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PORTLAND, MONDAY, OCT. 19, 1968.

#### ONE PANIO AND ANOTHER.

It has always been observed that e money or industrial panic is quite like another. However, between some there are resemblances; between others none at all.

The money panic of last year, it was and is well known, was produced by reckless speculation which wrecked certain banks and produced a run on many more. The center of it was the operations of copper gamblers in New York and Boston. The alarm spread rapidly, and the banks, both East and West, were quickly drained by depositors. Yet not many banks failed, and most that did close had been doing a speculative and reckless business.
But by the end of the year the panic was over. The panic had, however, produced wife interruptions of industry, and many perout This lasted through the Winter and This lasted through the winter early Spring. But during several months past there has been steady and increasing resumption of industrial undertakings, and few who want to work have been out of employment. certainty as to the coming election and its consequences is now a dis-turbing factor; which will have short or long duration, according to circum-stances—depending chi.fly on the re-

sult of the election.

Hetween the panic of a year ago and that of 1893-97 there was the widest difference. The one came from a special and temporary cause; the other from a cause that was cumulative and of long standing. The panic produced by the silver craze, since it was unlike any other in its origin, so it was unlike any other in its extent, persistence and consequences. It was produced by a policy that had been adopted and pursued largely for political or partisan objects; till finally it had virtually expelled gold from the country destroyed credit and paralyzed busi-ness. Nor was it soon over. It con-tinued and persisted for years, and practically suspended during this long period most of the chief industries of the country—save, indeed, those of agriculture, which operate independent of large capital. But even of these industries these industries the products fell to

half prices money flurry or panic, like that of a year ago, arises from conditions and causes entirely in-dependent of politics and parties. It will occur whenever the speculative spirit has been carried to an extreme and settlement must be made, on a large scale, among people who have been trying to "break" each other. Such situation will alarm others, who fear for the safety of their money in the banks. But a panic like this is triffing, and of short continuance, compared with the crisis that came upon the country through the juggle with silver. The ordinary panic, like that of last year, no means ever has been found to avert. But the panic of 1593-97 was caused by political and partisan folly.

There is yet legitimate and rational fear of Bryan and his party. This is the chief reason why an immense majority of those who do active bush and fear interruptions of it, through questionable financial policy, opp Resar and his party. It is a f Bryan and his party. It is a fact known of all men that the greater part of the steady business interests of the country entertain these appre-Nor are they confined to the larger ones. They penetrate the whole body through and through, from the larger to the smaller. Party spirit supplies exceptions, indeed; but there are men voting for Bryan who will have better assurance of safe courses for business and affairs if he shall be

# "CORNERS" THAT MUST FAIL

The American Society of Equity has been holding its annual convention at Milwaukee, Wis. The scope of the society seems to be widening, for it is now proposed to establish elevators and warehouses in various parts of the country where grain and produce can be stored until there is a lemand for it at prices sutisfactory to the producers. The project has a superficial appearance of feasibility, but it will not work out successfully It is merely a concerted attempt to defeat the immutable law of supply and demand, and, while temporary success may attend the effort, in the end the scheme will fall. The Southern cotton planters who have been following the Society of Equity policy for the past year have made a signal failure of it, although cotton is a much easier commodity to "corner" than wheat, or other farm products, This is because so large a portion of the world's cotton supply is produced in the southern part of the United States and the remainder of the world is to such a large extent dependent

But the cottongrowers' trust, even by barn-burning, night-riding and other objectionable methods, has failed to set aside the old law and prices above the natural level established by supply and demand. With wheat, which since the organi-mation of the society, has been the long sult" of the Equity forces, it is far more difficult to advance or lower prices by unnatural methods than with cotton. The truth of this state-ment can be verified by the course of the markets last week. The American crop, which at the highest estimate was not a large one, has been shipped out very freely, and, as it fol-lowed an even smaller crop of 1907, there are no extensive reserves on

These conditions would seem to be ideal for forcing prices up to almost any figure the American Society of uity might see fit to establish, but has been holding as investments.

If in the week there was a pro
American capitalists, with a early in the week there was a pronounced decline-not because the belief in the election of Taft, are tak-

American Society of Equity had been selling freely, but because of good crop reports from the Argentine, in-creased shipments from the Danu-bian countries, and rain in India. Priday there was a sharp advance in prices, not because the American Seciety of Equity had reiterated its ulti-matum to hold for \$1.25 per bushel, but because sharp frosts in the imnense wheat districts of the Argentine caused uneasiness lest the shipments from the Southern Hemi-sphere might not be sufficiently heavy to make up any deficiency that might appear in the American shipments

later in the season. The action of the market last week was not dissimilar from its usual course throughout the year. The world is a big field for operations, and it annually turns out a supply of wheat too vast for the control of any trust which seeks to force prices above the legitimate level. High prices curtail consumption, and draw out hidden If the American Society of Equity induces the farmers to hold their crops for any figure in excess of that which is fixed by the joint husiness of the wheatgrowers of Argentine, India, Russia, Australia and all other countries, they will in the end find themselves in the same position as Leiter and every other "corner unable to dispose of the stock soon enough to get it out of the way of another crop that follows as certain as the seasons roll ground.

