STANDS FIRMLY FOR PROHIBITORY LAW

Governor Hartness Expresses Views to President Harding

Attends Conference of Governors, Says Vermont Needs More Enforcement Officers, Pledges State's Support.

Col. Ernest W. Gibson, secretary of civil and military affairs, reached his home Tuesday noon from Washington, where he went with Gov. James Hartness Monday, following the conference of governors at White Sulphur Springs. President Harding having called the governors of various sections of the country into conference with him over the situation as to the enforcement of the Volstead act in their respective states. Governors were present from Oregon, Idaho, Minnesota, Indiana, Arizona, Alabama, Massachusetts, Maryland, West Virginia and some other states, also Attorney General Daugherty, Prohibition Director Haynes, Vice President Coolidge, and Secretary of the Treasury Mellon.

Following a luncheon at 1.30 the President outlined the condition confronting the nation and the different propositions with which the officials have to deal and called on the different governors for a statement as to the situation in their states and their views in regard to the enforcement of the Volstead act.

Governor Hartness stood squarely for the enforcement of the law and pledged the full co-operation of Vermont to that end, but he made it plain that by reason of the geographical location of Vermont next to the Canadian border the number of enforcement officers was far too small.

After one governor had said that no attempt was made in his state to enforce the law as to light wines and home brew President Harding asked the other governors to indicate what was being done with respect to those liquors in their states. A large majority indicated that an attempt was being made to enforce the law literally.

Governor Hartness pictured Vermont as adjoining the wet province of Quebec and said that by reason of the location of the state rum-runners were using the highways for illegal transportation for this and other New England states. He said the professional rum-runners were well organized and daring in their work, making it difficult to enforce the law as it ought to be enforced. He stated further that this state was free from some of the difficulties experienced in other states, by reason of the fact that there was no great foreign element here.

He told the President that during the time Vermont was under local option the liquor dealers apparently were more afraid of the revenue officers, who exacted the government tax on dealers, than they were of local officers and that much the same condition exists now, violators being more afraid of the federal officers than they are of local officers. He pointed out that while Vermont is making progress and the situation is fairly well in hand, yet by reason of being on the shortest route from the Province of Quebec to New England that state has very grave problems of enforcement to deal with, also that the small number of enforcement and revenue officers were unequal to cope with the situation. We need more enforcement officers in all branches, he said, and a speeding up of enforcement work.

The governor said he believed, however, that Vermont was making progress, and he used as an illustration the stopping of a fast-moving train by a quick application of the brakes. The train does not stop immediately, he said, and added that the momentum of custom was as real as the momentum of Nature. He expressed the opinion that the initiative of the President, followed by the action of the governors, would bring new life into the enforcement of the law, and he pledged the full co-operation of the state of Vermont.

GRAND JURY INDICTS 26.

Reported Wednesday Afternoon, Which Finished December Term of United States Court Here.

Twenty-six indictments were found by the grand jury in the December term of the United States district court, which opened here on Tuesday morning and closed shortly after 1.30 on Wednesday.

Aside from the naturalization on the first day the business of the term was limited to the grand jury proceedings. District Attorney V. A. Bullard presented evidence in 29 cases, a large proportion of them being rum running cases, and the grand jury completed its work about noon.

No announcement of the names of the persons indicted is made, as they have not been arrested under the indictments.

Judge Howe intends to return to Brattleboro soon to preside at some hearings.

Court began Tuesday at 9 a. m., Judge Harland B. Howe of Burlington presiding. Court officials present besides Judge Howe were Clerk Henry Conlin of Burlington, the deputy clerk, Miss Susie E. Wilson, U. S. Dist. Atty. V. A. Bullard of Burlington, his secretary, Miss Bessie H. Weller, U. S. Marshal A. W. Harvey of Chester, and Deputy Marshal Henry C. Lawson of Montpelier. Sheriff Frank L. Wellman of Brattleboro was bailiff in charge of the grand jury.

