

MADDEN RECOMMENDS "POST CHECK" SYSTEM

Use of Stamps as Money Harmful, He Says.

LOSS TO THE GOVERNMENT

Postmasters, He Says, Have Salaries Increased and Department Bears the Burden.

"Post check," are recommended by E. C. Madden, Third Assistant Postmaster General, in his annual report, just given out, as the most feasible scheme for sending small sums of money through the mail.

Mr. Madden complains that the practice of using stamps as currency has increased enormously in the past few years. This works harm in several ways. It causes disproportionately large sales of stamps at small offices, and in many cases the sales are so much larger than should be that the postmaster has his salary increased, representing a clear loss to the Government. The custom of using stamps as money is also held responsible for the increase in the robbery of postoffices.

Consolidation of Matter.

The consolidation of third and fourth class mail matter with a uniform rate of 1 cent for each two ounces, is recommended, on the ground that the distinction between the two classes serves no useful purpose, and is an annoyance to the department. The effect of the consolidation upon the revenues would be immaterial. Mr. Madden again asks Congress to pass a law allowing the mailing of large quantities of identical printed matter or small articles without affixing stamps to each piece.

Holding publishers to a strict compliance with the rules regarding second and third class postage, caused the receipts from publications refused admission to the second class, to rise to \$42,761.95, an increase of 61.6 per cent.

Of the cases considered and acted upon by the classification division, it is estimated that 5,921 related to mail matter of the first, third, and fourth classes, penalty envelopes, and the franking privilege. Deducing these from the total number of cases received, leaves 10,117 cases relating to mail matter of the second class.

Admission of Publications.

The applications for admission of publications to the second class of mail matter for the year ending September 30, 1903, were 2,350, a decrease of 7.2 from the previous year. Of these, 2,433 were shown by the serial number to be in the first year of issue, and are regarded as new, while the remainder, 917, are old, re-entered by reason of change of name, office of publication, periods of issue, or other cause. Entry was denied 1,713 publications, an increase of 32 over the previous year. The total number of applications acted upon was 5,553, a decrease of 590 from the previous year. The total number of publications passed upon and their status determined was 5,679; a decrease of 1,084 from the previous year.

The number of pounds of second-class matter mailed, which was paid, was \$55,537,962, creating a revenue of \$5,065,379.92—an increase of \$5,385,500 pounds in weight, and \$563,556.03 in postage collected at the pound rate—an increase of 12.16 per cent over the previous year.

Second-Class Matter Mailed.

The number of pounds of second-class matter mailed free of postage during the fiscal year was 50,305,884 pounds, an increase during the year of 2,313,000 pounds, or 4.6 per cent, and this represents 6.3 per cent of the entire amount of second-class matter mailed during the year in the United States.

The aggregate amount of second-class matter mailed at the pound rate and free of postage during the year was \$45,843,546 pounds, or 273,921.22 tons, an increase of 57,596,943 pounds over the previous year.

The number of postoffices at which second-class matter was mailed at the pound rate was 5,988, an increase over the previous year of 162.

Decisions of Courts.

Thirty publications are involved in court proceedings because the department placed them in the third class, and upon the decisions in those cases largely depends the success of the efforts to reform the abuse of the second-class privilege. Four court decisions sustained the department last year and two were adverse. These two related to railway guides, which the court held to be legitimate periodicals in the meaning of the law. Special efforts were made last year to relegate to the third class periodicals of an advertising nature published by schools and colleges, and a number of them suffered that fate.

Mr. Madden expresses the opinion that if the rural free delivery service had been extended in the year 1902, it would have resulted in a considerable increase in its annual appropriations, the Postoffice Department would probably be self-sustaining. The deficit last year was \$4,586,397.16, and the expenditures for rural free delivery were \$6,101,823.85. The deficit last year was about one and one-half times that of the year before, while the rural free delivery expenditures were more than twice as great last year as they were in the year before, showing how rapidly revenues were catching up with the expenses.

Stamped Envelopes Sold.

Of the 348,654,000 stamped envelopes issued, 322,661,000, or 92.5 per cent, were "ordinary," and 25,993,000, or 7.5 per cent, were "special-request" with printed return cards. There was a decrease of 100,000 in the net profit on stamped envelopes and newspaper wrappers on account of the increased cost of material.

