

THE JOURNAL

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SWORN CIRCULATION
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THE PEACE CONGRESS.

THE FIRST national arbitration and peace congress convened in New York yesterday, and its sessions will continue till Wednesday evening.

A circular issued by the officers of the congress says: "The time for this congress is opportune, because the world is on the eve of the second Hague conference, in which every American government will participate as a result of the initiative of our government."

No immediate results are to be expected from this congress, but that there will be ultimate results; immensely valuable to humanity, we must believe. So many eminent men from all the higher walks of life cannot thus talk and work for the substitution of peace for war entirely in vain.

BAD MEMORIES IN COURT.

BINGER HERMANN, who has been forgetful in his trial at Washington, is not the only man whose memory has, at times, been bad. It is the habit of the memory to fail on the witness stand.

In truth, the forgetfulness habit on the witness stand has become so prevalent that, in the east, there is talk about abandonment of the court oath. This oath to "tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help me God," is always taken with uplifted hand shortly before the forgetful witness begins to forget.

over-worked and familiar answer, "I don't remember," and the result, often, is perjury. We have thus seen insurance presidents, eminent railroad magnates, congressmen and ex-congressmen and citizens high and low, make whatever reservations of truth they see fit or consider safe.

A FOLK OR HUGHES NEEDED.

"THE STATE needs a Folk or a Hughes," is the heading of an editorial in the Detroit News, which goes on to tell why. It is the old story—machine politics, defiance of the people's will, corrupt bargaining in the legislature.

Yes, the "old guard" of the G. O. P.; whose greater or less "remnants" are still potent in all the New England states and in many others, and an echo of wind, like a voice from the tombs, was heard here Saturday when it was announced that "Portland ought to be governed by the Republican party"—that is, We, Us & Co.

AN UNTOUCHED ASSET.

IT is only a matter of time until Oregon will have to manufacture her own cement. The demand is going to be such that every source of supply will be taxed. Engineers now recognize the great value of reinforced concrete as a building material.

A test at New Brunswick, New Jersey, demonstrated its resistance to fire. A building was built for the purpose, of which the roof was a slab of reinforced concrete. When sufficiently hard a dead load of pig iron aggregating 150 pounds to the square foot was put on the roof.

The other building materials have grave faults. Steel will rust, and in the fierce heat of a great conflagration will decay. Wood is highly combustible and will decay. Stone cannot withstand fire, especially the frequent combination of great heat and the sudden application of a stream of cold water, and has the further fault of being unfavorably affected by the carbonic acid in the atmosphere, which makes it porous.

There is not much danger of the mayor and councilmen of Woodburn becoming bloated capitalists on their official salaries, which are \$18 a year each. It seems as if they ought to earn that much, at least.

construction," and that "it is an approach to the ideal building material." The coming use of the material will be enormous. The fact of its more extensive and more popular use for building will create a demand extraordinary.

Nearly all the states have driven out the gamblers, or made their business a crime, but they are free to operate in stocks in Wall street, if they have wads worth while.

THE DEADLY LIGHT AT PANAMA.

EXCESSIVE light is held by a distinguished army surgeon to be a chief cause of our troubles at Panama. It is the most formidable foe we shall have to combat in completing this vastest of all enterprises. The French failed in the undertaking because of their ignorance of how to combat infectious diseases.

Sunlight, which we are wont to regard as full of health-giving properties, is a germ killer. We use it to destroy the bacteria in the skin and for destruction of certain infectious diseases. If it be over-applied it destroys the tissues. Its destructive agency in this respect has been known for years to medical science.

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When we allow the small worries and annoyances of daily life, the mistakes of others and the jarring of domestic machinery to ruin the pleasure of a home we insult God. It is like pulling down the blue canopy of heaven and using it as a door mat.

One Commendation. At all at the newspapers over the state are knocking J. C. Cooper's proposition to take the Oregon title to Janestown, posing as Oregon Minnehaha, and are saying all manner of unkind things. They seem to think that the state would be poorly represented and ill advertised thereby.

