



POSTMASTER-GENERAL HITCHCOCK

POSTMASTER GENERAL HITCHCOCK recently signed a contract for the supply of postal cards that will be used by the American people during the next four years. The mere magnitude of the manufacturing project involved is calculated to make this of general interest, for, as it is known, the head of the postoffice department has ordered approximately three and one-half billion postal cards for use during the four years beginning January 1, 1910.

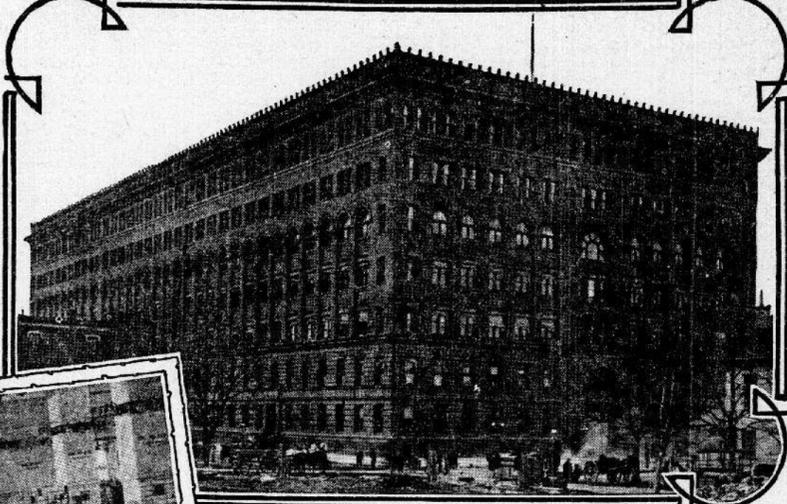
It will be understood that the trainloads of postal cards for which Postmaster General Hitchcock has just given the order are the regulation official cards

# UNCLE SAM TO PRINT HIS OWN POSTAL CARDS

By WALDEN FAYCETT

went to find particles clinging to and clogging the pen while writing with ink on the present style card. While the new grade of postal card will be of finer quality than the old, it will also be lighter in weight and this latter consideration will mean hundreds and maybe thousands of dollars saved to the government every year, for Uncle Sam has to pay for the transportation of all postoffice supplies by weight and the new postal cards will have reduced "traveling expenses" on all the journeys they make, from the time they leave the printing office until they reach the "ultimate consumer."

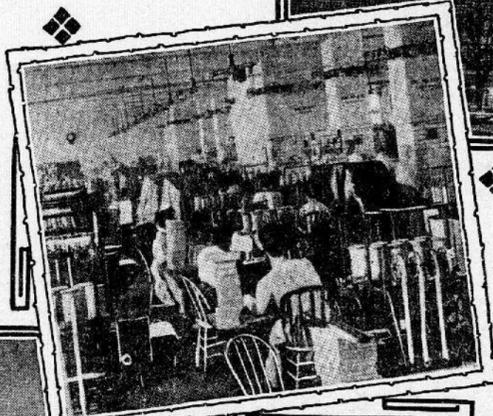
The new postal cards will be made in three different sizes although most people will never use or see anything except the one standard size that is in almost universal use. Practically all of the cards manufactured will be of the regulation size that has long been familiar to everybody, namely 3 1/4 x 5 1/4 inches, but there will be provided some of the double or reply postal cards which have come into use in recent years and which enable a correspondent to send with his postal card a means of reply ready to hand. There will also



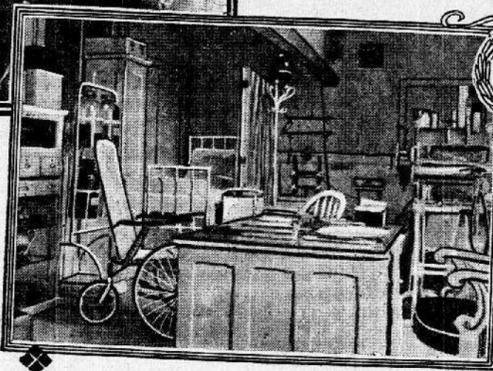
THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

is no doubt but that the institution can keep the country supplied with postal cards no matter to what proportions the correspondence of the American people may grow. Just as Uncle Sam guards very carefully the manufacture of postage stamps and paper money, so will he take every precaution against the possible dishonesty of employees in the manufacture, packing and distribution of postal cards.

