New-York Tribune.

VOL. LXIII....No. 20,833. To-day, cloudy; light snow flurries. To-morrow, fair; fresh northwest winds. NEW-YORK, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1903.—FOURTEEN PAGES.— Copyright, 1903, by The Tribune Association. PRICE THREE CENTS.

GET THIEF AND JEWELS.

TRACED HERE BY PICTURE

Employe of Mrs. W. W. Harrison Confesses, Police Say.

Adolf Weltz, alias Alfred Wetz, twenty-seven years old, is locked up at Police Headquarters on the charge of stealing jewelry worth $20,000 from Mrs. William Welch Harrison, the wife of the sugar manufacturer, of Glenside, Montgomery County, Penn. The theft of the jewels was related in Saturday's Tribune. On Thanksgiving Day Mr. and Mrs. Harrison gave a dinner at their home, and while Mrs. Harrison was entertaining her guests on the lower floor a thief entered her boudoir and carried off three pearl horseshoe pins, one pearl

ADOLF WALTZ.
The employe who was captured with jewels worth $20,000 stolen from Mrs. W. W. Harrison.

heart pin, two pins, pink enamelled and diamond; one black gun metal watch chain, set with diamonds; 1 small pearl heart pin, two strings of imitation pearls, one openface watch and one gold link chain, with gold whistle, these being valued at $4,700; a string of fifty-seven pearls, with a diamond clasp, valued at $15,000, and a diamond sunburst, worth $300, making a total value of $20,000.

Mrs. Harrison, on going to her room, immediately discovered the loss of the gems and informed the Philadelphia branch of the Pinkerton Detective Agency. Its New-York, Boston and Chicago offices were told of the theft and the office here sent a list of the jewels stolen to the Brooklyn, Newark and Jersey City police.

On receipt of this list and a description of Adolf Waltz, who disappeared from the home of Mrs. Harrison at the time of the discovery of the loss of the jewelry, William Hayes, jr., Chief of Police of Hoboken, sent Detective Kerrigan to the Pinkerton office with a photograph of a man known as Alfred Wetz.

Waltz was employed by Mrs. Harrison as a general utility man. He had been in her employ about two months. He was recommended highly and no investigation was made by Mrs. Harrison of his letters of recommendation.

The picture of Wetz was sent to Philadelphia, where it was shown to Mrs. Harrison. She identified it as a perfect likeness of Waltz. Chief Hayes said that Wetz had been arrested in Hoboken last April for stealing silk in that city. He was discharged at the time because he had a fit which aroused the sympathy of the judge.

With this information at hand George S. Dougherty, C. C. Murphy and two other Pinkerton detectives started out on Saturday to find Waltz or Wetz. He was caught Saturday night coming out of a resort in Fifth-st., off the Bowery, by Dougherty, who tracked him to a tenement house at No. 1,371 First-ave. He shadowed the house and informed the agency of his discovery, and Assistant Superintendent Murphy went to Police Headquarters, where he was joined by Detective Sergeant John J. Fogarty. They went to the First-ave. house. They learned that Waltz had rented a room on the fourth floor with a friend of his, whose name the police are withholding.

When the officers entered the room they found Waltz and recognized him from the photograph. At first he stoutly denied his identity, but finally, after the administration of the "third degree," he admitted, the detectives say, that he had stolen the jewelry, and that he was the man they wanted.

They searched him and found nearly all of the jewels of Mrs. Harrison in a box in one of his pockets. The only articles missing were two chains, valued at $75 apiece. These Waltz told the detectives he had given to a friend. They believe he pawned them. He had $36 in cash and twelve loose diamonds, which the police say belonged to the missing chains.

At Police Headquarters Waltz said he was born in Dresden, Saxony, and had been in this country about five years. He gave his age as twenty-seven, but he does not look to be more than twenty-one. He told the police that he had formerly been employed as a kitchen steward on one of the German steamship lines.

He will be arraigned to-day in the Tombs court and the police will ask that he be remanded until the Philadelphia authorities can obtain requisition papers.

KILLED FOR A NICKEL.

Chicago "L" Guard Was Five Cents Short on the Price of Breakfast.

Chicago, Nov. 29.—Because he was short five cents in settling for his breakfast, Marcus Sheehan, a guard on the South Side Elevated Road, was shot and killed early to-day by James Berganus, proprietor of a State-st. restaurant. Having only 15 cents in his pockets, Sheehan ordered a meal which he thought called for that amount of money. When he came to pay, however, he was told by Berganus that he owed 20 cents.

