

WAGES PAID TO DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Disbursing Officer Hands Out Christmas Money.

EVERYBODY IS HAPPY

Negro Snow Shoveler Tries to Repeat on Collecting Money for a Job.

Disbursing Officer Rogers has found a new way of paying laborers.

That official has had troubles enough during the past week in trying to pay off District employes before Christmas instead of at the end of the month. A chief and ever present thorn in his flesh has been a negro who has spent the last week trying to collect money due him from the District for work done in shoveling snow off the street crossings.

A Repeater.

Every day this son of Africa has presented himself in the long line of laborers awaiting their pay, and every day his complacent countenance has peered through the narrow window at the general Mr. Rogers. Every day he has presented a well-worn card showing the amount due him, and every day he has been turned away without the coin. For his card bore a stamped receipt showing he had received the money due him last week.

Every day, also, he has shown the effects of too much indulgence in whisky and gin, but he insisted he had never been paid.

Friends Do It.

"How do you manage to keep drunk every day if you haven't had any money?" he was asked.

"My friends does that fer me, boss." Charley Rogers' patience was stretched to the breaking point. He saw his daily visitor slouch into the doorway. Before he had closed it behind him, the long-suffering official had coached his deputy, Mr. Jones, in their line of attack. That unflinching officeholder charged toward the door, clapped his hand on the shoulder of the frightened white wing and howled in his ear:

"Do you mean to say you didn't get that money?"

"Indeed I did, boss, of course I did. I just come in today to gib yo' dis card as a receipt, boss, dat's all."

He lifted two horny hands of toll in

Everlasting Flowers Perturb the Milliner

Will Luther Burbank's Australia "Star" and Others to Come Supplant Artificial Bloom for Hat Trimmings Is Their Worry.

Will the natural flower take the place of the artificial in millinery decoration? This is the question that has aroused considerable discussion among botanists since the production by Luther Burbank, of San Francisco, of an everlasting real flower that will neither fade nor lose its fragrance.

Prof. Burbank, who developed the thornless cactus by a system of careful crossing and grafting, has for some years been working on the theory that a flower may be cultivated which will retain its bloom perpetually. If reports from the Pacific Coast are true, he has at last succeeded.

The new plant he calls the "Australian star flower." It is a development of a hardy annual found in west central Australia. Hoping that something could be done with this vigorous plant Prof. Burbank brought several specimens from Australia and went to work.

The blossoms of the star flower grow in large clusters, and vary in color from rich, deep crimson, to pure white, with pink pencillings. The full grown plant is about one foot in height. Burbank now has in his possession a cluster of these beautiful blossoms which have remained unchanged for a year.

It is the idea of the Western botanist to bring the star flower to a development that will permit of its being used in place of the artificial flowers now used by milliners to trim bonnets. No cloth or paper flower can ever be made which will equal in grace and beauty the

work of nature. That the star flower can be produced in many different colors botanists do not doubt. At present they are skeptical about the lasting qualities of Prof. Burbank's product, but they admit that if blossoms preserve their freshness for a year there is no reason why they should not be preserved indefinitely, even after being cut.

None of the prominent milliners of Washington had heard of the Burbank flower when asked about it by a reporter for The Times, and were not prepared to pass an opinion on the subject.

"It may put us out of business entirely," said one pretty little woman on F Street, as she rested awhile from her labors with the Christmas shoppers.

"Just think of it. Suppose that Western botanist finds a way to keep flowers fresh forever. Everybody will find out about it and grow these flowers. Then, all a woman will have to do will be to buy from the florist the kind of flowers she wants and have them tacked on her hat.

"If she goes to a ball she can select from her hat box the prettiest bunch of roses, wear them at night, and have her maid sew them on her hat in the morning.

"It may mean there are to be no more milliners, but we will have to wait and see what comes. In the meantime we are doing a rushing business."

With that she turned to an impatient group of women who were clamoring to be waited on.

RELIGIOUS CANVASS OF THE NORTHEAST

As a result of two meetings recently held there has been formed "The Ministerial Association of Northeast Washington," for the purpose of making a religious canvass of that part of the city commencing Monday, January 9. This was effected with the following membership:

President, Rev. D. W. Montgomery, Fifth Congregational Church; secretary, C. H. Butler, Keller Memorial Lutheran Church; Revs. C. R. Stetson and C. S. Abbott, Church of the Good Shepherd, Protestant Episcopal; Rev. E. B. Bagby, Ninth Street Christian Church; Rev. G. C. Bacon, Douglass Methodist Episcopal Church; Rev. J. C. Ball, Metropolitan Baptist Church; Rev. L. D. Clark, Friends' Church; Rev. R. L. Blakemore, Epworth Methodist Episcopal Church; Rev. T. G. Easton, D. D. Eastern Presbyterian Church; Rev. R. Riedel, Maryland Avenue Baptist; Rev. A. K. Wright, Centennial Baptist.

