

DEFICIT TURNS INTO A SURPLUS

Postoffice Department Becomes Self-Sustaining for First Time Since 1883.

SERVICE GREATLY EXTENDED

Care in Expenditures Brings No Curtailment of Facilities.

ONE-CENT POSTAGE IS TO COME

Change is Promised by Officials at No Distant Day.

POSTAL BANKS DRAW CASH

Postmaster General Advocates Creation of Parcel Post, Abolition of Franking Privilege, Pensions for Old Employees.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—For the first time since 1883 the annual financial statement of the Postoffice department shows a surplus instead of a deficit.

This is the burden of the annual report of Postmaster General Hitchcock, made public today. He indicated that the placing of the postal service upon a self-sustaining basis meant an improvement and extension of facilities and, at no distant day, 1-cent letter postage.

At the beginning of the present administration in 1901, Mr. Hitchcock pointed out the department showed a deficit of \$17,678, the largest on record. In two years this deficit had been changed into a surplus of \$23,112, despite important extensions throughout the service. These extensions include 2,744 new postoffices, delivery of mail by carriers in 136 additional cities, 2,518 new rural mail routes aggregating 60,779 miles and 8,000 additional postal employees, with the salary roll greater by \$16,000,000 than it was two years ago.

Postal Savings Banks. The postal savings bank system, less than a year old, now is in operation in practically all of the 7,500 presidential postoffices. Preparations are being made to establish it in about 40,000 fourth-class offices that do a money order business. In eleven months' operation postal bank deposits aggregated \$11,000,000, and they are expected to reach \$40,000,000 or more by July 1.

In view of the successful operation of the postal savings banks Mr. Hitchcock strongly recommended the establishment by congress of an adequate parcel post, which, he said, could be put into operation in a few months.

Second-Class Postage.

The postmaster general reiterated that the second class postage rate should be 2 cents instead of 1 cent a pound. He also urged that by readjustment of the pay of railroads for transporting the mails based on actual cost to the government, an annual saving to the government of at least \$20,000,000 could be effected.

Mr. Hitchcock said "the progress in aviation encourages the hope that ultimately the regular conveyance of mail by this means may be practicable. In many districts where the natural conditions preclude means of rapid transportation."

Mr. Hitchcock recommended granting all postal employees thirty days annual leave; that the civil pension based on length of employment be granted by the government to superannuated employees; and that presidential postmasters be placed in the classified service.

The report says in part:

For the first time since 1883 the annual financial statement of the Postoffice department shows a surplus instead of a deficit. The revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1911, amounted to \$27,978,823.08, and the expenditures to \$24,665,711.12, leaving a surplus of \$3,313,111.96. At the beginning of the present administration in 1901 the postal service was in arrears to the extent of \$17,678,720.47, which was decidedly the largest deficit on record. The brief space of two years this deficit has been changed into a substantial surplus.

Extension of the Service.

The wiping out of the deficit has been accomplished without curtailment of postal facilities. On the contrary, important extensions have been made in every branch of the service. Since the opening of the present administration there have been established 2,744 new postoffices, delivery by carrier has been provided in 136 additional cities and 2,518 new rural routes aggregating 60,779 miles, have been authorized to 8,000 rural carriers, the force of postal employees has been increased by more than 8,000. In compensating such employees the department follows a liberal policy. Last year the total amount expended for salaries was approximately \$14,000,000 greater than two years ago. The average annual salary has been increased from \$200 to \$257 for rural carriers, from \$225 to \$282 for post-office clerks, from \$1,021 to \$1,084 for city letter carriers, and from \$1,168 to \$1,183 for railway postal clerks. This a marked

(Continued on Second Page.)

The Weather

For Nebraska—Fair.

For Iowa—Fair.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday.

Hour, Dec. 10.

11 A. M. 41

1 P. M. 42

3 P. M. 43

5 P. M. 44

7 P. M. 45

9 P. M. 46

11 P. M. 47

Lowest yesterday 38

Mean temperature 42

Precipitation .00

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal.

