PRIMARY ELECTION BILL INTRODUCED

Measure Submitted by Mr. McCuen Resembles Kansas Law and Gibson Bill.

STATE BOARD AGRICULTURE

Bill for Its Creation Carries Appropriation of $25,000—Burlington Traction Co. Would Issue Bonds.

Montpelier, Oct. 21—The Legislature worked industriously to-day and after transacting a considerable amount of routine business, adjournment was taken this afternoon until Monday. The House will go in at two o'clock Monday afternoon, and the Senate at 7:30 in the evening.

The House this morning took up the first thing as unfinished business, the bill which changes the name of Otter Creek to Otter river, which was under discussion when an adjournment was reached Thursday afternoon. In the absence to-day of Mr. McCuen of Vergennes, who is sponsor for the bill, it was again ordered to lie.

The bill introduced to-day by Mr. McCuen of Vergennes, which creates a State board of agriculture, forestry, publicity and exploitation, carries an annual appropriation of $25,000 and provides $3,000 per year for the salary of a commissioner.

Mr. Ellis of Brookfield introduced a resolve to substitute imprisonment for life for capital punishment which will necessitate discussing this question in spite of its chance by the present legislature. In this connection a bill will later be introduced to commute to imprisonment for life the death sentence of Frank Kent.

PRIMARY ELECTION BILL.

Perhaps the bill of greatest interest introduced to-day was the primary election bill presented by Mr. McCuen of Vergennes and embodying the platform pledges of both parties in Vermont. This bill contains 18 closely typewritten pages and it took Clerk Hunter 40 minutes to read it. It follows quite closely the Gibson bill of two years ago and is somewhat similar to the law now in force in Kansas.

Another bill introduced to-day by Mr. McCuen of Vergennes, provides for reimbursing the Baxter National Bank of Rutland for the $20,000 bonds issued of it by Attorney-General Sargent and State Auditor Graham to pay certain claims against the State that could not be met in 1909, because of a deficiency in the appropriation for the administration of justice.

Mr. Peck of Burlington introduced a bill to-day amending the charter of the Burlington Traction company which empowers that company to issue additional bonds to the extent of $300,000.

After an animated discussion which was decidedly one-sided because 9/10 who favored the measure, the House killed with hardly a dissenting vote the bill empowering the public service commission to establish a code of demurrage rules similar to those in force in other States. This bill came into the House with an adverse report from the committee and was opposed on the floor by Mr. Rabbitt of Rockingham, Mr. Shaw of Stowe, Mr. Brownson of Hardwick, and Mr. Daniels of Warren.

OFFICIAL RECORD OF DAY

SENATE—MORNING.

READ THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

S. 9—An act to amend section 48 of No. 231, acts 1902, incorporating city and town of Barre.

HOUSE BILLS REFERRED.

H. 17—A act prohibiting payment of fees to justice of the peace in criminal cases, State and court expenses.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

S. 17—By Senator Clark of Rutland, an act providing for the indexing of probate records. (Each judge of probate whose office is not provided with a general card index of records shall within two years from December 1, 1910, provide same. Auditor of accounts authorized to draw orders for the same when approved by the commissioner of State printing.) General committee.

S. 18—By Senator Barden of Rutland an act to equalize taxation.

Section 1, public statutes, section 496, is hereby amended by adding thereto subdivision XV as follows: Money loaned in this State upon real or personal property mortgages as security, rate of interest not exceeding 4½ per cent, such money not exempt in excess of listed value of property so mortgaged. Rate of interest to be specified in the mortgage and note.

Sec. 2—When more than 4½ per cent. is paid upon indebtedness claimed exempt, person so paying recovers interest provided by law in recovery of usury.

Sec. 3—Existing mortgage debts subject this act, by recording town clerks office in town where mortgage is recorded, signed by the parties of rate interest such debt shall bear.

Sec. 4—Persons claiming exemption under this act shall state tax inventory, amount which exemption is claimed, interest paid names of persons owning such debts.

Sec. 5—No deduction for debts owing shall be allowed a taxpayer.

Sec. 6—Savings banks, trust companies, insurance companies holding indebtedness exempted under this act may deduct such indebtedness from the gross amount on which they are required pay State taxes. To committee on grand list.

On motion of Senator Davis of Windsor the Senate adjourned.

SENATE—AFTERNOON.

On motion Senator Darling Senate is to meet at 2:00 p. m. Monday.

Senator Daniels asked to reconsider motion to meet at 2:00 p. m. This was voted.