The grand jury was sworn and Judge Howe appointed Alson J. Dugan of Brattleboro foreman. The grand jury then, in secret session, began listening to evidence presented by Dist. Atty. Bullard. The other members of the grand jury were F. A. Blood of Townshend, Arthur G. Burbee of South Windham, A. H. Crowninshield of Jamaica, N. R. Davis of Grafton, Freeman Hager of Jacksonville, E. H. Jones of Newfane, Paul P. Jones of Windham, Fred O. Merrifield of Grafton, Edward B. Rawson of South Londonderry, B. E. Shippee of Whitingham, D. J. Smith of Putney, Frank L. Stratton of Williamsville, Henry C. Stratton of West Townshend, A. R. Underwood of Newfane, E. C. Wellman of Westminster, George Wilder of Guilford and Edward Zeno of Bellows Falls.

Attorney Paul A. Chase of Brattleboro was admitted to practice in the United States court.

Aside from the grand jury work the principal business was naturalization work. Following were admitted to citizenship: Bridget Curry, 75 Linden street, Brattleboro; Bridie Curry, 75 Linden street, Brattleboro; John Algot Scherlin, Vernon; Ralph Edgar Moreton, 42 Maple street, Brattleboro; Iida Johanna Halonen, formerly of Wardsboro, now of Webster, Mass., whose name was changed to Hannah Halonen, by which name she has been known many years.

Petitions for naturalization, which is the last step before final hearing, were made by Henry Octave Rousseau, 1 Riverview street, Brattleboro; Harvey Martell, 335 South Main street, Brattleboro; Hulda Eleanor Kugge, 8 Estey street, Brattleboro; Eric Johnson, Vernon.

Declarations of intention were filed by Hilma Matilda Peterson, 2 Oak street, Brattleboro; Hilma Caroline Osterholm, 2 Linden street, Brattleboro; Ebba Kugge, 8 Estey street, Brattleboro; Elna Kugge, 8 Estey street, Brattleboro; Anthony Garrity, 181 Elliot street, Brattleboro; Giuli Andognini, Mountain Mills, Wilmington; Mary Papiessy, Putney.

IMPRESSIVE GIFT SERVICE.

Baptist Bible School Members Bring Gifts for Local Distribution.

The white gift service at the First Baptist church Sunday evening was very successfully carried out and delighted all attendants. An exceptionally large attendance of Bible school, especially in view of the storm, occupied the main floor of the auditorium. The rostrum and choir space had been turned into a large cathedral with imitation leaded windows, organ, etc., through or past which the various participants, 40 or more, were seen passing while attending the mimic service. The whole scene was in pantomime with special focused lighting from the gallery while the electric lights of the auditorium were extinguished, leaving candles in every window to enhance the temporarily out-door effect while looking into the cathedral and following the Christmas service going on.

The beautiful children's story, which may be had from the local library, was read by Mrs. Arthur L. Maynard very clearly and was enacted in close connection therewith. The scene at the close, when the gift to the poor children was accepted as the best illustration of the Christ spirit, was honored by the ringing of the chimes and followed by an outburst of melody from the organ leading the whole congregation in the singing of Joy to the World the Lord Is Come, was thrilling in the extreme and fittingly closed this part of the program.

The early part of the program was introductory to the gift-bringing. This opened with singing by a double quartet of old Christmas hymns, appropriate music by the organist, Kenneth Wells, by the orchestra, a trombone solo by Stanley Lazelle and vocal solo, Holy Night, by Margaret Morse, the church being in semi-darkness and lending special impressiveness.

The whole service was planned and arranged by a special committee consisting of Miss Helene Moore, chairman, Mrs. A. P. Simonds and Mrs. F. W. Milkey, aided by Norman MacMann, who had entire charge of designing and erecting the scenic cathedral.

The gifts were liberal, covering three long tables in front of the rostrum, and including nearly $50 in money for the help of those most deserving. Gifts will be distributed Friday morning and any who wish to add to the collection either cooked foods, poultry, meat, etc., can leave them at the church Friday morning.

ASHUELOT MILL CHANGES.

Hampshire Woolen Co's Plant, Which Has Been in Hands of Receivers—Bought by Vermont Man.

