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THE CONGRESS AND THE CHAIR

The Deseret News congratulates U. S. Senator W. A. Clark on his recovery from the operation which he has undergone in New York, and hopes to learn of his complete restoration to health and strength. We regard the Senator as one of the great practical men of the times, and as a prominent builder and developer of the vast region on the western slope of the Rocky Mountains. His numerous interests are conducted with a skill and energy born of real genius. He is a generous employer of labor, and the wealth that he accumulates is invested in enterprises that advance the interests of the country and contribute to its wealth and greatness. He is no narrow-minded plutocrat, but a gentleman of broad mind and human sympathy, and his works praise him. We hope that he will live very many years as a benefactor to mankind and to enjoy the fruits of his active and profitable life.

One of the latest exhibitions of Senator Clark's generosity is his donation of \$1,000 to aid the Ogden Tabernacle choir in paying a visit to the Portland Exposition during this year's session of the Irrigation Congress. The Senator was for some time President of the Congress, and in that capacity proved his qualifications for standing at the head of an organization that exercises a wide influence and occupies an extended sphere of usefulness. As a presiding officer and public speaker during two sessions of that body, he won great distinction and made a host of friends, chiefly men of solid character and high repute. He was always on the right side of important questions that came before the Congress, his decisions were marked with clearness of judgment, and his speeches were always to the point.

It was during the Irrigation Congress held at Ogden two years ago that the Irrigation Ode, the words of which were written by Mrs. Colonel McClurg and the music composed by Prof. John J. McClellan, was rendered by the choir at that place, led by Prof. Joseph B. Lantyne. It made a great hit and was remembered by everybody who attended, as a distinctive feature of that important gathering. Hon. Fred Kiesel, one of the executive board of the Congress, was anxious that this ode should be repeated at the World's Fair in Portland, and he has been one of the prime movers in working up the visit of that choir to the Lewis and Clark exposition. The expense attending the transportation and entertainment of the two hundred members of that choir will necessarily be great, but it looks now as though the purpose will be achieved, and that Utah day at the Fair will be made memorable by the singing of the Ogden choir.

It is quite natural that people at a distance who are not acquainted with the fact that Utah has several tabernacles belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and a host of good singers and musicians, should fall into the error of announcing that the justly celebrated Tabernacle Choir of this city is the organization that is to appear at the World's Fair in Portland. We do not believe, however, that there has been any design in making the mistake which has appeared in telegraphic dispatches and newspaper notices on this matter. The fame of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in Salt Lake has gone abroad to the ends of the earth, and therefore, when it was announced that the "Mormon" Tabernacle Choir of Ogden was to take this trip, it is not surprising that the word Ogden passed unnoticed, and that the idea prevailed that the great Tabernacle Choir of this city would be heard at Portland.

The Irrigation Congress, which is to be held this year at Portland from Aug. 21 to 24, will occur during the same week on which Utah will have her state day at the Fair. There should be a full delegation from this State and city and the different organizations which are authorized to send representatives to that body. Notwithstanding the fact that the Congress of the United States has taken favorable action upon one of the great measures that were originally favored by the Congress, and that the Reclamation Act is in full force, the work of the Congress is by no means concluded.

There are subjects of the utmost importance to the arid and semi-arid regions of the country to be discussed, and measures to be formulated for the redemption of vast, vacant areas that may yet be brought under cultivation and made suitable for homes, where hosts of people may gather and build up towns and cities and cultivate the soil and transform the wilderness into smiling fields and gardens. The conservation, distribution and mechanical

appliance of water still form a topic of great interest and value, and the experiences of practical people should be presented and published for general information and benefit. Gatherings like those of the Irrigation Congress are necessary for the expression of such views and experiments, and a comparison of methods that have been brought into use cannot fail to be profitable to agriculture and the interests immediately associated therewith. The Irrigation Congress, therefore, should be maintained and perpetuated as long as it has a sphere of usefulness in these directions.

We hope and expect that the Congress of 1905 will be as well attended by the bright, intelligent, practical and congenial minds of the great West, and prove as pleasurable and profitable as have the gatherings in past years. Portland is a splendid place for the Congress, and the Exposition there this year is well worthy of a visit from people throughout the country, and we confidently expect that great good will grow out of it, not only to the State of Oregon, the eastern part of which has much irrigable land, but to all the States and Territories where irrigation is essential to the growth and progress of the people.

THE RACE NORTH.

Commander Peary, having obtained all the means needed for another Arctic expedition, has left New York for the north, with the best fitted-out vessel ever sent on that perilous journey. If experience and equipment, coupled with tenacity of purpose, count in this enterprise, Peary should succeed, for he has all these in abundance.