A VIEW OF THE BINDERY



For one thing, the presses used for printing the cards will be controlled by an intricate system of locks, which will render it impossible to release or operate a press until several different officials are in attendance, each with a key that plays a part in unlocking the press. The dies or plates used in printing the cards and which are furnished by the postoffice department, are likewise carefully guarded. When such a plate is given to a printer for use in making impressions he must give a receipt for it to the official in charge of the vault where these precious plates are stored and the printer cannot leave the building at



THE PRIVATE HOSPITAL IN THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

kept on the cards until they depart in sealed packages for the various postoffices throughout the country, where they will be issued to the public.

As delivered by the machines the postal cards are mechanically counted and automatically assembled in packs of 25—each pack being secured by a band of white paper. These packs are placed in pasteboard boxes, each of which will accommodate 20 packs or 500 cards. The pasteboard boxes, in turn, are packed in wooden cases, varying in size and ranging in capacity from 5,000 to 100,000 cards. It is in this form that they are shipped upon requisition to the postmasters throughout the land. In order that all orders for postal cards may be filled promptly the government printing office, once the new activity is under way, will constantly keep on hand in its fireproof, burglar-proof vaults a surplus stock of about 30,000,000 postal cards. The precautions that will surround the manufacture and dispatch of postal cards at the government printing office will extend to the destruction of the misprinted or otherwise spoiled cards. Officials of the postoffice department will be on duty at the printing office at all times to supervise the manufacture of the cards and more especially to inspect the raw material used and to see to it that it at all times and in all respects meets the requirements of the government.

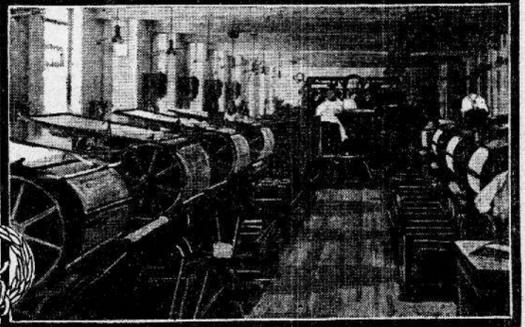
### Trade Organization of Printers

Some interesting information in regard to trade organization among printers appears in the Typographical Journal, the official publication of the International Typographical union. It is in the form of a review of a book by George E. Barnett, associate professor of political economy in the Johns Hopkins university. The book, which is just from the press, is entitled, "The Printers: A Study in American Trade Unionism." Mr. Barnett was in Indianapolis for a considerable length of time, several years ago, gathering information at the headquarters of the International Typographical union to be used in his book.

"A perusal of Dr. Barnett's book," says the review,

"discloses the fact that mass meetings of printers for the purpose of considering trade questions were held in New York as early as 1776 and in Philadelphia in 1786. Continuous organizations were formed in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Boston before the close of the eighteenth century or shortly thereafter and the Typographical Society of New York was in existence from 1795 to 1797. In 1799 the Franklin Typographical society was organized in the same city. In 1809 the New York Typographical society was organized and is still in existence. The Philadelphia Typographical society was organized in 1802 and is also still active.

However, Dr. Barnett asserts that there is some evidence that there had been a printers' society in the Quaker city previous to this, known as the 'Asylum Company.' The date of the first Baltimore organization is equally uncertain, but probably as early as 1803. There was also a society in existence in Boston in that year. The author says that no societies appear to have been formed outside of the four cities named before 1810, in which year the Philadelphia society received a communication from the New Orleans Typographical society, in-



