

# PARCELS POST IS OUR NEW YEAR'S GIFT FROM UNCLE SAM

Government, by Going Into the Express Business, Reduces the Package Carrying Rates on All Matter Under 11 Pounds Weight.

Parcels post—Uncle Sam's New Year's gift to his 102,992,575 nephews and nieces on both sides of the globe. On January 1, of the new year, in something over 70,000 postoffices in the United States and territories, a new regulation designed primarily to afford a better market to the farmer in need of small articles about his home is effective. In a limited way, Uncle Sam has entered the general express business, and unless the large private forwarding companies are able to meet the rates that have been authorized by the government, the bulk of the small package business will likely, in the course of a few months, find its way into the hands of the government.

Rates that are far below those that heretofore have been asked by the companies, have been decided upon; and it will be useless for the express companies to try to compete with the government without first changing their schedules to meet the rates of the parcels post.

A feature of the parcels post competition that the express companies can not hope to meet, is the facilities that the government has for the speedy delivery of every article in the union, into the furthest recess of even the mountainous districts, rural carriers are making their way daily. Through these carriers, parcels entrusted to the postman will be delivered.

Plans that have been made for the carrying out of the parcels post order are only tentative. Though experts from all parts of the country have been at Washington for several months and have worked wonders in evolving the present regulations, the work has been monumental that as the system works its way into general use, there will be new conditions constantly coming up, to meet which special arrangements will be necessary.

**Parcels Post Rates.**  
Under the parcels post regulations, fourth class matter will disappear from the mails. The new arrangement includes the fourth class matter, and at the same time enlarges the scope. Heretofore, packages weighing over four pounds have been unmailable. Now mailable matter up to 11 pounds will be accepted, at rates far below any charges heretofore known in America.

The rates of postage will be determined by postal zones. For city delivery the rate will be 5 cents for the first pound or fraction thereof, and a cent additional for each pound or fraction thereof.

Outside of city delivery there will be eight zones, determined as follows, as set forth in the new law:  
That for the purposes of this section the United States and the several territories and possessions, excepting the Philippine Islands, shall be divided into units of area 30 minutes square, identical with each other, and the areas formed by intersecting parallels of latitude and meridians of longitude, represented on appropriate postal maps or plans, and such units of area shall be the basis of eight postal zones, as follows:

The first zone shall include all territory within such quadrangle, in conjunction with any territory immediately adjacent, representing an area having a mean radial distance of approximately 50 miles from the center of any given unit of area.  
The second zone shall include all units of area outside the first zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 100 miles from the center of a given unit of area.

The third zone shall include all units of area outside the second zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 150 miles from the center of a given unit of area.  
The fourth zone shall include all units of area outside the third zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 200 miles from the center of a given unit of area.

The fifth zone shall include all units of area outside the fourth zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 250 miles from the center of a given unit of area.  
The sixth zone shall include all units of area outside the fifth zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 300 miles from the center of a given unit of area.

The seventh zone shall include all units of area outside the sixth zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 350 miles from the center of a given unit of area.  
The eighth zone shall include all units of area outside the seventh zone.

**"P. P." Rates.**  
The rates for the eight zones will be:  
For delivery within the first zone as provided for city delivery, 5 cents for the first pound or fraction thereof, and a cent for each additional pound or fraction of a pound.  
For delivery within the second zone, 6 cents for the first pound or fraction of a pound and 4 cents for each additional pound or fraction of a pound.

For delivery within the third zone, 7 cents for the first pound or fraction of a pound and 5 cents for each additional pound or fraction of a pound.  
For delivery within the fourth zone, 8 cents for the first pound or fraction of a pound, and 6 cents for each additional pound or fraction of a pound.

For delivery within the fifth zone, 9 cents for the first pound or fraction of a pound and 7 cents for each additional pound or fraction of a pound.  
For delivery within the sixth zone, 10 cents for the first pound or fraction of a pound and 8 cents for each additional pound or fraction of a pound.

