Address
of welcomes
of the International Convention
of the
delivered by
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Subject:
Welcome to the Land of Fruit and Flowers
Brethren of the International Convention.

Standing for the Y.M.C.A. of San Francisco, I bid you one and all a hearty welcome.

Our citizens have opened their homes and families to receive you as sons and brothers. You have come to a lovely country—a lovely country of many roses which has but few thorns—to a bright and happy people who delight in generous receptions and in happygiving hospitality.

We of this Coast believe that we have about the best climate this side of Paradise—the most abundant products and the most energetic people of the Anglo Saxon Race, to say nothing of the specimens we might furnish you of other races. But I assure you that in the fair sex we excel. The mothers and daughters here (and we say it without disparagement to our manly men) as they do in some other parts surpass the men. There are multitudes of them grown and other multitudes as beautiful growing. They are found in the homes or in school clusters like the superabundant flowers.

In the name of such fathers, mothers and daughters we give you welcome. Yet do not think you can get rest on these shores.

Nobody gets rest here. We have some afternoon breezes that stir us up and some morning ozone that stimulates no rest, except the rest of change. And we always make our guests work.

We welcome you because we expect much from you. We have stood before the great congregations, quoted the common text of discipleship, that of fellowship, and promised that you would bring to us to our families, to our Churches and to the outside people a great spiritual blessing. So, dear Brethren, you must work in prayer, in praise, in faith, in love as you come in and as you go out. You know what I mean. Do not leave us without giving us a double Pentecost. So, then, in the name of Christ our Blessed Lord and his work we bid you the heartiest welcome.

Oh let us draw deeply from the wells of Salvation and quaff together the draughts that our Lord alone supplies.

Our sister rooms press, both religious and secular, has already sent our welcome to meet you on the incoming trains.