

## WHAT SORT OF WORLD?



**F. L. COMBS (Educationist):**

I should like to see a marked increase in the recognition of the fact that it is education in the widest sense, not legislation, that makes or mars a democracy. For this reason I should also like to see the Education Minister given precedence of the Finance Minister in the Cabinet.

I expect to find 1945 a year of growing but dynamic confusion in the public outlook, a year in which it will take very active thinking to get the real strength of things.

### PHOEBE MAUNSELL:

We were both lucky and unlucky with the farmer's wife on our list—unlucky because she sent us no photograph, lucky because she gave us a piece of her mind. Here is her answer, slightly condensed:

Sir,—You apparently have very little idea of the December rush in the country, or you wouldn't be asking a farmer's wife 'funny questions then. Lean back in your comfortable chair, put your feet on your desk, and I'll tell you just a few of the extras that happen this time of the year—quite apart from running an O.S. in homes single-handed.

First, there's Christmas presents, and we have a goodly list of people to be remembered outside relations and friends. These presents have to be bought or made, packed and posted. Please don't reply that some of it could have been done during the preceding months. Then there are the usual money-making efforts, for which I bake cakes, etc., gather cart-loads of flowers and produce, which I then dispose of to the more or less unwilling public—a very tiring business. Suddenly one remembers that the local school children and various families employed, are due for their bun-fight. Any number between 40 and 50 are fed, entertained and washed-up for. Hardly are the dishes dried when the boys from the orphanage have their day, and at this very moment we are expecting the Salvation Army to come and sing carols to us. They will be very thirsty.

Just to keep me from being bored in my spare time, the raspberries, currants and peas all come ready to be picked and preserved. This week I'm preparing for Christmas Day, which brings all our relatives to eat with us, and the day after we have our usual all-day tennis tournament, to which flock all our friends and families who can beg, borrow or steal the means of getting here.

And just to make things complete, there's shearing and hay-making when

# We Asked These People, Too

WE were not able to find space for all the replies sent to our two simple questions about the shape of the world to come. Those questions, it will be remembered, were:

1. What changes would you like to see in the world before the end of this year?
2. What changes do you expect to see?

Here are some further answers, with photographs, and one or two without. We regret that we shall not be able to find space again next week, and that some replies have been squeezed out.



**ERNST A. PLISCHKE (Architect):**

Any political attitude is in fact the result of a philosophy. In spite of the danger of appearing Utopian and outmoded, I still maintain that internationalism is, in the long run, the soundest way for a settlement in Europe.

This means a federation and commonwealth of states with only one international police.

In answering the second question: I expect petty nationalism in unprecedented intensity, encouraged and supported by outside powers for their own ends.



**ALF LINDSAY (Watersider):**

1. I would like the philosophy of the Carpenter of Nazareth to be applied to the world.
2. I dread to see the agonies and sufferings of the birth of all things beautiful.

the weather permits. Which all brings me to the conclusion:

1. That the changes I would like to see would be those that would give me time for a long, straight, deep think about the changes I would like to see.

2. From headlines, I expect to see a short period of jubilant peace to celebrate military victory in Europe, followed by social upheavals verging on civil war. (From this pessimistic deduction you may gather that I am tired.)



**THE REV. F. H. ROBERTSON  
(Presbyterian Minister):**

Your questions, Mr. Editor, are a temptation to cynicism. I want to see the end of the war in Europe in 1945. Who doesn't? Perhaps that is not too much to expect. But more than anything else, I would like to see signs of a common purpose and mutual trust among the Allies likely to stand the strain of peace. Who would dare think hopefully about Poland, Greece, China and the others, let alone about a lasting peace, without this?



**UNA POWELL (University Lecturer):**

Things wished for:

1. The end of the war and the establishment of an international organisation preventing further wars.
2. World-wide famine relief.
3. Settlement in India.
4. Replacement of the present general vague idealism by Christian faith.
5. In New Zealand, abandonment by the R.S.A. of its present majority attitude to so-called "defaulters."

Things expected:

1. Advances by the United Nations in Europe and the Pacific.
2. Revolution or civil war in most of the liberated countries.



**BOB GRIEG (A "Hillman"):**

1. Trampers taking time off from bush logging for ski slopes and high peaks; skiers doing more cross-country trips and less swank on familiar grounds; climbers being less of the superior being. Lighter and better gear and tucker—especially lighter. Helicopters and parachutes would be handy, too.

2. Palatial resorts for wealthy tourists to the exclusion of young Enzedders with more energy than cash. Hordes tearing into the hills, old hands doing overtime on the wheres, whys and hows—then searching for babes in the woods.

### ARMY SERGEANT:

Hopes? Well it is not very original to wish for peace.

Expectations? Peace in Europe probably. Frenchmen sitting—and hoping to stay—in Cologne, and Poles in Breslau and Danzig. Russians sitting almost anywhere (for no one knows what a Russian will do, least of all, a Communist). And this uneasy peace maintained by Americans homesick for the West, perhaps in part by New Zealanders homesick for Whakatane, all heartily tired of policing Nanking and Bavaria.

### K. E. CROMPTON (Medical Practitioner):

1. The foundation laid of a super-national authority with the will and power to prevent war and the causes of war.

2. Throughout history hopes and aspirations have so often been defeated by human blindness and folly that it would be rash to expect too much. Yet if we fail after this lesson to make aggression and war impossible, we shall surely perish and deserve to perish.

### A. COPLAND (Sea Captain):

1. I would like to see the finish of the present world war, and the peace being won by no individual nation or race of people, but by the people of the world as a whole. I would also like to see the world order that Robert Burns dreamed of being: that "Man to man the world o'er shall brothers be for a' that." I would also like to see the same scientific and medical research, energy and self-sacrifice that have been used for the destruction of our fellow men used as unsparringly for the benefit of mankind.

2. I expect to see a great deal of unrest, jealousy and disagreement among the nations regarding the peace settlements and the rehabilitation of the liberated nations.