

SECOND CLASS RATE AGAIN UNDER FIRE

Might Cut Letter Postage Half If Periodicals Paid Share, Says Hitchcock.

REPLY TO ARGUMENT OF THE PUBLISHERS

Believes Proportion of Rural Delivery Cost Charged Is Fair.

Postmaster General Hitchcock has replied to the argument of the Periodical Publishers' Association as to the cost of handling second class mail matter, declaring that should the magazines pay their exact share of transportation cost enough money would be made by the department to reduce the cost of carrying a letter to 1 cent, instead of 2.

The reply goes into many details of the operation of the Postoffice Department, and touches upon the relation of the second class mail matter to the rural free delivery system, the cost of transporting newspapers as well as magazines, and the cause of the present deficit of \$6,000,000 in the department.

Says Letters Defray Expense.

The report says "if the rate on second class matter were high enough to cover the entire cost of transporting and handling it, which has not been suggested, it would be possible, without creating a deficit, to reduce the postage on letters from 2 cents to 1 cent."

Every time a 2-cent stamp is now placed on a letter, it defrays the expense not only of handling and transporting the letter, but it helps to pay in almost equal measure the cost of distributing through the mails the periodical publications of the country.

Rural Delivery Cost.

It is also asserted in the statement that the average length of haul on a magazine is 1.84 miles, while the average length of the newspaper haul is 2.01 miles.

Mr. Hitchcock, therefore, denies emphatically the statement that it costs as much to handle the newspapers as to handle the magazines.

It is asserted by the department that in charging to second class mail matter 42.23 per cent of the cost of rural free delivery, the proportion is fair. The statistics of the department show that 45 per cent of the pieces of mail handled was second class matter.

Mr. Hitchcock also denies that there will be a surplus of \$10,000,000 in all the departments of the Government if a proper allowance is made for the rural free delivery service cost.

ARRANGE FUNERAL OF MISS JULIA LEE

Body of Member of Famous Virginia Family Goes to Alexandria.

The funeral of Miss Julia Lee, one of the oldest surviving members of the Lee family of Virginia, and a resident of Washington since the early 60's, will be held at her residence, 2315 Pennsylvania avenue, Friday morning, at 12:30 o'clock. At 1 o'clock, the body will be taken to Alexandria for burial.

Miss Lee's father, Richard Bland Lee, 2d, served with distinction under Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston during the war between the States. Her grandfather, Richard Bland Lee, was the brother of Gen. Robert E. Lee, of the Confederate army.

STOCKMAN CHARGED WITH MANY THEFTS

Diamonds, Furs, and Cash to the Value of Thousands Taken.

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 28.—Joseph Stock, a stockman, wanted by the New Orleans police on a charge of stealing \$2,300 in diamonds, several hundred dollars cash, and furs worth several hundred dollars more, was under arrest in Detroit, and most of the property has been recovered.

Miss Minnie Lyons, of New Orleans, was the victim and her husband believed to be the notorious Ann Odell De Bar, but who posed as a fortune teller and went under the name of Madame Julian was believed to be an accessory to the robbery, and the police are now searching for her. Detectives connected with the central office bureau decline to discuss the case.

WEALTHY CHINAMAN IS UNDER ARREST

Charged With Aiding Illegal Landing of Fellow-Countrymen in This Country.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 28.—Hom Kin, a wealthy Chinese merchant of New Orleans, who was arrested charged with aiding the illegal landing of twenty-eight Chinese on Cat Island, Miss., from the steamer Axel from Mexico, started back to the Southern city in custody today.

How went to China in December on a visit. He returned on the steamer Sierra, and not having his papers with him, he was sent to the detention shed. He telegraphed to New Orleans for the papers and was thus found by officials.

Extra Fine CALIFORNIA PRUNES

5 lbs. for 25c J. T. D. PYLES 14 STORES

Malaga Wine

Highest grade obtainable. Imported direct from Spain. \$1.00 full qt., 50c pt. Only to be had at Christian Xander's FAMILY QUALITY HOUSE 909 7th St. Phone M. 274. No branch houses.

POINTS IN GIBSON'S PLAY SOUND SIMILAR TO WILDE'S

Points of Likeness Discovered By Many At First Performance.

