

Metered Mail Is Next Novelty

New Electric Device Will Permit Business Concerns to Cancel Their Own Output.

VALUABLE TO LARGE MAILERS

Will Save Several Hours in the Handling of Mail and Will Protect Firms From Loss of Stamps Through Thefts.

Washington.—"Metered mail" is to be the next novelty in the rapidly developing postal system of the country, remarks the Washington Herald. It has received the indorsement of congress and the postoffice department and is scheduled to make its appearance within the next two months.

Metered mail will be sealed, stamped and canceled by the individual owner of a meter. The mail then will be taken to the postoffice and placed immediately upon an outgoing train without necessity of remaining in the postoffice until handled in routine fashion. Metered mail is provided for in a rider on an agricultural bill passed at the last session of congress. This rider grants to first class mail matter the registered permit privileges now enjoyed by second class mail. Instead of being required to stamp each letter a firm now will have the privilege of obtaining a mailing permit, thus expediting its mail.

Under the postoffice plan, which soon will be in effect, firms will be able to lease postal meters that have been authorized for use by the postal authorities. The local postoffice authorities will register the meter and will issue a permit number to the firm.

Meter Operated by Electricity. The meter will be a rather heavy metallic box, about the size of a lunch box. It will have two small doors which will be locked by the postal authorities and securely sealed. A firm will take the meter to the postoffice and buy a desired amount of postage. The postal authorities will adjust the meter so that it will stamp and cancel just so many letters and no more. The number of letters for which advance postage has been paid will be automatically registered on the lower of the two doors and the postal authorities will keep a record of the amount of postage sold to each meter owner, so that an absolute check may be kept.

The firm will keep the meter at its offices except when it is necessary to buy more postage. The meter will be operated by a small electric motor. The letters will be fed into the meter in batches and will be sealed, stamped and canceled at the rate of 250 a minute. As the letters are handled the meter will automatically record the number of canceled letters on the upper door. The user will adjust the

mechanism of the meter so that the time stamped on the letters will be one hour in advance of the time of delivery of the letters at the postoffice.

Help Large Mailers.

The meter, it is expected, will prove of great value to large mailers. In addition to saving time and labor the meter will enable large firms to expedite their mail by at least several hours. The meters will protect firms from loss of stamps through thefts or carelessness and will also give a mark of distinction to the firm's mail, all of which will bear a private permit number, a mark of big business. The metering of the mail also will lighten the work of postoffices and will lessen the number of postage stamps needed, thereby making it possible to reduce government forces and expenses considerably.

Metered mail will not bear regular postage stamps, but merely a permit number.

TO SEIZE DUKE'S IDLE LANDS

Spanish Peasants Say Luna's Ancestors Stole 25,000 Acres of Fertile Soil.

Huesca, Spain.—The provincial governor has been informed by a delegation representing local peasants that they intend to seize the lands now held by the duke of Luna, contending

Lot of Balkan Poor Unhappy

Peasants Work From Dawn to Dark and Have Little to Eat Except Corn Bread.

HALF OF CHILDREN SURVIVE

Homes Are Made Attractive on the Outside, Although They Are Bare of Comforts—Peasants Are Simple and Honest.

Belgrade, Serbia.—To the American visitor accustomed to the ordinary comforts of life it is a constant source of wonder how the peasants and poor of the Balkans can live on the meager food they have. Poor cornbread, supplemented by goat's cheese or ordinary leek or onions, forms the diet of a large part of the village population. This slender regime produces robust bodies, strong muscles and rosy cheeks. The adage that bread is the staff of life finds its best proof here.

On the whole, the poor of the Bal-

kan countries have an unusually hard lot in life. Their poverty is practically permanent. Their plight seems to excite little sympathy from those who are well off. There is a calloused indifference to the sufferings of the poor which strikes an American as almost heartless.

In few if any of the Balkan states does the government make any provision for care of the poor. This work in the past has been left largely to foreign relief agencies and private charitable organizations.

Eight-Hour Day Unknown.

