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HUGHES AND FAIRBANKS.

GROWTH OF THE PARCEL POST.

Some interesting statistics regarding the remarkable growth of the parcel post business in this country are furnished by Congressman A. E. Lewis, author of the present parcel post law. Before the adoption of this law Mr. Lewis says the railroads annually handled about 1,000,000,000 tons of freight and the express companies 318,000,000 packages. At the present time the express companies are handling some 300,000,000 packages, showing only a slight decline, the railroad tonnage has actually increased to 1,200,000,000 tons, and yet the parcel post is annually handling fully 400,000,000 parcels, representing a business that has been built up in only four years.

In other words, it is held that most of this parcel post business is actually new business, business that has been created by the new facility of cheap transportation of light parcels. Some of this business, of course, has been taken from the express companies, although Mr. Lewis estimates this represents less than 75,000,000 of the packages now carried by parcel post. To compensate for this loss, moreover, the express companies have gained new business in other directions, while they also handle much more heavy freight than they did previous to the advent of the parcel post, so that their earnings have suffered little, if at all. And the railroads have not been injured by the new parcel post business, as shown by the fact they actually have increased their tonnage to a material extent.

The parcel post, in fact, has added a new facility and convenience which greatly have benefited business and the general public, and the new service thus has added to the general prosperity of the country. Yet it is recalled that strenuous opposition and objections were offered to the parcel post plan, previous to its adoption, and many conservative business men argued it would be a detriment to trade and business, and would result in all kinds of trouble and complications. Such theories have been utterly disproved by actual experience, and no one today would think of abandoning the parcel post service.

It seems that the head of a great mail order house in Chicago was not satisfied with the immense profits he made from the country people. It is charged that he made false returns of his property, and that back taxes amounting to a million and a half dollars have been dodged. During five years, the officials say, he concealed property to the value of eleven millions each year.

AFTER LATIN-AMERICAN TRADE

Many of the colleges and other schools of this country are adding Spanish to their regular course of studies, while some are supplementing this with special courses in the geography of Latin-American countries and the trade and social characteristics of the people residing in those countries. The object of this, of course, is to prepare Americans to go after more Latin-American trade, it being generally recognized that the opportunity for efforts along this line never before was so favorable as it is today. Spanish being the prevailing tongue among Latin-Americans, it is desirable—almost essential, in fact—that American businessmen seeking trade in that direction should have a thorough knowledge of the Spanish language. And of course it is no less essential that there should also be a perfect understanding of the customs, methods and practices of the people who are sought as customers, wherefore the other courses of preparation mentioned.

It is unquestionably true that the businessmen of this country have the chance of their lives to extend their markets in the Latin republics. Germany, which had established a strong

commercial foothold in these countries long before the present war, has been out of the game for two years. The business of Great Britain in that quarter also has been handicapped by the war. To have a dominating share in South American markets this country has all the force of location on its side. A great New York bank recently has established branches in the larger South American centers. Thus are afforded financial media and advantages not hitherto enjoyed by the people of this country. Because these were lacking American exporters had to do business largely through British and German banking institutions.

With the schools of this country, as well as some of the leading financial and commercial institutions, commencing to systematically prepare American businessmen so the latter can intelligently make the effort to extend American trade in the nations to the south, there is good reason to believe such efforts will materially increase and will meet with gratifying success. It offers a golden opportunity to the young men of this nation who are ambitious to branch out in a new field of endeavor and those who thoroughly equip themselves to join in this new campaign for extending the foreign trade of this country will undoubtedly have no cause to regret their decision. For the young man of the future, who has the mercantile instinct and adds to it the ability to read and write Spanish, will have business advantages not open to others.

PEACE PROSPECTS ARE DIM.

Official and semi-official denials that Germany is ready to seek the aid of some neutral power in an effort to end the war seem to be amply confirmed by the German submarine raids on the Atlantic coast of this country. If, for instance, there was any real basis for the recent rumor that President Wilson might be asked to intervene in the interests of peace, Germany scarcely would add this fresh complication by attacking hostile shipping at the very doors of this nation. Not only would this tend to embarrass this government in any peace move it might be inclined to undertake, but it also naturally will stiffen the determination of the enemies of Germany to listen to no peace proposals at the present time.

It would appear, therefore, that Germany, no less than the allies, is fully determined to make it a fight to the finish, and still is hopeful that the finish will not be adverse to her own interests. The two sides, in fact, are as far apart as ever, so far as any possibility of agreement is concerned, and nothing will change this situation until one side or the other is ready to confess defeat. The technical and tactical situation of Germany may not be as good as it was a year ago, but she is still able to successfully resist the efforts of her enemies, and still sanguine that these efforts must eventually fail. Peace prospects, in fact, are far from bright, and there is an increasing conviction that even another year may not see the end of the war.

DENTAL PREPAREDNESS.

What is the most important attribute of a soldier?
Good feet? No.
Good eyesight? No.
Good brains? No.
What then? Good teeth.

A soldier may have good feet, good eyesight, and good brains but if he has bad teeth, he can't eat. If he can't eat he can't march near enough to the enemy to see him and use his brains to fight him.

How does a soldier get good teeth? By having good teeth in childhood. How do children keep good teeth? Through being taught by their mother how to keep their teeth clean and having their teeth looked after while they are growing. This makes good teeth for future soldiers.