On motion of Senator Daniels of Washington Senate is to meet at 7:30 p. m. Monday.

On motion of Senator Seaver of Orange Senate adjourned.

HOUSE—MORNING.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

H. 9—To change the name of Otter creek to Otter river. In the absence of Mr. McCuen of Vergennes, on motion of Mr. Stone of Wallingford the bill was ordered to lie.

ADDITIONAL PRINTING.

On motion of Mr. Martin of Brookline the clerk was instructed to procure the printing of 300 extra copies of the Senate and House joint committees and the House committees.

On motion of Mr. Calderwood of St. Johnsbury the clerk was instructed to procure the printing of 200 extra copies of the weights and measures bill. (H. 29.)

BILLS INTRODUCED.

H. 69—By Mr. Stafford of Brattleboro, to provide for the medical inspection of public and private schools. (School directors may appoint medical inspectors, provided voters so instruct). To joint committee on public health.

H. 70—By Mr. Hunt of New Haven, to increase the jurisdiction of justices of the peace in civil cases to have jurisdiction of actions of a civil nature where debt does not exceed $200. May try and determine prosecutions and actions of criminal nature, where punishment is by fine not exceeding $5, or imprisonment not exceed 30 days. To committee on minor courts.

H. 71—By Mr. Freeman of Milton, to amend section 2236 public statutes, as amended by No. 82 of the laws of 1908, relating to the election of town officers. (Provides for a return to the old system of electing selectmen yearly). To judiciary committee.

H. 72—By Mr. McCuen of Vergennes, an act to amend No. 11, acts of 1908, relating to the creation of a board of agriculture and forestry. (Creates State board of agriculture, forestry, publicity and exploitation, of Governor, director of Vermont experiment station and three citizens to be appointed by the Governor. Governor to appoint commissioner of agriculture January 1 at salary not to exceed $3,000; also a director of publicity and exploitation at salary to be fixed by Governor. Appropriates $25,000 annually. To committee on conservation.

H. 73—By Mr. Ellis of Brookfield, to abolish capital punishment. To general committee.

H. 74—By Mr. Barton of Plymouth, relating to danger signals and speed of motor vehicles. (Sometimes upon petition of 10 voters shall place at corners or curves of highways, signs painted, reading "Signal, run slow." Speed limit eight miles at such places). To general committee.

H. 75—By Mr. Roberts of Rupert, to protect fur bearing animals. (Close season for fisher, skunk, muskrat, mink, sable, fox or coon between April 1 and November 1. A fine of $50 for digging from its burrow, a skunk, muskrat or mink). To joint committee on game and fisheries.

H. 76—By Mr. Jackman of Waltham to amend section 525 of the public statutes, relating to the granting of licenses. (In towns voting license, in addition to one for 1,000 inhabitants, there may be granted in addition, licenses of the fifth class to the following number, not more than two in each town so voting where the population does not exceed 2,000 and an additional one for each 2,000 population additional. These limitations not to apply to the number of licenses of the fifth class which may be granted in towns voting so. To joint committee.

H. 77—By Mr. McCuen of Vergennes, to pay John G. Sargent and Horace F. Graham the sum therein named. To committee on appropriations.

H. 78—By Mr. Stone of Wallingford, (by request), to amend section 155 of the public statutes, relating to additional polling places. (Selectmen in towns of two or more villages on petition of 10 voters shall, at least 40 days before a general election fix number of polling places in such town, not to exceed the number of such villages). To committee on elections.

H. 79—By Mr. McCuen of Vergennes, an act relating to primary elections and repealing acts in conflict herewith. To committee on internal affairs.

H. 80—By Mr. Peck of Burlington to amend the charter of the Winooski and Burlington Horse Railroad Co., now the Burlington Traction Co., empowers the company to issue bonds.

READ THIRD TIME.

H. 19—Relating to debts exempt from trustee process. Opposed by Mr. Chapman of Windham. Mr. Clark of Cavendish proposed an amendment striking out the No. 10 exemption. Mr. Boyce of Waterbury opposed the amendment. On motion of Mr. Dartt of Springfield the bill was ordered to lie and was made a special order for Tuesday, October 25, at 2:30.

THIRD READING ORDERED.

H. 2—Relating to the public service commission.

H. 47—Fixing the dates for holding county court in Rutland county.

H. 55—Relating to the sale of commercial fertilizers.

H. 56—Amending act incorporating the American Fidelity company.

H. 5—To refund the Agricultural College fund loan of 1912 (as amended.)

KILLED.

