

The Valentine Democrat

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I. M. Rice, - - - Publisher

KING IS DENOUNCED

MINISTER MAKES SAVAGE ATTACK ON LEOPOLD.

Says He is Member of Belgian Lobby in Washington—Declares King's Slaves Are Whipped to Death if Work is Not Satisfactory.

Accusations were made by Rev. S. Johnson, of Boston, in an address delivered in the Park Avenue Methodist church in Chicago Sunday, against Charles Henrotin, Belgian consul in Chicago, whom he charged with being a member of a Belgian lobby, working to prevent the United States government from noticing the alleged atrocities in the Congo Free State and with being in the pay of King Leopold of Belgium. Dr. Johnson declared that representations soon will be made to the state department at Washington which will be followed by a demand to the Belgian government that Mr. Henrotin be removed from the Chicago consulate.

Mr. Henrotin made specific denial of being a member of the Belgian lobby, adding that he doubted that such a lobby exists. "If Dr. Johnson says I am a member of the so-called Belgian lobby he lies," said Consul Henrotin. "I most emphatically deny it. There have been atrocities in Congo but they occurred years ago. King Leopold is doing his utmost to suppress atrocities and punish violators of the law."

Dr. Johnson, who is pastor of the Warren Avenue Baptist church, Boston, was introduced by Prof. Jerome Ter of Belgium the wages paid to the Congo.

"The atrocities in the Congo Free State are a thousand times worse than is generally known," said Dr. Johnson. "King Leopold has taken the lands of the native population and has enslaved from 25,000,000 to 35,000,000 black people. According to the prime minister, under sentence for the murder Congo people for work in the rubber plantations is a charity. If the natives are not quick enough in bringing an amount of rubber to suit the king's agents they are whipped to death."

PATRICK SEEKS CLEMENCY.

Lawyer Finally Consents to Apply for Commutation of Sentence.

Lawyer Albert T. Patrick, of New York, is the one who insisted that of Millionaire Rice, has signed a petition to Gov. Higgins, begging him to commute the death sentence to life imprisonment.

The final appeal to the governor was signed by Patrick in the death house.

John T. Milliken, brother-in-law of Patrick, who has spent a fortune to save his wife's brother from a felon's or celestial marriages. Patrick should ask clemency. It is believed that the governor insisted on a personal letter of appeal from Patrick.

MORMON JUDGE PROTESTED.

Election of Churchman in Idaho Held to Be Illegal.

A protest against the election of Alfred Budge, Republican, as judge of the Fifth district of Idaho, has been filed in the district court of Bannock county. Budge's election is contested on the ground that he is a Mormon and therefore a believer in polygamy, although he is not charged with an excess of wives.

The complaint is based upon a clause of the state constitution which forbids any officer to vote who encourages or practices polygamy, patriarchal or celestial marriages.

Six Men Die in Explosion.

Six men met instant death Saturday in a dynamite explosion about twenty-four miles from Newport, Tenn. They were employed on an extension of the Tennessee and North Carolina railroad. A load of dynamite for a blast exploded while being tamped.

President's Annual Cabinet Dinner.

The annual cabinet dinner, the first social function of the season at the White House, was given by President and Mrs. Roosevelt Thursday.

Marconi Coming to America.

William Marconi left Rome for London Sunday. He will sail for the United States in January.

Sioux City Live Stock Market.

Saturday's quotations on the Sioux City live stock market follow: Top steers, \$3.70. Top hogs, \$6.10.

Fatal Wreck in Ohio.

The Pennsylvania Flyer, eastbound, derailed in Canton, O., at 9:35 o'clock, collided with a Wheeling and Lake Erie freight train Sunday. The freight engineer was killed and the fireman is dying.

Broken Rail Causes Wreck.

The Iron Mountain passenger train, which left Charleston, Mo., at 9:10 o'clock a. m. for St. Louis, was wrecked on the Belmont branch Saturday afternoon.

AT BAR ON STRETCHER.

Mrs. Birdsong is Given Five Years in Prison.

A dispatch from Hazelhurst, Miss., says: Angie Birdsong was Friday denied a new trial by Judge Miller. She was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary, and notice of appeal was given to the Mississippi supreme court.

When notice of appeal was made Mrs. Birdsong was granted bail in the sum of \$10,000, which was furnished.