For delivery within the seventh zone, 11 cents for the first pound or fraction of a pound, and 9 cents for each additional pound or fraction of a pound.  
For delivery within the eighth zone and between the Philippine Islands and any portion of the United States, including the District of Columbia, and the several territories and possessions, 12 cents for the first pound or fraction of a pound and 10 cents for each additional pound or fraction of a pound.

**System Not Complex.**  
At first there may be some misunderstandings and difficulties, but as the system is arranged is not complex, it is most likely to be extensively patronized and appreciated by all who use it. After the parcels become familiar with its operation.

For the guidance of prospective users of the system, Postmaster General Hitchcock has prepared a map, which shows the United States divided into eight distinct postal zones, each in turn being divided into square units.

**Most Anything Will Go.**  
If you can find it with a six-foot string and it does not weigh more than 11 pounds, or injure the mails, it is safe to say that you can send it by parcels post, and it does not make a great deal of difference what it is, either eggs or engine iron.

There are specific instructions for determining the dimensions of a parcels post package. It may be not greater in size than 72 inches in length and girth combined.  
To enable his postmasters to determine the size of doubtful packages, Uncle Sam has bought 110,000 tape lines, at a cost of \$1,000. Here are a few more things he has bought in preparation for the opening of the service: 30,000 scales, 25,000 special sacks, 10,000,000 tags, 130 special zone maps, and 195,000 special rubber stamps.

Until the new service is thoroughly established, it will be necessary for patrons of the "P. P." to take their packages to the postoffice or to sub-stations in different parts of the city. Parcels post packages can not be mailed in letter or package boxes. They must be taken to the postoffice to be specially stamped.

**Unmailable Matter.**  
Fragile articles, including millinery, toys, musical instruments and articles of glass in whole or in part, must be securely packed and marked "fragile." Articles that may not be sent by parcels post include intoxicating liquors of any kind, poison, poisonous animals, insects or reptiles, explosives of every kind, inflammable articles, including matches, infernal machines, pistols or revolvers, disease germs, any obscene, defamatory or scurrilous matter now prohibited by law, live or dead animals, or birds or live poultry, raw hides or pelts, or anything having a bad odor.

Books and printed matter may not be forwarded at parcels post rates; but only at the parcel rates or as third class matter.  
**Method of Packing.**  
Medicines composed wholly or in part of poisons and anaesthetic agents, which are not outwardly of their own force, dangerous or injurious to health or property, and not in themselves unmailable, when securely packed will be accepted for delivery. They must bear the name and address of the manufacturer, or of the dealer. They may be sent to physicians, surgeons, druggists or dentists.

Mailable articles which, from their nature, might work an injury to other mail matter or equipment or injure a postal employe, may be mailed when the package is not liquid or liquefiable, in which case they must be placed in a bag or box or placed in a removable envelope or wrapping, made of paper, cloth, parchment or similar material. The whole must be enclosed in a box or tube of metal or wood, securely closed.

Where it is desired to mail an article that is liable to break, the inner covering must be surrounded by sawdust, excelsior, cotton or other similar absorbent substance.

Mineral waters, machine oil, milk, salves, etc., will be taken under the parcels post regulations. They must not exceed 11 pounds in weight and will be accepted for mailing when intended for delivery at the office of mailing or on rural routes starting from that office, when enclosed in a glass or metal container, securely closed and heavily wrapped, provided it is not necessary to transport the package on a railroad.

**Must Protect Liquids.**  
The method of packing such liquids as set forth in the parcels post regulations follow: The bottle must be very strong and must be enclosed in a block or tube of metal, wood, papier-mache or similar material and there must be provided between the bottle and the block or tube a cushion of cotton felt or other absorbent. The block or tube, if of wood, must be at least three-sixteenths of an inch thick in its thinnest part. The whole must be rendered water tight by an application of paraffine or equally suitable substance.

When in a metal container, the weight of the parcel must not exceed 11 pounds. The container must be hermetically sealed and enclosed in a strong box and securely wrapped.  
When sharp-pointed instruments are offered for mailing, they must be capped or encased so that they can not cut through their covering.  
Flour must be put up in such manner as to prevent the package breaking or cracking, or the flour being scattered in the mails.