Normal temperature 42

Mrs. Claussen's Death Due to Violence, Says Physician

SHERIDAN, Wyo., Dec. 10.—(Special.)—Finally securing a jury at 10 o'clock Saturday morning, the trial of the Claussen case commenced with the examination of Dr. Anna G. Hurd, county health physician, who visited the Claussen ranch in company with Coroner C. R. Halley July 4, the day after Mrs. Claussen's death.

Dr. Hurd testified that upon arrival at the ranch they found the cabinet containing the body lying directly in the sun at the north end of the house near the northwest corner. A cursory examination of the body showed it in a high state of decomposition, with the flesh on the left cheek and neck badly discolored. Interrogated with reference to the position of the body in the cabinet, she stated that the head and neck were twisted toward the right shoulder, the head bent forward, the arms and tongue protruding.

Undertaker George L. Smith, who followed, testified that Claussen called at his place of business the night of July 3 and asked for a "cheap box painted red." In reply to a question as to who it was intended, stated that his wife was dead. Upon being told that he had nothing of that kind in stock, Claussen purchased the cheapest coffin obtainable. He also took the customary rough box, though at first objecting on the grounds that the cabinet was sufficient in itself.

Mr. Smith also testified to conditions at the grave on July 4 when a post mortem was held.

Dr. C. R. Halley, county coroner, was the chief witness at the afternoon session. Testifying first in regard to his visit to the ranch in company with Dr. Hurd, he stated that Claussen told him that his wife had died of typhoid fever at the end of a two weeks' illness, declaring she had been delirious practically all of that time, with a temperature of from 102 to 104.

Dr. Hurd with reference to the position of the body in the cabinet. Upon examination with reference to the post mortem, which he stated revealed no evidence of any disease, Dr. Halley expressed the opinion, in answer to a hypothetical question by the prosecution, that death had occurred from external violence, the indications pointing to suffocation or strangulation.

E. Matias, a rancher, who testified to having seen two women in the Claussen garden five days before Mrs. Claussen's death; Lloyd Cook and Miss Rosa Rhine, who noticed two women and a man drinking at the Claussen place the night of June 29, and James Rohrer, employed on the Claussen ranch last fall, who testified to Claussen's cruelty to his wife prior to the death of their twins, were the other witnesses of the afternoon.

Wife Keeps Miner From Fatal Shaft Because of Dream

PRICEVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 10.—Hugh Larue, a miner employed in the wrecked Cross Mountain mine, owes his life to a dream his wife had last night.

When he arose this morning and prepared to go to his daily labor, Mrs. Larue refused to prepare his lunch for him to carry to the mine. She did not want him to work today. She then related a dream she had. In her dream she saw scores of miners with their heads blown off, being carried out of the mine entrance as she and her little children stood at the mine's mouth.

Larue had not missed a day from his work for many months but he was prevailed on today to remain out of the mines. It was only a short time after Mrs. Larue related her story until the explosion occurred.

Railroad Guard is Killed by Deputy

CENTRALIA, Ill., Dec. 10.—George Lewis, aged 24 years, an Illinois Central special agent assisting in guarding railroad property here, was shot and instantly killed early this evening by Edward Bacon, one of the United States district court clerks at Danville, and a special deputy United States marshal in charge of the federal force which has been guarding strikebreakers and railroad property here for several weeks.

Bacon, who immediately surrendered to the local police, claimed that he discharged a man at the central shops and Lewis disputed his right to do so. Angry words were exchanged when Lewis, it is alleged, fired his revolver at Bacon, and the latter returned the fire, the bullet striking Lewis in the forehead.

Reystas Wipe Out Government Forces

MERIDA, Yucatan, Mex., Dec. 10.—Most of a force of about 150 state guards, mostly Yaqui Indians, which engaged a band of Reystas, estimated at between 400 and 600, today, less than a dozen escaped, according to meager information brought to this city by fugitives late this afternoon.

The government troops were routed completely. The fight occurred on the hacienda of Sanconite and Minimban. A force here has taken the field to dislodge the rebels.

Deputy Sheriff Victim of Holdup

MASON CITY, Ia., Dec. 10.—(Special Telegram.)—With his month's salary in his pocket, Deputy Sheriff Neal Holden was the victim of a holdup last night. Holden got away from the fellow and got out his revolver and fired, but in the denge for the footpad escaped.

