

PARCEL POST BILL AN AID TO MERCHANTS

Bourne's Measure Provides Zone System With Rates According to Distance and is More Beneficial to Local Merchants Than Mail Houses

Low Rate for Short Distances, Much Lower Than Express Rates Now in Force Throughout Country.

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Senator Bourne's parcels post bill introduced a few days ago, is designed to give the people of the United States as low a merchandise rate as the actual cost of the service will permit and to base the charge upon the service rendered. His bill includes what is called a "zone" system, with rates varying according to distance. This plan gives the advantage to the local merchant, and yet provides much lower rates for long hauls than the rates now in force.

ditional pound, or 15 cents for 11 pounds, this weight being the limit. Mail Order Business.

But the Bourne bill will not be as favorable to mail order houses as local merchants have feared. The proposed rate for a distance such as that from Chicago or Kansas City to Oregon is 12 cents for the first pound and 10 cents for each additional pound, or \$1.12 for 11 pounds. The present charge for 11 pounds, made up in four-pound packages, would be \$1.76, so that there is a reduction of 64 cents and yet the local merchant has a rate of 15 cents as compared with \$1.12 charged on the package from Chicago. This difference of 97 cents because of the greater distance is believed to be ample protection to the local merchant and fully justified by the cost to the government.

No Injury to Shippers.
Senator Bourne has always asserted that retail merchants are not injured by mail shipments but by freight shipments and that mail rates can never compete with freight rates. The freight charge on merchandise from Chicago to Oregon is \$3 or less per hundred, or 3 cents a pound. The parcels post rate is over 11 cents a pound for the same distance. Hence it is claimed by Senator Bourne that the great bulk of goods ordered by mail will always be shipped by freight and that the amount of goods shipped by mail long distances will not materially injure local merchants.

His bill, however, gives low rates for short distances. Thus, for the first zone, with a radius of about 50 miles, the rate is 6 cents for the first pound and 2 cents for each additional pound or 26 cents for 11 pounds, or about 2 cents a pound.

Local Distance Rates.
Statistics show that more than half the package business comes within a distance of 200 miles, for which distance the Bourne bill provides a charge of 7 cents for the first pound and 3 cents for each ad-

CLERK PENSIONS URGED BY TAFT

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Recommending pensions for United States civil service employees except in the District of Columbia, and forced retirement of all employees at the age of 70 with pensions made up through compulsory contributions from salaries, with some government aid, President Taft issued a special message to congress today.

The president's message urged the immediate retirement of all clerks over 70 years of age with pensions amounting to half their salary, not to exceed \$600 per annum. The message also approves and submits the report of the economic and efficiency commission, which evolved the civil pension program.

President Taft declares the pension plan would cost the government \$277,000 for 20 years in excess of the cost now sustained by paying supernumered clerks, but that in the succeeding 16 years it will save the government more than the entire cost of the plan.

GOVERNMENT CUTTER IN PURSUIT OF FILIBUSTER

MOBILE, Ala., May 6.—Declared to be a filibuster carrying arms to the Mexican rebels, the schooner Granada is sailing southward today with the United States revenue cutter Winona in pursuit.

Additional pound or 37 cents for an 11-pound parcel.

These short distance rates are much lower than express rates now in force.

Many people ask why 11 pounds is fixed upon as the limit and the explanation is that the international parcels post limit is five kilograms, or approximately 11 pounds.

WOMEN DECIDE WHO WILL WIN

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., May 6.—California women will decide at the presidential preference primary a week from tomorrow the name of the democratic and republican who will receive California's presidential endorsement at the Baltimore and Chicago conventions. That the several candidates realize the newly enfranchised voters hold the balance of power is indicated by the manner in which the women are being appealed to in the present campaign.

If Senator Robert M. La Follette carries the state he will owe much of his success to Mrs. La Follette, who has addressed the women voters in his behalf in nearly every city and town in which "Battling Bob" has appeared. Senator La Follette is making a thorough canvass of the state and in addition to Mrs. La Follette has several other women campaigning in support of his candidacy. La Follette is more than pleased with his chances and is confident that he will carry the state.

Interest, however, centers chiefly in the fight between President Taft and Colonel Roosevelt for the state's delegation.

WAGE BITTER FIGHT FOR SAN FRANCISCO MINT

WASHINGTON, May 6.—California's delegation to congress today completed plans to wage a bitter fight against the measure calling for the abolition of San Francisco's mint, which is expected to come up tomorrow. In discussing the situation this afternoon, Congressman Kent said:

"It will be no fault of California's delegation if this plan goes through. We are going to do everything to save the mint for the state. It is a case, however, of a few against many."

PREMIER ASQUITH DEFENDS BRYCE

LONDON, May 6.—Premier Asquith in the house of commons today rushed to the defense of James Bryce, British ambassador to the United States, whose loyalty to Britain has been questioned by certain newspapers which demanded his recall from Washington.

The question of Bryce's loyalty was raised following the publication of letters between President Taft and Theodore Roosevelt in which the president said that the United States would have all the better of the deal if the proposed reciprocity agreement between Canada and the United States carried. It was insinuated that Bryce should have been familiar with Taft's attitude and should have warned England and Canada of the true situation.

SAY HIRAM JOHNSON IS 'BOSS' OF BOSSES

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Charges that Governor Hiram W. Johnson of California was elected on a "down with the bosses" platform and that since his election he has built up his own state machine which outdoes anything ever undertaken by the old Southern Pacific organization are contained in a statement issued here today by the National Taft bureau.

The statement also declares that government patronage in the south has not been used half so much by President Taft as it was used by Colonel Roosevelt in 1908 in getting votes for Taft.

OROZCO LEAGUED WITH JAPANESE

EL PASO, Texas, May 6.—Peter Aiken, jailed here on a charge of having violated the neutrality laws, declared today that General Pascual Orozco, commander in chief of the rebel army, agreed to give the Japanese a coaling station at Magdalena Bay if the present Mexican revolution is successful. Aiken refused to make public any details.

With his proclamation of himself as provisional president of Mexico, endorsed by General Orozco, Emilio Vasquez Gomez goes to Chihuahua tomorrow to complete the establishment of his provisional government.

Rebels at Juarez today deny the report that General Salazar lost 700 men in a battle at Cuatro Cieneegas with Colonel Carranza's force.

MAIN ARMIES IN MEXICO ENGAGED IN DECISIVE BATTLE

MONTEREY, Mexico, May 6.—Battle between the main armies of the federals and rebels, under Generals Huerta and Orozco, began this morning at Bermejo, near Torreon, with 8,000 men fighting on each side, according to an unconfirmed report received here today.

Advices received from General Trevino today state that the federals were routed in a battle between 1800 rebels and federals near Cuato Cieneegas Coahuila. The official report says that the federals fought until their ammunition was exhausted.

FREE METHODISTS CONFERENCE HERE

The first session of the Southern Oregon conference of the Free Methodist church will convene in the Free Methodist church, on the corner of Tenth and Ivy streets, May 8, with Bishop W. T. Hogue of Evanston, Ill., presiding. Bishop Hogue will organize the conference at 2 p. m. and will probably preach at 8 p. m.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday the business sittings will begin at 8:30 a. m. There will be preaching at 2:30 p. m. and 7:30 p. m.

On Sunday, the 12th, the annual love feast will begin at 9 a. m. and Bishop Hogue will preach at 11 a. m. The ladies of the Foreign Missionary society will probably conduct the missionary meeting at 2:30 p. m. and there will be praise service and preaching beginning at 7 p. m. Every one is invited to attend.

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