MONEY PLENTIFUL THIS CHRISTMAS

Marked Increase Shown in the Mail Going Abroad.

LOCAL POSTOFFICE BUSY

Foreigners Remember Loved Ones at Home—Lots of Money Orders.

Each year as Christmas rolls around there is a great drift of feeling toward home.

To the man or woman away from the place of his birth there is but one beautiful spot in the universe at this particular time. Although the heart and mind may have been satisfied with the surroundings all the rest of the year, there is a flight of the sentimental nature toward the old home at Christmas time.

The result of this feeling is that tons upon tons of presents and letters pass through the mails to add their cheer to the Christmas joy at the home fireside.

America Takes Lead.

In this respect the United States stands foremost among the Christian nations of the world. There is no country where Christmas is so widely celebrated and where so many gifts are bestowed as tokens of love and friendship.

The American believes in showing his love or friendship by giving the best he may have to his relative or friend.

However, it would not do for a moment to think or believe that other people fail to respond to the generous impulses which lay hold upon the heart at Christmas. There has been a great increase this year in the amount of mail matter sent to foreign countries.

The foreigners of this country do not forget their distant homes, and money and presents have been sent abroad as messages of love and comfort from across the waters.

Mail Goes Abroad.

The superintendent of mails in the city postoffice said to a Times reporter yesterday that he had noticed a marked increase in the Christmas mail going abroad this year.

The increase has been fully 15 per cent over that of 1903.

The majority of the letters and packages addressed to foreign countries have gone to Great Britain and Germany, more to Germany, perhaps, than any other.

The fact that the United States has a post parcels treaty with Germany permits the shipment of many things which would not be allowed to enter the mails from other countries.

Many hundreds of packages have gone

Southerner in Cabinet; Yerkes Should Be It

Biggest Petition on Record to Ask His Appointment to the President's Official Family.

For over a month Representative Brownlow, of Tennessee, and R. H. McNeil, formerly private secretary to Senator Pritchard, of North Carolina, have been writing the Republican organizations and prominent business men of the South, asking for endorsements for Commissioner of Internal Revenue John W. Yerkes for a place in the Cabinet.

It is declared that the petition which will be presented to the President, asking for Mr. Yerkes' appointment is one of the biggest on record, and that the President cannot fail to be persuaded

there is not only a very strong feeling in the South for a Cabinet officer, but there is also a belief that Commissioner Yerkes should be the man.

Mr. Brownlow will call at the White House shortly after the holidays and tell the President the South should have a place in the Cabinet, and Yerkes should get it. It is, of course, known that the Cabinet as it will go into the Senate on March 4, is determined upon, but it is realized that before many months have passed away there may be a change and it is for one of these places that Mr. Brownlow is working.

to France. The larger part of the French mail is addressed to Paris.

The Greek peddlers and bootblacks have not forgotten their loved ones in the land of Bozaris. Almost every Green fruit vender and shoe shiner in the city has been saving industriously for months in order to send some money home.

A little black-eyed son of Sparta told a Times reporter today that he had just sent his mother the little Greek village of Mistra. The boy works in a shoe shining parlor on Ninth Street, and said he had been saving for ten months.

Postoffice Orders.

Money is principally sent by postoffice orders. A great deal of money, however, is sent through banks in the city. There were hundreds of drafts made out in the city banks this week and sent to foreign branches for payment.

Most of the money sent in this way goes to Ireland and England.

Many Money Orders.

The money order division in the city postoffice has been quite busy making out international money orders during the last two weeks. For the ten days which ended Thursday afternoon a total of \$41 international money orders were made, aggregating a total value of \$8,182.88. This is an increase of \$62.77 over the same period in 1903.

According to the postoffice officials there has been an increase of about 15 per cent in the amount of domestic mail matter handled this Christmas. There has been a noticeable relief from the congested condition of the highways in the city postoffice this year.

The fact is entirely due to the use of the substations. Last year the substations were not used to as great an extent as they have been this year. This year packages were mailed mostly at the substations.

City Divided Up.

Postmaster Merritt divided the city into three circuit routes, with a wagon for each. Each of these circuits has about six stations. For the last two weeks the wagons have been making

four trips each day, and the average amount of mail collected was 115 bags per day. The wagons collected nothing but packages.

A bag of mail of this character will average fifty pounds per bag. Thus it will be seen that the residents of the District of Columbia have been sending out each day for two weeks in the neighborhood of three tons of presents, packages, etc.

