

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Reverend Kenneth W. Sollitt is Pastor of the First Baptist Church in Mendota, Illinois. This article is part of a commencement address delivered at the Community High School in Paw Paw, Illinois, in May, 1952.

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DO YOU DARE TO BE DIFFERENT?



FROM Greek mythology comes the story of Procrustes, the grisly bandit who was not content merely to rob and plunder and despoil. His eccentricity was to make each of his victims lie down on an iron bed and be fitted to it. If they were too short, he had them stretched on the rack. If they were too long, he lopped off their extremities at just the right point, for he was insistent that no one should be any taller nor any shorter than he. Procrustes was his own standard of perfection.

In the realm of *things*, standardization is wonderful. I never fail to be fascinated by that marvel of our scientific age, the rotary meat cutter, as I watch it cutting sandwich meat—every slice the same size and shape and thickness. But I can't help wishing for my friends and myself something different than that we all resemble slices of bologna—each an exact duplicate of the other.