The eight-hour working day so common in the United States is unknown in the Balkan rural districts. The peasant works from sunrise until after dark. He is so bent and weather-beaten that he looks twice his age after thirty. In some cases he belongs to one of the nomadic tribes and leads an existence unknown in the country districts of America. At night one often passes whole wagon loads of them on the road going from town to town. Every man is asleep on his lead, and is not disturbed by thoughts of burglars or highwaymen.

The peasant removes his hat to everyone better dressed than himself and gets his ox-cart off the road for every automobile. He is a simple, honest, home-loving person with much homely virtue. The peasant women have enormous families of children, only about half of whom survive the rigors of child-life in the extreme conditions that prevail in the Balkans.

Cottages Are Crude.

The peasants' cottages are crude structures with thatched roofs and mud walls. But they contrive to adorn them with attractive exteriors and take great pains to produce the utmost decorative effect. This embellishment frequently takes the form of a porch with a small background bearing a border design whose contrasting colors and composition suggest the patterns used by the Navajos of the American Southwest in blankets and carpets.

But while the exterior of the home is attractive, a peep into the interior shows the economic stress under which these people live. There is seldom any kind of food except coarse cornmeal. The cooking utensils are limited to a few home-made pewter pots. The furniture consists of a table and a few rudely constructed benches. The beds usually are upon the floor or upon rough-hewn boards.

The Hague.—The Dutch war department has decided to study American army methods, and with the permission of the United States government has sent a commission of officer-observers to the American army on the Rhine.

Chimes Play a Hymn of Death.

Fort Wayne, Ind.—Few understood why the program was changed when Edward F. Yarnelle gave a recital on the new chimes erected in the Presbyterian church tower, but a telephone message from the bedside of a dying woman asked for "Tim Going Home to Die No More."

WASHINGTON SIDELIGHTS



United States Has Eye on Mexican "Reds"



WASHINGTON.—The Fourth Internationale, in the affairs of which the Russian Bolshevik leaders have assumed a commanding position, will meet in Mexico City next January.

This statement is printed in a recent issue of El Universal of Mexico City, which points out that already the "Red" element is at work to exclude from the Internationale at its coming meeting the leaders of the Liberal, or "yellow" element, as the Mexican calls the moderate radical.

Furthermore, El Universal asserts that the present Mexican government will take no steps to oppose the meeting of the extreme radical groups of the world from assembling in Mexico City.

That Bolshevism is making headway in Mexico is reported in advices being received here from numerous sources in Mexico.

There was a demonstration a few weeks ago in front of the national

palace in Mexico City, and only a few days ago a similar demonstration was held in the state of Yucatan, formerly known as the state of Tepic.

Additional evidence that very little is being done to check the spread of Bolshevist doctrines south of the Rio Grande is the fact that the present Mexican government has failed to keep its word, given a few weeks ago, to deport from the country the various alien agitators, who, it is admitted, are the leaders and the brains of the Mexican radical movement.

In announcing that the Fourth Internationale will be held in Mexico City, El Universal says in part:

"In workingmen's centers a great animation is noted because of resolution taken in the Third Internationale, held in Moscow last June, the Fourth Internationale will be held in Mexico City next January.

"The First Internationale was held in London, the second in Petrograd, the third in Moscow and the fourth will be held in Mexico.

"In the Third Internationale, as we were told by various leaders of the workingmen, it was agreed that as the first three internationales had been held in Europe, it was proper to hold the fourth on the American continent."

It is asserted that the United States government is being kept advised fully of the radical movement south of the Rio Grande.

Country Runs Up Big Bill for Luxuries

IT COST the women in the United States approximately \$750,000,000 last year to rouge their cheeks, dab their noses with powder and make themselves fragrant with perfume, according to a compilation of the luxury tax returns which have been made by Uncle Sam.

The cost of cosmetics and perfume was more than twice that of women's furs—in a year when the fur prices were the highest in history. The amount spent on furs was approximately \$300,000,000.

The year 1919 was luxurious, according to the tax figures, which show that the amount spent on luxuries was \$22,700,000,000. The ladies did their part in spending money on luxuries, but the expenditures were not confined to them. Eight hundred million dollars went up in smoke—cigarette smoke, while \$510,000,000 were burned up in the form of cigars.

