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BURLINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 30.

WANTED.

When you want anything, advertise in the new special column of this paper. Some bargains are offered there this week which it will pay you to read about. See page two. This paper has more than 25,000 readers every week and one cent a word will reach them all.

TO TEST WEEKLY PAYMENT LAW.

The weekly payment law, which was passed last fall by the Vermont Legislature, will go into effect on June 1, and inasmuch as it is claimed to be of doubtful constitutionality and as it affects hundreds of corporations in all parts of the State, it has been arranged by the attorney-general and counsel for some of the larger corporations, to make up a test case for the supreme court at the next session of that body.

In the meantime all other proceedings under the law are to be withheld till the test case is decided. This plan, which is simple, will save both the State and the corporations from large expense in protracted litigation.

PRESIDENTIAL STRAWS.

It is becoming evident that while President Roosevelt might like to see Secretary Taft make his political hair appear, he does not intend to be put in a position where the failure of his secretary will to secure the republican nomination for the presidency can be held as a defeat for the Roosevelt policies. In other words, he proposes to have more than one straw to his presidential bow.

Evidence of this disposition on the part of the President is to be found in the manner in which the delegations representing various candidates have been received at the White House during the past few days. Word comes from Washington that Knox supporters are in fine spirits because of the word that has come down the line from the White House that the President would be highly pleased if his former attorney-general were nominated for President. A Pennsylvania delegation headed by Representative Barchfeld, who has seen the President, has given it out that the President commended Mr. Knox and said his nomination would be highly acceptable to him. Consequently the Pennsylvanians will go to Harrisburg June 4 and couple a hearty endorsement of the Roosevelt policies. Senator Knox is not handing back, but has plunged into the game and will do what he can to get the nomination. It is advised from the national capital that correct. With the solid Pennsylvania delegation back of him he would enter the convention as a formidable candidate.

On general principles Taft would probably make a stronger candidate than Senator Knox, for he is better known and he has also had a far wider experience in national affairs. A cloud has risen above the horizon of the secretary of war, however, in the shape of an objection to his candidacy by Wilbur F. Walker, secretary of the American Protective Tariff League. This gentleman has published an interview in Chicago in the course of which he pays a high tribute to the services of Secretary Taft as governor of the Philippines and as a judge. He insists, however, Mr. Taft "will not do as the standard-bearer of the Republican party at the next election. His policy, both in the Philippines and at the isthmus of Panama, was for free trade and not for protection of the American industries, which has always been the foremost plank in the platform of the Republican party. That is why Mr. Taft will not bear the standard of the Republican party next year."

Now it is hardly possible that the attitude of Secretary Taft on this very question of the tariff will make him more available as a presidential candidate. President Roosevelt himself is known not to be averse to a revision of the tariff, and it is not to be overlooked that a considerable number of republicans would like to see some of the tariff schedules revised, although Speaker Cannon well shows that the next Congress was elected on a stand platform. The fact that a republican favors a revision of some of the Dingley schedules does not therefore necessarily bar him from holding high office within the gift of the party, and this statement applies to the presidency as well as to subordinate offices.

In the meantime a number of the members of the New York Legislature have come out in open interviews in support of Governor Hughes for the republican presidential nomination, and they show that he would be as sound on the issues which have become paramount with republicans as would President Roosevelt himself. It is recognized that a strong point with the Hughes men is that he was elected by a substantial majority in New York, while other candidates on the republican ticket were defeated. The logical conclusion is that Hughes would stand a good show of carrying the Empire State where other might fail.

still a tremendous call for the renomination of President Roosevelt, and in all probability some of the States will elect delegations for him. This is particularly true of some of the western States, and southern States. The eastern States are more inclined as a rule to take it for granted that President Roosevelt meant what he said when he said he would not accept another term, although a host of republicans are still for him. It is evident that the republican nomination for the presidency is still in the air, and no one can with safety predict just what will happen.

AN OLEAGINOUS MINT.

In olden times it was customary when one wanted to speak of superlative wealth to say "as rich as Croesus." In modern times the ancient maximum of wealth has become altogether too insignificant to express the ultima of earthly acquisition. Nowadays we say "as rich as Rockefeller," and then we realize that we have mentioned only a fraction of the vast accumulation represented by that gigantic octopus known as the Standard Oil company.

