

READJUSTMENT OF ROUTES.

Gives Service to Three Thousand Additional Families—Communication from Postoffice Department.

Noting the acclaim of dissatisfaction with the readjustment of the rural routes, and the industry with which the local republican politicians are at work...

December 24, 1915.

My Dear Sir:

I have delayed a reply to your communication of the 11th instant until I was in a position to furnish you with data that will, no doubt, be very interesting to the farmers of Iowa.

This data is forwarded herewith, and I am also sending you under separate cover 100 copies of a pamphlet containing speeches made by me before the convention of the National Association of Postmasters of the first and second classes, in this city, and before the State Association of Postmasters, at Saginaw, Michigan, in which will be found the reasons which necessitated a proper readjustment of the collection and delivery service on rural routes.

You will notice from the enclosed tabulated record of service rendered by certain rural carriers in the state of Iowa, that in nearly every instance the individual carriers performed less than four hours of actual service daily during more than three-fourths of the year, and that in numerous instances the carriers performed less than four hours of service throughout the entire year, and in many cases but two and one-half or three hours of daily work was performed.

This bureau does not resent the fact that an individual employee is paid unusual compensation, but there are thousands of other postal employees in the state of Iowa, including clerks in post offices, city letter carriers, and railway postal clerks, who perform eight hours of work daily, and we contend that there is an unfair discrimination in any method of compensation that permits one man to receive the same salary for two hours' work that another man receives for eight hours' of similar labor.

to ten, and even twenty times as much mail as the carriers tabulated in this list and who are paid exactly the same, or less, compensation.

Now, the readjustment of the service in Iowa has provided mail facilities to more than 3,000 additional heads of families, or approximately 15,000 individuals, who have heretofore been denied all mail collection and delivery; while 4,000 heads of families have been required to move their mail boxes short distances, and thus suffer certain inconveniences.

As set forth in my statements to the presidential postmasters at Saginaw, Michigan, the service in the state of Iowa has now been cleansed of all its useless and unnecessary travel, and is at present in such a condition as will warrant immediate and substantial upbuilding.

I am pleased to state that, as a result of my visit to Michigan, we have received from patrons and postmasters many suggestions for the establishment of new routes and the extension of existing service, and action has already been taken that undoubtedly meets with the approval of our correspondents.

One senator forwarded a sketch of a proposed route, pointing out with small lead pencil dots the location of the patrons who would be served, and showing on the sketch the location of the proposed route as it pertained to other routes or postoffices in its vicinity.

I believe that the rural patrons in Iowa will understand and be pleased to note this tremendous change for the better in the extension of mail facilities to them, and it is all due to the elimination of special privilege to a few who have enjoyed a more than adequate supply, while thousands of others have been denied reasonable mail facilities.

It may be stated that it is impossible to perform satisfactory service on long routes, over bad roads, but we are careful to note the hours of service rendered by the employees on such routes, and it is generally a fact that the apparently substantial objection that appears because of the length of route disappears when the patron is informed of the hours of service rendered by the employee thereon during nine, ten or eleven months in the year, and that the difficulty of road travel interferes to a small extent in the tour of duty for

one month in the year only. I trust that this information will be what is desired, but in order that I may not fail to make statements upon each specific inquiry, I have to say, in reply to your first question, that the department has information relative to the condition of the roads in Iowa at all seasons of the year.

In reply to your second question: We do not consider ourselves infallible, and readjustments of the rural delivery service will be promptly made, especially where substantial cause therefor may be shown.

As to your third question: The department has not been, and is not, in any wise interested in the effect that its action may have upon elections.

As to your fourth question, I submit the enclosed tabulated statement. In reply to your fifth question: The department used twenty inspectors and eighteen of its most experienced clerical employees in the revision of this service, not only in Iowa, but all over the country; also thousands of reports from local inspectors have been received from time to time, during the past twenty years, from which complete and accurate data was secured upon many illustrations of the unfair distribution of rural mail facilities.

No new service was established on any highway where a report from the local postmaster was not at hand relative to the road conditions, and other details concerning the character of service that could be rendered.

Yours very truly, JAS. L. BLAKSLEE, Fourth Assistant Postmaster General.

Mrs. James Boldman.

A beautiful life, beautiful christian character, beautiful influence, has gone to rest, not dead, no not dead, just a separation.

Catherine Masters Hankins Boldman was born near Portsmouth, Ohio, Nov. 19, 1844, and passed away at Davis City, Iowa, Wednesday, Jan. 26, 1916, at 5:30 a. m., aged 72 years, 2 months and 7 days.

