

Balloon—or Bird?

The other day I saw a balloon, torn by the frolicsome breeze from the hand of a boy, float away to become the plaything of the air currents—and I saw a bird winging at will through God's free sky.

It occurred to me that there was a parable.

There are many persons who are at the mercy of chance breezes. One of these I meet every Saturday night. If he is in the company of men who buy "The War Cry," he readily purchases a copy, too, and speaks in laudatory terms of "the best Army in the world." Should his companions refuse my request, he, with downcast eyes, adds a sullen negative.

Then there is another man of my acquaintance—a person who has become involved in serious difficulties.

"Why did you do it?" I asked him once. "I could not help it, Captain," he replied. "My circumstances were too much for me."

But there are other folk who can keep their course in the face of the fiercest gales. "Your gold could not buy me yesterday, your beasts will not buy me today," said one such person to those who sought to make him leave his God.

From balloon to bird is a change that is virtually impossible. But it is absolutely true—it has been proved beyond the shadow of a doubt—that a man may be changed from shifting uncertainty to a life of purpose and direction.

The power is found in Jesus Christ who saves and strengthens all who seek and call upon Him.—The War Cry (Salvation Army publication).

Prayer in Public Schools Opposed

Considerable vocal opposition is rising in New York against the suggestion of the state's board of regents that public schools open each day with an unsectarian prayer. How influential this will prove cannot as yet be estimated. With the American Civil Liberties Union at the forefront of the opposition, it may prove very formidable. One of the protests comes from the American Jewish Congress. This charges that the regents' recommendation to school boards—that was no more than a recommendation—would

prove to be ineffective in practice, wrong in principle and "dangerous in its implication." The Jewish body echoes the A.C.L.U. in holding that prayer at the start of the school day would infringe on religious liberty and the separation of church and state. It warns that what might start as an unsectarian prayer, following the formulation suggested by the regents, would be likely to end up otherwise. We do not share these fears and we do not believe that prayer, if offered under the conditions clearly outlined by the New York state educational authorities, would violate either the letter or the spirit of the constitutional prohibition against intermingling of church and state.

We do, however, agree with the American Jewish Congress when it says that an observance of this sort is likely to deteriorate quickly into an empty formalism with little, if any, spiritual significance.

Prescribed forms of this sort, as many colleges have concluded after years of compulsory chapel attendance, can actually work against the inculcation of vital religion. That is one reason (among others) why this paper has never had any sympathy for attempts to reproduce in American schools classes in religious education patterned after European models. The New York regents' proposal was well meant, and we believe it to be well within the limits of legality. But this does not mean that it is a wise one. There are few places where it is more true than in school religious exercises that "the letter killeth but the spirit giveth life." —The Christian Century (Udenominational Magazine).

"As Protestants—Catholics—Jews—"

"As Protestants, Catholics and Jews we do not propose to compromise our separate religious convictions, but faith in God which is so important to each of us compels us to acknowledge a common responsibility to maintain and protect human rights and to seek a larger measure of justice for men of every religion, race and national origin."

"In appealing to the clergy of all faiths to support our movement with spiritual resources, we record our conviction that the stronger men are in their own faith in the Fatherhood of God, the better they are prepared to treat all men with dignity and respect."

—Statement of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, in connection with National Brotherhood Week, Feb. 17 to 24.

Church Services

WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST—11 a.m. Topic to be announced. Service by Rev. Robert A. Cook, pastor. Church address, 14th and Sprague. Phone 2-2650. Pastor.

WILLAMETTE LUTHERAN—11 a.m. The Rev. E. A. Fox, conference superintendent for the Willamette Conference, will be the speaker. Topic, "The Church in the World." Service by Rev. E. A. Fox, pastor. Church address, 14th and Sprague. Phone 2-2650. Pastor.

YOUTH FOR CHRIST—12 noon. Saturday, lunch, 12 noon. Youth for Christ, 1200 W. Main St., upstairs over bakery. Bishop George D. Rasmussen, phone 2-2650, pastor.

SP. NICHOLAS GARDENS CHURCH OF CHRIST—11 a.m. "The Church in the World." Service by Rev. E. A. Fox, pastor. Church address, 14th and Sprague. Phone 2-2650. Pastor.

