

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## "We Three Kings"

"We, three kings of Orient are," could apply to King Farouk of Egypt, Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia and King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia. This was the trio which visited President Roosevelt aboard an American warship in Great Bitter lake, an arm of the Suez canal. They did not come from very far off and they didn't bring gifts, and they came separately rather than in company. But it must have been quite a scene when three kings of the orient visited the president of a distant but famous democracy.

King Farouk is the successor of the ancient Pharaohs though his empire is not so broad nor his grip on power so firm. He might have made conversation with President Roosevelt by pointing to the spot (if it is in that vicinity) where the hosts of Pharaoh were drowned when they pursued the Israelites fleeing from their slave labor (making bricks) for the Egyptian rulers, though not without some compensation (leeks and garlic).

Emperor Haile Selassie might have discussed a trip in state made by one of his predecessors in office, the Queen of Sheba, who traveled by caravan to visit King Solomon in Jerusalem. She brought gifts of gold and spices and had a good time at Solomon's court. Poor Haile Selassie, we wonder who loaned him the coat he wore when he called on the president. It looked a bit like a GI overcoat. But then he should be happy. He is back at Addis Ababa, and Mussolini is jibbering in a north Italian resort.

The one who could come and be sure of receiving every possible consideration was King Saud, and that not because of the fame of his ancestors or predecessors in office. For King Saud's country is rich in oil, and the rulers of Britain and the United States and Russia do well to treat him with deference. King Saud brought along his own camp, and pitched his tent and laid his bed on the deck of the destroyer. As a devout Mohammedan he probably was not offered any of the president's "old-fashioned" drinks. He brought along his own mutton, on the hoof, and his milk goats. But the president made him feel right at home.

It was a deft touch, that of Roosevelt in inviting these three kings of the orient to call. Two of them, Farouk and Ibn Saud, preside over key countries, whose good will is invaluable for world security. Their assistance in the war is appreciated, and their continued cooperation strongly desired. And we have no doubt that the three kings of the orient left the American destroyer with kindly thoughts toward Mr. Roosevelt and the great country of the incident over which he presides.

## B. B. Beekman

The Beekman name belongs in the roots of Oregon history. C. C. Beekman was a pioneer express agent and banker in Jacksonville at the time it was a center of gold diggings. (The town is still a veritable museum piece rich in antiques and historical lore). B. B. Beekman, whose death in Portland occurred a few days ago, was a son of the pioneer banker. Given a fine education at the University of Oregon and at Yale, the son became a teacher and then a lawyer. His great interest in his later years was pioneer history. He sponsored the C. C. Beekman prizes for high school essays in Oregon history. He served as member of the board of directors of the Oregon Historical society and was an active member of the S. A. R. and of Masonic groups. He was a familiar figure about the Portland hotel where he resided for 50 years. Quiet and unostentatious, Mr. Beekman used his means and his influence in behalf of worthy causes.

## Willamette Prospers

President G. Herbert Smith was able to present an optimistic report to the board of trustees of Willamette university at its meeting last week. With recent bequests whose value is estimated to equal an addition of about \$240,000 to the endowment, the underpinning of the institution is greatly strengthened. Pledged or paid toward a new building fund for men's dormitory and infirmary is a sum now amounting to nearly \$120,000 out of a goal of \$321,000. While the V-12 navy unit which has been of great value in enabling the college to operate

## Editorial Comment

### "MUSH!"

There are many things without which a soldier must do in the line, but munitions and food he must have. Trucks can take them only so far; ration parties have to come for them and carry them back on foot. That is no easy task when the ground is bad, the weather worse and enemy fire worst of all. Just now General Bradley's fighting men face all of these. The ground is a shambles, the snow is deep, enemy snipers keep busy. Slogging through snow with a heavy load of rations is not easy for men. Dogs are to be tried out, and 160 Eskimo huskies, two dozen sledges and as many trained drivers have been flown to Belgium to carry chow to the men up front.

