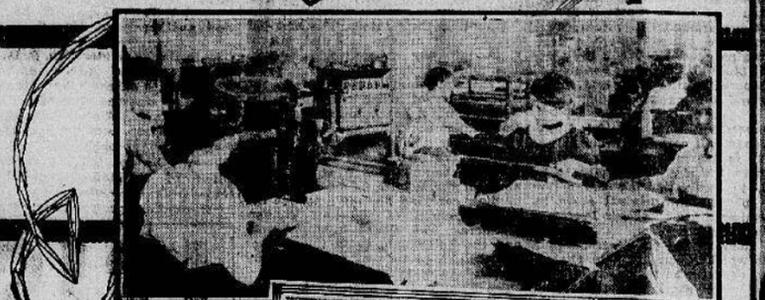


MISSOULA, MONTANA, SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 17, 1912.

New Panama Exposition Postage Stamps



Frank E. Ferguson, Asst. Director



How the Stamps are Printed



Joseph E. Ralph, Director of the Bureau



J. J. Hill, the Bureau Artist at Work on a Panama Stamp Design

By the first of the new year, when you step up to the postoffice window to buy postage for your letters, you'll be handed a stamp that at first may make you pause and wonder if the man behind the window hasn't made a mistake. It will be red in color, but its shape and size will differ greatly from the one you've been accustomed to receive. This new stamp will be of the issue struck off by Uncle Sam in honor of the coming Panama Exposition at San Francisco, Cal., in 1915. Already they are in the making at the bureau of engraving and printing in Washington, D. C.

ship appears, clearly cut, is a real tribute to the artistry of Uncle Sam's engravers. Despite the small space allowed for the depiction, it is plainly evident that the two vessels are headed in opposite directions and that one part of the lock is raising while another is lowering the other to a lesser one. In the background are depicted trees and stretches of sand. An especially interesting item in connection with this stamp is the fact that the design is a reproduction of a model of the Gatun locks on exhibition at the war department. This model, by the way, is quite a unique affair, for its locks work with real water and real miniature ships, exactly as will those on the canal when completed.

will always be on hand to meet the demand. As the first of the New Year approaches a proportionate number of the new stamps will be sent to each post office in the country and there placed on sale. From then on (cash shipments will be made to the various postmasters only on order through the office of the third asst. postmaster-general. This will be kept up until the close of the exposition in 1915 when, if the customary procedure is followed, they will be withdrawn from sale and the residue returned to the department for redemption.

They will be honored as postage, however, at any time, for once Uncle Sam sells a stamp it is good until nullified or canceled. Even now, those who handle the mails at Washington, occasionally notice Jamestown exposition stamps attached to letters. So one can be nothing out of pocket, no matter how many of the new stamps he purchases.



A Stamp Perforating Machine at Work

inch in height by one inch and three-sixteenths in width. And this change in size necessitates a corresponding though not inconvenient change in "printing" them. As you probably know, postage stamps are printed in sheets not separately, with 400 stamps to each sheet. There can be no change in the size of the sheets in order to accommodate the new issue, so there must be a reduction in the number of stamps to each sheet. This has been so arranged that, instead of 400, the sheets will come off the presses each bearing 300 stamps.

And right here may be cited evidence of how closely Uncle Sam watches the process. If a single sheet is missing in the count, the worker who should have passed on to the next employe the correct number but failed to do so is charged with the face value of the missing stamps. Even though a sheet is spoiled in the printing, it is not infrequently happens it is "passed on" along with the perfect ones in order that there may be no discrepancy in the count.

The Smoke Nuisance

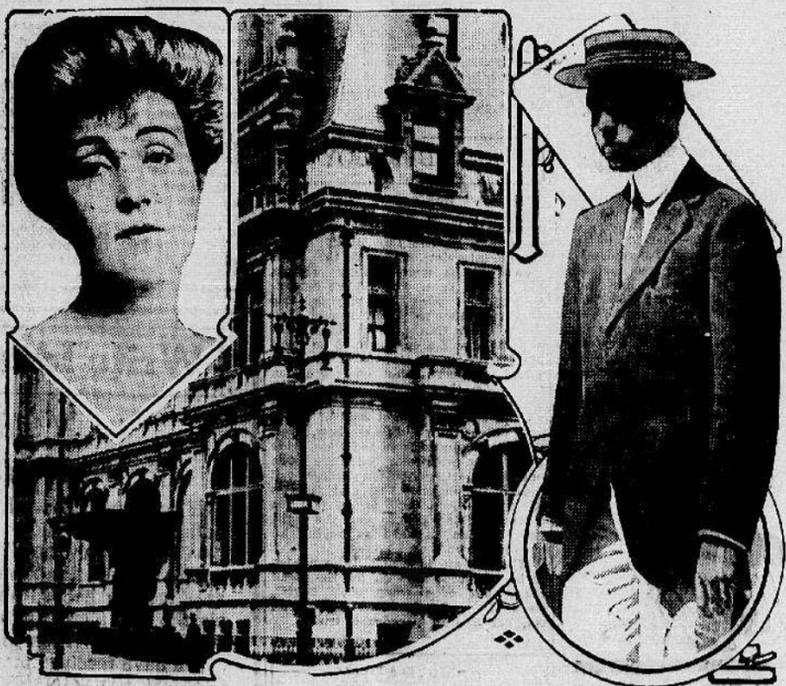
II.—The Economic Problem.

By Frederic J. Haskin.

