

The Sun

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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Murphy's Judges. Hearst's Judges. Leonard A. Gleigebach. John W. Goff. John J. Brady. Samuel Seabury. Mitchell L. Erlanger. John Ford. M. Warty Platzky. Charles W. Dayton. Peter A. Hendrick. Charles L. Guzy.

Mr. Hughes's Advantage.

In the campaign for the Governorship, Mr. HUGHES has one great advantage over his opponent. He is not compelled to appeal for votes with half truths, or to clinch his argument with a non sequitur.

Mr. HEARST's situation is entirely unlike this. He must conceal some fact here, throw into undue relief another, brush this aside, and drag that in by the ears.

Thus far in the history of the State the methods practised by Mr. HUGHES have been esteemed the better by the voters.

Leopold and the Congo Infamy.

There are at last strong indications that the national conscience of Belgium has been aroused to the atrocities which have been committed in the Congo Free State.

Practically nothing has been done by King LEOPOLD to carry out these recommendations. The report was referred to a packed commission of fourteen members.

The main document relied upon is the report of the commission of inquiry which the Government of the Congo State is forced by international indignation to despatch in the autumn of 1904 to investigate the condition of affairs on the spot.

This report, which was published in November, 1905, constitutes the gravest indictment of the Congo administration, and the damnable effect of it is increased by the comments and conclusions of competent Belgian authorities.

As a matter of fact, the Congo State— which only by a ghastly misuse of language can be described as "free"—has ceased to be a State in the ordinary acceptance of the term.

It remains to be seen how the Belgian Parliament will deal with him in the session now close at hand.

The first question dealt with in the report of the commission of inquiry is that of land tenure, which, in truth, is fundamental.

Most of the Belgians' Americanisms have long since been proved to be Englishisms, and the users of the American dialect, so called along the Isis and the Cam, may feel content with their idiom.

Everywhere the rights of the natives in the land have been eliminated ruthlessly, except as regards individual ownership of huts in villages and the small cultivated plots immediately adjoining them.

As the greater portion of the land in the Congo region is not cultivated, the interpretation of the words "vacant lands" conceals to the State an absolute and extensive ownership over virtually the whole of the soil.

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It can forbid any one to establish himself on the greater part of the territory.

The iniquity of this system will be patent when we recall that the Congo State practically depends for its financial existence on the exploitation of the rubber forests which cover a great part of its area.

What means are employed to exercise coercion were set forth by M. VAN DER VELDRE in the Belgian Chamber of Deputies.

The means are, first, the chicotte, or hippopotamus whip, which leaves bloody weals on the bodies of those upon whom it is used.

Secondly, servile labor imposed upon the chiefs; thirdly, the seizure of hostages, and what is more terrible than all, the black soldiers of the force publique, whose intervention is indispensable to the working of the system.

The report of the commission testifies that these black auxiliaries, especially those who are stationed in the villages, abuse the authority given to them, make themselves into despots, and claim the women and food, not only for themselves but for the bands of rapine associates with them.

The worst of all is that of the unfortunate natives of a village which offers resistance for the moment successful. Such a village becomes the victim of a so-called punitive expedition whose weapons are wholesale conflagration and massacre.

The commission of inquiry was inclined to attribute the worst atrocities it took over and those which it has built, and yet Mr. WILLIAMS calls the service an "expensive failure."

After allowing less than 1 1/2 per cent. for depreciation upon lines capitalized at \$13,949,500, the profits for the year ending in March, 1905, were only \$38,357,400.

But the financial methods of the Council are peculiar; in the light shed by them the surplus disappears, leaving not a trace behind.

The cost of a tramway is transferred to the cost of the Borough Councils, the consideration being the improvement of the streets through which the tramway is to run.

It is enough under this arrangement, as Mr. WILLIAMS says, "to delude the citizens into the belief that the Congo Council is spending its money wisely and well, and making a splendid success of the municipal trading business."

The municipal steamboat service, viewed as a financial undertaking, is a worse failure. Last December the Council was obliged to admit that the service was conducted at a loss.

It was organized to eliminate the contractor. The city was to boss the job on public improvements and furnish its own materials.

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It has been denounced as a mad undertaking in the Council chamber, and Parliament has put a veto on it for the time being.

The offer of a private company to supply London with power at a moderate price has, of course, been rejected; it would be a black eye for municipal ownership to grant the charter asked for.

In spite of financial juggling and failures that are palpable the Council is always ready to try new experiments in municipal ownership.

Its object, apparently, is to become the universal employer and establish a system of socialism for the taxpayer to support.

He groans under the imposition, but he is outvoted by the sagacious tollers who lay 300 bricks a day for the Council and do other kinds of work on the same principle.

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scarcely American! The "scarcely" might well have been omitted, for "bus" is not American at all.

It is not American at all. Broadway had its stages long ago, Boston travelled in its herds, Washington rolls smoothly over asphalt pavements in carriages, and country roads the stage still carries the coach to remote settlements, and the mails to remote trails.

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After election, if their ticket be defeated, there will be time and reason for honest men to smile. If it succeed, men of a radically different moral cast will find good cause for rejoicing.

Warning to the Rich. The Hon. ALBERT JEREMIAH BEVERIDGE, addressing the free and enlightened electors of Dunkirk, Ind., on Saturday evening, uttered a warning that those whose base and traitorous conduct has called it forth must heed.

It is not enough from every point of view, but the deadly thing is that the managers of this great wealth constantly interfere in and with the people's government.

The charge that possessors of "great wealth" interfere in political contests and that some of them even dare to vote regularly at elections is an old one, but never before has it come with such authority as it derives from its latest author.

When Mr. BEVERIDGE says that the people's government has been interfered with no man may dispute him, for the Grand Young Man of Indiana is the people's government, and he is only relating his personal experience.

When a "manager of great wealth" sticks a knife into the people's government the senior Senator from the Hoosier State bleeds.

It is to be regretted that Mr. BEVERIDGE did not take the time to define the limits of permissible wealth. He said \$1,000,000 is too much for one man to have.

So too, he said, is \$1,000,000. What amount is not too much? Possibly there are capitalists who are "interfering in and with the people's government" who do not know that their wealth has crossed the dead line, and sin in ignorance.

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As to the matter of the "Hamlet" being written by Shakespeare, it is not a matter of fact, but a matter of opinion. The Council's scheme for supplying electric power to the whole of London is not received with enthusiasm by users of power.

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