A VIEW OF THE MAIN PRESS ROOM

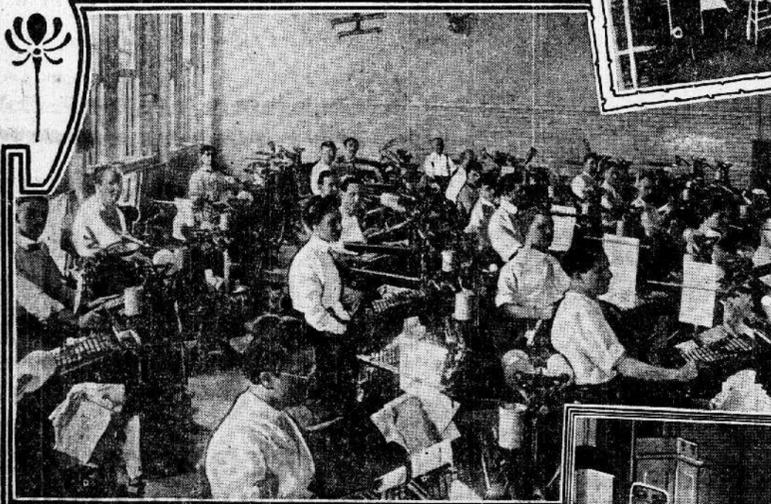
the conclusion of the day's work until he has returned to this depository the printing plates which have been in his custody. Finally the postal cards will be counted repeatedly during the process of manufacture—perhaps a score of times in all—and thus tab will be closing a copy of their constitution.' In 1815 societies were organized at Washington and Albany. As far as the information of Dr. Barnett extends, these societies were formed primarily to 'raise and establish prices.'

The article then refers to various local organizations that were formed in 1830 and directly following that date and continues by saying that about 1848 the organization of new unions began to go on more rapidly, and since 1850 have been in existence in practically all the larger American cities. "The first suggestion that the local associations should form an organization was made in 1834, and two years later delegates from associations at Baltimore, New York, Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Washington and New Orleans assembled in Washington and framed a constitution for the National Typographical society. The first session was held in New York in 1837, when the name was changed to the National Typographical association. "In 1850 a call was issued for a convention which was to be held in New York, at which time delegates assembled from Albany, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Trenton and Louisville. The second convention was held in Baltimore in 1851, and the third in Cincinnati in 1852, which resolved itself into 'the first session of the National Typographical union."

### "Old Pete" Is Dead

Peter Morton, or "Old Pete," a colored man and a quaint character of antebellum days, died at his home in Geneva court recently, the Cincinnati Enquirer says. He did not know his exact age, which was about 80 years, and there is probably no one living who does. "Old Pete," since the close of the civil war, has at different times been a family servant and man of all work in many prominent families on the hills, and in Avondale and varied his employment occasionally by doing porter work in downtown stores. It is related of him, and the story was confirmed by himself, that before the civil war he was the property of a Kentucky gambler, who went broke, and "Pete," with all other chattels possessed by the gambler, had to be sold to satisfy his creditors.

The officers of a bank in Maysville, Ky., who had taken a liking to the colored man on account of his genial good nature and strict honesty, offered to buy his freedom for him if he would execute his personal note in their favor and make his payments upon it, according as he was able, until they were repaid. This he agreed to do, but with the close of the civil war and the scattering of his friends far and wide, Pete fell into hard lines from the lack of a permanent home and steady employment, but he never forgot his financial obligations to his banker benefactors and he continued making his payments to them for 20 years after the close of the war, until the debt was finally paid.



A CORNER OF THE BIG COMPOSING ROOM

which are sold in postoffices all over the land. This takes no account of the souvenir or picture postcards which are sold in the United States by the millions every year. Of course, there is nothing official about these illustrated postcards. They do not bear on their face, as do federal postcards, a stamp entitling them to transmission through the mails, and such souvenir card is carried in the mails only when a one-cent stamp is affixed to it. Consequently it is the enormous swelling of the sales of one-cent stamps and not the expansion of the governmental postcard trade that indicates the enormous and widespread popularity of the souvenir postcard fad in recent years.

The postmaster general is going to pay upward of a million dollars for the postal cards which will be issued to the patrons of our postal system between now and New Year day, 1915. However, this new contract is characterized by several features of great interest aside from the large amount of money represented. Foremost among these is the fact that Uncle Sam is, in effect, contracting to supply himself with postal cards of his own manufacture. Heretofore all the postal cards required in this country have been turned out by private manufacturers and, indeed, for years past, the manufacture of postal cards has been the principal industry of the little city of Rumford Falls, Me. Henceforth, however, the government will print its postal cards at the great government printing office in Washington, the largest printing plant in the world.