Senator Curtis of Kansas, who has been to Cuba, says that 90 per cent of the inhabitants are not fit for self government, and the other 10 per cent are quarreling among themselves. To this it might probably be added that a large fraction of the incapable

90 per cent is quarreling also, or achieving for a chance to do so: It looks, therefore, as if Uncle Sam had another permanent investment in the white man's burden down in Cuba. There are only two things to do; either take the island and make a territory of it, or clear out and let the Cubans go to the dickens.

Now, Miss Spokane, please keep quiet long enough to let Mesdames Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, San Francisco and Los Angeles express a few words on the subject.

A good many people would like to start with Perry for the north pole July 1, if he would agree to send them back in 60 or 90 days.

In effect former Senator Cockrell says of his son: "Ephraim is joined to his idols; let him alone." Fairbanks still hopes for a recurrence to political sanity.

Make Home Heaven on Earth

For what are you living? For what are you working? To make a home and gain the comforts of life for those dear to you? To make a home and gain the comforts of life for those dear to you? To make a home and gain the comforts of life for those dear to you?

Home is the earthly expression of what we will find waiting for us after death. Just as we fashion our homes here, by our mental attitude, so we will find them ready for us when we pass on. And heaven must begin on earth. Here we lay the foundation, here we build the hard work and money you may be putting into your home will never give happiness unless you are loving the inhabitants of that home, and showing your love in words and acts.

When we allow the small worries and annoyances of daily life, the mistakes of others and the jarring of domestic machinery to ruin the pleasure of a home we insult God. It is like pulling down the blue canopy of heaven and using it as a door mat.

Money, education, position, power—all are worse than useless unless they bring happiness and help to others. To do this they must be supplemented by the love of God and man. Though you give to your family all the advantages wealth can offer, you are worse than a highwayman if you deprive your household of peace, love and contentment in a simple life.

County Superintendent's Views. John Day, Or., April 14.—To the Editor of The Journal—The letter objecting to the adoption of state textbooks draws near, great interest in the probable action of the commission is manifesting itself in every part of the state.

Washington Dispatch in New York World. Mr. Edward H. Harriman of New York, was formally initiated into the order of Euphrates yesterday. All the distinguished guests were profoundly moved by the solemn and impressive ritual of the third degree.

Letters From the People

Portland, Or., April 14.—To the Editor of The Journal—Some sweeping changes in the textbooks now used in our schools are under discussion. As to the merits of the proposed changes a layman and consumer may be supposed to have little knowledge, and the writer readily admits his lack of qualification as a general umpire.

The teachers who were most desirous of change at the very ones who objected to a change in 1901, the time of the last adoption, when a complete change of books was made, except mental arithmetic and spelling. At that time the teachers were quite unanimous for a change in writing, the fad for vertical style having been adopted with little consideration.

The personnel of the corps of teachers changes rapidly; marriage demotes their ranks annually, and probably more than half of our teachers have been taken up the work during the last five years. The principals who have been long in service and other teachers who have remained long in the profession have the greatest weight of sentiment at such times as this.

The change of all, or nearly all the greater lines of study has made much more work for teachers. The teacher has been compelled to take up untried textbooks and become familiar with the work almost at once. It is impossible to have a class always ill-paid and generally overworked, has been irksome. The complaint of the teachers against the geography now in use (and which has been the case with all the other textbooks) is "that it compels the teacher to work too hard."

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Small Change

Spring may be waiting for baseball. Thaw may be seen, but he is a bore. A real reform is not wrought by trickery.

This is really a record-breaking winter. Not many voters will vote for a brick on them. The Tombs is not Turrup, Thaw's thinking.

Who'll be the next member of the Annapolis club? It is supposed that Bussie will soon be hoastily busy. Grocers claim that Kallisher is a full-weight candidate.

Yet many Idahoans are ready to hurrah for Borah. Bryan is not to blame for Haller's indorsement of him. A great many people are suffering to say, "Is it hot enough for you?"

