

OPEN FORUM

Contributions to This Column must be plainly written on one side of paper only limited to 300 words in length and signed with the name of the writer. Articles not meeting these specifications will be rejected.

To the Editor: The very latest item concerning the Four Great Heroes is the story that expert "Gus" has applied the mental test, Gus, the criminologist, Gus, the graduate, but most important of all, Gus, the expert. No longer need we doubt what is wrong with any of us. Gus tells us there have been less escapes here than from any other pen in the United States, and that our pen is most efficiently managed of any other. The important question before us now is, "Who applied the mental test to Gus?" and "What rating did he receive?" How much of an expert does it require to read a few printed questions to a man and then from his answers estimate his mentality, and yet this is the very sort of rotten bull and bunk that is saving the lives of the deepest-dyed criminals and multiplying murders of good citizens.

The fact that Gus was present somewhere when the Leopold-Loeb tests were made gives preponderance to anything Gus would say in this line. How early in the game the hot sealding tears are dripping from the sobbing sisters' sleepless eyes, and yet how much about nothing. I feel that it is positively wrong to modify the sacrifice of human life, and yet that is exactly what seems to be the attitude of everyone in authority to make things different. It is only just and fair that we judge the future by what has taken place in the past, and if this be true, no one of the Four Heroes are in any danger whatever of any greater punishment than a possible few years at the country club-house. Why should the sisters weep and mourn for those who are out of danger? And pass by without even respectful mention of the orphans and widows of the honorable citizens who gave their lives that the miserable system may be perpetuated.

If the governor of Oregon could find reason enough to commute the sentences of Becker, and of Abe Evans, he can just as easily find a thousand more reasons why the sentences of the Four Great Heroes of today should be commuted. We do not know what the sentence will be, but we can safely bet on commutation, whatever the sentence is.

One modest little violet who calls herself "mother of five," and another dear sister who would remind us of Tommy's freckles and the soft downy coverlets that were so tenderly tucked about his shoulders, and I urseume would have us try to feel how differently those soft coverlets would feel in comparison with a scratchy, sticky, stiff rope about Tommy's neck.

Wouldn't it be well to suggest that the tender loving Governor allow one of the sisters to have Tommy and the other to have Willie Lloyd paroled to them. Of Fathers and Mothers, can you think of Tommy being sucked away in the downy coverlets with hot briny tears dripping upon the bruises caused by those cruel buckshot fired by the warden when Tommy had only turned to hold the hand of his pal in his last moments? You know how healing the briny tears would be to those bruises, and how less would be the scar and Tommy's beauty would not be marred when the wounds are all being soothed with slobber. Of Fathers and Mothers, there is within the confines of the pen walls today part of the time, one Johnson who was at one time where he should have stayed for life in a California prison, but a dear, compassionate, dotting, gentle mother knew of him and through her entreaties he was released to her. She got him, he got a piece of gas pipe, she got beaten to pulchre. If we can judge the future by the past, he will soon be at liberty once more. Of Fathers and Mothers, let us release the Four Heroes of today to the pleading sisters!

—A. E. ANDERSON

To the Editor: I can't keep still any longer. Just one glance at the editorial in Friday's issue of your paper raised my ire, but I forced myself to read the hateful insulting thing clear through. I am sure there are many people who will think as I do but even if I stand alone, here goes.

Do you know what I'd like to do with you? Lead you out to that said gallows and adjust the rope and leave it there just long enough for you to call for some "sob-sister" to come and take it off. Its mighty good for people sometimes to have a dose of their own medicine.

At first I objected to the word "sob-sister." But I don't just know what you mean by the epithet. If you mean by that, that a "sob-sister" is one possessing the milk of human kindness, or the love of a fellow human being, then I am proud to be called a "sob-sister." I came from the state of Kansas where people do not set themselves up to murder just because some one else has murdered. And I say Hurrah for Kansas, and down with the abominable law of Oregon that presumes to think they have the right to shed human blood—murder, if you please and hang the other murderer.

And as far as capital punishment preventing crime, we all know it isn't worth a snap as this newest murder in our midst goes to prove. And it is strictly against

the teaching of the Bible from which all our laws are supposed to arise. For in the words of our own blessed Savior, "Ye have heard that it hath been said, an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, but I say unto you"—something entirely different.

"Vengeance is mine I will repay with the Lord." I would like to put my arms around the mother of Tom Murray and tell her that I am sorry and I'd like to tell Tom Murray himself that I am sorry. If it was some rich, well-up-in-business "booster" that had done something you would be right there to tell the people what a fine man he is no matter what kind of a moral leper he is or how he acquired his money. Of course he must be on your side of the political game too, for we who read your paper know you put politics ahead of principle every time.

You have alerted people who have written articles and letters and not signed their names so I sign my name and you are welcome to publish this in any part of your paper you choose.

ELIZA WINGER.
1330 Wallas St., Salem, Ore.