The postoffice department will continue to pay for the postal cards, just as it did when they were obtained from private manufacturers, but the process will amount to Uncle Sam taking money out of one pocket and putting it into another. At the same time the government will save money by the new plan of obtaining its post card supplies. It has been realized for some time past by the postoffice officials that it would be a great convenience if the government could print its own postal cards at Washington (the point from which they are distributed to all parts of the country) instead of having them manufactured in Maine, with the consequent loss of time in sending them to Washington for distribution. The government had proven by years of practice that it could produce its postage stamps and its paper money more cheaply than if the work were given to outsiders, and accordingly Postmaster General Hitchcock, who is a live business man, determined to see if a similar saving, combined with more efficient service, could not be effected in the case of the postcards. The government printing office submitted competitive bids on the same basis as its outside rivals and it underbid them all.

A second important feature in connection with the new contract for postal cards is found in the fact that this new deal contemplates cards of better quality than have heretofore been in use. Especially will there be a marked improvement in the surface of the card and this will enable it to take ink more readily. In future, probably, there will be few complaints from people who are

be introduced a new style postal card, designed especially for the convenience of business men. This new card will be exactly the size of the standard "card index" card, or somewhat smaller than the regulation postal card and its advantage is found in the fact that it can be filed without trimming or trouble in any card index file or cabinet. This will make the new style card the handiest imaginable vehicle for announcement of price quotations, bulletins of all kinds, reports—as for instance the daily reports of traveling salesmen, etc.

Under the new system of postal card manufacture the work will not be so concentrated as at present. Under the plan now in vogue all the operations of manufacture, from the process of cutting down the forest trees and reducing them to paper to boxing up the completed postal cards for shipment, is carried on in the little Maine city, where about 800 men are employed, in one way or another, in postcard manufacture. Under the new scheme the government will buy the raw material, notably the paper or cardboard and the ink, but all the operations of postcard manufacture will be carried on in the great printing office under the shadow of the United States capitol, where 5,000 men and women are regularly employed. A contract that calls for the delivery of between two million and three million complete postal cards every working day in the year would swamp the biggest private printing plant in the country, but this new responsibility has been treated as merely an incidental at the model printery of the world. The force will have to be increased somewhat and perhaps some new printing presses will be installed—although the officials say the work can be handled with the equipment now in place.

The government has drawn with great care the specifications for the paper to be used for the new postal cards with a view to obtaining a grade of material with longer fiber than that heretofore in use and presenting a better surface for writing in ink. The paper will be delivered to the government printing office in 600-pound rolls, each containing the material for 90,000 cards, and the printing will be done on presses each of which will reel off 3,000 sheets of postal cards per hour, each sheet being made up of 100 separate cards. It can thus be figured that each press can print upward of one-third of a million postal cards per hour, and since several such presses can be employed if necessary and the government printing office is in operation night and day, there

with the utmost zeal and thoroughness, though in many of its details its taste was open to much question.

When the late Dean Bradley arrived upon the scene in the year 1832 he found an income derived largely from agricultural estates steadily dwindling in value, while the condition of many of the great flying butresses as well as the north transept was indescribable. The late Dean himself was wont frequently to describe the north transept when he first inspected it as presenting almost

the appearance of a quarry. It was time for extreme measures, and that the situation was saved at all was due to the vigor and the business acumen of the late dean. As it was the abby had to pay a fearful price. A loan of £25,000 was made to the dean and chapter by the ecclesiastical commissioners. This enabled the authorities to get level with the worst of these structural defects. On the other hand, they were compelled to suspend the sixth canopy, the income derived from which has been

employed for many years past in gradually paying off this immense loan.

Charity Covereth a Multitude of Sins. He was charitably inclined and every night for more than a week he visited the old man whom he met standing in the doorway of a downtown office building. The first night it was very cold, so he asked the old man if he wouldn't like a drink to warm him up. They had their drinks and the charitably inclined person gave the old man 50 cents to buy a

night's lodging. The old man thanked him heartily.

Last week the charitable chap gave the old man an overcoat and told him if he needed help to come around to his Wall street office. Finally the benefactor asked the old man who he was. Why didn't he get a job?

