

VETERANS OF POSTOFFICE

Twelve Men in Local Service for Over Thirty Years.

WAITING FOR THE PENSION BILL

No Relief for These Veterans Unless Measure Now Pending Before Congress is Enacted Into a Law.

Twelve men are working today in the Omaha postoffice who have been in the postal service for thirty years or more, the average length of their service in that department being nearly thirty-seven years each, and though some of the men are reaching the age of four score years, none of them has even a prospect of retiring on a pension, unless a bill now pending before congress is passed.

Many of the larger corporations have made a provision for the automatic retirement of their older employees. All institutions have been urged to do so by various social welfare boards, as well as by the employes themselves, yet the government, usually progressive in other directions, has so far failed to recognize any right of retirement in its own employes in the civil service.

Many of these men are hardly able to perform the easier duties which are assigned to them, yet the department under the civil service law holds these men in the service until they voluntarily retire, or die. The service must retain them, and younger men, anxious for promotion, ready to fill their places, are unable to do the work as held back by the fact that no provision has ever been made for the retirement of the veterans of the postal department, who hold their positions under the civil service law.

Youngest of Vets. James I. Woodard, assistant postmaster here for the last thirty-one years, was the youngest of the veterans to enter the service, he doing his first work for the department when he was 17 years of age. Mr. Woodard has been in the postal service here for the last forty-three years, starting at the bottom of the ladder as a clerk in the postoffice. At the present time he holds the highest position available to him through the service in Omaha.

Albert O. Swift, however, has been in the postal service longer than any other man in the department in Omaha. For forty-four years he has been a factor in the handling of the mails, during that time having been postmaster at Nebraska City and later an inspector, before becoming auditor of the Omaha office, the position which he now holds.

John H. Tebbins, who celebrated his seventy-fourth birthday on January 8, is the oldest man in the service here by several years, and though several others have passed the seventieth milestone, he remains one of the most active of the veterans in the office. Mr. Tebbins entered the service in 1870, and will soon complete his forty-first year in the postal service.

Forty-Three Years in Service. F. P. Morgan, record clerk in the Omaha postoffice, was born in New York in 1871, and entered the postal service in 1871, having almost completed his forty-third year in the postal service here. Though a veteran in the service, he might be one of the youngest, because one seldom hears a complaint from him.

Andrew Peterson, who is in the inquiry division is another of the older men in the service, having spent some thirty-seven years of his life among the letters and post cards and packages. Mr. Peterson was born in Sweden in 1848, and though a veteran of the service is not an "old man" by any means.

J. E. Cramer, who is in charge of Station B was a native of Ohio, and for the last thirty-five years has been connected with the postal department, spending many years in the railway service before he became connected with the postoffice in Omaha in 1881.

W. W. Connoran, is a native of Missouri, and though but 33 years of age, has spent some thirty-six years in the service of the government. He started as a railway mail clerk, and finally was advanced to the position of chief mailing clerk, which he now holds in the Omaha postoffice.

Over Half His Life. Charles H. King was born in Illinois some sixty-one years ago, and has been an employe of the postal department for thirty-two years. His official designation in the Omaha postoffice is "Carrier No. 8," which he has held for many years.

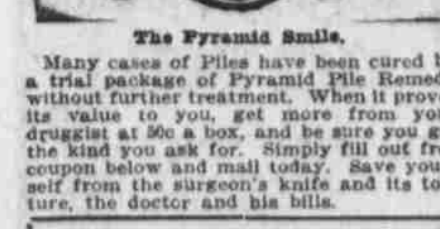
Thomas C. Parkins, born in Washington, D. C., is another man who has passed the age of three score years, and he has been in the postal service for thirty-one years.

Colonel H. C. Aiken, cashier at the Omaha postoffice has passed the age of three score years and ten. He started in the civil service as privy secretary to the postmaster, and then was promoted to be financial clerk, a position which he held until a few years ago, when he was made cashier.

