

Spirit of Democracy Told to Unborn Baby in Moving Letter

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—An army aviation cadet, speaking to an unborn child through a letter made public today, expressed the hopes, fears, and aspirations of thousands of husbands and fathers who are fighting in this war to preserve the heritage of freedom for their sons and daughters.

Author of the message was Aviation Cadet Robert A. Keyworth, 23, of Norwalk, Conn. He is now awaiting news of his child's arrival at Maxwell field where he is in training. His wife is the former Miss Dorothy Reeves of Hightstown, N. J. Before entering the armed forces, both were radio entertainers.

Keyworth's letter follows:

"Dear Son,
"I have no way of knowing as I write this that you, my yet unborn child, will be a boy. It is just that I find myself thinking of you as a boy, and so if you turn out to be a little lady, you must forgive your dad, for I will cherish you as I do your mother. I hope and pray that at some future happier time, when you are old enough to understand, I will be able to read you this myself. It may be though that you must read these lines alone, and this is my reason for writing them.

Prospect of Death

"The country which in a few short weeks will claim you as one of its newest citizens is fighting for its existence. Your mother waits alone at home to bring you into the world while your father prepares for whatever may be his share of the combat which lies ahead. The risks are great, and though my comrades in uniform laugh with me as we joke of future danger, still in each of our hearts is the quiet knowledge that some day soon we must prepare to face the final fact of death.

"That we can laugh now is high tribute to the many reasons we have found to thus prepare ourselves and move forward in hope and courage.

"Twenty-five years ago when I was born, the world was also at war. I grew up during the peace that followed, totally unaware of the pain and sacrifice that had gone into the winning of that peace—however brief it may have

been. I learned to sneer with other schoolboys at that merely preliminary battle to make the world safe for democracy—not even knowing what democracy meant.

"In this matter, my son, my ignorance equalled my ego. This was the state of mind I found myself in when the men who now seek to destroy my country—and yours—plunged my world into the horror of total war. In what a short space of time I discovered what it meant to live in a free world!

"I speak to you across the years which lie between us so that you will not be a partner to the derision and contempt in which many of your contemporaries will inevitably hold my generation. This fight we pursue is for you who will follow. For in the winning of it, many of us will have lost all that gives to life its savour. We want only at the close of it to return to whatever is left of the world we knew and finish out our times in peace.

"Even as I write these lines, the dreams of many are fading in their hearts, supplanted by the nightmare of war and all that war can mean to a man and a woman. These are the dreams we hold so dear, which we are reluctant to let go, that are the very reason we seek to destroy our enemies at whatever cost.

"For these dreams of ours, and of the men and women who came before us, built this country—before my country, my son, the last asylum for the decent man who desires, not the sun, but only a chance to work for a place in it. The men we fight would keep us in the shadow of their faded greatness and so we oppose our strength to theirs. In this way we give to you who come after your chance to dream as we were offered our own.

"There are so many things I had planned telling you when you and I first began to talk—man to man—how I met your mother and how I loved her with all my heart from the first wonderful moment. And the way we looked at each other without speaking—silenced by our great happiness—the day we knew for sure that you were coming. There were so many things which must now remain unspoken.

"Have Faith"

"Forgetting all else, my son, if you choose, remember what I say to you now. The army in which I am a soldier provides a spiritual needs of men in uniform wherever on the globe they may find themselves. These men of God have given to me two words on which to base my courage and my hope of a better time. These simple words encompass all that I know, all that I would be able to tell you in ten thousand others. Accept them, use them each day that you live in all your dealings with people and situations and yours will be the happy life. They are 'Have faith.' . . . The knowledge that I cannot be close to your mother when you draw your first breath gives me the greatest anguish I have ever known . . . only my faith sustains me, for it has created between those I love and myself a tremendous bond, possessed of such strength that nothing can alter or weaken it. In this I find all my strength, all my courage, all my hope.

"My faith allows me to look forward to the wonderful years that will come for us with victory and to the good things we will share together. God grant that this will be so. If it be otherwise, then you must dream my dreams, fulfill your ambitions as I sought to fulfill my own, find the peace, the happiness, which I have only touched upon. Whatever happens, my son, may my blessings and that of God protect you and keep you. "Your Father."

V-Homes Will Get Stickers

If your home is contributing to the war effort, by your taking precautionary measures which help others as well as yourself, it is entitled to a V-Home sticker for its front window.