The Hampshire Woolen Co's plant at Ashuelot, N. H., which has been in the hands of receivers for several months past, has been sold by the receivers, Arthur R. Jones of Keene, N. H., and George W. Brown of Boston to William Walker of Evarts, Vt., who has been the manager of the Otter-Quechee Woolen mills in Evarts. The Hampshire Woolen mills have been in existence for more than 50 years, manufacturing woolen goods.

The price paid for the real estate, water power, machinery and all the personal property was $37,500, and that paid for the stock in trade $21,783.92. A deed of the property has been filed at the office of the registrar of deeds in Keene. It is reported that Mr. Walker plans to continue the manufacture of woolen goods in the factory.

WARNING TO DOG OWNERS.

Complaints of Dog Chasing Deer Being Made.

Complaints are beginning to come to the fish and game department about dogs chasing deer. Some dog owners seem to think that because they have paid the license fee their dogs can run at large and hunt whenever and whatever they please, but the law does not permit this. An owner or keeper who permits his dog to run at large and chase deer is liable to a heavy fine, and unless some dog owners take warning they will have to justify themselves before the court. A man who has a decent dog and permits it to run around the country unhampered except by the dictates of its own will, is running a big risk of not only losing his dog, but also of losing some cold cash besides. A word to the wise should be sufficient.

E. H. METCALF,
County Warden.

Brattleboro, Dec. 20, 1922.

POSTMASTER AT WALPOLE.

Town Clerk Carleton E. Sparhawk Gets Notice from Washington.

(Special to The Reformer.)

WALPOLE, N. H., Dec. 21.

Town Clerk Carleton E. Sparhawk has received notice from Washington, D. C., of his appointment as postmaster of Walpole, succeeding Russell Graves, who has held the office the past eight years.

Mr. Sparhawk is a clerk in Metcalf & Cabalane's store. He was not opposed in his canvass for the postmastership. He will take the office as soon as the delayed commission is received. He was postmaster here 15 years, previous to Mr. Graves's appointment.

The Morning After Halloween.

There was tumult in the village,
Angry rushing to and fro,
Chorusing of indignation,
Threatenings neither soft nor low;
For November's sun in rising
On the morning of the first
Let a scene of wild confusion
On the public's vision burst.

Law firm's sign was millinery
With the notice hanging down:
"We're the slickest pair of trimmers
"To be found in any town."
On the doctor's door was posted:
"Climb the undertaker's stair;
"If eventually you'll have to,
"Why not go at once right there."

Real estate man at his office
Madly started in to rave
At the barber's pole and placard,
"Here you get the closest shave."
And a crusty bachelor tailor
Swore in furious outbursts
At the signboard to him given:
"Great attention paid to skirts."

Neighbors, who from strained relations
Didn't usually speak,
Had to call upon each other
Vanished blinds and steps to seek;
And they all glared with suspicion
At the youngsters they would meet,
Looking perfectly unconscious
Of the rumous in the street.

—Georgia White in Springfield Reporter.

Recuperative Effect.

Considered with reference to its recuperative effect, there is not so much good in the ordinary vacation as there is in a single bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla. The latter costs $1; the former—well, that depends; how much did your's cost last year?

Hood's Sarsaparilla refreshes the tired blood, sharpens the dulled appetite, restores the lost courage.—Advertisement.

ADVICE TO LEGISLATORS

"A Common Citizen" Urges Them to Be Wary of Wolf Who Simulates Sheep—Don't Change Statutes Blindly.

Advice to new members of the legislature:

Don't get all fussed up and have nervous prostration thinking over the big reforms you expect to inaugurate when you arrive at the capitol. When you get there you'll find you amount to about as much as a flea on the well populated carcass of a hound dog. You may agitate the cuss so he'll take an extra jump, but neither of you nor anybody else can tell where he'll finally land.

If you've got a well deserved local reputation as a slick "hoss" trader you'll probably get along first rate with some of the politicians, for "swoppin' hosses" is their big stunt. If you can swop with them so as to gain in the long run almost as much as you lose, you'll soon be hailed as a real political wise guy. "Horse-shedding" is one of the fundamentals of a political career, but now that the automobile has changed the horse shed to a garage you need to watch out or you'll get political asphyxiation trying to run the old machine with the doors closed. Times have changed a bit, you'll find.

