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THE Postoffice Appropriation Bill passed by the House of Representatives proposes to create a "limited" parcels post. The limitation is too narrow. At the timid and tentative recommendation of the President, Congress is invited to waste its time and the people's patience in discussing a system of parcels delivery confined to the rural mail routes. The practical effect of such a measure would be to discredit the whole parcels post idea. For packages can be received and delivered more cheaply in the cities than in the country. And for the Government to undertake to carry parcels only where the cost of the service is greatest is to play directly into the hands of the express companies.

AND NOW FOR A REAL PARCELS POST Congressman Sulzer has offered a better plan for a parcels post than that contained in the postoffice bill. Mr. Sulzer's bill may not go far enough, but it is a genuine attempt to cure the most glaring anomalies and absurdities of our postal package carrying system.

This bill is backed in the Upper House by Senator O'Gorman. It has been formally indorsed by farmers', merchants' and manufacturers' associations, representing at least ten million voters.

The Sulzer bill restores the parcels rate that actually obtained in this country up to 1874, and raises the weight limit to eleven pounds. It provides also a very cheap local rural service where no railroad transportation is involved. And it insures all mail matter from loss or accident up to its full value.

These provisions should be made law. If the express companies persist in standing in the way, they should be made to understand that they do so at their very grave peril. The Postoffice Department can be easily equipped to do not only a part, but the whole of the business now carried on by the express companies. And the American public is ceasing to be a goose to be plucked.

The parcels post goes with the postal savings bank, and both are destined to great development in this country as in other countries.

Speaking of the English system, William E. Gladstone said near the close of his life:

"The postoffice savings bank and parcels post is the most important institution which has been created in the last fifty years, for the welfare of the people. I consider that act which called this institution into existence as the most useful and fruitful of my long career."

THE generous welcome accorded in London and Berlin to the Panama-Pacific Exposition Commission, headed by John Hays Hammond, speaks well for the interest taken in San Francisco's great 1912 project. In London the commission made a splendid impression upon the British government officials. King George took great pains to inform himself as to the magnitude of the exposition. That Great Britain will be represented here in 1915 by an imposing exhibit, in every way worthy of that great empire, goes without the saying.

Germany will not be far behind Great Britain, for they are the two great rival commercial nations of Europe. France seems almost by nature to be a sympathetic friend of California, and of San Francisco.

These three great powers dominate the maritime world and all three are alert to take instant advantage of the opening of the Panama Canal. And their example in arranging for extensive exhibits in San Francisco in 1915 will be followed by the other nations of Europe.

THE house-fly stands convicted as a disseminator of disease and a carrier of contagion. Ever since the investigation of the spread of typhoid fever in the United States military camps during the Spanish War of 1898, the evidence has been accumulating, until to-day there is no escape from the charges **HOUSE-FLIES** against this tantalizing insect. Every far-reaching probe into sanitary problems is liable to disclose conditions hitherto quite unsuspected; and the indictments already brought against the house-fly during the past few years charge responsibility for a long category of infections, including cholera and various forms of dysentery, diptheria, erysipelas, contagious ophthalmia, cerebrospinal meningitis, anthrax and possibly small-pox, in addition to typhoid fever.

Whether all of these charges will stand in the light of scientific investigation remains to be seen. It is important, not so much in justice to the accused insect as because of the hygienic and preventive measures which are dependent thereon, that the questions here raised be authoritatively settled. In the case of typhoid, the evidence appears to be complete.

Dr. Torrey, of the Loomis Laboratory of New York, has attempted to supply facts on this question. He has examined the flies caught in the densely populated parts of New York City during a number of months. Both the bacteria occurring in the intestine and those from the surface of the insects were investigated. The flies examined in April and early in June were comparatively free from dangerous bacteria. As the summer season advanced

high bacterial counts began to appear and also an abrupt change in the character of the bacteria. The record counts came at the end of the two weeks of excessive heat in July.

