

Why are we in C.P.S. ?

Why are we CO's ? Is it because it is the easiest way out of a bad situation? Is it because our parents wanted us to take this stand? Or is it because we really and truly from the bottom of our hearts believe that this is the way Christ would have taken? We have a great opportunity to make or break ourselves or possibly more fitting find out what stuff we are really made of and I believe most of us have been in camp long enough to realize whether or not we measure up to the standards which every Christian holds dear.

It is true that at times we have and in the future will become discouraged with our lot and we might often have the feeling of, whats the use anyway. This program was set up for Religious Objectors to war, therefore, everyone in the C.P.S., program should be able to base his objections to war on religious principles, he should be a person who fears God, one who believes in the precious blood that Jesus shed for sinners, one who tries with all his strength, mind and soul to follow and obey the teachings of Jesus.

Even if at times we do become discouraged is that any reason why we should become lax in our speech or conduct? It seems that to many of us are becoming lax in these things. We think, what difference does it make, the men we work with are doing and saying certain things and it won't make any difference to the other boys and myself if I do the same. Personally I believe, that type of reasoning is in-excusable ignorance. We are taking a stand that seems very peculiar to the public because we to often try to mix a liberal amount of sensual pleasures with Christianity. It is true that the criticism of the public is in many cases justified. Why then should we deliberately jeopardize our stand, a stand our forefathers have taken, a stand our loved ones at home are helping us to carry through and that a large number of us try to carry out in all sincerity. Are you sure that the general public can say that you are sincere in the principles that your group is supposed to stand for?

We have a great opportunity in our camp life to improve ourselves and it is negligence on our part if we do not take advantage of these opportunities. In camp we tried to live a life above reproach, this should be our consistent conduct wherever we are; it is only in that way that our Peace Testimony will bear any weight and possibly bring forth fruit. How can we expect anyone to respect us and our ideals if we just go about doing, and insist only on doing, the work that is required of us and are indifferent to what spiritual impression we leave behind? Our work might be irksome and tedious but is that any reason why we should lose our Christianity and high ideals? We all become tired of our lot at times, even in civil life.

In mental hospital service we have a great opportunity to show Christ's way of life. These patients are just as sick as if they were ill, physically, and quite a number are confined to their beds. Instead of curses, abuses and teasing as is so often their lot they should be shown patience, understanding and above all, love; they respond to kindness, because, kindness is a language that people in their stage can understand. They might be a little slow to understand and to respond to good treatment, but what's the difference? They aren't going anywhere and when they do get there they have nothing to do anyway. No matter how untidy or disagreeable they might be they still are human beings with living souls; therefore it ill behooves us to abuse or mistreat these poor people.

Fellows, let's take an inventory of ourselves and see if we measure up to the ideals we have set up for ourselves and if we fall short we can ask for God's forgiveness and with His help start on the right path and live a consecrated life for Him. We have a great God and He can do great things thru us if we but let Him. OKK

The quality of mercy is not strain'd,- It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven Upon the place beneath; it is twice bless'd,- It blesseth him that gives- and him that takes; Tis mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes The throned monarch better than his crown; It is an attribute to God himself; Shakespeare