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SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 6, 1901.

AS TO THE CREMATORY.

The proposition to build a crematory in the southwest portion of the city, in a populated district, has naturally created considerable stir among the permanent residents of that neighborhood. Protests against the movement have been earnestly made, and we are of the opinion that the city authorities should give heed to the objections of the people, who will be aggrieved if the crematory is established among them.

The plea that is entered in its favor, that the ground can be cheaply purchased, and that hauling to it will be comparatively easy and at small cost, does not count very much in view of the fact that the city already has a good site for the building, and that when any garbage, refuse or dead animals is once loaded up, the difference of a little distance in hauling is not a matter of much moment.

The place for the crematory is the old spot on the north, outside of the populous portion of the city, near the mountains but easily accessible to teams. The smoke from the chimneys there usually moved toward the heights in the morning, when the crematory was in operation, and rarely if ever came down into even the nearest residential parts of the town. To set it right among the houses in the place proposed, would naturally be obnoxious to the people there.

It is claimed, of course, that there are no odors from the flames and fumes and smoke of a crematory. If not, there are plenty of effluvia from the stuff and carcasses carried to it, and these would be offensive to the nostrils if not injurious to the health of the inhabitants of that locality. And if any contagious disease should become epidemic there, the cause would certainly be charged to the crematory.

We think the city fathers will not save much in expenses by setting up a crematory in the midst of a neighborhood where objection is strongly and not unreasonably interposed, in view of the site already owned, and which has been found as satisfactory as could be expected. At any rate the place proposed is not desirable, and the wishes of a large body of permanent residents and taxpayers in such an important matter ought not to be ignored.

SITE FOR THE CITY JAIL.

There is much difference of opinion as to the best site for the new city jail which is in contemplation. There is no need to say anything in support of the statement, that the present city prison is a nuisance and a disgrace. No human being ought to be kept there for any great length of time, and to put an unfortunate who is not really a criminal into such a place, is deplorable if not condemnable.

But supposing the city disposes of the present site, which is a valuable piece of property and would bring a good price in the real estate market, where should the jail and police court be situated? The question of expense must necessarily cut an important figure in the reply. The financial condition of the municipality, and the limit of taxation wisely imposed, will not permit of justifying a very large outlay for the purpose, even if a good round sum is obtained for the ground where the present edifice stands. So, economy is well as adaptability will have to be studied in this matter.

It has been proposed to build the jail on the north side of the city and county building square. Also to locate the police court in the joint building. But there is a place of religious worship standing there, the amount of land feasible for the purpose is not large enough, and by contract between the city and county authorities, the police court must be excluded from the city and county building. These are two points that press themselves upon public and official observation.

There is a piece of ground, ample for the purpose, in a convenient spot owned, we believe, jointly by the city and county, adjacent to the engine house within the east block of the square. The jail could be erected there, with the upper story for the municipal criminal court, and with plenty of room below for the offices and cells that would be necessary. The lighting and heating apparatus would be in close proximity. All this would lessen the cost as compared with other locations. The civil municipal court could be held in the city and county building, where rooms could readily be had and against which there would be no contract or reasonable objection.

We direct the attention of the city authorities to that place, which appears to us to be the most feasible and to offer the best advantages of any site proposed. There may be reasons of which we know nothing that would bar out that locality, but we believe it would prove less costly and more suitable than any spot that has been talked of in this connection.

By all means let the city build a decent house of detention for arrested

men, women and juveniles, where they can be kept apart, and from which they may emerge without the taint and company attached to the present repulsive establishment.

CHINESE EXCLUSION.

The Chinese side of the exclusion question is set forth by M. Ho Yow, Chinese consul general to the United States, in an article in the September number of the North American Review. The gentleman characterizes the exclusion act as a "Chinese" wall, but with this difference, that the prototype was built against robbers and marauders while the imitation in this country is feared against the industrious and peaceful citizens of a friendly nation.

He then positively denies that Chinese labor in this country is a detriment to us. He says there can be no such thing as overproduction, but, on the contrary, the more production there is, the more demand there will be, and the easier are those demands satisfied. Were Chinese labor cheap, he says, the influx of it to the Pacific coast would be the greatest boon to that section of country; it would open the soil to life and fill it with fruitfulness; the vast productiveness would open many fields in which the Chinese would be unable to enter, and create an oceanic and interstate commerce in which there would be profitable business for all.

