

CHEAP CLERKS, POOR SERVICE

Report of First Assistant Postmaster General Hitchcock.

Makes Several Recommendations Regarding Salaries and Substations Amount of Money in Dead Letters Increasing—Indecent Postal Cards and Other Matter Suppressed.

Washington, Dec. 28.—In his annual report made today First Assistant Postmaster General Hitchcock says that the low salaries paid clerks in first and second class postoffices are decreasing the standard of efficiency. It is impossible, he says, to induce efficient men to enter his branch of the service, when the salary to begin with is but \$600 a year, with no certainty of promotion for perhaps several years. Mr. Hitchcock strongly recommends a discontinuance of the practice of installing postoffices in public buildings devoted in part to other branches of the government service. The best type of quarters for postoffice purposes, he says, is a single large room in a one-story building.

Much embarrassment has been occasioned the postal authorities to provide emergency mail facilities in mining towns, and Mr. Hitchcock recommends an emergency appropriation of \$75,000 to meet such requirements.

There has been an increase of more than \$18,000,000 in the amount of domestic and of more than \$5,000,000 in the amount of foreign money orders issued during the year over the year preceding.

While the number of undelivered letters which are on their way to the dead letter office during the year was smaller than during the previous year, the number of undelivered letters with valuable enclosures greatly increased. General prosperity of the country is given as one reason; another is the suppression by the department of concerns using the mails for fraudulent purposes. Mail for such concerns containing money, money orders and commercial paper was received at the dead letter office in unusual quantities. Nearly 11,000,000 pieces of mail were received at the dead letter office during the year, including 1,668 that failed of delivery in the Panama canal zone.

Over 1,500,000 cases of alleged indecent and scurrilous matter received attention. In the summer the influx of offensive pictorial post cards became so great as to call for a special order by the department looking to the abatement of the nuisance. As a result of this order, many thousands of objectionable cards have been withdrawn from the mails by postmasters and forwarded to the department for destruction.

FLOUR TRADE MENACED.

Puget Sound Mill's Oriental Business Falls 30 Per Cent.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 28.—According to Superintendent Armstrong, of the Tacoma Warehouse & Sperry Mills company, the boycott in China is proving a serious menace to the milling interests of Tacoma. Where years ago full cargoes of flour were being shipped to China and mills were running overtime to fill orders, shipments to the Orient have fallen off over 30 per cent and mills are running only part of the time.

"The boycott in China has knocked the bottom out of the flour business, as far as exports are concerned," said Superintendent Armstrong. "Local freight keeps up well but we need foreign shipments. It would be good business policy to get that boycott out of the way as soon as possible."

Ralph Smith agent of the Puget Sound Flouring Mills company, says: "We are shipping less flour than usual to China, and the boycott is responsible for it. I don't know what else could be the trouble. Home trade keeps up about as usual."

Volcano Smothers Savaii.

San Francisco, Dec. 28.—According to the passengers who arrived yesterday on the liner Ventura, the volcano on the island of Savaii, in the Samoan group, is still in vigorous activity. The blaze from the crater at night, it is said, is visible at sea many miles away. The lava has covered an area of 30 square miles. This molten flow has filled 11 miles of a deep valley and is heading for the seashore. Natives whose homes are near the beach are preparing to abandon their houses and coconut groves on short notice.

Many Horses Fall Dead.

New York, Dec. 28.—Afflicted with spinal meningitis, more than a score of horses dropped dead in the streets of Williamsburg today, and at least half of them succumbed to the disease before a veterinary could reach them. Every veterinary surgeon in Williamsburg was called into service, and they were kept busy from before daylight until tonight trying to check the spread of the disease. Up to 6 o'clock one had been called to attend 18 cases.

Will Adopt Extreme Measures.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—After an exciting meeting of the workmen's delegates to the Union of Unions, it was decided to continue the strike and adopt the most desperate measures.

AFTER THE OIL BARONS.

Missouri Summons W. G. Rockefeller and Six Others.

