

ORIENTAL TRADE AND IMMIGRATION

Floods of Oratory to Be Turned Loose.

DEMANDS NATIONAL GENIUS

Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress in Session.

CHIEF MEETING OF FAIR

Important Topics for Each Session of Congress, in Which Leading Themes Will Be Introduced Today.

PROGRAMME COMMERCIAL CONGRESS TODAY.
Music, Tenth United States Infantry Band.
Call of states and reports of delegations. John W. Noble, of St. Louis, presiding.
Address, "The Columbia River," Major W. C. Langitt, Corps of United States Engineers, U. S. A.
Address, "Oriental Trade," Theodore B. Wilcox, of Portland, and John Barrett, American Minister at United States to Colombia.
Address, "Future Markets in the Orient," F. B. Thurber, New York City, president of the United States Export Association.
Address, "Merchant Marine," George W. Dickie, of San Francisco.
Address, "Improvement of Rivers," P. J. Van Lohenslaer, San Francisco.
Address, "The West, the East," B. C. Wright, San Francisco.

Representing all states and territories west of the Mississippi River, including Hawaii and the Philippines, the Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress met yesterday morning in sixteenth annual assembly, for a session of four days, in the auditorium at the Fair, presided over by President Theodore B. Wilcox, of Portland, and after a number of welcoming speeches and responses, adjourned at noon, to meet again this morning.

The Congress contains captains of industry and masters of commerce from the entire Western two-thirds area of the United States—men of brains and fame and force—gathered to deliberate on topics of National and commonwealth concern, and to bring results of their discussions to the doors of the Capitol.

FORMING IMMIGRATION CONGRESS.

Steps were taken for the formation of an Immigration Congress to hold its initial session in September at Denver, at a meeting of the Colorado delegation to the Trans-Mississippi Congress, yesterday afternoon. The movement is under the auspices of the Colorado State Commercial Association, which will request the Trans-Mississippi Congress to appoint delegates to the Immigration Congress. The Governors of all the states embraced in the arid region will be especially urged to attend. The purpose of the congress will be to induce people to settle in the West. It is hoped to draw into concert the railroads, commercial organizations and all other agencies working for the settlement of the vast areas of land in the Western country.

National Congress at Washington, or other departments of government, or wherever else they may serve the public interest.

Yesterday's attendance of delegates was large and energetic, and today's is expected to be even more so. Figures of National prominence will be among the speakers, and they will treat of such subjects as Oriental trade, immigration and Chinese exclusion; the merchant marine; rivers and harbors, irrigation and government reclamation projects; government regulation of railroads and rates; creation of a mining department of the National Government.

The Chinese immigration question will bring forth difference of opinion. As to irrigation, Oregon and Washington are very impatient with the slow progress of reclamation work by the National Government, and inclined to ensure the Reclamation Service for the delay while other states, notably California, Idaho and Colorado, where projects are under way, will be disposed to squelch such a movement. A determined effort will be made by mining states for a resolution calling on Congress to establish a Department of Mining. Enlarged powers for the Interstate Commerce Commission will be urged by a strong element, for Government control of the railroads and interstate commerce rates. The Columbia will adopt vigorous resolutions in behalf of large Congressional appropriations for the Columbia River. This morning each state delegation will nominate for the committee on resolutions two men, for the executive committee one, for the committee on permanent organization one, and for honorary vice-president one. A new president and other new officers will be recommended for election tomorrow by the committee on permanent organization.

STEADY DECLINE IN BIRTHRATE

Impressive Showing of Bulletin Issued by Census Bureau.

NATIVE WHITES DECREASE

New Immigrants so Prolific That in North Atlantic States They Offset General Tendency.

Steady Decline in West.

FACTS ABOUT BIRTH-RATE.
Children under 10 years, one-third of the population in 1900; one-fourth of population in 1904.
Proportion of children to women increased between years 1850 and 1900; has decreased ever since.
Children under 5 to 1000 women between 15 and 45 years, 614 in year 1900; 474 in year 1904.
Birth rate in Oregon increased from year 1850 to 1900; decreased ever since.
Ratio of children to 1000 native white women in year 1900 was 462; to 1000 foreign-born white women, 718.