Dogs have been used in this war to accompany patrols, to carry messages, even to detect mines, but probably this is the first time they have been used to take food to the front. Trained huskies should do admirably. The green pastures are not the heaven of the husky; he would lie down in snowy wastes. For the snow is his element. He loves to run in it. At night he will curl around and let it swirl about him to be a warm blanket. To him nothing is more enjoyable than the prospect of a sledge trip, unless it is the trip itself. He knows these preparations above any others and his howls of anticipation are something to be heard. Harnessed, he will hardly wait to start, and once started becomes the nearest thing on four feet to perpetual motion. The heavier the load the harder he will pull. And for courage nothing can surpass him.

Wherever dogs are used the command "Mush!" is heard. Just what it means is a matter of dispute. As good a guess as any is that it is a corruption of the French habitant's "Marche!"—"Get going!" With huskies the word needs no whip. It will start off a dog team at breakneck speed. Are rations to be delivered to Bradley's men? Load the sledge. Harness up the huskies. Pull on your snow packs. And "Mush!"—New York Times.

and maintain its full staff will be wound up by July next, the university has a \$50,000 "war fund" contributed by its friends to tide it over until the end of the war permits normal enrollment again. All this is most encouraging.

President Smith in his two years of service has proven himself a vigorous executive, a man with a broad vision for the university, and with marked ability in securing wholehearted cooperation on and off the campus for his program. The old university prospers under his young hands.

## Get on Bandwagon

Turkey and Egypt have declared war on the axis powers. So have several of the Latin American nations in recent weeks. These declarations are based on advice from the Big Three nations that unless they actually declare war on Germany and Italy they will not be invited to attend the San Francisco confab on world organization nor given a place at the peace conference to follow the war. So they have rushed for the bandwagon.

We do not understand why these nations need to be belligerent in order to have a place at the San Francisco meeting. That is a meeting to frame finally the organization for world order. To it all nations ought to be eligible except enemy states and those lined up with them. They can make no greater contribution to the allied side in this war through formal declarations than they already are doing. The necessity for these nations to become belligerents is not apparent.

As far as the peace conference is concerned these small nations will have little to say anyway. They didn't at the Paris conference in 1919. In international affairs power is still the measuring rod, and the small nations, lacking power, have to take what is given them. They very well know, however, that they will fare better under the overlordship of America and Britain than in a Hitlerite world.

## Street Lighting

A study by an illumination expert finds that Salem's street illumination is deficient. Existing lighting units are not efficient and the city is advised to make an increase in the amount it spends for street lights.

For a beginning we might suggest that State and Court streets leading up to the capitol have all four instead of merely the top light turned on. As it is, only the top globe is luminous at night, and the walks along the park are poorly lighted. Those approaches to the capitol from town ought to be bright with light. The installation is there; all the globes should be used.

As for the rest of the city the council should study the report and do all it can to provide ample lighting for city streets. Adequate illumination is needed for personal safety, to make crime less easy and to prevent auto accidents.

In Germany Hitler is dubbed the "forgotten man." But he's not gone; that's the trouble.

## Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR ANALYST

The answer to Nazi ability to maintain any organized defense ground within the roofless citadel that lies between the Rhine and the Oder may be evident soon.

And when it is, the duration of the war in Europe can be answered with some reasonable degree of accuracy.

Germany was face to face with another supreme test.

There was no question but that the final phase of a coordinated Russian-Allied winter drive to crush the Wehrmacht was on although the full scope and direction of simultaneous massive ground attacks from east and west had yet to develop.

Under cover of a sustained Allied air bombardment that blackened German skies day and night with bombers the big push began.