NEW BURLINGTON FREIGHT DEPOT TO OPEN TODAY

The Burlington new outboard freight house will be opened for use this morning. The probable date for the house opening when the general public will be invited, is December 20. The Commercial club has taken the matter in charge.

BLACK DAMP PUTS STOP TO RESCUE

Deadly Gas Fills Workings of Cross Mountain Coal Mine and Prevents All Endeavors.

ONLY SIX BODIES TAKEN OUT

Eighteen in All So Far Have Been Found by Men.

EXPERTS PENETRATE TWO MILES

No Signs of Life Are Seen or Heard During Trip.

DEAD IN LATERAL WORKINGS

Up to Present It Has Been Impossible to Send Parties Into These Places Because of Danger to Rescue Parties.

BRICEVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 10.—Until midnight but six of eighteen bodies found had been taken from the Knoxville iron company's Cross Mountain coal mine, where yesterday morning an explosion entombed at least 150 men. Most of them were Americans. Black damp put a stop to rescue work at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Experts had penetrated two miles into the workings and neither saw nor heard signs of life. It is believed the great mass of dead will be found in lateral workings where until this time it has been impossible to send men.

Shortly before midnight the rescuing party recovered two additional bodies, one being that of Taylor Little, while the other could not be identified.

The workers had passed and braced up twenty of the twenty-seven cross entries, leaving but seven yet to reach before getting to the head of the mine, and unless men are found alive in these few remaining cross entries, there is none in the mine alive.

The body of Lee Polston, operator of the fan plant of the mine, was found buried and mangled under the cave-in in the main shaft this afternoon.

Workers in Lateral Shafts

The shafts extend more than two miles into the bowels of the mountain. According to President T. L. Stephenson of the iron company, the men, if they had reached their posts, were in lateral shafts when the explosion, which blocked the main shafts, occurred.

This at first encouraged those on the surface to hope that many were living. Rescuers encountered dense deposits of earth, rock and coal in the main shaft of the mine and also in an abandoned entry which had been used for an air-shaft.

Fires were built in an attempt to create a circulation of air from within the mine.

Wood posts and trusses in the shaft have been blown out, and this, miners assert, is an indication of a serious explosion beyond. Brattices were completely by means of which air was forced into the channel as fast as it was possible to remove the debris.

Theories as to Cause

There are three theories as to the cause of the explosion. One is that in some manner powder or dust exploded, the second is that an electric wire came in contact with explosives, and the third is that the explosion was caused by poor tamping of a drill.

The mine was thoroughly inspected Friday of last week, by J. P. Hatmaker, who has been inspector of the mine for eight years. He remained in the mine nearly all of Friday night. He said there was no trace of gases when he emerged. The mine, also, was recently inspected by an inspector under George E. Sylvester, state mine inspector, and a representative of a casualty company which carries insurance on the employees of the company. It also said to have reported that it was in excellent condition.

President Stephenson made the following statement late this afternoon: "I deeply regret the accident in the mine and I am bending every effort to rescue the men who are entombed. I am in hope the men will be reached. According to the topography of the mine, the gases generally go into the entry in which the explosion occurred. Most of the men in the place must have gone into the cross-sections where they were employed in mining, and this, therefore, causes me to believe that they escaped fatality, at least some of them."

Members of nearly half of the families in this little mining town of 1,500 persons are included among those entombed and there is weeping in nearly all of the homes. Tonight nearly 2,000 persons are gathered around the mouth of the mine frantically awaiting news.

Three Men Escape

Of all the men who went into the mine three only escaped. They were John Lang, Samuel Farmer and Bert Halmbauer. They were in one of the lateral shafts. Warned by the noise they escaped before being overtaken by flames.

These men observed bad "signs" as they entered the mine. They believe the exact location of the blast is at least two miles in the interior and 300 feet from the mountain crest.

Briceville, as a mining town has had a stormy history. It was the scene in the early nineties of rioting when miners rebelled against working with convicts leased by the state. Troops were sent there to quell the trouble.

At Coal Creek, near there, on May 13, 1902, 200 men were killed in the Fraterville mine explosion.