It is an interesting sight to see the incoming Christmas packages. The bags are emptied in a heap for assortment, and these piles remind one of an old-time hay stack. The carriers and the extra men put on will be kept exceedingly busy until Tuesday or Wednesday before they are anywhere near through.

The Washington residents have also been busy in the line of money orders. During the ten days which closed Thursday night, 2,159 money orders were issued. This shows an increase of 555 orders during this Christmas season. There has been an average of over 200 money orders issued each day for ten days. The total value of the Christmas money orders issued this year for the ten days mentioned was \$23,232.18, as compared with \$20,423.53 for the same period in 1903. The increase in the value of money orders this year, it will be seen, is \$2,808.65.

Money From Home.

While the Washingtonians have been busy sending out money orders, the people at home have not been idle. The number of money orders paid during the ten days referred to was 12,928, having an aggregate value of \$90,784.73. This is an increase in value of \$6,238.75 over the ten days during 1903.

It will be seen from the foregoing facts that more money is being circulated this Christmas than ever before. The figures, of course, are merely for postoffice money orders, but it is fair to presume that the same facts maintain in the city banks.

We also see that more Christmas packages have been sent and received than during any Christmas season before. There seems to be an increased desire to make joyful the hearts of others, and the result has been a prosperous season for the merchants and a busy one for the postoffices and banks.

MAN WITH DEVICE AFTER INSPECTOR

Two See Violations of the Smoke Law.

SO SAYS HEALTH OFFICER

But Some One in Court Thought It Curious That Agent Should Follow After Inspector.

Charges were made this morning in the Police Court which Dr. Woodward, of the Health Office, believes are meant to reflect on his smoke inspector.

The question was asked: "Why does an agent for a smoke-preventing device follow so closely after a District inspector visiting buildings?"

Woodward's Defense.

In this regard Dr. Woodward said yesterday:

"The city is canvassed continually by representatives of manufacturers of smoke-preventing devices of all kinds. These men are guided in their work, in part, by the published account of prosecutions in the Police Court for violations of the smoke law, and in part by their own observations of the emission of dense smoke from particular establishments.

"If, in the case tried in court this morning, the visit of the agent for the smoke-preventing device followed not long after the smoke inspector's report had been received by the managers of the establishment, that fact merely shows that the emissions were of such a character as to attract the attention of two independent observers, and to be regarded by each as sufficiently serious to require consideration and action on the part of the proprietors of the establishment.

"In no other case has it ever been alleged that the visits of the smoke inspector and the visits of representatives of smoke-preventing devices have been in such close sequence as to suggest that there was any connection between them, and in this present case no evidence has been offered by the complainant or discovered by the Health Department to show any such connection."

MORE THAN SILLY.

Mrs. Green-William, what objection have you to that young man who is calling on our daughter?"

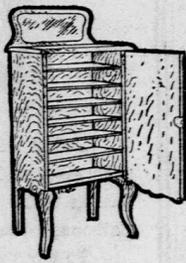
"Green—He is silly, Mary."

Mrs. Green—Oh, that's because he is in love. I remember the time when you were a silly young man.

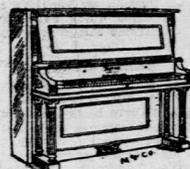
Green—Silly isn't the proper name for it, Mary. I was a measly idiot—that's what I was.—London Tid-Bits.



- ### Odd Bureaus
- \$12.00 Solid Oak Bureaus...\$8.49
 - \$14.00 Solid Oak Bureaus...\$10.25
 - \$18.00 Solid Oak Bureaus...\$12.95
 - \$20 Cabinet Oak Bureaus...\$14.75
 - \$23 Cabinet Oak Bureaus...\$15.95
 - \$27 Quar. Oak Bureaus...\$19.75
 - \$30 Quar. Oak Bureaus...\$22.45
 - \$33 Quar. Oak Bureaus...\$24.25



- ### Music Cabinets
- Mahogany finished Music Cabinet, open front, five shelves, and nicely polished. Regularly \$6.50. Special value—
- \$3.89**
- Large Mahogany finished Music Cabinet, shaped legs, panel door, nicely arranged, well made, and finished. Regularly \$10.00. Special value—
- \$6.49**



Byrne Pianos

Have No Superior

Action: Responsive and Durable.
Tone: Full, Round, and Long Sustained.
Casing: Artistic and Handsome.

Delivered Upon Payment **\$5**

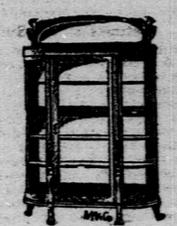
The Balance Weekly **\$1**

10-year guarantee. Stool, scarf, and tuned one year free.