H. 25—To amend section 3032 public statutes, relating to marriage.

H. 3—Amending act relating to sale of land taxes. Rising vote 55 to 99.

On motion of Mr. Shaw of Stowe it was voted that when the House adjourn this afternoon it be until Monday afternoon at two o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Brunswick the House adjourned.

HOUSE—AFTERNOON.

ORDERED TO LIE.

H. 24—Amending act incorporating the trustees of the Soldiers' Home in Vermont. Made special order, after being read the third time for next Tuesday at three p. m.

READ THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

H. 30—To amend the act incorporating the E. & T. Fairbanks company of St. Johnsbury.

H. 36—To amend act granting certain powers to the village of Hyde Park.

H. 59—To amend act incorporating the Fairview Casualty company.

JOINT RESOLUTION.

Instructing joint standing committee on industrial school to visit that institution. Adopted in concurrence.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED.

S. 6—An act to amend section 2935 of the public statutes, relating to husband's right to waive will of wife. To judiciary committee.

S. 9—An act to amend section 48 of No. 211, of the acts of 1902 entitled "An Act to Amend No. 165 of the Acts of 1894 Incorporating the City and Town of Barre" and all amendments and additions thereto. To committee on municipal corporations.

KILLED.

H. 45—To repeal section 1004 public statutes.

H. 46—Providing for the election of a State highway commission.

THIRD READING ORDERED.

S. 5—To amend section 520, public statues, relating to appeals from the first decision of listers.

KILLED.

H. 37—Empowering the public service commission to establish a code of demurrage rules. Opposed by Mr. Babbitt of Rockingham, Mr. Shaw of Stowe, Mr. Bronson of Hardwick, and Mr. Daniels of Warren.

On motion of Mr. Hays of Goshen, adjourned.

STATE GRAND LIST $2,070,405

Figures Compiled by Tax Commissioner and Secretary of State Show Good Increase.

Montpelier, Oct. 23—By doing a little necessary work after attending church this morning Guy W. Bailey, secretary of state, and J. E. Cushman State commissioner of taxes, completed this afternoon a compilation of taxation statistics for the year 1910. These figures show that the total grand list of the State this year $2,070,405.46, the total amount raised by taxation is $3,703,007.36, the rate per thousand is $17.8883, and the average rate on the dollar is $1.79.

A comparison of these figures with those of former years shows that the rate has been steadily increasing from year to year. The figures in 1909 were as follows: Total grand list, $2,043,534.89; total amount raised, $3,577,672.97; rate per thousand, $17.507; average rate on the dollar, $1.75. In 1908 the total grand list was $2,014,723.19; total amount raised, $3,398,752.81; rate per thousand, $16.706; average rate on the dollar, $1.67. In 1907 the rate on the dollar was $1.67, in 1906 it was $1.69 and in 1905 it was $1.60.

COMMISSION NAMES DATES

Newport, Oct. 25—Rufus W. Speed, clerk of the board of public service commissioners, makes public the following dates:

November 1, the commission will inspect the Delaware & Hudson railroad and beginning on the morning of November 2 will inspect the Rutland road. The hearing in the case of J. C. Jones vs. New England Telephone & Telegraph Co., which was continued to November 2, is further continued to November 17.

THE BATTLE HYMN.

How Julia Ward Howe Gained a Place in American Hearts.

(From the New York Tribune)

Julia Ward Howe gained a lasting place in American hearts with her "Battle Hymn of the Republic." It was an inspiration that came to her while visiting Washington with her husband in the closing days of 1861. They were watching a review of the Army of the Potomac, on the Virginia side of the river. A sudden attack of the enemy interrupted the manœuvres and delayed the return of the party. They beguiled away the time by singing "John Brown's Body," and the soldiers took up the refrain. The swinging verses sung by the marching throng made a great impression on the author.

"Awakening before dawn the next morning," she afterward told a friend, "I found myself seeking to give form and shape to certain lines that seemed capable of being sung to the 'John Brown' music. Line after line swiftly shaped itself in my mind, and when I had thought out the last of five verses I resolved not to risk the danger of their effacement by a morning nap. So I sprang out of bed, and in the dim, gray light found a pen and paper, whereon I wrote, scarcely seeing them for I had long been accustomed to scribble in a room made dark for the repose of my infant children—the lines of the poem as it now stands."

