

MAIL RATE TOO HIGH

Bristow Would Favor Patrons of Rural Routes

SHOULD GET PACKAGES CHEAP

Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Recommends Change of Three Cents Per Pound—1125 Post-offices Are to Close.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Extension of the rural free delivery service has resulted in an increase of 115 in the number of postoffices discontinued during the fiscal year ending July 31, 1904, according to the annual report of J. L. Bristow, Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General made public today. During the year there were 249 postoffices established and 327 discontinued. There was a decrease of 133 in the number of offices established. The principal cause of the increase in discontinuances has been the extension of the rural free delivery service. The total number of discontinuances was 2750 postoffices, with a saving in salaries of postmasters aggregating \$13,121. At the close of the fiscal year there were 11,121 postoffices in the United States—285 first-class, 1204 second-class, 3396 third-class, and 6,736 fourth-class.

Operation of rural mail delivery and the extension by private interests of rural telephone service have created a demand from patrons of rural routes for the delivery of small packages and merchandise on an order to local merchants by postal card, telephone or otherwise. The value of such packages is small, and the present rate of 5 cents per ounce, the report says, is practically prohibitive. Mr. Bristow recommends that Congress fix a rate of 3 cents per pound or any fractional part thereof on packages not exceeding five pounds mailed at the distribution postoffice of any rural free delivery route. If this special rate were established, Mr. Bristow says, it would be a great convenience to patrons and become a source of revenue to the department.

\$500,000 Needed for New Routes. It is estimated that \$500,000 will be needed by the department to continue the establishment of rural routes as fast as they are favorably reported for the remainder of the current fiscal year. An appropriation of \$3,000,000 for the establishment of new routes will be asked by the department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905.

Appointments of postmasters for the fiscal year numbered 13,812, a decrease of 1349 as compared with the preceding year, due to there having been a smaller number of expirations of commissions of Presidential postmasters and to the policy of the department in discouraging changes in fourth-class postmasters except for cause. Mr. Bristow recommends to Congress that the interstate commerce law be amended so as to prohibit common carriers, tow, telegraph and express companies, or any other person, from aiding and abetting in green goods or lottery schemes or any other scheme carried on partly by mail and partly by common carrier, and which is in violation of the postal laws. The report shows that during the year 1533 postoffices were robbed; there were 90 depredations on railway postoffices, star routes, rural free delivery routes and screen-wagon services. There were 94 robberies of street and rural free delivery letter-boxes. Sixty-six postal cars were burned and wrecked, and 569 post-offices were damaged or destroyed. There were 237 mail pouches lost, damaged or destroyed.

Robberies Are Fewer. The foregoing figures show a decrease in the number of postoffices robbed and a decrease in the number of postal cars burned and wrecked as compared with the previous year; also a decrease in the number of robberies relating to railway post-office service, star routes, rural free delivery routes and screen-wagon service, and a decrease in the number of letter-boxes robbed.

An increase in the deficiency of 22.3 per cent over the previous year is shown by the financial statement for the postal service, incorporated in the annual report of E. C. Madden, Third Assistant Postmaster-General, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904. The report shows, however, that the increase in expenditures is on account of the rural free delivery service. Were it not for this extraordinary expenditure the postal service would be self-sustaining. The total receipts from all sources for the fiscal year were \$14,252,243, and the total expenditures \$15,282,118, leaving a deficit of \$1,029,875. The deficiency for the previous year was \$4,300,444. Mr. Madden says: "It is believed that as soon as the rural free delivery service is established the increase in the expenditures on account of that service each year will not be more than the normal increase for other items of the service, and that within a short time after such normal conditions obtain the postal service will again be self-sustaining, a condition which has not existed since 1857."

RECORD COINAGE FOR MINTS.

Director Gives Statistics for the Year Just Ended.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The Director of the Mint, in his annual report, shows that the output of the coinage mints at Philadelphia, San Francisco and New Orleans, which were in operation throughout the fiscal year, was the largest on record. It is estimated that the gold stock of the world in use as money on December 31, 1903, was approximately \$1,600,000,000, of which the United States had approximately \$200,000,000. The estimate for the stock of the United States for that time is \$1,300,000,000, of which \$325,000,000 was in the Treasury and National banks.

During the year the mints and assay offices sold \$2,224,719 worth of gold bars and 2,668,559 fine ounces of silver for use in the arts and manufactures, while private refiners sold \$2,248,842 worth of gold and 17,196,166 fine ounces of silver for the same purpose. Estimating for the amount of coin melted and deducting old material used, the net consumption of gold in the year is estimated to have been: Gold, \$1,271,521; silver, 20,745,743 ounces.