There are several big mines at Briceville known as the Cross Mountain system. It was in one of these that the explosion occurred today.

Records of Miner. NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 10.—Cross Mountain mine No. 1, where the miners are entombed, employs a day shift of 125 men, according to the records kept at the mining bureau here. The mine twice has been inspected since Inspector Sylvester assumed office. The first inspection was by Inspector Richardson, August 2, and the second on October 30. At the time of the last inspection the mine was reported as properly sprinkled and the entries, haulways and workings kept free from dust. No dangerous conditions were noted. The mine is in class B, and under the regulations of the mining bureau, is inspected every sixty days. Moreover, it was learned that the mine had not been inspected this year prior to the time that Inspector Sylvester assumed office, which Christmas seals may be placed anywhere on letters or packages.

MAN WHO HAS TWO LEGAL WIVES TO DIVORCE SECOND

PITTSBURG, Kan., Dec. 10.—Peter Sharp, retired farmer of this city, today filed suit for divorce against Celia Samantha Sharp, his second wife, who he married ten years ago, many years after Ann Catherine, his first wife had been separated from him during the Chicago fire of 1871. The suit follows the failure of Sharp's two apparently legal wives to live in harmony in the Sharp home. Sharp admits he is unavoidably a bigamist now and asks the court to relieve the condition.

CHRISTMAS SEALS MAY BE PUT ANYWHERE ON LETTER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Postmaster General Hitchcock today suspended until January 1 the postal regulations forbidding the transmission through the mails of matter bearing upon the address side of Red Cross Christmas seals or other charity stamps. From now until January 1, Christmas seals may be placed anywhere on letters or packages.

JURY FINDS KELLY GUILTY

Council Bluffs Doctor's Crime Fixed at Manslaughter.

DELIBERATE FIFTY-FOUR HOURS

Murderer of Deputy Sheriff Woolman and Edmund Sterling Held Accountable in Minor Way for the Crime.

DES MOINES, Dec. 10.—The jury in the case of Dr. Harry D. Kelly, accused of the murder of Deputy Sheriff Clarence Woolman of Council Bluffs and Edmund Sterling of Des Moines, returned a verdict of manslaughter at 6 o'clock tonight, after being out fifty-four hours.

The case was placed in the hands of the jury shortly before noon Friday and indications were that a disagreement would result. Several times the jurors came in and asked for further instructions. He will be sentenced to from one to eight years in the penitentiary.

The young Council Bluffs doctor shot and killed Deputy Sheriff Woolman in a room in a local hotel March 25 last and a few minutes later shot and killed Edmund Sterling, a bartender, when the latter refused Kelly a drink. Kelly was being taken to the infirmary at Knoxville, Ia., when the tragedy occurred.

The jury, in a special finding, read with the verdict, agreed that the defendant was insane on the morning the crime was committed.

Counsel for the defense announced tonight that a motion will be filed tomorrow asking that the verdict be set aside on the ground that it is inconsistent. They declare that, according to the state laws and the court's instructions, the jury cannot return a verdict finding an insane man guilty of manslaughter.

BODY OF AGED WOMAN FOUND IN RUINS OF BURNED HOME

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Dec. 10.—Neighbors late today found the body of Mrs. Benjamin Gray, 70 years old, widow of an old soldier, in the ruins of her home near Waldron, Mo., nine miles southwest of here, after fire had destroyed the building. The fact that the woman's skull was fractured led to the belief that she had been murdered and the house set afire to hide the crime. According to neighborhood gossip Mrs. Gray kept a large sum of money about the house.

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JUDGMENTS AGAINST FIRE MARSHAL FOR FALSE ARRESTS

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Dec. 10.—(Special.)—A federal court jury, in the case of William LaMott against Frank A. Craft, state fire marshal of South Dakota, and others returned a verdict awarding the plaintiff a judgment in the sum of \$500. The plaintiff sought to recover damages in the sum of \$5,000 for alleged wrongful arrest and detention in connection with the destruction by fire of a barn in Moody county.

A stay of sixty days was granted the defendants in which to make application for a new trial.