"That is all the money I have," said Sheehan. "I'll give you the other nickel this afternoon."

"You'll pay now or you will never leave this house," said Berganus.

Sheehan laughed and turned toward the door, but before he could reach it Berganus drew a revolver and fired. Sheehan was shot in the head and instantly killed.

Throwing Sheehan's body out on the sidewalk, Berganus locked up the place and fled. He is still at large.

GAS GUSHER IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Well at Hyner Has a Pressure of 1,000 Pounds—1,000,000 Feet Capacity.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Williamsport, Penn., Nov. 29.—Well No. 2 of the Interstate Development Company at Hyner went through the sand last night, and released a big flow of natural gas. It has an estimated pressure of 1,000 pounds, and a capacity of 1,000,000 cubic feet daily is expected if the flow does not exhaust the supply at once. Ex-Mayor Mansel, of this city, is interested in the company, which will develop the 25,000 acres of its land at once. Pipes will be laid to bring the gas to this city, a distance of about thirty-five miles, for fuel and lighting purposes.

The excitement is intense throughout Clinton County over the big strike. A rush of prospectors is expected to the territory.

DENIES RUNCIE'S STORY.

NO BROOKE ATTACK PLAN.

R. S. Baker Says Wood Was in No Scheme.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Denver, Nov. 29.—Ray Stannard Baker, who has been summoned to Washington to testify before the Military Affairs Committee of the Senate, which is investigating charges that General Leonard Wood inspired an article attacking General Brooke, will deny that General Wood ever attempted such negotiations with him. He will flatly contradict Major Runcie's testimony concerning the dinner at which General Wood, Mr. Baker and Major Runcie were said to have arranged for the publication of an attack on General Brooke.

Mr. Baker's testimony will be strongly in favor of General Wood and severe on Major Runcie. He will explain that he took charge of the article merely as a personal favor to Major Runcie, and that, consequently, no such arrangement as is charged was made at the dinner. He will say that, so far as he knows, General Wood had nothing to do with the article, though, not having written it, he will disclaim all knowledge of its origin. It was published while Mr. Baker was in Europe, and his entire interest in it, he will say, was that of a friend who wanted to oblige Major Runcie by finding for him a publisher. Mr. Baker will also emphatically deny any knowledge of any attempt by General Wood to disparage General Brooke's services.

Although Mr. Baker is expected to appear in Washington to-morrow, it will be impossible for him to get there until considerably later. Mr. Baker's friends feel that he has kept his skirts clear, for he did not violate Major Runcie's confidence and is to testify that he did not enter into any conspiracy to assail the reputation of General Brooke.

EVIDENCE AGAINST GENERAL WOOD.

A. E. Frye, Formerly in Charge of Schools in Cuba, May Have Much to Say.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Cambridge, Mass., Nov. 29.—Alexis E. Frye, of this city, Superintendent of Schools in Cuba under the American regime, is said by his friends to possess much documentary evidence against General Wood and knowledge bearing on the case now pending in Washington, which would make good Hanna ammunition, and would be of exceeding interest to the public. This, they say, will be given at the proper time.

General Wood is said to have been instrumental in having Mr. Frye leave his place as Superintendent of the Cuban schools, and the details of this may come out later.

Mr. Frye is on his way to Cuba to visit his wife's father, who is seriously ill in Havana, and he will not return to Boston for a month at least, visiting Washington and California before his return.

TROLLEY KILLED TWO.

The Men Run Over as They Were Driving Down a Hill.

Norwalk, Conn., Nov. 29.—Benjamin Comstock, a landscape gardener, and Nicholas Pace, a carriage maker, were killed early to-day by an electric car while driving along the tracks of the Westport and Norwalk branch of the Connecticut Railway and Lighting Company. Both men lived in this city, and were returning from a visit to Westport.

In order to avoid a bad place in the road they drove their horse along the railroad tracks, which made easier driving. They had descended a slight incline, when a car rushing down the hill struck the wagon. Both were instantly killed. The horse also was killed and the wagon smashed.

Both men were about forty-five years old, and leave families here. Coroner Hunt, of Norwalk, and Coroner Powers, of Westport, decided that the collision was accidental.

$2,750,000,000 FOR THE NAVY.

Hobson's Little Scheme to Make United States Foremost Naval Power of World.