Let us glance at the latest developments in connection with this oleaginous and apparently inexhaustible source of income. The dividend of \$9 a share for the second quarter of the year declared by the Standard Oil company, was as expected. In other words the Standard Oil company will disburse to stockholders in the first half of the current year amounts similar to those paid in the corresponding quarters of 1906 and 1905. An interest in the Standard Oil company says the corporation is doing a larger business than ever before in its history and that earnings are also establishing new high records. In view of this it would seem that the Standard Oil company could pay larger dividends to shareholders if it felt disposed to do so.

This great corporation has disbursed from January 1, 1905, to date a total of \$28,075,000 in dividends. If John D. Rockefeller owns a third of the stock, as some people credit him with owning, his income alone from Standard Oil over the last nine and a half years has been close to \$4,570,000, or \$375,000 less than his total fortune as recently estimated by one of his associates. If the Standard Oil company disburses \$9 a share in the second half of this year as it did in the corresponding periods of 1906 and 1905 it will have paid a total to stockholders in ten full years of about \$26,000,000.

The largest stockholders of the Standard Oil company are J. D. Rockefeller, H. M. Flagler, H. B. Rogers, William Rockefeller and Col. O. H. Payne. Mr. Payne is said to be the fifth largest shareholder, the market value of his shares being in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000. There are about 6,000 shareholders of Standard Oil so that all members of the corporation are not so wealthy.

The manner in which the valuation of the Standard Oil securities has soared is marvelous. These securities have also suffered repeated reverses. Early in 1905, when the government investigation of the Standard Oil company was started, its shares sold at \$29 1/2 and declined from around that figure to 65 in June of that year a paper loss of approximately \$40,000,000. In January, 1906, the stock sold at 700, but since that time it has been gradually declining and is now selling around \$29, which represents a paper loss of nearly \$200,000,000 in a little over a year. Standard Oil sold at \$42 during the first week in May, 1907, when it was paying at the rate of \$18,000,000 a year to shareholders. The quotation to-day represents a loss of approximately \$20,000,000 from the record high level established by the stock. In the panic of May, 1901, Standard Oil, after selling at \$42, broke 297 points a paper depreciation of \$1,297,000,000 to 625, but recovered all its loss later on.

Inasmuch as the oil supply of the earth is practically inexhaustible and the Standard Oil crowd have nearly all of the oil regions within our reach piped off, if not actually fenced in, the chances are that this monopoly will continue such, even though congressional legislation, judicial constructions and a hostile administration may prevail against it. In all probability, therefore, while values of Standard securities may fluctuate in accordance with temporary conditions, the actual worth of the same as a source of income may continue almost as unchangeable as our national securities. Great is Standard Oil and three generations of Rockefeller are its prophets.

HORRORS OF KING LEOPOLD'S CONGO REGIME.

The Free Press has already discussed the abuses of which King Leopold of Belgium has been found guilty in connection with the administration of affairs in the Congo region, but there are recent developments which demand attention from the people of this country and every other civilized nation. The King is unilaterally appointed to annexation of the Congo Free State to Belgium, doubtless fearing that closer relations would result in still further disclosures in relation to his abuses of the helpless inhabitants of that region.

King Leopold appears to have the whole situation in his own hands, however, his refusal to permit the Congo administration to furnish information concerning the finances of his African State to the parliamentary commission of the country, of which he is the constitutional king, practically checkmates the Parliament. Public opinion in Belgium is divided on the question. There is a natural antipathy on the part of many to Belgium embarking upon a colonial policy. There is a large body of stockholders in the concessionary companies who are content to receive big dividends and no questions asked. The commercial class

generally rears indirectly large profits from the wealth coming out of the Congo, and the mass of the people, dazzled by the magnificence of the monarch, his magnificent suite, the magnificent structure he is constantly building, are indifferent or on the side of the king. Nevertheless, sentiment in favor of annexation grows constantly.

In Parliament the majority is strongly convinced that the destinies of the immense black population of the king's African possessions, comprising 900,000 square miles, demand that a civil administration amenable to public opinion and a cabinet responsible to Parliament should be substituted for the irresponsible will of one man.

Whether the stories of atrocities and awful exploitations of the helpless blacks are exaggerated, the existence at various times and places of the most revolting abuses has been established, and the advocates of annexation argue that it is impossible to prevent their recurrence as long as the administration and exploitation of this vast territory and population is conducted secretly with the aid of half savage black native levies.

