

DISTINGUISHED MEN AND WOMEN FROM ALL PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA MEET IN GREAT CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Oneness of Mankind, Foundation of all Religions is One Reality and Many Other Great Universal Principles Stressed. Several Racial Groups and More Than One Religious Belief Represented Among Speakers on Programs.

COMPLETE HARMONY MARKED ALL SESSIONS

Special to The Advocate
(By Louis Gregory)

An event of transcendent importance to America, as well as to all races and nations of the world, is the annual convention of the Baha'is of the United States and Canada, recently held in the city of San Francisco and bringing together hundreds of delegates and visiting friends from many cities, and representing various schools of thought, divers races, religions and nationalities, all of whom have found reconciliation and peace and have worked out a happy mode of living through the Baha'i teachings. These inspired writings present to the world a peace-brotherhood program by which all human elements can advance to the ideal goal of happiness. They apply religion in a practical form to the needs of humanity. They simplify those ideals of rectitude which all men should pursue. Already they have proved their spiritual illumination and power by training a great throng of progressive souls, East and West, North and South, to abandon the lower world of hatred, prejudice and rancor and to ascend into the higher zones of love, appreciation and life.

Among the foremost of these teachings are the following universal principles, as compiled from the words of Abdu'l Baha:

1. The oneness of mankind.
2. The independent investigation of Truth.
3. The foundation of all religions is one Reality.
4. Religion must be the cause of unity.
5. Religion must be in accord with science and reason.
6. Equality between men and women.
7. Prejudice of all kinds must be forgotten.
8. Universal peace.
9. Universal education.
10. Solution of the economic problem.
11. A universal language.
12. The power of the Holy Spirit.

Portland sent to San Francisco a fine delegation representing the local assembly of Baha'is. Among these were Miss Ella Meissner, who made an interesting address at one of the sessions on the work among those of tender years, Mr. Geo. O. Latimer, who presided at one of the sessions, Mrs. E. D. Cannady who in an address which was greatly appreciated, presented the greeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and described some of the difficulties of life among colored Americans. Dr. Freeman, an American Indian who is well educated, was also among the notable speakers. He entertained the audience with a recital of Indian customs, told of their high moral standards, sang Indian lullabies, and made an eloquent plea for greater consideration and justice on the part of the American people to people of his race.

The business sessions of the convention, although not open to the public, yet drew a great number of interested inquirers. The way that people can conduct their affairs when influenced and bound together by a spiritual tie was a model worthy of study. Mr. Roy C. Wilhelm, a Wall street broker from the East was elected president. As chairmen usually go he was quite unconventional, but kept all in a state of happiness by his bright wit and genial humor, using his place to demonstrate the Baha'i teachings in action. He was ably assisted by Mr.

Horace Holly, the secretary, a distinguished author and formerly a business man of New York. He now occupies the position of secretary of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of America and Canada. A large volume of business was dispatched in an incredibly short time. The convention was kept in motion and had no dull moments.

An interesting feature was the number of messages and greetings that came from many American and foreign cities. Another was the report of the progress of the work of teaching and guiding souls in all parts of the world to the path of true freedom and light. The joyfulness and harmony had a deep and far-reaching significance. A love was expressed that was all-embracing, that gave clarity of vision and bound the hearts together.

The two public meetings for teaching, that is, making points of contact with the great public, were the Banquet of El Ridvan and the open meeting held in the ballroom of the Palace, one of the largest hotels of that cosmopolitan city. The former assembled more than three hundred at the tables which were all beautifully adorned with flowers and favors. The latter filled the hall to overflowing. In both these luminous gatherings colored Americans were liberally represented, both among the speakers and the auditors. Music of the most entertaining kind added to the joyousness of both occasions. The presence of white and colored Americans, Chinese and Japanese, all in most kindly spirit, lent a picturesque charm to the meetings.

Mr. LeRoy Ioas, a young business man, presided at the Ridvan Feast and Mrs. Ella G. Cooper, in sounding a note of welcome to the brilliant gathering said: "Forgive us if we are a little hilarious tonight. Such meetings intoxicate us with the wine of love of God. They are significant of a closer unity among all mankind, with happiness as the key note. The announcement of Baha'u'llah, which this gathering commemorates, carried a wave of happiness all over the world."

