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The Open Forum

A magazine can generally be judged by the quality of the contributors to its correspondence columns. Among the men and women who write for "The Open Forum" columns in THE MERCURY are college presidents, members of the President's Cabinet, foreign ambassadors, generals of the United States Army, clergymen, eminent doctors, union leaders, corporation executives, school teachers, housewives, and college students."

They write in praise and in disagreement, or they write to enlighten the readers of THE MERCURY on some aspects of a subject they know well. They have discussed in "The Open Forum" some of the most vital issues of our day—the rôle of air power in war and peace, the worth of culture in an atomic world, the plight of homeless Americans, the menace of totalitarianism in all its forms—and also matters of more immediate concern, such as interracial marriage, juvenile gangs, black magic, sleep and sleeping pills, discrimination in colleges, and the heroism (as well as dumbness) of dogs.

That is why "The Open Forum" is so popular. It makes stimulating reading to the opinion molders who form the audience of THE AMERICAN MERCURY.

* For example, recent letters were from Secretary of Labor L. B. Schwellenbach, Lieut.-General J. Lawton Collins, President Bryn J. Hovde of the New School for Social Research, Chancellor Harry Woodburn Chase of New York University, Lowell W. Rooks, former Director General of UNRRA, former Ambassador V. S. Hurban of Czechoslovakia, Dr. John Oliver Nelson, director of the Commission of the Ministry of the Federal Council of Churches in Christ, and Walter W. Cenerazzo, national president of the American Watch Workers Union.

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