Jewelry cost \$500,000,000—an impressive sum, but only two per cent of luxurious expenditures. Planos, organs and phonographs entertained the people to the tune of \$250,000,000, while automobiles cost \$2,000,000,000.

When it comes to deciding what is and what is not a luxury your Uncle



Sam proves he's some tax collector. For instance: The gum the stenographer chews is a luxury; the diamond engagement ring is a luxury; the automobile that brings you to your work is a luxury, and toilet soap, cigars and soda water are placed in the same category.

Here follows some of the high spots in the nation's luxury bill: Soft drinks, \$150,000,000; toilet soaps, \$400,000,000; chewing tobacco and snuff, \$800,000,000; ice cream, \$350,000,000; chewing gum, \$50,000,000; cake and confections, \$350,000,000; "luxurious services" (whatever that means), \$3,000,000,000; luxurious food (and you can write your own answer to that), \$5,000,000,000; joy riding, pleasure resorts and races (if this is clear to you), \$3,000,000,000.

Fix Strength of National Guard Units



TWO decisions of importance to National Guard organizations throughout the United States are announced by the War department.

The first prescribes 65 active enlisted men as the minimum strength at which National Guard infantry companies may be maintained, while the second permits the enlistment of recruits up to the day upon which organizations leave home stations for annual field training.

The announcement states that after July 1, 1921, the minimum peace strength of National Guard units shall be the same as those prescribed for the regular army. When the peace strength is greater than 65, National

Guard organizations may be maintained at 65 active enlisted men, and such number of National Guard reserves as will equal or exceed the minimum peace strength for similar units of the regular army. While the policy establishes the active peace strength for companies and corresponding units of the National Guard, it is desired that every effort be made to encourage the maintenance of such units at the peace strength prescribed for the regular army, which will be approximately 100 enlisted men.

In order to facilitate the reorganization of the National Guard until July 1, 1921, companies and corresponding units are to be recognized with a minimum strength of 50 active enlisted men.

The second decision changes regulations which required members of National Guard organizations to be enlisted at least 90 days prior to attendance at camps of instruction in order to receive pay for such service. Under this change recruits may be enlisted at any time and paid for attendance at camp.

Optimist Finds Amusement on Street Cars

IS THERE no balm in Gilead? Are there no amusements aboard Washington street cars?

One would think riding on local street cars is totally divested of happiness of any sort, to listen to some wallings on the subject. As a matter of fact, this is much as in other matters in life—you carry your happiness with you, even on a street car.

Watching the motorman is interesting. If you become bored with yourself on a car, try to figure out what you would do with the motorman's levers and brakes if he should suddenly have a fit and the running of the car should devolve on the passengers. Hanging to a strap may be made a splendid exercise by alternate suspension by the right and left arms. Balancing without manual support develops the powers of equilibrium as well as the muscles of the legs. If you are thrown up against a testy passen-



ger your capacity for good humor also is tested. Those with statistical leanings are in a paradise while riding on a Washington street car. How many men get seats next windows? What per cent of the male population arises to give what per cent of the female population seats? How many girls get up to give their seats to older women, and what per cent get rebuffed? And one may always read.

Rosy Cheeks & Satin Skin

Because of her rosy cheeks and satin skin a woman attracts the admiration of all men. When the young woman peers in her glass, she may see pimples and blotches and she immediately goes

to the drug store for paint, powders and beauty creams, when she should go there for a blood medicine and stomach alterative known as "Golden Medical Discovery."

This vegetable tonic and blood alterative clears the skin, beautifies it, increases the blood supply and the circulation, while pimples, boils and eruptions vanish quickly.

Ask your nearest druggist for Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery in tablet or liquid form or send 10c. for trial package of tablets to Dr. Pierce's Invalids' Hotel in Buffalo, N. Y.

E-Z Dustless-Ebony Stove Polish **U**
E-Z IRON ENAMEL FOR THE PIPE
E-Z METAL POLISH FOR THE NICKEL **TRY**
E-Z SHOE POLISH SAVES SHOES
All Dealers—Money Back Guarantee **E-Z**

Short Term.
"She says she has an ideal husband."
"How long have they been married?"
"Three weeks."
"Shucks; all husbands are ideal for the first three weeks."—Life.

