

abandonment of the parcel post map as a means of computing rates and the substitution for it of a rate chart individualized to every postoffice in the United States. The plans also contemplate the purchase of a large number of automobiles to be used exclusively for the delivery of parcel post matter. The order and table showing the new rates follow:

"On and after August 15, 1913, the limit of weight of parcels of fourth-class mail for delivery within the first and second zones shall be increased from 11 pounds to 20 pounds. The rate of postage on parcels exceeding four ounces in weight shall be five cents for the first pound and one cent for each additional two pounds or fraction thereof when intended for local delivery, and five cents for the first pound and one cent for each additional pound or fraction thereof when intended for delivery at other offices within the first and second zones.

"Sections 1, 3, 7 and 15, parcel post regulations, are amended accordingly.

"The pound rates of postage in the first and second zones shall be as follows:

Weight:	First Zone. Local rate.	Second Zone rate.	Third Zone rate.
1 pound.....	\$0.05	\$0.05	\$0.05
2 pounds.....	.06	.06	.06
3 pounds.....	.06	.07	.07
4 pounds.....	.07	.08	.08
5 pounds.....	.07	.09	.09
6 pounds.....	.08	.10	.10
7 pounds.....	.08	.11	.11
8 pounds.....	.09	.12	.12
9 pounds.....	.09	.13	.13
10 pounds.....	.10	.14	.14
11 pounds.....	.10	.15	.15
12 pounds.....	.11	.16	.16
13 pounds.....	.11	.17	.17
14 pounds.....	.12	.18	.18
15 pounds.....	.12	.19	.19
16 pounds.....	.13	.20	.20
17 pounds.....	.13	.21	.21
18 pounds.....	.14	.22	.22
19 pounds.....	.14	.23	.23
20 pounds.....	.15	.24	.24

"Note—The rate for local delivery shall apply to all parcels mailed at a postoffice from which a rural route starts, for delivery on such route, or mailed at any point on such route for delivery at any other point thereon, or at the office from which the route starts, or on any rural route starting therefrom, and on all matter mailed at a city carrier office, or at any point within its delivery limits for delivery by carriers from that office, or at any office for local delivery.

"Fresh meats and other articles mentioned in paragraph 2, section 34, parcel post regulations, when inclosed and wrapped in the manner prescribed by the last sentence of that paragraph, will be accepted for mailing to offices within the first and second zones."

WASHINGTON NOTES

The establishment of branches of national banks in foreign countries is an important provision contained in the pending currency bill. Taken in connection with the provisions of the tariff bill, which will greatly increase American trade with foreign countries, it is expected that it will be one of the greatest avenues opened for the expansion of American capital. This view is taken by many members of the banking and currency committee of both house and senate, as well as by officials of other departments who have for a long time been advocating some such measure on the part of congress.

The new position of law officer for forest appeals has been created by Secretary of Agriculture Houston. It will be filled by Thomas G. Sherman,



A FAMILY RESEMBLANCE

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formerly of the forest service. The new officer will be entirely outside of the forest service and directly responsible to Secretary Houston. Appeals from the chief forester's decision in regard to homesteader's claims for agricultural lands in the national forest reserves, grazing privileges, timber sale rights, and the like, will be referred to Mr. Sherman for decision.

A threatened strike of nearly 100,000 trainmen and conductors employed on eastern railroads was averted by a conference held at the White House July 14, between President Wilson and representatives of the railroad companies and brotherhoods, who agreed with legislative leaders on the terms of the Newlands bill amending the Erdman arbitration act, and promised to submit their differences to adjudication under the amended law. By the signature of President Wilson, affixed on July 15, the Newlands bill became a law, after having been rushed through both houses of congress in record time on that date. The law creates a board of mediation and conciliation. On July 17, President Wilson selected William L. Chambers, of the District of Columbia, to be commissioner of mediation and conciliation, under this act, and G. W. W. Hanger as his assistant. The other two members of the board appointed were Judge Martin Knapp of the United States commerce court and Louis F. Post, assistant secretary of labor.