On the face of things the Congo administration goes annually deeper into debt. There is a chronic deficit. It has outstanding bonds amounting to \$60,000,000, not including the 27,000,000 francs loan made by Belgium, in return for which Leopold made his will in favor of the State. Notwithstanding the annual deficit of the administration, however, untold millions continue to pour out of the Congo. The profits of the concessionary companies are enormous—some of them paid five times its capital stock in a single year.

How, then, does the king's revenue really come? It has been estimated that \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000. He is supposed to get half the profits of the concessionary companies. It is the relation of the government of the Congo Free State to the companies and to the king's "domain price," their Belgian relation especially, which the Belgian Parliament seeks to vain. Above all, the king seems apprehensive of English intervention in favor of a conference to revise his trusteeship. The English interest is both sentimental and economic.

Stories of atrocities, revealed in detail by the tales of the Portuguese slave trade, which originally attracted the attention of humanity to the Congo basin, have aroused public sentiment, not even since the map was imposed in 1880, there has been a deep resentment in England because English goods are gradually barred from the Congo. The other country most favored by Leopold in the United States, and he has made an especial effort to disassociate America from England in any step the latter may contemplate. This is universally accepted as the secret of the immense concessions made by the king to an American syndicate. Irrespective of the king's political motives, it is unquestionably true that he greatly admires America, and is fond of Americans, and wants to get American energy enlisted in the development of the Congo.

In the light of recent charges an attempt has been made to whitewash the administration of affairs in the Congo Free State, but through the influence of the Congo Reform association the effort to disprove the charges in question has been effectually thwarted. As a result of this step the civilized world is again confronted by the necessity of intervention and the question now is which nation will be the first to respond to this call of suffering and downtrodden humanity.

SWANTON MISSIONARY MEETING.

The annual meeting of the St. Albans District Women's Foreign Missionary Society was held at the Swanton Methodist church May 24, with a large attendance of delegates and visitors. Mrs. C. E. Nutt, for 13 years president, having left the district, Mrs. R. E. White, vice-president, efficiently presided. The morning session was given to reports of officers and roll call of auxiliaries, Young Women's societies, Standard Bearer, King's Herald and Little Light Bearer. These reports were very encouraging. Appreciative words of greeting were given by the Rev. M. H. Shibles, pastor of the entertaining church, the Rev. E. J. Bawlow, pastor of the Congregational church and the Rev. S. Donaldson, St. Albans. Miss E. L. Harvey offered the nonsectarian prayer. Mrs. M. E. Donahue conducted the vocal hour and memorial service. Tributes were given to Mrs. Bellows of Poinsett, Mrs. Hutchinson and Mrs. Judd of Enosburgh Falls, Mrs. Nancy Nelson of St. Albans and Mrs. Matthews of Underhill. The latter, though almost 70 years of age, kept her missionary interest to the last. The Rev. W. D. Mahoun had been an inactive member for many years.

Review of the "Heroes of the South Sea" with map exercise by Miss C. S. Lawrence was a model and would be helpful for any auxiliary.

A paper of especial interest on "The India Jubilee" was given by Mrs. G. W. Hunt. Mrs. H. C. Johnson addressed the mothers of "Our Little Light Bearer" and secured the amount to make Duane Barnes a Little Light Bearer life member.

An interesting children's hour was filled with fine speaking and singing by the Swanton King's Herald's band. Solos were rendered by Miss Houghton at Swanton, Mrs. Judd of Swanton and Miss Marion L. Collins and Arthur C. S. Beeman of St. Albans. Miss Harvey of Batavia, India, gave a thrilling address in the evening.

The next meeting is invited to be held in St. Albans.

THE SHELTON HORSE SHOW.

Arrangements have been perfected for the second annual horse show of the Franklin County Fair association, which will be held at Shelton June 12 and 13. The races, include three events, all half mile heats, and are as follows: First day, 2:30 pace and 2:30 trot, purse \$50; second day, 2:30 pace and 2:30 trot, purse \$10; 2:24 pace and 2:30 trot, purse \$60. It is expected that the number of horses entered for the show will be over double that of last year.

Congressman Kittredge Haskins has appointed Will Carleton Perry of Putney a midshipman at the U. S. Naval Academy to fill the vacancy caused by the failure of the regular appointee to pass the examinations. Mr. Perry was graduated from the Brattleboro high school in 1895.

NEW YORK FASHIONS

The Modes and Fancies Embodied Therein—Vols Popular This Season—Rubberized Pongee.