#### OREGON WILL VOTE FOR TAFT.

There was a time a while ago—and the period lasted long—when The Oregonian thought the electoral vote of Oregon might go to Bryan. Republicans were acting in a way that seemed to throw a doubt on all calcuations as to the future. But the result of recent inquiries showing how the Republicans of the state are coming forward for Taft, leaves no doubt that there will not only be a strong plurality for Taft, but a positive majority.

The new registration is two to one Republican; and it is fair to assume that the old registration, too, will practically support the new. Today The Origonian has advices for nearly every part of the state. Is it pos-sible that everybody mistakes? It may fairly be assumed that the

upporters of Bryan do not mistake. Nobody speaking for that party appears to have the least idea that Bry an will carry Oregon, or come many thousands of votes of it.

#### THE LA GRANDE EXAMPLE.

says one and then another, "that bank insurance policy were in operation, no depositor would lose anything by failure of the La Grande Here, it is exclaimed, "is an object lesson, as timely as anything ould be." Further, "since we have marine and fire insurance, why not insurance against incompetency and dishonesty in banking?" Such question supplies its own answer.

Fire and marine insurance is in surance against accident, supposed unavoidable. The companies do not insure against dishonesty, nor even against incompetency. Such insurance is expressly avoided. An insurance will be nullified by any description of fraud, or of carelessness or incompetency in keeping the condi-flons, on the part of the insured. And every insurance policy may be can-celed at once by the company, if the agent deems the risk too great.

Charles N. Fowler, chairman of the House committee on banking and currency, explodes this attempt to parallel insurance of bank deposits, on Bryan's plan, with insurance against fire or marine losses. He says truly that it is precisely as if the law should require fire and marine companies to take all risks without examination of the property; or further, to require life companies to insure all lives without examination of the insured. scheme is declared to be "not among the least of Bryan's absurdities, rivaling, if not outdoing 16 to 1."

Grande example for the bank insurance law is precisely a revelation of the case against it. To compel sound and careful banking to insure the operations of reckless, incompetent and banking is one of the dishonest chimerical things that nover will be ne, nor-seriously attempted. It is not presented as an economic measmerely as political clap-trap for the purposes of a campaign. Chairman Fowler predicts that Bryan will disown this nostrum as he has disowned silver and government ownership of railroads, as soon as he finds it repudiated by the common sense of the people—which is no hazardous guess

# POREIGN PUNDS WITHHELD.

A study of our foreign trade returns for the month of September, taken in onnection with the high rates for exhange, and a continued "leakage" of gold from this country, confirms pre-vious reports that the uncerthinties of the approaching campaign had caused sufficient uncasiness abroad to induce heavy liquidation in American securities. Just at this time, the news may be a factor in the "dumplng" of these securities, but the fear of Bryan's election started the movement one before the war cloud anneared leavor to believe that this fear of the foreigners is imaginary and not harmful, but the official figures will not admit of such an interpretation.

All former records for September were broken last month, when we sold o foreigners farm products and other ommodities to the value of \$139,397. 295, leaving an excess of exports over imports of more than \$41,000,000. This "balance of trade," for the nine months ending with September, amounted to \$432,668,517, the largest amount ever shown to our credit in a corresponding period. With this enor-mous excess of exports over imports. reflecting great purchasing power and prosperity among our people, it might naturally be expected that American securities and other investments would appeal to the foreigners. But the canny European investor, who in the past has sent millions of pounds to this country for investment, cannot easily be persuaded that the leopard

can change its spots. The foreign investor believes that the Bryan now running for President is the same old Bryan that long and persistently fought the gold standard. dvocated Government ownership of ratiroads, abandonment of the Philippines and other wild and unsettling With this belief as to Bryan policies. firmly intrenched, and confronting a faint possibility of Bryan's election, the foreigner sees in the present a good time to step from under. In stead of sending that balance of more than \$400,000,000 to us in gold, he is sending back the securities which he with a firm

are offered; but there can, or could, be no activity in the market, and no offerings of the foreign gold which we need for developing our great trans-portation and industrial undertakings until the election of Taft quiets the scare. If the worst should happen, foreign liquidation would continue indefinitely, and our enormous crops of wheat, corn, catton and other products now selling at high prices; would all be paid for in American railroad and industrial securities now held abroad. This country is probably rich enough to carry the burden without a serious panic, but there would be no new cap-ital for investment for a long timenot until the Europeans have com-pletely recovered from the alarm which the possibility of Bryan's election has given them.