New York, Dec. 29.—William G. Rockefeller, son of William Rockefeller, was, it was learned yesterday, served Christmas evening with a subpoena to appear at a hearing in the case of the state of Missouri against the Standard Oil company at the offices of Henry Wollman, here January 5. Christmas day is a legal service day, though most holidays are not a proper service time for subpoenas. The service was made as Mr. Rockefeller was stepping into his automobile in front of his residence. Edward T. Bedford, also one of the directors of the Standard Oil company, was served with a subpoena in the same proceedings.

Henry Wollman, New York counsel for the state of Missouri in the proceedings, said yesterday that he thought some of the Standard Oil men were attempting to evade service.

"They are making it very difficult for us," he said, "but we are succeeding steadily. We have already served seven. The hearing will begin January 5 and Attorney General Hadley and I will take the testimony of all the witnesses we get by that time, and then we will adjourn from time to time to get all of them. It is probable that we will give notice to take depositions in some of the neighboring states, where some of them are now residing temporarily."

BOYCOTT IN ALL PROVINCES.

Will Be Continued Until Exclusion Law is Relaxed.

New York, Dec. 29.—Dr. F. F. Tong, the representative of the Chinese government who is here to create a public sentiment against the exclusion law, as administered, declared yesterday that there would be no abatement of the boycott in China against American goods until the desired change was made.

He said that his most recent advice indicate that the movement of retaliation had spread to every province of the empire. Everywhere merchants and their customers are working together to shut out goods made in the United States. At Tien Tsin, Dr. Tong asserted, mills for the production of cotton and woolen goods have been started, and a flour mill is in operation. Women are heart and soul with the men in the fight against American goods. In purchasing powder for their faces the first question they ask is: "Was it made in America?" If the answer is affirmative, they refuse to buy.

"What we are seeking to accomplish," said Dr. Tong, "is an adjustment of the law and its administration that will put a stop to the injustice to which Chinese in this country are constantly subjected."

CLAIM FOR STEAMERS.

Heirs of Rebel Commodore Revive Civil War Incident.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Secretary Shaw and the United States treasurer are defendants in a suit instituted today in the Federal court here to recover from the government the value of 25 steamboats alleged to have been taken from James E. Montgomery during the Civil war by men representing themselves to be military officers of the United States.

Mr. Montgomery, who is now dead, was a prominent steamboat owner, and lived in St. Louis. The suit is brought by the trustee of the Montgomery estate, who seeks to recover \$250,000 for the heirs. The petition states that Mr. Montgomery opposed secession, but was compelled to cast his lot with the Confederacy, as his property interests were chiefly in Mississippi. He became a commodore in the Confederate navy, but was the first Confederate officer to take the oath of allegiance to the United States after the war. He took the oath in the presence of General U. S. Grant, his neighbor, who was the first Federal officer to congratulate him on his return to the support of the Union.

Warships to Santo Domingo.

Washington, Dec. 29.—The gunboat Paducah left Norfolk today for Monte Cristi. The Navy department has advised Rear Admiral Bradford of her departure, and that she will be at his disposal as soon as she arrives in Dominican waters. The Paducah is a sister ship to the Dubuque, and will be attached to the squadron guarding American interests in the West Indies. As soon as she can be commissioned, the cruiser Dixie will be ordered to the West Indies, carrying a strong marine guard.

Purchase Oregon City Locks.

Washington, Dec. 29.—When congress reconvenes after the holidays, Senator Fulton will introduce a bill authorizing the secretary of war to purchase the canal and locks at Oregon City, provided they can be had for \$600,000. If a higher price is asked, his bill authorizes their acquisition by condemnation. There has been loud clamor for free navigation on the Willamette, and this bill is intended to do away with the tolls.

Morales Severely Wounded.

Washington, Dec. 29.—The Navy department has received a cablegram from Commander Chambers, of the gunboat Nashville, dated Puerto Plata last night, stating that he had been informed from a government source that President Morales had been shot and seriously wounded.