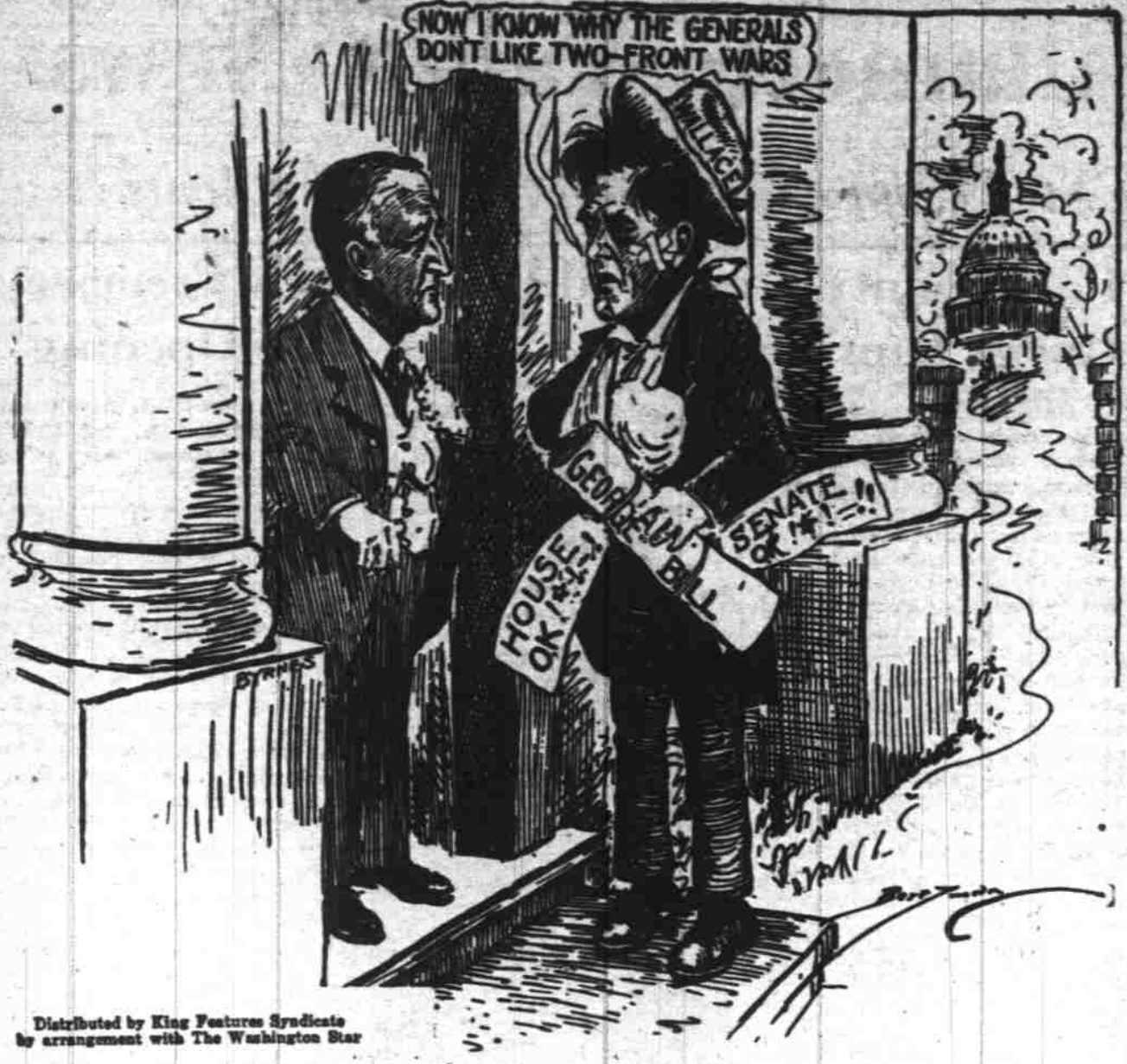
In an anniversary order to Red armies issued while Allied bombers were ripping at every vital Nazi communications key in preparation for the culminating breakthrough ground attacks, Premier Stalin again defined the joint objective as annihilation of the German army. For the first time, too, he disclosed officially that the Russian-Allied offensives were now intimately coordinated, fitted to a mutual strategic and tactical pattern.

Whether that was the direct first result in a military way of the momentous Churchill-Roosevelt-Stalin conference at Yalta or had been previously worked out is not yet clear. It seems certain, however, that further aggressive moves to tighten the screw on the tottering last segment of Hitler's once sweeping Axis hold on continental Europe were in the making.

Further evidence of the impending German collapse came during the week from Turkey. In desperate haste to join in the United Nations victory march, Turkey formally entered the war. Her action came too belatedly to influence greatly the military situation except that it exposed die-hard Nazi garrisons on the islands of the Aegean to immediate close range attack. The complete clearance of that sea for Allied naval and air aid seems apt to be the first war mission of Turkish forces.