Washington, Nov. 29.—Captain Richmond Pearson Hobson has prepared a bill which he has requested Representative Wiley, of Alabama, to introduce in the House on the convening of the regular session of Congress. The bill is intended to make of the United States in the next eighteen years the first naval power of the world. It makes a total appropriation of $2,750,000,000, a certain part of which is to be used each year for new ships. Fifty millions are made available for the present fiscal year, $60,000,000 for the next, and so on, increasing by $10,000,000 each year up to 1915, when a lump sum of $1,500,000,000 is made available to carry on the programme to 1925.

AUDITOR OF NEBRASKA ARRESTED.

He and His Partners in Wyoming Charged with Taking Money While Insolvent.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Casper, Wyo., Nov. 29.—Charles Weston, Auditor of Nebraska, and N. I. Bristil and W. A. Denecke, who operated a grocery store here under the name of N. I. Bristil & Co., and a bank under the name of W. A. Denecke & Co., are under arrest, charged with receiving money knowing they were insolvent. Bristil & Co. and Denecke & Co. have suspended, and their property is in the possession of the Sheriff.

The liabilities are $75,000 and the assets small. The money, it is said, was all borrowed by the bank owners. Every fraternal order in town is affected, the Masonic societies to the extent of $3,600.

COURT ADJOURNED FOR GOLD HUNT.

Mexicans Find a New Bonanza in Apache Canyon, N. M.

Hillsboro, N. M., Nov. 29.—The greatest excitement within the knowledge of this part of New-Mexico exists over the new gold field in Apache Canyon, in the Cebolla Mountains, east of here. News of the find came in less than a week ago, and now five hundred people are on the ground, and arriving faster every day. Some Mexicans, guided by an old Mexican chart, have been prospecting the locality for some time, and last Sunday struck a bonanza. They secured a bottle of gold nuggets as the result of a few hours' work in cleaning bed rock and blowing the dirt away with their breath.

Thanksgiving Day the district court judge and court officers spent looking over the field. One day more on their return ended court proceedings, and they are off again, as also are most of the jurors and the available population. Reports of a new bonanza strike more extensive than the first one are keeping up the excitement.

Travellers will find all views of the world at DETROIT PHOTOGRAPHIC CO., 229 Fifth-ave.—Advt.

THOUSANDS DIE ON SEA.

JUNKS WRECKED IN GALE.

Many Perish from Starvation—300 Vessels Lost Off Swatow.

Victoria, B. C., Nov. 29.—Advices were received from South China by the Athenian of the loss of thousands of lives as a result of the destruction of several hundred fishing junks in a typhoon off Swatow on November 4. The havoc was awful when the gale swept down on the Chinese vessels. For days disabled junks drifted helplessly about, their occupants suffering from thirst and hunger. The Hong Kong government tender Stanley rescued a numer, picking up eight junks and taking 122 men off vessels that were abandoned. The Stanley then returned to the rescue, the fishermen having reported that there were 400 junks fishing off Swatow when the typhoon began. From the Stanley fifty-seven disabled vessels were seen flying distress signals. Several vessels were towed to Hong Kong and then a third relief cruise was made.

Meanwhile three torpedo boat destroyers, the naval water boat Cherub and a Chinese cruiser were sent out and rescued many. Several hundred men were taken from wrecked craft, suffering greatly, some being without food or water from two to five days. Of the 400 fishing junks at least three hundred are reported disabled or sunk, and thousands of lives were lost.

A HUNDRED LIVES LOST.

Bodies and Wreckage Floating in the North Sea.

Berlin, Nov. 29.—It is estimated that 102 persons lost their lives in the recent storms on the North Sea. All vessels arriving in the Weser and the Elbe report seeing much wreckage and many bodies drifting about. They were unable, however, to pick up any of the bodies, owing to the high seas.

DAMAGE BY STORMS IN ITALY.

Large Part of Naples Under Water—Snow at Milan and Turin.

Rome, Nov. 29.—Violent storms and bad weather prevail all over Italy, and in some places great damage has been done. A large part of Naples is under water, the Tiber is very high, and Turin and Milan are covered with snow.

MR. HANNON'S MANY MISFORTUNES.

His Son Drowned and His Shop Ruined by Fire—Other Troubles.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Saratoga, N. Y., Nov. 29.—The son of James J. Hannon, an upholsterer, was drowned yesterday afternoon in Loughberry Lake. This morning Mr. Hannon's uninsured place of business was wrecked by fire. Last summer he broke a leg, and was not able to work for some time. His daughter is recovering from a severe attack of appendicitis.