But, he further argues, Chinese labor is not cheap, so there is no well founded objection to it on that score. American labor, he says, is cheap, while Chinese labor is dear. As an illustration he mentions sawed timber, which is laid down in the Straits Settlements for two cents a foot. "China," he says, "with labor at from 8 to 20 cents a day, could not cut it for that price. If it were a fact that the cheap labor of China was the formidable competition it is said to be, you would have no foreign commerce. All the factories in the world would center in China, which is as rich in natural resources, in deposits of minerals and materials and in agricultural potentialities, as any country on the globe." Machinery makes cheap labor, and therefore America is the leading country in the matter of cheap labor.

The entire argument is ingeniously constructed, and urged with much force, but it will not carry conviction to the American workman. Chinese labor is objected to on the ground that the Chinese, although they compete with the white laborer in the various fields in which wages can be earned, refuse to aid in the consumption of the products of American labor. They narrow the field of opportunities for earning and do not recompense for this by enlarging the markets. They live in small shacks, at a minimum of outlay, while they send to China for much of their food, clothing and luxuries. They sell all they can, but do not buy much in this country. Under the circumstances, whether their labor is cheap or not, considering its quality, it is looked upon as a detriment to the country.

But there is another line of argument which the Chinese consul general may expect to have presented to him. If an

ed States is beneficial to this country, because of the greater industrial activity it stimulates, why is it not as beneficial to China to keep them at home, in order to stimulate the industrial activity where it is as much needed as here? If there is so much thing as overproduction and distress on account of competition, why do the Chinese leave their own land with its dear labor, and come here, where labor is so cheap? By his own theory the use of Chinese labor in the United States would so enormously increase the volume of wealth that industry would spring up on every hand. The presence of the Chinese laborer would not, he argues, affect the wages of the white workman. The Chinaman would be paid only what he is worth—what he earns. Why should he argue so forcibly in favor of increasing the wealth of the United States at the expense of a corresponding decrease of the wealth of his own country?

The gentleman is evidently on to business. He offers us a certain amount of surplus of Chinese labor, not on the ground that China would be glad to get rid of its surplus, but on the ground that we need it very badly, and that China would accommodate us, though a loser by doing so. Is not that too transparent? That appeal will be in vain, notwithstanding its eloquence.

AS TO CO-EDUCATION.

It is all right occasionally to see ourselves as others see us, and an opportunity of doing so is given when visitors give their impressions of the country.

Miss Elizabeth Phillips Hughes is a noted English woman, who frankly told an American audience that she had found that there is a reaction in this country against co-education in our schools. She was commissioned by the British government to study educational conditions in Japan, and she is presumably well qualified to speak on school matters. We had the pleasure of meeting her while in this city on her way westward, and found her to be a very intelligent and critical woman, of great experience in educational affairs.

According to the Buffalo Express she said it was a great blow to her to find that in this country a strong reaction against co-education has come, and she immediately went to work to discover the reason for this. She found that the college women do not take college work very seriously, but give much time to social enjoyment. They are, further, young and immature in thought. The secondary schools are not thorough, and the young women enter college still too young for its liberties. The lady had studied the girls in a number of colleges and universities throughout this country, and for the most part found that they do not show trained minds; they are not serious. The lectures do not mean so much to them as they should. She was also alarmed and distressed at the backward wave which seeks to limit the number of women to be received at the universities, which shows that men object to the presence of women students, and she was satisfied that this will obtain until women are more serious in their work.

On the subject of fraternities in the schools, Miss Hughes had this to say, which is well worthy of serious thought:

"My attention is particularly directed to the secondary schools of this country; that is where the best improvement will be made. But there is one thing that I notice in them which I think cannot be too strongly condemned, and that is the increasing number of fraternities. The time in secondary schools is too important to be dissipated, and these organizations mean a tax upon mind and body. They bring too much social life for boys and girls of the age I find in these schools. To have fraternity diversion during this period means a waste of time, a waste of energy, and frequently the formation of undesirable acquaintances. I have seen jaded boys and girls in these classes, where they should be fresh and alert, and again I investigated when the pupils did not know that they were under observation. In one city I attended a party, and was shocked at what I saw. This social life is absolutely disastrous to good school work. At the party of which I speak I saw a freedom of both speech and action which was anything but admirable, and many young girls were entirely unchaperoned, and some came quite a distance. Those in authority cannot look into the matter of fraternities in secondary schools any too soon."