The Lane county defense council announces that air raid wardens are now inspecting homes to see if homes measured up to specifications, and that block leaders are passing out supplies needed by every informed V-Home.

The first requirement is: "A V-Home is ready for bombs." Equipment should, if possible, include a garden hose because it throws water a good distance and provides a continuous stream. A pump can be the next best weapon. It can be refilled regularly. A stirrup pump with a can or bucket is effective. Wet sacks, wet pieces of blanket, or a wet broom sometimes are useful to batter fires out. Water thrown with a can or dipper from a bucket will help extinguish some fires—such as oil fires—but should not be relied upon if water is available.

It must be remembered above all, the council cautions, that the new enemy bombs are set to explode any time up to seven minutes or more. Short range attack upon one of these bombs before it explodes is dangerous.

Forwarding Addresses Of Kin Of Servicemen Needed By Postoffice

To facilitate delivery of casualty and other messages of vital importance to servicemen's families, all persons listed as the "next of kin" on service records, are urged to leave their forwarding or emergency address with the post-office when they move.

The request was made Wednesday by the Lane county Red Cross chapter, which said that thousands of vital messages concerning servicemen killed in action, reported missing, or taken prisoners of war,

Knights Templar Official to Visit Here

Edward Benjamin Beatty, right eminent grand commander of the Knights Templar of Oregon, will make his official visit to Eugene Saturday when a commandery of Knights Templar meets at 2 p.m.

CD Work For Women Will Be Described

Women of the Eugene area will be told how they can serve best in civilian defense during the summer months, on a radio program to be presented over KORE Thursday evening at 7:45.

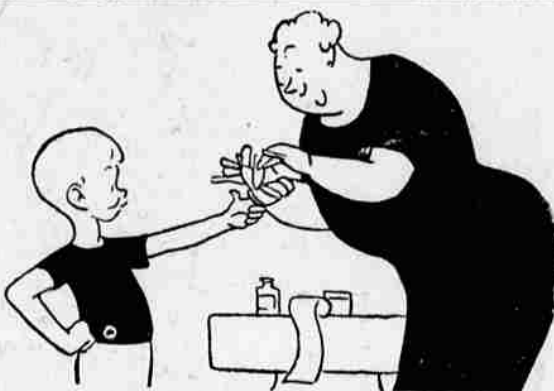
Mrs. John Bell, city block leader chairman, has prepared the script which will discuss work and activities of block leaders, V-Homes, and other plans. Also taking part will be her four sectional leaders, Mrs. Howard Taylor, Mrs. Stephen A. Mogan, Mrs. W. S. Love, Mrs. Donald Husband.

York Rite Masons Will Meet Friday

York Rite Masons of Lane county will meet Friday at 7:30 p. m. and Saturday at 2 p. m. in the downtown Masonic temple to confer the degrees and orders upon a class of candidates. The degree of royal master will be conferred under the supervision of Walter Ransom and the degree of select master, by Oswald Olson, master of Hiram council, No. 7, Red Cross. The Order of Malta will be conferred by Lyman C. Palmer. Refreshments will be served in the temple at the conclusion of the meeting Friday evening.

Largest of all bats is the flying fox, which has a wingspread of nearly five feet.

What we call a "tip" is "pour-boire" in French. Literally, it means "for drink."



A V-Home has at least one person trained in First Aid, as part of its air raid precautions and to preserve the family's health. Other qualifications for the V-Home certificate awarded by the Office of Civilian Defense are salvage, refusal to spread Axis propaganda, and regular purchase of War Bonds and Stamps. The illustration was contributed by Guyas Williams. Make yours a V-Home!



EDWARD BENJAMIN BEATTY

Edward Benjamin Beatty, right eminent grand commander of the Knights Templar of Oregon, will make his official visit to Eugene Saturday when a commandery of Knights Templar meets at 2 p.m. Commander Beatty, professor of mathematics at Oregon State college, is a graduate of that institution, class of 1903. In 1916 he received his master's degree from the University of California and holds many responsible positions and honors in different A.F. and A.M. lodges throughout the state.

The Order of the Temple will be conferred by Commander Beatty; Luke F. Knowlton of Portland, grand captain general; R.H.C. Bennett of Hillsboro, grand captain of the guard; D. Bruce Stuart of Corvallis, grand inspector general; Donald Husband, commander of the local commandery; Dr. R. T. Burnett, past commander; and the officers of Ivanhoe commandery. Dinner will be served in the temple banquet room at 6:30 p.m.

