

Therefore the struggle begins, and those who are opposing the tyranny realize that their fight is one of survival; and to defeat the man who is fighting such a fight has, to this date in history, been an impossibility. As long as there are free men to compare their lives with those of a people who are subjected to such a life of despotism, I feel certain that tyranny on such a grandiose scale can not exist for too long.

\* \* \* \* \*

## The Cloak Room

Kenneth L. Finehout

THE cloak room was cold on this early Monday morning. I stood near the door waiting for the other students to hang their coats and enter their class room. The last person to arrive was Joanne. She was short, dark, and the most beautiful girl I had ever seen. Joanne was the girl I wanted for my wife, and today I was going to propose to her.

The clock at the end of the hall seemed to be running fast this morning, and I knew that in a few minutes the tardy bell would ring. My proposal would have to be short and direct if we were to reach our classes on time.

As I walked toward her, there was a smile on her lips as if she knew what I was going to say. For a moment I stood still, looking at the sunlight glowing in the dark brown hair that hung down over her shoulders. She was beautiful! There was so much I wanted to say to her, and yet there was only time for a few words. I became afraid. The tardy bell rang, and before I could speak, she had gone through the door to her class room.

Day after day I tried to speak to her, but each day became just another disappointment. Soon the semester would be over, and maybe I would never see her again.

On the last day of school before summer vacation, I knew I must ask her to marry me. Once again I waited in the cloak room. As she came through the door, I became tense and nervous. Today was my last chance. Resting my hand on her shoulder to steady myself, I opened my mouth to speak. But before I could say a word, the door swung open. As we stood there, stunned by the sudden intrusion, our first grade teacher said, "Children, class is about to begin."