SENATORS AIM ATTACK ON TAFT

Plan to Kill Him Off as Prospective Candidate for President.

This Would Clear the Way for One of Their Own Number in 1908—Outcry About Canal Salaries Will Be Followed by Crusade Against His Philippine Record.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Walter Wellman, in a dispatch from Washington to the Record-Herald, says in part:

"Taft is next on our list. We're going after him as soon as congress reconvenes next month."

"So said a prominent Republican senator. He added that it was the intention of the leaders of the senate not only to continue their criticism of Panama management, but to take up the administration of Mr. Taft in the Philippines and subject it to rigid scrutiny. The meaning of this and of the whole course of the senate toward President Roosevelt and his associates in the executive branch of the government is that the presidential game of 1908 has already opened. There are candidates for the next Republican nomination in the senate, plenty of them, and they are already maneuvering to bowl out all aspirants for the nomination.

"Now comes the threat to 'make it warm for Taft.' It goes without saying that against the secretary personally no one has any harsh feeling. He is everywhere recognized as a man of great ability, of extraordinary sincerity and devotion to the public interest. He is noted also as the cheeriest, most refreshing, sweetest character in the public service at this time. As a man, almost everyone loves him. It is impossible to do otherwise.

"But Taft the man, and Taft the probable nominee of the Republicans for president in 1908 as a product and representative of the Roosevelt administration, are different, and the scheming, plotting, maneuvering, intriguing, senators would like to cut his comb."

FIGHT TO DEATH.

Russian Rebels and Troops Clash in Streets of Moscow.

Odessa, Dec. 16.—Russian soldiery is unable to overthrow the dauntless spirit of the Moscow townspeople, and despite superior arms, enormous advantages in military training and a complete supply of all warlike appliances, the troops are hardly holding their own. Fighting is now going on in every section of the city, and the dead number hundreds—some reports say thousands—and the end is not in sight.

A terrible slaughter of revolutionaries took place during Sunday night and early Monday, when the terrorists attempted to capture the enormous ammunition factories held by the soldiers. By order of General Mistchenko, the famous Cossack chieftain, who is now in command of the garrison, the artillery was instructed to mount rapid fire guns in every window and on the roof so that they would command all avenues of approach to the storehouses. The order was given that these rapid fire guns should not be unmasked until the people actually began breaking into the structures. The result was that the mob packed the open street in front when the signal was given to fire.

Immediately, as one, all of the wooden shutters fell back and withering volleys poured into the crowds, while the guns on the roofs were turned on the crowd that had been unable to get into the immediate vicinity. The carnage was something awful, according to private advices received here.

Justice Van Dyke is Dead.

Oakland, Cal., Dec. 26.—After an illness of only 24 hours Justice Walter Van Dyke, of the Supreme court of California died yesterday afternoon at his residence in East Oakland. The eminent jurist was stricken so suddenly that his life of 82 years had ended almost before there was a realization that he was ill. Justice Van Dyke was born at Tyre, Seneca county, New York, on October 3, 1823. He was admitted to the bar at Cleveland, O., in 1848, coming to California across the plains in 1849.

Bluejackets Guard Concessions.

Shanghai, Dec. 26.—The mixed court was reopened Saturday. The German assessor and armed foreign guards were present, but everything was normal. All is quiet today, but bluejackets and guards are still posted around the foreign concessions. There are rumors of another riot to occur tonight, but all precautions have been taken. Reports of Japanese complicity in the recent trouble are generally considered with out foundation.

Dowie's Mexican Deal Fails.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 26.—Mannuel Gonzales, with whom Alexander Dowie was negotiating for the purchase of plantations in Tamaulipas for the Zion colony, has given out a lengthy statement in which he says Dowie wanted long time payments and other conditions, which were rejected.

Massacring Tartars.

London, Dec. 26.—A dispatch to the Evening Standard from Constantinople says that the Turkish consul at Batoum reports that the Armenians are massacring Tartars at the rate of 500 daily.