SP. MT. VERNON CHURCH OF CHRIST—11 a.m. "The Church in the World." Service by Rev. E. A. Fox, pastor. Church address, 14th and Sprague. Phone 2-2650. Pastor.

SP. PARAMOUNT FULL GOSPEL—11 a.m. "The Church in the World." Service by Rev. E. A. Fox, pastor. Church address, 14th and Sprague. Phone 2-2650. Pastor.

SP. CHURCH OF CHRIST—Services as usual. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m. Tuesday, 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Church address, 14th and Sprague. Phone 2-2650. Pastor.

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SP. HOPE LUTHERAN—Services as usual. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m. Tuesday, 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Church address, 14th and Sprague. Phone 2-2650. Pastor.

SP. LUTHERAN—11 a.m. "What of the Harvest?" Service by Rev. E. A. Fox, pastor. Church address, 14th and Sprague. Phone 2-2650. Pastor.

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Church News Summary

By Margaret Benston

All bonafide religious groups in the Eugene-Springfield urban area are welcome to use the Register-Guard's "Church News" summary, and to report their general religious news for free publication. Send it to the Register-Guard, P.O. Box 1222, each Wednesday. The summary is prepared by the Register-Guard's staff and is published in the "Church News" section of the paper. The summary is prepared by the Register-Guard's staff and is published in the "Church News" section of the paper.

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'Mom' Honored At Reception
The "Mom" Day Class for Firstlegion—are invited to a reception on Sunday, Feb. 17, from 2 to 5 o'clock, in the Church Annex, honoring Mrs. R. M. Day, on her eightieth birthday. "Mom" has been a church school teacher since she was 14 years of age and this is the ninth year she has taught the class bearing her name. Friends of "Mom"—and they are many—will be present.

Church Steps—The Surest Steps To Happiness
This Sunday Worship At The **ASSEMBLY OF GOD** "Eugene's Revival Center" 710 West 13th Avenue

Hear Rev. and Mrs. J. F. Pepper, Indian Evangelist, IN FINAL WEEK OF REVIVAL MEETING

1:00 a.m. "Who Is This?" 7:45 p.m. "Hanging Round Your Door"

Meetings Continue Nightly This Week Only at 7:45 Except Mon. and Sat.

9:45 A.M. COME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL Over 500 did last Sunday. You'll enjoy it too! Special! Magic object lesson in chemistry.

A Special Invitation to University, College, and High School Students Rev. E. Elsworth Krosgstad, Pastor

WELCOME TO THE . . . PRAYER REVIVAL

Conducted by the pastors

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

II Chronicles

NITELY AT 7:30 (except Saturday)

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Morning Worship

6:00 Pre-church School

7:30 Evangelistic Service

Rev. Edythe Cole, speaking

Lighthouse Temple

1209 Olive Street

REV. AND MRS. W. C. COLE, PASTORS

DR. BOB COOK — PRES. YOUTH FOR CHRIST INT.

TOP SPEAKER

WORLD TRAVELER

★ 25 Voice Girls Glee Club—B.S.I.

★ String Trio and Judson House

★ Trumpet Duet—Blickensstaff Sisters

Join Saturday Nite's Happiest Crowd

Harvey—M.C.

SAT., FEB. 16 — 7:30 P.M.

LIGHTHOUSE TEMPLE

12th & Olive

FOR CHRIST

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

ALL CHRISTIAN WORKERS WELCOME

from Albany, Corvallis, Mapleton, Roseburg and Eugene Churches

● Saturday 7:00 P.M.—Sound Film "God's Acre of Diamonds" Rev. ULPHIN DAVIS—Northwest Director of National Sunday School Association—Speaker.

● Sunday 9:45 A.M.—Big Sunday School Rally with Mrs. Paul Petticoat—outstanding chalk artist.

● Sunday 11:00 A.M.—Dr. Paul P. Petticoat—President of Western Evangelical Seminary—Speaker.

● Sunday 3:00 P.M.—Sunday School Mass Meeting. Speaker: Dr. Paul P. Petticoat—"The Challenge of the Sunday School"