#### QUESTION ONLY OF SCHEDULES.

In the contest between the parties the tariff is little discussed. The reaon is that though there is some difference on the surface between the platforms, it is a wordy difference, mainly, and experience shows that, whichever party may win, "protection" will still be adhered to. The difference will be simply one of schedules.

Should the Democratic party win and get the power to make a tariff bill, it would only do what it did before. It would give more protection to certain interests than nov and less to others. In other words, it would fatten its friends and peel its enemies. That was the spirit of the Wilson-Gorman tariff, which President Cleveland refused to approve, yet became a law without his signature, and was rejected at the next

election. The fact is the tariff cannot be an issue in politics, as between the parties. The contention is simply a struggle between interests seeking protection. The South will be solid against any reduction of duties on commodities that come into competition with its products, and will vote for even higher protection for its It is for a play at the North that the Democratic party talks tariff at all; since it hopes to get some advantage in politics out of any pro-posal for change. Still, it doesn't press the tariff as a main question, hoping for greater advantages out of financial agitation, appeals against injunction, declamation for guaranty of bank deposits, and other semi-socialistic schemes.

#### THE MARTIN VERDICT.

"There were a few awkward circase to be explained," said one of counsel for Martin after the compromise verdict of manslaughter had been returned. There were, They were not successfully explained, and he consequence is that ex-Lieutenant Martin must serve a term of years in the state pentientlary, unless this most surprising verdict shall be set aside. We say surprising, because, of course, every one knows that Martin is guilty of no ordinary homicide, but he is guilty, if guilty at all, of a mor atrocious murder, for which he should be hanged. Perhaps Martin is innocent, though it is not at all probable Perhaps the chain of damaging and noriminating circumstances that convinced the jury of his accountability was merely unfortunate and fortultous; but it is not probable. The de-fense tailed to convince any one of Martin's innocence, however, though perhaps that is not legally necessary; but actually the defense did try, and But the prosecution likewise failed to make out a case that even ached absolute demonstration, nd demonstration of guilt is imperative where circumstantial evidence Circumstances is relied on. may be depended on safely to convict, the chain is perfect, but not other-

In this dilemma the Martin jury seized neither horn that required them either to send Martin to the The very reason effered by the La gallows or to set him free. Perhaps it is just as well, for there is a bare is innocent.

# CONVICT CAMPS IN GEORGIA,

Ame-bellum slavery, we are told, was a beneficent institution in comparison with the convict-leasing sys tem that is now and has long been sanctioned by law in Georgia. This statement is not new. It has been made repeatedly in the last twenty years or more and verified by recitals of the cruelties and hardships inflicted ipon helpless convicts who, often for trivial offenses, or for no offense at all, are sent to "do time" in mines, lumber camps and elsewhere under this system. If the half that is told is true, and many cases of fiendish cruel ty inflicted upon these convicts have een fully verified before Legislative ommittees, the imagined horrors de icted in "Uncle Tom's Cabin" fall far hort of the real horrors that have ong been suffered in these camps.

The Atlanta Georgian is one of the oremost newspapers in that state in disclosing these horrors and depound ing a system that fosters them. I ublished a while ago the case of one Joe Frisby,"-with the positive guarantee of authenticity-which testifies the fiendishness and implacability of contractors, attorneys and police who are interested in keeping up the supply of contract labor.

Briefly stated, Frisby, a mere boy, got drunk two years ago and was sentenced to the chain gang on the public road for three months, in direct vio-lation of the state law, which allows hat penalty only for felonies. The. the contractor, whose wretched gang was being depleted by expiring sen-tences, said that Frisby tried to escape. To prove the story, he had the boy lashed, and, according to the Georgian, "It was such a beating that the story of it got abroad and the grand jury of Cobb County returned a true bill for assault and batter, against the guara who used the lash." This did not, however, prevent the resentence of Frisby to serve two extra

months in the brutal contractor's gang. This is one of the mildest stories that has been told in support of the statement with which this article opens. But it serves to show the cor-rupting influence of the convict-lensing system on politics, business and the courts. The evils of turning over state prisoners—and especially, it may be said, prisoners under the ban of color, to coarse, greedy contractors and speculators for exploitation, are so plain that any disclosure of the would seem to be quite unnecessary. They stand uncovered before mon intelligence and are rebuked by shuddering humanity everywhere. The practice, in the first place, makes u erly impossible the reform of the offenders, since it opens the way to un spenkable cruelties, the tendency o which is to embitter the victims to-ward individuals and society. It cheats the state, inasmuch as schem- 5 P. M.

ing up these securities as fast as they ing politicians force the leasing price down to a nominal sum. The apathy of intelligent and humane citizens of Georgia, in the face of these condi-tions, has long been surprising. It is gratifying, however, to note that a vig-orous campaign against the system is in progress in that state, with the pur-pose of wiping it out by Legislative pose of wiping it out by Legislative enactment. This, it is not doubted, will be accomplished at the next ses-sion of the Legislature. The contractors' lobby will fight hard to retain the system, and venal politicians will be on hand to aid them; but it is not deemed possible, in view of the dis-closures made within a few months, of the barbarities to which convicts, black and white, under the system are subjected, and the rank injustice which it fosters, that the effort to perinjustice petuate it will be successful.