This morning a fire started in a building owned by Joseph Rowley, of Malta Ridge, and occupied by Mr. Hannon, Leton Kendall, a carpenter, and Thomas C. Wynn, a painter. None of them carried any insurance. The loss was about $3,000.

THREE BROTHERS DROWNED.

The Boys Broke Through the Ice While Attempting to Cross the River.

Blackstone, Mass., Nov. 29.—The three sons of Mrs. Nellie J. Read—John, seventeen; William, fourteen, and George, eight years of age—were drowned in the Blackstone River to-day. They broke through the thin ice above the channel while attempting to cross the stream on their way to the woods to gather firewood.

Searchers found a cap and mitten, with the handsled taken by the boys. To-night the bodies had not been recovered. Mrs. Julia J. Bliss, of Palmer, is a grandmother of the boys drowned.

SKATER FELL THROUGH AND DROWNED.

Worcester, Mass., Nov. 29.—A dispatch to "The Telegram" from Fisherville says: "Samuel Lafford, the sixteen-year-old son of Joseph Lafford, of Worcester, while skating on Fisherville Pond this afternoon, went on the thin ice over a swift current, fell through and was drowned."

WOMEN DEFEND HOME.

Men, Warned, Refused to Go Away, and One Is Killed.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Altoona, Penn., Nov. 29.—Mrs. Jane Ginter, of Blain City, at 1 o'clock this morning fatally wounded Albert Burger, who died at 7 a. m. The shooting, it is alleged, was the result of an attempt of Burger and four other men to force an entrance into the woman's home.

According to the report made to the police, shortly after midnight Mrs. Ginter and Mrs. Kate Smith were awakened by some one trying to force the front door. Mrs. Ginter called to the men to go away, but they continued their efforts to get in. The two women then rose, and went to the head of the stairs. Mrs. Ginter again told the men to go away or she would shoot. They paid no attention to her words, and she fired three shots through the door. One hit Burger in the head. The other men ran away.

Neighbors were called, and Burger was found unconscious. He died later. Mrs. Ginter and Mrs. Smith have been arrested.

WANT PROHIBITED BOOKS DEFINED.

Boston Publishers and Booksellers to Fight the Watch and Ward Society.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Boston, Nov. 29.—A large fund is being raised by Boston publishers and booksellers with which to fight the Watch and Ward Society in its case against a Boston firm for selling alleged obscene books, and will carry the matter to the Supreme Court in an effort to have obscene books defined.

A subscription paper has been signed by Little, Brown & Co., Charles E. Lauriat & Co., De Wolfe, Fisk & Co., W. B. Clarke & Co., Old Corner Book Store, incorporated, all publishers and booksellers, and by leading antique bookstores and retailers.

POURS OIL ON HIMSELF.

Insane Man Applies a Match and Succeeds in Committing Suicide.

South Norwalk, Conn., Nov. 29.—Antonio Giorgan, thirty years old, to-day went into a building back of his home, and after pouring kerosene over his body, set fire to it. He was burned frightfully, and lived only a few minutes after he was taken to the Norwalk Hospital.

He refused to give any reason for his act, merely shrugging his shoulders when questioned. Giorgan had recently been released from a sanatorium as cured of insanity.

THE OVERLAND LIMITED TO CALIFORNIA.

Two daily trains, Chicago to Colorado and California, via Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Union Pacific lines. 323 Broadway.—Advt.

HEATH MAKES REPLY.

Refers to His Heavy Labors and Calls Bristow His Enemy.

Salt Lake City, Nov. 29.—When First Assistant Postmaster General Perry S. Heath, now proprietor of "The Salt Lake Tribune," had read the report of Mr. Bristow and the comments of the President to-night, he said:

I shall not hesitate to publish in "The Salt Lake Tribune" to-morrow morning every word of this report, and also every word of this memorandum of the President, although there is not a syllable in them, except official comment, so far as pertains to myself, that is news to the public. I hope my enemies, as well as my friends, will do me the justice of reading it carefully. The newspapers have been kept informed and have been publishing it all during the last year. That which has hitherto been generally regarded as newspaper criticism, it is now revealed, was official criticism in disguise.

It is no surprise to me to see the denunciation of me in this report. The author of it, from the time he entered the Postoffice Department up to the present moment, has, in his official capacity, pursued me personally, in season and out, as every one who has been in public life in Washington during the last six years knows. Innuendo is artfully contrived and malice ill concealed throughout the entire document, as everybody familiar with the facts may see. Its very opening paragraph attacks my friend, M. W. Louis, an honest gentleman, as the report itself is compelled to admit him to be, and it closes with impertinent and intrusive animadversions upon my administration.