The trouble with the state as with some humans, is that it has a champagne appetite and only a beer income. Either the appetite must be carefully restrained or the income will have to be increased, which means reducing, by taxation, the wage of the laborers, the great mass of the people who support the state, and a careful study of recent strikes will soon convince you how kindly the laborer takes to a reduction in his wage, especially when it has already been reduced about to the limit. Don't crowd the government-supporting population too far or another big strike may result. Taxation, like death, is one of the things we all expect to experience, but "too much is too much by a — sight," as the minister told his parishoners after the benefit pound party to which each of 497 kind friends had contributed a pound of rice.

The closer you stand to a thing the more of your vision of distant scenery is obscured. Because a big appropriation of the state's money will benefit your own town of Skeedunk is no sign for the state as a whole. A grain of sand in your eye seems like a big thing to you, but the neighborhood as a whole will be much more animated by and interested in the birth of triplets at John Smith's or the poster on the town hall announcing the coming of a town show. Get the comprehensive statewide view of things.

Because you are a farmer or a manufacturer or a merchant don't blindly support every measure alleged to be beneficial to your particular class and turn down without intelligent consideration all other measures. It is said that sometimes a wolf assumes the general appearance of a sheep when he gets hungry enough. Likewise special interests have been known to howl loudly in favor of measures that they say would hasten the millenium for farmers, or merchants, or whatever class they wish to capture politically. After "the deed is d'd" they then crawl around with the saliva of greed dripping from their hungry jaws and say: "Kindly scratch my poor back. Remember that I scratched yours the other day when it itched." And when you stoop to the disgusting task you are allegorically speaking, devoured by the horrid beasts. It is true that the farmer feeds the world, but that single fact does not entitle him to any special consideration. He doesn't do it because he is a philanthropist. He does it because that the way he, from choice, gets a living for himself and family. The merchant, the banker, the manufacturer and innumerable other classes of people contribute equally as much to the economic welfare of civilization and the state.

In a way the farmer occupies a better strategic position than do some other classes of producers, because he produces food, and can feed himself and family whether or not other clases buy his products. You can't starve him out if he does a little work. But how about the manufacturers? If no one buys his products he is a "goner." He can't eat locomotives, or automobiles or pickaxes. He has to sell his products before he can eat anything. Of course the farmer and everybody else will be happier and the welfare of all people greater when all classes have equal opportunity under the law to produce and exchange equitably among themselves their various products, hence I say to you scan closely all proposed laws which may give special privileges to any one class of people, and such scanning must be done carefully intelligently and conscientiously, for, as I have said, wolves sometimes assume the general appearance of sheep.

Reformers are necessary to the march of progress and civilization, hence reformers, as a whole, are desirable even if some of us common people do have hard work reconciling the propaganda of certain self-styled reformers with our inherent common sense. You may be an A No. 1 natural born reformer with a mission, but the law of averages is dead against any such supposition on your part.

The chances are that you are just an average, every-day, common-sense citizen with no special talent as a reformer, and consequently much more valuable to the state in your natural condition than you would be if inflated and raised to the dizzy heights so essential to genuine reforming. You'll feel more natural, too, and do lots better work if you don't allow yourself to become unduly elevated. If you have a natural talent at "wind jamming," some of the reformers may cuddle up to you and try to persuade you to fly with them to the heights, but don't permit them to temp you. Stay where you belong and use your common sense, if you have any, and you haven't you deserve pity, for everybody will find it out before you get back home, especially if you do a lot of foolish talking.

Remember that the old state has managed to stagger along for several years under the present laws, meeting some trying situations in a fairly creditable manner, and not being wholly bankrupt yet. Before you vote to replace statutes whose workings have already proven fairly acceptable by new laws based on untried theories you had better stop and carefully consider the result to the welfare of the state as a whole. Don't be a "nut" but use your "nut" if there is anything in it.

A COMMON CITIZEN.

BIG VOLUME OF MAIL.

From 6 to 10 O'clock Yesterday Morning 191 Sacks of Mail Were Received at Local Postoffice.

