

The News of the Week.

An interesting report pertaining to the postoffices of the country was given out from Washington on October 29. It is said that a total of 2,370 presidential postmasters were appointed last year, according to the annual report of J. L. Bristow, fourth assistant postmaster general. The total number of appointments of postmasters of all classes was 15,970, an increase of 1,313. There were 3,058 postoffices established and 4,059 discontinued, the latter attributable mostly to the extension of the rural free delivery service and the consolidation of postoffices adjacent to large presidential offices. The number of postoffices in the United States June 30 was 75,824, of which 220 were first class, 1,023 second class, 3,488 third class and 71,193 fourth class. There were 1,746 robberies of postoffices, eleven robberies of mail trains, sixteen robberies of mail passengers, star route carriers and wagons, and 465 of letter boxes. Of the 1,721 persons arrested for violating postal laws, 304 were connected with the postal service, including 112 postmasters.

A glue corporation of Jersey City was incorporated on October 29 with a capital stock of \$6,000,000, divided into 2,000,000 shares, bearing 8 per cent cumulative dividends and \$4,000,000 common stock.

The state department has received a copy of the new tariff schedules adopted by China together with a copy of a special agreement entered into by the special commissioner from the United States and the commissioners of the Chinese empire. Under the terms of the agreement negotiations by Mr. Sharretts, flour, which is one of the principal Chinese imports from the United States, is to be admitted free of duty. This concession is to be made on all cereals, including barley, maize, millet, oats, paddy, rice, wheat and flour made therefrom; also buckwheat and buckwheat flour, corn flour and yellow cornmeal and rye flour, but it does not include arrowroot and arrowroot flour, cracked wheat, germea, hominy, pearl barley, potato flour, shredded wheat, tapioca, tapioca flour, and yam flour. The rate on kerosene in bulk per case of ten gallons is 1-29th of a tael.

A Washington dispatch under date of October 29 says: Governor Brodie of Arizona, in his usual report, renews the plea for statehood and makes the following explanation: Under the Leland-Hansbrough act the claims of Arizona for government aid in irrigation to be fully carried out and extended so as to inaugurate in the territory the first of the great irrigation systems under that action, action to rejuvenate the depleted forest area; increases in school facilities; in the salary of the governor; of the appropriation for the Arizona national guard; appropriation to improve the Colorado river and construct a levee from Yuma to the Mexican line; to prevent the overflow of cultivated land by the annual freshets; and appropriations for purchasing sites and erecting in Arizona. The governor places the total taxable property of the territory at \$39,083,178.

It is also reported from Washington that the United States will participate in any benefits that may be derived by Germany, Great Britain and France in the arbitration announced in Paris by M. Delcasse of the questions as to the foreign holdings of lands and property rights in Japan. The Japanese government has

fully acquainted Secretary Hay with the negotiations leading up to the agreement to submit the question to arbitration, and as United States citizens had similar claims to those of the nations named, the Japanese government agreed to give them the benefit of any decision of the arbitrators.

President Roosevelt on October 29 issued the annual proclamation designating Thursday, November 27, as the day of thanksgiving.

Reports to New York from Guatemala in Central America report very serious volcanic disturbances. The volcano Santa Maria is in a state of violent eruption, having already thrown a deep mantle of ashes upon two towns near it. The disturbances have caused the abandonment of villages and plantations near the volcano and the residents are seeking places of safety.

The struggle between the Morgan and Yerkes interests for the right to build underground railways in London goes on and it was reported from London on October 29 that the fight was to be discussed in the house of commons on that date when the Morgan syndicate will try to secure the rescindment of the house report that their project has no legal status.

It was recently reported from Yorkton, Assinabola, that the people of that town were greatly disturbed on account of the approach of 1,500 starving Dukhobors who were marching into the town. Reports as to these people differ, some claiming that as they have laid up no provisions for the winter, they must starve unless aided, other reports claiming that they have provisions, but are on the way to seek a warmer climate.

