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Herman G. Whitney - Business Manager.

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THE NEW STATE

Oklahoma is cordially welcomed to the Union of States. The President signed the bill making Oklahoma a full Indian Territory one State, and the flag has, consequently, another brilliant star added to its glorious constellation.

The struggle for statehood for the new state has been long and complicated through an effort at passing an omnibus bill including Arizona and New Mexico. In 1903 the people of Oklahoma and Indian Territory in convention assembled expressed their willingness to enter jointly, while the people of Arizona, as soon as they learned that there was a plan for consolidation with New Mexico, passed resolutions against joint statehood. The Omnibus bill, providing for separate statehood for the four Territories was defeated in the Fifty-seventh Congress without coming to a vote. The following year the Hamilton bill, providing for joint statehood of Oklahoma and Indian Territories Arizona and New Mexico, made its appearance. It was the result of a compromise reached in the House Committee on Territories. This was passed by the House after a brief debate. The Senate passed an amendment providing that Arizona and New Mexico should be given an opportunity to vote on the selection or acceptance of the joint proposition. And so it went from year to year, from session to session.

It is strange that the entrance to the Union should be made so difficult to every Territory that respectfully asks for admittance, considering that the aim of territorial government is education in self-government. selfish interests are clearly seen in such strategies. Territorial officials and beneficiaries are slow to give up their positions and advantages, and so it happens that though a Territory may be ever so well qualified for statehood, it is kept out of the Union, in the interest of personal benefits. Then again, members of the National Legislature are sometimes afraid of admitting "too many" to the legislative chambers, as if there could be too many patriotic good citizens in the council chambers of any nation. Of course, if they are supposed to go there as the representatives of factional, or sectional, or personal interests, a few are too many. But if they meet to consider the welfare of the country, the more the better.

The new State comes to the Union well equipped for the position. She will be well represented in Congress. Her state government will be equal to the task before it. Her schools, churches, and other institutions are abreast of those of other states. We hope Arizona and New Mexico, too, will soon have the privilege of statehood. There is no valid reason for keeping them as territories any longer.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

The congress of Central American republics, under the auspices as it were of the United States and Mexico, should result in a better understanding between those little states. The minister representing Nicaragua in Mexico has said that the President of his country is in favor of a Central American federation. This, it is said, has caused some surprise, because he has been regarded as opposed to union. His influence should go far toward the actualization of this desirable end.

The republics in that part of the continent are Guatemala, Honduras, Labrador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, but all of them do not cover more than 200,000 square miles, and the total population is only about 4,156,000. The country has a general climate, varying with the altitude, and it is rich in resources, but these have not been developed to any considerable extent, owing to the curse of internal strife and contention. The presidents of those republics have very often acted as dictators instead of representatives of the people. They have very often reached the office through successful revolutions, instead of the ballot, and their aim has sometimes been to enrich themselves and their followers.

In this regard they may not be worse than some politicians in our own Republic, who manipulate elections with a view to obtaining offices and graft, but the effect of substituting brutal force for the force of the ballot is nevertheless, visible in the undesirable conditions obtaining in Central America. A government without stability is very little better than complete anarchy.

Those republics should go together and unite their resources and their strength. In remote antiquity, we have reason to believe, Central America formed a great and influential empire, and there is no reason why these republics, united, should not again play an important role on the world's stage, when the new commercial highway is opened for traffic with Europe and Asia join hands across the Isthmus.

FOR RIVERS AND HARBOURS.

The National Rivers and Harbors Congress will convene at the New Willard, Washington, on December 1, 2 and 3, and it is thought to be of the utmost importance. It is the second session since the reorganization of the Congress, and will, we are told, be memorable from the fact that it will give official stamp to the fact that it

was brought into existence for the purpose of advocating a broad national policy with reference to inland waterways and harbor improvements, but committed to no special project.

Those interested in this gathering claim that representatives of all classes of trade and industries are now attracted toward this congress, and that opposition to the improvement of the inland waterways and harbors has disappeared. The country, they claim, has come to recognition of the fact that there is no possible hostility between the inland waterway and the railway, but that between the two there is nothing but healthy competition. That fact was given strong public recognition in the report of the special committee of the French Chamber of Deputies in 1905 in the statement that "Where transportation by water and by rail are both available, they complement each other, the one transporting the heavy materials, the low cost of which is an indispensable condition to the viability of industries which, in turn, almost the traffic of the railroads."

The development of transportation facilities is certainly the most important problem before any country with an expanding trade. European countries have found it necessary to spend large sums on rivers and harbors, in addition to railroad building. That there is need of a similar policy here, appears probable from the fact that the yearly traffic is increasing almost beyond the carrying capacity of the transportation companies.

The delegates to this congress, we understand, will be representative of states of cities, of commercial, industrial organizations and financial organizations, from associations devoted to river and to harbor improvement and from the official bodies of the United States government.

LIFE AND DEATH.

The problem of prolonging human life far beyond the usual limits has always been fascinating to a certain class of thinkers. A few have claimed to have solved it. Others have lived happy in the hope of finding the solution some day.

Only recently an English biologist asserted that there is no reason why man should not attain to the age of 500 years. He had an acid by which he thought this could be accomplished. Others have found in music a curative of all life. This was the assertion of a Boston lady some time ago. She regarded different kinds of music as remedies against various diseases.

The latest in this direction is the assertion that electricity will prolong life. Andrew McConnell, now a resident of Washington, D. C., makes this claim, and adds that he has proved it in his own person and upon his friends.