The Italian explorer, the Duke of Abruzzi, who holds the Arctic record, came within 24 miles of the pole in 1899, and Peary himself came not very far from an equally high latitude in 1902. This time, he feels almost certain, he will reach the goal, and the best wishes of the American people go with him.

There are now, we are reminded, two expeditions in the Arctic regions. One, equipped by William Ziegler, is in search of the North Pole, while the other is in search of the magnetic pole. The Duke of Orleans also commences an Arctic voyage this summer. He goes over Franz Josef Land, while Peary continues to favor the route over Greenland. Again there is a race for the North Pole.

AS JAPS VIEW IT.

Pervent appeals are being made by folks interested in the "evangelization" of Asia, for funds with which to "save" the Japanese. In view of that fact, the question may well be asked, what great spiritual blessings western missionaries really have to impart to the Japanese "pagans"? Are these, morally or intellectually, below the communities represented by the emissaries?

As an illustration the following story from Port Arthur may be retold. After the capitulation of that stronghold, seven Japanese soldiers rescued four Russian nurses from drowning. The Russian Red Cross chief then addressed a letter of thanks to General Ito, commander of the fortress, and inclosed 100 rubles for each of the rescuers. The money was immediately returned with thanks by the general with a letter saying that, though he had pressed the gift upon the men, they had declined it.

The general went on to explain that the soldiers had not been animated by any expectation of reward when they saved the lives, but had merely obeyed the instinct of not failing to succor others in mortal danger. It was simply their duty. "Were they," he continued, "to accept any reward, it would be repellant in their feelings. To those unacquainted with bushido this may be difficult to understand. I would beg of you, sir, that being assured they appreciate your kind intention, you would accede to their desire and leave their hearts in peace."

The soldiers, obeying their code of ethics, according to which they would have felt condemned in their own conscience, had they accepted a money reward for doing their duty, declined the rubles, and even the general was honest enough not to keep the gift his soldiers had refused? If we remember that love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and that this love nearly predominates in the western world, we feel justified in asking the question: "What particular excellence have the sectarian emissaries to offer the Japanese? We hope the gospel of Mammon will never be accepted by Japan, as it has been elsewhere. If they remain true to the ethics of their "bushido," they will be in a position to preach to other nations. And it may be well to remember that with the Almighty there is no respect of persons, but every one, among all nations, who does what is right, is pleasing and acceptable to Him.

A PEACE SUGGESTION.

Justice of the United States Supreme Court David J. Brewer, offers a suggestion for the perpetuation of peace among nations. It is this, that a compact be entered into between all the powers, that they will break off all intercourse with any country that declares war instead of submitting to arbitration. He is quoted as follows:

"May they not agree to make the offending nation an international outlaw, dealing between whom and other nations, and between whose people and the citizens of other nations shall wholly cease? Such separation and outlawry would be the severest punishment and compulsion in the strictest sense of the term. It would almost certainly plunge the offending nation into financial ruin."

Notwithstanding the fact that Justice Brewer is a recognized high authority on legal matters, the suggestion must be viewed as impractical. No country is going to break off its commercial relations with a neighbor, though it happens to be at war with another neighbor. The demand for peace has not yet become so strong as to disregard the material interests represented by international commerce. On the contrary, war often gives opportunities of extending trade operations, and it is not at all unusual for the business men

of a neutral country to supply both belligerents with food, clothing, and supplies of various kinds, including ammunition, even in violation of the accepted laws of neutrality. Nations may enter into compacts, but these will not be observed to the detriment of trade, as long as international relations are not regulated by a higher morality than that which at present forms the standard.

In order to secure permanent peace, public opinion must be remolded. In the prevailing popular sentiment can be found the most formidable obstacles to a rational treatment of international troubles. When these are removed, laws and agreements can be made to good purpose. But, as long as men are trained to fight with one another, to fight for existence, for honor, to fight for wealth, and for almost everything, international arbitration has very little chance of becoming anything more substantial than a beautiful dream, except in cases over which popular fury cannot be stirred up to the point of war excitement.

FOR GOOD ROADS.

Mr. W. P. Brownlow, member of Congress from Tennessee, urges the adoption of the so-called Brownlow-Lattimer bill for government-built good roads in this country. And he does so in the interest of the farmers. He argues that about half of the year the roads are in such condition as to be practically unfit for the transportation of heavy loads, and that happens during the part of the year when the farmers have plenty of time to haul their products. The consequence is that they must leave the farm in summer or early fall—the only time when the roads are passable—to sell their products, and then always on a congested market. The good-roads season for the American farmer is the very season when his whole time and attention should be given to his farm operations; it is the crop season. It has been calculated by the Department of Agriculture that every time the sun sets the bad roads of the United States cost the American farmers \$1,500,000. In view of the facts, the agitation for good roads should be made general and pronounced. It would be well for the people to get together and send petitions to their representatives in Congress. Such an agitation would be much more sensible than the kind engaged in by cranks and knaves, which has no other object than personal gain. Let the country be covered by a net of good roads. The construction will furnish employment to millions, and when they are built, they will be the means of increasing the national wealth at a rate not even dreamed of, now. Let the agitation for good roads go on, and let there be no graft in the work, either.