To the Editor: "I owe the government everything—the government owes me nothing. As a patriotic citizen, I can stand by no longer and see these disgusting performances by the war and navy departments at the expense of the lives of our people and the delusion of the American public."—Col. Wm. Mitchell.

Those who are informed as to the record of the work and accomplishments of Col. Mitchell can do no less than applaud his fearless battle against the bigoted anti-quakers who by grace of political usefulness to the shifting parties in the national arena have long been permitted to inflict their partisan ignorance upon a long suffering country.

Mitchell, by hard work and sincere loyalty has won for himself thousands of friends but these will be unable to bring about a revolution of affairs unless the public can realize that this is no mere quibbling quarrel concerning the furtherance of national defense work. Who can doubt the healthy development of aviation, both commercial and defensive, is vital both for the present and the future.

Could anything be more pathetic or comical than the present plan of making aviation a secondary adjunct to both army and navy instead of placing air defense as an independent first line unit. It's something like drawing the fire from a huge modern locomotive, taking it off the rails, hitching it to two antiquated wheelbarrows and demanding results. For a moment we should picture air defense and commercial development of other nations and then review our own air forces with their failures, disasters and loss of lives and money. Of course there is no lack of funds or gall with which to build \$100,000,000 battle

ships and 20,000,000 gas bags. Less partisanship and more progress backed by men with the courage of Mitchell will help quite a bit in taking American out of the red ink column in national defense.

WILL CARVER
Salem, Ore., Sept. 6, 1925.

To the Editor: The other day I heard a very prominent business man of Salem say he did not like the new system of parking autos here in Salem and that they had plenty of laws they didn't enforce any way. I notice that his big car is parked every day between Liberty and High in the same place and our official fire marker never touches it. I wonder what he would say if he was pinched for over-parking? Guess the marker don't dare or he would lose certain privileges.

Yours truly,
Salem, Sept. 3. R. H. WHITE

All the Fruits now in Season—

make perfect jams and jellies so easily—so quickly—by the Certo method.

ONE minute's boiling is enough this way. Success is sure—never a failure.

You make half again as much jam or jelly from your fruit. Certo's short boil saves fruit juice, saves the fresh fruit flavor and color.

A recipe book comes with every bottle. Get Certo from your grocer today. What if berries were scarce and expensive in your locality? Make your jams and jellies from the delicious Fall fruits, so abundant and cheap this year.



INDEPENDENT GROCERS

SERVICE
WITH
A
SMILE

The Independent Grocers' Association are 1,200 strong—and increasing in membership rapidly. The results from the first appearance of our co-operative ad last week far exceeded our expectations and proved beyond a doubt that the people of Salem appreciated our efforts. The buying power of this organization is being enjoyed daily by thousands.

BUY
FROM
US AND
SAVE
THE
DIFFERENCE

BETTER GOODS FOR LESS

SPECIAL

Saturday and
Monday

SPECIAL

Wesson Oil Pts. 29c, Qts. 49c	Snow Drift No. 2 51c, No. 4 \$1	Black Pepper 2 ounces 5c	Independent Special Coffee Lb. 45c
Kellogg's Pep or Quick Quaker Oats (Small) 2 for 25c	Laundry Soap Best Quality White 7 bars 25c	Log Cabin Syrup (Small size) 2 for 58c	Argo Starch 2 for 25c
Washing Powder Playmate Brand 2 for 45c	Country Boy Corn No. 1 Cans 3 for 29c	Pork and Beans Campbell's or Van Camp's medium size 5 cans 47c	Brown Sugar 3 Pkgs. 29c Powdered Sugar 2 Pkgs. 23c

Select Your Most Convenient Store From Our Members Below—

Wm. Fitzpatrick
1175 Market Street. Phone 338

Joe's Market
610 Market Street. Phone 2095-W.

Neighborhood Grocery
2095 North Fifth Street. Phone 1395-J

Cherry City Market
1944 N. Capitol Street. Phone 1552

Fairgrounds Store
2600 Fairgrounds Road. Phone 1736

White Grocery
1267 Ferry Street. Phone 1172-W.

Community Shop
1599 Chemeketa Street. Phone 730-J.

Becher's Service Grocery
598 North Commercial. Phone 955

Mohoney & Beeson
2195 South High Street. Phone 533-W.

C. C. Coates
1590 South Commercial Street. Phone 22

B. K. Simpson
West Salem

We recommend "Made in Salem" Products

Butter Cup Butter
Capital City Co-operative
Creamery

We are pleased to announce that
Cherry Flour and Cereals are on
the market again.

Butter Nut Bread
Better Yet Bread

NEW

Victor Red Seal Records

10-inch 35c — 3 for \$1.00

12-inch 55c — 2 for \$1.00

WHILE THEY LAST

H. L. Stiff Furniture Co.

440-450 Court Street

Moore's Music House

409-415 Court Street