Santa Claus is going to be very generous with everybody this Christmas, according to the number of packages that are being received and sent out at the local postoffice. Postmaster Moran says that the Christmas business this year is likely to beat all previous records. The full working force of the postoffice is at work and almost every bit of available space is being used. All the clerks are working overtime and the work is proceeding with the utmost precision and despatch and thus far the close of the postoffice at night has seen every piece of mail sorted and delivered.

Some idea of the work that the men are doing is shown by the fact that up to 10 yesterday morning, 191 sacks of mail had been received since the office opened at 6 o'clock. Of this number 115 came down from White River Junction on "The Owl" train, where all Vermont mail is being sorted.

The record of sacks of mail received and despatched for the past six days is follows:

	Despatched	Received
Friday	564	217
Saturday	444	191
Sunday	10	92
Monday	501	270
Tuesday	568	381
Wednesday	639	342

Postmaster Moran says the local office has the situation well in hand. While he anticipates a very heavy business up to the close of this week, he believes many people have observed the request of the department in getting packages started early. A larger volume of packages was handled late last week and early this week than at any previous Christmas season, indicating that patrons are believing more and more in the "Mail Early" campaign.

Extra help has already been added to the regular force and more men will be added this week as needed. Francis Austin is assisting in the main office and Substitutes Ralph L. Burdett and Caryl George are assisting in the parcel post delivery. Three sleighs have been used for this delivery for the past two days and it may be necessary to increase this number as the holiday approaches. The parcel post men make as many trips as they can each day. As soon as one load is disposed of they return to the office and load up with another.

TWO OLD RESIDENTS DIE.

Deaths Yesterday in Saxtons River of Marshall A. Wilder, 82, and Miss Harriet Foster, 85.

SAXTONS RIVER, Dec. 21.

Two of the oldest and lifelong residents of this village died at their homes here this morning, Marshall A. Wilder, 82, and Miss Harriet Foster, 85.

Mr. Wilder was for many years the well-known proprietor of the old Saxtons River hotel previous to its demolition in 1903 to make way for the present Saxtons River Inn. His father, Abel K. Wilder, was proprietor before him. Marshall Wilder never married and leaves no near relatives.

Miss Foster died at the home of a niece, Miss Edith Foster, where she had made her home many years. She leaves no nearer relatives than the niece.

In this town, Rockingham, thus far this month 15 deaths have occurred. Of these three were over 90 years, three over 80, four over 70 and one over 60, making a remarkable record of longevity.

England has nearly 900 women magistrates.

Of Interest to Women

Kentucky Corn: Two cups corn, 1 cup milk, 2 eggs, seasoning, 2 tablespoons melted butter. Beat the eggs until light, add them to the milk, then stir in the corn and the melted butter. Season to taste, turn into a buttered baking dish, place in a pan of hot water and bake in a moderate oven just until set, like custard. Either fresh or canned corn may be used.

I am told the yellow spots on white ivory toilet articles can be removed by rubbing with peroxide of hydrogen.

Save all your fruit juices from your canned things for your mince meat.

When punching a new hole in a sewing machine belt, heat a hatpin very hot and it will penetrate the belt like magic.

Curried Lima Beans: Cook one cup of Lima beans, covered with boiling water, with a sliced onion. Add a half cup of sweet corn or one-fourth cup of rice, one cup of tomato soup and one teaspoon of curry-powder. Simmer until the vegetables and rice are done. Add a little strong stock, salt, pepper and butter, simmer and serve.

Paper stuck fast to the polished top of a table may easily be removed by putting a few drops of oil on the paper and rubbing gently with a soft cloth.

To prevent brown sugar from getting hard, place a sliced apple in the jar.

A pinch of salt added to coffee before it begins to percolate will give a delicious flavor and prevent the cheapest coffee from tasting bitter.

So often in cutting cheese, especially rich cheese, it sticks to the knife-blade and spoils a nice slice. To prevent this, put the knife-blade in boiling water just before cutting, and the slices can then be cut as thick or thin as desired and not crumble or break.

In hanging out clothes in cold weather, add a little salt to the rinsing water and the clothes will not freeze to the line.

