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PUBLIC EXPENDITURES.

The utmost vigilance should be exercised by the Legislature in the examination of demands upon the public treasury. No appropriation should be made out of the ordinary channels without the strictest scrutiny as to the purpose and the necessity of the proposed expenditure. It is also easy to grant the demand without diligent inquiry concerning it. Some trouble is required to get at the bottom of schemes and demands for large appropriations, and the guardians of the public funds should be as careful and economical in spending them as if they were their own.

We agree to a large extent with the objections raised against meeting deficits, which are becoming quite common in States and municipalities, through the carelessness, or extravagance, or lack of foresight on the part of those who appropriate or handle money for public purposes. But there are exceptions to every rule, and we regard as one of them the excess that has occurred in the expenditures of the St. Louis Exposition Commission. The reason for it has been fully and explained.

No provision was made by the Legislature for the educational feature of the Utah display. Yet it became highly desirable, if not essential to the success of the effort of this State to place itself properly before the public. The gentlemen who, with a high public spirit and faith in the justice of the legislative department of the State, advanced the money required for that purpose, had no personal object in view. They made nothing by the loan, but they relied upon the good sense and confidence of the prospective Assembly to reimburse them for their outlay. Their confidence should not be blasted. We believe they will not be allowed to lose a dollar, because of their trust.

It is true that the Commission had no legal right to borrow the money. Technically it may be said that they exceeded their power. But taking all the circumstances into consideration, the generous public will not blame them, and but few citizens will interpose any objection to the payment of the money that was advanced. Should that be denied, the loss would fall upon those who were public-spirited enough to risk recovering the amounts advanced. No matter how well grounded may be the arguments against deficits in general, we think that in this case the sum required to reimburse the creditors should and will be appropriated.

The proposed appropriation for the Lewis and Clark Exposition at Portland appears to us reasonable and desirable. Utah ought to be represented there respectfully and in a manner of which her people will not be ashamed. There was a little friction occasioned in consequence of some ill-natured, ill-advised and scurrilous remarks at the late Mining Congress held in Portland, which reflected unfavorably upon Utah. They were looked upon by some people as an expression of the sentiments of the people of that city, and were strongly resented, as they should have been. But inquiry establishes the fact that the adventurer who uttered them was not supported by the good people of Oregon, nor even by the ladies who were reported as having approved of them and of him, because of flowers presented to him in common with other speakers at the Congress.

Portland is famous for its splendid roses, which are as common there as sage-brush is on the uncultivated prairies. They are as profuse as they are large and beautiful, and their presentation on the occasion referred to was quite general, and not intended to have the significance applied to it by some sensitive persons. There should, therefore, be no feeling of resentment on that account connected with the proposition for the necessary funds to make Utah's display at Portland one of which this State can be proud.

The Irrigation Congress will be held this year at Portland, and will attract a large number of influential persons from different parts of the country. Utah should therefore be properly represented, not only by her delegates who will attend that Congress, but by an exhibition of her products and industries in a shape and in quantity that will command the attention and admiration of the visitors to the fair. There should be no lavish expenditure for this purpose, but the sum now proposed appears to be absolutely necessary.

to make the effort of this State to be properly represented successful. Keep an eye closely on all the outlays that are demanded in different directions, but remember that parsimony is not economy, and that whatever is attempted should be done thoroughly and well.

WATER-USERS TAKE NOTICE!

We call attention, once more, to the necessity that faces the water-users of Central and Northern Utah to get together and make the needful arrangements to secure a fair portion of the national funds, appropriated for the reclamation of the arid and semi-arid regions of the country. Much preliminary work has been done, and the government officials are now waiting for the necessary action of the water-users who are to be benefited by the provisions of the reclamation act, so that the projects that have been proposed may be proceeded with.

It seems very difficult to bring this important matter closely home to the agriculturists and horticulturists in this State. Diligent efforts have been put forth by the Utah reclamation commission to make this matter clear to the understanding of the people, and to urge them to the required action on their part. But the movement still lags, and our farmers and tillers of the soil should lose no further time in perfecting their organizations, so that the contemplated work may be proceeded with.

Chief Engineer Newell and the other government officials associated with this work are fully in accord with the commission in this State, and also entirely approve of the articles of incorporation for the Utah and Idaho Water-users' Association, and are desirous that all who are interested in the plans that have been prepared to secure an ample supply of water for this region, shall take action as rapidly as possible. We again urge upon our friends in Central and Northern Utah and Southern Idaho, to go ahead with their organization and place themselves in a position to receive the government aid which is desired, and the co-operation of those officials who are appointed to attend to the surveying, engineering and other work associated with this great enterprise.

In view of the vast benefits which are expected to result from this project, it is a matter of great surprise to us, and to lookers on generally, that our people do not manifest greater interest in, and are not eagerly coming forward to unite in the association that is to be incorporated when it has been fully and properly organized. Hurry up, friends, and don't let the time nor the water run to waste!

DIVORCES INCREASING.