There were issued during the year 9,829,249 stamp books, an increase of 2,725,596, or 28.5 per cent, over the previous year. Deducting the cost of manufacture, \$40,252.82, from the selling price over the value of the stamps contained in these books, \$98,252.40, the net profit to the department in their sale is found to be \$57,999.58.

The number of postal cards for the year was 587,706,000. The Bureau of Posts of the Philippines was furnished last year with 5,568,100 stamps, and 313,000 stamped envelopes and wrappers.

The issue of special delivery stamps last year was 10,380,560, an increase of 11 per cent over the year before, and the increase for next year is estimated at 12 per cent. The ordinary stamps issued last year reached 5,370,549,115.

MANUFACTURED EXPORTS INCREASE IN OCTOBER

Indicate Strong Revival in Foreign Commerce.

SLIGHT DECREASE IN COTTON

This Reduction Found in Cotton Cloth Sent to China—9,370,000 Yards For the Month.

Exports of manufactures in October seem to show something like the expected revival in that branch of foreign commerce. The total exports of manufactures in October, as shown by the reports of the Department of Commerce and Labor, amount to \$7,558,675. This is a larger export than in any preceding October, except that of 1900, and even in that bumper year of exports the total was less than \$100,000 above that of October, 1902. The increase over October, 1902, is about \$1,500,000; over October, 1901, \$3,000,000, and is more than double the total for October of 1902.

Most of the principal articles of manufacture show a slight increase in October, 1903, compared with October, 1902. Agricultural implements show a gain of over \$40,000, compared with the same month of the preceding year; cars and carriages, about \$25,000; clocks and watches, \$45,000; copper manufactures, \$450,000; scientific instruments, \$100,000; steel rails, \$115,000; wire, \$35,000; sewing machines, \$75,000; iron and steel manufactures of all kinds, \$318,000; boots and shoes, \$155,000; leather of all kinds, \$315,000; mineral oil, \$604,000; manufactures of tobacco, \$50,000; manufactures of wool, \$149,994.

Exports in Cotton.

Cotton manufactures show a slight reduction, the total exports for October, 1903, being \$2,055,650, against \$2,689,076 in October of the preceding year. This reduction occurs almost exclusively in exports of cotton cloth to China, of which the total for October, 1903, was 3,570,000 yards, valued at \$144,156, against 3,472,573 yards, valued at \$1,406,728, in October, 1902. The figures for October, 1903, however, compare favorably with those of the corresponding month in years preceding 1902, in which the exports of cotton cloth to China were extraordinarily large by reason of the small importations during the disturbances of 1901.

On Import Side.

On the import side as compared with October, 1902, Articles of Voluntary Use, Luxuries, etc., are for October, 1903, \$11,242,447, against \$11,676,126 in October, 1902. Articles manufactured ready for consumption in October, 1903, are \$14,375,373, against \$14,540,731 in the corresponding month of last year, and articles wholly or partially manufactured for use as materials in the manufactures and mechanic arts are \$12,842,580, against \$13,388,145.

Iron and steel manufactures, of which the importations had been unusually large, show a marked reduction, the total for October, 1903, being \$2,552,384, against \$4,149,621 in October of last year. Articles in a crude condition for use in manufactures also show a reduction in October, 1903, as compared with October, 1902, in which the total was the largest for October in the history of our import trade.

The figures of exports of manufactures for the ten months ending with October show a condition quite as satisfactory as those relating to the month of October only. As has been already indicated, the October exports of manufactures are larger than those for the corresponding month of any preceding year except 1900, and this may also be said of the ten months ending with October, in which the exports of manufactures were \$38,888,560, a larger total than for the corresponding ten months of any earlier year except 1900.

REV. JOSIAH H. PERRY ACCEPTS A CALL

The Rev. Josiah H. Perry, for twenty-three years rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Fourteenth Street north-west, has accepted a call to the rectorship of Trinity Episcopal Church, Natchez, Miss.

GETS CHRISTMAS GIFT.

The District Commissioners have ordered that the compensation of James P. Perry, superintendent of construction, office of the Building Inspector, be increased from \$3.50 to \$4 per day, to take effect today.

A REED SHAKEN WITH THE WIND

Without Will Power, Courage, Ambition, Energy, or Hope, the Dyspeptic is Willing to Give Up the Struggle.