> The brother of John Armstrong Chanler, former husband of Amelie Rives, is endeavoring to have John Armstrong placed in an asylum. Tes-tifying in his own behalf Friday, the ex-husband of Amelie, the asbestosproof authoress, said the suit was due o Ill-feeling between himself and his brother. This ill-feeling, he testified, was caused by his brother's sending to him before his marriage to Amelia Rives a marked copy of 'The Quick or the Dead," with hostile criticism marked on the margin. Some literary critics who have read "The Quick or Dead" and its successor, the Sang Digger," would venture the opinion that all that was needed stablish the insanity charge was the fact that John Armstrong Chanler married Amelie after he had full knowledge that she wrote those peouliar books.

"You cannot successfully attack a man because he stands for a moral idea," is the declaration of a prominent Democrat in giving an opinion of the fight against Governor Hughes in New York. The Democrats sought to create prejudice against Hughes be cause of his opposition to race-track gambling, but they have found that their fight only increased his popularity and they are trying to change their tactics. And what is true in New York is true the country over. A mere pretender-a hypocrite-may uccessfully attacked because of his effort to sneak into office on a moral issue, but an honest exponent of a moral idea cannot be defeated by that kind of a fight.

A reader of The Oregonian asks if it really can mean what it says when it asserts that "no man who expects the Legislature to elect Chamberlain has a right to vote for Taft?" For "hasn't every man a right to vote for Taft or Bryan, as he may see fit?" This begs the question. What was meant was plain enough, namely, that the man who desires the election of Chamberlain has no good reason for voting for Taft. Conversely, the supporter of Taft has no good reason for festring the election of Chamberlain The acts are directly at variance, op-posite and contradictory. One is practical nullification of the other. But, of course, a man may thus work his politics at cross purposes if he sees fit to do so.

Many persons are thinking about what they think will happen, in case Bryan should be elected. To all inquirles The Oregonian desires to make the one answer—that it doesn't know. It is not predicting what may or will happen on contingency of an event that may not occur. Should the event occur, it will then walt and see. only knows now, for the report comes in from all sides, that much business and many projects are halted, with the remark, "Wait till after the elec-

No wonder the Democrats think the ampaign is too long. The more time voters have to think of it, the That was the experience of the Democrats in the two previous Bryan cam paigns. Bryan appeals to passion and great majority of the people of this country think as well as feel, and the more they think the better they can ee that it is not wise to elect Bryan

Hughes may be beaten in New York. But his enemies never will undo his reforms. Just let the gambiers go straight before the people, and se Just now every Democrat and sor Republicans are against Hughes. This is the bunco game of politics. In Oregon it is the same, with merely local variations.

It would seem that the argument for insurance of bank deposits on Bryan's plan were effort wasted. Honest people of careful methods don't want to be taxed for insurance of wildcat banking schemes and La Grande operations. The Bryan appeal is directed mostly to those who never had any money in bank, nor ever will have.

The fine sum of \$6000 in Confedrate money has been received at the Democratic headquarters in Chicago It is very proper; for the Confederacy was a branch or section of the Democratic party, and from that quarter now it has its only sure support.

"Old Man" Bennett, of the Irrigon Irrigator, has been notified of his seventh degree of grandfatherhood. He is still the most competent judge of a baby show in Oregon, not even excepting Dan'l McAllen

In the ideal Socialism—the only right kind—all members of society are ollers and there are no shirks. with the bees. That is the reason so many Socialists are not of ideal

The New York World, which is

great on figures in Presidential years, places Idaho and Utah and Wyoming in the certain Democratic column. s to laugh. No man so indolent or indifferent as ot to vote at a Presidential election is fit for American citizenship. Un.

less he register, he cannot vote November 3. If Chamberlain does not help Bryan liminate that \$2,000 Republican plurality-of the registration bookswhat may Chamberlain expect from

It is reported that there are some who, after waiting many weeks for the rain to come, are now waiting for it to clear off. These persons who are wont to

never equal our John's world-famed achievements. Only two days remain for registra-The books close next Tuesday at

"THE PAST." And Yet the Odor "Clings to It

Still." Pendleton Tribune.

Had you noticed how the truly "non-partisan" paper shouts louder for Bryan than any other brand of newspaper? It makes the claim of nonpartisanship in order to fool somebody while it gets in its work for the Democratic candidate

for President.

The nonpartisan paper which shouts for Bryan's success is apt to get a more serious hearing from a Republican who has forgotten 1823-5 than if it were an outspoken Democratic organ.

Hence, the "nonpartisan" newspaper which supports Bryan in and out of season.