BATTLE IN MOSCOW.

Rebels Receive Reinforcements From Neighboring Cities.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 27.—The battle in Moscow is still raging, the victory being undecided. Considerable reinforcements for the revolutionists have arrived from the neighboring districts of Yaroslav, Vladimir and Tambov. The loyal troops of the government now in Moscow number 8,000 cavalry and Cossacks, while the infantry regiments there incline toward the revolutionists.

The number of killed and wounded in the fighting thus far exceeds 10,000. The artillery and fires lighted by the revolutionists have destroyed many blocks of houses, and it is feared that Moscow will be involved in a conflagration before the present struggle is over.

Members of the government are reported to believe, from information which has reached them, that the Moscow affair is only a demonstration, and that the decisive battle with the revolutionists is to be fought in St. Petersburg before many days. In this city and its suburbs and on the frontier of Finland are concealed large quantities of revolutionary arms and ammunition. Eighty thousand laborers are expected to march on the capital from Narva and Revel at the appointed time. At present, however, the city is comparatively quiet.

Encounters with strikers in the suburbs have lately caused the death or injury of several hundred victims. The chief city surgeon, M. Rosen, says he examined the wounded and killed and found among them many schoolboys and young girls. This fact further affords proof of the cruelty of the Cossacks.

NO INTERVENTION.

Civil War in Santo Domingo No Affair of United States.

Washington, Dec. 27.—For the present there will not be any interference by the United States in the difficulty which has arisen in Santo Domingo. The trouble is regarded by the State department officials as entirely an internal one, and so long as outside interests are not menaced this attitude of non-intervention will be maintained.

If, however, conditions should change materially and lawless acts should be committed against Americans and American interests, involving the collection of the Dominican customs by this government, or other violence should occur which, in the opinion of the officials here would make it proper for this government to interfere, this step will be taken, and measures adopted to quell the trouble.

This decision was reached by State department officials during the day and was confirmed at a conference at the white house late this afternoon, in which the president and Secretaries Taft, Root and Bonaparte participated. The cabinet officers remained in the white house until nearly 6 o'clock. The gathering, however, was not called specifically for the purpose of discussing matters bearing on the developments in Santo Domingo, but to talk over a number of questions which the president was anxious to dispose of preliminarily to his departure for an outing of several days in Virginia.

SMITH TO BE GOVERNOR.

Will Soon Succeed Wright in Philippine Possessions.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Despite denials and assurances recently credited to Governor General Luke E. Wright, there is no longer serious doubt of the administration's purpose to make a change in the head of the Philippine government. James F. Smith, formerly of San Francisco, now a member of the Philippine commission, is the man picked for the succession as governor general. His installation in the post is likely to be accomplished in the not distant future.

There is high authority for the statement that American prestige in the islands has waned seriously in the last year. The fact is hardly disputed by those familiar with conditions there. It was recognized by members of the Taft party, some of whom have expressed grave concern about it.

Abolish Hanging in Jersey.

New York, Dec. 27.—Assemblyman Berg, of New Jersey, has drafted a bill to abolish capital punishment in that state, and will go to Trenton tomorrow to ask Governor Stokes to grant reprieves to all condemned murderers until the legislature shall have acted on the question. If Governor Stokes accedes to the Assemblyman's request, two women, Mrs. Valentine and Mrs. Lotta, and a man awaiting death in the Hackensack jail, and three men under sentences in other county jails, will be given reprieves until well into spring.