SENIOR AT YALE MAKES COMPARISON

Epigrams Quoted From English and American Authors.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—After three years of publicity as an aspiring successor to Pinero, Thomas and other noted playwrights, Preston Gibson, the spectacular young millionaire of Washington and New York, has surprised those of his friends who had known him in New Haven by appearing in the light of the author of at least ten epigrams, which bear remarkable similarity to epigrams in two comedies of Oscar Wilde.

Leslie Mason, a Yale senior and dramatic critic of the New Haven Palladium, who has been a devoted follower of Wilde's writings for four years and knows his lines almost by heart, reviewed the opening performance at the Hyperion Theater Saturday night and came away with an irrefragable feeling that he had read at least ten of the epigrams in the comedies of the Wilde. As Mason sat listening to the speeches a strange familiarity with the lines of the "Turning Point," Gibson's play, came upon him at once, and he kept asking himself, "Where have I heard this before? Where have I heard it?"

Then, when it seemed as though the precise words began to crop out, one after one, he exclaimed emphatically, "It is Wilde! It is Wilde!"

Many Note Similarity.

So sure was he at the time of the correctness of his opinion that in the dark of the theater he pulled out a pencil and copied speeches from Gibson's play on his program and found later they coincided almost exactly with those of Wilde.

L. C. Smith, manufacturer of the L. C. Smith typewriter, went to Mason after the play and said: "Wasn't that Wilde's 'The Turning Point' last night? I am sure of it."

D. L. Jacobus, Mason's chum, of 28 Conn. street, New Haven, had told him previous to the night performance that there was some striking similarity in "The Turning Point" to another play, and that the lines were almost identical with many from Oscar Wilde's comedies.

Paul Barnett, managing editor of the New Haven Palladium, recalled the resemblance at once when Mason mentioned it, and Barnett coincided with Mason's opinion when the dramatic critic read his excerpts one by one.

Barnett, Jacobus, and Smith are willing to make affidavit that the lines of Wilde were in substance heard at the performance of Gibson's play.

Dazzling Shower of Epigrams.

When interviewed Mr. Mason told of his discovery as follows: "I had been warned Saturday afternoon that I should find startling resemblances to Wilde in 'The Turning Point.' I attended the evening performance. The epigrams began to arrive before the first act was over. I was overwhelmed, but cautious. I was ready to believe in Gibson.

"Here is Wilde, the Second; I could have shown to you my suspicions grew as I examined them.

"Then came the third act, and a dazzling shower of epigrams that could not be mistaken.

"While the applause was roaring around me, I was reviewing 'An Ideal Husband' and before I left the theater I was convinced that the choicest lines of Gibson's play had been first heard by those who saw 'An Ideal Husband' in London, on January 2, 1885. It was only a matter of thirty or forty minutes after I reached my room to make a thorough examination of the volume containing Wilde's play. At the end of that time I had an array of ten examples of striking similarity.

Epigrams Compared. "Here is a complete list of Gibson's lines and the original epigrams from Wilde's plays, 'An Ideal Husband' and 'A Woman of No Importance.' I am quoting from the J. W. Luce edition of the plays of Oscar Wilde.

WILDE: Lord Goring—I am glad you have called. I am going to give you some good advice. Act I, page 10.

Mrs. Cheveley—Oh! pray don't. One should never give a woman anything she can't wear in the evening.—An Ideal Husband, Act III, page 31.

GIBSON: Ferguson—Makes a remark about good advice. Act I, page 10.

Pansy Parr—Never give a woman anything she can't wear in the evening. Act I, page 10.

WILDE: Mrs. Cheveley—I have a distinct recollection of Lady Chiltern always getting the good conduct prize. Act I, page 8.

GIBSON: Pansy Parr—When I was at school I always got the prize for good conduct. I have gotten other prizes since, but none of them were for good conduct. Act I, page 8.

Woman's Two Occupations. WILDE: Mrs. Cheveley—I don't care about the London season, it is too matrimonial; people are either hunting for husbands or hiding from them. Act I, page 10.

GIBSON: Pansy Parr—Women have only two occupations—hunting for husbands and hiding from them. Act I, page 10.

WILDE: Mabel Chiltern—Oh, I love London society. Act I, page 10.