The whole case turned upon the failure of the sheriff making the arrest to have his warrant properly O. K'd in the county in which the arrest was made. The warrant was issued in Moody county and the defendant was found in Deuel county, where he was arrested, on the Moody county warrant without the warrant having been O. K'd by a Deuel county justice of the peace.

That this is necessary will be a surprise to many sheriffs in the state, who have not paid heed to county lines and have supposed that a warrant of arrest issued in any county was good in any other county in the state.

MEMORIAL SERVICES ARE HELD AT YANKTON FOR LATE JUDGE TRIPP

YANKTON, S. D., Dec. 10.—Memorial services in honor of Judge Bartlett Tripp, who expired suddenly Friday, were held here this afternoon. Many speakers paid tribute to the distinguished service of the South Dakota man. A telegram of condolence was received from President Taft.

PURCHASE OF AUDITORIUM TO BE CONSIDERED TODAY

The proposition to vote bonds in the sum of \$250,000 for the purchase of the Auditorium will be again brought up before the council in committee of the whole this afternoon. Interested citizens have been invited to attend the meeting and to also be present at the regular council meeting Tuesday evening, when some definite action may be taken. Councilman Funkhouser, upon the reading of the communication from the Auditorium trustees submitting the proposition, asked that a public discussion be invited before the council went on record. The trustees agree to liquidate all liabilities and to give the city a clear title to the property at \$250,000, which is less than the grounds and buildings originally cost.

LABOR CONDITIONS BAD AMONG COLORADO MINERS

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Dec. 10.—Thomas Enhill, commissioner of the National Army, who has charge of all operations of that organization west of Chicago, stated today that labor conditions throughout the entire west are worse than for many years. He declares that conditions are especially bad in the Colorado mines, and says that there is a nearer approach to actual suffering in workmen's lives than for many years.

HAS WORST CASE ON RECORD

Fifty-Seven Children Die in Eight Weeks in Steamer's Stowage.

ITS CONDITIONS UNBELIEVABLE

Acting Secretary Cable, Department of Commerce and Labor Files Owners of the Steamer Orterio \$7,500.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Charged with the worst case of neglect of stowage passengers on record under the passenger act of 1882, the owners of the British steamer Orterio have been fined \$7,500 by Acting Secretary Cable of the Department of Commerce and Labor.

Among its late passengers there were in the eight weeks of its voyage fifty-eight deaths, fifty-seven being children; the births numbered fourteen; the sexes were not properly segregated during the larger part of the time; the ventilation of the ship was inadequate and greatly increased the mortality rate; the hospital facilities were ill-ventilated and without proper equipment, while the sanitary conditions of the vessel were almost beyond belief. Acting Secretary Cable, after giving ample opportunity for the ship's agents to make a defense, directed today that the full penalties be imposed.

The case has been pending before the department since the arrival of the Orterio at Honolulu, April 12 last, where the collector of customs, who acts in behalf of the bureau of navigation, immediately discovered the unlawful conditions.

The vessel is not regularly engaged in the stowage business, but was specially employed to carry Portuguese and Spanish immigrants through Magellan straits to Honolulu. The ship was allowed to clear upon depositing a bond for \$12,000.

Captain Defends the Ship. The master of the vessel, James J. J. J., attempted to explain the existing conditions by stating that about ten days after leaving Gibraltar there was a riot between the Portuguese and Spanish male passengers, resulting in a pitched battle with knives, clubs, clogs and pistols. To prevent further trouble the Portuguese passengers were placed aft, while the Spanish passengers were put in the forward part of the vessel. This resulted in the commingling of the sexes. He mentions the refusal of the passengers to assist in keeping the vessel clean and states that the lack of cleanliness on their part had much to do with the conditions. The ship's doctor stated that he would not permit the compartment to be washed, as this would have resulted in unavoidable dampness, which would be detrimental to all accumulations; that the sleeping compartments were scraped with shovels every day and swept and that the parents concealed the illness of their children and refused medical attention.

Commissioner of Navigation Chamberlain described this case as the worst which had come to his attention and expressed his concurrence in the following paragraph of a scathing arraignment by the grand jury: "We cannot emphasize too strongly the necessity for the observance of regulations requiring vessels to be kept in a clean and sanitary condition. When poor immigrants, perhaps unaccustomed to modern methods of sanitation are brought into a tropical climate such as Hawaii, not only their own good, but the good of the community in general is subserved by a rigid insistence on compliance with the law."