Among other speakers were Mrs. May Maxwell and Mrs. Elizabeth Greenleaf of Montreal, Mr. Albert Vail and Mrs. Corinne True of Chicago, Mrs. Stewart W. French of Pasadena, Torao Kawasski, the Japanese Consul, Shinji Yamasoto, a boy, and Louis G. Gregory, a colored lecturer from Washington, D. C., who spoke on Baha'i courage.

Great success attended the public meeting for the teaching and spread of the Baha'i ideals and principles of brotherhood. Mr. Horace Holly presided and with fine power of expression and radiant heart made a point of contact for each of the four speakers. Mrs. Elizabeth Greenleaf, told of her recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land and of meeting the brilliant youth, Shoghi Effendi, who is now the Guardian of the Baha'i Cause. Mrs. May Maxwell traced the history of the movement, starting with the Bab, the herald of the new day of peace, and then telling of the exalted life and services to the world of Baha'u'llah, the great founder of the movement, who though imprisoned and exiled and meeting the most intense opposition, yet suc-

(Continued on page four)

OUR MAGAZINE SECTION
Interesting Features for the Entire Family

EARTH FAULTS IN GREAT OIL FIELD

Little Danger of Earthquake Says Expert.

Cheyenne, Wyo.—"Faults" in the earth's crust criss-cross one of the largest oil fields in the United States—the Salt Creek field—and the Teapot Dome, the naval oil reserve. But there is little danger of earthquake occurring in these oil regions, in the opinion of A. B. Bartlett, Wyoming state geologist.

The faults are described by him as "dead." There are nine small faults on the east side of the Salt Creek field and another three miles long between the Teapot and Salt Creek fields. Three faults have been located on the Teapot Dome structure. "Wyoming is not in a region of present earthquake activity, although slight tremors do occur," Mr. Bartlett said. "The 1925 tremors increased the flow of oil wells and in some cases the tremors caused water to flow in with the oil."

The largest "dead fault" in the state is that along Casper mountain, six miles south of Casper. It has a displacement of 10,000 to 11,000 feet, and is 21 miles long, and was once responsible for the elevation above Casper of the 3,000-foot pile of solid rock now known as the mountain, according to geologists. A geological survey of the mountain showed pre-cambrian granite on the mountain top, while the survey of the rock strata under Casper placed this rock formation 3,000 feet below the city.

The other large fault is in the western part of the state, running north from Kemmerer, halfway across Wyoming. It is believed that the displacements of this fault are small and have been made over a long period of years.

Prediction that another landslide may occur in the Teton mountains in the Gros Ventre region, where a mountain peak toppled over into the Gros Ventre river last spring, was made by Mr. Bartlett. The landslide last year poured 50,000,000 cubic yards of rock and dirt into the river. It was caused, Mr. Bartlett said, by a slight earthquake formation having been saturated by spring thaws so that all it needed was a "gentle shake" to be sent tumbling into the river valley.

NEW DAVIS BABY



The first photograph made of little Jewel Davis, the youngest baby of Secretary of Labor James J. Davis and Mrs. Davis. All of the Davis children have names beginning with the letter "J."

Russian Student Fund Aids 150 in Colleges

New York.—Organized by a penniless young Russian student in 1919, the Russian student fund is now advancing aid to 150 Russian men and women in fifty American colleges to fit themselves for future participation in Russian reconstruction. The organization operates on a plan whereby money loaned to students is repaid after graduation. Already \$16,000 in repayments has been received, officers of the fund have announced. The students are studying business, architecture, civil, electrical, chemical and mechanical engineering, medicine and applied agriculture.

The fund was started in 1919 when a graduate of Boston Tech interested prominent persons in aiding his young compatriots. He felt that the obstacles in the way of foreign students earning their way through college here were almost insurmountable, but that if they were given assistance they could easily pay back the expenses later.

Crankshaft Discarded in New Type Airplane Engine

New York.—A new cam engine, the first aircraft motor in the world without crankshaft, connecting rods or timing gears, was successfully flown in a half-hour public demonstration at Farmingdale, L. I. The flights were made from the airframe of the Fairchild-Camenz Engine corporation, which has developed the new power plant for production on a commercial basis. The four-cylinder, air-cooled engine is of X type, weighs 300 pounds and develops 150 horse power at 1,200 revolutions a minute.

