

RURAL ROUTES TO BE MORE USEFUL

De Graw Recommends Limited Parcels Post for Farmers.

GOOD ROADS EXTENDED

Postoffice Department Uses Influence for Improvements and Gets Them—Would Abolish Lead Letter Lottery Sale.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Touching the heart of the agricultural communities in every state of the Union, the annual report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General J. V. De Graw, made public tonight, announces increased usefulness of the rural free delivery service and the unprecedented bringing of the work of the bureau up to date, and recommends rural delivery of packages of 11 pounds maximum at a special postage, and the uniforming of rural carriers. The package provision suggested requires legislation, and is designed to be effective between the distributing postoffice and the patrons of any route emanating from such postoffice.

Uniform for Rural Carriers.

The rural carriers in the service, of which Mr. De Graw is the head, daily pass 2,900,000 homes, and he recommends once more the adoption of a uniform. Their high standard of efficiency is attested by the fact that only 145 carriers out of a total number of 29,142 were dismissed for cause during the past year.

Rural delivery is now being operated in 847,087 miles of road, over which carriers are required to travel daily. Of these roads, 25,000 miles are macadam, the remainder being earth, sand or gravel. Since the service was first established 170,622.162 has been expended on roads traversed by rural carriers. Road officials and patrons are notified whenever repairs are necessary on rural routes. More work has been done on such public highways and more expenditures made in their improvement during the past year than in any previous year in the history of rural delivery, and the official reports received clearly indicate that interest in road improvement is being earnestly manifested throughout the country.

The estimate of appropriations necessary for this service for the next fiscal year is \$2,346,000, an increase of \$73,000 over the current appropriation. During the past year 1672 new routes were established, 13,143 pieces of mail were not prior thereto were re-established, and 140 routes discontinued, leaving net increase in number 1849. During the year 1958 postoffice work was discontinued and the patrons rendered service by rural carriers.

Dispose of Dead Letters.

The report recommends legislation which will permit the adoption of an improved method of disposing of undeliverable articles of mail by sale, so as to eliminate as far as practicable the objectionable letter features involved in carrying out the existing law on the subject. In the dead letter office during the year there were received 25,148,123 pieces of mail, and there were returned to senders 2,582,684 letters and parcels, or almost 10,000,000 more than in the previous year. The report recommends increasing the number of positions in the higher grades of clerks, with corresponding decrease in lower grades.

CORVALLIS TEAM COMING

O. A. C. TO MEET MULTNOMAH NEXT SATURDAY.

First Battle Between These Two Eleven in Three Years—Club Squad Is Training.

Football fans are preparing with a great deal of eagerness for the big gridiron battle scheduled for Multnomah Field Saturday, when the Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club eleven will try conclusions with the Oregon Agricultural College team for the first time in three years. The clubmen are getting into excellent physical condition for this game, for the recent defeat at the hands of the University of Oregon has stimulated them to renewed efforts to regain the laurels lost on Thanksgiving day. Multnomah sustained its first defeat of the season on that day, and it is the intention of the clubmen to make good that reversal by winning all the remaining games to be played. The club practices, held each evening, are being attended by all the members of the squad, and the manner in which each man enters into the spirit of the workouts indicates that when the team faces O. A. C. Saturday, a most determined stand will be taken by the winged "M" players. Captain Stott has thoroughly recovered from the bruises sustained Thursday, and is now playing the game with the vim that usually marks his work, and which caused him to shine so brilliantly up to the time he was injured in the recent game. Reports from Corvallis indicate that the "Angies" are preparing harder for the game with Multnomah than was noticeable in their preparation for any of the previous struggles. The O. A. C. lads are determined to score over Multnomah, and when they line up on the local gridiron Saturday they will come prepared to put up one of the best games of their career. This means that Saturday's contest will be one of the hardest fought struggles ever witnessed on the Multnomah gridiron.

RUSSIA ONCE GAVE CONSENT

Secret Treaty Approved Austria's Annexation of Bosnia.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 30.—An anonymous article which recently appeared in the Pastor Lloyd, a Budapest newspaper, asserting that Russia during the "three years consent" to Austria's annexation of Bosnia, has attracted a great deal of attention here. Russian newspapers in their comment endeavor to minimize the chief revelations, and the facts now brought to light on the Russian side show that the agreement was conditional. By a secret treaty entered into at Bucharest, Bohemia, Russia agreed to allow Austria to occupy only a part of Bosnia, a strip south of the Drina, being assigned to Serbia, and Herzegovina to Montenegro. The cessation of this strip connecting Serbia and Montenegro was the solution of the Balkan problem, and

vocated by M. Iswolski, the Russian Foreign Minister at London, and it is now one of the chief Serbian contentions. The Reichstadt Treaty was to be effective only if the Russian plans, which involved numerous conditions in the state, were accepted, but the agreement collapsed when the conditions were not fulfilled. Attention likewise is drawn to the promise given by the Austrian Minister, Andrássy, to the Russian Ambassador in February, 1878, that Bosnia and Herzegovina, if annexed, should be joined to Croatia and Slavonia, not to other territories in the empire, thus creating a triple monarchy, Servo-Austro-Hungarian, instead of a dual monarchy. This promise, it is asserted, has been violated in the statute of annexation which is now being discussed in the Austro-Hungarian Legislatures.