She was married to Hamilton Hankins, June 8, 1862, at her father's house in Ohio, where she was born.

To this union were born 12 children, ten of whom survive her. The eldest died at Moore's Station, California, Oct. 29, 1882, Josie Feb. 29, 1884, at Wakefield, Ohio.

Mrs. Hankins was married to James Boldman, Nov. 6, 1902, in Ohio, after which they moved to Davis City, where they have since made their home.

She leaves to mourn her loss, husband, five daughters, five sons, six grand-children and a host of relatives and friends.

In her childhood she united with the Methodist church and was baptized. She lived a faithful consistent christian life.

She knew Him in Whom she had believed and was persuaded that He was able to keep that which she had committed unto Him against that day.

Her sweet modest christian character was an inspiration to those with whom she mingled. She could have said with Paul, "I have fought a good fight. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, the Lord, the Righteous Judge shall give me at that day."

All that remains of this beautiful body will be taken by her children to their home in Springfield, Illinois, and lie there until she is placed in a mausoleum.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist church at Davis City Saturday at 2 o'clock, conducted by Rev. Lyle. The pall bearers were John Tharp, Earl Scott, Alfred Cummings and Curtis Burrell.

Among the beautiful floral offerings sent in by friends and relatives was a pillow of the most beautiful design imaginable, given by the children present, a beautiful wreath from the two children in Ohio, who were unable to come, beautiful flowers from the Elk lodge, of which her son Louis is a member and floral remembrances from her many friends in Davis City.

The body was taken back to the house after the funeral and kept there until taken to the train at 8 o'clock, when it was shipped to Springfield.

The children who were present are T. J. Hankins, Springfield, Ill., M. L. Hankins, Chicago, Ill., C. M. Hankins, Council Bluffs, Iowa, Louis Hankins, Lincoln, Neb., Mrs. Katherine DeClaspel, Tulsa, Okla., Mrs. Maude Smith, Cordova, Neb., and three grandchildren, Elizabeth and Jack DeClaspel and Violette Smith.

The children who were unable to be present are Mrs. Rose Langdon, San Francisco, Calif., Mrs. Judith Bottigheimer, Elwood, Ind., Mrs. Tillie Reed, Chillicothe, Ohio, Herschel Hankins, Milledgeville, Ohio. Rev. Lyle.

THIS MEANS We have sent out statements to many accounts past due and now has come the time we must insist upon payment as we need the amounts in business and we must have these in cash or bankable note by or before March 1st. F. N. HANSELL

Montana Letter. Billings, Mont., Jan. 29, 1916. Editor Reporter—As you asked us if we wouldn't write you a letter when we got here I think it about time that we were doing so.

Billings is a town of 25,000 people. It is considered to be next to the largest town in the state of Montana. There are five banks, eight schools which are named for certain presidents of the United States, and we have fifty-two saloons and other fine buildings.

War Upon Pain. Pain is a visitor to every home and usually it comes quite unexpectedly. But you are prepared for every emergency if you keep a small bottle of Sloan's Liniment handy.

If you have any of our ice cream packers at your home please telephone us and we will call and get them.

STATEMENT of the condition of Decatur State Savings Bank organized under the laws of Iowa, located at Decatur, County of Decatur, at the close of business on the 31st day of January, 1916, made to the Auditor of State.

STATEMENT of the condition of Pleasanton Savings Bank organized under the laws of Iowa, located at Pleasanton, county of Decatur, at the close of business on the 31st day of January, 1916, made to the Auditor of State.

C. A. McKERN LEON, IOWA Live Stock and Real Estate Auctioneer Satisfaction Guaranteed Write or Phone for Dates Saturday town sales a specialty

The Reporter Prints Sale Bills Right!

Speaking of the Weather February and March bring weather conditions very trying to most people. Colds, coughs, sore throat, tonsillitis, catarrh, bronchitis, pneumonia, are all prevalent. These are all catarrhal conditions. All dependent upon the same cause, climatic changes. Sloppy weather underfoot. High winds, chilling blasts, changing from day to day. Thermometer dancing a jig. Barometer following suit. All of the acute catarrhal conditions above referred to, call for PE-RU-NA. They call loudly, too. If Peruna is neglected these catarrhal conditions are liable to become chronic. One bottle of Peruna used at the right time will save months, even years, of suffering and sickness. THE PERUNA COMPANY Columbus, Ohio (Sold at all Drug Stores)