Decided Views of Three Governors.
The three Governors pitched into the subject without gloves and were roundly applauded. Chamberlain asserted that the boycott was not so much threatened by Chinese as trumped up by "men in this country who have personal interests to subserve" and who are "directly interested in exporting products to Chinese ports." Such men, he remarked, were small minority of the people of the Pacific States. Governor Farlee said that the Pacific States did not want wholesale immigration from Asia and sounded a warning to Eastern States against ruff-ruff immigration from Europe and Africa. Governor Mead announced that Governor Chamberlain's ideas on the subject were entirely correct, and that he and the Oregon Executive had arrived at a common basis of understanding recently when visiting Seattle together.

Governor Chamberlain boldly declared that as Chinese and Japanese cannot "intermarry and assimilate with our own peoples" their immigration should be restricted.

I feel that the best interests of the great majority of the people of the United States demand a rigid enforcement of the present law against the immigration of Chinese laborers, and if any amendment to that law is made it should be for even greater restriction than now exists. Chinese laborers, under the laws of the Almighty himself, cannot intermarry and assimilate with our own people, and their presence in our country is a constant reminder of the standard of civilization. Our friends from the East and from the South cannot fully appreciate the evils that will be wrought to our social and our industrial system by the unrestricted immigration of the cheap labor of inferior countries. They are not home builders; they cannot assimilate with us; they can live and accumulate money in the Orient upon the backs of our people, cannot enter upon, and steps ought to be taken here and now to sound a warning against the movement of any law which shall make it harder for the tolling masses of this country to earn their daily bread.

I do not feel that in an address of welcome I should dwell at length upon any of these subjects which demand and will demand serious and careful consideration. I content myself with calling attention to them, and in conclusion permit me to express the hope that your stay among us may be both profitable and pleasant, and that when you return to your several homes you may cherish more than pleasant recollections of our city and of our people. We are glad to have you with us, and we bid you welcome.

Governor Farlee drew from his audience a loud burst of applause by exclaiming: "While this nation and this Coast doesn't want undesirable immigration from Asia, neither does it want undesirable immigration from Africa nor Europe. The race issue on this coast is great but let us not forget the equal danger for the Eastern States from Europe and Africa. Let us make no mistake about it."

(Continued on Page 3.)

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—That there has been a persistent decline of the birth-rate in the United States since 1860, is the conclusion reached in a bulletin issued by the Census Bureau. The bulletin was prepared by Prof. Walter F. Willcox, of Cornell University, and it is explained that, although an analysis made offers many suggestions as to the probable reasons for the decline, it is primarily not a steady decline in the birth-rate of the United States, but a study in the proportion of children to the total population, or total number of women of child-bearing age.

The result of the study shows that at the beginning of the nineteenth century, the children under ten year of age constituted one-third of the total population, and one-fourth of the total population. The decrease in this proportion began as early as the decade 1810 to 1820 and continued uninterruptedly, though at varying rates in each successive decade. Between 1850 and 1900, the proportion of children to women between 15 and 45 years, the child-bearing age, increased, but since 1860 it has constantly decreased. It is stated that the decrease has been unequal from decade to decade, but that, if the computation is made upon the basis of 20-year periods, it has been regular. In 1860 the number of children under five years of age to 1000 women 15 to 45 years of age was 634; in 1900 it was only 474. The proportion of children to potential mothers in 1900 was only three-fourths as large as in 1860.

Due to Influx of Foreigners.

No attempt is made by the author of the bulletin to determine the probable cause of this decline. An extended argument by General Francis E. Walker is given, suggesting that it is largely due to the influx of foreigners and the resultant shock to the population instinct of the natives. But Professor Willcox does not express a definite opinion, claiming that the vital statistics of the country are not sufficiently developed to afford a sound basis of judgment. He notes, however, that there has been a similar marked decline in the birth-rate of Australia, where there has been no such torrent of immigration. Considered sectionally, it is found that in the North and West there has been a more or less regular decline, while in the South the change has been less regular and the decline less marked.

