

States has now entered. We deal with three wholly hypothetical conditions: a voluntarily disarmed country, an unprovoked invasion of this country by a foreign power, and a government and people who have decided to resist this invasion by non-violent methods. Since none of these conditions is a reality, none of the suggestions here presented can be taken as referring to the present conflict.

—Jessie Wallace Hughan.
February, 1942

Pacifism and Invasion

Behind all our thoughts of the international confusion of today, behind all our devices to rid the world of the insanity of armament and war, there lurks a spectre, the menacing shape of Fear. Sooner or later it makes its presence felt, and the discussion shifts from consideration of idealism and chivalry, of Christianity, ethics and democracy, to the stark question, "*What If We Should Be Invaded?*"

Fear is the primary reason for the survival of war—because of the supposition at the back of all our brains, that of the unprovoked invasion of our own country by a foreign foe.

Writing in this year 1942, we must make clear our terms at the outset. By invasion we do not mean such an attack as that of the Japanese upon Pearl Harbor and the Philippines. The treachery of this surprise attack does not alter the fact that it was directed at naval bases and constituted the opening incident of a war between two highly armed powers. Our hypothesis is that of a United States which has proclaimed to all potential enemies its complete disarmament and renunciation of war, both offensive and defensive, and of a foreign power which deliberately launches an unprovoked attack upon us.

Pacifists are realists and are thoroughly aware of the fantasy of this supposition. We constitute at present an extremely small minority, and the adoption of a completely pacifist