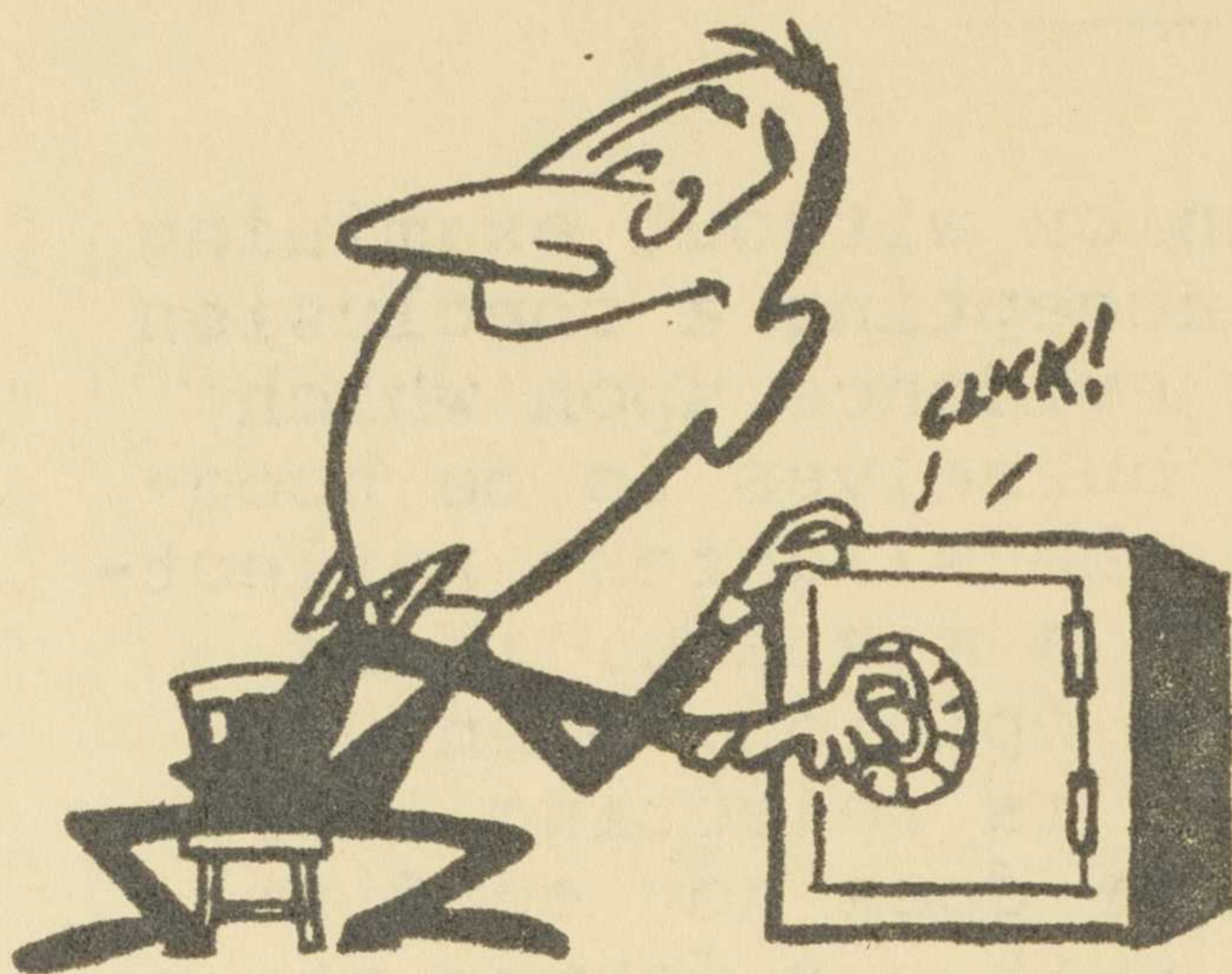




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A POEM FOUND....

WRITTEN ON A BANKNOTE

This piece of paper in your hand
Declares to you that on demand (?)
You twenty shillings shall receive.

This simple promise you believe
It puts your mind as much at rest
As if the silver you possessed.

So Christ who died, but now doth live
Does unto you the promise give
That if you in His Name believe,
You shall eternal life receive.

Upon the first you calmly rest,
Which is the surest and the best?
The bank may break! He never can!

THE CLASSICAL IDEA OF HADES

The Greek word HADES, in the New Testament, and the Hebrew word SHEOL, in the Old Testament are used in the most general sense to denote the state of the dead, including the grave as the residence of the body...

The Hebrew idea of it is perhaps most fully given in Job 10:21-22.

It is most interesting and useful to compare the pagan notions from which the word HADES is taken.

The name was given by the ancient Greeks and Romans and especially by the poets, to Pluto, the god who was supposed to preside over the infernal regions. He is represented as being the son of Chronos and Rhea, the husband of Persephone, and the brother of Zeus and Poseidon.

He bore the character of being a fierce, cruel, and inexorable tyrant, dreaded by mortals, who, when they invoked him, struck the earth with their hands, sacrificed black sheep in his honour, and in offering up their sacrifices, stood with averted faces...

The grim Hades shuts up the shades of the dead in his dark domains. His wife Persephone shared the throne of the lower world with her cruel husband. And not only did Hades rule over the infernal regions; he was considered also as the author of those blessings which spring from the earth and more especially of those rich mineral treasures which are contained in the bowels of earth.

From: BIBLICAL THINGS