The lines were published soon afterward in the Atlantic Monthly. They attracted little attention, however, till more than a year later, when they found their way into a southern prison. A northern army chaplain, confined there at the time, came to Washington after his release and told how the federal prisoners had been insdred by the hymn. It became immediately a popular battle song. The hymn follows:

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightnings of His terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps;
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps
His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel, writ in burnished rows of steel;
"As ye deal with my contemners, so with you My grace shall deal;
Let the hero born of woman crush the serpent with his heel,
Since God is marching on."

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat;
O! be swift, my soul, to answer Him! Be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on.

NEW WAY OF COLORING WOODS.

The use of colored woods in the construction of furniture has long been known, the material being stained after the necessary seasoning process. Within the last few years, however, a method of Austrian origin has been employed whereby the wood is colored in a green state.

By means of heavy pressure in a closed vessel the sap is driven out of the wood and is replaced by the coloring fluid, which may consist of a solution of the more permanent aniline dyes. The best kinds of wood for treatment are found to be birch, beech, alder, plane, elm and lime; oak fir and pine being unsuitable because they do not stain uniformly.

The colored wood is used for furniture making and for the manufacture of doors and window frames, says Harper's Weekly.

TELLS OF SHORT WEIGHT SWINDLE

Vermont Consumers Suffer for Lack of Proper Laws, Says H. W. Clement.

STATUTE A DEAD LETTER

No Attempt Made to Enforce It in Recent Years—Conditions as Found by Inspector in Larger Towns.

Montpelier, Oct. 20—At a hearing this evening on House bill 20, amending the laws relating to the regulation of trade and the inspection of weights and measures the following address was made by H. W. Clement of Rutland, who was on the commission appointed by Governor Prouty to investigate the subject. Incorporated in it are reports on local conditions received by Mr. Clement from the United States official who investigated the matter in the larger places of the State.

MR. CLEMENT'S ADDRESS

"The laws of the State of Vermont in relation to the subject of weights and measures have been upon the statute books for a number of years, and no recent revision has been made. They provide that there shall be sets of standards in each county and town throughout the State; that the State, county and town treasurers shall be ex-officio sealers of weights and measures, and penalty is provided for other any apparatus not conformable to the standards adopted by the State or for altering any apparatus and making false use of the same after it has been sealed by the local official.

"The system as provided for is undoubtedly a very poor one for a number of reasons. First, the persons who are authorized to do sealing are all ex-officio officials and are thus chosen wholly without regard for their capabilities for performing the work which thus devolves upon them. Second, it appears to be poor policy to have a separate official in each township since the volume of work any one man will be called to do will be so small that no man will gain sufficient experience to render the test which he may make a guarantee of the accuracy of the apparatus. Moreover, a very large number of sets of apparatus must be provided, a great majority of which will be put to no good use. Third, there is no compulsion put upon the treasurers to test and seal the apparatus in use in their various districts, nor are the merchants required to see to it that their apparatus is sealed. The provision is that the State, county, or town treasurers shall prove and seal scales, weights and measures presented to them for that purpose. Also since a fee is charged for the sealing of such apparatus the merchants will in almost every case neglect to have such service performed.

REVISION OF LAWS NECESSARY

"The section providing a fine for the use of faulty apparatus is practically useless since no machinery is provided for the prosecution and punishment of offenders. And in any event conviction would practically be impossible since fraud must knowingly be committed and this provision makes it necessary to prove the state of mind of the user of the faulty apparatus. All of the above objections to the law are general and would exist if the law were enforced. It is a fact that at the present time the law is practically a dead letter and it is evident in recent years no attempt has been made to enforce it in the major part of the State. Thus the county and town treasurers are in many cases ignorant that they have duties under this law.

"This State may be said then to have no inspection of the weights and measures in use in trade and existing conditions must be considered with this in mind. A thorough revision of the laws now upon the statute books will be necessary before this State can afford proper protection for its citizens in this important matter.

"In the last few years several cities have endeavored to remedy this neglect within their boundaries by the passage of local ordinances and the establishment of a department of weights and measures. Burlington and Rutland have local ordinances in reference to weights and measures. The Rutland system has lapsed for several years on account of lack of co-operation in adjoining sections of the State and on account of objections of the merchants to the payment of fees. In Burlington, weights and measures are still being inspected but the failure is here almost entirely to be attributed to the fee system in vogue, preventing co-operation between the merchant and the sealer.

"The condition of the apparatus in use, the manner of sale of commodities and the weights of amounts of commodity delivered are most deplorable and undoubtedly result from the lack of protection afforded by the State statute."