Hence Chamberlain and his machine in

This brand of newspaper resents any reference in a political campaign to "the cobwobbed past." But if the Democratic party has a past to which it never refers and a reference to which by the Republicans causes it to fly into a rage, who is to be blamed

All we know, all anybody knows as to what the Democratic party in charge of the National Go by what it did during the four years it had uninterrupted control—the only oppor-tunity it has had for 59 years to illustrate what it means by the inquiry, "Shall the people rule?"

But the anxiety on the part of the non-partisan papers that everybedy should "look to the future" only causes amuse-

When the frightened ostrich pokes its head under a bushel and imagines it is en-tirely hidden from the hunters after ostriches, it has always resulted in disar pointment to Sir Ostrich, for the reason that his "past" is the most conspicuous object within the entire vision of the searcher after desirable plumage for purposes of capture.

poses of capture.

The Democratic brother should sincerely thank the Republican paper which goes to the trouble of reminding his carcless memory of the condition his party got the country into during the only opportunity it has had to let the people rule within the past 50 years.

Dissipar into the convebbed past is a

Disging into the cobwebbed past is a mighty good way to avoid a repetition of the experience of 1892-6, and the brethren should join with us in an earnest effort to prevent another era of it.

#### LOOKS LIKE TAFT IN INDIANA.

Republican Plurality of 15,000 or More Is Probable.

From Raymond's Letter to the Chicago Tribune. From a time dating back to the Chicago convention I have heard that Indiana was "queer" in regard to its National politics. That characterization is as true today as t was then.

Yet I am inclined to the belief that Taft will carry the state by something more than 15,000 majority, but that the state ticket and the majority in the Legislature are both still questions to be decided by the election itself. Indiana always has been considered a doubtful state. Even in 1896, when it came out strongly for Mo-Kinley, as against Bryan, there was condderable misinformation as to how the

state would go. Apparently it is a commonwealth which

Apparently it is a commonwealth which changes its opinion with considerable facility. That is to say, it is one of the states which are always good ground for a campaign of education. The people of Indiana are unusually lotelligent and insertiably logical. They study a political question as they do anything else—from their high intellectual standard—and they reach their conclusions accordingly. Everybody knows that in 1898, if an election had been held on the first day of September, Bryan would have received the electoral vote of Indiana. As it was, the discussion of the financial question was conducted up to a point where the irlumph of the Republicans was inevitable, and McKinley carried with a comfertable majority a state which had seesawed from Republicanism to Democracy with almost every National election.

The same thing is likely to prove true now.

The same thing is likely to prove true now. Taft is gaining, and the present in disations are his will carry the state. The plurality I have mentioned is a minimum one, and in view of the lively campaign one, and in view of the lively camp which is being carried on in the state figures are liable to be increased rather

# The Test in New York.

New York Evening Mail.

For the confused voter the Governor has provided a signpost. With the Democratic party pronouncing for radicalism in the Nation, and reaction in this state, handing out a long programme of specific proposals at Denver and at Rochester committing itself to nothing tangible, what is the poor voter to do? The Gov-ernor replica:

ernor replies:

Ask the crooks of New York about it.
Do not ask them whom they are for; ask
them whom they are against. Then you
will fear the truth.

The crooks of New York are going to
chance it on Chanier. They are going
to back—they are backing—the campaign
against Hughes. Every race-track gambler is working—against. against flughes. Every race-track gam-bler is working against the Governor and, contributing to that end his medins and his influence, neither of which is small, Every "financier" who resents the peasing of the good old days of stock-watering, with the permanent looting of the pub-lic through unregulated franchise-hold-ing corporations is working against the Governor. Every corrupt politician on the pay roll of these corporations is working against the Governor.

Sleepy Jury Prodded With Pole. Philadelphia Dispatch.

After wrangiling 12 hours over an assault case, a jury at Harrisburg, Pa., reported a disagreement, a Deputy Sheriff having kept the men awake all night by punching them with a pole.

Los Angeles Times.

"When the plover flaps o'er the idle plow," sings Alfred Austin, poet laureate of England, in his latest outburst. He probably had in mind a Democratic victory in the United States.

# DEMOCRATIC HOPE

BY DEAN COLLINS. BY DEAN COLLAINS.

What form is that which looms above
The campaign combat here below,
And rides upon the clouds of dust
From that sedate imbroglio,
And hollers "Victory!" although
'Tis far too soon for it to know?
The chestful incarnation, that,
Of the hopefulness of a Democrat.

What mystic hand is that which glides
Across the surface of the slates.
And writes as "Democratic" all
Phose listed with the doubtral states,
(And frequently attempts to graft
A state that's all staked out by Taft)?
The mystic hand that does all that
le the hepefulness of the Democrat.

What is the airy sprite that floats
Through William Jennings' to
dreams, of the prospect bright,
Until a mortal cinch it seems,
And William I would almost swear
He sits aiready in The Chair?
The trickey sprite that does all that
Is the hopefulness of a Democrat.

