The Oregon Statesman

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THOU SHALT NOT STEAL.

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This, the eighth of the Biblical commandments, has been calling through the ages, addressed exclusively to the moral and religious nature of men. It is not an appeal to man to familiarize himself with the civil statutes as to larceny in order that he may avoid technical violation of these statutes and so keep out of jail, as some people seem to think. Its author never intended that this command is to be given any narrow or technical meaning such as the civil law gives to the word "steal." It is intended as a rule of conduct, a guide of life for every man in his relations and dealings with others, irrespective of the limitations of human laws or the customs or ideas of society. It is a broad command to him not to take and appropriate to his own use what is his neighbor's.

It is in the class with the tenth and last of these commandments which commands man not to covet his neighbor's goods, "nor anything that is his neighbor's." Indeed, the sin or crime of stealing or taking and appropriating another's goods, is but the outward, active, visible manifestation of covetousness, against which the tenth commandment inveighs. Too many otherwise respectable people seem totally indifferent to their violation of these two commandments, provided they escape the entanglements of the civil law and keep out of the hands of the sheriff. In our complicated modern society, too, the distinction between what is properly ours and what is our neighbor's if often quite shadowy in many of our minds, and we are often guilty of stealing, in the Biblical sense, without knowing that we have really committed this sin.

The man who by his "tricks of trade" or other dishonest means deceives and cheats his neighbor out of his money or his property is just as truly a thief in the sight of his God as the man who has been convicted of grand larceny and is filling a felon's cell; and he should be generally so regarded. While the highwayman who holds you up at night at the point of a gun and forcibly takes your money is a manly and honest fellow in comparison with the man who skilfully goes about getting your friendship and confidence in order that he may legally and safely cheat you out of your substance. Such a man is the meanest kind of thief. And if there ever be divine forgiveness for such a scoundrel, it must be only after a long period of repentance and suffering.

In other words, the soul of this command, "Thou shalt not steal," is that we are not to take and use what is rightfully another's without making adequate return therefor. That s what its author doubtless intended it to mean; that is what t does mean to every honest man. It is addressed to the ndividual conscience. It expresses the divine law or order, and like all such needs no supplementing by the laws of men to make its observance obligatory and binding. More, its iolation brings its own ultimate punishment, as all sins do This punishment is not to be escaped by subterfuge or techicalities. Every normal, enlightened, moral and honest man cnows this, and he is not seeking to despoil his neighbor in ome sly and evasive way. He is not consulting his lawyer o find just how far he can legally and safely go in cheating his brother. Instead, he consults his own conscience and he quares his conduct by its standards in his dealings with others. He does not desire to take from another what is honestly that other's without giving just, fair and adequate ompensation. Should he do so, he would feel like a thief. ticularly impressed by the spirit very truly honest man properly feels so, for in such a case and purpose which animate the ne would, in the true sense of the word, be a thief.

Our business standards are generally much higher than they were fifty-even twenty-five-years ago, but they are still too low. The old legal maxim, "Let the purchaser beware," is still much too generally prevalent. For every merchant who takes advantage of the necessities or the gnorance of his customer and compels him to pay more than

GETTING BEHIND THINGS

T IS the community banks that get

behind things, and keep them moving.

The people of this section had this for-

eibly brought home to them recently

when the fruit growers were confronted

That is but one instance of the willing-

ness of the modern financial institutious

to build up the communities intimately

The United States National is always

ready to render Marion and Polk Counties

by a serious crisis.

associated with them.

in good conscience the merchant is justified in exacting sacred memories, possesses great "The Swans of Ypres" men call should feel like a thief, because he really is one.

The employer who insists upon reducing the wages of his sectorists. It flows through a They have heard guns and many employe to the lowest limit-away below the point where the deep crack on our globe, the most employe can maintain a comfortable existence upon them- depressed spot of the earth's sur- Come and depart and come again, simply because he can, although he could afford to pay much face, while the local fish and ver-Phone Automatic higher wages, is really violating the spirit of this eighth clation are characteristic not of When fire and fume rolled over commandment, and is quite as truly a thief in the sight of Asia, but of Africa. Moreover God as the poor fellow who steals twenty dollars in order to the project deflection of the But changeless and aloof they satisfy some real or fancied ambition or need of his own.