CONDITIONS IN MONTPELIER.

"The conditions found in Montpelier do not differ materially from those in other cities. Only 54 per cent. of the scales tested are correct; all of those specifically listed deliver less than the quantity represented. Sales of dry commodities by the illegal liquid measure is here very prevalent and the usual large shortages result. In other cases the legal weights are often disregarded and short amounts are delivered accordingly. Thus one merchant is found who delivers only 40 pounds for a bushel of apples and proportionate weights for subdivisions of the bushel, while others deliver 44 pounds. These shortages are 13 and 4-12 per cent. respectively. Other commodities are sold similarly short weight while a number of merchants use the 'guess method' of filling bags. And this method as in previous cases is followed by large discrepancies.

"The difference of the average weight of brands of print butter sold as pounds is found to be 5½ per cent and as before short prints perdominate, the average of all those weighed being only 15.45 ounces, a shortage of 3.4 per cent. The half pound prints average 7.69 ozs., the amount delivered in this case being 3.9 per cent. short of the quantity represented by the manufacturers and retailers.

CONDITIONS IN BARRE.

"Conditions here compare with those detailed previously. Forty-one per cent. of the scales are here incorrect and about three-quarters of those specifically listed deliver less than the quantity represented. The State laws in relation to the sale of dry commodities are constantly being violated and large shortages are delivered.

"As usual a large amount of butter is sold in print form and is furnished almost exclusively by dairies and creameries located within the State. Some brands of butter weighed are full and even over weight while others are very seriously short. Thus the average weight of one product discovered is 16.14 ozs., an excess of one per cent., while another product weighed only 14.81 ozs., per average print. Both of these brands were on sale in the same store, the prints of each being identical. Competition between two dealers in this commodity is practically impossible and the honest manufacturer is bound to suffer through the unscrupulous methods of his competitor. Short prints greatly predominate here, the average weight of all one-pound prints inspected being only 15.41 ozs., the half-pound prints average only 7.57 ozs. The prices on these prints being fixed by the value of a pound of the commodity, the monetary loss to the consumer is considerable.

"An instance showing how the lack of an inspection service and suitable laws can nullify the advantage following the inspection service elsewhere is shown by the manner of sale of small fruit and berries in this city. Berries are received from other States by dealers here in baskets holding about 65 cu. in., a shortage of only three per cent. from the represented quart, and are then turned over before being sold into baskets holding only 51 cu. in., a shortage of 25 per cent. Thus each three quarts received are transferred into four so-called quart baskets and each basket contains 25 per cent. less than should be delivered.

"Same milk bottles are discovered which have a greater error in capacity than should be allowed. Some of the few packages done up ready for delivery show undoubted intention to defraud. Thus shortages of about 1.4 pound on 5 pounds are discovered with no faulty apparatus to which this discrepancy can be attributed.

CONDITIONS IN RUTLAND

"The general conditions existing here are very unsatisfactory, and the need of some official to supervise the business of the city is very apparent. This official should not be under the fee system, however, as it is provided in the present local ordinances, since the conditions wishes should be remedied do not depend entirely upon the falsity of the apparatus. In another are more general in character, and it has been shown that in practically every case, the sealer, working under the fee system, will devote all the time spent upon the duties of his office to the apparatus alone, and none to the manner of use of the same, and the manner of sale of commodities; since for the latter work no compensation is required under this system.

"Of the scales in use 41 per cent. of those inspected are faulty and the large majority of these are working to the detriment of the consumer, more than 90 per cent. having a greater error than 4 per cent. while many are 9 per cent. and even 12 per cent in deficiency. These figures indicate large loss to the consuming public and a very insecure basis for fair and honest competition among the dealers in the city. While it is probable that many of the errors are accidental in character and result from ignorance rather than fraud, it is, however, shown that in one store every scale in use is more than 6 per cent. in favor of the merchant, while in other stores from 75 per cent. to 100 per cent. of the scales in use are fast, the errors ranging from 3 per cent. to more than 12 per cent.

"Of the dry masures tested only 44 per cent are correct, all the others being short from 2 per cent. to more than 9 per cent. In addition dry commodities are very frequently sold by liquid measure, the usual shortages approximating 10 to 15 per cent on each sale made. When dry commodities are sold by weight, less the legal weights are being delivered in a number of instances. Some merchants sell by neither weight nor measure, but approximately fill certain sized bags and deliver these amounts of commodities for standard quantities. Specific instances on packages thus put up indicate that large shortages result from this method also. Sixty-two per cent. of the liquid measures tested are incorrect, all of these being small and shortages on oil pumps vary from 7 to 23 per cent.