There were further indications during the week also that a Nazi withdrawal from Italy might be impending. It will involve terrible risks for Nazi divisions pulling back out of the Brenner line across the head of the Italian peninsula if and when it comes. They must make their way somehow across the wide open sweep of the Po valley to reach Alpine passes, already under sustained Allied air attack that lead into Germany or Austria. There were indications of softening of the defense of long stubbornly German held heights on the Italian front which suggested the retreat in the south had begun.

There are no recent official Allied or Russian estimates of remaining German divisional strength either on the east or west fronts by which to measure immediate possibilities. But east as well as west the Wehrmacht faces crushing odds as the most decisive moment of the war draws near, while overhead it stands naked to ceaseless Allied air attack. There can be no doubt as to the end, only as to just when and how it will come.



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## A Casualty of the Battle of the Potomac



(Continued from page 1)

that if he makes a loan and loses, the government will share the loss pro rata with the banker, up to a \$2000 maximum.

But on a \$4000 loan banking practice, based on experience, will permit only a 50 per cent loan. The banker might be willing to make the loan if he had the underlying security, but instead of the government making a flat guarantee up to 50 per cent of a \$4000 loan, it merely offers to divide the loss, and where several thousand veterans are seeking full 100 per cent loans there are bound to be losses.

And the government requires the banker to make these loans at the very low rate of 4 per cent!

What is the result? The banker, who is lending chiefly not his own money but the money his depositors have left with him, cannot make 100 per cent loans on such a deal, because there are sure to be losses and the interest rate is too low to absorb such probable losses, even with government sharing.

When this is explained to the ex-doughfoot or the ex-seaman, he is apt to say, as he turns away: "Just what I was afraid of; another gyp."

This lending deal is not as practical as the FHA lending arrangement in which the government made a guarantee of the top ten per cent on loans for housing, permitted a higher rate of interest and then took a small percentage for an insurance fund on such loans. This has worked out very well both for borrowers and for the banks and lending agencies and for the government.

It would seem that radical revision is necessary before the lending provisions, particularly for business loans, will be of much value to veterans. Better to let the normal methods of business prevail in which the veteran can obtain credit according to his own credit rating than to hang up hopes which cannot be realized.

Were it not for parasites, many insect pests might increase to such an extent that growing of crops would be impossible.

## News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON  
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PALM BEACH, Fla., Feb. 24—A lawyer-business man who is a government official listened to a group of the learned and wise among his associates, discussing whether Stalin was the Ljovadia conference, whether leftist totalitarianism (quasi communism) will sweep Europe, what our own post-war future is, for more than an hour before he broke in to say:

"I think communism or some similar disintegration of our system is ahead of this country in the next fifty years. But I think it is coming, not because of Stalin, but because of our own foolishness. We have not met our problems wisely and soundly. We are not doing that today.

"It is inevitable, furthermore, that our people will soon sweep aside the coming communism in whatever form it takes, as soon as they experience it. They do not want it. They will fight to get out of it, and to restore soundness in values—all values—money, morals, religion, literature, art, economics. They will return to common sense for many generations thereafter."

No one present disagreed. A religious leader noted the same symptoms in his line of work as the banker found in his. On the religious side, the decline of popular faith in soundness of moral values was evident—A disinclination toward common practices which makes for health, happiness and permanency.

The banker noted that the American Bankers association does not oppose the side of the Bretton Woods agreement which proposes giving money away for rebuilding the world, but only the foreign exchange part. Even bankers have become so confused and disillusioned they no longer think it unsound to give money away—the people's money in the federal treasury.

Mr. Roosevelt currently wants the Johnson act repealed, so that restriction may be removed against giving the people's money to nations which have not seriously tried to repay us from the last war. Last time the bankers made these loans and the individual investors lost. Now all seem to think it will be an improvement to give the money out of our treasury and make all

the people losers. Truly this represents disillusionment in finance.