"Oh, I'm the night watchman in this building," was the reply. "I stand outside to get the fresh air." Now when the charitable person meets the old man he ignores him.—New York Sun.

### HAVE SPENT MUCH ON ABBEY

Cost of Restoring Westminster Has Been a Heavy Charge on Church Authorities.

The cost of keeping Westminster abbey in repair is a very enormous and delicate one and the long line of surveyors of the fabric is a distinguished one indeed, writes a correspondent of the Church Family Newspaper. During the last 70 years this matchless

church has been in the hands of Mr. Blane, Sir Gilbert Scott, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Michaelhouse and now Prof. Leathley.

There have been times in the history of the abbey when its very existence has been in jeopardy. The first of these occurred about the end of the seventeenth century. Sir Christopher Wren was called in and the work of restoration was carried out

### A LITTLE COLD.

He caught a little cold— That was all. That was all. So the neighbors sadly said, As they gathered round his bed, When they heard that he was dead. He caught a little cold— That was all. (Puck.)

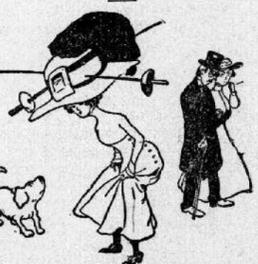
Neglect of a cough or cold often leads to serious trouble. To break up a cold in twenty-four hours and cure any cough that is curable mix two ounces of Glycerine, a half-ounce of Virgin Oil of Pine compound pure and eight ounces of pure Whisky. Take a teaspoonful every four hours. You can buy these at any good drug store and easily mix them in a large bottle.

### CHANCE TO ACQUIRE AFFINITY

Atchison (Kan.) Woman Has an Inconvenience She is Willing to Part With.

If there is any woman in this town or in any other, who sees her affinity in my husband, this is to notify her that she can have him by calling at my home, the Hilltop, Atchison, Kan., at any hour she may choose. He grumbles at his meals, he blows his nose into the grate, he puts his feet on the parlor chairs and his head on the parlor cushions; he tells callers that his father was a poor man, and that he never "had any schooling"; he contradicts my statements when I tell of my kinship to the real prominent people, and if I don't watch him he "visits" with the hired man, and once asked the milkman to dinner! If there is any woman who sees her affinity in HIM, let her hang around my house a few minutes while I ask him for Christmas money. Then let her take him away if she still wants him.—Mrs. Lysander John Appleton.—Atchison Globe.

### AT LAST.



Mme. X., the fencing master's wife, finds some pins long enough for her hat.

### Temperamental Toilet Table.

A very aged Englishman many years ago gave this advice to his daughter in a letter as to what a lady's dressing table should contain:

The best beautifier a young lady can use is good humor; the best renovator is temperance; the best lip-salve is truth; the best rouge is modesty; the best eyewater is the tears of sympathy; the best gargle for the voice is cheerfulness; the best wash for smoothing wrinkles is contentment; the best cure for deafness is attention; the best mirror is reflection; and the whitest powder is innocence.

### Child of the Press.

Mrs. Cynthia Westover Alden was the founder of the International Sunshine society, which in now said to have a membership of 3,000,000. She is president general of the society, which was christened with 18 sponsors in New York City at Christmas, 1896. It has been called the child of the press, Mrs. Alden being connected with a New York paper.

### For Colds and Grippes—Capudine.

The best remedy for Grippes and Colds is Fickler's Capudine. Relieves the aching and feverishness. Cures the cold—Headaches also. It's Liquid—Effects immediately—10, 25 and 50c at Drug Stores.

Those who claim that a woman isn't so apt to indulge in crooked work as a man evidently never saw a woman try to drive a nail.

There is no use going into a political campaign with any reputation, because you won't have any when you come out.

### TRIED REMEDY FOR THE GRIP.



PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Restores to the youthful color. One Dollar a Bottle. Sold at 50c and \$1.00 at Drug Stores.

If afflicted with sore eyes, use Thompson's Eye Water

Children Like PISO'S CURE THE BEST MEDICINE FOR COUGHS AND COLDS. It is so pleasant to take—stops the cough so quickly. Absolutely safe too and contains no opiates. All Druggists, 25 cents.