Home Topics.

Once upon a time there was a woman whose house ran badly because she was always getting rattled. Then a change came over her and her environment. Little by little her life straightened out, her house became orderly and her days likewise. A friend, likewise of the nervous type, always behind with everything she wanted to do, asked her secret.

"It's very simple," said the serene friend. "In fact, simple is the word. When I get all fussed over the number of things there are to do in a day, I just stop everything and sit down and simplify. I pick out the things that are absolutely necessary and I arrange time for those first. Then I scrutinize the rest of the planned activities with an eagle eye. If they can be cast off entirely, I do so. I try not so much to postpone as to clear out. Postponing is apt to clutter up the future. The first thing I know all the necessary things are done and the day has a margin of pleasantness and peace. It's the unruffled mind that turns the trick." Next time you get yourself into a mess, just stop right where you are, sit down and simplify.

SALLY T.

WHITINGHAM.

Blast Damages Station.

The New England Power Co. at Davis Bridge did some damage to the railroad station Tuesday afternoon, when they let off a blast of dynamite on the hill close to the east side of the building. Every window was shaken out downstairs, and all the front ones in the tenement above were served likewise. Mrs. Davis's house plants, which filled the front windows, were thrown to the floor and the pots and vases smashed. The windows were boarded up until they could be replaced.

Increasing Red Cross Interest.

Mrs. Gladys Davis, chairman of the Red Cross roll call for Whitingham, has reported to the chapter office in Brattleboro the enrollment of 276 members, against a quota of 162, which indicates an increasing interest among the residents in Red Cross work and the principles for which Red Cross stands.

Vesta Sawyer and Mrs. Houghton Sawyer were shoppers in North Adams Saturday.

Mrs. Fullerton and young son, George, are staying with her brother on the Goodnow farm.

Mrs. Inez Davis of Readsboro is teaching the No. 9 school and boarding at her home in Readsboro, driving a team back and forth.

Mrs. Whitman Wheeler and children have returned from Worcester, Mass., where they attended the funeral of Mrs. Wheeler's mother.

The village schools were closed Monday on account of measles. The Percell children at Davis Bridge and Harold Murdock, who lives in the village, are ill at present.

Mr and Mrs. Pliny Crafts of Wilmington spent the week-end at J. R. Gillett's, and Saturday they motored to North Adams, accompanied by Mrs. Gillett and Miss Hester Crawford.

Cora Gillett is home for a two-weeks vacation from Wilmington high school. Dorice Kentfield came home Thursday morning from the North Adams high school for a vacation of the same length of time.

Among the shoppers in North Adams this week were Mrs. T. J. Taylor, Mrs. John Sullivan, Mr. and Mrs. L. Deming, Mrs. G. W. Kentfield, Mrs. Provost, Mrs. Jerman, Mrs. Mable Jillson and Mae Stinson.

Old-Time Weather Phophets in Vermont.

In Washington that old man, Prob.
Is mostly always on his job;
Sometimes he ain't. But in Vermont
There used to be—depend upon't!
In days of yore, some prophets who
Could read the calendar right through;
Forecast, not only one day's weather,
But bunch the season all together.

Barometers they didn't want,—
Those weather prophets in Vermont.
They diagnosed climatic ills
As doctors do malarial chills.
More signs they had to prove their knack
Than has the Solar Zodiac;
And if they failed they knew the cause;
The gulf stream wasn't where it was.

Old Bijah Pike could "tell as how"
When in the fall hair on the cow
Or cat grew thick "You might's well know
Four months on runners folks would go;"
Jack Frost would long be hangin' 'round
And snow lie deep upon the ground.
But by some goosebone fol-de-rol
Zack Yan proved not much snow would fall.

From weather prophesying I
Will just switch off to tell you why
Old Bijah changed his residence,—
Migrated from Mount Holly hence;
For somehow, I'm inclined to want
To talk of winter in Vermont.
Where fences disappear from sight,
Like old Pompeii, overnight.

