



THE BRIGHT SIDE OF THE STOCK-YARDS EXPOSURE.—IT IS NOT LIKELY THERE WILL BE NEED OF ANOTHER.

—Wilder in the Chicago Record-Herald.

The international conference of labor, of the representatives of the world's workers, should receive a kindly and cordial welcome. Much could be done by promoting peace principles in the press, by restraining the savage cartoonists and venal newspapers from sowing the dragon's teeth from which shall spring a bitter crop of hatred and international strife.

He suggests further, Government aid in the printing and distribution of books and pamphlets which make for peace, of which many are issuing from the press, the arranging for the reproduction of international primers or handbooks on current questions, all treated from the point of view that peace is the greatest of British interests. The approaching conference at the Hague furnishes an admirable opportunity for the initiation of such a scheme. Nations, he says, have souls as well as bodies, and we should appeal to the nobler spirit of our own people as well as of foreign people.

"By suppression of news, by the distortion and misrepresentation of facts, and by the persistent malevolence with

which some editors attack their neighbors, the newspaper has become the most efficient stirrer-up of strife. This is not due by any means to the fact that editors have more than their fair share of original sin. It is due to the far more serious fact that, as the immoral Dooley put it, 'Sin is news, and virtue isn't.' A quarrel between nations copy. There is not a 'stick' of matter in the mere absence of quarrel and the existence of goodwill."

Such a peace propaganda, if adopted by Great Britain, he declares, is certain to make the tour of the world.

#### THE PASSING OF THE EDUCATION BILL.

The passing of Augustine Birrell's Education Bill in the House of Commons by a majority of 192 is a notable result which was confidently anticipated. But in the House of Lords it will undoubtedly meet with a more bitter opposition. But the

common-sense views of the mass of England are bound to prevail in the end. When just across the Channel, France has risen and separated church and state, one could hardly expect Protestant England to wear the yoke of ecclesiasticism for long.

Indeed, so far has the pendulum swung that a local school board in Yorkshire recently refused to pay for religious instruction given in a certain school, and was sustained by the law in its refusal. Out of this has come a rumor that Non-conformists who have been imprisoned for refusal to pay taxes may yet be able to demand reparation.

The attempt at undenominational religious instruction in the schools as provided for by the new bill is no experiment. Under the Act of 1870, the Bible was read and similar instructions given, and six years after the passage of the Act the chairman of the London School Board stated that out of 126,000 schoolchildren only 124 objected to receiving such religious instruction. The United States is awaiting with interest the result of this undenominational teaching in the schools.