USE "DIAMOND DYES"

Dye right! Don't risk your material in a poor dye. Each package of "Diamond Dyes" contains directions so simple that any woman can diamond-dye a new, rich, fadeless color into old garments, draperies, coverings, everything, whether wool, silk, linen, cotton or mixed goods.

Buy "Diamond Dyes"—no other kind—then perfect results are guaranteed. Druggist has "Diamond Dyes Color Card"—16 rich colors. Adv.

Visit Not Entirely Wasted.
One Sunday afternoon I called at a friend's house, rang the bell, and after waiting a few minutes for an answer a little girl stepped out of the adjoining hall and said:
"The lady is out; she went away in an automobile."
"Oh," I said, "is that so? Are the rest of them out, too?"
She replied: "Well, the man he went out with the boys, but the dog's home."
—Chicago Tribune.

WOMEN NEED SWAMP-ROOT

Thousands of women have kidney and bladder trouble and never suspect it. Women's complaints often prove to be nothing else but kidney trouble, or the result of kidney or bladder disease.

If the kidneys are not in a healthy condition, they may cause the other organs to become diseased. Pain in the back, headache, loss of ambition, nervousness, are often times symptoms of kidney trouble.

Don't delay starting treatment. Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, a physician's prescription, obtained at any drug store, may be just the remedy needed to overcome such conditions.

Get a medium or large size bottle immediately from any drug store. However, if you wish first to test this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper.—Adv.

Excavated.
The children in the upper grades are required to use the words of their spelling lesson in sentences to show they know the meaning of these words. "Excavated" was one of the new words for the next lesson. Henry's dictionary said "excavated" meant "hollowed out," so Henry wrote this sentence:
"This morning George hit Robert in the stomach and he excavated."

Catarrh

Catarrh is a local disease greatly influenced by constitutional conditions. HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE is a Tonic and Blood Purifier. By cleansing the blood and building up the system, HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE restores normal conditions and allows Nature to do its work.

All Druggists. Circulars free. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

The New Models.

Flora—Have you ever met the ideal man?
Dora—The ideal man doesn't exist. Real ones are scarce enough!—Cartoons Magazine.

MURINE
Night and Morning
Keep Your Eyes
Clear—Clean and Healthy
Write for Free Eye Care Book Murine Co., Chicago, U.S.A.

Scotch Herring Girls at Work



Scotch herring girls at Scarborough, England, rolling the herring barrels from the deck to a steamer. The herring girls, who understand the curing and packing of the fish, follow the herrings when they migrate south.

Woman With Rolling Pin Knocks Out a Burglar

New York.—When Mrs. Sophie Petrowsky returned to her home at 108 Bedford avenue after shopping, she discovered a man ransacking her home. Seeing her she rushed out with a bag of loot and she followed, first arming herself with a rolling pin. In the street in front of the house she caught up with him and knicked him senseless with the rolling pin.

At the Bedford avenue station the man said he was James Duane, 22, of 108 Bedford avenue, Brooklyn. The police say he has been out of Sing Sing only two months after serving a four-year term for burglary.

Jap Governor for 700 Isles

South Sea Group to Have Executive and Thorough System of Administration.

Tokyo.—The 700 islands of varying size in the South Sea group for which Japan obtained mandatory rights at the peace conference will have a Japanese governor and a thorough system of administration.

The governor at present will remain under the direction of the navy, which has been in control of the islands since their acquisition five years ago. It is possible that later all connections between the navy and the islands will be severed.

The League of Nations council in November is expected to work out a detailed scheme for the application of the principle of trusteeship by which Japan retains her control.

The idea involved in entrusting the scope of civil administration is to establish three distinct administrative

sections of domestic affairs, colonial affairs and police affairs.

DUTCH STUDY YANK METHODS

Send Officer Observers to Watch Work of United States Army on the Rhine.

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The "baby tanks" of the French army have been generally adapted for agricultural purposes.