

take, we are largely the creators of our destiny, whether our destiny be good or bad we the people are wholly responsible for it.

I. E. Barker, Naples, Maine.—This is a pertinent question for the times as we are having, the high cost of living and the one-sided state of affairs. It is we tell you what you must pay at our shop for what you want and we will tell you how much you can get for your products. It is we and has been since the party leaders of both parties joined hands to impeach President Johnson. It cannot truthfully be said that the people have ruled since. There is too much hypocrisy practiced for the people to know who to trust. We have many politicians but few statesmen, but what are carried away with party name regardless of principles or candidates. The leading principles usually have named the party. Ever since James Otis, prior to the Declaration of Independence, publicly stated "that these colonies ought to be free and independent states," and the public or people applauded, ever since then there has been a democratic party. It has not always had a trusty leader to call them to the front and there are so many who can see no good only in self and self interests. They want no law against their interests, but one to down the other fellows. By the name "democrat" we should infer that the person believed in that form of government in which the supreme power is in the hands of the people. There is too much deception practiced by old party leaders. They are not willing to trust a new man in the office no matter how good a character he has. It is time to bid good-bye to the old party names when they are past being mended and have a new party on conservative lines to conserve the interests of the people, and free them from the special interests that are bound to enslave the people to their will. The United States is claimed to be a republic; if so, where are the representatives of

the people? The power should be in representatives elected by the people. Now every device is used to fool the people and change their votes, either with rum or money, or if Bryan is elected business will be at a standstill by a threat to ruin public interests.

B. F. Shields, Seattle, Wash.—The reason that the people do not rule is, in my mind, very clear and has been for the last few years. Men hang on to their political faith the same as one does to his religion, there lies the reason of losing control. After the war in the eastern and central states it was not popular to be a democrat as that at once connected one in the minds of eastern and middle-west people with the confederate or rebel cause; it was shot in one's face all the time and those who did their own thinking, soon made up their minds that it did not pay to go contrary to the popular issue. They were all Lincoln worshippers and the immortal Lincoln was held up in every campaign as the cross of our crucified Saviour is unto the sinner, to bring him to repentance. This being the case the money men were not slow to grasp the situation, they turned the trick that wins; they gave their money to installing their friends in the popular camp and in return were given special and class legislation. Newspapers were given to understand if they wanted the support of the big interests they must come in out of the wet and get in the band wagon, which they did. Our country was new and undeveloped with a world of wealth awaiting the touch of men with a small amount of money. That soon started the blood to flow, it always flowed toward the center as the blood does to the heart. While we were all building up our country and were being given free homes we were bound to be more or less prosperous, not on account of the republican party in power, nor of their policies, but in spite of them, all while the octopus was growing fat on the yielding and good natured people. Not until we are more independent in our politics and less partisan will the people rule, and this is a task more gigantic than most people comprehend. There is only one way to it, vote against the party that has fostered and allowed this octopus to exist. When parents allow a child to do as he pleases, as he grows older he becomes more bold and harder to govern and finally the parents lose entire control, so it is with the infant in war times, he has outgrown his parents (the republican party), and now rules them. They are powerless and unable to strike back and must be turned over to new hands, to a strong party who can say "Thus far and no further." In my mind, that it is the democratic party who has constantly, in season and out of season, warned the republicans that they were fostering and protecting an octopus that would finally ruin the country by sapping the life's blood from our yielding people.

PRIZE WINNER

During the civil war a captain of a company which had sixty men in its ranks, none of whom were as energetic as the officer thought they should be, hit upon a plan which he believed would cure their habits of laziness. One morning after a roll call the captain, addressing his command, said: "I have a nice, easy job for the laziest man in the company Will the laziest man step to the front? Instantly fifty-nine men each took a step forward. "Why didn't you step to the front?" inquired the commander of the one man who did not come. "I was to lazy," replied the soldier.—Philadelphia League.

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THERE IS NO DEATH

It was the odd and pretty idea of Mrs. Diana Conley, the 99-year-old pioneer woman of Omaha who died Sunday, that her passing was a marriage and not an occasion to be observed as is customary with funerals. "I want no crepe and no funeral emblems used when I die," said the aged woman a few days before her death. "I want white used to drape my chair, and instead of pallbearers, I want bridesmaids." Her wishes were carried out, and when her funeral was held Wednesday at the People's church, by the Rev. Mr. Savidge, the draperies were all of white. Six young women attired as bridesmaids acted as attendants. Just before the ceremonies, a couple seeking Pastor Savidge for the purpose of being married entered the church, and were not deterred when Mr. Savidge told them the decorations were for a funeral and not a wedding, as they inferred. So as the bridal party passed out, the funeral party followed it.—Omaha World-Herald.

CAN YOU RECOGNIZE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY

when you see it? Or do you wait until opportunity passes and then wish you had acted when your own interests prompted you to? Shrewd men never do; they at once satisfy themselves and act. Did you see our announcement in last week's Commoner? It tells about a wonderful, bona-fide opportunity for Lomeseekers or investors in our Laramie Lands in Wyoming, located between two paralleling rivers, where one great reservoir is being built that will irrigate 135,000 acres. This land can yet be purchased at \$12.50 to \$25.00 per acre, is worth double the price, and selling on easy terms. We sell the land without the water and you buy the water at \$25 an acre, if you wish, and pay for it in 10 to 20 years. Irrigated lands in this and adjoining states sell for \$500 to \$1,000 per acre, because they produce crops that pay. Watch our ads. in The Commoner and write us for particulars. RELIANCE INVESTMENT COMPANY, Laramie, Wyoming

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