Wins Strike

Salt Lake City.—Princess Alice is munching loads of hay and peanuts after a ten-day hunger strike. She's an elephant in the zoo and would not eat until her old keeper, who had been fired, got his job back.

LAST BANDIT BAND CRUSHED IN SICILY

Delivered From Outlawry After Fifty Years.

Rome.—Italy has suddenly found a new popular idol in the person of Cesare Mori, prefect of Palermo, Sicily, through whom that sunny island has been delivered from the Mafia. Incensed looting villages and towns, these brigands had left unnumbered victims strewn along their path. It seems incredible that there should still exist, in flesh and blood, outlaws of the kind one reads about in childhood. Yet strange though it be, the last band fell into the hands of the Italian police recently, and only after a week of fighting and bloodshed on the outskirts of Palermo.

Terrorized by Mafia. For several centuries Sicily had been under the influence of a secret society known as the "Mafia," which, when the island was under foreign rule, undertook to safeguard the interests of the natives by every means in their power. Much good came of their efforts prior to 1870, when Italy having become a united kingdom, the "Mafiosi" strangely changed their attitude and turned brigands more or less of the type common in the Middle Ages. All over the Sicilian countryside—at crossroads where carriers passed, in the neighborhood of farms rich in cattle and in the towns where they interfered with the affairs of private individuals—the "Mafia" continued to "administer justice" in the form of crime and lawlessness, while the police looked on, seemingly powerless.

The present-day "Mafia" was ruled by one Gaetano Ferrarello, who had established his headquarters in the village of Gangi, his birthplace, near Palermo. A woman called Gagnacci was his chief adviser and executor. Her two sons were considered the most cruel members of the gang. This woman rode about the island giving orders and marking victims. She made matches between well-to-do girls and members of her band; opposed marriages which might prove harmful to her work; acted as arbiter in disputes between peasants; instructed men to bear false testimony before the courts when brigands were captured and tried; there was nothing in fact, which she left undone when the interest of the "Mafia" was at stake. Anyone who disobeyed her command fell sooner or later a victim to her sons.

War to the Death

This state of affairs continued until a short time ago, when Prefect Mori asked for and obtained government support to carry on a campaign against the "Mafia." He immediately announced throughout the island that war would be waged against the bandits. Reinforcements were sent to all police stations in Sicily.

Ferrarello and his followers took refuge at Gangi, barricading themselves in the village. A siege ensued, but, seeing that all chance of escape was closed to them, after a few days the whole band of 130 men, led by Ferrarello, gave themselves up to the prefect of Gangi. In Ferrarello's own words, "We only gave in for the sake of our town, to whose inhabitants the siege meant famine and ruin."

Find Phonetic Spelling Started 300 Years Ago

London.—English advocates of simplified spelling, who are at the present time petitioning parliament, have found their cause an ancient one. About 300 years ago the then rector of Rotherhithe, Thomas Gatacre, adopted a system of "reformed spelling" in his published works. Spellings such as "question," "firm," "dead" and "believe" were among those he invented. Advocates of phonetic spelling, however, claim Milton as a sounder authority, because the original text of his "Comus" contains words like "dwele," "believe," "limmas" and "dred."

Has Three Sundays

Oujda, Morocco.—There are three Sundays every week here. Friday for Moslems, Saturday for Jews, and Sunday for the Christians. The Jews, who control the retail trade, are open for business Fridays, but not Saturdays and Sundays.

Big Submarine Wins Battle With Whale

Portsmouth, N. H.—In the first marine battle of its kind known, the giant submarine V-1 met and conquered a monster whale. Lieut. Commander Sherwood Picking told about the encounter when the V-1, one of the largest vessels of its kind in the world, docked here after a run from Key West, Fla. The submarine had put into Provincetown, Mass., for refueling. A few miles out from that port, and while submerged to a depth of about forty feet, a heavy jar shook the vessel. When it came to the top officers and men hurried on deck and found a 58-foot whale, its back broken, wrapped around the bow. It was put out of its suffering with improvised harpoons.

