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# WASHINGTON NEWS

Dr. Wiley has been given a clear field in the chemistry department and Dr. R. E. Doolittle of New York has been chosen to succeed Solicitor McCabe (Dr. Wiley's enemy) on the pure food and drug board.

The Panama minister to the United States, Dr. Poras, has been recalled on the ground that his services failed to please his government.

A Washington correspondent for the Associated Press says: A freight rate of \$115 per hundred pounds on lemons from California points to eastern destinations was approved by the commerce court in a decision rendered in the case of the Arlington Heights fruit association against certain trans-continental railroads.

The interstate commerce commission had issued an order, after an exhaustive inquiry, requiring the railways to reduce their freight rates on lemons from California points to eastern destinations from \$1.15 to \$1 a hundred pounds. The rate on oranges was established by the roads at \$1 a hundred pounds, but the traffic in oranges was six times as much as in lemons. In its decision the court held in effect that the commission had no power to protect the lemon industry of California against foreign competition.

An Associated Press dispatch says: Orders of injunction were granted by the commerce commission to restrain it from enforcing its orders against the Goodrich Transit company and the White Star line, corporations operating steamers on the Great lakes, one out of Chicago and the other out of Toledo. The orders of the commission required the companies to adopt certain methods of keeping their accounts and to make certain reports to the commission. The court held that the companies were amenable to the law with respect to all interstate business done by them in connection with railroads, and the commission was within its authority in requiring reports of such transactions, but that it had no authority to call for reports of transactions relating exclusively to "port-to-port" interstate business of to interstate traffic or affairs.

An Associated Press dispatch says: It will cost \$129,000,000 to maintain the United States navy and provide for suitable increase in the next fiscal year, according to the estimates completed by Secretary Meyer. This includes a provision for two super dreadnoughts, probably about the size of the projected Nevada and Oklahoma, which displace about 28,000 tons and a suitable number of auxiliaries.

This figure marks low water in the retrenchment policy of the administration, so far as the navy is concerned. The estimates are the same as the appropriations for the current fiscal year. This year's appropriations were \$5,000,000 less than the estimates for the preceding year, and these in turn were \$10,000,000 less than estimates for the fiscal year 1908-1909 which was the last year of the Roosevelt administration.

Now they are going to have mail by airships. An Associated Press dispatch says: Provision for the establishment of a parcels post and the transportation of mail by aeroplane has been made by Postmaster General Hitchcock in his annual estimates of postoffice department.

According to this estimate the appropriations necessary to meet the expenses of the postal service at large during the coming fiscal year will be \$260,938,468, a decrease of \$2,585,740 over the appropriations for the current fiscal year, or more than 1 per cent, the smallest on record. The most important of the new items are those providing for a parcels post. They include \$50,000 to cover the preliminary expenses on rural mail routes and an equal appropriation to start the service in the cities.

The department believes that after the initial expenses are defrayed and the parcels post is in full operation on the rural routes, it will not only bring in sufficient revenue to meet its cost, but also a surplus that can be utilized in paying the parcels post expenses on the city delivery service. An additional item of \$50,000 is included to cover an investigation having for its object the final establishment of a general parcels post on all routes. Mr. Hitchcock is confident that legislation authorizing a parcels post of some form will be secured at the coming session of congress.

Another item included for the first time is the \$50,000 to cover experiments in the transportation of mail by aeroplane. Mr. Hitchcock believes that under certain conditions it will be possible to use the aeroplane to good advantage.

The sum of \$50,000 is provided for time and labor saving mechanical devices for use in the postoffice. An item of \$10,000 is added to be expended in giving rewards to postal employes who invent improved mechanical appliances that accelerate the handling of the mails. The law requires that estimates for the various departments of the government be submitted prior to October 15.

### CATHOLIC COLONY MAKERS ORGANIZE

Final details of an international colonization project directed by the Catholic church were arranged at a meeting of the board of directors of the Catholic Colonization Society of the United States recently at the Woman's temple. Officers were chosen, the charter was ratified, and the work of the society outlined.

The plans of the founders of the society, the Catholic archbishops and bishops of the United States, embrace a scheme for controlling desirable immigration from foreign countries and establishing of Catholic colonies in various parts of this country. The work is not to be carried on exclusively for the benefit of immigrants, as all Catholics who desire to leave the congested centers for life on a farm are encouraged to join one of several settlements or colonies that are being established.

The officers of the society are: Director general, the Most Rev. J. J. Glennon, archbishop of St. Louis; vice director general, the Most Rev. S. G. Messmer, archbishop of Milwaukee; president, the Rev. Julius E. De Vos, Chicago; vice president, the Right Rev. Mgr. D. J. McMahon, New York; secretary, the Very Rev. Edward J. Vattmann, Wilmette, Ill.; treasurer, the Rev. Andrew Spetz, Chicago.

The society is not organized for profit. Its chief work is that of widening Catholic membership by establishing new parishes, and at the same time preventing Catholics from scattering among those of other denominations.

To facilitate the work of the society it has been divided into three

branches. The first of these is called the national society, and has for its object the location of desirable lands open for colonization and placing them before the Catholic population of this country and immigrants that annually arrive.

A division known as the Racial societies has been formed to work among the different nationalities in Europe and in this country. Cooperation with the Catholic clergy of Europe and the appointment of officials known as "chaplains of emigration" to work among persons intending to come to the United States are features of the Racial societies.

The work begins among the immigrants before they take passage for the United States, and when they land here they are protected from the dangers that might result from their ignorance of the language and customs of the country.

The third division is the diocesan societies, through which reliable information of the character of the lands in each colony can be obtained. —Chicago Tribune.

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