The author seems to have studiously avoided mentioning the important fact that many, if not a large majority, of these offences occurred after I had left the service. Nor is the slightest reference made to another important fact, that I had heaped upon me ten times as much administrative and executive work, by reason of the Spanish-American War, as I should have undertaken, or the fact that during that time most of the onus of performing the military postal duties fell upon me, together with the distribution of much of the patronage of the service, in the way of appointments, and that we had to establish precedents, as we had no military laws; and, lastly, the fact that if any one conjured with my name for corrupt purposes I could not know it, except somebody told me. No intimation of the kind ever reached me till lately through the press.

Men like Louis, whose supplies were purchased through a committee of three, appointed by the Postmaster General, by public advertisement and the direction of the Postmaster General, he being merely the distribution clerk, are censured and made to suffer for responsibilities they never had. When Louis entered the service he found his division in a demoralized condition. A committee condemned the ink in use and recommended the ink purchased. The tremendous increase in the regular postal service required the filling of thousands of new orders in new offices as well as old ones, and the military postal service necessitated the supplying of thousands of offices in newly acquired territory.

Because I cannot be truthfully accused of ever having received any reward, in cash, bonds, stocks, presents, or other form, while I was in the department or since I left it, my acts while in the government employ appear to be especially disappointing to the author of this report. But, since much of the report is occupied with the cases of men who have been tried and acquitted, I am willing to trust the public to draw its own conclusions. I welcome the opportunity to publish it in its entirety in the columns of The Tribune.

TO SEE PLATT TO-DAY.

Bruce to Confer with Senator, Who Repeats That All Is Harmony.

LATTER HERE UNTIL WEDNESDAY.

Senator Platt did not return to Washington yesterday, as was his intention. He will remain here until Wednesday. He did not talk with any political leaders yesterday, and had little to say about the local situation. Asked if the coming session of the legislature would be a long one, he replied: "I think not. I know of no special legislation to be enacted, and I do not think the Governor proposes suggesting any."

"How about the talk of a contest for control of the County Committee?"

"I don't know anything about it," replied the Senator wearily. "All this talk seems to me to be nonsense. I have stated, and I repeat, that there is no quarrel or fight. Everything is satisfactory, and I hope will remain so."

"Will Mr. Bruce be re-elected chairman of the County Committee?"

"I don't know. I haven't seen Mr. Bruce since he talked with the Governor. I assume that he can be re-elected if he wants it. I don't know what his personal ideas are. The work is hard and takes one away from regular business. I will be able to talk about the matter better after I have seen Mr. Bruce."

"Will the delegates from this State be instructed for Roosevelt?"

"Of course they will," replied the Senator, emphatically. "Do you want me to repeat time and time again what I have said? We are for Roosevelt, and I don't know any man against him."

The Senator said that he expected to see the Cuban reciprocity bill passed at this session and everything shipshape for the regular session by the date of its opening.

M. Linn Bruce, president of the County Committee, said last night that he had nothing to add to what he told The Tribune after his visit to Governor Odell on Saturday. He said he would see Senator Platt to-day and discuss the situation with him. "Everything is in uncertain shape yet," he added. "You cannot settle everything at one conference. All I can say is that there is perfect harmony, and I believe when we get down to details everything will work out right. About this report that twenty-five district leaders signed a paper yesterday in favor of my re-election as president of the County Committee, I don't know a thing about it. They certainly did it of their own initiative if it was done. I haven't heard a single word about it."

STEEL WORKS TO START.

Employes in Sheet and Plate Mills Accept Reduction in Wages.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Pittsburg, Nov. 29.—The W. Dewees Wood mills at McKeesport will be in full operation this week. Repairs have been made and new buildings have been erected. The men in the plate mill will accept a reduction of 20 per cent, and others will go back to work at smaller reductions, which take effect on January 1.

More than four hundred employes of the Demmler Tin Plate Works signified their willingness to return to work at a reduction of 20 per cent, and the plant will again be in operation.

The new independent tin plate plant at Port Vue, which also has been idle two weeks, will resume to-morrow morning, the men having accepted a cut of 20 per cent. The plant employs about six hundred.

EMPRESS TO LEAVE PEKING.

Escort Ordered to Escort China's Real Ruler on a Trip West.