The fellow who tries to get people excited over politics has a hard job. Who knows that China would not be worse off if she should "awaken"? Jerome and the jury together actually knocked out "Sensational Americans."

Mr. Taft probably realizes that the more some men talk the less they are esteemed. Already some people are considering the annual vacation problem. It doesn't worry others. It is again the season for reminding the worm that if he ventures out early the bird will catch him.

The farmers have a long grudge score against the weather man, but he may cause them to forget it later. Tacoma's growth is most amazing," says the Ledger. Why, we thought you really expected it to grow some.

No man ever runs for an office who is not an especial and self-sacrificing friend of the workman—if you believe him. The big stick never swings toward that duty of over 100 per cent on manufactured tobacco, wholly for the benefit of the trust.

A Philadelphia man left his wife because she had grown too fat. It is a poor excuse unless he did his best first to starve her. Both Hartman and Roosevelt may hereafter resemble old Simon Cameron's advice: "Better walk 100 miles than write a letter."

Somebody has seen Mount Hood smoking again. We thought Hood had reformed; it has been many months since anybody started this old yarn. Oregon Sidelights

Astoria has begun to consider the regrets subject. Don't try to skin newcomers, advises the Gervais Star. Several men are prospecting for gold on Mosier creek.

Bend has grown from a fourth class to a third class postoffice. A company has been organized at Lostine to operate limetines. Butter fat in Tillamook county has been higher than ever before.

Cherry orchards were never more heavily loaded with cherry blossoms. Several teachers are wanted for small county schools throughout the state. A great amount of pruning and spraying has been done in Washington county.

A broad, smooth, level roadway from Heppner to Pendleton, over which automobiles and carriages may be driven with speed and comfort. Coos Bay is sending to Portland for beef. After he had better be pretty lean to the metropolis or we may get meat hungry, says the North Bend Harbor.

Nearly one third of all the transfers made in Yamhill county lately were from Newberg, says the Enterprise, and many of them were for unemployed property, which will be improved during the coming summer. Monmouth Star: What is needed here most of all to draw homeseekers are a few small tracts of land near town. We are hemmed in on all sides by large farms and with no outlet to give employment to laborers there is but little chance for the town to grow.

The demand for new business houses in Medford already exceeds the supply, notwithstanding the number of new buildings erected since last year, says the Tribune. Store rooms leased one year ago now command double the price demanded then. An Olieh man had a large, lone mule for which he wanted a mate. Some young men caught his mule and trimmed and fixed him up so the owner did not know him and sold him to the owner at a large price. He got all the money back except about \$20 for cigars, etc.

Many of the growers in the vicinity of Freewater are arranging for many additional acres of vegetables this year on account of the canners, especially of tomatoes. Already brokers and wholesale firms are bidding heavily for the Freewater pack and the prices promise to show good profits. Farmers and fruitgrowers are looking forward to a bumper crop this season. Coos Bay News: The town needs a city hall, new jail, more street improvements, dredging along the waterfront, and many other things too numerous to mention. About the only thing that is not being done is that the city can point to with pride is its very effective (?) telephone service. Isn't it a peach? Holy smoke! Talk about a successful public! And if such a thing were possible, it is getting worse all the time. The only feature of the business that is strictly up-to-date is the monthly collections in advance.

Those Indian Costumes. Cornelius, Or., April 10.—To the Editor of The Journal—The letter objecting to the Indian costume for McMinnville handsome girls when touring the states is well placed. If Indians are wanted in the proposed display, they can be furnished at Grand Ronde reservation, where I think they can have the pick of various tribes—good looks and all. One would think that the committee on arrangements would be further advanced in modern ideas than to suggest such a thing, and I doubt very much whether the ladies themselves care for such a retrograde movement. It is all right for a masquerade ball, but no farther. Better have the Indians in their native dress and show the contrast of the Lewis and Clark days and the stride Oregon has made since that time. For old Yamhillites. ALBERT O. YATER.