Old Bijah in Mount Holly dwelt,
Where snow in May begins to melt.
He'd chopped and logged it many a year
Ere he could read his title clear;
Then he made up his mind to go
To live at Bethel 'Lympus, so
He wouldn't have to on bare ground
Three months each year go draggin' 'round.

As dispensation from the Lord,
Those men agreed with one accord
If sun shone out on Candlem's Day
The ground hog in his lair would stay
And winter in the lap of spring
For six weeks more be lingering.
Old Zack allowed it might be eight
Ere 'Old Red Rob' would seek his mate.

But Zaccheus was a pessimist,
And argument could not resist;
And his prognosticating power
Would fill the weather bureau drawer.
The Durfee boys said Uncle Zack
Was some like Ayers'es almanac;—
Strung his predictions out so long
They surely couldn't all go wrong.

As each month's final Friday was
So next month's weather's be, because
No surer sign was even known,
Not hog's melt, even, or goose-bone;
Zack Yan since eighteen forty nine
Had noticed that last Friday sign;
And what, forsooth, old Zack averred
Folks knew was truth and had occurred.

Thick husks in autumn on the corn
Meant early winter, "sure's you're born."
But preadventure, husks were thin,
"Green Christmas" winter would begin,
And that meant grave yards waxing fat,
Old Doctor Richmond well knew that.
And winter's rigor, some folks felt,
Depended on the porker's melt.

The time the wild geese made their flight
The weather-wise would never slight;
And when the wedge-shaped flock flew South,
They skyward gazed with open mouth.
And if the migratory bird
Made early flight their pulses stirred
All-thought-of drifting snow and ice
And four-foot-cordwood's nascent price.
In newo' the moon they planted peas,—
Or was it old? just as you please.
Some skeptics thought it food for mirth
To say they planted in the earth.
But earth or moon, those wise old tops
'Most always got the biggest crops;
And folks who flout such certain signs
Will get few peas, but mostly vines.

I really can't tell all I want
About those prophets in Vermont;
More weather lore those men possessed
Than meteorologists have guessed.
But as all plans of mice and men
Sometimes go wrong, it was so then;
Dry weather signs oft time brought wet;
Some people say 'tis that way yet.

L'envoi.

But where are those old men today,
Whose memory my dream doth haunt?
They saw the sign-end went the way;
Those weather prophets in Vermont.

—MILTON GLIDDEN BROWN.

Ocean View, Norfolk, Va.

Plug tobacco is the sole currency used by the inhabitants of some of the more remote Fijian Islands in the South Pacific ocean.

LET PRISONERS GO TO PROVIDE ROOM

Many Others at Windsor Considered for Parole

As Fast as Prisoners Are Released Others Come In—State Appropriation of $100,000 to Be Asked.

The state of Vermont is somewhat at a loss at the present time to know what to do about its state prison problem at Windsor. The prison there is congested with prisoners, there being 320 inmates with accommodations for only 210.

In order to relieve this congested condition, many prisoners now in the institution who have good prison records and who it is believed will try to live better lives when they are released are under consideration for parole.

A batch of recommendations already has gone to Gov. James Hartness for approval and of 50 such prisoners and who have been recommended for parole 30 already have been released. Among those who have been gotten rid of are three candidates for deportation. They are Italians who have families in Italy and they are anxious to get back to their native country and say they never will return to the United States. Four men are wanted by other states and already have been turned over to these authorities, and it is probable that this procedure will be used in the cases of other men who are wanted elsewhere. Four boys have been sent to the Lyman School at Westboro, Mass., and three boys have been returned to the state Industrial school at Vergennes.

In spite of these releases, the situation is still acute, for prisoners are arriving at the institution with as much rapidity as the men are paroled; yet, the state is obliged to get along as well as possible by this method until some solution to the problem is found.

In order to determine who is in line for a parole, the record of every individual in the prison has been investigated with thoroughness. Each case stands upon its own merits. The records are investigated by Col. E. W. Gibson of Brattleboro, secretary of civil and military affairs, and those records that are recommended by Ralph H. Walker, superintendent of the prison, and by Judge John E. Weeks of Middlebury, director of state institutions, are sent to Governor Hartness, who passes upon each case individually.

