scheming groups of such a nation, put together, can accomplish. The act, however abominable in any government, becomes unspeakably heinous in a democratic republican form of government where men who govern are neither of cast nor class, of nobility or high birth, but come from the people, from the truly divinely inspired autocracy of the common man. The revelations lately emanating from our very seat of government are nothing short of a catastrophe to public confidence in America. The wanton conversion of jealously guarded public treasure and delivery of national reserves to private and conniving exploiters, carried out by high government officials, reveals a state of calloused conscience among our citizens that is appalling and calls for drastic and immediate action to prevent fatal results. The fair name of America has been besmirched. The very faith in our government has been shaken, but there is solace in the thought that the wrongs we grieve over are the wrongs of individuals too base to value the importance of their trust. Those who are on the verge of losing faith should therefore take heart and assert themselves for a more dependable type of citizenship. The core of America is sound, and the basest betrayals of public trust may cause serious internal strife, but there can be no repudiation of the just principles upon which rest the sublime structure of the government of the United States of America.

Consecration to public service is still an American requirement, though largely a matter of form. The spiritual concept in citizenship, insured honor and integrity in service for the earlier Americans. Let it again become a dominant force in our citizenship.

JANUARY, 1924

PORTLAND, OREGON