GIBSON: Pansy Parr—Brainy men don't care for beautiful idiots and brilliant lunatics. Act III, page 4.

WILDE: Lord Goring—Nothing ages like happiness. Act I, page 10.

GIBSON: Pansy Parr—Brainy men don't care for beautiful idiots and brilliant lunatics. Act III, page 4.

WILDE: Mrs. Marchmont—My poor husband and we are punished for it. Act I, page 10.

GIBSON: Pansy Parr—Marry a perfect husband and you will be punished for it. Act I, page 10.

WILDE: Lord Goring—Oh, I should very modern women of our time who find a new scandal as becoming as a new bonnet, and air them both in the park every afternoon at 5:30. Act II, page 48.

GIBSON: Mrs. Anderson—Think of Pansy Parr—Both the scandal! Act I, page 10.



PRESTON GIBSON.

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GEORGETOWN PLANS NOTABLE EXERCISES

Graduating Week Entertainment to Vie With That of Big Universities.

Plans were set on foot today by class presidents of Georgetown University to hold extensive exercises that will vie with graduating week entertainments at the big universities of the country during the Blue and Gray commencement week of the present year.

The program which had been arranged will be wholly altered if plans outlined at a meeting yesterday are carried through.

Commencing with the baccalaureate sermon Sunday, May 29, the week is to be taken up with graduating exercises of the different schools on the various mornings, while in the afternoon baseball games and crew races will hold sway. In the evenings it is the intention to hold different social events, beginning on Monday with the senior prom, and then following with an outdoor production by the dramatic and musical clubs, a society dinner, the alumni banquet, and a valedictory evening on Friday.

Such a week, it is argued, would draw large numbers of old students to the city, and would give to Georgetown a fitting celebration.

The class presidents have formed a permanent organization, which will be the senior class of the school, and will be made up of the presidents of the different classes ex officio, John J. Cowling, of Casanova, Va., the president of the post-graduate class of the law school, was unanimously chosen vice president. William L. Byrne, of Pittsburg, Pa., president of the senior class of the college, was made secretary, while the treasurer, was bestowed on Waldo R. Pearce, of this city, president of the senior class of the dental school.

The association will meet at a banquet in the near future, when an organization will be perfected.

Press Club Board Names Ladies' Day. Ellery's Band Declines All Bookings to Furnish Music There Thursday.

The board of governors of the National Press Club have designated next Thursday as the annual ladies' day.

Ellery's Band has declined all bookings for that day in order that the soloists may furnish the music for the newspapermen and their friends.

From 5 to 5 o'clock a special program will be enjoyed by the women, while in the evening there will be a smoker for the men, at which Ellery's men will again furnish the music.

MAN OF SEVENTY SUED BY WOMAN

Chicago Millionaire Made Defendant in Breach of Promise Case.

OXFORD, Mich., Feb. 28.—Miss Florence Bliss, of this city, is suing William A. Latham, a Kankakee and Chicago millionaire, for \$10,000 for breach of promise.

Latham is seventy years old, a widower with several children, three of whom are married. Miss Bliss met Latham while she was visiting her brother in Alberta, Canada, and she says he became most attentive to her, and asked her to marry him. She consented, and everything appeared to be lovely until he returned to Chicago, and then he unceremoniously cut off the engagement. Saturday Miss Bliss indignantly denied that she was suing Latham, but declared that he was suing her for breach of promise, but today she admits that she is the plaintiff in the suit.

ITALIANS HONOR POLE DISCOVERS

ROME, Feb. 28.—The Royal Geographical Society has ratified the following committee recommendations for the bestowal of medals for 1909. These include: Gold medal to Commander Robert E. Peary, for the discovery of the North Pole; a silver medal to Capt. Robert A. Adirietti, who commanded the Roosevelt on the Peary expedition; a gold medal to Lieut. Ernest H. Shackleton for his "mearest" South Pole, and a silver tablet to the Duke of the Abruzzi, for his expedition to the Himalayas, where he made a record ascent.

The society appointed William Morris Davis, the geologist, of Harvard University, correspondent.

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THROUGH PARLOR CAR TO ATLANTIC CITY

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD Delaware River Bridge Route BEGINNING MARCH 3

Leave Washington..... 12:30 P. M. Arrive Atlantic City..... 5:30 P. M. ONLY ALL-RAIL ROUTE.

