

was almost as simple and regular as that of his flowers. Almost invariably he rose at 5 o'clock in the morning and after a long day with his plants he went to bed at half-past seven at night. To this simplicity and regularity he attributed his length of years. With so long a life devoted to beauty, he must have added much to the joy that other people found in living."

REFERRING TO Anthony Cook, the Baltimore Sun says: "The aged florist's life was spent among his blossoms, and flowers were his life. In addition to raising blooming flowers he was a collector of rare plants, in his collection being one of great rarity from the South Sea islands. Another, which never failed to attract the attention of the lover of flowers, was a plant technically called the astrolitz, with curiously shaped petals of sharply contrasting colors and quaint spear-like leaves. The blossom part emerges from a pointed leaf, tightly closed, and consists of two pointed petals of a bright orange color extending in an opposite direction from a harpoon counter-part of what may be best described as Alice blue. * * * With his vast knowledge of flowers, Mr. Cook not only grafted bud with bud, but was cognizant of the sexes, and hybridized them. It was in this manner, according to him, that he propagated the American Beauty. It was his story that he first raised the flower under the name of Apollonia, and under that name sold it to a woman enthusiast of Washington. A florist there finally secured an interest and exported the rose to England, from which country it returned to its native land under its present name."

A NEWSPAPER EXPOSITION was recently held at Frankfort-on-Main, Germany. This exposition contained samples of the earliest journals published in the world. A cablegram to the Philadelphia Public Ledger referring to this exposition says: "The precision of the modern newspaper may be seen in the 'accounts' of the Frankfort fairs. Two of these were held annually, and during the events these 'accounts' were issued, narrating the political events of the time. They began in 1590 and lasted until 1806. The first newspaper in Germany, and probably in the world, was published in 1609 in Strasburg. A whole year's issues are still extant. Shortly after its appearance, in 1615, was founded the Frankfort Journal, which lived 257 years, and was then sold to another newspaper of this city. Germany led the nations in the newspaper enterprise. But Vienna had a journal in 1610, England in 1622, Italy in 1630, France in 1631, Spain in 1661 and Russia in 1703. Of the old German newspapers there exist today four dating back to the seventeenth century—one at Koenigsberg, founded in 1640; one at Magdeburg, founded in 1627; one at Sena, founded in 1647, and the oldest of all at Heilbrunn, founded in 1620."

A WASHINGTON DISPATCH says: "Consul General Hector de Castro furnishes from Rome interesting figures on the operations of the tobacco monopoly of the Italian government, showing the same relative advance in business and profits as the French tobacco monopoly had made. The total revenue of the Italian tobacco monopoly for the fiscal year 1904-5 amounted to \$45,071,832, while the total expenses were \$9,739,982 and the value of the stock employed \$588,239, leaving a net profit of \$34,843,610, which shows an increase of \$1,685,167 upon the preceding year. Although the average amount of tobacco consumed annually per individual has increased by 11 grams it is still much lower than during 1886-7, the year after the change of tariff in 1885. During that year the average consumption of tobacco was 558 grams per capita. The increase of revenue was 5 cents per inhabitant, and what is more important, the net profits was 7 cents per capita. On a population of 33,000,000 this means a revenue of \$2,300,000, with reduction of \$660,000 in the expenses in comparison with the expenses sustained during the year 1886-7; and this notwithstanding an important raise in the salaries and the institution of a pensions fund for the workmen, which last item absorbs annually about \$180,000."

A N "INDEPENDENT republican" writes to the New York World an interesting story entitled "the republican ring in Vermont." This "independent republican" says: "For over forty years this state has been held under the iron-clad heel of a political set of office-seekers and grafters who have dictated to the voters whom they shall elect to state and even town offices,

and going so far as to name the candidates for governor, lieutenant governor and other state officers two years in advance of a republican convention. Four years ago there was a little change. P. W. Clement, of Rutland, entered the convention as a candidate for governor. The ring nominated McCullagh. Mr. Clement bolted the party and came before the people as an independent republican with a straight platform, and though defeated at the polls had stirred up such a mess in Vermont that 20,000 republicans left the g. o. p. and voted for him. At least one of the planks in his platform was turned to good effect that year. The old prohibitory law of fifty years' standing was taken off the statute books and a high-licence, local-option law, framed partly on the ideas of Mr. Clement, was placed in its stead. Two years ago Bell, a ringster, was nominated and elected, and the same old ring rule has been carried down till today, the g. o. p. having nominated Fletcher D. Proctor for governor, with a full set of ringsters for the other state offices."

THIRTY THOUSAND independent voters asked Mr. Clement to become an independent candidate for governor in this year of 1906 and he consented. The "independent republican" adds: "Last week two big conventions were held in Burlington on the same day, culminating in one, the democrats and independent republicans having fused, with Clement as standard-bearer. How could this have happened—about 1,200 delegates to meet and select a man to oppose Proctor and the ring! Why, that convention should be as memorable in history as are the deeds of Ethan Allen 130 years ago. Now, then, to follow up the good work so nobly begun, let all voters in Vermont who hate ring rule—the workingman, the farmer and the business man—show by united action at the coming election that it is in their power to throw the old machine aside and put in its place one of the fusion type. To do this the democrats and 'independent republicans' must nominate town representatives and senators who, if elected, will support all beneficial measures introduced by the leaders of the party of fusion. If this be done, the machine and Proctor ring will not have as easy a walkover as they predict."