Some idea of the number of organisms that a single insect may carry is indicated by the figures 570 to 4,400,000 for the surface contamination, and 16,000 to 28,000,000 for the intestinal bacterial contents. Most of the bacteria found were comparatively harmless. This investigation, however was carried on in the crowded city, where sewers would naturally carry off all of the most dangerous infective matter. The house-fly is an "undesirable citizen" in any event, so that the war of extermination already begun against it in many quarters deserves encouragement and support.

DR. TRUMAN BROPHY, of Chicago, a well-known surgeon calls American mothers the best in the world. No one has any idea of contradicting him, but his praise ought to discourage those carping people who imagine that our women are deteriorating because they are waking to their own importance. Says Dr. Brophy: "Not only has the American mother grown mentally, but her physical self has almost attained perfection. Women of today are almost the equal of men in strength and endurance. The day when women believed they could do no arduous work is past.

"The mother of today rides, swims, walks and fences. The departure from the drawing room atmosphere has brought her to a position all her own. Her mental growth has kept pace with her physical development."

All of which is true and augurs well for the generation to follow.

A TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN MOTHERS You are no doubt smarter than most other people, and of course would not waste your time away reading an advertisement if you knew it was one, and you think people don't read advertisements; but that is just where you are off your base; and we'll bet you read every word of this and yet it is an ad. We only wrote it to show you that even as smart as you are, you will read an advertisement. Every word of it. Now if your advertisement was here, as it should be, several hundred people who come to trade, would read of your offer and come and see you. Advertise; it will pay.

It is said that more money is being expended in promoting the political interests of Taft and Roosevelt than has ever been spent in a similar campaign in the history of the United States. There is much interest manifested as to the mystery of the source from which such large sums of money come. The American people are entitled to know who is putting up the money for this expense, but they don't know at present and it is a matter of speculation if they will ever know.

THE per capita production of wealth of Alaska for the last year was \$1,000. This exceeds any part of the United States. Carefully compiled statistics show that the output of the north was \$60,000,000. Considering that the territory was bought for \$7,200,000 it can be seen that it was a fine investment. There are approximately 60,000 people in Alaska, whites and natives.

THE trouble with the advocates of good roads is that they are unable to agree on a plan of action. It is reasonable to hope, however, that the time will come when they will quit talking and go to work building highways.

RAILROAD construction work is causing Vale to grow now. Later on completed transportation lines will give a still greater impetus to business.

MOST of the business men will admit that it is the advertised business that proves a winner, and the unadvertised business that fails to succeed.

TIME is ripe for a general clean-up day in Vale. The grass and weeds are growing all over the sidewalks in some places.

BE happy while it is still possible. The cost of living is to keep on soaring.

SOCIALISTS OF MALHEUR MEET IN CONVENTION

Meet at the Courthouse on Monday--Adopt Resolutions and Nominate Candidates for County and District Offices -- Delegates Entusiastic

The Socialists of Malheur county met here in convention Monday and after transacting the ordinary business, the following declarations were adopted and a county and district nominated.

We, the Socialist party of Malheur county Oregon, in convention assembled, hereby affirm our belief in and support of the principles of socialism as expressed in the national platform of the socialist party.

We are unalterably opposed to the present economic system, which gives to the few who do not toil, by far the greater part of the wealth that is created and gives to those who do the world's work only bare subsistence.

We are not opposed to law, but we do insist that all laws should be made and administered in such a way that all economic classes will receive justice.

for county and district offices will place their signed resignations in the hands of the party organization, we state emphatically that we will place in effect the resignation of any such candidate who, after election fails to do his duty as an officer or who fails to keep his pre-election pledges, the party membership of the county or district deciding when such action shall be taken.

We favor such rate of taxation as is actually necessary to meet the legitimate expenses of the county but we will insist adequate returns for all public money expended. Our candidates for county judge and county commissioner are pledged to oppose the appropriation of any unusually large sum of money, as for instance, the recent appropriation for the benefit of County Fair Association, until the matter has been referred to and approved by the people of the county, and to refuse to pay any bill until satisfactory proof has been given that the same is just.