J. M. Stafford, carrier No. 13, is another of the veterans who has passed the

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Name..... Street..... City..... State.....

Veterans in Service of the Omaha Postoffice



Upper Row, Left to Right—Albert O. Swift, Einar Castberg, H. C. Aiken, Frank P. Morgan, E. S. Cienlans, W. W. Connoran, J. E. Cramer. Lower Row, Left to Right—Andrew Peterson, John H. Tebbins, Charles H. King, T. C. Parkins, John M. Stafford.

ECHOES OF THE ANTE-ROOM

Scottish Rite Masons to Initiate a Large Class Monday.

WOODMEN TO HAVE BUSY WEEK

Special Session of the Grand Lodge of the Odd Fellows Will Be Held in Omaha Next Week.

Reinforced by the addition of half a dozen new candidates, a class of twenty Masons will receive the work for the fifteenth degree in Scottish Rite Masonry Monday evening, at the Masonic temple, Sixteenth street and Capitol avenue. The class, which is under the tutelage of the Rose Croix lodge, started the work several weeks ago, with a class of fifteen. Six new members have joined the class since it started, and the lodge expects to administer the advanced degree to the twenty candidates on Monday evening.

Numerous other persons employed under the civil service, in fact nearly a dozen others, will be entitled to the pension under the proposed law, either for service exceeding thirty years, or because they have reached the ripe old age of 70.

Cherry County Folks Do Not Want Murphy Liberated from Pen

In the interests of the inhabitants of Cherry county Charles C. McDonald, an Omaha lawyer, has written a letter to Governor Morehead objecting to the parole of Kenneth Murphy, one of the four young men convicted of the murder of Charles Sellers, a deputy sheriff of Cherry county, and who were sentenced to the penitentiary for life two years ago. Murphy asserted that he attempted to scare Sellers by hanging him from a tree, but became frightened when Sellers fainting and then ran away. He gives as a reason for his actions that Sellers was attentive to his sister and had attempted to take advantage of her.

This, according to McDonald, the people of Cherry county brand as an untruth, because they believe that the reason for the murder of the deputy was that he was on the trail of a band of horse thieves.

Many of the people of Cherry county are not in favor of Murphy's parole, and Mr. McDonald is asking the governor why an open hearing was not held so that those who have known of Murphy all his life might testify.

McDonald declares that a short while ago three of the young men were seen enjoying the freedom of the streets of Lincoln, and when the attention of the governor was called to it he instantly issued orders that they should be locked up, but he has now paroled Murphy, and there is talk of giving him an absolute pardon.

Cherry county citizens are very much wrought up over the case of the four boys and have objected to the methods employed by the state in handling it. They have their own ideas on the matter and they do not agree with the people of Lincoln who have taken an interest in the Murphy lad.

To Investigate the Status of Omaha as Supply Depot

Omaha business men are anxious to learn definitely what is to be the future status of Omaha as a location for the United States army supply station. W. F. Baxter who leaves Sunday on a business trip to New York is to make a side trip to Washington while east to discuss the matter of Omaha's supply depot with the War department. An order signed some time ago stated that Fort Riley, Leavenworth, Des Moines and Rock Island arsenal were not to be supplied from Omaha, beginning next summer. It stated that the two former are to be supplied from St. Louis and the two latter from Chicago.

Omaha business men were surprised at the order at the time and informed their senators so. Later the Commercial club received word from Senator Hitchcock that he had secured the temporary suspension of the order in so far as it applied to Fort Riley and Leavenworth, at least temporarily until a further investigation of the system could be made.

Just what the status of Omaha's supply depot is to be in the future is what the business men here are anxious to know, and what Mr. Baxter would like to learn while in Washington.

HAMMOND'S RULING ON THE INCOME TAX IS SUSTAINED

A decision of the acting commissioner of internal revenue confirms the ruling made by Ross L. Hammond, collector of internal revenue, that any loss sustained from cyclone or storms, if not compensated for by insurance, may be deducted from the income tax return of an individual.