FERDINAND WANTS HARMONY

Speaks at Audience of Deputation of National Assembly.

SOFIA, Bulgaria, Nov. 30.—Emperor Ferdinand granted an audience last evening to a deputation from the National Assembly. The President of the deputation, Dr. Krastevich, read the reply of that body to His Majesty's speech from the throne. The Emperor responded in patriotic vein, and pleaded for harmony between the Nation and the crown and said he was proud after long centuries, to restore the broken chain of the Bulgarian Crown. He placed his dependence, he said, upon the stalwart national qualities and the marvelous steadfastness and perseverance displayed by the Bulgarian people in the past. He expressed his confidence in the deputation, and said that at the meeting there was a banquet, at which the healths of Emperor Ferdinand and Crown Prince Boris were drunk. Prince Cyril, the second son of the Emperor, a boy of 13, also was present at the dinner and conversed with the deputies in an animated manner. Bragoroff, a member of the Populist party, which is anti-monarchical, declined to attend the function at the palace. In spite of rumors that he has suffered a breakdown, the health of Emperor Ferdinand is excellent.

CANDIDATES VISIT COLFAX

Meigs and Slayden Bid for Whitman County's Support.

COLFAX, Wash., Nov. 28.—(Special.)—L. O. Meigs, of North Yakima, and J. W. Slayden, of Steilacoom, rival candidates for Speaker of the House in the next Washington Legislature, visited Colfax today in an effort to get the Whitman County representatives in line. It is generally understood that S. J. Boon, Oscar Young and H. S. McClure, the three Republican representatives from Whitman County, have expressed themselves as well pleased with the support promised them over the state.

SHARE IN CHEROKEE LAND

Supreme Court Admits 1500 Persons Hitchcock Had Barred.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—By a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States today declaring arbitrary and unauthorized by law the action of Secretary Hitchcock in removing from the Cherokee Indian rolls on March 14, 1907 the names of John E. Goldsby, et al., 1500 persons will now share in the division of land of that tribe in Oklahoma. It is estimated that at least a million dollars' worth of property is involved. The case was brought by three persons in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia as a test of the Secretary's jurisdiction in the matter.

MEXICANS CRY FREEZE-OUT

Accuse Schwab and Others of Gobbling Rich Silver Mine.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—That papers in a suit involving the ownership of a Mexican silver and lead mine in which Charles M. Schwab and other financiers are interested, have been served upon Mr. Schwab, was made known today, the report says. The plaintiffs allege that they owned a majority of the stock at that time and that they had options on practically all the minority stock. Counsel for Mr. Schwab said today that neither Mr. Schwab nor any of those interested with him were disturbed by the suit, but that Mr. Schwab's answer would be filed in due time.

WILL FIGHT WELCH FIRST

Battling Nelson Too Busy, However, Till After January.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Nov. 30.—Battling Nelson has made a favorable reply to the offer of Freddie Welch for a 45-round contest for the lightweight championship and \$5000 side bet, but declined the offer for the present. His reply, which Ben Long, of the Jeffries Athletic Club received yesterday, is as follows: "Thanks for consideration. Busy writing book, building 20 houses, etc. Time taken to latter part of January. Welch more eligible than McFarland. Consider Welch later. Regards to all." This is taken here to mean that Nelson considers Welch as having a better claim upon him for a championship battle than Packer McFarland has at the time, and the promise to make him on later has caused Long to begin to lay plans for a February meet between this pair.

WILL ISSUE AMNESTY EDICT

Will Approve Programme of Reform for New Regime.

PEKIN, Nov. 30.—An edict of amnesty is to be issued by the crown next Wednesday. It approves the programme of reform already announced but does not otherwise define the policy of the new regime. The matter of amnesty is treated in 20 separate articles. Conventional rewards, etc., for long years of service are promised, but amnesty for the offenders is denied. To this list is added an 11th crime, namely, the harboring of rebels. The insertion of this clause evidently is a result of political conditions. Rebels previously banished from the Empire will not benefit by the new edict.

BILLIARDS AND POOL

The Waldorf, 7th and Washington.

LETTERS FROM PORTLAND

Official Action by Northwestern League, Dec. 10.