Debating societies, and organizations for the purpose of mental improvement, we presume, the lady does not condemn when conducted under the supervision of the teachers, direct or indirect, but clubs with no other object than amusement, she thinks are detrimental to school work.

We believe there is much in this, that is true. There is reason for the fact that young women—or most of them—do not take college work seriously. And why should they, unless they enter the temples of science for the purpose of becoming distinguished lawyers, doctors, preachers, etc., which most of them do not? The ambition of the majority is satisfied with the position of queen in an American home, by the side of a good, true husband. The women by this time have found that their chances of fulfilling the measure of their creation is not made better by their delving in dusty volumes for the knowledge bequeathed to the world by sages, and they prefer not to soil their little hands that way. America is the very home of co-education, and if there is a reaction against it, it is for good and sufficient reasons, whether these be clearly understood or not. In this practical country, theories may be tested, but if they are found impractical, they will not be adhered to for ever. But is there really a reaction against co-education? Or does it only appear so to the casual observer?

A VOICE FROM THE PAST.

Professor Flinders Petri, the great Egyptologist, in a lecture delivered before a London audience a short time ago, set forth proofs which in his opinion established the very high antiquity of man upon this earth.

He contended that there is an unbroken chain of historic record going back to 5,000 years before Christ, and objects of art and industry dating 2,000 years further back. But this does not, he argues, make the beginning of history. Civilization came to Egypt from some other country. Early graves have pictures of a race resembling Bushmen, and beyond these there are pictures of women captured, belonging to a still earlier race, living probably in the palaeolithic age.

The world has witnessed a great change lately in its ideas about the age of man on earth. To some the evidences of archeology seemed to furnish destructive weapons against the reliability of the historical statements of the Hebrew records. But it is clear that there is a good deal of theorizing about the correct deductions from the finds of scientists, as there has been about the chronology of Moses. And it is safe to conclude that it is at least as difficult to read a correct chronology from the finds in the different strata of the earth, as it is to construct such a chronology from the recorded ages of the prominent figures in sacred writ, or the earliest historical records of any people. Why the conclusions of archeologists on chronology should be so much more infallible than those of Biblical students is not apparent. Probably both need adjustment, and in all probability, when all the facts are known and correctly understood, there will be no discrepancy between them.

It is now customary among a great many to think of man as appearing at first as very little removed from the "anthropoid" ape, from which he had gradually grew and attained the physical, intellectual and moral perfection he now possesses. This growth was slow, and ages, it is assumed, must lie between the first humble beginning and the present result. Some scientists seem to have a tendency to interpret archeological finds to fit this theory; their deductions have, on that account, by no means the same value as their statements of facts.

It is proved, we believe, that no one has as yet found any remains of that man just evolved from the ape. And yet man must have roamed the earth for ages, before he was capable of evolving a still higher type. The earliest human skull ever found seems to be about as well developed as that of the average human being of today. No matter how far back we go, human conditions seem to be very much as they are at present. We find evidences of civilized and less civilized races; of people with only common capacities, and occasional geniuses in various branches of activity. The existence of man on this earth, with his capacity for thought, sentiment, religion and progress, must remain a profound mystery, unless we can accept the sacred accounts that represent him as the child of God, sent to inhabit this part of His vast mansion, for infinitely wise and good purposes.

There is one plain lesson that comes to us both from history and the monuments of antiquity, and that is this, that unless the spiritual needs of human beings are cared for, as well as the physical wants, there will be an evolution toward barbarism, enervation of body and soul, and destruction by harder races. Palaces, monuments, schools of learning and altars of worship are buried under the dust of ages, because those who reared them gave

themselves up to material interests only, neglecting the soul for the body, duty for pleasure, God for self. Then their doom came swiftly. That is a lesson from the past, peculiarly important to our own time.

Japan is yet but in knee breeches and a few more such incidents as the treatment of Officer Gilmore of a British steamer may serve to bring this fact forcibly to her mind.

"Unity among Christians" was advocated at today's meeting of the Methodist ecumenical conference at London. That such a principle should require advocating among Christians is a great shame; but "Tis true, 'tis pity 'tis 'tis true."

"All hopes are permissible," said Vice-Admiral Gervais in a recent speech, and upon this ambiguous sentence an excitable Frenchman has constructed an ignominious defeat of the British navy. Ze g-r-r-and meestake, monsieur!