Mr. Hammond has been called upon to pass upon this question a number of times with reference to the tornado which occurred last spring, and though his ruling proved correct, he hesitated to pass upon the question until the department at Washington had made a definite decision on the case. However, the cost of up-kept of repairs may not be deducted from the income, because such expenses are classed as living expenses.

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MRS. LODY TO GET DIVORCE

Mr. Lody Has Consented to Have the Suit Reinstated.

CASE WAS ONCE DISMISSED

It is Now Supposed the Divorce Will Be Given to Mrs. Lody by Default, the Defendant Not Appearing.

Carl Hans Lody of Berlin, Germany, husband of Mrs. Louise Storz Lody of this city, has given his consent to the reinstatement of his wife's divorce suit and does not expect to return to Omaha again to contest it, according to a stipulation filed in district court.

Mrs. Lody in her petition charged Mr. Lody with extreme cruelty and alleged that he had struck her on two occasions—December 23, 1912, and January 1, 1913. An answer filed by Mr. Lody denied these charges.

When the date for the hearing of the suit approached last summer Mr. Lody came from Berlin, declaring that his honor was at stake, that his only purpose was to prevent a divorce and that he would not consent to a settlement. He brought with him a lawyer from Berlin. The day before the hearing was to have been held Mrs. Lody's attorney dismissed the suit. Mr. Lody professed to be satisfied and returned to Berlin.

It is understood that Mr. Lody will not contest the suit since he has consented to its reinstatement and that a divorce will be granted to Mrs. Lody by default.

Railroad Officials Full of Confidence, Says Gerrit Fort

Passenger Traffic Manager Fort is back from Chicago, where he spent several days in conference with officials of the system, the business situation being one of the chief topics under consideration.

In conferring with Union Pacific officials Mr. Fort found all of them in a most optimistic mood, and he says that Traffic Director Winchell was the most optimistic of any. Mr. Winchell, Mr. Fort says, feels confident that prosperity is riding in on a wave of high tide and that the turning point has been reached. He believes that while there will be no inflated boom there will be an era of uninterrupted good business, the like of which has not been experienced in many years.

During the conferences Mr. Winchell spoke of the large amount of new freight equipment that has been ordered and which will all be delivered during the coming summer. This equipment amounts to 4,000 freight, 600 automobile and 400 stock cars. This immense order, Mr. Fort says, demonstrates that the Union Pacific officials all have confidence in the future and that it is preparing for a big business all along the line.

Burlington is to Build New Viaduct Across Its Tracks

The Burlington has plans prepared for the new viaduct that is to be built over the company tracks where they cross William street, and it is expected that work on the structure will begin within the next thirty days.

For years the Burlington has maintained a single track viaduct at the William street crossing, it affording the only way of getting into the railroad yards south of the government corral. During these years the single track structure has been sufficiently large to accommodate the business. Now, however, an immense artificial ice and cold storage plant is being erected along the railroad tracks, west of the viaduct, and with the increased train traffic that it will bring the Burlington finds it necessary to build a new structure. The new viaduct will be of practically all steel construction and will be in the same location as the old one. It will be double the width of the old viaduct and will be wide enough so that teams can pass on its floor.

TWO FRENCHMEN ORDERED TO RETURN TO CANADA

Charged with violation of the United States immigration laws, in entering this country while under contract to labor, Jules Pettit, his wife and two children, and Eugene Duchesne, two Frenchmen, were taken in custody by federal authorities and will be deported to Canada as soon as possible. The arrests follow investigations which have been carried on here during the last week by Immigration Inspector Whitfield of St. Louis, who caused the arrest of the immigrants Friday. Both men came to Omaha last fall, entering through Portal on the Canadian border, after they had been rejected for admittance to the United States by the authorities at Winnipeg.

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