Happy the summer girl with the marble heart.

With a "cool thousand" it is not difficult to keep cool.

What a useless life Secretary Taft is leading in the Pacific.

Governor Higgins wants to make insurance doubly sure.

Between "tainted" money and miscreant money, what is a man to do?

Those eastern heat waves usually break on the crest of the Rocky mountains.

Not content with killing people, the chauffeurs have gone to smashing the record.

Senator Depew is receiving more attention these days than Mr. Rockefeller is.

The paving of South Temple street goes on apace, just now the pace that kills.

The money that the publishers of "Fads and Fancies" got out of "America's Smart Set," was "smart" money.

If in the various investigations that are going on in the country no guilty man is allowed to escape, the penitentiaries will have to be enlarged.

"Secretary Wilson preserves a discreet silence," says the Cleveland Plain Dealer. So the department of agriculture has taken up the preserving industry, has it?

"Which is the greater faculty—our human imagination or reason?" asks a newspaper philosopher. The college faculty is greater than either, for it contains both.

Baron Komura's policy regarding the giving out of interviews is quite different from that of M. Witte. He evidently believes that speech is silver and that silence is golden.

The Japanese army keeps advancing as though there were no talk of peace. But the Russian army is not retiring so often as of yore. May they never have to meet in battle again!

If the health officer will send out sanitary inspectors they can easily find a vast amount of rubbish that should be removed, the removal of which would greatly improve health conditions.

The President is said to have decided to call Congress in extra session November 10 to take up the railroad question. And when Congress assembles the question is very likely to be sidetracked.

We have received a little, handsomely illustrated pamphlet containing the announcements for the coming school year of the Pictorial Academy, Paris, Idaho. This is an excellent institution that offers High School, Normal, Preparatory and Missionary courses of study. It deserves liberal patronage.

INSANE NEGROES.

New Orleans, Playhouse.
One peculiarity of the situation is the large number of insane negroes. In the days of slavery a "crazy" negro was an extreme rarity. Now they are very numerous, showing that something in their altered condition has largely contributed to disorder their minds. What-

ever may be the disturbing cause, it is certain that it is operating with a power and activity that are appalling.

THE SIN OF THE AGE.

Baltimore American.
Many a man who inveighs against the dishonesty of corrupt trust and corporation methods will not hesitate to swear off his taxes and see no sympathetic relation between the acts.

TO ABOLISH THE INDIANS.

New York Mail.
The breaking up of the tribal or "national" governments in the Indian Territory, now practically completed, is simply a means of transferring the full-blooded Indians' lands to the perpetual keeping of the "white Indians" and other Caucasian persons. We have done rather better by the race here in New York State where the descendants of the Onondagas and Senecas still live a not wholly hopeless, not wholly useless life under the tribal system. To abolish that system is simply to abolish the Indians.

CHINA AS A FOOTBALL.

New York Evening Mail.
Japan tells China "politely," yet very plainly, that the amusing refusal of the Chinese government to be bound by any arrangement that Russia and Japan may make regarding her "rail in no wise affect the plan of action adopted by Japan." The most populous country in the world is now in a more humiliating position than even Russia, simply as duty notified by a nation one-tenth her own size that her fate is in that little country's hands and that she will not be allowed to say a word as to what that fate may be.

STILL USING THE "IVORY COLUMNS."

Indianapolis News.
They seem to be having pretty nearly as much trouble finding that Norwegian throne as they did getting a man for the Equitable job. And yet, no doubt, there are a number of more or less incompetent royalists who would be willing, aye, eager, to serve.

TEA

The English and Irish old woman lives in a garret on tea, and dies in a garret on tea; and how did she get to be old? On tea.

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20%
REDUCTION.

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Dainty Dotted Swisses.

We wish to notify those who are waiting that the Dotted Swisses we telegraphed for are in. Came today by express—a very choice lot. Made in Switzerland. Beautiful, soft, sheer, always popular Dotted Swisses!

There's half a dozen different size dots, and the prices are 25c, 40c, 50c, 60c and 65 cents. But they happened in just at the time when everything is being slashed, so they will be slashed also—

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