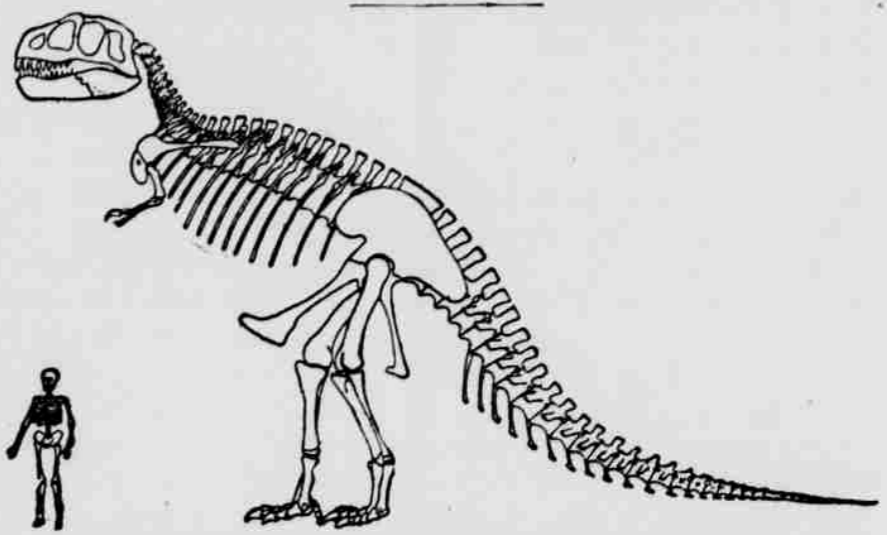
Big Factory Building Burns.

New York, Dec. 27.—Five alarms, summoning 32 fire companies and the reserves from nine police precincts, were sent out tonight for a blaze which completely gutted the six-story factory buildings, Nos. 102, 104, 106 Wooster street, entailing a damage estimated at \$300,000. Five firemen sustained slight injuries. No one was in the building when the fire started and its origin is unknown. Some insurance was carried.

China Makes Demands.

London, Dec. 27.—The correspondent of the Morning Post at Shanghai says that the Chinese foreign office has instructed the Chinese minister at London to negotiate with the British government regarding the mixed court dispute, to demand the dismissal of the British ambassador, and to insist on the punishment of the police concerned in the recent outbreak.

BONES OF KING OF BEASTS.



SKELTONS OF TYRANNOSAURUS REX AND MAN.

Out of the rocks in northern Montana scientists have dug the skeleton of the real King of Beasts. An expedition sent out by the American Museum of Natural History in New York has reported the resurrection of the largest flesh-eating land animal thus far known to the world. This constitutes one of the most remarkable finds in the recent history of paleontology. The curator of the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology of this museum, Professor Henry F. Osborn, under whose direction the expedition was sent out, has conferred upon this newly discovered monster the title "Tyrannosaurus Rex." In plain English this means the "Tyrant King Saurian," or the King of Tyrant Saurians. The remains of this denizen of the past are being shipped to New York in a number of carefully made boxes, some of the boxes weighing over two tons. Every bone will be placed in its proper place in the skeleton, missing bones will be modeled out of plaster of paris, and in a few months the completed skeleton will be placed on exhibition in the halls of the museum, where visitors may come and see what this king of beasts a few million years ago was like. Enough parts of this animal have been found to make it possible to estimate quite exactly what his size was. From the end of his tail to the front of his nose he probably measured about thirty-nine feet. A drawing showing the comparative size of the Tyrannosaurus Rex and the human skeleton has been placed on exhibition in the museum. The difference is shown to be about like that between an ostrich and an ordinary barnyard hen.

Mr. Tyrannosaurus was large and strong enough to attack the great three-horned Triceratops, one of the most interesting of the Dinosaur family, a fine skeleton of which has recently been set up in the National Museum at Washington. This animal had a skull which projected upward over the neck like a fireman's helmet, and over each eye there was a massive horn directed forward, a third, but much smaller horn being generally just over the nose. He was about twice the size of an elephant, being upward of twenty-five feet in height. He weighed about ten tons. In the opinion of Professor Osborn and his fellow scientists in the American Museum of Natural History, this gigantic three-horned beast was the prey of the Tyrannosaurus Rex. Scientists will look forward to a study of the character of this newly found monster with the greatest curiosity.