Mrs. Birdsong shot and killed Dr. Thomas Butler at Monticello, Miss., Nov. 25, 1905, and at the trial concluded several days ago was convicted of manslaughter. Since that time she has been seriously ill. Because of her young child and her illness Mrs. Birdsong was never sent to jail.

The young defendant was taken to court Friday lying on a cot moaning with pain and fever, calling continually for water and at times nearly delirious, and listened for an hour and a quarter to her counsel's arguments for leniency and a new trial. She was allowed to hear the sentence without standing.

A striking feature of the scene was the fact that the leading argument for Mrs. Birdsong was made by a lawyer himself so ill that he remained in an invalid chair while addressing the court. This was R. N. Miller, who suffered a complete breakdown at one of the critical parts of the trial.

GREAT DAM CASE SETTLED.

Last Obstacle in the Way of Construction is Removed.

Private advices received in El Paso, Tex., Friday from Mexico City, states that the Mexican government has ratified the treaty with the government of the United States referring to the great irrigation dam at Engle, sixty miles above El Paso.

This action brings to an amicable settlement a bone of contention between the two republics and litigation that has been pending for ten years, and settles the claim for \$20,000,000 which the Mexican government filed against the United States for damages on account of deprivation of water rights in the upper Rio Grande and riparian rights in the lower stream. This is removed the last obstacle in the way of the completion of the great dam by the United States.

KING OSCAR MAKES GAIN.

Crown Prince Assumes Regency During His Father's Illness.

A Stockholm dispatch says: The condition of King Oscar, the aged Swedish monarch, who is seriously ill, showed considerable improvement Friday.

Crown Prince Gustavus Adolphus has assumed the regency, which he will hold during his father's illness.

It appears that King Oscar has been ailing for some days. His indisposition was not regarded as serious until Wednesday, when he developed symptoms of heart failure. His heart has been affected for three years, and in the fear that because of his great age the present attack might prove fatal, four doctors have been in attendance.

VANDERBILT'S AUTO WRECKED.

Mr. Vanderbilt is Hurling Into Lake Success.

While W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., with his chauffeur, was speeding a sixty-horse power racing automobile along the lake of Success, Long Island, Friday, the front axle snapped and the car skidded. A wheel became detached, the body of the car struck the ground and tore up the road for fifteen feet. Mr. Vanderbilt was hurled into the lake well away from the shore. He sank through the thin ice, but rose immediately and swam ashore uninjured.

Maj. Gen. Wint in Havana.

Maj. Gen. Theodore J. Wint arrived in Havana Friday. Gen. Wint will take command of the American army January 1, when Brig. Gen. J. Franklin Bell returns to the United States.

Tons of Mail for Europe.

The steamer Celtic, which sailed from New York recently for Liverpool, carried 4,033 sacks of mail, the largest mail ever taken from a United States port.

Heads Swiss Confederation.

Eduard Muller, vice president of the federal council of Switzerland, was Thursday elected president of the Swiss confederation in succession to M. L. Ferrer, whose term has expired.

Missouri Bank Robbed.

Robbers wrecked the safe of the Interstate bank at Drexel, Mo., and escaped with the contents, said to be \$5,000.

Burglar Wounded by Woman.

Mrs. Mary Roach, of Bloomington, Ill., shot and fatally wounded William Skinner, a neighbor, who was attempting to rob her house.

Wages Advanced in Denver.

Two thousand machinists employed in Denver shops will receive an advance in wages on Jan. 1, ranging from 5 to 15 per cent.

Gen. Nogi Thrown from Horse.

Gen. Nogi, the Japanese commander who captured Port Arthur, was thrown from his horse Friday at Tokio while returning home from the palace. He fell on his head and became unconscious. His condition arouses apprehension.

Foot in Guard; Killed by Train.

Alexander Metzger, of Belleville, Ill., was caught in a cattle guard on the Mobile and Ohio tracks and held a prisoner until a train killed him.

GIBBONS IN APPEAL.

Calls for Sympathy for Catholics of France.

"The American public does not understand the present crisis in France," said Cardinal Gibbons when asked for his opinion on the French situation. He continued:

"I am getting to be an old man now and I think I know my countrymen. They love fair play; they love liberty; they love to see human dealings of man with man. And the late years have shown how cordially they hate injustice, tyranny and inhumanity. And yet France has treated her noblest citizens with injustice and inhumanity, and America, which has sympathy for the oppressed of all nations, has raised no protest nor uttered a word of sympathy."