A. E. Roberts, C. L. Curtis and Donald Husband will take care of arrangements; O. P. Nordling, A. Lombard and Clark Richards are in charge of hospitality; W. L. Hoadley, Newton Anderson and Willis W. Wiper are responsible

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Damage Case Against City Tried In Court

The case of Guy Stuckell and the General Insurance company against the city of Eugene and Ray Hicks, a suit to collect \$400 damages on account of the collision between the plaintiff's car and a city fire truck, was on trial in circuit court Wednesday. It was expected to go to the jury soon after noon.

This is a case wherein the plaintiff was driving east on Seventh avenue, which is the state highway entrance into Eugene, and the fire truck driven by Hicks, was

traveling south on Park when they crashed. The jurors chosen are Nash, Robert F. Collins, John Jackson, Bruce George Frank, Harry Myra Elliott, Mary Beulah M. Allison, Ben Baker, Pearl L. Parks and Harris.

Pennsylvania's first stone was built in 1697.

HENDERSON FIELD, Guadalcanal.

Dear Tom and Harry: I've wanted to write you for some time but for the past ten days our gang has been in hell. We chased the Japs across the river and held our ground against mortars, dive bombers, artillery, snipers, bayonets and belly knives.

Eight of us had to lay in jungle slime up to our mouths for a whole day because the Japs had the bead on us from two sides. Charlie, next to me, whispered, "I think I can make it," and raised his head for a cautious look. I saw him grin as he drew his Garand forward. That was all. Thank God he died instantly. But his blood was oozing at us in waving fingers, nearly drove us mad.

A Jap mortar almost got us when a shell exploded about 40 feet away. We practically dug our graves that time. I spit blood for an hour. After nightfall the seven of us quietly slithered out of that stagnant pool like crocodiles. The Japs knew we were flanking them and fired wildly. There was about 6 inches of water and when Ed got hit in the spine with shrapnel, I think he purposely went under. A single sound would have told the Japs our location.

About the time you fellows on the swing shift were knocking off to go home, we hooked up with our platoon again, gave the captain the exact position of the Japs. A runner crawled to the rear and in 15 minutes our artillery finished off that pocket of rice-eaters.

An hour after dawn we had our first food in 24 hours. Dead tired, we tried to sleep on some palm fronds. But a bunch of Zeros came over and spit at us. Louis was carrying some canteens of drinking water and—his number was up.

Yep, this is quite a war. You live your life in a split second lots of times. Sometimes I wish every fellow I know could spend just one day and one terrifying night out here with us. There would be more aching bellies and not so much bellyaching.

One of the great thrills—if there can be thrills in this business—is to see men come of age under fire. They grow up as shells burst. They work like mad. They fight like mad. Time and again I've seen one of our boys dash across open country, directly in the line of fire, to help a buddy in trouble. The only whistles on Guadalcanal are the screaming kind that go overhead.

Got a job to do tomorrow I don't particularly like. We've got to bury about 200 Japs. They are commencing to stink up the place pretty bad.

Wish there was more to write about, but there isn't. Remember me to the gang. I'll write again if I get a chance. So long and good luck.

PETE OLESON.

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Flooded Basements Need Disinfection

A bulletin on disinfection of sewage flooded dwellings was issued by the Lane county health department Wednesday. It deals with sanitary problems in the flooded districts in the vicinity of Eugene and Springfield, due to the overload on the sanitary and storm sewers during the downpour of rain Tuesday afternoon. The bulletin follows:

"Sanitary problems in the flooded districts in and near Eugene and Springfield, due to the overload on the sanitary and storm sewers during yesterday's downpour, can be adequately taken care of by a little elbow grease and the application of some disinfecting agent.

"All basement surfaces, contacted by the back-flowing sewers, should be washed with soap and hot water followed by some effective sterilizing treatment such as chlorine.

"There are a few commercial chlorine sterilizers yet available on the market, such as: clorox, purex or any of the bleaching liquors and chloride of lime.

"Bacteria like to hide away in small cracks or seams and will remain as long as warmth and moisture is available. Besides the nuisance of odor, sewage, if it should contact the mouth of a well person, may bring on a serious illness.

"All flooded basements should be treated immediately. If further advice is requested, contact your health department, Courthouse, Eugene."

Stephen C. Foster was born in Pennsylvania.

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