Eyebot embroidery will remain in vogue just as long as its faithful adherents can keep it. Of all the modish work types it lends itself to the most fancy effects and is of all of them, the most universally popular. Few strikingly new patterns crop out in it from year to year, for past years seem to have exhausted all of them that are desirable. Moreover, just now, with the liking for things quaint, the traditional wheel and spring patterns are right in order.

Vols is as popular this season as it has been for the two past seasons, and now it is not only the checked and striped variety, but we see a resurrection of the plain kind. The latter is often made up over figured fabrics, so the effect of the plain and fancy materials are in the end, about the same. Both the checked and striped vols figure among the fancy sorts and the colors are of the unobtrusive kind, usually combining several shades of the one color of a shade with an undercolor or a trim line.

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CO-OPERATIVE FARMING.

At the close of 1905 17,162 co-operative farming associations existed in the German Empire, with a membership of more than 1,000,000 farmers. 16,250 of the above number of associations were co-operated. Out of the 9,411 associations operating in Prussia 5,546 facilitated credits to farmers, 156 attended to the supply and demand and 1,724 to dairying.

In Bavaria 7,614 of the 3,234 associations were at work to furnishing credits to agricultural undertakings. 24 to 25 per cent of the demand, and 24 to dairying and 20 to various other purposes, all, however, fostering mutual assistance to husbandmen and thus tending to his benefit.

The co-operative associations of credit expert loans amounting to, on the average, from \$17,000 to \$72,000 annually. In 1905 the co-operative bodies for the creation of demand purchased fertilizers, fowls, seed, coal and other items amounting to \$1,023,500.

On the other hand, the centers of supply and dairying, which in a comparatively short time have entered a career of great prosperity, received more than \$95,000 on their transactions.—The Village.

LABOR IN NEW ZEALAND.

(From the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.)

The more detailed the information we get about the operation of the compulsory arbitration law in New Zealand, the less satisfactory it appears. The law in its present form offers no means by which strikers can be made to abide by an adverse decision of the board of arbitration. They can be fined, but it is argued that the fines are inadequate. One authority declares that no fines which the workers could pay, either as individuals or as a union, would be enough to bring about a great strike. It might impose on an important manufacturing concern. It is held that the government itself must be compelled to carry on the business that is suspended by strike or lock-out—must save the employers from loss when strikers refuse to accept the employer's decision, or save the workers from loss of wages should employers refuse to continue work after a lock-out.

BETTER DAYS AHEAD.

Days keep slipping fast away,
April fades an' den it's May,
May is leavin' an' den it's June,
Lif' 'yef eyes an' den it's June.

Don't sit weary 'bout de cold,
Watch dem blossoms dat unfold,
Savin' 'wif a nod an' smile,
'Summer—in a little while!

Every leaf up in de tree
Wants de sun, like you an' me,
Savin' white day shivers som',
'Foster days is 'bout to com'!

TURK'S
For Auto Coats,
Auto Caps,
Coach Derbys,
Coach Straw Hats,
Coachman's Collars.

TURK'S,
Where the Styles Come From

COLD WEATHER AND TRADE

Low Temperature Have Kept Down Sales in Dry Goods and Clothing.

Reports to Bradstreet's for the week contain considerable comment on cold weather which has prevailed a larger part of the week. Effort has been to keep down sales in retail dry goods and clothing. In the latter case when goods have been late in arriving for spring business, the orders have been cancelled. Farmers are still planting but have not the weather cold and wetness in getting crops in ground it is feared will have detrimental effect on crops as it will shorten the growing period. Grass is growing well, some show showers have fallen in places while in other areas are needed. Prospects for the coming season are generally good, but some manufacturing concerns are worried by the weather. Wholesale grocers report good demand for goods. Grain manufacturers are rushing work for Memorial day and with this set up it is expected that collections will be well improved. Dealers in building material and wood working plants of Burlington are well employed and while orders are not as heavy as corresponding period last year a good volume of business is being done. Retail merchants find unseasonable weather has affected large business concerns. Manufacturing plants are well employed and wood working plants of Burlington are well employed and while orders are not as heavy as corresponding period last year a good volume of business is being done. Retail merchants find unseasonable weather has affected large business concerns. Manufacturing plants are well employed and wood working plants of Burlington are well employed and while orders are not as heavy as corresponding period last year a good volume of business is being done. Retail merchants find unseasonable weather has affected large business concerns. 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