Candies, confectionery, yeast cakes, etc., must be enclosed in boxes and so wrapped as to prevent injury to other mail matter. Sealed original packages, such as tobacco, will be accepted, but will have to be covered with additional wrappings.  
Containers or receptacles in which milk, eggs and other perishable goods can be mailed, are being devised by the postal authorities, but until they are ready for use, Postmaster General Hitchcock has made the following regulations:

Butter, lard and perishable articles, such as fish, fresh meats, dressed fowls, vegetables, fruits, berries and articles of a similar nature, which decay quickly, when so packed or wrapped as to prevent damage to other mail matter will be accepted for local delivery, either at the office of mailing or on any rural route starting therefrom. When enclosed in an inner cover and a strong outer cover of wood, metal, heavy corrugated pasteboard, or other suitable material, and wrapped so that nothing can escape from the package, they will be accepted for mailing at all offices within the first zone.

**Send Eggs, But Pack 'Em.**  
Eggs will be accepted for local delivery when so packed in a basket or other container as to prevent damage to other mail matter.  
Eggs will be accepted for mailing regardless of distance when each egg is wrapped separately and surrounded with excelsior, cotton or other suitable material and packed in a container made of double corrugated pasteboard, metal, wood or other suitable material in such manner as to place each egg on its end and to prevent them from striking together or against the side or top of the container, with an outer covering of double corrugated pasteboard, metal, wood or other suitable material and wrapped so that nothing can escape from the package. All such

parcels must be labeled "eggs."  
All fragile articles, including millinery, toys, musical instruments and articles made of glass, in part or otherwise, must be securely packed and marked "fragile." Included among those articles that are excluded from the service are intoxicating liquors of all kinds, poisons, poisonous animals, insects or reptiles, explosives of every kind, inflammable articles, including matches, infernal machines, pistols or revolvers, disease germs, any obscene, defamatory or scurrilous matter now prohibited by law, live or dead animals, or birds or live poultry, raw hides or pelts, or anything having a bad odor.

Insurance for \$25 on parcel post can be obtained by attaching to the regular postage charged a special 5-cent insurance stamp. The usual registry and special delivery features of the postal system will apply to the new service in the same manner as it does with the other postal classes.

**That First Zone Rate.**  
Considerable confusion has been caused through a misunderstanding of the local rate and a zone rate. The local rate applies to packages that are delivered within the city and along rural routes running out from it. The zone rate applies to other towns in the zone and other rural routes leading out from them. In other words, if it is necessary to carry a package on the railroad, the zone rate applies, while if it does not, the local rate applies.

Regular carriers will deliver all packages under one pound. Other means will be found to deliver packages that are larger.  
There will be a large saving to the people on the smaller parcel post packages. It will also create active competition in the delivery service, leaving the people the option as to whether they will send their packages through the postoffice department or by express. If the express companies should reduce their rates this action would also benefit the people. If the people desire to patronize the postoffice department, the government in the end will attempt to give acceptable service.

It has been contended that the country merchant would be destroyed when parcel post service was inaugurated. In view of the fact that a reduced rate of postage on rural routes has been fixed by congress of 5 cents for the first pound and 1 cent for each additional pound from the town or city where the rural route originates to the terminus of said route. We are unable to see how the country merchant can be injured by this new service.

For instance, the country merchant could deliver the maximum package of 11 pounds weight to a customer on any rural route in the town where his store is located for 15 cents. A department store or mail order house in the second zone would be compelled to pay 46 cents to deliver an 11-pound package; in the third zone, it would be compelled to pay for the same package, 67 cents; in the fourth zone the rate would be 88 cents; in the fifth zone, 109 cents; in the sixth zone, 130 cents.

**SYSTEM AT LAST A REALITY IS RESULT OF A LONG EFFORT**  
Ever Since 1874, When Fourth Class Was Established, the Fight Has Been Waged.

When after January 1, the parcels post is in full operation, the United States will have taken a step forward in a path in which the country for years has been lagging far behind the nations of the old world. While the present regulations are largely experimental and it is probable that many changes will be necessary from time to time the system in general has been patterned after systems now in effect in such countries as England, France and Germany.