Little Lessons in Patriotism

Edward Rutledge was the youngest of the famous Rutledge family of South Carolina and the brother of that John Rutledge who was the boldest of revolutionists and pronounced by Patrick Henry the greatest orator at the first continental congress.



EDWARD RUTLEDGE

Edward Rutledge had been a student of law in the Temple in London, returning to America at the time when the opposition to the methods of the British government was just becoming formulated. He at once became one of the warmest advocates of armed resistance to oppression. He was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence and one of its warmest advocates.

In September, 1776, he was appointed one of a board, with John Adams and Benjamin Franklin, to treat with Lord Howe in reference to the admiral's proposals for a reconciliation of the colonies and the mother country. They refused to treat, however, except on a basis of American independence and the negotiations fell through. After the investiture of Charleston Rutledge was captured and imprisoned in St. Augustine for a year. He was always an uncompromising opponent of the Tories and they were glad enough to have him in their power. But Rutledge's loyalty never faltered. He was, after the war, chiefly distinguished for his opposition to the slave trade.

WHITMAN MEMORIAL.

Tablet Recently Erected to "the Good Gray Poet."

At West Hills, in the township of Huntington, L. I., a tablet has recently been erected at the birthplace of



THE MEMORIAL.

Walt Whitman by the Colonial Society of Huntington. It was first proposed to place a tablet on the old homestead where the poet was born and spent his early boyhood days, but this was objected to by the present owner of the property because it was thought it would draw many curiosity seekers and cause annoyance.

The memorial has been placed in the highway a few feet from the fence line between the roadbed and the old house. A big boulder has been prepared by dressing down one side and to this has been fastened a marble slab, into which the lettering has been deeply cut, the whole making a very appropriate memorial.

All about Whitman's birthplace the

country is extremely picturesque, and the freedom of the life here experienced undoubtedly had a strong influence in shaping the poet's career. In 1836 and 1837 Whitman revisited the vicinity of his birthplace and taught the village school in the neighboring hamlet of Woodbury. The schoolhouse where he taught is still standing and, while it has outlived its usefulness, the people of Woodbury have preserved it as a relic, and have erected an up-to-date building for present-day requirements.

SENATOR CLARK'S BIG NEW YORK RESIDENCE.



The new residence of Senator William A. Clark, of Montana, in New York City is one of the largest private homes in America, and, although it represents an immense outlay, it cannot be called a dignified piece of architecture. The Senator is reputed to have an income of about \$1,000,000 a month, and he cannot claim that the unfavorable effect is due to financial stringency. The interior, however, is admitted to be exceedingly beautiful, and the Senator has spared no effort to make it the most unique and interesting in Gotham.

How Fog Strains the Eyes. Many of the officers of steamships running in this port are afflicted with a new disease, which for want of a better name some of them call the "fog eye." It is an inflammation caused by peering into the fog, and while painful it soon passes away.

Captain Higgins and the officers of the United States Fruit Company's passenger and mail steamer Admiral Sampson, which arrived at Long Wharf this morning after a good run from Jamaican ports, were among those whose eyes were affected by the fog. Running through fog and trying to distinguish objects when it is almost impossible to see a vessel's length away is a heavy strain on the eyes, and the fog, combined with the heat, produces a smarting sensation.—Boston Transcript.

Honesty of the Modern Kind.

"And now, my son," said the bank president, "on this the threshold of your business life I desire to impress one thought upon you. Honesty, ever and always, is the policy that is best." "Yes, father," said the young man. "And by the way," appended the graybeard, "I would urge you to read up a little corporation law. It will amaze you to find how many things you can do in a business way and still be honest."—Minneapolis Journal.

Collecting a Bad Debt.

Bjorks—Say, Bjones, recommend me to your tailor, will you?
Bjones—Sure! If you will pay me that \$50 that you owe me first.—Somerville Journal.

Less a woman has to complain about the more she complains.

When a lamp stands in its own light it is time to turn it down.