Never before has public attention in this country been called to the divorce evil, as forcibly as at the present time. Statistical figures gathered by Carroll D. Wright and covering the period between 1867 and 1888 are being republished and commented upon. By those statistics it appears that the number of divorces granted in the United States in 1887 was 9,937; in 1888 it rose to 25,535. Estimates based on what are supposed to be reliable data, place the present number of divorces at 50,000 annually. It is estimated that there in this country now is one divorce to every fifteen marriages.

Figures are given for some of the states. Michigan, for instance, one of whose representatives in the United States Senate, Mr. Burrows, has recently evinced commendable solicitude for the moral status of New Mexico, has had a rise in its divorce list of from 445 cases in 1887, to 2,418 in 1890. That is a large percentage of a population less than two million and a half, including children. Indiana is still worse off. That state is said to have granted 1,996 divorces in 1887, 1,855 in 1888, and 4,892, or one to every 5.7 marriages, in 1890. Ohio's divorce roll is said to have risen from 901 in 1887 to 3,217 in 1890. All of which proves that the social evils of our time are, by no means, confined to New Mexico.

It is sometimes said that it is no reply to adverse criticism, to call attention to the failings of the critic. But it very often is the very kind of retort called for. When, for instance, Mrs. Jellyby, of Bleak House fame, spends all the money she can get hold of, to save the children of Borrioboola Gha, while her own offspring are neglected and running about hungry and naked, she invites just criticism; and if she reproaches her neighbors for lack of enthusiasm for the welfare of the pagans, the proper reply is: "Look to your own ragged children first." In other words, remove the beam from your own eye; then try if you can help your brother with his mote. But some reformers are so peculiarly constituted that they feel the awful weight of the responsibility for everybody except themselves and their immediate surroundings.

Many are anxiously looking for a remedy against the divorce evil, and they hope to accomplish much by legislation. What is needed first, however, is public sentiment, as a solid basis for laws and statutes. Without such sentiment, legislation, we fear, will be ineffective. We notice that a great spiritual revival is expected to take place in this country just now. That should be a remedy for many social evils. If it is genuine, it will lessen divorces, as well as drunkenness, gambling, and all kinds of crime. By results, such movements must be judged.

ZANGWILL AND ZIONISM.

Mr. Israel Zangwill, who is in Boston in the interest of some dramatic effort, has been interviewed on the Zionist question. What he has to say on that subject is of interest, because he is regarded as the real leader of the movement, since the death of Dr. Herzl.

The reason is that some of the friends of the movement will not consent to colonization in Africa, but will urge that the colony must be in Palestine or nowhere. This faction, it seems, has already charged the other faction, which considers the African site, as being traitors and accomplices of some dark project, emanating from Colonial Secretary Chamberlain. The faction which Mr. Zangwill favors will urge the use of the land in East Africa for a policy of opportunism, a place where the experiment can be tried, and where the Jews can demonstrate whether they are capable of organizing themselves again into a responsible government. These people believe that, with this site as a basis, it may be possible at some future time to gain a foothold in Palestine.

Mr. Zangwill's faction is undoubtedly correct. If Palestine were ready today for the Jews they would not be prepared to assume the responsibilities of an independent nation in the midst of enemies, and in a locality where the interests of all the world meet and clash. They need schooling in self-government, such as they can obtain only in a free country, and when they are prepared for Palestine, the Land of Promise will be theirs. It may, however, be well for the faction that believes only in Palestine, to keep at work. For the ultimate aim of Zionism cannot be East Africa, and as long as the agitation for Palestine is kept up, the real object of the movement will not be forgotten.

Fresh hen's eggs are almost as scarce as hen's teeth.

Of her reprieve Kate Edwards might well say, "This is so sudden!"

Governor Cutler is leading the strenuous life these days. Success to him.

How can one look on the bright side of life with such a pall of smoke hanging over the city?

That which Mr. Niedringhaus greatly feared has come upon him. His supporters are breaking away.

The czar has not summoned the Zemski Sobor yet. On second Sobor thought he decided to wait awhile.

Partisan boards are not desirable, but with all boards, partisan or non-partisan, the chief thing is the personnel.

Bounty frauds, land board irregularities, exposition commission deficits et id genus. What's the matter with Utah?

Those who are carping because the Panama canal is not making more rapid progress, should not forget that large bodies move slowly.

The President and the Senate might invoke the services of The Hague tribunal to compose their differences over the treaty making power.

New York is rigidly enforcing its anti-spitting ordinance, fining all who violate it. Why cannot Salt Lake's ordinance on the same subject be enforced?

The exchange of epithets between Russian naval and military officers shows that they can, when occasion requires, swear worse than the army in Flanders.

M. Souvrin, editor of the Novoye Vremya, pokes fun at American diplomacy. If not careful he will get so gay that he will yet be poking fun at Japanese military ability.

A New York woman alienated the love of a septuagenarian and his wife was awarded damages in the sum of fifty thousand dollars. That's a steep price for warmed over affections.

"There is a clamor that Senator T. C. Platt be expelled from the Senate because he is president of an express company, not because he is a Mormon," says the Boston Transcript. But the clamor is no sillier in the one case than in the other.

