THE MAGIC OF BELIEVING

A FEELING OF HOPELESSNESS is the straw that could break the back of the freedom movement – for freedom will never be achieved without faith. In any event, this feeling of futility more seriously threatens the continuance of FEE's work than does any other discernible influence. People do not continue to work at a problem after its solution appears hopeless to them.

Too many opponents of socialism – once convinced that there is no simple remedy at hand, and aware that the problem at issue is nothing less than altering the *mores* of a vast society – tend to give up the ghost. Unnerved by the dimensions of the job, they say, "Oh, what's the use!"

The tale of two frogs, dumped into a can of milk, comes to mind. One frog, quick to concede the hopelessness of his situation, gave up and promptly drowned. The other frog was of sterner stuff:

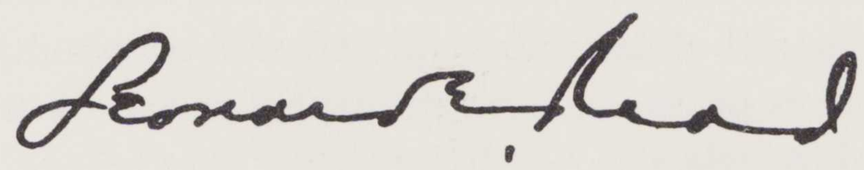
> So he kicked and splashed and he slammed
> and thrashed,
> And he kept on top through all;
> And he churned that milk in first-class shape
> In a great big butter ball.*

Experience leads one to believe that the forces which have to do with shaping human destiny are of no help to those of little faith. Indeed, they appear to have no truck with people who lack confidence in what determined effort can accomplish.

On the other hand, these forces – call them by your own name – tend to cooperate with those who believe they can accomplish the seemingly impossible and never call it quits until the game is over. There are men, be it observed, who do, in fact, move mountains. *But they are not the men who doubt that mountains can be moved.*

Take note, for instance, of golfers on putting greens. There are those who doubt they can sink any but the simplest putts. And there are those who have confidence that they can sink every putt – they actually believe this! The former are miserable performers. Among the latter are to be found the skilled and all the miracle putters.

Miracles are all about us – a common loaf of bread is packed with wonders. Those who have no sense of the miraculous, who have no faith in achieving anything beyond what the unaided individual can accomplish, will be of little help in ridding our society of socialism. The problem seems too hoplessly impossible to them and they quit. But the undaunted, those who know the magic of believing, will make progress, for the forces which are available to those who believe will lend a hand to multiply their efforts. Too bad there aren't more such efforts for them to multiply!



PRESIDENT

*Day, Holman F. *Story of a Kicker.*

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