The passenger act of 1882 claims to safeguard

WANT AD CHRISTMAS GIFTS

By reading the want ads every day, you will find your name among the want ads telling you that a gift is waiting for you.

There are other prices than these free gifts on the want ads pages. You may find your opportunity in the way of a situation, a bargain or valuable information. It is a good habit to read the want ad pages—every day.

Dalzell's Ice Cream Bricks

Boxes of O'Brien's Candy

M'NAMARAS PUT IN SAN QUENTIN

Two Dynamiters Reach California State Prison After Trip Without Incident.

LEAVE TRAIN AT PORT COSTA

Travel Remainder of the Way Upon River Steamer.

FEW PRESENT AT DEPARTURE

Managed Men Approach Automobile with Downcast Faces.

BOTH ANXIOUS TO BE GONE

Believe Labor in Time Will Think Better of Them—Girl Will Give Information—John J.'s Secretary Must Testify.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 10.—John J. McNamara will be taken to Indianapolis within a few days to tell the federal grand jury there what he knows of the alleged dynamiting conspiracy, the first chapter of which was closed today with the placing of James B. and John J. McNamara in the San Quentin state prison.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 10.—John J. McNamara and his brother, James B. McNamara, arrived at San Quentin prison and entered the gates at 10 o'clock today. They were taken from the train at Port Costa, twenty miles from San Francisco, shortly before 8 o'clock and transferred to a river steamer, which carried them to Wilson. The trip was without incident.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 10.—"I'm a young man, and I'm for union labor," was John J. McNamara's parting comment to the chief counsel, who was last with him. John J. also expressed the hope that the sentiment of union labor toward him would change, remarking that in time the case would be better understood.

Route Kept Secret. The route taken by Sheriff William A. Hammill and his prisoners was kept secret and even the time of departure was unknown to the general public.

By previous arrangements with Sheriff Hammill a coterie of newspaper men and photographers were concealed behind the jail and were notified of the exact moment of departure of the McNamaras, so they collected about the entrance only long enough to see the brothers enter a waiting automobile. James B.'s right hand was manacled to John J.'s left wrist. Both men looked pale and cheerless, and walked the few steps from the jail door with bowed heads.

Sheriff Hammill was accompanied by Deputies Robert Brain, Claude Mathewson and Martin Aguirre. As soon as the prisoners were seated in the machine canvas flaps on both sides of the hood were drawn, and the automobile against up the hill beside the jail and away to the northward.

For three days Sheriff Hammill considered getting the prisoners into San Francisco by boat and going thereafter by launch direct to the San Quentin gates.

The prisoners were carefully groomed and had prepared in no way for their departure, except to order their belongings sent to eastern relatives. One of them had \$125 and the other \$162, which was turned over to the sheriff.

LAWYER SEES WITNESSES

The federal grand jury was not in session yesterday, but will convene again next Tuesday to take more testimony in alleged dynamiting conspiracy. One of the witnesses, J. W. Kaiser of Muncie, Ind., who is alleged to have sold nitroglycerin to James B. McNamara, John J. McNamara and Orrie E. McManis.

Kaiser at first refused to give his name. Later they "shadowed" him and learned his identity.

"If there's any gum shoeing to be done," declared Mr. Lawler, "I'll do some of that myself." He added that many of the witnesses were apprehensive of danger in coming here to testify.

"All the sluggers are not done away with, you know," remarked Mr. Lawler. Every effort will be made to conceal the identity of those who are subpoenaed, but as many of the witnesses are known to the newspaper men working on the case, it is not believed that secrecy can long be maintained.

Mr. Lawler admitted that so far as he knew Attorney General Wickliffe had not yet decided whether to make Indianapolis or Los Angeles the center of the government's probe, but that the matter probably would be determined before December 14, when the federal grand jury will meet at Indianapolis.

Girl Will Testify. CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—Miss Nora Hale, private secretary and confidante of John J. McNamara, for more than two years, is in Chicago under surveillance of gov-

ernment agents.

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