"If I believe that my countrymen would knowingly see a great organization unjustly deprived of its property, tens of thousands of honest men and noble women robbed of their just income, hundreds of thousands of people brutally wounded in what they hold dearest and most sacred, a majority in the chambers disregard and trample upon the rights of the minority and the rights of millions of their countrymen—in the name of liberty—would knowingly see tens of thousands of priests and nuns turned out of their homes for no crime but that of loving God—I say, if my countrymen can see and recognize all this injustice and refuse genuine sympathy to those who suffer, then I will leave life without that faith in American love of justice, liberty and humanity."

"But the American people have not had these things put fairly before them. Our own press has been to a considerable extent the reflex of the Parisian anti-clerical press. Most people over here have little conception of the French anti-clericals. They look on the leaders of this party as enlightened statesmen seeking to preserve the republic from an aggressive clergy."

"There have been honest and sincere lovers of republican government among anti-clericals. I admit, but the majority of them have far less love of the republic than they have hatred of religion."

"But in France the Jacobin party is not dead. They hate God, they hate Christ, they hate his religion as much as ever their fathers hated them. But they have learned a more prudent and measured method of attack. And yet the utterances of such men are received as unsuspectingly by many Americans as would be a discourse by Mr. Cleveland, or Mr. Roosevelt, or Mr. Taft."

HITS THE GREAT NORTHERN.

Minnesota Attorney General Says Bond Issue is Not Valid.

Attorney General Young, of Minnesota, Thursday made a ruling that under the state law the proposed increase in the capital stock of the Great Northern railway, recently announced from New York, amounting to \$60,000,000, is invalid and that as soon as the issue is actually begun the state will take action in the matter. The attorney general holds before the railroad can increase the capital stock it must serve notice of such intention on the state railway and warehouse commission for review at a public hearing to determine the necessity for the increase. This has not been done, and furthermore the increase of the \$25,000,000 made last spring, must also be explained before either the present proposed issue or that of last spring become legal.

The Great Northern operates under a Minnesota charter, and the original company was incorporated under the territorial laws.

MANILA CALLS FOR TEACHERS.

One Hundred and Twenty More Are Wanted from United States.

One hundred and twenty additional teachers are wanted in the Philippines for the next school year, according to a cablegram received Thursday from Manila by the bureau of insular affairs. Fifty of these are to be appointed at entrance salaries of \$1,200 and the remainder at smaller amounts.

The appointees will be selected from those passing the civil service examinations and will go to the islands under two-year contracts, although it was stated that the majority of those going over in previous years have remained in the service for a much longer time. The examinations will be conducted throughout the country on Dec. 27 and 28.

Killed by Fall from Car.

William A. Faircloth, of Ridgeway, N. J., was run over and instantly killed by a passenger train on the Southern Pacific railroad near El Paso, Tex., Thursday.

New York Daily News Suspends.

The New York Daily News company Thursday suspended publication. The cause given was that the other papers of the city had superior facilities.

For Extermination of Texas Fever.

Representative Ransdell, of Texas, introduced a bill Thursday appropriating \$250,000 for the extermination of the Texas fever tick.

Girl Kills Man and Herself.

Thomas Bailey, a mill operative from Winslow, Ont., was shot in the abdomen and probably fatally wounded by Grace Davis in a resort at Nampa, Idaho, Thursday. The woman then shot and killed herself.

Grain for Russian Sufferers.

The Russian government has purchased 6,000,000 bushels of grain in western Siberia, where there has been a big grain harvest this year, at comparatively low prices.

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEWS OF THE WEEK IN A CONDENSED FORM.

Sensation at Lyons—Sewall Sampson Severely Handled by a Mob—Whipped and Doused in River—Compelled to Leave the Town.

After receiving a severe whipping, Sewall Sampson Saturday afternoon was compelled by a crowd of angry men to submit to a dousing in the icy waters of Logan river and to promise that he never again would darken the doors of Lyons with his presence.