Senator Jonathan Bourne, Jr., of Oregon, chairman of the Senate committee on postoffices and post roads, is largely responsible for the present law, though in all his work, he has been closely affiliated with Postmaster General Hitchcock.

In reality, the parcels post is not new, rather it is the enlargement of a department of the postoffice that has been in effect since the system itself was started. The fourth class of mailable matter in reality is a very limited parcels post, though it never has been known by that name.

**Long Been in Demand.**  
The parcels post demand has been before the different congresses for over a score of years. In 1874 the present fourth class for small packages of merchandise was initiated. At that time, parcels weighing under four pounds were taken for 8 cent—1/2 cent an ounce.

After the change, the weight limit of the parcel remained the same and the rate was doubled. There was considerable objection to that act at the time, and from that dissension has grown the demand for a parcels post, one that would compare favorably with that effective in other countries.

In recent years, the committee on postoffices and post roads has held two extended hearings upon the advisability of recommending a parcels post. The present law, passed by the 62d congress, is the result.

The law was framed after Senator Bourne had spent many months in gathering data from other countries. Rates are somewhat higher under the parcels post the United States will have than are enjoyed by people in other countries. The maximum weight allowed by the parcels post is 11 pounds; the same as is allowed by Great Britain, Italy, Chile, New Zealand, Cuba and the Netherlands. Countries that place a higher maximum on the weight are: Germany, 110 pounds; France, 22 pounds; Austria, 110 pounds, and Belgium, 132 pounds.

**Civic Leagues Active.**  
The general demand for a parcels post has been urged upon congress for the last 10 years by many civic organizations having for their purpose the enlarging of the scope of the parcels post in America. Among these organizations are the Postal Express League, of Boston, and the Parcels Post organization, of New York. The Parcels Express League fostered the Bennett rural parcels post bill, presented in 1908 which, in reality, was the first bill to receive serious consideration from the federal law makers.

Four hundred years ago the idea of numbering houses originated in Paris, though it was not until 1783 that the system became general.

**How Parcels Are Insured in Mails**  
INSURED PARCEL stamp and DELIVERY OFFICE receipt.

Insurance tag to be used with parcel post system. Upper coupon is to be attached to package. Lower one is sender's receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

# BECOMES MISSIONARY IN WILDS OF INDIA

Miss Anna Helena Vreeland, 50 Years of Age, Tackles Bold Undertaking.

**TASK NOT AN EASY ONE**  
Relatives, Believing Her Insane, Sought to Prevent Sale of Property—Faces Unknown Dangers.

From the New York World.  
With all the courage of youth and the fervor of a religious leader, Miss Anna Helena Vreeland, past 50 years of age, has shaken the dust of civilization from her skirts and gone into the wilderness of India, where the message of the Christian religion has never been carried before. She has severed all connection with her former life in this country, sold her home at No. 145 Grant avenue, Jersey City, where she had lived for many years, and started to make a place not alone for herself but for all missionaries in a part of India which has been as closed to Christian civilization as Tibet.

The courage which has enabled Miss Vreeland to take this step was sorely tried before she was enabled to carry out her intention, for her relatives decided that her desire to sell her property and devote her money and her life to the work of spreading the gospel was perverted so that it sounded insane. I did sing a hymn, and nothing else, but I do not consider insane because I believe that my prayers have been answered? Am I crazy because I want other folks in far off India to hear of my Creator? I should hope not."

Vice Chancellor Garrison vacated the order requiring Miss Vreeland to appear in court after the report of the physician and the testimony of many business men and others who had dealings with Miss Vreeland, and she was free to depart for India in pursuit of her religious mission.

To build the home and carry on the work which she has outlined for the Indian campaign Miss Vreeland has taken with her all the money which she inherited from her father, Nicholas S. Vreeland, amounting to more than \$55,000. Miss Vreeland will either buy or rent a house and furnish it on the borders of Faizabad, India. The home will be kept open and maintained for foreign missionaries of any denomination who care to stop there for a few days' rest. Missionaries of all denominations will be welcome.