- ### Iron Beds
- Good White Enamel Iron Bed, strong, well made, and nicely finished. Full size only. Regularly \$3.00. Special—
- \$1.55**
- Heavy White Enamel Iron Bed, brass rails and knobs, extended footboard, very pretty, and well finished. Regularly \$6.00. Special value—
- \$3.98**
- This handsome Colonial Style Iron Bed, white, blue, or green enamel, trimmed with gold, very heavy, and must be seen to be appreciated. Special value—
- \$7.89**



- ### China Closets
- \$20.00 Solid Oak China Closet...\$12.75
 - \$24.00 Quartered Oak China Closet...\$16.45
 - \$28.00 Quartered Oak China Closet...\$19.75
 - \$35.00 Quartered Oak China Closet...\$24.75
 - \$40.00 Quartered Oak China Closet...\$27.75
 - \$45.00 Quartered Oak China Closet...\$32.89
 - \$55.00 Quartered Oak China Closet...\$43.65
 - \$60.00 Quartered Oak China Closet...\$46.95



Big Values for Suit Buyers

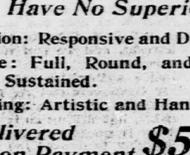
- \$12 and \$15 Suits, \$8.90**
- One Suit of a kind, in Cassimere, Cheviot, and Novelties; cut in fashionable styles and finely tailored.
- \$13 and \$15 Overcoats, \$10.90**
- Oxfords, Irish Frieze, and Novelty Cloths, silk velvet collars, well tailored and trimmed. Big values for little money.



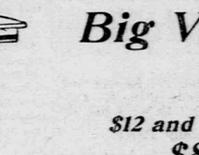
- ### Women's Apparel Underpriced
- #### Rain Coats
- Steel gray Genuine Cravenette Rain Coat, collarless, plaited back, epaulets, shoulder straps, Bishop sleeves, with box plaits; handsomely made. Regularly \$18.00. Special—
- \$12.48**
- #### Walking Skirt
- Wool Thibet, in blue or black, plaited bottom, trimmed with tabs and buttons. Regularly \$4.98. Special—
- \$2.98**
- Charge Accounts Opened



- ### Stoves Reduced
- #### Oil Heaters
- Full Nickel-trimmed Oil Heater, one-piece tank, with oil register, nicely finished and made. Regularly \$5.00. Special—
- \$2.98**
- #### Self-Feeders
- Substantial Round Self-feeding Parlor Stove, nickel panels, shaking and dumping anti-clinker grate, and swing top, with nickel urn. Special—
- \$9.79**
- #### Cooking Stoves
- No. 6 Five-hole Range, guaranteed to bake and do its work equal to any stove on the market. Regularly \$13.00. Special—
- \$9.69**



- ### Rocker Bargains
- Solid Oak Leather-seat Rocker; arms re-enforced with steel rods; strong and nicely finished. Regularly \$2.25—
- \$1.48**
- This Selected Oak or Mahogany Finished Rocker, saddle seat, high arms, highly polished and well made. Worth \$4.00. Special—
- \$2.59**
- Fine Mahogany-finish or Quartered Oak Rocker, wood or leather seat, highly polished and fine construction. Regularly \$6.00. Special value—
- \$3.99**

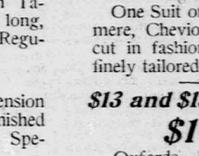


- ### Morris Chairs
- \$7 Oak Morris Chairs...\$4.45
 - \$10 Oak Morris Chairs...\$6.79
 - \$14 Mahog. Morris Chairs...\$9.89
 - \$18 Oak Morris Chairs...\$12.89
 - \$20 Oak Morris Chairs...\$14.95
 - \$22 Oak Morris Chairs...\$15.95
 - \$25 Mahog. Mor. Chairs...\$17.65
 - \$25 Oak Morris Chairs...\$17.65



This solid oak six-pin Clothes Tree, very substantial, well constructed and finished; worth 75c. Special—

39c



- ### Sideboards
- \$16.00 Solid Oak Sideboard...\$9.98
 - \$20.00 Solid Oak Sideboard...\$12.95
 - \$38.00 Quartered Oak Sideboard...\$28.50
 - \$43.00 Quartered Oak Sideboard...\$31.50
 - \$48.00 Quartered Oak Sideboard...\$34.95
 - \$55.00 Quartered Oak Sideboard...\$43.75
 - \$65.00 Quartered Oak Sideboard...\$49.95
 - \$75.00 Quartered Oak Sideboard...\$59.85

