

PAYING ITS WAY

Postal Service Produces Revenue Exceeding the Expenses. General Hitchcock Makes Public His Annual Report.

Washington, Feb. 2.—Postmaster General Hitchcock's annual report tentatively suggests reduction of some parcel post rates and increasing the limit of weight beyond eleven pounds; recommends civil pensions for postal employees; an increase in rates on second class mail which may pave the way for one-cent letter postage; the consolidation of the third and fourth classes, so books and papers may be forwarded by parcel post; and points out that during his administration, expense of operating the postal service has been cut down \$4,600,000.

In course of a statement on the condition of postal finances, Mr. Hitchcock says in his report: "In 1911, for the first time since 1882, postal receipts exceeded postal expenditures, leaving a surplus instead of a deficit. A heavy loss of revenue in 1912 due to the extraordinary amount of franked matter mailed in the political campaign, created a temporary deficit, but since the close of the fiscal year the income of the department again has outstripped expenses."

"The year preceding the present administration was marked by the largest postal deficit on record, amounting to \$17,500,000. During the next two years the deficit was greatly reduced and later eliminated. When compared with the financial showing of four years ago the reports of income and expense for subsequent years indicate an aggregate saving of about \$45,000,000.

"The transformation of a deficit into a surplus has been accomplished, not by curtailing the service, but by developing it along profitable lines. While postal facilities have not been greatly enlarged, extensions have not been made in a haphazard manner, but only when shown on investigation to be justified by conditions."

Postal Savings Banks. The establishing of postal savings banks at presidential postoffices was completed early in the fiscal year, ended June 30, 1912—the year covered by the report. Since then the system has been extended to 4,004 fourth class postoffices, as well as to 645 branch offices and stations in the larger cities. There are now 12,812 postal savings banks at which patrons may open accounts. The number of depositors is approximately 300,000 and the deposits aggregate about \$20,000,000, not including \$1,314,140 withdrawn and invested in postal savings bonds.

On the basis of the present monthly net increase of deposits it is estimated that the gross income of the postal savings system for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913, will amount to \$700,000 and the interest payable to depositors to \$200,000. The income of the system for the fiscal year will meet the interest payments and the total expense of the central office, but will be approximately \$275,000 less than the service.

However, the postmaster general's report says, "It is expected that when the deposits have increased to \$50,000,000, which at the present rate they will do soon, the system will be self-sustaining."

During the fiscal year 1912 more than 300,000,000 pieces of mail, having an aggregate weight of about 61,000,000 pounds, were carried free through the mails under the franking provisions and of various government establishments. Had postage at the ordinary rates been paid on this matter the revenues of the department would have been increased by more than \$20,000,000. Postmaster General Hitchcock declares

that "it is manifestly unfair to give the postoffice department no credit in the government's fiscal accounts for the expense of performing this service. The department therefore renews its petition for legislation that the practice of franking be discontinued and that legislative authority be granted for the use of official mail of special stamps to be furnished by the postoffice department on the requisition of those entitled to them."

In connection with establishment of the parcel post, Mr. Hitchcock recommends that legislation be enacted looking to the readjustment of the payments to railroads for the transportation of mail. He points out that many of the roads will be entitled to increased compensation on account of the increased volume of mail. He recommends that the recommendation that payments to railroads carrying the mails shall be made on a car space basis and the cost to the roads of the mail transportation.

The report recommends that "civil pensions" based on length of service should be granted by the government to postal employees when they become superannuated. It is likely that the expense of such a system would be more than offset by gains in efficiency.

OAKLAND NOTES

Items for this column may be phoned to 3215 or the State Journal office.

William Hooper of Wabash avenue has returned from Florida, where he has been on business the past few weeks.

Fred Huey returned to Belview last night, after spending the past week here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Huey, of Chester avenue.

Mrs. Roy Nelson and Mrs. J. L. Gleason were guests Friday of Mrs. L. J. Dumars of Forest avenue.

Mrs. E. A. Peters of Michigan avenue is slowly recovering from an attack of rheumatism.