I have found doctors and nurses so disillusioned by wrongs they see in medicine that they are coming to welcome socialized medicine, even though they know it means that communal system will cause the end of all except the purest scientific ambition in medicine, that doctors will have to become politicians and seek salaries and appointments through the political mill in Washington to the destruction of the best ideals of their profession, and to the worst interests of the common man, the patient.

I found abused religious and race classes of our people desiring to tear down our civilization, thinking thereby their condition would be improved, not realizing that with all its defects it has afforded them the best haven their people ever had in all the history of the world, better than any other nation affords them today or any nation will afford them in postwar.

Here we are then—the youth, the serviceman and their families suffering confusion and lack of hope along with the doctor, nurse, negro, the worker, the religious man, the business man, the banker.

What are we going to do about it? Sit down and await the fulfillment of the mass of discouragement?

No well ordered nation would. The problems must be attacked and solved. Confidence in our future must be restored.

This nation was even more discouraged twelve years ago at this very time. A fresh, brave president—this same Mr. Roosevelt—arose on the capitol steps and said there was nothing to fear but fear.

He thought he could do the job and he did enough of it to get the country out of the basement, and would have done more if he had not started playing around politically, packing the supreme court with incompetents and leading class warfare for political purposes. He put the stock market in its properly regulated place for one thing.

But behind him there must be built up in this country a popular following for what everyone who can think, realizes is simple common justice and soundness. Sounder leadership must rise to the top in all classes to promote the things we know to be good, to make class surliness, hatred and greed less popular, less condensed, to promote a national teamwork out of our foolish stifes.

A leadership inspiring confidence in postwar reconversion must be established in Washington. I understand ex-Justice ames Byrnes is now back in favor at the White House and is to become increasingly a greater power and influence. He may be able to do this job, especially if the top brains of the country are ranked in as it was for the war production task.

There are men among the workers who are not of the Hillman stripe, among the clergy who do not want to compromise with communists, among the negroes who know what is wise and just, in business who know this foolishness cannot last, among bankers who know what sound values really are, doctors who will stand for fairness and justice. Let them speak up and assert themselves, and furnish leadership for good in this country.

If they do, you will soon see the looser political system, hate mongers, greed getters — our whole gangster idealism with its hard materialism—fade in popularity. There is justification for disillusionment, but this very condition should be an inspiration to fight.

## Kenneth L. Dixon AT THE FRONT! 'Epuration' Virtually Becomes Obsolete In French Papers

By Louis P. Lochner  
(Substituting for Kenneth L. Dixon)

PARIS (AP)—Epuration, that ominous French word meaning purge which only a month ago screamed from every Parisian newspaper, virtually has become obsolete. Yet no one expects it will remain thus.

When I left Paris February 1 for a visit to sections of Germany now occupied by the allies, "epuration" seemed to have reached a climax. Such a dramatic figure as 76-year-old fighting Editor Charles Maurras, or such an erudite man of letters as 35-year-old Robert Brasillach had supplied plenty of readable material to the French press.

Crowded though the French one-sheet dailies are for space, their editors nevertheless reserved plenty of room for items to bear out the one word headline, "Epuration."

On my return to the French capital I looked in vain for the familiar headline. The fact is that the government apparently grew tired of prosecuting over 70,000 cases and decided that all those dealing with central administrative officials must be finished by February 15, all affecting local administrations by March 15, and all charging treason, collusion with the enemy and others involving the possibility of the death penalty by May 1.

That decision satisfied exactly nobody, it seems, unless it was the government itself. But even the cabinet seems to have had tongue in cheek when it passed the decree for speeding up and thereafter dropping all purging.

The government, as well as everybody else, cannot answer the fundamental question: what will be the attitude of the millions of Frenchmen who are either prisoners of war in Germany or else have been dragged into the reich as conscripted laborers?

As of January 31, only 5845 of over 70,000 cases had been tried, including 471 with the death penalty. These figures show how

impossible is the task of completing all cases under indictment within the allotted time.

The innate feeling of justice in the average Frenchman rebels against the solution decreed by the government even though it is recognized that judicial machinery was being clogged by the incessant purge trials. Why should those go scot-free—so the average Parisian asks—who either by chance, or because they knew legal tricks, escaped being tried in the first wave of purge fever?