It is expected that Mr. Perry will relinquish his duties at St. Andrew's in the early part of the new year.

STUART'S DYSPEPSIA TABLETS

The confirmed dyspeptic has as little interest in life as any human being. He is unable for his duties, and is different to his charms. He is unable to enjoy the business and social relations that constitute the life of the average man. All his hopes are absorbed by the one hope to get well and again be able to enjoy the good things of life. Until this is realized, he is sick at heart and feels himself to be of little use.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are the sufferer's tree of life. They will cure him, bring him health and happiness just as sure and certain as he takes them. They are sure because they are natural, and no other cure but a natural one is sure. They act on the food and digest it just as well as a stomach would. They contain exactly the same chemical properties as the digestive fluids of the stomach. By putting Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets in a bottle or jar with any kind of food—meat, eggs, or vegetables—with sufficient amount of water, the process of digestion is carried out just as it is in a healthy human stomach and in the same time. There is consequently no unnatural disturbance of the digestive organs resulting from the use of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. They relieve the weak and worn-out stomach of its work and permit it to rest up and recuperate and regain its normal health and strength.

FIFTEEN MORE DAYS TO SEND IN WORDS

The Times Contest Closes on December 19.

NEVER TOO LATE TO WIN

Last Answer Submitted Might Land the Big Cash Prize—There Are Others.

There are only fifteen more days in which to submit answers in the Times word contest. Those fifteen days may mean to some one who reads this article \$100. If not that much, there are four other cash prizes well worth competing for. All that it costs anyone to become a competitor for those prizes is a subscription to The Evening or Sunday Times for about two months.

In addition to the money offered for the best solutions of the puzzle, there is a whole lot of amusement and entertainment to be gotten out of it. It is likewise a proposition which offers an equal chance to everybody, no matter when contestants enter the competition to win. Those who have not commenced a list of words should do so at once, because, no matter how many have already been submitted, theirs may be better than any yet submitted.

Each day brings an increased number of answers, and an increased number of inquiries from those who are preparing lists of words. A Maryland Avenue reader writes to ask a number of questions which were answered fully in last Sunday's Times, a copy of which can be procured at The Times office. With regard to the letters of the alphabet, when the letters appear in the Standard Dictionary, spelled out as words, the same may be used. Where words have two spellings, the phonetic and the general, the preferred, or general, should be used.

FORCED SALE OF DOG TO A MESSENGER BOY

Alfred Kidwell, a Western Union messenger boy, was yesterday standing on the street with the week's wage of \$3.50 in his hand when a negro came by with a dog under his arm. He proposed to the boy to buy the dog, and when the latter insisted that he did not want the animal, the man grabbed the money, thrust the dog into the boy's arms, and ran away.

The little fellow wept and his story was soon known. Sympathetic strangers made up a purse of \$2 for the lad. He still has the dog.

LOST PURSE WITH \$40.

Capt. A. C. Kennington, U. S. A., living at the Portner, reports to the police that while shopping with his wife yesterday he lost his purse, containing \$40.

LABOR LEADERS UNABLE TO PATCH UP TROUBLE

Believed to Have Met With Failure in Massachusetts—Drastic Measures Feared.

PUT ON RETIRED LIST.

Col. W. H. W. James, commanding the Twenty-fifth Infantry, at Fort Niobrara, Neb., was placed on the retired list yesterday, at his own request. He is a native of Tennessee, and was graduated from West Point in 1872.

It was reported today that the committee recently appointed by the American Federation of Labor to investigate the troubles between the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union and the manufacturers of Massachusetts, and try to settle it if possible, had failed in its mission, and that a report had been made to President Gompers recommending that drastic measures be taken.

The Federation has before it for action a resolution adopted at the recent convention providing for the placing of all manufacturers who refuse to use the union label and recognize the union on the unfair list. Action on this resolution had been deferred until the report of the investigating committee had been made.

CHINESE-MANNED SHIP DRIVEN TO PHILADELPHIA

Knight Errant Has 10,000 Tons of Sugar for Boston.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—Manned by a crew of thirty-nine Chinamen, the British steamship Knight Errant came into port today from Java to obtain 400 tons of coal to enable her to proceed to Boston, where her cargo of 10,000 tons of sugar is to be discharged.