Aside from the immense cost of smoke to the owners of the plants which make it, and the expense in needless coal bills—the national smoke bill represents millions of dollars of economic waste to the public at large. The blighting influence of a municipal smoke pall on the health of a community alone might justify its abatement, for it has been shown at home and abroad that smoky cities are cities with high death rates from all bronchial and pulmonary diseases. In addition to this the effect on trees and vegetation in general has been shown to be harmful and costly. In the parks of St. Louis each year one tree out of every 25 dies because of the smoke pall. It has been found that the smoke gases of busy cities frequently injure vegetation within a radius of 50 miles. But a more appreciable smoke loss to the community is that inflicted upon the merchant and by him transferred to the "ultimate consumer."

similar, the same engine under a better fireman, made the trip with 4,500 pounds of coal, and in the language of the roundhouse, had "the steam against the pop" the whole distance. He left a trail of steamy smoke; the fireman he succeeded left one long streak of black behind. On a larger scale the experience of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern railway is illuminative of what railroads have accomplished by adopting proper firing methods. During one period of 9 months it reduced the amount of coal burned by nearly 9 per cent as compared with the same months of the previous year. In the face of an increase of 4 per cent in train mileage and of some increase in the weight of the average train. The superintendent declared that three-fourths of the increased efficiency was due to better firing methods. Factories have had similar experiences. One plant told its firemen it would pay them \$4.00 a month extra for every month they showed a smokeless stack. They found it was just about as easy to have a smokeless fire as to make black smoke, and the result was that a factory was able to eliminate smoke without any cost for installations, and the \$4.00 bonus to the fireman was more than returned by the saving of coal.

Vincent Astor and His Millions



Vincent Astor; his mother, Ava Willing Astor, and Astor residence on Fifth avenue, New York.

New York, Nov. 16.—(Special)—One of the world's greatest fortunes—a cool \$100,000,000 has fallen into the hands of a mere boy. John Jacob Astor, the first, who came to America a penniless immigrant, died in 1878 worth \$20,000,000. Today, 64 years later, his descendants, collectively, are worth \$100,000,000, and this estimate includes only the wealth that sprang from the wellspring their forebear discovered—New York real estate.

On Friday of this week, when he attained his majority, one quarter of this gigantic figure came absolutely into the hands of young William Vincent Astor, Colonel Astor's only son. Heretofore the three generations between him and the founder all have had their wealth qualified in some way.

THE ASTORS' MULTIPLIED MILLIONS

Table showing the growth of the Astor fortune from generation to generation, listing names and years of death and their respective wealth.

Germany Has Her Troubles

Berlin, Nov. 16.—An immediate and satisfactory effect on the high cost of living in Berlin was brought about by the importation of Russian meat and the riots that attended the first attempts to sell it. Prices have since dropped in some cases more than 50 per cent.

One hundred and twenty-eight butchers agreed in advance to sell the Russian meat, but only 22 fulfilled their promise on the first day. The result was rioting in six different market halls, and the situation was really serious in a market hall in Moabit. Butchers were assaulted, their stands were demolished, and sausages and other handy materials served as missiles. Thousands of pounds of meat were stolen by the enraged mob, which consisted mainly of women. The resentment against the butchers was shared by the city officials, who took prompt measures to insure that the cheap meat should be placed on sale. The result has been somewhat astonishing. The first day the imported meat was offered at prices much below those for the home product, but on the second day many butchers lowered the prices of their own meat to the level of those for the Russian meat, and the next day the shortage was cleared again.

The agrarians are greatly pleased with the trend of events and are already doing their best to make political capital out of it. They have stubbornly resisted all attempts to reduce or take off the duty on meats and cattle, or to make importation easier, declaring that the livestock raiser was receiving only a fair price, and that the high retail prices should be ascribed to the butchers, who demanded an unfair profit. Now they are declaring that they have been justified by the developments of the last few days. The war against the "bucket shop" brokers has now been carried with success into courts by the national organization of German bankers. Three so-called "bankers" have been sentenced to imprisonment, one for three years, and two for five years. Another man was fined for infringing the law against unfair competition through advertising his business as a bank. He had formerly been a waiter and had made it a practice of lending money to students. The man who received the sentence of three years carried on what he called a "Bank, Commission and Financing Business." It was shown that he did not execute the orders sent to him, and he made it a regular practice to entice into new operations such customers as made an apparent profit on stock transactions with him. He was sentenced for embezzling securities and he has to meet a further charge of fraud. The two bankers sentenced for five years were members of the same firm; their offence was against the Bourse law. Not less than 16 persons calling themselves bankers are waiting for trial before Berlin courts. Foreign bucket shops do an active business in Germany through circulars and advertisements in certain publications of London and Paris, and many inexperienced Germans have lost money through them. As the German courts cannot reach these firms, which mostly have their headquarters at London and Paris, the Central Association of German Bankers has for some time been carrying on a campaign against them by printing in the newspapers lists of all such foreign bucket shops and trying to do business in Germany, and by warning the public against them. The desire of Germany's rivals in Europe for a weakening or break-up of the triple alliance owing to the differences of her two allies, Austria-Hungary and Italy, has been disappointed, as is indicated by inspired statements issued in Rome, Vienna and Berlin in connection with the meetings just held between the leaders of the foreign policy of the three allied states in Pisa and Berlin. They showed the intention to enlarge the scope of the alliance and not only make it cover the Mediterranean interests of Italy and Austria, but also provide for naval cooperation in case of war. The drafting and signature of the new treaty need not take place before June 8, 1913, a year before the date on which the present treaty expires, and the ensuing eight months will be devoted to working out the details of the agreement already decided upon in principle.