Shanghai, Nov. 29.—Orders have been issued to the Governor of Su-Chau to send a picked force of Manchu troops to Peking to escort the Empress Dowager on her intended journey to the West.

PRESIDENT SENDS HER A ROSE.

Given to Miss Pollock, Whose Faith in Her Father Helped to Make Him Judge.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 29.—In accordance with President Roosevelt's instructions, a rose from the desk in his office in the White House was given to little Miss Lucille Pollock here to-day. She is sixteen.

The President's messenger was Cyrus Lelland, a Kansas politician, who has been in Washington working in the interest of A. C. Pollock, for judge of the Federal District of Kansas.

Miss Pollock wrote her father a letter, declaring her faith in him while charges against him were pending, and the letter was indirectly responsible for his appointment.

BRISTOW LAYS FRAUDS BARE.

REPORT ON POSTAL INVESTIGATION MADE PUBLIC, WITH COMMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.

Tyner, Machen and Beavers Named as Chief Offenders—Says Heath's Dismissal Would Have Been Justified.

An abstract of the long expected report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow on his investigation of frauds in the Postoffice Department is made public this morning, accompanied by a memorandum by President Roosevelt. The report reviews the investigation and shows what has been accomplished. Tyner, Machen and Beavers are named as the chief offenders, and Mr. Bristow says the summary dismissal of Perry S. Heath, former First Assistant Postmaster General, would have been amply justified.

President Roosevelt pays a high tribute to the work of Mr. Bristow and his assistants, and says that every offender will be punished to the extent of the law. He recommends that the period covered by the statute of limitations be made five years, instead of three, and closes with an appeal to public sentiment to check the prevalence of crime.

THE BRISTOW REPORT.

Investigations of Frauds Reviewed—Severe Reflections on Heath.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Nov. 29.—A synopsis of the long expected report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow has been given out. Mr. Bristow's report is an extensive document, and in order to reduce it to a size which would insure its publication in the press of the country it was deemed necessary to condense it to a bare chronicling of the most important facts, though there has been no attempt to suppress anything, and the thoroughness of the document furnishes ample evidence of the comprehensive character of the investigation which Mr. Bristow has conducted.

In this connection it may be stated that there is every prospect that the full report will be called for by Congress at an early date, and that it will then be printed as a public document, available to all interested in the Postoffice investigation. The earnest support afforded Mr. Bristow by the President and the futility of political influence to save malefactors from exposure and prosecution are the most striking features of the report.

Mr. Bristow's statement is entitled "Brief of Report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General J. L. Bristow on the Postal Investigation," and is as folllows:

SUPPLY DIVISION.

On April 17, 1897, Michael W. Louis, of Cincinnati, was appointed cashier in the Kansas City (Mo.) Postoffice, and was detailed to the department as acting superintendent of the supply division. The Civil Service Commission was asked to except the position from the classified service. This the commission declined; but in July following it did give a special examination, allowing Louis a rating of 50 points for experience acquired during the three months he had been in charge of the division. As a result of this rating Louis passed a successful examination and was appointed.

CONTRACT FOR CANCELLING INK.

Shortly after Louis was placed in charge of postoffice supplies the contract for cancelling ink was awarded to the Ault & Wiborg Company, of Cincinnati, at 24 cents a pound, four cents higher than other bids. Much of the ink furnished by the new contractors was of inferior quality, but instead of being returned to the company it was paid for and burned or thrown away on the city dump. During the fiscal year 51,000 pounds of cancelling ink were bought from the Ault & Wiborg Company, costing $14,287 52, while during the previous year but 20,000 pounds had been used, at a cost of $4,302 65.

For the fiscal year 1898-'99 no contract was awarded for cancelling ink, and from March, 1899, until the beginning of the fiscal year 1902-'03, Louis bought cancelling ink from the Ault & Wiborg Company at 30 cents a pound, six cents higher than the last competitive bid, 10 cents higher than was paid before Louis became superintendent and from four to nine cents higher than present cost.

INKING PADS.

For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1898, upon false statements of Louis, the contract for inking pads was awarded to W. C. Long at 15 cents each, in preference to 14-cent pads offered by Herman Baumgarten. Long was not a manufacturer, so he bought inferior pads from Baumgarten at 12½ cents each. Long received a net "rake-off" of $1,625 on the year's business.