The Chinese crew originally numbered forty-one men, but two had fallen victims to ber-berl. It made its appearance on board the ship shortly before her arrival at the Breakwater. The first to succumb was one of the firemen, who was buried at sea. The second death took place while the vessel was lying in the harbor at the Delaware Capes and the body was buried ashore. As the disease is not contagious the vessel was allowed to come up to the city.

MAJOR SYLVESTER COMES TO AID OF SKATERS

Major Sylvester has been thanked by local sporting people for the interest he has taken in behalf of those who are fond of skating. It is because of his action that the fish ponds near the tidal basin have been flooded, and all that is needed to put them in shape is cold weather. Major Sylvester has also communicated with the District Commissioners respecting the use of ice on Rock Creek in Rock Creek Park. He hopes to be able to have men detailed there to cut the dam near the Pierce Mill Road in order to prevent any fatalities.

MONEY FOR ICE BOAT ASKED BY HARBORMASTER SUTTON

The District Commissioners have received a letter from Harbormaster J. R. Sutton saying that since it does not seem possible to obtain the money needed to cover repairs to the harbor boat Vigilant from the emergency fund of the District, the Commissioners should request Congress to appropriate \$100 for the purpose of putting the Vigilant in condition for breaking ice, and the further sum of \$50 for fuel, paints, oil, and other miscellaneous expenses of the department.

INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION FAVORS THE OPEN SHOP

President D. M. Parry, of the recently organized Citizens' Industrial Association of America, according to dispatches from Dayton, Ohio, has declared the association will stand for the open shop against the principle of arbitration for labor disputes.

This declaration was made in the course of an address by Mr. Parry at a banquet, following the first meeting of the executive committee of the new association. It was decided to hold the first convention of the association in Indianapolis February 22 and 23, 1904.

Headquarters of the association will be in Indianapolis, and connected with it will be a bureau of publication and a bureau of organization. Local associations will be formed affiliated with the national association.

FERNANDO GALLEGOS IS NOT ALLOWED TO LAND

Rafael Lopez, the Salvadorean minister, has been informed that upon the arrival of the Pacific Mail steamer City of Para, at San Francisco, an immigration inspector boarded the ship and prevented the landing of Fernando Gallegos, an insane son of Salvador Gallegos, ex-minister of Salvador to Washington and Berlin.

Minister Gallegos was well known among the members of the Diplomatic Corps during his stay here, at which time his son was with him. Minister Lopez will probably make a personal appeal to President Roosevelt in behalf of the boy in case the Bureau of Immigration should act adversely. The young man, it is said, was coming to this country, accompanied by his brother, solely to enter a sanatorium.

At the Cross Roads Buy Biscuit Crackers Wafers IN THE IN-ER-SEAL PACKAGE and thus be assured of their freshness. Its airtight, moisture-proof, dust-proof features guarantee the goodness of the contents. As an illustration, get a package of Zo Zo Ginger Snaps, Butter Thins or Social Tea Biscuit, Graham Crackers or Kennedy's Oysterettes. The In-er-seal Package is identified by this trade mark design in red and white. NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

Castelberg's, Washington's Leading Jewelers, 935 Pa. Ave. GOODS RESERVED TILL XMAS The Diamond Headquarters Primarily this is a house of Diamonds. We make Diamonds a specialty. We carry in set and unset gems more of these stones than can be found in any other one house in America. We import our Diamonds direct, for we have outlet sufficient to justify us in buying through a representative abroad and importing for ourselves. The Diamonds you see here have cost us 25 Per Cent and 30 Per Cent less than like stones would have cost if bought from an importer on this side. We save you that—and at the same time we show you a collection of gems that embraces the best goods on the American market today. For the Christmas trade we've had a big part of our reserve stock mounted up into Pins, Rings, Brooches, etc. We can interest you in them. What's better as a gift? Then, too, this is a house where credit and cash buy alike. We're glad to have your charge account if it's convenient to you. All Engraving, including Monograms, absolutely Free. Brooch, \$125; Ring, \$42; Brooch, \$80; Ring, \$35; Gold Heart, \$6.00; Watch Charm, \$7.00; Seal Rings, \$3.50; Ring, \$125; Brooch, \$80; Ring, \$80; Ring, \$8; Ring, \$40; Brooch, \$75; Ring, \$165; Ring, \$40.