Mr. Lillian Mitchner, assisted by a number of the ladies of the Oakland W. C. T. U., will hold a meeting this evening at the Seward Avenue M. E. church for the purpose of organizing a union in that locality. All ladies interested are cordially invited to be present. Mrs. Mitchner is state president of the W. C. T. U.

Mr. and Mrs. George Sardou of Waterville, Kan., are here, called by the serious illness of Floyd Sutherland, who is ill at his home on Green street.

Mrs. L. Hoffman entertained the following young people last Friday evening at her home on Winfield avenue: Miss Cassie Whisenand, Miss Nellie Smith, Miss Myrtle Clark, Miss Pauline Ziegler, Miss Valda Johnson, Miss Edith Rook, Miss Pearl Cloud, Miss Edith Howland, Miss Susie Neiswender, Miss Elsie Roberts, Miss Isabel Little, Miss Florence Hennessey, Miss Gertrude Hoffman, Mr. Charles McCarron, Mr. Fay Kendall, Mr. John Dunn, Mr. Otis Hancey, Mr. William Stewart, Mr. Charles Stockham, Mr. Ed Rafferty, Mr. William Taylor. Mrs. Hoffman was assisted during the evening by Mrs. Charles Stockham and Miss Mabel Rook.

The ladies of the Oakland W. C. T. U. will meet with the president, Mrs. Nellie Ensign, 206 Forest avenue, Tuesday afternoon. Drill in the "White Ribbon" will be given. All members are urged to be present.

Mrs. E. P. Taylor will entertain the mission study class of the Oakland Presbyterian church Thursday afternoon at her home, 186 Chester avenue.

Mrs. Clara H. Hazlett, evangelist, opened a series of revival meetings yesterday at the Oakland Christian church. Professor F. P. Dawdy has charge of the music, and a cordial invitation is extended to the public.

Mrs. W. S. Pate and daughter Ethel will return to their home this evening at Cherokee, after spending the past two weeks here with Mrs. Pate's father, R. C. Cole, and other relatives and friends.

The Oakland Veteran club will have their regular monthly business meeting at the home of Mr. Thomas Busby on Kellam avenue.

Smokers find Lewis' Single Binder 5c clear better quality than most 10c cigars. —Adv.

CRANE FUNERAL

Large Number Sorrowing Friends Pay Last Tribute.

Elks Lodge and Masons and Marsman's Band Take Part.

The funeral of George W. Crane was held at the family residence at 219 Harrison street Sunday afternoon. Many friends and business associates assembled on this occasion to pay their last respects to one of the best known and liked men who ever lived in Topeka.

Mr. Crane has been prominent in business affairs of Topeka for almost a half century. During that time he followed his boyhood teachings by adhering to the principles of integrity and success. He devoted considerable time to affairs concerning the betterment of the city and conducted his private business much in the same manner.

His perseverance made it possible to overcome reverses which caused him considerable loss. His plant, under the firm name of Crane & Co., printers, bookbinders, etc., everything that is necessary to make up a metropolitan plant of this character, has been damaged by fire three times but on each occasion he rebuilt and rebuilt it better than before.

The members of Elks Lodge No. 204 and Masonic Lodge No. 17, attended the funeral in a body; also Typographical Union No. 121. Marshall's band led the procession from the home to the grave in the family vault in the Topeka cemetery.

The Rev. Dean James P. De Bevers Kaye conducted the services. A quartet composed of Miss Hazelle Loveland, Mrs. George Payne, Dennis Parkhurst and H. O. Williams sang, "Abide With Me" and "Lead Kindly Light."

The honorary pall bearers were W. A. Morton, J. L. King, S. J. Bear, O. P. Updegraff, George W. Parkhurst, C. A. Moore and Fred Davis. The acting pall bearers were C. H. Booth, C. H. Carlow, C. H. Booth, F. H. Gades, J. P. Gustafson and T. J. Mackey.

CONEY LIBEL SUIT.

It Comes Up for Trial Monday, February 10.