A complete agreement was reached July 18 between the war department and the executive committee of the national guard association on the general outlines of a bill designed to make the organized militia available for immediate service in any part of the world as a part of a regular army. The measure will be perfected and introduced in congress with the indorsement of the war department and the state military authorities. The proposed new law would provide for the payment of militiamen by the national government, the payments to be made in lump sums to the state authorities and disbursed upon reports by inspectors of the regular army. It

would overcome the effect of a decision by former Attorney General Wickersham that the militia could not be used outside the territorial limits of the United States. This is to be accomplished by maintaining the militia in strict accordance with the regular army organization and transferring the organization bodily, officers and privates, into the regular army in case of need.

Dr. Paul S. Reinsch, professor of political science in the University of Wisconsin, has been selected for minister to China by President Wilson. Dr. Reinsch is a writer of recognized authority on oriental topics and far eastern politics. His works on these subjects have been translated into Japanese, Chinese, Spanish and German. Dr. Reinsch was born in Milwaukee in 1869, and was educated in Berlin, Rome and Paris, and began college work at the University of Wisconsin in 1899. He has been active in pan-American conference societies of international law and historical research. He is married and lives at Madison.

Formal decrees of the supreme court in the Minnesota and Missouri rate cases have been issued to federal courts in those states. In the cases won by the states, the railroads were ordered to reimburse the states for the costs. Missouri will receive \$15,622 from the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, which was the principal Missouri case, \$10,900 being spent alone in printing the record. Minnesota's claim against the railroads is \$9,989.60.

Secretary Bryan's policy of lecturing during his vacation time involved a controversy in the senate July 19. It began when Senator Bristow, ignoring the defeat of his resolution directed at Mr. Bryan's action, insisted upon being heard in severe criticism of the cabinet officer. Before the debate ended charges and counter charges between senators on the two sides of the chamber had brought the senate to a high pitch of excitement. Senator Ashurst produced an old letter of Senator Bristow's which he declared indicated that Mr. Bristow in 1906 had been perfectly willing to take a federal

position and devote only part of his time to it. The letter quoted by Senator Ashurst was one Senator Bristow had written to Senator Chester L. Long, May 27, 1906, and was as follows:

"I think I would like to have one of those advisory places on the canal commission," it said; "they pay \$7,500 and require a visit to the isthmus once in three months. I could hold it and live in Kansas, being there at least half my time, and when the fight got hot I could resign."

The attorney general holds that the Webb law forbidding shipments of liquor into "dry" states is not a criminal statute and that the violators of it can not be prosecuted in the federal courts. He holds that the law puts the matter in the hands of the states.

With the approval of the secretary of the treasury, an order was issued by the department of agriculture to food and drug inspectors in the several ports to require all importers to denature dangerous food substances imported not for food, but for use in the arts. This order particularly touches gelatine or glue which contains excessive amounts of arsenic, copper, or zinc, nutmegs in a state of decomposition, and other food substances containing dangerous compositions or in a state unfit for food, which are imported for use in manufactures.

A new budget system plan was embraced in two resolutions introduced in the house July 22 by Representative Hardwick of Georgia. It is designed to overcome the objections which resulted in the regulation of the scheme presented to the democratic caucus recently by Majority Leader Underwood. The resolutions would create a house committee on estimates and expenditures of twenty-one members who should be ineligible for service on any other committee of the house. This committee would outline and report to the house within thirty days after the convening of each regular session of congress the amount of revenue available for expenditure during the next fiscal year and would apportion to each of the appropriating committees of the house for its particular line of expenditures.

John William Davis of Clarksburg, W. Va., representative of the First West Virginia congressional district, was nominated by President Wilson to be solicitor general of the United States. Mr. Davis was the choice of Attorney General McReynolds from a long list of prominent lawyers to fill the important \$10,000 post. He will be the second ranking legal officer of the country and the government's representative before the supreme court of the United States. Under the statute the solicitor-general is the only official of the department of justice who must be a lawyer, excepting the attorney general. Mr. Davis, who is forty years old, has had a prominent legal career. He is serving his second term in congress, and is a member of the judiciary committee.

On July 30, the city of Washington was visited by a cyclonic storm of wind, rain and hail. Three persons were killed, scores injured and thousands of dollars' damage done to property. The lawns of the White House were devastated. Three huge elm trees, uprooted by the wind, were thrown bodily across the lawn and up to the very portico of the building, blocking the drives. President Wilson was seated in the executive office when the wind crashed through several windows in