

pound of silver even today marks the English coinage and virtually gives the measure to gold in English monetary language.

GOD IN THE CONSTITUTION.

One of the prominent features of the proposed Hawaiian constitution is the formal acknowledgment of God as the Supreme Ruler of the nation. The fact may be worth while noting, because an effort to incorporate a similar clause in the Constitution of the United States was, only a few months ago, gently killed by the Congressional committee to which the proposition had been referred.

The idea of regarding the Almighty as the highest ruler of the nations is undoubtedly theoretically correct and it expresses a fact which ultimately will be consummated, no matter what human rulers may do or neglect to do. Still, to assume that the human family has already arrived at a point where the various branches of government rest in His hands and the nations obey His inspirations is to assume too much. The view is contradicted by facts. Man was by the Creator given a free agency. To some extent He relinquished the government of the earth to His children, to be used in conformity to His will as expressed from time to time. It cannot successfully be denied that the privilege thus granted has, during the ages past, been woefully abused, and as long as this condition remains, the mere "recognition" of the Creator in a legal document is out of place. It is worse than that. It is hypocrisy. As long as the Spirit of the Almighty is not allowed to animate the laws and their execution as well as all the manipulations that are thought necessary to regulate the affairs of a nation, the mere framing of a sentence concerning God in the constitution is a falsehood.

The evil influences of this idea are plainly visible on the pages of history. It led to the assumption by the popes—who claimed to be the viceregents of God—of all power, both ecclesiastical and political, until crowns were given away as rewards for personal favors, kings were humiliated and nations trembled for the word of one man. It led to bloodshed in the most cruel and bitter wars the world ever saw. When the revolt came and man rose against the tyranny, the fatal falsehood, however, was still retained and the ecclesiastical power conferred upon kings and emperors, who assumed to rule in the name of God, though not in any way obedient to His laws. Nations were still hurled against nations in bloody combat, each one praying to God for victory, while the monarchical heads of established churches led their armies on the battlefields. Is God responsible for all such things, and shall He be held accountable for the misrule under which many nations have been made the breeding grounds of anarchy, of crimes and revolutions? Holy writ has it that the rule of God on earth will be characterized by peace, prosperity, righteousness.

When the Constitution of the United States was framed, the fact was recognized that purely religious matters were not the subject of legislation. It

was clearly seen that the evil of ecclesiastical establishments such as existed in Europe had to be avoided and therefore they wisely left out references to God as the nation's ruler. The idea is a correct one, for it means that each individual is left free to make his religious arrangements, and that citizenship in the state is not affected by religious views. It means that when God rules the hearts of His children the state will necessarily grow in accordance with His purposes, and also that the mere formal "recognition" is not worth the ink with which it is printed. The young republic in the western sea might, we think, profitably have copied the example of the United States and omitted from its constitution a phrase which means nothing if not mischief.

MORE OF FRUIT.

Senator Shoup's speech on the fruit interests of Idaho, made in the Senate, contains a suggestion that should cause reflection among the horticulturists of Utah. His talk was on the tariff bill, aside from the direct issues of which he cited the great strides made in recent years by Idaho in the fruit industry, particularly in the raising of prunes. He pointed out that Idahoans had gone into the business in earnest, and by careful attention were making of fruit cultivation a marked success. The purpose of Mr. Shoup's speech was to make a point for the commercial success of the industry in his state. The item that is of interest to Utah, however, is the fact that the Idaho fruit growers are raising, by intelligent and earnest effort, a desirable product both as to quality and quantity, and are not only in the condition of supplying their local demand, but of placing their fruits in the various markets of the country in competition with that produced elsewhere.

Fruit cultivation in the valleys to the north of us has been of very recent date, so far as any extensive efforts are concerned, but already it covers a broad field. In the two counties of Ada and Canyon, for instance, returns published by the Producers' association show the increase in acreage of orchards made during the past seven years. Of apples there have been set out in that time 694.5 acres in new orchards; peaches (for which Idaho generally is too cold) 86 acres; cherries 32.1 acres; pears 120.2 acres; and prunes 2,388.3 acres—a total orchard acreage of 3,321.1 acres. Of this 481.6 acres was planted in 1887 and 1,411 acres in 1893, in two counties. These figures are proof of Senator Shoup's assertion regarding the earnestness of those engaged in the business.

In Utah the advantages for fruit raising are vastly greater than in Idaho, yet in proportion to our opportunities the figures given show that we are being outstripped by our less favored neighbor, and with the way things have been it would be no surprise to see at an early date Idaho fruits supplying part of the local demand, when in fact Utah should not only have an all-sufficient amount for home consumption but should receive hundreds of thousands of dollars annually for exportations. It is commendable work that is

being done by Idaho, and surely there are none who do not wish her enterprising horticulturists unbounded success; the example should spur Utah to greater activity and a more thorough appreciation of her natural advantages.

The fruit interests in this nation are steadily increasing; and statistics show that as an article of food fruit is gaining ground at the expense of meat. The tendency is a healthy one, not only so far as the physical structure of the people is concerned, but for the financial outlook in the West, which is destined to be the great fruit producing section of the country. Enormous strides have been made in horticulture the past twenty years, largely owing to western development. In 1873, for instance, almost the whole orange supply of the country was from foreign nations. Florida enterprise cut seriously into the Mediterranean trade in this article; lately California came to the front, and last year sold two and a half million boxes of oranges in the eastern markets. Now less than one-twentieth of this kind of fruit consumed in the United States is brought from foreign shores. The same general progress has been made in other fruits. Utah should do her share of production and secure a fair proportion of the trade. Already the present season shows an improvement in the local fruit market over previous years, probably through the business depression leading people to pay closer attention to sources of revenue. Yet there is good opportunity in the industry named for the investment of individual capital, or for a well conducted system of co-operative fruit farms. Earnest work here would surely be quite as prolific of satisfactory reward as is the earnest work in Idaho, referred to by Senator Shoup.

PREMIER ROSEBERY'S filly won the Derby handsomely at Epsom Downs yesterday, and thereby vindicated the confident hopes of his owner and his backers. —*Boston Herald.*

The Athens of America may be all right in the classics, advanced mathematics, and art, music, culture and baseball; and yet how hideously deficient in horse-gender! Ladas, Lord Rosebery's Derby winner, is not a filly at all; but if he was, he would not be a *he*.

RECENT STATISTICS from the colleges furnish the gratifying information that of the 200 members of the graduating class at Yale no less than fifty have worked their way through the entire course and paid all their expenses. It is safe to say that at least 50 Yalensians know what an education is worth and will know how to appreciate it.

THE MIDWINTER Fair at San Francisco is to close with a big display on July Fourth. It had been the intention to keep the exhibition going till September 30, but this has been found to be impracticable.

CREAM-COLORED milk is the latest fashion in London. It is not charged that the cows have anything to do with it.

THE MONTH of red roses is this time a month of blue noses.