The incident was the last chapter in a scandal that has been the cause of much excitement at Lyons. Last fall Sampson ran off with another man's wife, both of them leaving behind families of small children. The indignation of citizens at his return to Lyons a few days ago has grown with each passing day. Saturday he was put under arrest for assaulting the husband of the woman with whom he ran away. As he stepped out of the bank, where he had been trying to secure bonds for his release, a crowd of men was ready for him. A gunny sack was thrown over his head and he was loaded into a dray. His capture was speedily noised about town and 200 people, men, women and children, gathered on the river bank to witness the proceeding.

After stripping their captive and administering a sound beating, the men told Sampson to jump off the bridge into the water or he would be pushed off. He jumped. Before he was allowed to come out of his icy bath he was compelled to solemnly promise that he would "git" and never return.

A HEAD END COLLISION.

An Accident on the Elkhorn Line Near Ainsworth.

There was a head end collision on the Fremont and Elkhorn line at 5 o'clock Thursday morning one mile west of Ainsworth.

Otto Rankin, of Cody, engineer on No. 1182, the second header, was badly scalded, and C. M. Hoffman, of Chadron, fireman on No. 1323, head engine of the eastbound double header, was badly cut on the head and feet and otherwise badly bruised.

Engineer Thompson, of the head engine eastbound, stayed by his post until within about 100 feet of where the collision occurred, when he jumped and escaped with only a few scratches.

The westbound train was in charge of Conductor Williams, with Griffith, engineer, and Mears, fireman.

All of the passengers escaped injury.

RANCHMAN SLAIN BY GIRL.

Miss Merle Clark Arrested at North Platte.

Miss Merle Clark, 21 years of age, was arrested at North Platte Tuesday charged with killing John Leonard, a ranchman, twenty-six miles from there. The tragedy occurred Sunday night.

Miss Clark is from the east and has been making her home on the ranch of an uncle near that of Leonard's. The young woman does not deny the killing, but refuses to discuss the affair. She was placed in the county jail. Her friends say Leonard was in love with her and bothered her with his attentions. It is claimed that he threatened to kill her if she did not marry him.

SIXTEEN YEARS FOR MURDER.

Fritz Clements Sentenced for Killing Luke Goldie.

Upon the convening of court in Papillion Wednesday Fritz Clements was sentenced to sixteen years in the penitentiary for the killing of Luke Goldie in August last, near the county line south of South Omaha, no part of said sixteen years to be a solitary confinement. The indictment of the younger boys, Carl and Henry Clements, was nolle.

The sentence of Ernest Clements, the oldest boy, found guilty of shooting with intent to wound, has not been pronounced yet.

Charged with Horse Stealing.

A complaint has been filed at North Platte by T. C. Hunt against Henry C. Frickey, charging him with stealing a horse belonging to H. C. Hect. The preliminary hearing in the county court was continued for thirty days. He was placed under \$500 bonds, in default of which he was placed in jail. Frickey's home is at Juniata, Neb.

Railroad Fireman Held Up.

While on his way to go on his run, F. M. Skiles, of Lincoln, fireman on the Burlington road, was held up by three men in South Omaha. One man confronted him while another with a revolver approached from the side and advised Skiles to "hold on, you might have something that a fellow wants." Eleven dollars were taken from his pockets, \$10 being overlooked.

Nebraskan Out for Land Office.

Nelson B. Switzer, of Nebraska, is a candidate for commissioner of the general land office. An endorsement signed by leading men of Nebraska went to Washington in his behalf. He has for years been employed by the government land office in adjusting surveys. He is a son of the late Gen. Switzer and a native of Nebraska.

New Trust Formed.

They say that they have not formed a trust, but then every liverman of Columbus met and decided that the public will have to pay a certain price, much higher than they have paid heretofore, or else they can go on foot, and every one of the six livermen in the business signed the agreement.

Corn Stalk Disease.

Corn stalk disease is again among the cattle of Platte county. John H. Wilke has lost eight head with the disease.

CONVENTION OF SUPERVISORS.

Votes to Hold Next Session in South Omaha.

The most enthusiastic opening session ever held was the meeting of the State Association of County Supervisors and County Commissioners held at the city hall in Kearney Tuesday evening.

There were three cities contesting for the honor of entertaining the association next December; invitations being extended by Norfolk, Broken Bow and South Omaha. On counting the ballots it was found that 9 votes had been cast for Norfolk, 18 for Broken Bow and 30 for South Omaha. On motion the vote was made unanimous and South Omaha designated as the next place of meeting.

