1938

A College Girl's Creed

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by Ruth Jensen

WITH the New Year comes thoughts of new leaves in our book of life. Desiring to start a new year with a clean slate, we make New Year’s resolutions. Here is a new creed of living for 1939 to substitute for the long list of resolutions often tucked away and forgotten.

I should like courage to make my own choices; courage to hold fast the things that I know in my heart are safe and right. Then I may carry across the threshold of 1939 the riches of Faith and Love and Life.

I should like to be able to sort out the good things that came to me in the old year. For out of the past will grow the strength I need for the future.

I should like to look to a higher strength than mine for hope and courage in the year to come. I hope to hold fast to the power of prayer.

I should like to keep faith—my own and the faith I want to try to help others have.

I should like to keep some illusions. They are necessary to feed the soul, otherwise it would shrivel and die. They give a kind of glamour to days that would otherwise be dull.

I should like to keep tolerance and understanding and forgiveness for others. These qualities will help me make allowances for my fellow man, and help me to understand his trials and tribulations.

I should like to keep my appreciation of beauty. I want to be able to look at a flaming sunset and love it all.

I should like to keep my enjoyment of good conversation and of friendships with others. I do not want to lose contact with my friends through the spoken word in this hurrying world.

I should like to keep my respect for my friends’ privacy of mind and life. I do not want to pry into their thoughts merely to satisfy a morbid curiosity, but rather I want to stand open minded and hearted to receive confidences when they are offered.

I should like to keep my capacity to enjoy literature. I want to know that I can find courage, solace and a new world between the covers of a book.

I should like to keep my love of learning. I must not let the daily cares and tribulations of classroom work dim or deaden my quest for knowledge.

I should like to keep my independent way of thinking. I do not want to fall into a rut and stagnate, or follow the crowd like a ewe lamb. Rather I want to think things out to my own satisfaction.

I should like to keep the ability to praise sincerely. This courtesy and consideration for others may be used as oil to make the wheels of life go smoothly. I want to be able to use that oil wisely.

I should like to keep love in my heart, so that I may give it to those who mean the most to me—my family, my friends and my God.