After the adoption of the above declarations, the following nominations were made for the various district and county offices:

J. Edwin Johnson, Representative, Vale; John E. Johnson, County Judge, Vale; Ben Corbett, County Clerk, Westfall; Frank L. Anderson, Sheriff, Basin; Peter Tensen, Assessor, Nyssa; E. B. Nelsen, Treasurer, Vale; Mrs. Anna Pritchett, School Superintendent, Vale; John S. Millikin, Surveyor, Ontario; Dr. Harriet Sears, Coroner, Vale; L. P. Petterson, Commissioner, Ontario.

George Straub, of the Fayette Creamery was in Vale Tuesday on business.

LIGHT PRIMARY VOTE BRINGS UP COST OF BALLOT

Estimated That Primary Election of Malheur County Cost Taxpayers \$1550, About \$1.25 for Each Ballot Cast On Election Day

The recent primary election held in Malheur county cost the taxpayers of this county \$1550 according to the figures given out a few days ago by County Clerk Frank Moritt. This includes the cost of the election material, ballots, transportation and mileage for return of the ballot boxes, judge and clerk hire, etc.

As there was about 1200 votes cast at the election it is now estimated that each ballot cast at the primaries cost the taxpayers of Malheur county about \$1.25. Over in Baker county the average cost of each ballot was \$1, but the vote there was considerably larger in proportion to the population.

EPWORTH LEAGUE TO HOLD ANNUAL DIST. CONVENTION

Active preparations are being made by the members of the Epworth league of this city for the district convention of the LaGrande district to be held in Baker June 5 to 9. The convention was decided upon several months ago, and was given to Baker this year, but has not until now been taken up in an active way, says the Baker Herald.

The LaGrande district comprises besides Baker, Ontario, Vale, Joseph, LaGrande, Elgin, Prairie City, John Day, and Canyon City each of which will send several delegates. The local league is preparing for the entertainment of at least 100 guests. No pains will be spared in the preparation of an interesting program and those in charge are trying to get as many outside speakers as possible for the program. This feature of the convention will be under the direction of Althea Lee and doubtless be handled well. Besides the entertainment feature of the meeting will be the business and elections for the ensuing year. These generally lend a lively interest to the work by showing the advancement of the society from year to year.

APPLIES FOR CANAL RIGHT OF WAY AT LAND OFFICE

Numerous Homestead and Desert Land Claims Taken During Past Week

F. L. Page of Boise during the past week filed at the local land office with Register Kester a right-of-way application for a canal to cross portions of section 11 and 12 of township 33 s r 46 east and section 7 of tp 23 south range 4 east.

Other applications filed were as follows:—
Homestead Application
Charles L. Barton, of Malheur, Ore. nw se and ne sw of section 19 tp 17 s r 47 e area 80 acres.

James Wilson of Bonita, Ore. s½ of ne se and e½ of sw section 2 tp 14 south 40 e area 320 acres.
William L. Wilson of Bonita, Ore. w½ of section 22 tp 15 s r 40 east area 320 acres.

Grover Haskins, of Unity Ore e½ of sw and w½ of se of section 30, tp 1 s r 37 area 160 acres.
Lloyd A Wear of Ironside, Ore. se of nw ne of sw sw of ne and lot 3 of section 2 tp 16 s r 41 e area 163.85 acres.

Peter Haughney of Palmer Junction Ore, s½ of sw section 2, n½ of nw of section 11 s½ of se of section 3 and nw of ne and ne of nw of section 10 tp 27 south range 39 east area 320 acres.

Desert Land Application
Susan Wilson of Bonita, Ore s½ of se of section 21 tp 15 south range 40 east area 80 acres.

If all the postage stamps issue by the United States government during the late fiscal year were collected and laid end to end, they would form a chain over 18,000 miles long, stretching three fourths around the world, or from New York to the Philippines and back. The number was 10,061,439,768 with a representative face value of \$180,957,385. Of the whole number, 5,130,249,018 were two-cent stamps, and 3,798,91,039 were one-cent. Only one thirty-cent was issued.

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