

this side of the Atlantic, there is now connection between New York and Vancouver; the projected roads aim to connect the latter place with Alaska, where the stretch of small islands that almost cross Bering's strait may be readily connected by bridges, to a point within about three miles of the Russian Asiatic coast. Then there is left a three mile ferry and a railway to build 1,500 miles to reach the Transiberian road, and the connection is made. That is, 3,500 miles of railroad building will furnish an international route through civilized nations between all the great cities of the world from London to New York, with only two short breaks—three miles in Bering sea and twenty-one miles between Calais and Dover. With such a route completed, the journey could be made in about a month, and the Atlantic sea voyage be avoided entirely.

Whether or not this accomplishment will be noted within the next decade or two, it is of the deepest interest to observe the possibility of progress in the line of rapid transit on the shores of the great Pacific ocean.

UTAH'S FRUIT BUSINESS.

The efforts of the Utah State board of horticulture, of which Thomas Judd of St. George is president, C. H. Blomsterberg of Provo vice president, and J. A. Wright of Ogden secretary, to bring into prominence the fruit business of the State, are worthy of the highest commendation, and ought to receive the active support of all fruit growers in the State. Recently the NEWS presented an article from the board of horticulture, on the subject of fruit raising, and now gives another on the preservation of fruit by drying. This latter was prepared by Mr. Judd, the president, who has made a special study of the subject in California the past two years, besides having had a long experience previously.

The fruit business in this State should be one of its leading industries, since conditions here are typical for attaining the highest success. There is a vast amount of fruit raised, of a most excellent quality, and wasted. The horticulturists of Utah have become almost a byword among their neighbors for carelessness in gathering and marketing their fruit crops. Whether this is altogether deserved, the NEWS does not pretend to say; but that there is some foundation for it is shown in the preference given in the markets to imported fruits, when the home fruit is, without question, of the choicest flavor and general good quality. Whether of fruit in a fresh or a dried state, a large proportion of fruit growers here are behind times in making the business profitable with them, in comparison with what they ought to do.

It is stated by the board of horticulture that for dried fruits alone, more than a hundred thousand dollars goes out of the State annually which could be kept at home by a proper use of the crop now raised. In support of this statement it may be cited that of four prominent importers, two in this city and two in Ogden, those in the

latter bring in from \$25,000 to \$35,000 worth of dried fruit annually, while the two importers referred to in Salt Lake exceed that sum by \$10,000 or more. Yet all this money could be saved to Utah labor if the orchardists were judicious in their operations.

It can be readily seen that the board of horticulture has a big field to work in, although its financial power is not large. The State appropriated \$300 for its expenses—a sum that will not go far in such a great task. But the board members are putting forth their efforts without charge, for the good of the people of the State, and surely these ought to profit by the valuable practical suggestions made by the board in its bulletins, which are furnished free on application to either of the three officers whose address is here given.

AN INDIAN ON INDIANS.

For an Indian to discuss the future of the red man in one of the leading magazines of the civilized world was not thought of a few years ago, but today it is done by Simon Pokagon, in the Forum for August. And he does so in an intelligent and forceful manner. He points out that when white men first came to America, the Indian was to them kind and confiding; but instead of being shaped into a noble manhood by the civilized race, the aborigine was often hacked to pieces and destroyed. Mr. Pokagon goes on to say:

It is useless to deny the charge that at times we have been goaded to vindictive and cruel acts. Some of my own tribe, however, were soldiers in the Northern army during the Civil War. Some of them were taken, and held prisoners in the rebel prisons; and the cruelty which, according to the tales they tell, was witnessed there was never outdone in border warfare with the scalping-knife and tomahawk. And yet I believe that, had the Northern people been placed in the South under like circumstances, their prisoners of war would have been treated with similar cruelty. It was the result of a desperate effort to save an expiring cause. I believe there is no reasonable person, well grounded in United States history, who will not admit that there were ten times as many who perished miserably in Southern prisons as have been killed by our people since the discovery of America. I recall these facts not to censure, but to show that cruelty and revenge are the offspring of war, not of race, and that nature has placed no impassable gulf between us and civilization.

The point here made by the Indian cannot be gainsaid; the savage red man has been no more cruel and barbarous than his savage white brother, when goaded by adverse conditions. The fact that civilized white men come so near the uncivilized Indian in his fierceness shows that the accusation of cruel bloodthirstiness against the aborigine is not a bar to the latter being raised to a high standard of civilization, through methods that will reach his better nature and lead the nobler faculties to victory over the baser passions. But the victory in not to be attained by encouraging idleness on the part of the Indian and his children, as is being done in a part of the government

policy, and as taken exception to by the Forum writer, who says:

While I most heartily endorse the present policy of the government in dealing with our people, I must admit—to be true to my own convictions—that I am worried over the ration system, under which so many of our people are being fed on the reservations. I greatly fear it may eventually vagabondize many of them beyond redemption. It permits the gathering of lazy, immoral white men of the worst stamp, who spend their time in idleness and in corrupting Indian morality.

Thus the vagabondism to be feared is that which comes from the association and influence of the lower classes of white men. The future of the Indian, in its safety and progress, lies in causing him to realize the necessity of his being independently moral and self-reliant—that his destiny is above the white man's support as a pauper or his use as a cuspidor.

THE CORRESPONDENT who takes half a dozen pages of manuscript to say what should have been told in a dozen lines, should realize that it is his own fault if his letter goes to the waste basket because the editor has not time to boil it down or re-write it so that its publication would leave room for something else in the paper.

NOW THAT Nikola Tesla has declared that he can talk to himself around the world in the electric currents, and can telegraph to any part of this planet with ut the aid of wires, it is interesting to know that the Electrical World says an inventor of that kind is like a gossip—more plague than profit.

THUS FAR, Germany, Turkey, Austria, Greece, Argentine Republic, Japan, China, Italy, Switzerland and Great Britain have entered protests against the new tariff bill because it will work hardships to industries in those countries that find a market in the United States.

THE LONDON St. James Gazette says it is a "dangerous delusion" for the American political mind to believe that "John Bull always knuckles down when bullied and threatened." From the evidence which the Gazette gives of the knocking down operations, the delusion does not appear to be on this side of the water.

THE TEXAS preacher who ran off with a brother preacher's daughter found that it was not a paying business, as the irate father followed and killed him. The father is now in jail, but will likely get free, while the foolish girl has wrecked her life by the escapade.

LARGE QUANTITIES of potatoes are being shipped from Bountiful, Davis county, where twenty-four cents a bushel is paid on delivery at the cars, for loading.

THE MIDSUMMER number of that valuable journal, Public Opinion, comes out with a beautiful illustrated title page.