While German newspapers are patting Emperor William on the back for his dignified conduct of the recent reception of Prince Chun and the Chinese exploratory commission, the caricaturists are preparing to pat him upon the pate for the comical manner in which the farce was pulled off. Were all the cartoons upon this affair gathered into one collection, the sight of them would turn the Kaiser bald-headed.

Russia is attempting to put a fly into the European concert ointment in the dealings of France with the Sultan. Great Britain's motive is sought to be made the objectionable insect, but the clumsy efforts of Russia's more clumsy newspapers have so far failed to so impair the sight of sensible Frenchmen as to cause them to give any such shape to the moral support that England is giving France in this affair.

Now comes Col. de Launey, of the French army and says that an invasion of England was recently contemplated and, further, that such an invasion would be but the work of a single moonless night. That, together with the late utterances of a Russian writer in Novoe Vremya, against the Venezuela-Colombia controversy, to the effect that the United States is seeking to establish in itself a protectorate over the British empire, would indicate that the mother country has sore need of a guardian. However, notwithstanding the statements of these foreign gentlemen the "old lady" may be quite able to take care of herself for a long time yet. The trouble probably is that De Launey and the Russian have changed on to too strong a brand of "hop."

LABOR DAY NOTES.

Kansas City Star.

There is enough in the idea of an annual holiday in honor of the men who make the day both memorable and profitable. The relations of employer and employee, the principles of good service and the promotion of the welfare of trades people ought to be discussed in mass meetings at least once each year, not by partisan politicians, but by representatives from the ranks, whether wage earners or employers. This was the original idea of Labor Day, and there is reason to believe that a large majority of wage earners would prefer that this idea should be adhered to.

Chicago News.

With the healthy industrial and financial conditions prevailing, with unions growing in strength, and with their manifest purpose to resort to the courts and legislatures rather than to force for redress of injuries, the labor unions have a right to look forward with confidence to improving prospects. The continuation of the steel strike is a cloud upon the horizon, but the majority of workmen may reasonably count upon another year of prosperity, with a steadily strengthening capacity to deal intelligently with the problems which may come before them.

Kansas City World.

But to organize labor must be given credit for causing the day to be set apart. It is more significant to the members of unions this year than ever before on account of the great steel strike now in progress. This is rightly or wrongly regarded as the crucial test of the relative strength of labor and capital, and all eyes are anxiously watching the outcome. On the one side is arrayed brawn, muscle and the skilled and trained intelligence necessary to carrying on a great industry; on the other a strong room filled with the yellow metal of Uncle Sam's coinage. On the success or failure of this strike may depend the entire reorganization of the labor forces and of labor methods in dealing with the perplexing questions that involve the antagonizing of capital.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The workmen of America are among our best citizens. It is hardly warrantable to speak well of their bearing, since the implication is possible that it might have been otherwise, and we admit to the subject only to emphasize the undoubted fact that masses of the workmen are of the same blood, habits, disposition and patriotic intent as the rest of the community, and that they can have no sympathy with any violence of the hot-headed of their own number and will restrain it if they can. The addresses at the pavilion were in accord with the bearing of the men, and the constant wisdom and patience of the unions on strike. That so great a demonstration could occur in this city in the midst of a long and bitterly contested strike with the slightest unpleasant occurrence to mar the occasion speaks volumes for the intelligence, self-respect and real dignity of American labor.

St. Paul Globe.

There is one view in which the celebration of Labor day will appear to intelligent and industrious citizenship as an occasion which should be held publicly sacred. It is not he alone that grasps the hammer that labors. There is another besides a literal meaning to be attached to the saying about men earning their living by the sweat of their faces. There can be no life without labor and the man who idles is not much better than the criminal. Delecting Labor day to the cause of human toil and endeavor, to the ceaseless effort which is in progress to build up the forces and opportunities of life, there is the amplest reason why self-respecting manhood should everywhere unite in its celebration.

San Francisco Call.

But if bad advice prevail and union labor insist that it is antagonistic to the community of which it is a part, and the attack on personal and property rights shall not close, but continue until our institutions are overthrown, labor will find that its best opportunities have vanished with the government which made it, and that having burned the bridge which carried him over the laborer will long in vain for a bridge to be reestablished. The opportunity he has destroyed and the advantages which law and order and impartial government put within his reach.

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