The officers were all elected by acclamation, the rules being suspended and the votes unanimous in each case. P. J. Kennedy, of York was re-elected president. The other officers were: A. F. Evans, Fremont, vice president; J. H. Harding, Meadown Grove, secretary; P. J. Trainor, South Omaha, treasurer.

TO BUILD ITS WATER PLANT.

Omaha Board Rejects Plan to Buy Out Private Company.

The water board of the city of Omaha, which has entire control of all matters concerning the water supply, public and private, of the city, Monday night voted to rescind the action of the city council in electing to buy the plant of the Omaha Water company and appointed a committee to procure plans and estimates for a new plant.

The action of the city council was taken in 1903 before the creation of the water board. The proposal to purchase was under a provision of the company's franchise and contemplated the valuation of the plant by a joint board of three appraisers. This board was appointed, but failed to agree, the majority report fixing the value of the plant at \$2,250,000, which the water board claims is far in excess of its real value. A suit is now pending in the federal court by which the company seeks to compel the city to purchase under this appraisal. It is estimated that a new plant can be built for about \$4,000,000.

PASSED COUNTERFEIT MONEY.

Two Men Arrested at Oxford Charged with "Shoving the Quiser."

Sheriff Peterson, of Red Willow county, made a fine haul at Oxford Monday, when he took into custody two "shovers of the quiser," George Monroe and Thomas Rogers, who were brought to McCook and lodged in the county jail, charged with having circulated counterfeit money.

These two young men have been operating over a wide section of that part of Nebraska for several weeks. Reports came to McCook from various towns between Hastings and Denver, Colo., and in nearly every town they have placed more or less of their spurious currency, a \$10 bill of the Farmers' and Planters' bank of Savannah, Ga.

The officials feel certain of having more than sufficient evidence to send them over the road for a term of years. They have been clearly identified by merchants who were recently victimized by them.

DRIVES AWAY MARAUDER.

Woman Strikes Man in Face with Revolver, Knocking Him Down.

A young woman and a girl stepped out of the home of a Mrs. LeFevre at Grand Island and were immediately accosted in the yard by a strange man. They gave the alarm and Mrs. LeFevre came out with a revolver. The trespasser was still there and ordered the woman to throw up her hands. Instead she dealt the marauder a stinging blow in the face with the butt end of the revolver, knocking him down. It is stated that she gave him another blow and then ran in to call the men-folks of the home. When they appeared, however, the fellow had made his escape.

Girl Dying of Bullet Wound.

Miss Rachel Engle, who was shot in the back by John Hamlin during carnival at Grand Island last summer, is very low and is not expected to live. Ever since the shooting she has been paralyzed from the waist line down and recently it became necessary to perform another operation. Hamlin is still in jail. He demanded arraignment recently and was arraigned on the charge of shooting with intent to kill and was bound over to the district court.

Stromsburg Man Accidentally Killed.

Peter Hedman was accidentally killed near Stromsburg Monday. Mr. Hedman was hauling manure to the dump at the creek bank, just south of town, and while driving close to the edge to get near enough to unload the wagon wheel dropped into a hole and Mr. Hedman was thrown out, receiving fatal injuries.

Leaves Large Estate.

Mrs. Mary Lammers, the wealthiest woman in Cedar county, died suddenly of heart disease, aged about 70 years, Mrs. Lammers was the widow of John Lammers, who died six years ago and left an estate of nearly \$1,000,000, mostly in Cedar county lands.

Like Runaway Match.

A couple who were married by County Judge Stinson Monday afternoon at Fremont, and who gave their names as Jack Richards and Marjorie Morrison, of Omaha, are believed to have been Walls Abbott, a son of Chauncey Abbott, of Schuyler, and Maude Mathieson, a Linwood girl.

Omaha Man is Convicted.

S. E. Howell, president of the Omaha Coal exchange, was convicted under the provisions of the state anti-trust law. Howell is charged, in company with seventy-nine other members, with maintaining a trust. The case is to be appealed.

Hurt in Corn Elevator.

Miss Dora Heltmann, a young woman living a mile north of Leigh, became entangled in the machinery of a corn elevator and received painful injuries.