In addition to this maintenance of missionaries' retreat Miss Vreeland purposes to instruct the natives in the immediate vicinity of the new home in the Christian religion so that they can go further into the interior of Faizabad and make converts, thus paving the way for the Christian missionaries from the Occidental countries.

Miss Vreeland said that Faizabad is ruled by a pagan king, from parts of whose country missionaries have never returned. There are unknown territories so dangerous and unexplored that it seems hopeless to send a white missionary into the fastnesses. But it is thought that the white missionaries cannot go the converted natives may be able to make their way, and it is with this thought in view that the home is to be established on the very borders of the wild province.

Miss Vreeland does not consider at all the dangers that lie in this life on the borderland of civilization, for she regards the opportunity to spread the gospel as more precious than life itself. The thought that more progress will be made by converting the natives to the Christian faith and sending them into the interior than by having white missionaries go is all that restrains the enthusiastic woman from herself undertaking to carry the gospel into the very heart of darkness.

Miss Vreeland has been a missionary all her life, although her converts have until now been confined to Jersey City. Her home has always been open to visiting missionaries, and she has often had several of these workers in foreign fields stopping with her at one time. For more than 20 years she was a member of an active worker in the Dutch Reformed church of Jersey City, but about five years ago she became interested in the Pentecostal cult, which was then being expounded with great success by Robert Evans. Miss Vreeland read in the religious papers about the evangelistic campaign which Evans was conducting with such spectacular success in Wales and became so deeply interested that she packed up all her belongings and departed for Wales.

She spent almost a year in traveling around Wales and England in the wake of the Pentecostal leader. After she returned home to Jersey City the most remarkable religious experience of her life came to Miss Vreeland. One day in her little parlor, in the Grant street house she felt herself to be suddenly enlightened regarding spiritual things.

# ONLY THESE STAMPS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON MAIL PACKAGES



Parcels post stamps, distinctive in color, shape and design, must be used on all packages that are sent by parcels post. The government has printed 16 different stamps. Twelve are for postage paid at the point of shipment and five designed to be used in case sufficient postage is not paid when the parcel is first mailed. These last five stamps will be used in the same way as are the regular postage due stamps now used by the government.  
The regular parcels post stamps are bright red in color, somewhat like the regular 3-cent stamp, though a considerably brighter red. They are an inch wide and an inch and a half long. The postage due stamps are the same size and are a light green in color, not unlike the 1-cent stamp used for regular mail.  
The regular stamps are made in the following denominations: One-cent, 2-cent, 4-cent, 5-cent, 10-cent, 15-cent, 20-cent, 25-cent, 50-cent, 75-cent and \$1. The postage due stamps are made up in 1, 2, 5, 10 and 25-cent denominations.  
From the viewpoint of the engraver, the stamps are artistic. The regular stamps picture different departments of the mail service. The 1-cent stamp bears a picture of a postoffice clerk at work before a case. The 2-cent stamp shows a city carrier making his rounds. The 3-cent stamp shows a railway mail clerk at work in a car. The 4-cent stamp is dedicated to the street carrier showing a wagon on route. The 5-centers have a picture of a fast mail train. The 10-cent stamps show an ocean greyhound carrying mail to distant ports. The 15-cent stamp pictures a delivery automobile such as is being used by the government in all the larger cities. The 20-cent stamp is probably the most interesting of all, in that it shows the newest method of carrying mail—by aeroplane.  
The four larger stamps picture different scenes of the country industrial activity. The 25-cent stamp is devoted to agriculture and shows a farmer at work in his fields. The 50-center depicts dairying. The 75-cent stamp is devoted to manufacturing, showing a long line of factories, with their towering smokestacks. The \$1 stamp is dedicated to the fruit growing industry.  
The postage due stamps are all of the same design, except in the matter of numerals.

# How Parcels Are Insured in Mails

INSURED PARCEL stamp and DELIVERY OFFICE receipt.

Insurance tag to be used with parcel post system. Upper coupon is to be attached to package. Lower one is sender's receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.

INSURED PARCEL stamp and MAILING OFFICE receipt.