For the fiscal year 1900-'01 M. D. Helm had the contract for twine at $10 95 a hundred pounds, for the following fiscal year the price dropped to $7 45. During the closing months of the year 1901, when the price of twine was $10 95, and after the contract had been given for the succeeding year at $7 45, Louis bought large quantities of the twine at $10 95, which was carried over into the next fiscal year.

He was removed October 21, 1903.

PURCHASE OF MANIFOLD BOOKS.

In September, 1901, George L. Morton, representative of the General Manifold Company, of Franklin, Penn., submitted a proposition to furnish manifold books made of a patented duplicating paper for the registry system. W. H. Landvoight was then superintendent of the system. After Morton submitted this proposition, but before any books were ordered, he proposed to secure Landvoight's son employment with the president of the General Manifold Company. The proposition was accepted by Landvoight, who considered it a great personal favor.

It was Landvoight's duty to pass upon the merits and quality of the supplies furnished by this company, and the acceptance, therefore, of a favor of this character was considered highly improper, and his resignation was requested and accepted.

The law required the department to purchase manifold supplies from the Public Printer, but the Public Printer could not buy completed books. Morton succeeded in having the law changed so as to authorize the Public Printer to buy "completed manifold books." After this the use of books of the General Manifold Company was extended so as to include all books used in the registry service.

On June 1, 1902, Louis Kempner became superintendent of the registry system, and under his administration books made by the General Manifold Company have been used in a lavish manner. The original proposition was to furnish a book containing 500 receipts for 22½ cents each. This book, however, was never used, but in its stead a book containing 1,000 receipts, which cost $1 10.

Prior to Kempner's appointment as superintendent of the registry system, manifold books were not furnished to offices where less than 2,000 pieces of registered mail were handled per annum. Kempner disregarded this rule and sent these expensive manifold books to third and fourth class offices. The books are made of material requiring careful handling, yet they have been sent to hundreds of offices throughout the country that are kept in small country stores and farmhouses where not more than twenty-five pieces of mail are registered in a year.

The result has been that the cost of manifold supplies for the fiscal year 1902-'03 was $84,768 22, as against $41,409 24 for the fiscal year 1901, when supplied by the Public Printer, an increase of $43,289 61. After the books were once adopted for general use the company advanced the prices, to illustrate:

On October 9, 1902, twenty-five books were ordered for Atlanta, Ga., at a cost of $33, while on the 15th of November, five weeks later, twenty-five books, exactly the same, were ordered for Ogden, Utah, for which the company charged $57 85. On October 13, 1902, 100 books were ordered for Boston, for which the company charged $126 50, while in April, 1903, 100 of the same books were ordered for the same city, for which $165 was charged.

During the investigation it was learned that Kempner had been receiving from Cuba numerous packages of cigars without paying duty, as required by law. By an order of the President, dated November 10, 1899, any one employed in the United States service in Cuba was permitted to send gifts or souvenirs to members of his family free of duty. Nempner had parties in Cuba buy cigars for him and send them to him by registered mail, marked "gift," thereby evading the duty.

Continued on second page.

THE FOUR-TRACK NEWS.

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PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS.

Postal Offenders To Be Punished Without Fear or Favor.

Washington, Nov. 29.—President Roosevelt's memorandum, accompanying the report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, is as follows:

White House, November 24, 1903.

Memorandum upon the various papers submitted from the Department of Justice and the Postoffice Department concerning the investigation into the corrupt practices obtaining in the Postoffice Department, notably in the office of the First Assistant Postmaster General and in the office of the Assistant Attorney General for that department. All the documents in the case are herewith forwarded to the Postoffice Department, and will be held ready for submission to the Congress whenever it may choose to ask for them.

It appears that in December, 1902, Postmaster General Payne and Congressman E. F. Loud, chairman of the Committee on the Postoffice and Postroads, held various consultations regarding the postal service, and as a result of these interviews it was determined that as soon as possible after the necessary appropriations could be made by the Congress an investigation should be made of the service, both Messrs. Payne and Loud agreeing as to the need for the investigation and the time when it should take place. Accordingly, an increase of $5,000 in the appropriation bill reported in January was made for the express purpose of carrying on the investigation in question. The reasons for the increase in the appropriation were known only to the Postmaster General, to Congressman Loud and to Congressman Bromwell.

BEGINNING OF THE INQUIRY.