The same old hope that, in the past,
Has whispared "Cinch!" into their ears
And buoyed them serenely o'er
The stern defeats of sixteen years.
Still hollers "Victory abead?"
For should it cease—the party's dead.
What a persistent thing is that—
The hopefulness of a Democrat.

Oh, let such hope be given to me.
If wer in straits extreme I bet
Should, to my horrified inspection,
Four trains approach from each directio
Walle o'er my head, aghast, I spy
Am airship dropping from the say,
And 'neath my feet, resounds amain
The rumble of a subway train,
And someone drops, like smoking rocket,
A hand greenale in my hip pocket.
O still, kind Fortune grant me that
I may hope on—like a Democrat.

—Polk County Observer.
fainted at the reply, "An not have born to fainted at the reply. "Ay not leall; ay got stepmutter."-Atchi

FIRST CONTRACT IN HISTORY.

Lawyer Logan Points to Record of Genesis, 23d Chapter, Verse 13. Geneals, 23d Chapter, Verse 1d.

PORTLAND, Oct. 18.—(To the Editor.)—
Under the caption of "Simple Business
Law," in the current issue of the Saturday Evening Post, Theodore J. Grayzon
declares the famous birthright episode between Jacob and Esau to be the world's
original contract. He says:

original contract. He says:

In the 25th chaptor of the Book of Genesis, at the 25th chaptor of the Book of Genesis, at the 25th verse, it is written:

"And Jacob sod pottage; and Essu came from the field, and he was faint. And Issu said to Jacob: Fred me, I pray thee, with that same rod pottage; for I am faint. Therefore was his name called Edom. And Jacob said: Sell me this day iny birthright. And Essus said: Rehold, I am at the point to die, and whan profit shall this birthright do to me?

"And Jacob said: Swear to me this day.' And he sware unto him, and he sold his birthright unto Jacob.

Then Jacob gave Essus bread and pottage of lentile, and he did, eat and drink, and rose up and went his way. Thus Essu despised his birthright."

Agreenessan and Contracts.

Buch is the story of the first contract.

Such is the story of the first cont rom the mists of early Hebrew trad emerges precisely similar to its esser From the mists of early Hebrew tradit it emerges precisely similar in its essentition the ordinary contract of modern its There is a clear-contract of modern its There is a real, tlough apparently maquate consideration, and furtherm there is some observance of form in oath which Essu had to swear. It was a contract where a promise was offered an act, and Jacob, having supplied pottage and lentils, had the right, it is not the following supplied to the contractual of the birth Tright in Jacob shows that the Hobre understood contractual obligation, which indeed, nothing more than a control erclased by one person over the conduct smother.

Had Mr. Grayson but pursued his lega researches of the Bible with a little more care he would have, in an earlier chapter of Genesis, discovered an example not only of a historically anterior contract, but one of more selemn and binding form. The story of Abraham's purchase of the field and cave of Machpelsh from Ephron, as a family burial place, is told in the Ed chapter of the Book of Genesis, at the ESh verse.

"And he spaise unto Ephron in the lience of the people of the land sal But if thou wilt give it. I pray thee, ne. I will give thee money for the i take it of me, and I will hery my

there." "And Ephron answered Abraham, saying nate him: My Lord, hearisen unto me. The land is worth four hundred shekels of silver. What is that betwist me and thee? Burp, therefore, thy dead." "And Abraham hearkened onto Ephron and Abraham weighed to Ephron the silver, which he had named in the audience of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, current money with the merchant.

chant.
"And the field of Ephron, which was in Machpelah, which was before Mamre, the field, and the cave which was therein, and all the trees that were in the field, that were in all the borders round about, were made sure unto Abraham for a peasession in the presence of the children of Heth, before all that went in at the gate th before all that went in a table his city.

And after this, Abraham buried Sarah

And stort time, asked of the field of Machielah before Manure; the same is Hebrot the lind of Canaan.

"And in the field, and the cave that in terein, were made sure unto Abraham for possession of a burying place by the some Here we have a clean-cut warranty deed with all the essentials of an up-to-date

with all the essentials of an up-to-date conveyance—the grantor. Ephron: the grantee. Abraham; the consideration, 400 shekels of silver, with the standard fixed as "current money with the merchant"; the description, embracing "the field and the cave, which was therein and the trees that were in the field that were in all the borders round about"; the warranty of assurance and possession, "and the field and the cave that is therein were made sure unto Abraham for a possession," and sure unto Abraham for a possession," and finally, the witnessing of the livery of selzure by the children of Heth and before all who went in at the gate of his city. No more apt law lecture in conveyanc-ling was ever delivered at any law school or propounded by any legal commentator. JOHN F. LOGAN.