There are many cases of boys and young men whose records are now in the process of investigation, and it has been shown that many of these are youths from Massachusetts who have come into Vermont as runaways. While in this state they have committed theft or some other offense in order to provide themselves with money wherewith to exist. Many of these boys are from 17 to 22 years old and have good records previous to their present incarceration.

It has been suggested that the Riverside Reformatory at Rutland might be used advantageously to relieve the present congested situation at Windsor, but the prison committee is averse to utilizing the available room there for two reasons: First, the building that could be used for this purpose is in very bad repair and would require the expenditure of several thousands of dollars to put it into good shape for housing men; and, second, the state of Vermont has found by experience that it is bad penology to house men and women together in the same institution, all woman prisoners convicted of offense in this state being sent to Rutland.

As the problem is now shaping itself, the state, pending an addition to the prison, must be liberal in its parole system or move the House of Correction which is now part of the institution at Windsor, to Rutland, and in that case the question arises, What will be done with the women at Rutland?

This unusual situation will continue to be a problem for the state until an addition to the present institution is built which will provide for housing more prisoners. Steps toward this end cannot be taken until next month, when the legislature will meet. At that time it is said that it will be necessary for the state to appropriate $100,000 or more for an addition to the institution or for a separate building, following out whatever recommendations the state prison committee may make.

At the present time work is going on in connection with the building of the extension of the prison wall so as to include a factory building now outside the present walls. This construction is the result of an appropriation of $10,000 recently made by the state committee on budget, following out the provisions of the statute which requires that prisoners cannot be housed in the state prison unless suitable provision is made to keep all the inmates at work. At the present time there is not sufficient work for the 310 prisoners in the prison factories, but as soon as the new wall extension is built so as to inclose another factory, work will be provided for all. The building of the wall is being done by the prisoners themselves, under rigid supervision so that every man is at work, and as soon as the wall is finished the men engaged on that project will go into the prison factories.

Too Considerate.

Mrs. Newbride—When you found that you couldn't accept the invitation to our wedding, you might have sent your regrets.

Cynical Friend—Oh, I thought you'd have enough of your own pretty soon, dear.—Boston Transcript.

BRATTLEBORO MARKETS.

Retail.

Butter, creamery, lb.	.65
Butter, dairy, lb.	.52
Oleomargarine, table, lb.	.30-.35
Oleo, nut, lb.	.30
Home-made lard, lb.	.20
Lard compound, lb.	.18
Eggs, local, fresh, doz.	.75
Flour, bread, ½ bag	1.25-1.38
Flour, pastry, ½ bag	1.10
Sugar, white, lb	.08½
Beans, white, lb.	.12
Beans, yellow eye	.12
Rolled oats, lb.	.06
Rice, whole, lb.	.10
Corn meal, cwt.	1.95
Cracked corn, cwt.	1.95
Bran, cwt.	1.75
Provender, cwt.	2.00
Middlings, cwt.	1.80
Oats, bu.	.66
Hay, baled, ton	33.00
Bacon, lb.	.40
Bacon, Swift's Premium, lb.	.50
Beef, roast, lb.	.30-.40
Sirloin steak, lb.	.50
Porterhouse steak, lb.	.50
Round steak, lb.	.40
Pot roast, lb.	.12-.22
Pork chops, lb.	.35
Sausage, lb.	.25
Salt pork, lb.	.18
Ham, sliced, lb.	.60
Lamb, leg, lb.	.45
Lamb chops, lb.	.45-.60
Veal, steak, lb.	.55
Fowls, lb.	.40
Broilers, lb.	.45

Wholesale.

Hides, lb.	.05
Pork, dressed, lb.	.12
Pork, live, lb.	.09-.10
Veal, live, lb.	.08-.10
Calfskins, each	.50-1.00
Fowls, live, lb.	.23
Eggs, local, fresh, doz.	.60
Butter, creamery, lb.	.55

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Practical and attractive gift sets for red-blooded American boys, consisting of Baseball sets, Football sets, Boxing Gloves and Playground sets and Golf sets for children from three to ten years.

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The above are suggestions for Christmas Gifts — there are others in this little store that may interest you — call and look 'em over.

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