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the Act of March 3, 1879."

BRING HIM BACK
For the love of all that is sensi-
ble let's have Grover Bergdoll, rich
draft dodger, back from Germany.
Not that we want him as a citizen
—not in a thousand years. For if
Grover ever happens to settle him-
self in this community we wouldn't
give fifteen cents for his hide and
tallow two hours after he hung up
his hat. But let's get him back in
the United States that we may show
others who ducked when Uncle Sam
called for aid that no matter how
much money one may have, he
isn't too good or too great to peel
off his coat and pitch in when
there's trouble ahead. Let's show
the world that there's something
more highly prized than money—
and that's patriotism and true man-
hood. Let's make an example of
this rich and pampered do-nothing
who has tried to make Uncle Sam
look foolish. If the war was still
in progress, the firing-squad would
be his just deserts. But if there are
a few faint-hearts who oppose this
method, then let's bring him back,
stick him in a federal prison for the
balance of his life and forget to
worry when the guard overlooks
prison etiquette and uses his foot
on him.

RAPPING THE RETAILER
One of the easiest things in the
world to do is to criticize. It is the
most popular form of amusement
with some people, and we are forced
to admit there are several here who
are addicted to the habit. At pres-
ent you hear them directing their
criticism toward the retail mer-
chant.

But the merchant doesn't deserve
all the mean things said about him.
Probably in his case, as in most all
other cases of violent criticism a
better understanding of his position
would soften the judgment of the
party doing the criticizing. At any
rate, the merchants we know person-
ally are average good fellows—and
they are the victims of circum-
stances—that they are being made
the particular goats of this read-
justment period. A little closer at-
tention to prices in their advertise-
ments will convince the public by
comparison with outside merchants
will do more to silence the critic
more quickly than any other means.
It would mean that the critic
would have the ground cut from be-
neath him, and he would have no
foundation left upon which to base
an argument. Merchants in many
towns have broken criticism through
newspaper advertising — through
quoting prices right out where
everyone could see them.

SERMONETTES
(By Dr. N. W. Philbrook)
A Lomita Property Owner

The beginning of the Christian
life is not an emotion, an asset or a
feeling, but a decision.
Every evil thing in the world to-
day exists because men have chosen
to do evil.
It is no proof of the scriptural-
ness of a sermon that the audience
goes home feeling good.
The word of Christ deals with
eternal facts. After men have dis-
puted, denied and forgotten them
the facts remain.

It is a fact proven by human ex-
perience since the days of Adam
that no man who is out of harmony
with God can withstand the force
of evil which are in this world.

The Sermon on the Mount, if giv-
en full control of a man's life, lifts
his whole being to a higher plane,
purifying, refining and ennobling
body, mind and spirit.

The course of doctrinal research
for two thousand years is strewn
with the wreck of theological sure
things. But vital truth—that which
fell from the lips of Jesus Christ—
is eternal as God is eternal.

Paul warned the early Christians
to beware lest they be led away by
the craftiness of the devil—from
the "simplicity that is Christ." As
neither the gospel nor human nature
has changed from that day to this
is not the same warning pertinent
today?

If we could look into the life to
come and see the bearing our ex-
periences here have upon our in-
terests there we would see the solu-
tion of many of life's dark mys-
teries.

There is yet hope for the residents
of our insane asylums. They may
be able to get jobs writing moving
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