"In this city a large amount of the butter is delivered to the consumer in "bricks" or "prints" represented as pounds or half pounds; the prices of this butter so delivered are fixed by the prevailing prices of a pound of butter. This butter is furnished to the retailers by various creamery and dairy companies, nearly all of which are located within the State. While the product of some manufacturers is heavier than others, the average weight of practically every brand weighed is less than that represented. The average of all pound prints inspected is only 15.31 ozs., a shortage of .69 ozs., or 4 per cent. This shortage is a very large one and has very rarely been exceeded in any section of the country thus far covered by your inspectors.

"As before noted these prints are sold as pounds and charged for as pounds and the actual monetary loss to the consuming public is very large in consequence. This condition may only be remedied we believe by the appointment of an official with sufficient power to check such fraudulent sales. And until such official is appointed the public and the honest competitor will continue to suffer.

CONDITIONS IN BURLINGTON.

"The condition of the apparatus here, although slightly better than other cities in this section, is unsatisfactory, even though the majority of this tested has been sealed within two months, the sealer having started on his yearly trip some time previous to this inspection. The apparent causes of this condition have been described heretofore. Thirty-six per cent. of the scales are found to be faulty, while 22 per cent. of the weights and 37 per cent. of the measures are in this condition. As before many dry commodities are sold by the illegal liquid measures, usual shortages resulting from this method. Also, the weights given in some cases do not conform to these established by law, and paper bags are again approximately filled and the amounts delivered show serious resultings shortages.

"Condition and as before it is largely put up within the State. The average weight of all pound prints tested is 15.59 ozs. a shortage of .41 oz. or 2.6% per average print.

CONDITIONS IN ST. JOHNSBURY.

"Sixty-five per cent. of the scales tested here are listed as correct, while those scales listed as incorrect in the percentage columns are all prejudicial to the buyer and deliver less than the quantity represented. In addition there are a large number of scales in use which vary more than should be allowed, which should be repaired before the use of the same should be continued. These scales usually deliver correct quantities on a few values although on other values correct weight is not indicated. In many cases it is impossible for the users to discover such errors before a competent test is made and many such errors are thus creeping in without the merchants being aware of their presence.

"As before the method of selling dry commodities is very faulty. And all the incorrect methods previously detailed are found in use here. That conditions like these should be systematized there is no room for doubt, and such an endeavor is a part of the legitimate functions of the sealer of weights and measures.

"Several brands of print butter sold here as half pounds average slightly over weight, while others are very seriously short. Thus one brand averages 8.06 ozs. in weight, while another sold as the same amount weighed only 7.19 ozs., a difrence in actual weight of .87 oz., or about 11 per cent. per average print, of these two brands. No difference in price is noted, however, on account of this discrepancy, and that fair competition in this product is impossible, there is no room for doubt. The predominance of short weight brands and consequent loss to the consumer is shown by the general average of all prints which is only 7.56 ounces, a shortage of .44 oz., or 5.5 per cent. average print. Assuming that only 1-3 of the total consumed here is sold in print form, statistics prove that the loss on butter in this form alone to the people of St. Johnsbury amounts to about $1,000 a year.

"In some stores short weight and measure is constantly being delivered as is proven by packages done up ready for delivery weighed by your inspector. In one store 11 packages of different commodities and sizes were weighed and ten of these were found to be short. The shortages in many cases were serious ones, amounting to 5.5 per cent on one pound, 13 per cent. on two pounds, 3.8 per cent. on three pounds, etc.

At the meeting there were present, besides Mr. Clement, of the committee appointed to draft a bill on the subject, Prof. J. E. Ebbeck of Saxtons River and Mr William of Randolph. Chairman Burnett of the committee announced that it is the intention to hold a public hearing on the bill later when he hoped that Mr. Clement would have the exhibit he made at the State fair here for inspection. He also stated that the committee favored a bill on this kind and that the bill with some amendments or substitute would undoubtedly be reported favorably.

A FORTUNE IN PEANUTS.

(From the Detroit News-Tribune)

The person who buys a nickel's worth of peanuts to munch at the ball game, to feed to the squirrels in the park, or to freshen the hearts of the kiddies at home, scarcely realizes that he has contributed to an industry that last year farmed a $1,000,000 crop, which placed on the market in various forms, reached the enormous sum of $30,000,000. But it is a fact! This little seductive nut—a resolution to "eat just one" is soon forgotten—whose birthplace is America, was, until comparatively recently, unappreciated, either as to the "money in it" or as a really nutritious product. Today the peanut plays an important part in pleasure, from the swell dinner party to the ever-present democracy of the circus, ball game or picnic.

