

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

THE THEME OF PROF. BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD OF THIS CITY AT

LAKE MOHONK CONFERENCE

He Cites the Progress Made in the Last Year in Arbitration.

Lake Mohonk, June 1.—The Lake Mohonk conference on international arbitration is being held and is well attended. The principal address today was by Benjamin F. Trueblood, L.L. D., secretary of the Peace Society of Boston, Mass. Following is a synopsis of the address:

The standard by which the progress of arbitration is now to be measured is the Hague Court, the way in which the governments act toward it and the people think and talk about it. With this standard before us, what has the last twelvemonth to show?

When we were here last year, the Court had dealt with and settled quickly and inexpensively the Pious Fund case, and we were throwing up our hats that the august tribunal had got successfully under way through the stimulation of the two foremost republics of this half of the world.

Since that time the court has had before it and disposed of the most remarkable lawsuit, if lawsuit is the proper name for it, which the world has ever seen. The question at issue was whether Great Britain, Germany and Italy, the three powers which had sent out their fleets to collect by force from Venezuela some debts claimed to be due sundry of their citizens, should have preferential treatment over the United States, France, Mexico, Spain, the Netherlands, Belgium and Sweden and Norway, in the payment of their claims from the thirty per cent. of the revenues of the two specified ports set apart for that purpose.

The three belligerent powers on the one side and the seven pacific ones on the other—five of them great powers, five of them smaller—appeared on an equality at the bar of the Court, represented each by agents and counsel as eminent as the civilized world could furnish. Just here lies the immense significance of the case. The decision has given great disappointment. Under the circumstances no other decision seems to have been possible. The award is likely to have considerable influence in inducing the governments of the world to observe their contracts and promises more scrupulously than they have heretofore done.

The Japanese House Tax controversy, which was referred to the Court before the Venezuela case, has not yet been disposed of. The written arguments have been presented and the counter cases will be presented in the course of a few months.

But the Hague Court has received still more signal support during the year. Great Britain and France, France and Italy, Great Britain and Italy, Holland and Denmark, Great Britain and Spain, France and Spain and France and Holland have, within the last eight months, concluded treaties under the terms of which they have pledged themselves to submit for five years certain classes of cases to the International Court. The treaty between Holland and Denmark is without limitations. The others reserve questions of vital interest and national honor, whatever these may be.

Besides the cases dealt with by the Hague Court a number of cases have during the year been referred to special arbitrators or arbitral commissions. The most important of these are:

The boundary dispute between Ecuador and Peru.

The claims for indemnity of French citizens on the Treaty Shore of Newfoundland, provided for in the general agreement between France and Great Britain.

The question of the boundary line at the entrance of the Christiana Ford, between Sweden and Norway.

The land question in the New Hebrides, between France and England, also provided for in the Anglo-French agreement.

The Barotzeland frontier question between Great Britain and Portugal.

The controversy between the Turk-

ish government and the administration of the Ottoman debt.

Within the year several cases referred to special arbitrators or commissions have been decided. These are:

The ten cases of claims against Venezuela, most of which are completed; these cases were really arbitrations as provision was made, in case of necessity, for umpires.

The interpretation of Article 10 of the Commercial Treaty of 1874, between Italy and Peru.

The Tientsin Railway Siding dispute, between Russia and Great Britain.

The Alaska Boundary dispute.

This Alaska Boundary settlement, though not strictly an arbitration, is a great triumph of the principle of pacific adjustment. The immediate dissatisfaction in Canada produced by the award seems largely to have passed away. The removal of the matter from the field of controversy will, in the nature of the case, have a decided influence in promoting friendly relations between us and our northern neighbor.

Besides the above cases, several which have been left over from previous years are still pending.

The most important event that has occurred in this country during the year in connection with the arbitration movement was the formation in Congress on January 23 of an American group of the Interparliamentary Union. This union which has been in existence for fifteen years, and has grown to be a powerful association of more than a thousand members, from the parliaments of all the constitutional governments of Europe, has hitherto had little to do with the United States, only two or three members of our Congress having been connected with it.

On the 12th of January, the day before the organization of the group above alluded to, a great conference was held in Washington in the interest of arbitration and especially of an arbitration treaty with Great Britain. This conference was organized under the lead of Hon. John W. Foster, for the past two years chairman of this Mohonk Conference, the National Arbitration Committee appointed by a similar conference in Washington in April, 1896. This conference which brought together a most distinguished body of men adopted resolutions urging our government to negotiate a treaty with Great Britain, and other powers ready to act, providing for the submission to the Hague Court of all controversies not capable of solution by ordinary diplomatic agencies. Both the president and secretary of state have expressed their cordial approval, but the senate, as a part of the treaty making power, has not yet shown itself ready to move in the matter. A sub committee of the senate committee on foreign affairs is reported to have in contemplation a comprehensive scheme of arbitration treaties with other nations going beyond anything that has yet been done, but so far as I know the details of the scheme have not been made public.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

For the May Musical Festival Held in This City.

Receipts.

Sale of tickets	\$2534.05
Advertising	210.00
Sale of platform	25.00
Total	\$2769.05
Expenditures.	
Advertising	\$270.62
Rental of music	111.07
Rental of Odd Fellows' Hall	79.00
Rental of Coliseum	134.50
Orchestra and soloists	1625.00
Program book	131.00
Decorations	25.00
Director	75.00
Accompanist	75.00
Sundries	224.79
Total	\$2750.99
Balance	\$18.06

The balance of \$18.06 is to be placed with the Dickinson Trust Co., to be turned over to the treasurer of a Festival Association if another organization is effected before June 1, 1906, otherwise this amount will be given to the associated charities of the city. This balance is left for the purpose of defraying the preliminary expense attendant upon the organization of a Festival Association.

The executive committee desires to express its appreciation of the assistance given by the chorus, the guarantors, the business men, and the public in making the festival a success musically and financially. It wishes especially to thank publicly the following business firms: Starr Piano Co., the E. G. Hill Co., Mather Bros. Co., D. W. Walters, Lee B. Nusbaum, and Fred. Grothaus.

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HOSPITAL

Sealed proposals will be received by the trustees of the Reid Memorial Hospital, Richmond, Ind., for the furnishing of materials and performing all labor necessary to the erection and completion of a Hospital building according to plans and specifications prepared by John A. Hascottter, Architect, Richmond, Ind., until 2 p.m. June 21st, 1904.

Bids will be received for the entire work complete, also for the various branches of the work. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check of \$600.00 made payable to the trustees of the Reid Memorial Hospital to be forfeited in case the contract is awarded to its maker and he fails to execute contract and furnish bonds as specified, within ten days after he is notified of the award for the faithful performance of the contract.

Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the Architect, Rooms 9 to 11, Colonial building, Richmond, Ind.

Bids must be made on schedule prices furnished by the Architect on application.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

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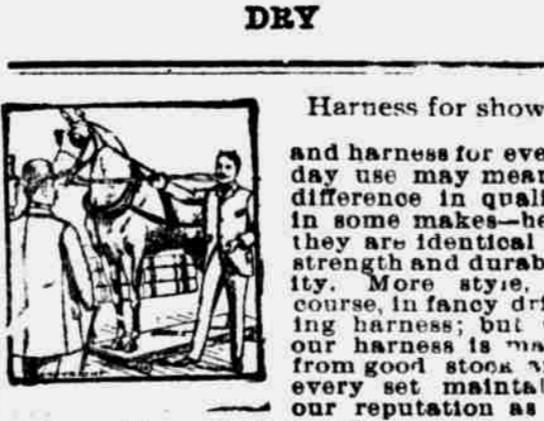
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