Steady Decrease in Oregon.

In the general decrease between 1860 and 1900, not a single state of the North Atlantic division took part. In seven other states also there was no decrease. In only six states, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky and Indiana, did the proportion decrease, and in only Delaware, District of Columbia, Wisconsin,

RIVER COUNTIES A MILLION SHORT

Wheat Output Is Curtailed by Unfavorable Weather of Winter and Spring.

UMATILLA THE EXCEPTION

Hot Spell Continued Over a Month, Without the Usual Moisture-Laden Breezes From Snow-Clad Mountains.

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IONE, Or., Aug. 16.—(Staff correspondence.)—The river counties of Oregon except Umatilla, which does not properly belong in the same tier as Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman and Wasco, will this year turn out a wheat crop approximately 1,000,000 bushels smaller than that of last year. Unfortunately climatic conditions last Winter and Spring, and even this Summer, were the prime factors in this shrinkage, but an unusually large amount of land in Summer fallow contributed to the result.

Wasco County is perhaps harder put than her neighbors. Even the most conservative men in touch with the situation are predicting a decrease of 30 to 35 per cent, as compared with last year's yield, while others who are in opposition to the usually informed, place the crop at only 50 per cent of that of last year. There are, of course, a few good yields, as is always the case, but the average is not up to that of a year ago, and there was not enough new acreage to offset that which was in crop last year, but was idle or cut for hay this year.

Much Wheat Frozen Out.

Wasco, of course, is not a Spring-wheat county, but there was considerable winter wheat frozen out and the efforts to get a crop by reseeded were not very successful. In many cases the attempt was abandoned and the field turned over to Summer fallow, and in others the growth was cut for hay.

Wasco and her neighboring counties suffered over a month of withering, hot weather, untempered by any moisture such as usually blows in from the snow in the mountains. In former seasons the wheat has not infrequently been subjected to weather as hot as that which prevailed this year, but it has never lasted more than a few days and its effect has been nullified to a degree by the moisture due to the melting of snow in the mountains and plenty of water in the streams.

Sherman County fell short of her best yield last year, and this year on an increased acreage there will be a smaller output than there was last year. It must be remembered, however, that the amount cut for hay would account for a considerable difference of opinion as to the extent of the decrease, the estimates varying from 10 per cent to 35 per cent less than the 1904 crop. In spite of the hot weather the wheat now coming in from Columbia Southern points is of excellent quality and tests remarkably heavy.

Gilliam County, on account of having railroad connection with a new and most promising wheat section, has managed to increase her acreage so that the yield this year will not fall as far short of that of 1904 as was noticeable in Wasco and Sherman counties. Out near Condon, the Iermirins of the O. R. & N. branch from Arlington, some very good yields are reported, and the same is true of the Mayville country, lying farther south.

Much New Acreage.

There is so much new acreage at the southern terminus of this line that it has never been cropped before that it is a difficult matter to base estimates for

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PLANS TO EXTEND FOREIGN TRADE

Reciprocity Conference Considers How to Overcome Hostile Tariffs.

DUAL TARIFF ITS SLOGAN

Representatives of Every State and Every Interest Meet to Act on Removal of Restrictions on American Commerce.

Reciprocity Conference Considers How to Overcome Hostile Tariffs.

CHICAGO, Aug. 15.—For the purpose of considering means of improving reciprocal trade arrangements with foreign countries, amendments of the Dingley Tariff to aid in that purpose, and changes in the Interstate Commerce Law, the National Reciprocity Conference opened today in the Illinois Theater. It comprises 90 representatives of every section and every interest, from the great farmer and stock-raising States of the West to the manufacturing States of the East. Foreign Consuls representing in Chicago nearly every country in the world attended in force.

The keynote was sounded by Senator Callom in an address recommending that the Conference, instead of further advocating reciprocity, of which he held out little hope, should agitate for a maximum and minimum tariff. He suggested that the maximum tariff should apply to the products of countries which discriminate against the United States and the minimum to those which made trade concessions to us. The name "dual tariff" was suggested for his policy by Alvin H. Sanders, the Chairman of the executive committee, and was promptly taken up by others as a good campaign slogan.