By far the largest part of the crop is consumed from the peanut stand, yet there are millions of bushels that go to the fattening of hogs throughout the South, and the feeding of poultry, while the vines often cured as hay, feed thousands of head of cattle and even old mother earth is nourished by the roots of the plant, which furnishes nitrogen from the air. The result of all this is, that scientists claim that the peanut, which in the past was not very highly regarded, is the only food staple that will at once nourish man, beast, bird and field. It is the most nutritious of the whole nut family, rich in tissue-building properties, containing glucose and carbohydrates—and is the cheapest. Beyond the shadow of a doubt it is first from both a dietary and economic standpoint. The fact of the matter is, the peanut is about every way in a class by itself as regards price, average number in pounds, edible part, waste and fat. Peanuts average about 350 to a pound, at a cost of 10 cents; the edible portion is 73.6, waste 26.4, and the amount of fat is placed at 35 per cent. of the edible portion.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE.

Estate of Joseph F. Bunker.

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Honorable Probate Court for the District of Chittenden, commissioners to receive, examine and adjust the claims and demands of all persons against the estate of Joseph F. Bunker, late of Burlington, in said district, deceased, and all claims exhibited in offset thereto, hereby give notice that we will meet for the purpose aforesaid, at the probate office, in the city of Burlington in said district, on the fourth Monday of October, 1910, and March next, at ten o'clock a. m. on each of said days and that six months from the 18th day of October, A. D. 1910 is the time limited by said court for said creditors to present their claims to us for examination and allowance.

Dated at Burlington, this 18th day of October, A. D. 1910.

A. T. WAY,
FRED JOHONOTT,
16.w3t Commissioners.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE.

Estate of Gottlieb Wronn.

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Honorable Probate Court for the district of Chittenden, commisioners to receive, examine and adjust the claims and demands of all persons against the estate of Gottlieb Wronn, late of Burlington, in said district, deceased, and all claims exhibited in offset thereto, hereby give notice that we will meet for the purpose aforesaid, at the probate office in the city of Burlington, in said district, on the 4th Monday of October, 1910, and March, next, at 10 o'clock, A. M. on each of said days and that six months from the 19th day of October, A. D. 1910, is the time limited by said court for said creditors to present their claims to us for examination and allowance.

Dated at Burlington, this 19th day of October, A. D. 1910.

OSCAR HEININGER,
S. J. BEATTY,
16.w3t Commissioners.

ESTATE OF JULIA E. PUFFER.

STATE OF VERMONT, District of Chittenden, ss.

The Honorable Probate Court for the District of Chittenden.

To all persons interested in the estate of Julia E. Puffer, late of Jericho, in said district deceased.

GREETING:

At a Probate Court, holden at Burlington within and for said district on the 15th day of October, 1910, an instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of Julia E. Puffer, late of Jericho, in said district, deceased, was presented to the court aforesaid, for probate.

And it is ordered by said court that the 5th day of November, 1910, at the Probate Office in said Burlington, be assigned for proving said instrument and that notice thereof be given to all persons concerned, by publishing this order three weeks successively in the Burlington Weekly Free Press, a newspaper circulating in that vicinity, in said district, previous to the time appointed.

Therefore, you are hereby notified to appear before said court, at the time and place aforesaid, and contest the probate of said will, if you have cause.

Given under my hand, at the Probate Court rooms, this 11th day of October, 1910.

ORMAN P. RAY,
15.w3t Judge.

GOTTLIEB WRONN'S ESTATE.

STATE OF VERMONT, District of Chittenden.

The Honorable the Probate Court for the District of Chittenden.

To the heir and all persons interested in the estate of Gottlieb Wronn, late of Burlington, in said district deceased.

GREETING:

Whereas, application hath been made to this court in writing, by the administratrix, praying for license and authority to sell all of the real estate of said deceased, representing to said court, that it would be beneficial to the heirs and all persons interested in the estate of said deceased, to sell all of the real estate of said deceased, and convert the same into money.

And bringing into court the consent and approbation in writing, of all the heirs to said estate residing in this State, and setting forth the situation of the real estate.