Particularly Attractive During Atlantic's Great Winter and Spring Season (Extending from December to June).

The coast line faces south and is warmed by the Gulf stream air and by the rays of the southern sun, both direct and reflected from the ocean.

The house holds 100 guests and has 400 private baths, each with sea and fresh water. Equipped with everything modern. Orchestra. Famous Windsor Cafe and Restaurant. Open all year. S. PHOEBUS, Manager. feb-28

HOTEL ELWOOD St. James place and Beach. Convenient to theatres and piers. Rooms with private bath. Elevator. Hot-water heat. Sun parlors. Write for Easter rates and booklet. feb-28

MORE THAN A HOTEL—A HOME HOTEL IMPERIAL, S. Maryland overlooking Boardwalk. Quiet, refined, catering to particular people seeking comfort and pleasure at a moderate cost. Elevator. Steam heat. Bath. Ownership management. feb-28

HOTEL WINDSOR. Directly on the ocean front, the very heart of all amusements and features. American and European Plans. Sea view in all baths. Newly renovated and furnished. Equipped with everything modern. Orchestra. Famous Windsor Cafe and Restaurant. Open all year. S. PHOEBUS, Manager. feb-28

HOTEL TRAYMORE Atlantic City, N. J. Open throughout the year. Famous as the hotel with every modern convenience and all the comforts of home. Traymore Hotel Co. D. S. WHITE, Pres. CHAS. O. MARQUETTE, Mgr. feb-28

PONCE DE LEON, Virginia ave. Atlantic City, N. J. Special spring rates. feb-28

STEAMBOATS Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co. Steamers "Southland" and "Newport News" in commission. DAILY 6:45 P. M. FOR OLD POINT COMFORT, NORFOLK AND ALL POINTS SOUTH. Week-end tickets, including stateroom and accommodation at Chamberlin Hotel. Saturday to Monday, \$7.50 Friday to Monday, \$11.50 City Ticket Office, Box Building, 720 14th St. Phone 1620. feb-28

NEW NORFOLK LINE \$2 One STEAMER Round \$3 Saturday Excursion, \$2.00 Round Trip. Potomac & Chesapeake Steamboat Co. WASHINGTON, 8th at wharf—2 p. m. Tuesday, Thurs., Sat., ar. Old Point 4 p. m.; Norfolk, 7 p. m. NORFOLK, 7 p. m. commerce street wharf—4 p. m. Old Point Comfort, 5 p. m. Wednesday, Fri. Sun. ar. Washington, 8 a. m. Phone Main 312, or Label Ticket Office National Hotel. feb-28

AMUSEMENTS ACADEMY Matinee Tues. Thurs. and Sat. The Vaughn Glessner Production of ST. ELMO Augustus Evans' Famous Novel Dramatized by William Hoshorn. MARTIN S. ALBOP as "ST. ELMO." MISS ELISA BEROLD as "EDNA." Next Week—McPADDEN'S FLATS. feb-28

NEW NATIONAL Tonight at 8:15. Wed. and Sat. Mat. Klav and Erlanger's Musical Masterpiece, LITTLE NEMO Company of One Hundred and Fifty. The Incomparable. GENEVE and company of 114. Including Bickel and Warters. In Klav and Erlanger's New Musical "Ray. THE SILVER STAR. feb-28

LYRIC THEATRE—BALTIMORE Fifteenth Performance of GRAND OPERA By the Company From the METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE, N. Y. Wednesday, March 2, 8 p. m. Gounod's FAUST (In French) With a splendid cast, including Mmes. Altis, Florida, Mattioli, Mm. Escot, Esposito, Segura, Gilly, and Begue. Conductor, Podesta. Seats on sale at Smith's 1417 7th St. Weber Place. feb-28

RESORTS Atlantic City. Go to Atlantic City Enjoy the bracing salt air and outdoor life in warm sunshine during this attractive season. MAKE YOUR RENDEZVOUS Any of the following LEADING HOUSES Where you will find the ideal conditions of hotel life necessary to make a sojourn thoroughly enjoyable. Seaside House Hotel Dennis Hotel St. Charles Galen Hall Hotel Traymore Haddon Hall Hotel Marlborough-Blenheim Chalfonts The Fenhurst. Fast, comfortable rail service, in 4 hours via the R. & O. R. R. or the Penna. R. R. feb-28

