

NEWS OF THE WORLD

DOCTORS, DRUGS, FRAUDS, and a Sunday School Convention have occupied the attention of the public for the week. To simplify matters, they might be all classed under the one heading,—FRAUDS.

“CHRIST SHALL REIGN” is spelled out in electric lights above the platform where many speakers from various parts of the world have gathered in Chicago, with several thousand delegates, to an International Sunday School Convention. According to figures given out by the Secretary, there are more than 17,000,000 members of Sunday schools in this country alone. There are 173,459 Sunday schools, directed by 1,670,846 officers and teachers. Twenty thousand Sunday school conventions are held annually. In all the reports of the speeches, up to date, read by the writer of these notes, the name “Jesus Christ” does not once occur. In but one instance is God mentioned,—in an eulogy of Chicago, when the speaker said God had given the plan of the Sunday schools to the leaders. One speaker had a vision of a “great brotherhood;” another had a plan for a “scientific” Sunday school; another emphasized the value of the Sunday school in getting votes; another had gathered statistics, and gave the information that the average Sunday school teacher reads, besides books, five and one-twelfth magazines and periodicals (most of these being weekly publications); but the average number of books on Sunday school training read per teacher annually is half a volume! (The Bible was not mentioned at all.) Another speaker defended the reading of “pirate stories” by boys; another thought Sunday school children should “aim high;” another thought teachers should be paid; another found that three and one-third of Sunday school teachers had less than an eighth grade common school education; another believed advertising was the secret of good attendance, and a Boston lady declared that religion in her town “is much different from religion in some little Colorado town. You cannot write a series of Sunday school lessons that will answer for all churches in all parts of the country.” The Secretary of the New York association held that the Sunday school “is purely a business proposition.” Another declared the goal of the association was an added million for the year. And above all flashed the spelled-out satire, “Christ shall reign!”

DOCTORS FILLED THE PULPITS of fifty-two churches in Philadelphia last Sunday. They were on their way to the Medical Association convention meeting in Atlantic City. When they get to the convention, some of the subjects on which they will speak, as announced are: “Arthrodesis and Bone Transplantation, Its Limitations and Technique,” and “The Curing of Hernia by Tissue Inlaying.” There will be a symposium on surgery of the left palate, a paper on “The Treatment of Inoperable Carcinoma of the Uterus by the Application of Heat,” and another will talk on surgery of the heart.

THE “PORK BARREL”—notice the appropriateness of the name!—is an institution peculiar to Congress, and consists

of a congressman’s ability to get unwarranted appropriations from the government for that part of the country he represents. For instance, a representative secures an appropriation of half-a-million dollars for a post office building in a town of 1000 of his constituency. That is called a piece from the pork barrel. But this peculiar institution is being discredited in Washington, and, as a result, the Senate committee on appropriations has lopped off large amounts made for small rivers, government buildings, harbors, etc., thus saving a vast amount for the treasury of the United States. The River and Harbor bill, still pending, carries appropriations of \$42,289,000 in cash, authorizations of \$32,897,891 for new projects, and also \$6,590,000 in the sundry civil bill for continuations. The senate has added to this sum \$10,352,000.

THE EUGENICS LAW of Wisconsin has been held valid by the Supreme court of that state. The decision declares the state can enforce the law under police power.

A MINE BLAST, coming without a moment’s warning, buried two hundred fifty miners in the Hill Crest collieries of Canada, June 19th. Two hundred men lost their lives.

CONCRETE has been chosen for the state roads of Cook county. This material has been chosen because it is cheaper than vitrified brick, which has been considered.

THE SUPREME COURT’S RULING in the “pipe line” and “intermountain rate” cases is said to mean that the Standard Oil monopoly has been killed through making pipe lines common carriers, and that shippers may get back \$12,000,000 paid to railroads.

PREMIER ASQUITH, hitherto refusing to receive deputations of militant or semi-militant suffragettes, has at last yielded to their importunities and has consented to hear what they have to say.

THE PRESS, of June 25th, declares that mediation between Mexico and the United States has triumphed; that the protocol was signed by the ambassador of Brazil, the ministers of Chile and Argentina, and the American and Huerta delegates. The protocol sets forth that the United States and Argentina, Brazil, and Chile—the mediating countries—shall recognize the new provisional government, and that henceforth diplomatic relations between the United States and Mexico shall be resumed. The single outstanding proviso in the protocol is that the international problem shall be declared adjusted on the establishment of the new provisional government.

THE PRESIDENT HAS FREED four of the alleged bomb plotters under conviction, and eighteen of the dynamiters are refused the final plea for executive clemency.

THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS has authorized the sale of the American battleships Idaho and Mississippi to Greece.

THE WORST STORM in the history of Wisconsin swept over the state June 25th, killing a dozen persons and injuring fifty, many fatally. The property loss will exceed \$1,000,000, not including the loss to the growing crops. The storm also visited Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

THE OFFICERS of the wrecked Lorimer-Munday banks of Chicago are to be prosecuted under the law.

THE CARE OF CHILDREN—series the first—issued by the Children’s bureau of the U. S. department of labor, of which a spinster lady of 60 years is head, says every prospective mother should lay in a supply of 100 bichloride of mercury tablets, four ounces of boric acid, and a quart of grain alcohol.

IS IT TRUE that no longer can the church be distinguished from the world? Read this. It is taken verbatim from the Chicago Tribune: “There will be an agricultural exhibit, a horticultural show, a live stock pavilion, a poultry show, a machinery hall, trotting and running races, picnic games, a match baseball game between the doctors and the lawyers, a military bank, a boat ride on the lake, a Midway plaisance with numerous side-shows, curiosities, circus clowns, wonders from the Orient, giants, dwarfs, acrobats, tumblers, equestriennes, dancing girls, barkers, fakers, red-hots, popcorn, peanuts, pink lemonade, a dinner served by the Ladies’ Aid of the Methodist church, a tango contest, a prize maxixe, a pumpkin quadrille, a volunteer fire brigade, exercises by the school children, an address by Congressman Howell I. Dodge, singing under the direction of Angus Hibbard of the Presbyterian choir, a grand ballroom orchestra, dancing, a free hitching stand and boys to watch teams and rigs, amusements for the children, enticements for the young, education for middle aged, and edification for the aged—all mixed up and jumbled into the biggest circus that ‘Badger county’ has known.”

IN THE RAIDING of a drug store in Chicago, \$5,000 worth of cocaine, morphine, and other habit-forming drugs were found. Many arrests are being made for “illegal selling”—which means without a doctor’s prescription—and in one day two druggists were fined \$1,000 each and sentenced to one year in the bridewell, two were fined \$200 and costs each, and smaller fines were imposed on three others. It was disclosed that young boys were in many instances the purchasers. In commenting on this, the judge before whom the cases were tried said that a man guilty of this “was worse than a murderer.”

ELECTRIC BELTS, sold all over the United States, Canada, Sweden, Germany, Poland, and Finland, as a cure for various ills, have been exposed as a gigantic fraud by the government officials. The concern will be prosecuted as using the mails to

defraud. During the last few years, the profits of this fraud have amounted to \$50,000 a year. During the twenty years if its existence, it is said, the concern has made profits of more than a million dollars.

TWO THOUSAND INSANE persons are committed to institutions in Illinois every year, and this number is increasing at a rate that is out of all proportion to the growth in population. After hearing seventy-six insanity cases the other day, County Judge Owens said: “I place immorality above all other causes of insanity. By far the greatest number of those who pass through the insane court come here as the result of immoral lives.” Judge Owens also charged the moving picture craze as contributing to insanity.

A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY occurred in Chicago a few days ago. A lion and his cubs sprang upon their keeper, when he entered their cage, and, before help could be summoned, killed him and chewed his remains. The animals were all born in captivity, had been tended by the same keeper all their lives, and he believed he had perfect control of them. But in one unguarded moment, he lost his life.

THE FLAGELLATION, a barbarous custom of the middle ages, peculiar to the church of Rome, still obtains in certain parts of the Philippines. Eye witnesses tell of seeing this bloody and abhorrent “penance” practice near the La Loma church, of Manilla, following “Holy Thursday” and “Good Friday.” The poor, deluded people, who inflict upon their own bodies lashings with cruelly devised instruments, such as broken pieces of sharp glass set in clubs, and thongs with pieces of sharp stone attached to the ends, until they fall unconscious, and are then resuscitated only to repeat the horrible performance, do this in the Name of the Lord Jesus. At the commencement of the pitiful torture, the subject who is to go through the ordeal kneels before a small cross with the image of the Christ nailed to it.

BROKEN BONES and bruises came to seventy boys and girls packed into a big auto van, when it was overturned into a ditch in Chicago last Saturday night, because the driver tried to roll a cigaret.

ZION IN CHICAGO

We have leased for a term of years, The Plymouth Church Building, Michigan Avenue, between 25th and 26th Streets,

as the Headquarters of Zion’s work in Chicago. We shall, God willing, open this building on Lord’s Day Afternoon, June 28th.

This building is well located, and is well adapted as the Center of Zion’s work in the great City of Chicago. The main Auditorium and Prayer Room will seat 2000.