Whereupon, the said court appointed and assigned the 28th day of October, 1910, at the Probate Court rooms, in said district, to hear and decide upon said application and petition, and ordered public notice thereof to be given to all persons interested therein, by publishing said order together with the time and place of hearing, three weeks successively in the Burlington Weekly Free Press, a newspaper which circulates in the neighborhood of those persons interested in said estate, all of which publications shall be previous to the day assigned for hearing.

Therefore, you are hereby notified to appear before said court, at the time and place assigned, then and there in said court to make your objections to the granting of such license, if you see cause.

Given under my hand, at the Probate Court rooms, this 11th day of October, 1910.

ORMAN P. RAY,
15.w3t Judge.

ESTATE OF WILLIAM WEAVER.

STATE OF VERMONT, District of Chittenden, ss.

The Honorable Probate Court for the District of Chittenden.

To all persons interested in the estate of William Weaver, late of Burlington, in said district, deceased.

GREETING:

At a Probate Court, holden at Burlington, within and for said district on the 10th day of October, 1910, an instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of William Weaver, late of Burlington, in said district, deceased, was presented to the court aforesaid for probate.

And it is ordered by said Court that the 29th day of October, 1910, at the Probate office in said Burlington be assigned for proving said instrument, and that notice thereof be given to all persons concerned, by publishing this order three weeks successively in the Burlington Weekly Free Press, a newspaper circulating in that vicinity, in said district, previous to the time appointed.

Therefore, you are hereby notified to appear before said Court, at the time and place aforesaid, and contest the probate of said will, if you have cause.

Given under my hand, at Burlington, in said district, this 10th day of October, 1910.

ORMAN P. RAY,
15.w3t Judge.

ESTATE OF LYDIA J. PROCTOR.

STATE OF VERMONT, District of Chittenden, ss.

The Honorable Probate Court for the District aforesaid.

To all persons interested in the estate of Lydia J. Proctor, late of Burlington, in said district, deceased.

GREETING:

Whereas, said court has assigned the 28th day of October, 1910, for examining and allowing the account of the executrix of the estate of said deceased, and for a decree of the residue of said estate to the lawful claimants of the same, and ordered that public notice thereof be given to all persons interested in said estate by publishing this order three weeks successively previous to the day assigned, in the Burlington Weekly Free Press, a newspaper published at Burlington, in said district.

Therefore, you are hereby notified to appear at the Probate Office in Burlington in said district, on the day assigned, then and there to contest the allowance of said account if you see cause, and to establish your right as heirs, legatees and lawful claimants to said residue.

Given under my hand, this 6th day of October, 1910.

ORMAN P. RAY,
15.w3t Judge.

ESTATE OF WILLIAM R. VILAS.

STATE OF VERMONT, District of Chittenden, ss.

The Honorable Probate Court for the District Aforesaid.

To all persons interested in the estate of William R. Vilas, late of Burlington, in said district, deceased.

GREETING:

Whereas, said Court has assigned the 25th day of October, 1910, for examining and allowing the account of the administrator de bonis non of the estate of said deceased, and for a decree of the residue of said estate to the lawful claimants of the same, and ordered that public notice thereof be given to all persons interested in said estate by publishing this order three weeks successively previous to the day assigned, in the Burlington Weekly Free Press, a newspaper published at Burlington, in said district.

Therefore, you are hereby notified to appear before said Court, at the time and place aforesaid, and contest the probate of said will, if you have cause.

Given under my hand, at Burlington, in said district, this 3rd day of October, 1910.

ORMAN P. RAY,
15.w3t Judge.

ESTATE OF PHOEBE R. SCHUTT.

STATE OF VERMONT, District of Chittenden, ss.

The Honorable Probate Court for the District of Chittenden.

To all persons interested in the estate of Phoebe R. Schutt, late of Burlington, in said district, deceased.

GREETING:

At a Probate Court, holden at Burlington, within and for said district on the 3rd day of October, 1910, an instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of Phoebe R. Schutt, late of Burlington, in said district, deceased, was presented to the court aforesaid, for probate.

And it is ordered by said Court that the 24th day of October, 1910, at the Probate Office in said Burlington, be assigned for proving said instrument; and that notice thereof be given to all persons concerned, by publishing this order three weeks successively in the Burlington Weekly Free Press, a newspaper circulating in that vicinity, in said district, previous to the time appointed.

Therefore, you are hereby notified to appear before said Court, at the time and place aforesaid, and contest the probate of said will, if you have cause.

Given under my hand, at Burlington, in said district, this 3rd day of October, 1910.

ORMAN P. RAY,
15.w3t Judge