It would seem then as though the first patriotic duty of a mother was to keep her children's teeth in good condition. It is.

Abraham Lincoln once talked about the tariff, and he said he didn't know much about it. And then he laid down this proposition that is the very essence and soul of the protective tariff system: "When we buy manufactured goods abroad, we get the goods and the foreign manufacturer gets the money. When we buy manufactured goods at home, we get both the goods and the money. When an American bought \$20 worth of steel of an English manufacturer, America had the steel and England had the money. But when he paid his money for the steel to an American manufacturer America had both the steel and the \$20." And that wasn't an argument at all; it was just one of the plain facts, even as it is now, that Lincoln stated in such a way that no man can misunderstand it.

"Cheering crowds greet Wilson on his western trip" the dispatches say. It is recalled, however, that "cheering crowds" once greeted a candidate named Bryan, although when the votes were counted it was the "other fellow" who won.

A taxi driver in Kansas is reported to have inherited a fortune of more than \$50,000. But it isn't necessary for a taxi driver to inherit money if he can just keep his clock running.

It's time for Teddy to shoot another dose of "pep" into the political campaign just to keep the people from wondering if it's all over but the shouting.

Missouri is going to vote on prohibition this fall. Missouri will keep on reforming and improving until some time she will be permanently in the republican ranks.

So far as arousing interest in this country is concerned, Europe may as well call off the war until after the election. This is our busy month.

OTHERS' OPINIONS

Where the Farmer Comes In.

When "Tama Jim" Wilson, that hard-headed son of Scotland, says anything about the American farmer, the men of the soil are quite likely to take notice. He was 80 years old a month or so ago. He began farming fifty-five years ago. He was in the cabinet of three presidents—McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft—as secretary of agriculture. It is fair to presume that one of his years has no ambition to get back into the harness of public life. It also is fair to presume that he speaks as an unbiased American citizen when he declares that upon the farmers of this country will fall the great burden of paying the \$50,000,000 bill which President Wilson and his servile congress have passed along to the people with the Adamson law.

The former cabinet member says that the farmer is willing to take his share of any fair burden, but adds that he will get a good deal more than is coming to him in the matter of bill-paying as a result of the operation of the Adamson act. The railways will get the \$50,000,000 from the shippers, he says, and the farmers constitute a majority of the shippers. The man who tills the soil will go down in his pockets to help pay ten hours' wages for eight hours' work for that fifth of the railroad employees who are already receiving much higher wages than the other four-fifths. He will work from sunrise to sunset. No eight hours limit for the farmer.

"The farmers," said Mr. Wilson, "are unorganized, unable to restrict their labor to eight hours a day, obliged to sell the product of their labor at prices fixed by the ordinary influences of supply and demand. It is entirely antagonistic to their interests to have a small group of men employed by the railways allowed to fix their pay for carrying the produce of the country at the cost of the producers and consumers."—Minneapolis Tribune.

Editor Monitor—I went to the Phredeton round-up. It was really awfully brutal. They had the bull dogging and roping the steer. When they roped him sometimes they would turn him head over heels. Many a steer had his horns torn out by the roots and others had the horns part torn clear off. They have only big arena, then a smaller one inside of that. They would drag some of the steers around and every other bump would hit one of those bleeding horns on a post. In the wild horse races, the horses were lassoed, then they were ridden. Now imagine these horses that had never had so much as a halter on them. Two were killed right there before our eyes. When they ran together, one broke his neck and the other his leg. At night in "Happy Canyon" they had scenes representing frontier days and the sham "Matador" like the old days of Spain—a bull with men waving red rags to tease him.

An Independence Girl.

The state fair, as usual, was "the most successful ever held" and also as usual, a larger appropriation will be asked from the legislature. The taxpayers would prefer a fair that wasn't so successful.—Jefferson Review.

The "success" of this year's fair was due to the excellent weather which permitted everyone to go without inconvenience. As far as the fair was concerned, it was the poorest one Oregon has had for some time.—Independence Monitor.

A certain peaved gentleman who very much disapproves of the improvements now being carried on in the city, called in one day during the past week and ruthlessly chopped away his own connection with the Herald subscription family tree. Sorry to part with you, brother, but, honestly, we wouldn't willingly acquire your state of mind for anything on this footstool.—Monmouth Herald.

Miss Almada Fuller did some effective

campaigning when she spent and manifested interest in the industrial work of the boys and girls and helped to display their work at the two fairs. This was good practical work and shows that Miss Fuller is not afraid of a little exertion and also that she has an interest in other fields of education than that of the three R's.—Monmouth Herald.

SOME THINGS

A Misnomer.

Our registrar, Mrs. I. G. Singleton was called to Socialist valley last Saturday to register the voters. On the way over she mentally rehearsed a little speech that she might "beard the Socialist in his lair," and do some evangelism in the interest of the Republican party. But lo, and behold, every mother's son of them, and daughter too, registered Republican. There was nothing to indicate that Socialist or Democrat had ever cast a shadow athwart the beautiful landscape.—Falls City News.

Bingo, Herbert.

Herbert W. Jones was in town the last of the week. Mr. Jones retired from active life last week and already he says "this nothing to do business is getting old." Probably if Herbert had taken a little more of that "nothing to do business" in the past, his health would have been better now.—Amity Standard.

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