The submarine suffered no damage from the collision.

MEDICINE MEN TO COMPETE FOR RAIN

Will Weave Spells at Custer Celebration.

Sheridan, Wyo.—Medicine men of six Indian tribes of Montana, South Dakota and Wyoming will weave their charms and sound their chants trying to convince the "God of Thunder" to loose rain from the clouds in a feature event of the semi-centennial celebration of "Custer's Last Stand" to be held in June at the battlefield site of the Little Bighorn river.

They will contest to see who can make the "best medicine," on the last day of the celebration. The medicine men, each representing a tribe—the Cheyenne, Crow, Blackfoot, Assiniboin, Flathead and Sioux—will be more than three score and ten years. The chief medicine man of an Indian tribe must be one of the oldest members of the tribe. Their bodies covered with white clay, and faces and limbs painted with red, orange and yellow hues in weird designs, each Indian will carry a staff, tipped with brilliantly colored feathers. With a whistle in his mouth he will ride through the Indian camp on the battlefield blowing the whistle and chanting weird phrases. All the while his arms will be outstretched to the Great Spirit. Each medicine man will be allotted 30 minutes to "mix the medicine" that will precipitate rain.

In Bear Tail, oldest medicine man of his tribe, the Montana Crow of the Pryor reservation have a particular who is expected to "mix heap big medicine." Five years ago, Bear Tail warned the tribe that it would rain on a certain day when a rodeo was to be held. He was jeered by the younger members. But when the rodeo day approached, he "mixed medicine" and had his squaw make the tepee fast, warning her a big storm was coming. Not a cloud obscured the sky, so the youths prepared for the rodeo. Just as it started a drenching rain occurred, supplemented by a strong gale, which blew away all the tepees not securely fastened.

Telephoning From Train Is Simple in Germany

Berlin.—"Mr. Browne," with an "e" calls a neatly uniformed youth as he passes through the cars of the fast Berlin-Hamburg train. Mr. Browne looks up and notes the lettering on the young man's cap: "Train Telephony, Ltd." "Telephone call for you from Berlin, sir," says the younger man. Mr. Browne follows into one of the second-class coaches. At one end is a compartment presided over by a young woman. Near her is the usual telephone cell, differing in no respect from that of Mr. Browne's office. He enters and is presently talking—from a train averaging 40 miles an hour and occasionally reaching a speed of more than 60 miles—with his friends in Berlin, or in Hamburg, as the case may be.

Not only can passengers on the train secure desired connections, but their friends can likewise call them. All that is necessary is for them to know the number of the train.

The charges are but little higher than for ordinary long-distance calls. A three-minute conversation from Berlin or Hamburg to the train or the reverse costs from 94 cents to \$1.30, according to the distance from the station.

Town Bars Persons Under 65 Years Old

Philadelphia.—In Denmark, in the Old People's Town of Copenhagen, within a great city exists a little one whose town wall embraces just 23 acres, a church, home and gardens, an assembly hall and even a motion-picture theater.

Commenting upon this "town," the American Scandinavian Review recently called attention to the fact that its distinctive feature is that it has nothing whatever to do with poor relief. Its citizens live at the expense of the Copenhagen municipality, and the only conditions for "citizenship" are that those applying shall have attained 65 years of age and shall never have come under the penalty of the law nor been a pauper.

Everything necessary to comfort is provided—even to a weekly allowance for pocket money—and no one loses civil rights or vote by living therein. Persons of all classes are to be found within its walls, as it is felt that every honorable aged citizen has a right to maintenance without obligation or loss of independence.

New England Preacher Finds Radio Parish

Portland, Maine.—The first radio parish in the world, it is believed, has been founded by Rev. Howard O. Hough of this city. Rev. Mr. Hough has resigned from a regular pastorate to conduct Sunday services for shut-ins and others throughout New England and the Middle Atlantic states. Rev. Mr. Hough, assisted by a violinist, a pianist and a quartet, each Sunday, beginning at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon, will broadcast services. His station is nonsectarian in character and is being financed by business men and others.

Another Prodigy

New York.—Nathalia Crane, Brooklyn's twelve-year-old prodigy, is out with a novel. A new poem precedes each chapter about a sixteen-year-old duchess.

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