

Polk County Observer

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BY LEW CATES

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FULFILLMENT OF SCRIPTURE.

Cardinal Gibbons forces in the present great European war the fulfillment of scripture as presaging the end of the world. The whole thing, he says, is so terrible—so horrible—that it is beyond human comprehension and realization. We cannot grasp its magnitude or what it means. Yet it does closely correspond, suggests the eminent prelate, with the biblical prophecy depicting the time when "nation shall rise against nation and there shall be sorrow throughout the world." And in the records of the holy writ a crisis of this character is to be a prelude to the end of the world itself.

This is a thought that no doubt has suggested itself to thousands of students and followers of the christian faith in every part of this world. There is, in truth, something deeply significant in the manner in which the course of human events, especially within the past year, has tallied with the predictions of writers who prepared the books of the bible which deal with the future of mankind in relation to temporal affairs. Mystical and ambiguous as these writings are in many respects, they nevertheless permit of an interpretation which corresponds with amazing exactness to the actual happenings of history and the experience of mankind collectively. And the strange and startling manner in which biblical prophecy has been fulfilled in the past, and is being fulfilled at the present time, can scarcely fail to excite a larger interest than ever before has been manifest in the question of whether mankind is indeed approaching the culmination of scriptural prophecy, meaning the end of the world and a new order of things.

Nor will it hurt humanity to search the scriptures afresh for light on this problem, and for advice and guidance concerning rules of conduct and faith. Never before in the world's history was there a time when humanity more needed to be inspired with principles of truth, righteousness, clarity and justice, and no greater source of inspiration along these lines exists than is to be found in the holy scriptures. For centuries the latter has formed a beacon light guiding humanity to better things and more perfect life. And in the same manner the essentially wise and righteous teachings of the scripture may guide and help mankind to safely solve the great problems which now confront the world, and thereby permit the latter to pass into a new stage of development and perfection. Such a transition may be the real meaning of the "end of the world," as predicted in scripture, although many, no doubt, will insist on a more literal interpretation. In any event the question is one of universal interest.

CHILDREN AND THRIFT.

A canvass of the banks of Los Angeles shows that 40,000 children of that city, under sixteen years of age, have a total of \$1,000,000 in savings, which represents an average saving of \$25 for each individual. One bank has 15,000 depositors between the ages of two and fourteen years. The largest account is that of a twelve-year-old boy, who began seven years ago with fifty cents and now has \$1,572 to his credit.

The showing thus made is certainly a creditable one and it has led one prominent financier to say that the children of the California city are probably the thriftiest in the world. He ascribes this condition to the instruction imparted in the business courses of the public schools, where studios attention is given to habits of thrift and saving. The example of Los Angeles in this matter is worthy of the attention of other American cities. In every city, of course, there are children who save and start bank accounts, but the habit is one that should be cultivated and encouraged more generally.

A GERMAN EXPEDIENT.

A curious story comes from Copenhagen, to the effect that the German government intends ordering 5,000,000 Germans who possess independent means and are ineligible for army service, to leave Germany for neutral countries and remain until after the war is over. The reason for this unusual move, it is explained, is a desire

to conserve the food supply of Germany and provide for the necessities of the poorer portion of the German population. The rich, in other words, are to go away and thereby reduce the food consumption, which, of course, will leave more for the people who stay. According to the report, it is planned that 3,000,000 well-to-do Germans shall temporarily abide in the Scandinavian countries, another million go to Holland, and a like number settle in Switzerland until after the war closes and conditions in Germany again are suitable for the return of these exiles.

THE BIG FAIR.

The Panama-Pacific international exposition, which has been in course of preparation for more than three years, is now open, and promises to outshine and outlast in many respects any of the preceding so-called world's fairs. Exclusive of exhibits it represents an outlay of approximately \$50,000,000, which has been put to such good use that the Panama exposition has been described as a veritable jewel of artistic setting and general attractiveness. The grounds, buildings and adornments combine in a harmony of arrangements that is said to be practically perfect, and everything that human skill and ingenuity could contrive or suggest has been done to make this great exposition the "last word" in affairs of this kind.

All that now remains to make this exposition the success which it richly deserves to be, is patronage on the part of the general public. The bulk of this patronage, moreover, will have to come from the people of the United States. This would be true even in ordinary times, but it is more than ever true with Europe disturbed and torn up by the great war, with Canada and Mexico, our next door neighbors, similarly involved, and with practically every other nation more or less concerned in the unusual crisis which today confronts the whole world. On account of this condition it is not likely that the Panama-Pacific exposition will receive any large amount of foreign patronage, and what it loses in this direction will have to be made up by the American people themselves.

