

# CENTRAL POINT STAR

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Office With Al Hermanson

## BETTER TIMES ARE COMING

We base that belief upon the fact that people are talking more optimistically. The price of many farm commodities are going up in price. That means greater profit for the producer and likewise greater sources of revenue for all trades.

There is nothing mysterious about the present slump times. There are many factors entering into the cause, it is true, but they can all be analyzed. Any student of history knows that every so often there is a slump or a panic. The cause for such deflation is only a reaction which must inevitably come. Good times are caused when prices are climbing and larger profits are taken on practically every sale. People then, are optimistic—they will spend their money and enjoy luxuries. But, sad but true, those good things cannot last forever. "What goes up must come down" is an old axiom and that same principal is also true in the economic conditions of a country and thus after about a decade of rising prices comes a corresponding decline — it must come — it cannot be helped. Then we have what we term a slump or hard times for people are adverse to spending their money for things when they must buy on a declining market. They also become more or less panicky with the result that those people who have money hold on to it and keep it out of circulation and thus only accentuate the stress of the times.

With the coming of these slack times we also find a horde of people who take advantage of the situation to promote their selfish interests upon the gullible public either in a political way or otherwise and the public usually runs true to form. They fall for the bunk, hook, line and sinker without the least endeavor to search out the truth. All the average man knows is that he is hurt somewhere and he is willing to grab at any proposed cure to rid himself of the sting. It makes little difference however, how the political tide flows. It just requires a few years of stabilization and everything is rosy again and then the general public sits back and permit themselves to drift with the tide until the next downward movement before they take up the howl of dissention again.

The present depression has some angles which others have not had, of course. We have in this country, millions of married women holding jobs while many heads of families must walk the streets, looking for employment. Many families have two pay checks where others have none. We also have the many newly invented, labor saving devices and machines capable of replacing many men. The adjustment of the world to pre-war standards has also had its effect. The importation of cheap, unskilled labor to replace the native laborer has also been a factor.

Prices have been on a decline for some seven years now so it is quite evident that the turning point will soon be reached. Then all the talk of hard times, rotten politics, etc., will fade into the unknown. The governing principal which controls the industrial world is surely the law of supply and demand. If this country can produce goods for export which will compete with foreign made or foreign raised produce, then it will sell, if they cannot, well, it's just too bad. With most of the countries of the world getting back to where they were before the World War, competition is bound to be keener. Labor saving machinery, made in the United States has been introduced into other lands where crude primitive methods have always been in vogue with the result that those nations, so educated will become stronger competitors of the home producer.

In order to keep on a parity with the foreign nations this nation and their industrialists must educate the foreigner to expect and demand the same luxuries which we enjoy in this country and thereby raise their standard of living to a point that they cannot afford to work for any less than the American. If this is not done, then we must meet their cheaper competition.

These things we call attention to are more or less fanciful, perhaps, but the thing which is of interest to us at present is the fact that reports from almost all sources show a trend for the better. Bank clearances are greater, buying is heavier and more construction is being undertaken. Perhaps this is seasonal and perhaps not. At least it is a good sign and we hope that it continues.

## TWO LOVERS

By George Eliot

Two lovers by a moss-grown spring;  
They leaned soft cheeks together there,  
Mingled the dark and sunny hair,  
And heard the wooing thrushes sing.  
O budding time!  
O love's blest prime

Two wedded from the portal step:  
The bells made happy carolings,  
The air was soft as fanning wings,  
White petals on the pathway slept.  
O pure-eyed bride!  
O tender pride!

Two faces o'er a cradle bent:  
Two hands above the head were locked:  
These pressed each other while they rocked,  
Those watched a life that love had sent.  
O solemn hour!  
O hidden power!

Two parents by the evening fire:  
The red light fell about their knees  
On heads that rose by slow degrees  
Like buds upon the lily spire.  
O patient life!  
O tender strife!

The two still sat together there,  
The red light shone about their knees;  
But all the heads by slow degrees  
Had gone and left that lonely pair.  
O voyage fast!  
O vanished past!

The red light shone upon the floor  
And made the space between them wide;  
They drew their chairs up side

## Shooting Stars

By Albert T. Reid



by side,  
Their pale cheeks joined and said  
"Once more!"  
O memories!  
O past that is!

herit the earth."  
Is it true? Look around you.  
The meek do not make a spectacular showing. They lose many op-

portunities to announce their rights, and defend their honor, and show what tough fellows they are. But they certainly do inherit.

## The Way of Life

By BRUCE BARTON

**NO ANSWER**  
The traffic light flashed red, and a big car stopped short. The car behind it brushed the front car's fender. Nothing of any importance. Just a bump.

Instantly the driver of the first car was on the pavement. No one could bump him with impunity. He'd show the world.

I stopped to watch the performance, and the action of the other driver gave me a smile. Mild and innocent, he sat. He did not turn his head. He never said a word.

When the traffic light flashed green he stepped on the gas and moved away. His angry accuser had to climb back into his driver's seat, and before he could get going angry horns were blowing all around him.

He had the satisfaction of his outburst, but the silent man won.

Years ago I received a very bitter letter. The writer was wrong in his facts and unjustified in his tone.

I carried the letter around in

my pocket. Several times I started to dictate a hot reply. Then I would think of something meaner and decide to wait and try again.

On the third morning I had an inspiration. "The most paralyzing answer I can send to this man is no answer at all," I said to myself. "What is he doing all this time? Looking eagerly in every mail to find my letter. Planning out in his mind the things he will say in reply. Mentally lashing me to the mast.

"And I'm going to disappoint him. I'm going to leave him there all bottled up, stewing in his own juice."

Peace came over me. I never thought of the man again.

It's not an original idea. John D. Rockefeller, in his younger days was working away at his desk one afternoon when a man rushed into the office and began to denounce him in violent terms.

Mr. Rockefeller leaned back and listened as if to a story of fascinating interest. He did not utter a word.

Presently the man exhausted himself, and walked out, looking rather foolish. Mr. Rockefeller quietly picked up his pen and went on with his work.

There is a very wise old verse which reads: "The meek shall in-

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