#### DESTINY OF THE EDUCATED CLASS Its Mission as a Factor for Safe Gov-

ernment Is Considered. PORTLAND, Oct. 17—(To the Editor.)—
Are we to have in this country, say, within the next \$5 to 50 years, great social and political changes, independent of the edu-

cated classes, as such?

By "educated classes" is meant, in a general way, the courts, persons distinguished for their wealth, journalists, illerary folk, the legal and medical professions and the ciergy. These, all of them, in a general way, are supposed in some sense to be educated leaders of society. Then comes beneath them in respect to educated thinking, and whatever else that implies, the great bulk of humanity. Numerically speaking, the cultivated classes alluded to are but insignificant fragments

of the whole.

Now, what I am trying to get at is, whether areat changes, social, moral and political, take place in the course of humanity with which not one of these educated classes has visible connection. Is it true, for instance, in Russis at the present, that national policies, rooted in the popular feeling down in the lower stratas originated and worked their way long before they get up high enough to find the cultivated top?

In view of the muttering unrest of the of the whole.

In view of the muttering unrest of the labor unions, the enormous foreign ele-ment now the menage of our large cities, and the Socialistic agitator, to say nothing of the negro population in some of the states now outnumbering the whites-one who carried a musket in 61 to 65, for the National integrity and unity, cannot help a degree of solicitude at the outlook. And yet it appears from the history of the nest as if men of culture leaders as the past as if men of culture, leaders as they are commonly supposed to be, do not always lead in the inciplent steps of great movements which have in the past been originated without them; sometimes in spite of them.

Does culture, overmuch, eliminate a certain ruggedness of nature, inclining men to compromise, peace conventions and the like, rather than to forcing the great up-heavals which have marked the progress C. E. CLINE. of the race?

A Chapter on Penalizing Thrift.

TACOMA, Wash.. Oct. IZ—(To the Editor)—I exjoyed Professor J. Lawrence Laughlin's able remarks especially that portion wherein he speaks of "penalizing thrift." But I believe that the professor does not go far enough, as his argument is applicable to all lines of business. For instance, I am interested in a manufacturing concern where, through able management, integrity and thrift, during the past five years, its volume of business has been increased and the cise of its plant nearly three times. But here comes Mr. Assessor, who promptly raises the value more than three times, and consequently the taxes increased propor-A Chapter on Penalizing Thrift. sequently the taxes increased proportionately—a plain case of "penalizing thrift," According to the professor, a banker whose deposits increased from \$16,000 to \$10,000,000 would have a like grievance.

J. L. WHIDDY.

# VARIOUS PICK-UPS.

The New Minister—Do you know who am, my little man? Little Hills—Cartain ly. Don't you know who you are?—Judge "Great poets are born," quoted the Wise GPF. "Trus," assented the Simple Mug, "and most of them are also dead."—Phila-delphia Record

deiphia Record

Myer—In some countries sheet music is soid by the pound. Gyer—Yes, and a good deal of it is played by the same method in this country—Chicago Daily News.

She—When a woman wants a husband, you den't suppose she goes and looks in a club for one, do you? He—Well, it she's a married woman the chances are that she does.—Yonkers Statesman.

"What would you do if a Trust should offer you money" "Well," answered Senator Sorghum. "If I accepted it, I'd expect the voters to retire me, and if I indigitantly refused it. I'd expect the Trust to put me out of busiesse."—Washington

A little Swede boy presented himself be-for the schoolma'sm, who asked his name. "Tonny Olsen." he replied. "How old are you?" asked the teacher. "Ay not know how old my hane." "Well, when were you horn?" continued the teacher, who nearly

IRRIGATED FARMING'S BURDEN. Engineer Lewis Would Remove Same

by New State Administrative Power. SALEM, Or., Oct. 18 -- (To the Editor.) - The Oregonian's editorial on water laws, published yesterday, appears to give an erroneous impression, which should be corrected. Three eading statements are made: (1) That the state does not need an expensive and complicated system of stream supervision: (2) that Sheriffs and Constables can arrest men who steal water, and (3) that the state should not be burdened with an expensive administrative system.

I wish to demonstrate, if possible: (1) That a comprehensive state administrative system is absolutely necessary for the development of the state's water resources; (2) that, without such administrative system, criminal law concerning the stealing of water cannot be enforced by Sheriffs or any one else; (3) that such an administrative aystem can be provided, if necessary, system can be provided, it indecastly, without any expense whatever to the taxpayers of this state, and, further, that a large revenue could be provided through such system if desirable.

The development of the water laws of Italy, through centuries of experience in the use of water for irrigation, power deposits, and other nursess, is

power, domestic and other purposes, to against The Oregonian's position. The rapid development of the water re-sources of Wyoming, Idaho and other states which have been forced to adopt sources of Wyoming, Idaho and other states which have been forced to adopt the fundamental principles of the Italian law, again disproves The Oragonian's statements. Oregon needs whatever will promote its prosperity and protect its citizens in the enjoyment of their water rights as well as their property rights. Why is it necessary for Oragon to tolerate a condition of anarchy among its water users and await the shedding of blood in community fights to secure a proper division of streams before we awake to the importance of this question? After all the water powers have been stolen and the surplus waters acquired under our present lax laws, there will then doubtless be no further objection to following the experience and windom of other states and countries that have successfully met every phase of this complicated question.