Fortunately, the disadvantageous influences which affect the Panama fair will be offset, in a measure, by influences distinctly favorable to the success of the exposition. For instance, with popular routes of foreign travel suspended or shut off entirely, and with little chance or incentive for Americans to leave their own country during the coming season, attention naturally will center on this great attraction in our own land, also on the side attractions which will be taken into consideration therewith. California, Oregon and the other states of the Pacific coast offer a rich and inviting field for the tourist and sight-seer, and there will be safety and comfort for the traveler such as can be found in no other part of the world at present. It is, therefore, reasonable, to expect that the tide of American travel for this year will strongly turn toward the great west, with the Panama fair the chief magnet and center of attraction.

For months the railroads of this country have been preparing for the anticipated rush of Americans to California and other western points, and the people of the west have been preparing to receive, welcome and entertain the expected guests. It is going to be a great year for the Pacific coast, and also a great year for the American people as a whole. For of course everyone will ultimately share in the advantages and benefits of this home travel and home visiting by the American people. The latter will be spending their money at home, where it will help and stimulate home industry and trade in every direction, and they also will be getting better acquainted with the beauties, attractions and opportunities of their native land. And the Panama fair will help this along. It has come at a most opportune time to fulfill this mission.

RAPIST MUST GO.

The dastardly assault upon the young girl, Jennie Olinhouse of Douglas county, by William Ruppel, who now languishes in the state hospital, should arouse anew the determination to exterminate the rapist. More stringent measures should be enacted to prevent the wholesale debauchery of our fair daughters, low or high, in hut or palace, for none are exempted. To such alarming extent have the operations of the rapist spread that it is high time to call a halt at any cost.

A standing reward of \$1,000 should be fixed by statute law in Oregon, and every state and territory in the union, for the "head on a charger" of a rapist, the same as a bonus given for the hides and heads and horns and hoofs in exterminating certain wild beasts where they infest the lands to the detriment thereof. Wild beasts are preferable in any locality to the archfiend rapist. It should be every person's most sacred and solemn duty to capture these culprits of crime, and

SEND THE OBSERVER TO DISTANT FRIENDS.

The Observer today publishes a lengthy illustrated story on Polk county, being from the community booklet recently issued by the Dallas Commercial club and the county court for distribution at the Panama exposition. Extra copies of this issue may be had at The Observer office, by persons desiring to send them to friends in other states, without money and without price. You are requested to call and leave names of parties to whom you wish the paper sent. We'll even pay the postage. If you cannot find it convenient to call, telephone us. It is The Observer's desire that hundreds of copies of this issue be sent to contemplating settlers in the Pacific coast country, believing that it will be the means of accomplishing much good. Do not hesitate. The papers are yours for the asking.

his pride of home, his love of women, and patriotism of country should prompt this individual to voluntarily reject any proffered reward for such invaluable service as he would spurn a bribe. But let the reward be posted; let the law be made faultlessly stringent and not "as sounding brass or tinkling symbol."

Mr. Gates, in another column of The Observer today, tells why he wishes to separate himself from the Dallas water plant, holding that the municipality has broken faith with him by repudiating its contract through a loophole in the law, and consequently he does not care to continue his business relations with the city, preferring to sell out and get out. With Mr. Gates, according to his own statement, it is not a question of profitable earnings, but "a burning question regarding the honor, integrity and justice of a community of Polk county citizens. In other words, the gentleman would, we take it, sacrifice a profitable investment, one from which he supposedly reaps a rich annual harvest, simply because, in his business dealings with the city he has been given what he considers the short end of the stick, though this may be largely imaginary.

The community meeting at the high school auditorium this evening is of more than ordinary importance to every Dallasite, its purpose being advancement along lines of cleanliness and beautification, and therefore should be attended by all public-spirited citizens. It is the commencement of a campaign to improve conditions in all sections of the city, and one in which much interest should be displayed. The speakers secured for this occasion are adepts in this particular line of endeavor, and consequently some decidedly interesting and instructive information regarding the subject for discussion may well be expected.

There seems to be something more than a suspicion in the minds of men who have been given a peep behind the scene that the real purpose of the growing movement to divide Texas into one or more additional states is to increase the democratic strength in the United States senate. It is now proposed to create four additional states out of the domain that comprises Texas. If this should be done it would give the democratic party an increase of eight United States senators. It is reported that the movement to create these new states had its origin with the national administration.