Subsequently, some time in January, information was laid before me by Mr. Seckendorff tending to show improper conduct by Beavers, general superintendent of the division of salaries and allowances, and Machen, general superintendent of the free delivery system, and by Mr. William Allen White, tending to show corruption by or under Tyner, Assistant Attorney General for the Postoffice Department. First Assistant Postmaster General Wynne also informed me that he had become suspicious of the integrity of both Machen and Beavers. After full consultation with Mr. Payne it was decided that Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow should make a thorough and exhaustive investigation of the charges in question and of all matters that might be developed in connection with them. Mr. Bristow's report is a record of as thorough a bit of investigating work as has ever been done under the government. After this investigation had been in progress for about two months it became evident that legal proceedings would have to be undertaken against some of the offenders. Owing to the importance of the case it was deemed advisable that special counsel should be employed, and Messrs. Charles J. Bonaparte and Holmes Conrad were chosen for this purpose. Messrs. Bonaparte and Conrad, in their review of the report of Mr. Bristow, speak as follows:

We consider the report an exceptionally able, candid and impartial review of its subject matter, and that it shows clearly reprehensible misconduct, amounting in many cases to crime, on the part of a number of public officials. It is a voluminous document, but this arises, not from prolixity, but from the nature of the matters discussed. . . We heartily commend the report and deem its conclusions fully justified by the facts it sets forth, and while regretting in common with all patriotic citizens that the grave abuses of long standing which it reveals should have grown up in the Postoffice Department, we consider the exposure of these abuses and the attempts made to punish those responsible for them a work of the highest public utility, quickly and ably performed.

In all that is thus said of the report of Mr. Bristow I cordially agree.

GROSS CORRUPTION SHOWN.

The investigation made by Mr. Bristow discloses a condition of gross corruption in the office of the First Assistant Postmaster General and in that of the Assistant Attorney General for the Postoffice Department. In the case of the superintendent of free delivery, Machen, the evidence shows that his misconduct began immediately after his appointment in September, 1893. In the case of the general superintendent of salaries and allowances, Beavers, it began soon after he was appointed to that place in 1897. In the case of Assistant Attorney General Tyner it has gone on for a number of years, but it is impossible to say exactly when it began. A melancholy feature of the case is that with one exception all the offenders have been for a number of years in the government service. The following is a list of the fourteen Postoffice employes in the service at the time this investigation was begun who are apparently most seriously implicated in the wrongdoing, together with an account of the steps that have been taken by the government in each case and a statement of the date of original appointment of each man in the service:

(The case of ex-First Assistant Postmaster General Heath, who left the service July 31, 1900, is set forth in the report of Mr. Bristow.)

JAMES N. TYNER, Assistant Attorney General for Postoffice Department; appointed special agent Postoffice Department, March 7, 1861; with intervals of a few years has been in the service ever since, and was Postmaster General under President Grant for several months; he was removed April 22, 1903; he has since been indicted three times.

A. W. MACHEN, general superintendent free delivery system, appointed clerk in postoffice at Toledo, Ohio, March 1, 1887; continuously in service ever since save for three years; removed May 27, 1903; has since been indicted fourteen times.

GEORGE W. BEAVERS, general superintendent of salaries and allowances; appointed to clerkship in New-York Postoffice January, 1881; continuous service ever since; resignation accepted to take effect March 31, 1903; has since been indicted eight times.

JAMES T. METCALF, superintendent money order system; appointed postoffice inspector February 2, 1882; has been in postal service ever since; removed June 17, 1903; has been indicted once.

DANIEL V. MILLER, assistant attorney, Postoffice Department; appointed July 1, 1902; removed May 25, 1903; indicted once, after one mistrial was retried and acquitted.

LOUIS KEMPNER, superintendent registry system; appointed clerk in New-York Postoffice August, 1886; removed October 21, 1903.

CHARLES HEDGES, superintendent city free delivery service; appointed assistant superintendent free delivery service July 1, 1898; removed July 22, 1903.

JAMES W. ERWIN, assistant superintendent free delivery service; appointed postoffice inspector June 27, 1887; removed September 16, 1902; indicted once.

W. SCOTT TOWERS, superintendent Station C, Washington, D. C.; appointed clerk Washington Postoffice November, 1890; removed October 1, 1903; indicted three times.

OTTO F. WEIS, assistant superintendent registry division New-York Postoffice; appointed clerk New-York Postoffice June, 1890; removed October 21, 1903.

T. W. M'GREGOR, clerk, free delivery division, in charge of supplies; appointed Postoffice Department March 11, 1891; removed June 3, 1903; indicted twice.

C. E. UPTON, clerk, free delivery division; ap-