As explained by the Washington Herald, the theory of Mr. McConnell is that life is nothing more or less than the electrical forces inherent in the human organism; that the man or woman who understands these forces and knows how to preserve and augment them, can not only enjoy health, but can put off dissolution for many years. As the life forces begin to ebb, he says, one may, by pressing the button of his intelligence, replenish the supply, keeping his reserve battery in such condition that he will not be susceptible to the fatigue and physical breakdowns which usually accompany a too strenuous application to the duties of life as it is now lived.

The gentleman is quoted as follows:

"My tests have proven that all disease is curable. Medical science regards many conditions as incurable. This is because medicine has no way to increase the vital production. The four principles of medicine are: Antitoxins, to kill germs; purgatives, to take out accumulated waste poisons; sedatives, to allay intense pain, and stimulation, to draw upon the reserve forces and increase the action of the vital organs till one can overcome an acute or dangerous attack. This stimulation, like whipping the horse, does not produce more vital power, but draws upon the reserve forces for the immediate need. This, while necessary in acute disease, is an injury in all chronic disease, as it weakens after the stimulation."

Having arrived at this conclusion, he set about to discover the vital force, and finally he found it, he says, in electricity. He continues:

"I found that the body has every principle of the Voltaic battery, that every life produces electricity, that the muscular movement is from the contraction of electricity, that the brain and nerves are an electrical system, and innumerable indisputable ways I can show that the vital power in man, plants and animals is electricity. My theory is that human electricity may be described as a new corollary of the laws we have known a system of increasing the forces accepted into practical results. For ten years I was an invalid, though I knew all the principles involved, simply because I did not have them harnessed into a practical working basis. If I had had my present knowledge of how to correlate, I could have cured myself in ten days' time. It only requires a little education and training for one to get the control of his life forces sufficient to cure himself of lengthen his life."

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PIETY ON COINS.

Our reader will readily endorse the statement of a Boston minister, who says it is a waste of time to discuss the question whether it is right or wrong to eliminate the pious motto, "In God we trust" from our coinage. Of course, the words can be left out of the design, but that does not in any way affect the presence, or absence, of the Deity from the human affairs in which

money plays a part. Some people have complained about the omission of the name of the Deity from the Constitution. They do not reflect that His name is clearly written in that Document, as it is in the heavens above, or the earth below; in mountains and vales, in the ocean waves, in the sand on the beach, in the flowers, and in the pages of human history. It is visible everywhere. Man cannot eliminate it from anything, if not from his own soul, through acts of sin.

It was a pious thought that suggested the inscription of the name of God on our gold coins, but it is doubtful whether the object of it has been obtained. In past ages it was found necessary to guard against a too frequent repetition of the sacred name, lest profanity should result. One name of the Deity was never pronounced by the Hebrew reader of the Scriptures, but another was substituted wherever it occurred. The wisdom of this is easily understood by anyone who has any knowledge of human nature. And in analogy with this ancient custom, the emanation of the name of God from our gold coins may be accepted as an act of reverence for a sacred name. No one whose heart is right will put his trust in "gold." And if the heart is not right, a pious motto will not regenerate it.

French gold doesn't propose to take French leave.

In Washington, Oklahoma will be a forty-sixty-star performer.

Even the Kaiser is beginning to think that the King can do no wrong.

If you can't budge the currency, or course you can't move the crops.

The Panama bonds and certificates of indebtedness plan is an expedient, not a solution.

What the finances of the country need is a little more of the simple and a little less of the strenuous life.

"Money makes the score go," says the Detroit Free Press. Just the reverse. The score makes the money go.

The Panama plan may yet become as famous as the Panama conference. And confer much more good on mankind.

Secretary Taft's plans for his return have been changed so many times that people have ceased to guess on them.

Professor Gunkel of the University of Berlin says that the Bible poems are just old songs. All the same, there are none better.

The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street is bringing the gold out of her stocking and pouring it into Miss Columbia's lap in a way that commands admiration.

A man who would not lift a finger to secure a nomination for President of the United States can scarcely expect the people to lift his finger for him.

Count Okuma seems to be the great firebrand. Seemingly he seeks to start a great conflagration. If he does, Japan might be the greatest sufferer.

The middies have been forbidden to surrender their overcoats for the protection of their women friends. They wouldn't even be allowed to place the mantle of charity over their shoulders.

The professional and business Indians of Chicago have formed a White Hand society to wipe out the Black Hand society. There probably will be some red handed work before the matter is settled.

"What is most needed just now is that our citizens should realize how fundamentally sound business conditions in this country are, and how absurd it is to permit themselves to get into a panic and create a stringency by hoarding their savings instead of trusting perfectly sound bonds," says George D. Fisher, Manager.

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provided even if speculation and industrial development should have to be sacrificed for the sake of the crop. The crops and the production of the mines will alone provide the additional funds that are needed and bring gold from abroad, hence nothing should be permitted to interfere with the marketing of these products as speedily as the world will absorb them.

THE KAISER FOR PEACE.

Sacramento Bee.

An organization of New York newspaper men known as "The Fifers" gave a supper recently in honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of President Lincoln's advent in this city as a peace writer and a newspaperman. When the guest of the evening rose to speak theatrical effects of thunder and lightning were created, the room was darkened, and a spot light was kept turned on him so long as he was on the feet. What could have been more appropriate than that spot light? Lincoln was never known to turn the glace of publicity. He basked, as it were, in the sunshine of popular attention.

JUST FOR FUN.

Mamma—Garret, your conduct is just dreadful. Why do you act so naughty?

Garret (age 5)—Oh, I guess it's because I'm too little to know any better—Chicago News.

Not a Heretic.

"Do you believe in avianity?" "No, I don't; I'm a hardshell Baptist."—Baltimore American.

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