LUCAS BACK FROM EAST

Declares Teams Must Put Up Better Grade of Ball if League Expects to Make Good Before Portland's Fans.

SPOKANE, Wash., Nov. 30.—(Special.)—"At a special meeting to be called for December 10 at Seattle, Portland will be invited to officially join the Northwestern League. This final notice will be the consummation of the agreement made last Summer between the Pacific Coast League and the Northwestern League directors and ratified at the meeting of the National Association in Chicago November 10," said W. H. Lucas, president of the Northwestern League, who has just returned from the East.

"The acquisition of Portland means that the Northwestern League teams must play better ball and have better umpires in 1909 than last season to compete with the Coast League there. The Portland people are going to be critical, even though they are friendly. They like the idea of playing in a league with the cities their natural rivals, but they cannot stand a grade of baseball inferior to that of the Coast League.

"But every team in the Northwestern League, the Vancouver champions alone excepted, promises to be much stronger than last year."

When President Lucas was asked if it was true that he intended to move to Portland he was non-committal, saying he might continue to live in Spokane.

INVENTOR'S NAME CHANUTE

SUCCESSFUL AEROPLANE.

Prizes Amounting to \$20,000 to Be Awarded in Flying Race Next Spring.

PARIS, Nov. 28.—(Special.)—Now that flying is in a fair way of becoming an accomplished fact, the question is being discussed as to who invented the aeroplane, which undoubtedly is to become the ship of the air, superseding the clumsy dirigible balloons much more rapidly than the steamships superseded the sailing vessels. There are at present two schools of aviation—the American school, represented by the Brothers Wright, and the French school, represented by the Brothers Voisin.

The inventor of the aeroplanes is Octave Chanute, who was generally thought to be of American nationality. But one of the papers today points out that Chanute is a Frenchman, born in Paris on February 18, 1822. When he was quite young Octave Chanute left France for the United States, and there devoted himself to the study of aerodynamics, ultimately constructing a flying machine. In this contrivance the legs of the aviator served as a motor.

All that was wanted was a means of obtaining mechanical flight. The Brothers Wright in America, and the Brothers Voisin in France, have filled this means in the motor. It is claimed, however, that the essential principle of the two schools of flying belongs to Chanute. Apropos to flying—the event of the French Winter season will be an international flying race from Monaco to Cap Martin across the straits, a distance of 20 miles, for prizes amounting to \$20,000. This race will be run under the auspices of the Prince of Monaco between the dates of January 24 and March 24, 1909, and is expected to attract great crowds from all parts of the world.

INDEPENDENCE IN VOTING

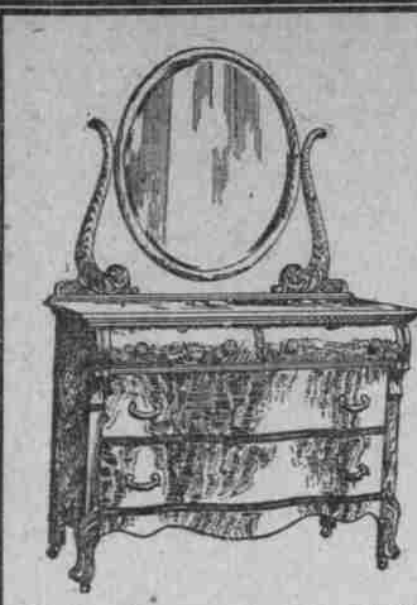
Conspicuous Examples of Free Choice by the Electorate.

NEW YORK Evening Post. That the election of 1908 establishes a high-water mark of independent thinking and voting in all in all, its most gratifying feature. If the returns mean anything, it is that the old cry of "the party, right or wrong," has about lost its potency. There is evidence of this on every side. Who has not heard within his own acquaintance of lifelong Democrats voting for the Republicans for the first time, or vice versa? The old fear of splitting a ticket has certainly gone forever—witness the extraordinary variety of ballots which have delayed the count in Ohio.

That the attempt to etiquette the man who deliberately bolts his party's nomination. The respectability of independence is now well established.

The choice in Cincinnati of Henry T. Hunt, a Democrat, and a graduate of Yale, less than 20 years of age, as Prosecuting Attorney in the face of the opposition of Boss Cox showed that, too, the political rascals could not carry off a minor office by howling for the National ticket. That Prosecuting Attorney bids fair to make Boss Cox wince if he lives up to his promise. In Delaware, too, the virtues of a minor candidate were recognized in the hurly-burly of a Presidential campaign by the choice of a Democrat, Andrew G. Gray, son of Judge Gray, as Attorney-General, in the face of a Republican majority of 200.