Others go farther and point out that no really rich people have been placed on trial and it seems justifiable for them to deduce that such persons were in a better position than the poor in engaging clever counsel, if not actually making money talk to judges.

Dropping the purge of governmental apparatus entirely by March 15 arouses grave fears in the leftist political parties lest the spirit of Vichy rather than that of reborn democracy will animate France's vast governmental machinery.

One thing seems demonstrated by the course of the purge trials so far: the worst off defendants were the wielders of the pen. They had no alibis. They were committed in writing, their signatures affixed to editorial expressions which left no doubt about their attitude.

The average Frenchman now is probably so preoccupied with daily worries about food, shelter and a job that he is ready to accept the cabinet's decision to end the purges quickly. It's another question, however, what will happen when French war prisoners and conscripted laborers reach home again and see men holding jobs who they knew to be Vichy collaborators, who perhaps even helped in selecting conscripts for Hitler's war effort.

Many thoughtful Frenchmen in private conversation shudder at the thought of possible clashes ahead when these forced absentees rejoin their native communities.

## The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

"THE MIDEOUT," by Egon Hostovsky (Boston House, \$1.75). Hostovsky, well known Czechoslovak writer who has been translated into many European languages, is introduced at last to American readers in this very short, powerful novel.

It's a story of redemption. A Czech engineer discovers there is no escape for the reasoning adult from his terrible responsibilities in a world menaced by Fascism. Like the ship that puts into a safe harbor instead of riding out the storm, the engineer tries to hide for the duration of the war. For months he remains concealed from all humans but one; he shuts life out.

But life is too insistent, his barriers prove ineffective. He cannot endure being a recluse in an ivory tower, or a hermit in a cellar hole, even though, by ceasing to be one, he must commit himself to the tremendous conflict from which he has fled. Hostovsky declares, in other words, that no man can be alive in these days and yet evade the issues challenging mankind.

This sounds more like philosophy than fiction, but that's my fault, for in fact it is not. Hostovsky has done an exciting story with thrilling passages. It's true, however, that his characters labor under some handicaps. The scheme of the book is old-fashioned and dated; told in a letter by the engineer to his wife.

There are, besides, some coincidences which strain reader credulity, such as a couple of meetings left too much to chance to bear the weight of plot assigned to them, though here again Hostovsky's characters, sincerely felt and drawn in the round, come successfully to the rescue of faltering situations.

Finally, the engineer's experiences spring somewhat melodramatically from his supposed invention of a sight for anti-aircraft guns. . . I wish, by the way, that publishers would read their manuscripts as carefully as they expect critics to: the book's jacket describes the device not as a gunsight but a bombsight.

The real proof of the novel is the way people in it come to life.

## The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

PRaise FOR PARENTHOOD To the Editor:

In the column "It Seems to Me" of Sunday morning you expressed a fine, sensible truth. We missed seeing the editorial in the Oregonian, but judging from the answer sent to that editor by a Salem man, E. J. Benner, we are of the opinion your views differ on the population increase. Mr. Benner seems to think many children born to a nation is the cause of wars. Well, it's a good thing we didn't fall behind France along this line, or we too would be at the mercy of our enemies today. Greed is the cause of wars, not children. Jesus says "Suffer the children to come unto Me; and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Young mothers today waiting with their children for their husband's return, is a shining example of our great nation, and they are faithful.

MRS. F. W. ALLEN  
3625 S.E. 17th Ave.  
Portland

## Practical Religion

By Rev. John L. Knight, Jr.,  
Counselor on Religion, L.L.S.,  
Willamette University.

I once attended a summer camp where those who attended had many moments of high inspiration. Upon each inspirational moment the director of the camp advised us to write down our highest ideas or convictions. These written thoughts were placed in a sealed envelope which was then mailed to us by the director some six months later. They served as reminders of convictions which we had once held but from which we might have swerved.

The Bible reminds us of the great convictions made by mankind in its highly inspirational moments. We would do well to reread them again and again in order that we do not lose or fall below the God-given purposes and ideals of mankind.

## "THE YOUNG IDEA" By Mossler



"This looks super—a double feature and we've seen both pictures!"

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