The state of Nebraska has \$7,458,716.57 of trust funds invested in interest bearing securities. The permanent school fund investment includes \$1,584,835.69 of state general fund warrants. The total amount of these four funds invested in general fund state warrants is \$1,761,317.65. As the total outstanding indebtedness of the state consists of \$1,916,671.31 in the form of state warrants, it is shown that the state is the owner of 92 per cent of its debt. Some of these warrants will soon be purchased by the state and it is estimated that all but 5 per cent of the outstanding warrants are held by the state as an "investment." The state is thus placed in the attitude of paying interest to itself on its own debt. The only advantage gained by owning the outstanding warrants is that the interest goes to the support of the public schools, being apportioned semi-annually to the various counties and then to the school districts.

The biennial report of the state auditor for the two years ended Nov. 30, 1906, shows the warrant indebtedness of the state to be \$1,916,671.31, a reduction during the biennium of \$346,730.61, the debt against the general fund at the beginning of the biennium being \$2,253,401.92. The only other interest bearing debts are those against the temporary university fund. At this time the outstanding warrants against this fund amount to \$59,445.47, while at the same time two years ago this fund had standing against it interest bearing warrants to the amount of \$81,290. These warrants, however, usually do not run more than a month or two. The bulk of the reduction is due to the Sheldon 1-mill levy, which brought into the treasury \$273,946.81.

Secretary Royle, of the state banking board, has completed a statement of the condition of state and private banks at the close of business Nov. 12. He says it indicates a very satisfactory condition and shows substantial growth and increase in business. There were 584 banks reporting. In the last year the number of banks reporting has increased 23. Loans increased \$7,628,292.08; paid in capital increased \$595,200; deposits increased \$7,423,677.33. With the usual brisk demand for money at this season of the year the banks are running strong and are amply prepared to take care of all desirable loans, showing at the date of this report a reserve of 31.1 per cent, being more than double the legal requirement.

The report on the yield of Irish potatoes in Nebraska issued by the state bureau of labor and statistics shows a total production of 5,984,221 bushels, which were produced from 80,928 acres, giving an average yield of 73.94 bushels per acre. A severe blight has affected the potato crop in practically every section of the state, which has resulted in a far below normal crop. This blight caused a decrease of 21 per cent in the average yield, which, combined with a decrease in acreage of 9.4 per cent, or 8,343 acres, makes the 1906 crop 2,317,982 bushels below 1905. Sheridan county, as usual, leads the state in acreage and total production, having an acreage of 5,326 and a production of 335,538 bushels.

The representatives of the state university agricultural college who attended the International Live Stock show at Chicago have returned and feel satisfied with the prizes won by the university. The Nebraska people who were there were Dean E. A. Burnett, Prof. H. R. Smith, Instructor A. F. Magdanz, Dr. A. F. Peters and Dr. J. H. Gain. Of the nine steers exhibited by Nebraska university, six were winners. The total prize money was \$450 which, added to the total of previous years, makes the sum won by Nebraska \$1,500.

A. E. Ward, now in the office of the state superintendent, occupying the position of vice president of the teachers' examining committee, is to be Congressman-elect Boyd's private secretary. He resigned his place during the campaign to act as Judge Boyd's committee chairman. Mr. Ward may not take the secretaryship until spring. He may begin work about the first of the year as bookkeeper in the office of Land Commissioner H. M. Eaton.

State Land Commissioner Eaton and his deputy, J. M. Shively, are the first officials to file their bonds with the governor for the coming two years. Both instruments are signed by the American Surety company, of Baltimore. Mr. Eaton's being for \$50,000 and Mr. Shively's for \$10,000. The bonding concern agrees to wait on a legislative appropriation for the two premiums, which are \$48 and \$20, respectively. The bonds as made out run for the full biennium.

Several members of the senate have expressed a desire to have the senate journal printed each day, to be laid on the desks of members, instead of following the recent custom of making mimeograph copies. The printed copies can be bound at the end of the session and thus the senate journal can be printed as the session proceeds and will be complete at the end of the session with the exception of the index.

Secretary Frazier, of the state printing board, is compiling a report which will show that the board spent \$29,021.71 for laws and journals during the last two years, leaving a balance in that fund of \$11,522.28. Outstanding contracts amount to \$11,275. For revenue books and blanks there was a deficiency two years ago. During the last two years the board has spent \$1,943.65. Contracts outstanding amount to \$2,500. The report will contain a list of contracts during the last two years and the amount of money paid each contractor.