Pirst—Taking these points up in order, the state needs a comprehensive administrative system to regulate diversions from public streams, for the same reason that a large ditch system, or a municipal water works needs ad-

same reason that a large ditch system or a municipal water works needs ad-ministrative officers to divide the water among the various lateral ditches, or to the different parts of a city, in accordance with the needs of each district. The non-navigable riv-ers are nothing more than main canals, and at present are diverted without any

regard for the rights of others.
One hundred and ninety ditches divert water from the Walla Walla River in a distance of ten miles. Each Summer temporary dams are built to divert more water to various districts, and as often destroyed by residents from the district whose supply is lessened. Litigation has been in progress for many years. Twenty-five lawyers are at present employed to defend the water rights to 5000 scriss. The rights will eventually be determined, but how will the water be divided? Which of the 190 ditches will an injunction suit be brought against by any settler who fails to get his rightful share? The same conditions which brought on the same conditions which brought on the present suit still exist. New diversions will be made and new litigation will be necessary. The burden on irrigated agriculture, under this system, is most discouraging. It retards development.

A canal is being constructed in Crook County by the state, under the Caray act, which will eventually supply 20 times the area irrigated by the Walla Walls Short County by the Caray act, which will eventually supply 20 times the area irrigated by the Walla Walls Short Caray and the Caray and C times the area irrigated by the Walla Walla River. Comparatively no litiga-tion will ever occur as to the relative rights of estitlers under this canal. rights of settlers under this canal, because their rights are initiated in a definite and orderly manner, and an administrative system provided to distribute the water. But this canal, like all others, is only a lateral, when the Deschutes River is concerned, and its relative right is an uncertainty and a subject for litigation in the courts, because of lack of state control over diversions from public streams.

Second-It is already a crime to steal water from a constructed canal, but not a crime to steal water from the public stream upon which the water supply of such canal depends. Water is valuable, and theft of water from a stream may result in thousands of dollars damage to crops perhaps 199 miles below on a stream. Can the Sheriff of Wasco or Sherman County prevent the stealing of water from the headwaters of the Deschutes River in Crook or Klamath Counties, 150 miles or more to the south? The Oregonian says that "there is no need to smoothly specific." to the south? The Oregonian says that "there is no need to employ special officers to police the arid region."
There is no need for an administrative officer on any stream until the relative rights of all claimants to water therefrom have been determined. The prin-glass duty of such administrative offi-cer is not to make arrests, but to make a daily adjustment of hendgates, as a daily adjustment of hendgates, as the stream fluctuates, so as to protect vested rights as determined and recorded. His police power is only incidental to this duty, that he may more effectively protect vested rights to water. This prevents waste of water and useless litigation.

The storage of flood water in reservoirs by the Government or private capital is absolutely prohibited where the natural stream channel is to be

the natural stream channel is to be used in conveying water past numer-ous ditch diversions to the place of use, until an administrative system is adopted. Stored water cannot be brand-ed like a horse, so that the Sheriff can accretain when it is stolen.

ascertain when it is stolen.

Third—Water users from a large ditch gladly pay 50 cents to \$1 or more per acre to defray the cost of administration. They would gladly pay a reasonable license fee or tax to the state if an administrative system were provided, so as to insure relief from provided, so as to insure relief from unending litigation under present con-ditions, which gives no permanent re-lief. The cost of the 25 lawyers de-fending the rights of water users along the Walla Walla River in Oregon would probably defray the expense of administration of its waters for 25 years. The courts will, without doubt, under the police powers of the state. sphold a license fee or tax based upon uphold a license fee of tax based upon the amount of water appropriated for power or irrigation purposes, suffi-cient to pay all administrative ex-penses. Fishing licenses, sufficient to maintain hatcheries and other admin-istrative expenses of such department, are upheld under such theory.

In Idaho, Wyoming and other states the entire administrative expense is borne by those who pay for the privliege of appropriating the state's pub-lic waters. This does not retard de-velopment, but encourages it, because protection is granted during the time

protection is granted during the time of construction and ultimately a deed to the required water is granted the investor by the state, and thereafter such right is protected by the state's administrative machinery.

By proper legislation this administrative machinery, which can be made to cost the state nothing, and is so repugnant to the speculator in the state's public waters, could be made to yield a large revenue to the state. yield a large revenue to the state. Surely the taxpayer could not object to burely ine taxpayer count not object to relief from this source, and especially when the prosperity of his state will be increased in many ways thereby. JOHN H. LEWIS, State Engineer and Member Oregon

Conservation Commission.