Will that Independence saloon-keeper who objects to The Observer's recent headline, "Independence Boozes Kills," please accept our apology? The Salem individual, let it be said by way of explanation, simply died after having imbibed of the stimulant because he wasn't vigorous enough physically to withstand the shock, although he was generally considered to be a well man. It wasn't the fault of the whisky, but of the man—he should have been proof against it.

Although the seeds distributed by the members of congress are commonly referred to as "free" seeds, they annually cost the people of this country something like \$250,000. And even this would not be so bad if the seeds really were worth anything, or accomplished any actual good.

The people may consider themselves lucky. The expenses of the recent session of the legislature were only \$83,000.

Inasmuch as fully eighty per cent of the inhabitants of Oregon reside

west of the Cascade mountains there is some question as to the wisdom of the legislative act providing that one member of the railroad commission shall be elected from Eastern Oregon, one from Western Oregon and the third from the state at large. But it was the Eastern Oregon delegation's opportunity to gain further recognition for that part of the state, and they got it.

OTHERS' OPINIONS.

Portland, Oregon, February 22—To the editor: Your editorial of the 16th places importance upon my reason for selling my equity in the Dallas water plant. You are a stranger to some facts that might be well to recite. During 1902 the city of Dallas and I entered into a contract that previously had been published in The Observer, and for weeks was read, quoted and analyzed so thoroughly that nearly every word of the contract was photographed on the brain of any intelligent citizen. Afterwards it was indirectly ratified by a majority vote of the people, surely "running this gauntlet."

The contract must have been satisfactory and popular with the majority.

The city and I in that contract pledged ourselves to certain obligations. I have faithfully performed all I was pledged to do, and have assumed and performed many more, and once voluntarily reducing the water rates. No complaint against the quality or quantity of water or performance of service has been sustained or proven.

Now that is one side of the contract. How about the other side. If a contracting party with you, through the loophole of a new law, repudiated the contract, would you ever wish to see him or do business with him again? With an experience such as I have had can any honest man blame me for wishing to sell and get out? Unfortunately having a large investment at stake, I cannot afford to break my side of the contract and leave the city.

You place importance upon the per cent of profit I earn. With me it is not a question of percentage of profit, but it is a burning question regarding the honor, integrity and justice of a community of Polk county citizens.—Yours most respectfully, H. V. Gates.

Globe Democrat: "The German reply to the protest of the United States against the order proscribing a war zone two weeks ago and warning all neutral vessels that they would enter the closed waters at their peril frankly admits that the action of the imperial government is unprecedented. But it defends it on the ground that the British attempt to cut off the food supply for even civilians in Germany is likewise unprecedented. It contends that Germany has a right to retaliate by attacking all English shipping. It contends that the warning to neutrals grew out of the fact that English vessels, by direction of the government itself, are flying neutral flags for the purpose of concealing their character. Germany argues that under such circumstances the primary law of nature, self-preservation, necessitates the policy against which the United States protests."

"The argument about citizens of the United States shipping contraband of war to the allies is not in reply to any portion of the protest from this government. It is not contended that the United States is in any way to blame for this condition. The fact that Germany is not receiving war munitions is no fault of anybody in the United States. It is one of the fortunes of war. The allies have used their navies to such advantage that shippers have not risked consignments of war munitions to Germany. The reply is not logically strengthened by reference to this fact. But the condition may have had much to do with prompting Germany to adopt its retaliatory course. If Germany had battleships or cruisers for use in the halting of neutral vessels, its novel course would not be necessary. The submarine, on which Germany relies, cannot deal with vessels in the customary manner. Great Britain having departed from international law in its policy, Germany makes another departure to checkmate it. It is daring in its nature, defensible solely as the only available measure for self-preservation."

"The American note was vigorous in tone. It declared that Germany would be held responsible for possible results for which the German reply disavows responsibility in advance. The American note concluded with the statement that the government would 'be constrained to hold the imperial government to a strict accountability for such acts of their naval authorities and to take any steps it might be necessary to take to safeguard American lives and property and to secure to American citi-

zens the full enjoyment of their acknowledged rights on the high seas.' The German reply suggests as a proper step that United States warships convey merchant vessels, as a guaranty of their neutrality and of the non-contraband character of their cargo. In addition to this alternative there is the possibility that Great Britain may heed the protest against use of neutral flags. But the situation, so far as the United States is concerned, is most critical. Precedents have been rendered comparatively useless and the issues must be settled according to elemental principles of justice among nations."

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Deals in Polk County Dirt Recently Recorded.