The total domestic coinage of the Philadelphia, San Francisco and New Orleans mints amounted in value to \$28,302,121, while the number of pieces executed, including the coinage for the Philippines, Venezuela and Costa Rica, was 29,253,942. The Director recommends that the present provision requiring nickel and bronze coin to be made at the Philadelphia mint be repealed, in order that the other mints may supply their adjacent territory.

The Director calls attention to the fact that under the provisions of the monetary act of 1900 not more than \$50,000,000 of the \$100,000,000 gold reserve can be in bullion, and recommends that this be changed to permit of a larger supply of bars. He says an important demand upon the treasury for gold is always for export and that for this purpose bars are preferred to coin.

The deposits of gold amounted to \$17,732,854. Domestic gold coin, abraded or mutilated, amounting to \$18,818, was recommissioned, of which there was a loss of \$17,900. The deposits of old material, new coin, plate, etc., amounted to \$4,962,900. The total purchases and deposits of silver were as follows, in standard ounces:

Silver contained in gold deposits, \$20,219; for Philippine coinage, 10,345,121; Hawaiian coin redeemed, 18,115; uncurrent domestic coin, 2,133,316; for return in this bar, 6,081,430; for foreign coins, 438,000—a total of 30,119,521.

On the redemption of domestic subsidiary coins, there was a loss of \$17,371, and on the redemption of Hawaiian coin a profit of \$277, due to the fact that these pieces of denominations below the dollar are heavier than the corresponding United States coins. The face value of all Hawaiian coins redeemed to date is \$33,312 and their coinage value is \$34,024. The total coinage of Hawaii was \$1,000,000, all issued in 1882.

The seignorage on silver dollars coined during the year was \$2,022,485; on subsidiary silver coins, \$1,660,088, and on minor coins, \$1,000,000. The total seignorage of the service for the year was \$4,682,573.

NOW USE "AMERICAN."

State Department Instructs Agents Abroad in Regard to Title.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—That there may be no misunderstanding on the subject, announcement was made at the State Department today that diplomatic and consular agents of this Government were informed some time ago that whenever acting in their notarial capacity they should conform to the

PLAN TO KIDNAP HIM

Tribesmen Attack Home of English Writer at Tangier.

TANGIER, Dec. 2.—The Benin-Suar tribesmen made a determined attack on the residence of Walter B. Harris, the English writer, last night, with the avowed intention of capturing him. The mountaineers surrounded the house, stabbed a guard who attempted to raise an alarm to secure others, but finally, after some looting, the tribesmen left without finding Mr. Harris.

FAITHFUL GUARD IS STABBED

Head of the House is Not Found, and Benin-Suars Return, Kill One Man and Take Rifles of Others—Legation Acts.

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IN TOMORROW'S OREGONIAN

ALICE ROOSEVELT AND HER MANY SUITORS.

Notable men, foreign as well as American, who failed to make an impression upon the President's daughter, who is still here and fancy free.

ELIZABETH IN HER OREGON HOME.

This favorite writer, emerging from retirement, pays a graceful tribute to our gentle rains and introduces a webfoot goddess of the chase.

GETTING THE CAPITOL READY FOR CONGRESS.

A Washington correspondent shows that when Congress meets next Monday, they will see an excellent job of housecleaning.

HETTY GREEN TALKS ABOUT MONEY MAKING.

Richest woman in the world in an interview with Frank Carpenter tells why she desires to pile up wealth till she dies.

TODAY'S OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG WOMEN.

Rose Eyring speaks of acting as a vocation and praises it highly as offering the very choicest career.

HARRISON'S DAUGHTERS PINE HORSEWOMEN.

The railroad millionaire's girls are at home in saddle cross country.

GETTING DOWN TO WORK ON THE PANAMA CANAL.

A returned engineer thinks the big ditch can be cut in four years, though most of the work by the French company must be done over.

PICTURESQUE BREATHING SPOT IN A CROWDED ISLAND.

A staff correspondent describes the lake country of England, rich in historical associations and as inspiring to great poets; with fine illustrations.

MR. DOOLEY ON THE FOLLY OF BANTING.

Finley Peter Dunne's philosopher thinks it is wrong for a man to be too kind to his stomach.

MINIATURE CITY GOVERNED BY BOYS AND GIRLS.

Description of the George Junior Republic where the motto is "Nothing Will Out Labor."

PEEK'S BAD BOY ABOARD.

He writes from the Waldorf-Astoria, where he tries to rescue a "Countess" in distress.

ALL THE NEWS AND THE CUSTOMARY DEPARTMENTS.

POSTMASTER FOR NEW YORK.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The question of the appointment of a postmaster at New York to succeed the late Postmaster Cornelius Van Cott has been settled by the President, but he cannot say anything about the prospective appointment tonight.

Roosevelt and Platt Agree Upon Man at Conference.