On the other hand, the employe who is not concerned about naturally raises the problem of rendering faithful and adequate service to his employer for the fate that would befall the his wages, but does as little as he can for his money is not head Sea when no longer fed by Stephen A. Stone..... Both of this strange stream.—Managing Editor one whit better than the conscienceless employer. Both of this strange stream.—Manchester Cashier these must some day answer to their God for violations of Guardian. His command, "Thou shall not steal."

If men generally could be made to recognize the truth of all this, the world would soon be in a very different state.

It is not always exclusively in the marts of trade that we despoil our brother. We often try to rob him of his good Vores was once a weaving town. name by slyly and wickedly inventing and circulating slanders Where merchants Jostled up and against him. Instead of respecting his right to his good reputation which he has builded by years of clean, honest and noble conduct and life, when our own interests or ambitions on the looms the fierces were are opposed to his, we often try to rob him of it by base in- Brought from the mart at Winsinuations, slanderous accusations and vile falsehoods. How much better than the lowest thief is the assassin of character and the slanderous scandal monger?

There come to the man who never stoops to do wrong to only another in thought, word or deed a joy, a self-respect, a sense of rectitude and an inward satisfaction that can never be known by the thief, the cheating scoundrel, the despoiler of Her hands fling veils of lily-woof his kind or the slanderer. Such an upright man may be on riven spire and open roof poor in this world's goods, but in his mind and soul he carries wealth for the ages, compared with which all worldly possessions are but rubbish.

The slogan editor is calling for engineer in his native state. help to prove that Salem is the coming most beautiful city in the town, Pa., and became interested world. Salem Beautiful is the in steel and street railways. Nine

negroes has just been dedicated his interests to other members of in Atlanta. There will be no the DuPont family for a price color line in the contents of the reported to have been \$20,000,-

precedent by going to the capitol New York. Senator DuPont of with a group of senators. The figure in Washington, at least list of unbroken precedents must physically. It is recalled that be short enough by this time to when he was an all-around athbe printed in small space.

achievement of Dr. Kolmer of es tall and weighed 210 pounds Vienna in successfully transplant- But his physical prowess has since ing eyes into blind animals should been overshadowed by his busistimulate the imagination of the ness and political accomplishfiction writer. A man with a cat's or a tiger's eye would be an interesting hero.

Lady Surma, who has been made president of the new Assyrian nation, was educated in Eng- uel proposes to utilize in conland and will be under English nection with hydroelectric and guidance. She will have a better irrigation schemes, is at once the chance than Mother Eve, who once reigned in that region and and one of the least known to whose chief adviser was the ser-

the various forms of dope. We mother.-Los Angeles Times.

Ex-Postmaster General Burle- out its tortuous length. son, in Berlin as representative of Texas cotton interests, is struck with the fact that men, women and children are all busily working in the factories or in the fields. "I have been pargoverning class, all of whom seem determined to meet the responsibilities which this war has imposed on Germany if it is humanly possible to do so."

When General March was chief of staff he issued regulations hat the Sam Browne belt, worn by officers in France, was not to! be worn by them in this country. Following this order there was an actual round-up in a New York theater of recently landed officers in all parts of the audience who were wearing the offending belt. But when General Pershing arrived he wore it and has serenely. continued to wear it ever since. Now, as chief of staff, he has ordered that it is to be worn and the chances are that General March will comply.