A week from today, Monday, February 10, the old case of P. H. Coney against W. J. Thittekind and others, for libel, comes up in the first division of the district court. Captain Coney averred that he had been grossly maligned at the time of a meeting of the Kansas G. A. R. in connection with the election of a commander. The case has been bitterly contested at every step. It is set for trial before a jury on the day mentioned.

Judge George H. Whitcomb in the second division of the district court this week will be busy nearly all the week with a score of liquor cases. Pleas are expected in a number of these cases while some of them may be for trial. It promises to be a busy week. Next week one of the two murder cases still pending on the docket is likely to be set for hearing. The two cases remaining for hearing are those of W. L. Beers, white, charged with killing his wife, and Andrew Wallace, colored, charged with killing Mabel Morris, a young colored girl.

He Hauls Wheat Fifty Miles. Sublette, Kan., Feb. 3.—A striking instance of the value of good roads has developed here. C. H. Updegraff, a wheat man of north Grant county, is hauling his grain to this point. He lives 18 miles south of Lakin. Until the Colmor cutoff reached here he hauled to that point over poor roads through a very sandy country. He now sells his grain here, hauling it over 50 miles.

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. IN 1912

In 1912 the Company paid to policyholders and beneficiaries, dividends, etc., the sum of \$60,350,488.38. This was more than a million dollars (\$1,172,412.20) for every week in the year, and amounted to \$20,512.78 for every working day (24). It exceeded the sum paid in 1911 by more than three and a half million dollars (\$3,041,022.83), and was several millions more than any other company has ever paid to policyholders and their beneficiaries in a single year.

The amount paid to policyholders (\$60,350,488.38) exceeded the amount received from policyholders in premiums for supplementary contracts, etc. (\$50,500,000) by nearly four million dollars (\$9,850,488.38). In the matter of dividends to policyholders, the Company has again broken all records, having paid in 1912 an actual sum of \$10,989,202.25, while for dividends payable in 1913 it has appropriated the extraordinary amount of \$11,989,046.38, an increase of \$2,000,000 over the sum paid in 1912. The sum appropriated for dividends payable in 1913 (\$11,989,046.38) is 33 per cent of the total premium income of 1912 (\$36,222,722.88) not including consideration for supplementary contracts and annuities.

Notwithstanding the exceptionally low death rate of 1911, when, with nearly forty-one millions more insurance in force than in the previous year, there was an actual decrease in the total death claims, a still better record was made in 1912. With forty-five millions more insurance on its books than in 1911, and notwithstanding the loss of 15 policyholders in a single catastrophe—the wreck of the Titanic—with \$70,000,000 of insurance on the line, all but \$12,000,000 less than in the previous year.

On real estate and securities sold during 1912, the Company realized a net profit over book value of \$2,047,215.37. In 1911 the new insurance paid for (including restorations, etc.) amounted to \$157,067,823, an increase over the previous year of more than \$18,000,000. The total insurance in force at the end of 1912 was \$1,550,888,063, a gain of \$45,913,401.

The real estate holdings (book value) of the Company at the close of 1912 amounted to \$23,632,623.87, or less than 1 per cent of the Company's admitted assets.

The funds of the Company are kept closely invested. The cash on hand at the end of 1912 was \$2,196,742.05, or little more than one week's income. Of the cash on hand all but \$306,928.51 was deposited at interest.

THE RECORDS OF 70 YEARS. Since it began business in 1842, the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York has paid to policyholders: \$1,066,486,154.94 Held for 70 years for 2,000,000 policyholders \$96,872,780.20

Total benefits to policyholders aggregate 1,062,358,935.14 In 70 years it has received from policyholders 1,471,459,911.30

The excess of benefits to policyholders is... \$191,890,976.24

The first policies of The Mutual Life of New York were issued seventy-one years ago, on the first of February, 1843. That fact warrants its descriptive title of "the oldest life insurance company in America." One of the policies issued in its first fiscal year, No. 58, is still in force. The insured, a hale and hearty in his 97th year. That policy, originally \$1,500, is now worth in cash \$5,877.51, the increase coming through accumulated dividend additions. The insured paid a yearly premium of \$3.60, but his annual dividend in January of the current year was virtually eight times the amount—\$267.68.—Adv.