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Japan Favors Peace Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Mr. Hioki, the Japanese charge d'affaires, called at the State Department today and informed Assistant Secretary Loomis that the Japanese government had received yesterday the invitation of the American Government for a second conference at the Hague, and the invitation would be promptly returned to the Diet. The intention is that the proposition meets with Japanese favor.

Fairbanks Arrives in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Senator Fairbanks, Vice-President-elect, arrived in Washington today to remain during the session of Congress. He was accompanied by Mrs. Fairbanks.

Few Matters Come Before Cabinet.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—All members of the Cabinet attended today's meeting except Secretary Taft, who is in Panama, but no business of importance was considered.

Studying Italian Army and Navy.

ROME, Dec. 2.—Admiral John C. Watson, U. S. N., retired, has arrived here from Paris, and is studying the instruction, physical and moral, given in Italy to recruits for the army and navy.

FAVORS SEA-LEVEL CANAL.

Members of Congress Return From Inspection Tour in Panama.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 2.—Assistant Secretary of the Navy Darling arrived from San Francisco tonight en route to Washington and met the Congressional committee under Chairman Hepburn, just returned from Panama on the United States transport Sumner. The members of the Congressional Committee were established at the progress and possibilities of the canal at Panama, but believe that it will take more time and money than at first anticipated. Most of them favor a sea-level canal. They said also that all differences with Panama would be amicably adjusted.

long conference with Emperor Nicholas

long conference with Emperor Nicholas after this in the first time the Emperor has summoned M. Witte for several months past, the conference is considered as having great significance, and it is believed here it will have a direct and important bearing on the imperial decision on the Zensveto memorial which is now being considered at the palace.

Considering Question of Taxation.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 2.—A commission consisting of about 100 representatives of the Ministry of Finance from various parts of the empire, is sitting at the Ministry of Finance considering the question of extraordinary taxation necessary to defray the expenses of the war. Many projects are under discussion, among others an income tax, but no conclusions have been reached.

Authorizes Issue of Paper Money.

SANTIAGO DE CHILE, Dec. 2.—The Chamber of Deputies today introduced a bill authorizing the issue of 20,000,000 pesos in paper money and postponing conversion until 1910. The Senate has approved of the treaty of peace with Bolivia.

Mirsky Sympathizes With Zionists.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 2.—Prince Sulejowski-Mirsky today received a deputation of Zionists. He informed them that he sympathized with the movement they represented, and would withdraw the government opposition hitherto against them.

FUNERAL OF NOTED ACTRESS

Little Band of Friends Do Honor to Madame Janauschek.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—A little band of actors gathered in the chapel of an undertaker's establishment today to take part in the funeral service over the body of Madame Janauschek, Roman actress, once a noted actress, who died last Monday in a home on Long Island. The very simple ceremony was in marked contrast to the many stirring events of her long life. It consisted of the reading of the brief service of the Roman Catholic Church and an eulogy by Milton Nobles, a member of the executive committee of the Actors' Fund, which cared for Madame Janauschek in her declining years. In the course of his address Mr. Nobles said: "If in my life I have been able to impress upon you the ephemeral quality of that substance something which we call fame, here it lies. If this once great woman had been summoned 20 years ago in the zenith of her powers, great as the earth would have been proud to do her homage. Now the only ones to do her reverence is this group of her fellow-actors in a strange, or at least an alien, land, who knew and loved her for herself alone."

GUARDS DRIVEN TO COVER.

Strikers Open Fire on Zeigler Mine at Midnight.

DUQUOIN, Ill., Dec. 2.—Guards at the Dyle blockhouse, half-way between the town of Zeigler and the pumping station, which are over two miles apart, were driven to cover shortly after midnight by an attack from the woods, in which about 50 shots were fired. An attack was also made on the pumping station, which was arrested promptly by the guards and deputies guarding the plant. The attacking parties seemed to have centered their fire on the Zeigler pumping station. It is from this plant that all power which operates the Zeigler mines is obtained, and if the attackers should succeed in destroying this it would shut the mines down completely.

Will Not Declare Martial Law.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 2.—Governor Yates made a statement to the Associated Press today that he has not the slightest intention of declaring martial law at Zeigler, and that an interview credited to him intimating such an intention is false.

BEEF AT 36 CENTS A POUND.

This is "Slaughtering-Day" Price at Chicago Livestock Exposition.

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—This was "slaughtering day" at the Livestock Exposition at the stockyards. Unprecedented prices were obtained today for the animals put on sale. Beef "on the hoof" sold for 36 cents a pound. This figure was the price paid for Clear Lake Jute, grand champion of the show, and is the highest price for this grade of cattle was \$3.85.

TOURED THE TOWN.

Police Captain Bailey Carries Out Orders of Chief Hunt.

Shouldering the responsibility placed upon him by Chief Hunt, Captain of Police Bailey made a tour of the city from 1 to 2:30 A. M. today, inspecting saloons. He found things in good order, he stated, after his return to the Central Station. His purpose was to ascertain whether any liquor shops were "doing business" during the time specified by city ordinance for closing.