Atlantic City Tuesday, LASSALLE SPIER March 1, 4:30 PIANO RECITAL. Arranging Artists: ALICE GLEASON of Boston, Violist. B. FRANK GEBERT, at the piano. Tickets, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c, 50c, at T. Arthur Smith's, 1417 7th St. Wed., Mar. 2, 4:30 Three Afternoon Concerts. Mar. 4, 4:30 Three Under the Auspices of the Anti-Slavery Society. Food Trust League. THE ELLERY BAND. TADDEO DI GIROLAMO, Director. WITH PERRUCCIO GIANNINI, the Florentine Tenor. Prices, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1. feb-28

BELASCO TONIGHT Wed. Mat., 5c to \$1. Sat. Mat. 5c to \$1.50. 800 Seats. 50c, 75c, \$1. \$1.50 & \$2. LEW FIELDS OFFERS ANDREW MACK In the Latest and Liveliest Big English Musical Play. The Prince of Bohemia With Christie Macdonald And the Original Hackett Theater, New York. Cast and Production. feb-28

Chase's FOLITE VAUDEVILLE Daily Matinee 2c. Evenings 25c, 50c, & \$1. Billy B. Van and the Season's Sisters in their Mt. "Pros." Grigoli's Acrobatic. Jas. F. Macdonald. The Sully Family. Oscar Lorenz. Maresca, Nevada, & Maresca. De Lisle. "Paris Flood Scene" via New Week—Geo. V. Hobart's "Dinkie's Christmas." Willard Simms & Co., &c. feb-28

NEW LYCEUM MATINEE DAILY. ALL THIS WEEK The Tiger Lilies With ZALLAH the dancer you know. NEXT WEEK—MINER'S BOHEMIANS. feb-28

GAYETY THEATRE, 9th St. near P. All This Week—Matinee Every Day. THE STANDING ROOM ATTRACTION. Follies of New York and Paris. Introducing CHARLES HOWARD. Next Week—MAJESTICS. feb-28

CASINO DEAR 7th & F Sts. "All Care Transfer to the Casino." Most Perfectly Fitted Theater in CONTINUOUS VAUDEVILLE and America's Best Motion Picture Plays. Prices; Evenings, 10c and 20c. feb-28

THE MIDWAY 14th St. and Park Road FUN! FUN! FUN! CONTINUOUS LAUGH FROM 9:30 to 6 and 7:30 to 11. Washington's Biggest Palace of Pleasure. One Admission Includes Everything. SPECIAL—Amusements open to LADIES ONLY, daily except SATURDAY, from 2 to 4. feb-28

MAJESTIC THEATRE VAUDEVILLE AND MAJESTOGRAPH. Mat., 2 to 5. Eve., 7 to 11. 10c—ADMISSION—10c. feb-28

11,287 Patients I point with pride to the fact that 11,287 patients had dental work done in this office last year. The largest number of patients ever recorded by any dentist in this part of the country. This great following is a result of the superior work done and fair treatment. We do nothing but the highest class of work, absolutely painless and at prices just about one-half that charged by other first-class dentists. My Patent Suction Teeth, \$5 They Never Slip or Drop Fillings in Gold, Silver, Platinum and Porcelain, 50c to \$1.00 Crown and Bridge Work, \$3.00, \$4.00 and \$5.00 I guarantee absolutely no pain, and I will give you my written guarantee of lasting satisfaction on any dental work done here. Visit America's foremost dentist and see what modern dentistry has done to relieve the dread of a dentist's chair. DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE MONEY! Our liberal terms enable giving immediate attention to your teeth, instead of allowing them to be ruined while saving enough money to have them properly attended to. DR. WYETH PAINLESS DENTIST. 427-429 7th St. N. W. Opp. Lansburgh & Bro. Over Grand Union Tea Co. LARGEST AND MOST THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED. Appointments May Be Made by Telephone. We keep open until 8 p. m. for the accommodation of those that cannot come during the day. Sunday hours 10 to 4. TELEPHONE MAIN 4334