Following is a list of realty transfers recorded during the week ending yesterday forenoon, and reported to The Observer by Sibley & Eakin, abstractors.

G. O. Butler et ux to John N. Hulett, 125 acres in claim No. 57, T. 6 S. R. 7 west, \$3000.

Barney Phillips and wife to Lenore Kneehorn, 1/4 acre in Falls City, \$10.
Moore Getty and wife to M. N. and Sarah E. Prather, 50 acres, T. 9 S. R. 4 W., \$5000.

J. D. Smith to O. C. Smith, correction deed to land in T. 7 S. R. 5 west, \$1.

Elizabeth R. Nelson and husband to L. Currier, lot 1, block 14, Hill's addition to Independence, \$240.

Charles Savage and wife to Emma Hoefling, 40 acres in claim No. 56, T. 6 S. R. 3 W., \$100.

N. M. Grant to Melissa J. Grant, 4 acres in T. 7 S. R. 5 W., \$10.

Henry Seaton to J. A. and Angeline Huston, lots 5, 6, 7, and 8 in block 2, N. and 3 E., in Buena Vista, \$10.

Henry Seaton to J. A. and Angeline Huston, land in Buena Vista, \$10.

C. A. Johnson et al to J. S. Austin, 2-3 interest in 2 acres in West Salem, \$50.

J. H. Frakes and wife to J. M. Grant and W. J. White, lot 1, block 19, Ellis addition to Dallas, \$300.

Dane J. Purvine and wife to Wm. Psatak, lot 3, block 1, Hill's addition to Independence, \$10.

Henry Conner to Rd. Osburn, 5x20 rds. in section 14, T. 8 S. R. 7 west, \$1.

John Hubbard and wife to Claud L. and Nancy Lynch, part lot 4, block 2, Leven's addition to Dallas, \$2000.

Leatha W. and J. M. Knowland to Gehlbach, lot 3, west side fruit farms, \$10.

Hartley and Craig to H. E. Derrick, lot 12, Hartley & Craig fruit tract, \$100.

R. C. and Emma Craven to H. G. Campbell, part lot 5, block 3 in Dallas, \$3000.

Lillian Currier and husband to Susie E. Williamson, lots 2, 3, and 4, block 1, Rosedale addition to Independence, \$1500.

M. S. Miller and wife to J. F. and Addie Rhodes, 102-24 acres in claim No. 50, T. 6 S. R. 6 west, \$2000.

L. A. Davis and wife to Chas. D. Fuels, 123.61 acres, T. 6 S. R. 3 west, \$10.

Mary O. Hendrick and husband to O. C. Smith, q. e. d., 153.40 acres in T. 9 S. R. 5 west, \$1.

State of Oregon to Philista I. Porter, W. 1/2 of N. W. 1/4 section 36, T. 8 S. R. 8 west, \$100.

State of Oregon to Emma A. Miller, W. 1/2 of N. E. 1/4, N. E. 1/4 of S. E. 1/4 section 36, T. 8 S. R. 8 W., \$50.

Julia Schultz et al to L. A. Hecker, q. e. d., 121.03 acres, claim No. 67-10-4, \$1.

D. P. Stapleton et al to Mary Deaton et al, q. e. d., 241.73 acres, section 5, T. 9 R. 4 west, \$1.

Levina Ludwig to Wilbur L. and Emma B. Hughes, part lot 6, block 5, La Creole addition to Dallas, \$25.

Christina Herd to Geo. C. Will, q. e. d., land in Monmouth, \$1.

E. U. Will et al to Geo. C. Will, land in Monmouth, \$10.

U. S. A. to Mary Shirley, patent lots 2, 3, and 4, section 30, T. 9 S. R. 8 west, \$10.

Mary Shirley to Maybelle Plummer, lots 2, 3, and 4, section 30, T. 9 R. 8 west, \$10.

Inspection Next Thursday.

Next Thursday night at 8 o'clock in the armory, Captain John H. Paige will inspect Company L. Capt. Paige is a son of Gen. Paige, a retired general of the regular army. The drills for the past few weeks have been well attended and the men are in good trim for inspection. As there is only one more drill before inspection it is essential that all the members who can possibly attend should do so. The men will be inspected in field uniform and immediately thereafter the company will adjourn to the Gail hotel to attend a banquet. The public is invited to attend this event.

Ed. Stafrin was promoted this week to the office of company artificer and Robert Sears and John McBee were promoted to corporals.

Lowell Stubblefield of Newport is here to attend the inspection.

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