In New Hampshire, Taft received 20,000 majority, but Quinby, the machine candidate for Governor, by 17,000. In Michigan, Taft ran 127,500 votes ahead of the Republican candidate for Governor, and in Illinois captured 175,000 more votes than Bryan, while Governor Deming had but 20,000 more votes than Adlai E. Stevenson. In Missouri, the situation was reversed. Hadley, a Republican being elected by Governor by 17,000, while Taft went in by only 400. Here in New York, aside from the triumph of Hughes, the election to Congress of Senator Fowler, while Governor Deming was opposed the race-track bill, are splendid illustrations of the new political conditions our bosses find it so hard to understand. Wemple was beaten by 800 votes in a district that went 600 for Hughes, which ought to convince him that he misrepresented his constituents last Spring. Over in New Jersey independent voting resulted in the deplorable defeat of Everett Colby, but even that is a proof of the changing conditions. Surely, these election results assert anew the vigor of our citizenship and the essential wisdom of our electoral system. They should give fresh inspiration to re-



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formers everywhere by their overwhelming proof that honest appeals to the people are as certain of favorable response as when Seward, in his Gettysburg speech of 1863, declared that the best of the greatest of civil wars, that this Government of ours would be indestructible.

BRAZIL'S RISING POWER

Is She Aiming at Leadership of Latin-American Nations?

New York Sun. We have pointed out that in 1908 Brazil had an annual surplus of nearly \$40,000,000. Obviously she was even then qualified from a financial viewpoint to begin the construction of a considerable navy. Senator Ribeiro tells us, however, that it is unnecessary to touch that surplus, because, assuming that there are 6,000,000 taxpayers the Rio de Janeiro Government could provide itself with \$45,000,000 by levying an average annual tax of \$1.50 for five years. The sum would suffice to construct several first-class battleships, besides the auxiliary vessels needed to constitute an efficient navy.

We learn from Senator Ribeiro the program of naval construction which is in progress of execution at the present time. It comprehends the three Dreadnaughts, each of 25,000 tons, which are building at a cost of \$2,000,000 apiece, three express cruisers of 2500 tons each, at a cost of \$1,350,000 apiece, 18 destroyers of 600 tons, at a cost of \$25,000 each, and one mine-layer of 2800 tons, which will cost \$750,000, together with a few submarines and small torpedo craft. The aggregate cost \$29,500,000.

The inference to be drawn from these figures is that Brazil is aiming at the seventh place among the naval powers, thus taking precedence of Russia and Austria-Hungary. Of those Brazilians who have opposed the programme on the score of the burden which it will impose upon the country, Senator Ribeiro asks what there is to complain of if a few millions of its inhabitants are called upon to contribute the trifling sum of \$1.50 in the course of five years. The reply would seem more conclusive if one could leave out the view of the simultaneous expenditure which is to be made in the course of five years. Some years ago the total strength of Brazil's active or peace army was less than 25,000, and her aggregate war strength only 100,000. At that time Argentina's peace strength fell short of \$10,000, but its war strength was about 75,000. It follows that the two countries are now on an equal footing. That will soon cease to be the case. The Brazilian War Minister will have nearly half a million men on a footing of independence, and the aggregate cost of the army will be 1,000,000 trained and prepared for warlike operations.

It is hard to resist the conclusion that Brazil's naval and military armaments have for their ultimate object the attainment of leadership and control in Latin America.

BABY'S ADVENT A MENACE

Large Families Bane of the Poor, Declares Charity Report.

New York Times. The annual report of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor shows that the extent of the distress in this city within the last 12 months.

"Since the beginning of last Winter," says the report, "a long line of men, women and children, suffering from distress as many as 25, have appealed to us for work. There has been a pathetic similarity in the language of their appeal. 'This is the first time I have had to ask for help,' a man would say, 'and I wouldn't do it now, except for my wife and children.' Almost without exception our visitor had found that the story was true."

Here is a transcript from the association's records for recent months, which could be repeated with unimportant variations many times:

"Woman called accompanied by two children and presented a card from Dr. G. M. said that her husband had been out of work for four months; that they owe this month's rent and \$15 to the grocer; have sold almost every article of furniture they had; had only 5 cents' worth of potatoes yesterday. Youngest child very weak mother unable to nurse; other children in need of clothing. Asked immediate aid for food and rent."

"Caroline, a nurse called. Found woman and four children, the eldest 9 years old, and the youngest 3 months old, all suffering from the lack of food. Mother unable to feed baby from lack of food. Housekeeper states the family is respectable, honest and deserving."

Mrs. Ingram, superintendent of the relief department, gives many such stories, some even more pathetic, in her report.

Antique Rugs Made by Washing. Chicago Tribune. The United States buys annually many thousand dollars' worth of what are known to the profession as washed rugs. Brightly colored Oriental rugs sometimes are washed with a solution of chloride of lime, a treatment which partly bleaches the colors and imparts a soft appearance to the rug.

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