The annual report of Governor Dole of Hawaii has been transmitted to Washington. The report shows that the total cash on hand in the territorial government on June 30, 1902, was \$287,131. The total amount of property subject to ad valorem taxes, according to assessment appraisements, was \$110,388,578. An income tax imposed by the legislature of 1901 realized \$287,366 during the fiscal year. The report submits the estimates for appropriations by congress for the next fiscal year aggregating \$1,106,000, of which \$750,000 is for the construction of a breakwater at Hilo harbor, \$250,000 for widening the channel of Honolulu harbor and dredging the channel entrance and harbor to a depth of thirty feet at low water, \$22,000 for a postoffice and a customs house at Hilo and \$78,000 for erection. A marked increase in the number of pupils in the schools has been made over those of ten years ago. It is said in regard to the shipments of the islands that of the total value of shipments, not including specie, from the territory during the past year of \$24,793,735, \$38,813 represents the value of foreign merchandise shipped, as against a value of \$24,754,922 of domestic merchandise shipped. Of this total value the shipments to foreign countries were worth \$63,547, and those to the mainland were worth \$24,730,188.

A Berlin cablegram of October 30 says that the reichstag today discussed an amendment proposed by the socialists empowering the bundesrath to put goods on the free list whenever German syndicates sell similar goods abroad cheaper than they do at home. After speeches in support of the mo-

tion by Herr Bernstein and Herr Gothein, the house adjourned until Tuesday.

A recent report from Japan says that the Japanese cabinet has adopted the proposed scheme for naval expansion. It involves an annual expenditure of \$8,250,000 for ten years. The Japanese naval expansion scheme referred to involves the building of four new battleships, six first class cruisers, and various other craft. The battleships are to be built in England, and the cruisers in England, France and Germany.

It has been decided to hold an international tournament of Olympian games at Athens in 1904 in connection with the archeological congress, to be held in celebration of the completion of the restoration of the stadium.

A Chicago report as to the long-talked of beef combination says that now two combinations are planned by the packers of the country. It is reported that they will combine first and then effect a merger of all the stock yards in the country. The capitalization of the new concern will be about \$600,000,000 and all or nearly all the larger cities of the United States will be affected.

On October 30 it was reported that the combine of the malleable iron plants in the country had been completed. The capital of the concern is placed at \$20,000,000 and all the important iron plants in the country with the exception of three are entered in the trust. It is stated that Judge Gray and Max Pam, of New York, are the promoters.

A cablegram from Vienna, dated October 30, reports that after an interval of several weeks the migration of Roumanian Jews through this city for the United States has recommenced heavily. Two parties of emigrants, numbering 400 persons, were here last Tuesday and Wednesday. The most remarkable feature of this revived movement is that half of the emigrants are men, whereas former parties were almost entirely composed of women and children. The men now emigrating are chiefly artisans.

The seven coal strike commissioners appointed by President Roosevelt began their labors on Thursday, October 30, and on that day made a tour of a part of the coal field in the region affected by the strike in search of in-

formation relating thereto. Most of the day was spent in the mines and great interest was displayed as to the manner of working.

On October 30 it was reported that the entire coffee zone of Guatemala had been destroyed by flames and smoke from the volcano of Santa Maria. The coffee districts destroyed include the Costa Rica and the Costa Granda, which have been considered the finest plantations in the country, and the extent of the disaster may be estimated when it is considered that seven feet of sand and ashes cover the fields.

A London cablegram under date of October 30 reported that it was officially announced that the purchase price of the White Star line (on its joining the International Mercantile company) is \$53,497,180, of which \$15,736,180 is payable in cash, \$25,174,000 in preference shares and \$12,587,000 in common stock. The stockholders thus received over \$5,000 for each 1,000 shares.

It was reported from Colon on October 31 that a detachment of government troops had arrived there on board a French steamer. The detachment numbered 1,300 men and will be used as reinforcements on the isthmus. It is also reported that the rebel general of Colombia, General Uribe-Urbe, is on the point of signing a treaty of peace.

Recent reports from Manila give assurances of the speedy termination of hostilities as regards the insurgent Moro tribes. Many Moro chiefs have come in and pledged friendship to the Americans. A cablegram of October 31 reports: Twenty members of the native constabulary of the island of Negros defeated seventy Ladroneg near Turica, Negros, yesterday. The Ladroneg were entrenched and it took an hour's fierce fighting to dislodge them. Six of the bandits were killed and seven wounded. Their leader, Dalmacio, was wounded and captured. Two guides in the employ of the constabulary were killed.

A Springfield, Ill., dispatch, under date of October 31, says: Five hundred employes of the Wabash railroad shops here went on strike today in sympathy with the boiler makers who struck a week ago for a uniform increase in wages to 30 cents an hour. Those who quit work today include blacksmiths, machinists, tanners and

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