



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

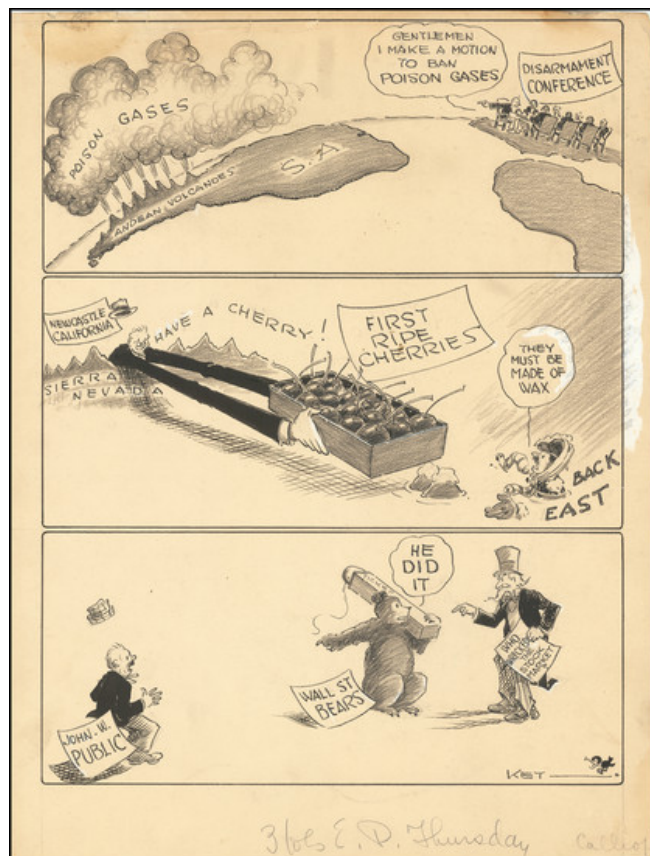
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[Three Vintage Frank Kettlewell Cartoons]

Stock#: 68562
Map Maker: Kettlewell
Date: 1932 circa
Place: Oakland
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 12 x 16 inches
Price: \$450.00



Description:

Original Pen and Ink Cartoons on Artist's Board

This is a fabulous example of three cartoons by Frank Kettlewell, the renowned *Oakland Tribune* humorist. Like many of Kettlewell's works, each of these cartoons are surprisingly accurate in today's world, despite having been made nearly a century ago.

The top cartoon appears to relate to the Disarmament Conference of 1932. The delegates are seen attempting to pass a motion to ban poison gases emitted from Andean volcanoes, spurning their duty to try and disarm their own country. The conference was a resounding failure for many reasons. European nations were loath to disarm because of the arms buildup in certain neighbors and perceived vulnerability. The US proved surprisingly willing to disarm, but Congress never passed Hoover's proposals to limit the size of the army, and the antiwar American public was disappointed in the results. The ascension of Hitler to power and subsequent withdrawal of Germany made all other European nations very wary of



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disarmament, and the conference concluded in 1934 without any major progress.

The middle cartoon is a boast of the agricultural power of California and its superiority over the rest of the states. The bottom cartoon is one that can strongly resonate with the public today. Produced in the Depression era, it shows stockbrokers, portrayed by a bear, attempting to diffuse blame regarding the stock market crash upon the public. The toning and depiction of the cartoon are strongly reminiscent of the 1920s, but the issue is one that remains contemporary in nature.

The cartoons were likely first designed at some point in the early 1930s and subsequently published in the *Oakland Tribune*. Some manuscript annotations in the bottom appear to relate to publication date but are not fully legible.

Detailed Condition:

Author's or editor's manuscript notations along bottom. Some wear along margins.