Richard Pearson Hobson is sending to the newspapers of this country a couple of pamphlets, "Why America Should Hold Naval Supremacy," and "Paramount Importance of Immediate Adoption of Progressive Naval Program," with a circular asking their aid in furthering the appropriation of at least \$50,000,000 for new ships at the present session of Congress. Let's the Captain working too strenuously and over time on his pet naval scheme?

THE STATEHOOD DEBATE.

New York World.
The Senate has passed the statehood bill so amended so as to admit Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one State and New Mexico as another, leaving Arizona as a Territorial single headlessness. A conference committee is now necessary. The population of the new Oklahoma, should the bill become law, would pass that of Maine or Washington and nearly equal Connecticut's. It is an intelligent and thriving community, whose Indian citizens are in a very considerable minority. New Mexico as a State would rank with Delaware and Idaho in population, but below them in enterprise, average of education and immediate promise. The conference committee might well admit Oklahoma and then draw the line. It is perhaps quite as likely to do nothing this session.

Springfield Republican.
But quite as much can be said for Arizona as New Mexico, even though its population is smaller. That smaller population is more American in character or antecedents and more literate, and the one territory is no more of a mining camp apparently than the other, while both are growing in population at about the same slow pace. The authors of the plan to unite the two for statehood evidently considered the case of either too weak to stand alone; but now that they have been separated, and one is accepted, there seems to be no good reason why the other should be rejected. If one is to come in, let the other come also, and make a general clanking up of the territorial business.

Kansas City Star.

In his address on statehood before the Senate, Mr. Long very properly emphasized the un-American conditions that are developing in Indian Territory, where the people have no voice in their own government. As the

Kansas senator pointed out, even Porto Rico is allowed a delegate in Congress, while none is permitted to represent this great inland territory. The proposed statehood provisions would do away with this injustice and would foster the industrial development of both Indian Territory and Oklahoma. The size of their population removes the chief objection that has always been brought to the admission of western states.

San Francisco Chronicle.

It is evident that the Senate is totally dominated by eastern influences. The eastern states are fearful of the growth of the political power of the west, which is the natural result of its extraordinary industrial and commercial development. The admission of Arizona to statehood, to which the territory is rightfully entitled, has consequently been deferred until some future session of Congress. It will doubtless be a disappointment to the people of the territory that their petition for statehood should have been denied at the present session. But Arizona is really better off than it would have been had it been included in the bill which would have caused it to be united with New Mexico.

Boston Transcript.

The Senate has finally reached a definite decision with reference to the statehood bill, and one that marks a departure from plans previously proposed. The admission of Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one state will make a large addition to the galaxy to start with, their combined population being estimated at about a million. It is about time that the objections to the admission of New Mexico were overruled if for no other reason than the redemption of ancient pledges made to her. The new scheme leaves Arizona outside the brackets and puts her in the territorial class by herself, there being none to keep her company unless we mention Alaska which before many years will probably be knocking at the doors. Arizona has an area almost as large as that of Mexico. Had the two been joined in the bonds of statehood they would have made a new political division almost as large as Texas.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Washington's Birthday number of the American Boy is replete with matter of historical interest. Its contents include a full page, illustrated article, "How Artists Pictured Washington," "Francis Hampton, the proud little lad of Valley Forge," "A Nation's Honor at the Pen's Point," "A Washington's Birthday Party," "The Story of Lincoln's Boyhood," "Washington and the Flag." The cover represents Washington at prayer in the Valley Forge days. The stories this month, in addition to those named, are further chapters of Kirk Munroe's "For the Mako," further chapters of "My Four Years at West Point," the first of a new series of bear stories entitled "Capturing a Thief," the story of a Italian entitled "Hut Happened to Pietro," "A Thousand Miles in a Small Boat," "A Piratical Misadventure," "The Young Midshipman's Adventure," "Down Brownlow Hill," "Grog" and "Tatters Hell's Editor." There are also several leading articles of a miscellaneous nature and other features. The Sprague Publishing Co., Detroit, Mich.

The February number of the National Geographic Magazine has, as supplement, a chart of the world on Mercator's Projection, 25 by 45 inches. "Russia" is the subject of a paper by Hon. Charles Emory Smith, formerly minister to Russia. George W. Littlehales writes about "Marine Hydrographic Surveys of the Coasts of the World," further chapters of "The Canals of China" are described by U. S. Consul George E. Anderson. There are a number of other articles on timely topics, including "Observations on the Russo-Japanese War," by Dr. Louis Livingstone Seaman, and altogether the number is one of more than usual interest. Hubbard Memorial Hall, Washington, D. C.

Medical Talk for February has some very good articles. Among these are, "How to Get Well," "Punishment of Children," "The Mania for Traveling," and "Healthfulness of Letting Go."—Columbus, O.

The list of contents of Wayside Tales for February is as follows: "An Ending and a Beginning," Bessie Bernhart; "Women as Employers," Corinne S. Brown; "Hypnotism and Crime," Walter H. Corwell; "The Right of Choice," Anna Beck Allen; "The Russian Situation," Stepan Ivanovitch Mirsky; "The Closed Shop," Joseph E. Lee and "The City's Prophecy," Dora Wiley.—85 Rush St., Chicago, Ill.

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