General Thomas Coleman Du-Pont, Republican, has been appointed United States senator from Delaware to succeed Senator Josiah O. Wolcott, Democrat, who resigned to become chancellor of the Delaware courts. The appointment was made by Governor Denney. General DuPont will be 58 years old next December. He was born in Louisville, Ky., and is a member of the family that has been identified with E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co. for more than a century. Unlike many other members of his fam-

FUTURE DATES

What has become of the folks lily, however, he did not immediwho predicted that there was to ately enter the powder concern. be a great spiritual uplift follow- After graduating from the Masing the war? It is long overdue. sachusetts Institute of Technology he began his career as a mining

In 1893 he moved to 'Johnsdent of the powder company and A \$50,000 public library for served until 1915, when he sold 000, and shortly after purchased the Morgan interests in the Equi-The president broke another table Life Assurance society of a few days ago and taking lunch Delaware will be a conspicuous lete at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, at the age of The astonishing surgical 19, he was six feet and four inch-

THE PARADOXICAL JORDAN.

By a provoking paradox the Jordan, which Sir Herbert Sambest known river in the world

The upper waters were partly explored about 50 years ago by In the opinion of Judge Landis our compatriot, Macgregor, in his whiskey makes liars of all users | Rob Roy canoe, while more re In his judgment it breaks down cently two American inquirersthe moral fiber, like the use of Prof. Libbey and Dr. Hoskinshave made valuable additions to once knew a druggist who said cur knowledge. But, owing to he would not take the word of the rapid current, unnavigable a devotee of narcotics on any sub- nature, frequently inaccessible ject, even if the victim was his banks and pestilential climate, this famous river has apparently never yet been traversed through-

Yet this stream of khaki-colored water, apart from many



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importance for naturalists and Jordan for industrial purposes

THE SWANS OF YPRES.

(From Punch) down

And merry shuttles used to chester.

And silver flax from Burgundy. Who is weaving there tonight? the moon, whose shuttle

Makes silver warp on dike and pond: And on the haggard marsh beyond. .

No happy ghosts or fairles haunt he ancient city, huddling gaunt. Where wagons crawl with anxious wheel

And o'er the marshland desolate Win slowly to the battered gate That Flemings call the Gate of

Yet by some wonder it befalls That, where the lonely outer walls Among the sedges of the moat, | vast wealth to the country tribuslogan subject for next Thursday, years later he was elected presi- Like lilies furled, the two swans tary to Salem. "More hogs, more

They have seen strange disas trous things.

their nest: The Swans of Ypres, with folded wings.

BITS FOR BREAKFAST

Now for the flax fields. N A N

Bootleggers and booze birds lefter beware of Judges Bushey and Hingham. That's the atliterative trath. They are in favor o upholding the laws.

Prosecuting Attorney Carson proposes to go down the line in inging to book speed Lends This will tend to make pafer the public highways and streets,

5 5 5 Salem Chautaunua next week t will be crammed full of good and instructive things.

A A A The new dedication of the Elks at their Los Angeles convention to the Stars and Stripes as their emblem of supreme devotion gives an inspiring note of loyalty to the whole country.

Hogs are up \$2 a nounds since the publication of the Salem slogan pages devoted to swine breeding on Thursday

to the advice to promote a hog boom in the Salem district. There should be a pig club, in every neighborhood, and the leading institutions and men of this district, directed to their organizaMR. HARDING'S "INVITATION HAT."



Photo by Underwood & Underwood An invitation has been sent to President Harding, asking that he be present at the annual "Frontier Day" of the cowboys at Cheyenne, Wyo., the last week in July. The invitation is engraved on a hatband of chased silver, tied with a knot in white doeskin and looped about the sombrero. The photo shows "Miss Wyoming" tieing the knot in the

and more progress and prosperity of the Southern California Yacht-And that gives added emphasis in more ways than you could tell ing association here, August 6 to

WILL ENTER RACES.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., July Diego, Newport Harbor and Santa Brood in the silent pool below, tion, would mean the adding of 14.—Pleasure boats from several Barbara. ports of this section are expected cows, more corn, more money." to enter the first annual regatta

According to present plans there will be entries from the Los Angeles Motor Boat club, and the yacht clubs of Los Angeles, San

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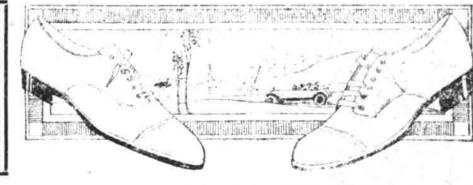
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