Condition Which Confronts Us.

The conference was called to order at half of twelve by the Mayor of A. D. Sanders, of Chicago. He said: "The establishment of freer trade relations with foreign nations is a matter that affects directly the prosperity of every farmer, grower and exporter in the United States. One by one the European governments are tightening the coils intended to strangle the American export trade in agricultural products and manufactured goods. We are today face to face with a new prohibitive tariff designed to keep out every pound of American breadstuffs and provisions. Evaluation has been tried at tremendous cost to our producers and manufacturers and is a failure."

CLAIMS LARGE FORTUNE

ROMANTIC STORY OF NEVADA MINER'S DAUGHTER.

Years After He Is Murdered, Wife Finds Will Bequeathing Property Rich Men Steal.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Aug. 15.—Mrs. Frank G. Curtis, wife of a Milwaukee automobile dealer, in substantiation of a claim to a share in a \$2,500,000 estate, tells a strange story in which a conspiracy of greed, involving several multimillionaires, is the theme.

Soldiers Desert by Wholesale.

ST. PAUL, Aug. 15.—A wholesale desertion of privates from Fort Snelling was reported today, when it was announced that about 50 privates had quietly left the post without permission, because they did not wish to work on the new rifle range.

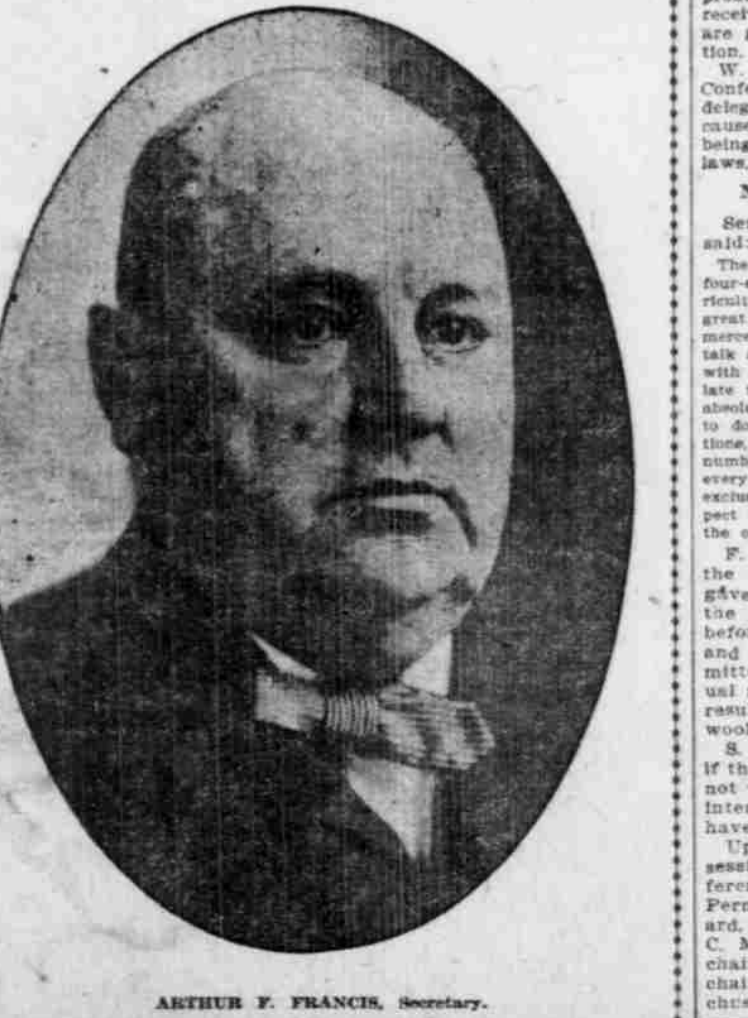
OFFICERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI COMMERCIAL CONGRESS



RUFUS F. JENNINGS, Chairman Executive Committee.



THEO. B. WILCOX, President.



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(Continued on Page 5.)