IN THE RECENT SESSION of congress the "hidden hand of the moneyed oligarchy," according to a writer in the St. Louis Republic, "stretched out and left just enough anti-trust law to give the republican spellbinders campaign sky rockets and not enough to protect the people." The Republic writer presents this bill of principles: "Broad court review! No anti-injunction clause!" cried the great railroad trust. It won. 'Let the people pay inspection costs. No dates on labels!' was the shibboleth of the beef trust. It won. 'No government standards! The right to use harmless coloring and flavoring extracts!' was the war cry against the pure food bill. It won. These were the crucial points of the battle ground, and on this field the interests of the great American people perished. Yet these men, who surrendered the people to the trusts, will go forth in the next campaign and point with pride to their fangless rate bill, their dehorned beef bill and their harmless pure food bill. They will rekindle the verbal aurora borealis which the president set a-shimmer about these measures. In the awesome glow many will be dazzled into indifference unless they hark back to that hurry-up conference and remember the hidden hand that gave the trusts all the vital things they asked—nay, demanded."

MANY INTERESTING stories are told of the life and services of William Pinkney Whyte of Maryland, who succeeded the late Senator Gorman. Referring to the various phases of Senator Whyte's career, a writer in the Springfield (Mass.) Republican, says: "His paternal grandfather left Ireland because he could not endure the union with England in 1800. His maternal grandfather was the celebrated William Pinkney, who was President Madison's attorney general, and one of the greatest lawyers of his time. His tutor in boyhood and youth had been the private secretary of Emperor Napoleon I., a man, R. M. McNally by name, who had come to America after Napoleon's fall. When young Whyte was in Harvard law school he was taken into the intimate friendship of the famous Judge Story, who was his instructor. When a boy he had often sat on President Andrew Jackson's knee. When he first entered the United States senate late in 1868 Senator Whyte prevented the success of

the radical republican effort to have President Johnston's annual message wholly ignored by that body, thus killing a most harmful precedent in the bud. He is the only living man who voted in the senate against the fifteenth amendment. He personally framed the present government of the District of Columbia. And, finally, Mr. Whyte, in his career, has defended seventy-nine men indicted for murder, only two of whom were executed. This last may be a doubtful compliment, but his friends say that he never took a murder case without convincing himself that his client was innocent. The aged senator from Maryland has all sorts of traditions hanging about him, and he still has the voice and bearing of a man of sixty."

THE INDIANAPOLIS NEWS referred to the 1896 campaign as a disastrous defeat for the democratic party. A writer in the News, "F. T. L.," of Indianapolis, writes to that paper to say: "You evidently overlooked the fact that the democratic party lost nearly everything in the elections of 1894, that even many of the southern states came near going populist, that the vote of 6,502,925 for Mr. Bryan as against a vote of 7,104,779 for Mr. McKinley was a great gain over the democratic vote of 1894. Had it not been for the immense sums given by selfish special interests in 1896, fearful not so much of free silver as of exposure of their methods in case of Mr. Bryan's election, the result in 1896 would probably have been a Bryan victory. The prevention of such 'contributions' is the most important thing to insure fair elections in the future."

THE REPUBLICAN editors appear to understand that there is a growing restlessness in the rank and file of their party with respect to the tariff question. The Washington correspondent for the Chicago Tribune, says: "Tariff reciprocity as the beginning of tariff revision may be made the chief issue of the short session of the fifty-ninth congress. It is more than likely that after the election in November steps will be taken in the direction of the passage of a general reciprocity law. This does not mean that any such law will be passed next winter, because that absolutely is impossible at the short session of congress. It is likely, however, that some preliminary action will be taken by way of the appointment of a commission or joint committee of the two houses of congress to draft something in the way of a reciprocity law which will meet the demand for such commercial arrangements. Whatever reciprocity there is must be by a new law, because the reciprocity feature of the Dingley act expired two years after its passage and none of the treaties negotiated under its provisions succeeded in securing ratification by the senate."

REFERRING TO THIS promise, the Louisville (Ky.) Times says: "It will be impossible to pass a new law at the short session, but the prospect that it will be seriously discussed may help republican candidates for congress in districts where the voters feel the same way Mr. Roosevelt talks about the trust barons. In the next session, if there is still a republican majority, there will be further discussion in preparation for the national election. Of course, if the republicans win in 1908, there'll be no need to keep on with the game."

A CANADIAN CATECHISM gives information intended to impress the young Canadian with the bigness of that country in words and figures as follows, to-wit: "Canada is larger than the United States by 250,000 square miles. Canada contains one-third of the area of the British empire. Canada extends over twenty degrees of latitude—from Rome to the North Pole. Canada is as large as thirty United Kingdoms, eighteen Germanys, thirty-three Italys. Canada is larger than Australasia and twice the size of British India. Canada has a boundary line of 3,000 miles between it and the United States. Canada's sea coast equals half the earth's circumference. Canada is 3,500 miles wide and 1,400 from north to south." Referring to this patriotic boast the Nashville American says: "When it comes to population, Canada does not yell so loudly. Its population is estimated at 6,000,000. The single state of New York has 2,000,000 more than this. The city of New York has only about 2,000,000 less. Most of Canada's territory is 'outdoors.'"