SNAP SHOTS AT HOME NEWS.

Charles Younggreen will leave tonight for Chicago where he will attend the Chicago automobile show.

A state wide fire prevention congress will be held at the Elks club Wednesday afternoon and evening.

Interest is increasing in the revival services that are being held daily at the Second United Brethren church.

An interclass gymnasium competition is being held at the Central Y. M. C. A. It will continue for several months.

An illustrated lecture will be the feature of the meeting of the Topeka Ad club at the Commercial club quarters Tuesday noon.

The regular February meeting of the Commercial club will be held tonight. The election of a superintendent of city schools will be held.

A meeting of the Topeka Real Estate Dealers' association will be held at the Commercial club quarters Wednesday noon. Legislative questions will be discussed.

T. A. Borman left today for Muskogee, Okla., where he will speak on dairying at an agricultural conference which will be attended by delegates from forty counties of the state.

The Rock Island railway will run an agricultural special through Iowa, Nebraska, and the eastern portion of Kansas, prior to the agricultural congress that will be held in the fore part of March. This train will stop at Topeka March 5.

A volleyball contest among the business men has been started at the Central Y. M. C. A. The best players of this association have been divided into several teams of six men each. The games of the tournament will be held every Saturday night until April.

There is a city ordinance prohibiting the running of freight cars on the street railway tracks in day time. This morning an east bound West Eighth street car gave a freight train of several cars the right of way at Jackson street.

Captain Roald Amundsen, who will speak in Topeka in the near future under the auspices of the pipe organ committee of the Commercial club, states that the temperature at the south pole was only five degrees below zero; consequently he did not wear furs.

The first of the series of lectures by Dr. Newton N. Riddell, lecturer and scientist, will be delivered at the auditorium Tuesday night. The series of twelve lectures will be given under the auspices of the Topeka Ministerial union. The subject for Tuesday night is "Balm Building and Soul Growth."

J. D. Jones, assistant manager of the International Correspondence school and an international organizer, will speak tonight before the Topeka chap-

After all this effort on our part to give you a chance at some very unusual bargains in suits and overcoats we're going to be disappointed if you don't come after yours; so are you. These are Hart, Schaffner & Marx overcoats. Do you get that? We're selling them at this price because they're from the wholesale surplus stock; we got them to sell at these prices. They're very fine goods; ulsters, greatcoats, Raglans, Chesterfields; box and belt backs; adjustable and regular collars. \$5, \$6 \$7, Trousers \$3.90. Auerbach & Guettel The Palace CLOTHING CO.

TOMORROW FLOUR "Puritan" Brand 48-lb. Sack \$1.10 SOAP Galvanic White Soap 8 Bars 25c SAUSAGE Our own make, all Pork Per Pound 11c MORNS & MYERS

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8 Daily Trains TO KANSAS CITY NO STOPS DOUBLE TRACK Rock Island. Lv. Topeka 4:20 a. m., 7:25 a. m., 7:40 a. m., 8:25 a. m., 8:50 a. m., 9:20 a. m., 10:20 a. m. Ar. Kan. City 6:35 a. m., 9:25 a. m., 9:50 a. m., 10:35 a. m., 11:00 a. m., 11:30 a. m., 12:30 a. m. Lv. Kan. City 7:15 a. m., 9:45 a. m., 10:15 a. m., 11:15 a. m., 11:45 a. m., 12:15 p. m., 1:00 a. m. Ar. Topeka 9:25 a. m., 12:50 p. m., 1:25 p. m., 7:55 p. m., 8:45 p. m., 12:15 a. m., 1:00 a. m.

THE AURORA 812 Kansas Avenue SHE MUST ELOPE. A comedy by Lubin. WHAT'S IN A NAME. A laughable comedy. TODAY TOMORROW

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