FAMINE PREVAILS IN SIBERIA

Several Villages Depopulated Owing to Deaths From Starvation.

VIENNA, Dec. 2.—Harrowing particulars have been received from the districts in Siberia of the awful suffering of the inhabitants. Even Irkutsk has been seized by the famine and several villages have become depopulated, owing to the deaths of the population. Recently the relief steamers were sent out, but they failed to reach their destinations as they were caught in the ice. The result was that the famine reached the distant points as message, but the little told of appalling suffering.

Fire Cars on Elevated Railway.

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—What are to be the first fire cars to be used on elevated railway in this country have been named by the Metropolitan elevated line. The cars correspond in type to the regular chemical engine in use in the city fire department. Four cars were stationed at the terminals of the four branches of the elevated railway.

THE BEST SELLING BOOK in the UNITED STATES

BEVERLY OF GRAUSTARK BY GEORGE BARR McCUTCHEON

Author of "Graustark," "Castle Grannycrow," etc.

DODD, MEAD & CO. Publishers New York

They act like Exercise.

Castoria - for the Bowels

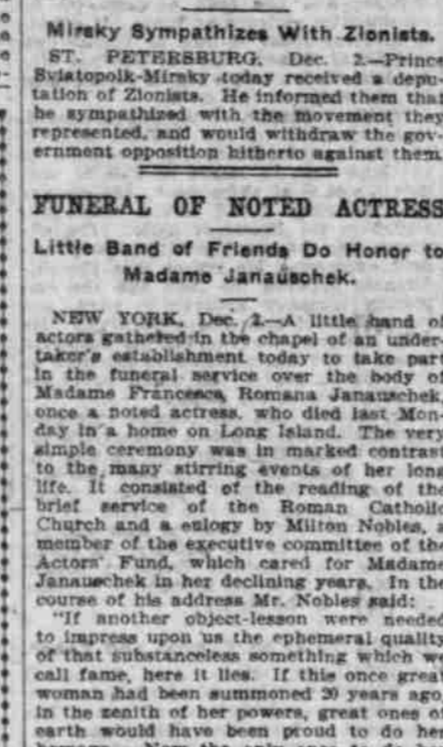
10 Cents All Druggists

VEHICLES and HARNESS

ARE SHOWN HERE, EVERY STYLE AND PRICE. THE STOCK IS THE LARGEST AND BEST, DISPLAYED IN THE NORTHWEST

Wagons.

CALL AND SEE US



YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Carriages.

STUDEBAKER BROS. CO. NORTHWEST

PORTLAND, OREGON

Free Entertainment Tonight.

The usual free Saturday evening entertainment at the Men's Resort, Fourth and Burnside streets, will take this evening the form of a stereopticon lecture by Rev. E. T. Allen on "Life in Persia." Mr. Allen, who is now assistant pastor at the First Presbyterian Church, was formerly a missionary in Persia and his lecture is sure to be an interesting and instructive one.

Say No Trouble Exists.

PORTLAND, Dec. 2.—(To the Editor.)—In your publication of December 1, 1904, was an article relating to a riot as between union and non-union men on the Alaska dock, which was given considerable space. We, as longshoremen, are at loss to understand how, why and where anything of the kind described took place. Certainly not on the Alaska dock, nor on any other dock in the Port of Portland.

PERSONAL MENTION.

W. J. Mariner, a stockman from Black Rock, Or., is at the Portland.

Musical Entertainment and Bazaar.

The basement room of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Clinton and East Twelfth streets, last night was filled with a large crowd, the occasion being the annual concert and bazaar. Evergreens were the decorations. On one side a long counter loaded with fairly and useful articles was placed, while in a corner was a respond where most anything might be caught for a nickel. Rev. August Krause, the pastor, gave an address of welcome, when an excellent musical programme was rendered. Professor G. Haselien sang with fine effect

Against the Canine.

PORTLAND, Dec. 2.—(To the Editor.)—Mr. Samuel deserves the thanks of the entire public for his article on dogs. Decency everywhere supports his views. I have a dog myself, and yet I go further than he does, believing dogs should not be permitted in any incorporated city. The fitness of these animals is unpeakable. As he suggests, they at least should be kept off the streets. If public sentiment can be aroused, this will be accomplished. It is an abominable outrage that these detestable nuisances should be permitted to roam the streets of any civilized community.

Servian Cabinet Resigns.

BELGRADE, Servia, Dec. 1.—The Cabinet has resigned.

Prince Fushima in Boston.

BOSTON, Dec. 2.—Prince Fushima, of Japan, arrived this afternoon from New York. At the station the Prince was greeted by the entire Japanese colony in Boston, headed by Osborne Howes, honorary Japanese Consul.

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