

CHANGE IN PARCEL POST REGULATION EFFECTIVE JAN. 1

Formally Approved Yesterday By Interstate Commerce Commission

EXTENDS WEIGHT LIMITS

Books Are Admitted and Rates On Parcels Under and Over Eight Ounces Given

CHANGE OF POSTAGE RATES

Applying to the Several Zones and Becoming Effective On Various Dates

IN INTEREST OF SCHOOLS

Washington, D. C., Dec. 6.—Important changes in parcel post regulations including general reduction in rates and increase in maximum weights, were approved today by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The revisions were made upon recommendation of Postmaster General Burleson, and in a majority of cases are effective January 1, 1914. Books are admitted to the parcel post; weight limits are increased in the first and second zones from 20 to 50 pounds, and in all zones beyond the second from 11 to 20 pounds and rates are reduced in the third, fourth and sixth zones.

Reductions in Rates.
The changes in rates to be in effect January 1, 1914 follow:

To reduce the rates for the third zone from seven cents for the first pound and five cents for each additional pound to six cents for the first pound and two cents for each additional pound.

To reduce the rates for the fifth zone from eight cents for the first pound and six cents for each additional pound to seven cents for the first pound and four cents for each additional pound.

To reduce the rates for the fifth zone from nine cents for the first pound and seven cents for each additional pound to eight cents for the first pound and six cents for each additional pound.

To reduce the rates for the sixth zone from 10 cents for the first pound and nine cents for each additional pound to nine cents for the first pound and eight cents for each additional pound.

To Promote Service to Public.

"It seems obvious," says a statement by the commission, "that the service to the public will be promoted by these changes provided the revenue from the service be not less than the cost thereof. Experience seems to show clearly that the revenue will not be less than the cost of the service."

Increased Weight Allowance.

"We can conceive of no opposition to the increased weights and reduced rates except from the carriers that transport the mails. We have heard some objections from them on the ground that the increased weight should not be permitted until provision for additional compensation to the carriers has been made."

Books by Parcel Post March 16.

It is provided by the Postmaster General with the consent of the commission, "that the rate of postage on parcels containing books weighing eight ounces or less shall be one cent for each two ounces or fractional part thereof, and on those weighing in excess of eight ounces, the zone parcel rates shall apply."

This is to be effective March 16, 1914.

Consent also was given to admission of shipments of gold, gold bullion and gold dust in Alaska and to and from Alaska in packages weighing not more than eleven pounds. The rate of postage fixed is two cents an ounce or fraction thereof for all distances.

Extension of Limit Has Been Successful.

The Postmaster General issued an order effective August 15 last increasing the weight limit in the first and second zones from 11 to 20 pounds and materially reducing the rates of postage for these zones and stated at that time that this step was in the nature of an "experiment," and a statement issued tonight by the Postoffice De-

partment. "After these changes had been in operation for some time a record was kept of the number of parcels handled in a large number of representative postoffices throughout the United States and the reports received from these offices show that the changes in the service have been greatly appreciated by the public."

Helps Schools, Libraries, Etc.

The statement says of the change relating to books that it "has strongly been urged by circulating libraries, schools, colleges and publishers ever since the establishment of the parcel post service, as the present restrictive limit and rates on books are prohibitive to a great extent except in the case of catalogues" and that it was "not deemed advisable to place the order changing the classification of books in effect January 1 as it was desired to give at least three months' notice to firms whose catalogues were now being printed."

WEEKLY COTTON REVIEW.

New York, Dec. 5.—There has been little change in the cotton market during the past week and business has been quiet enough to create rather a general opinion around the ring that scattering accounts have been pretty well evened up with the trade now awaiting next week's Government reports. Private returns have shown a gain to December 1 of around 12,000,000 bales on the average, and many local traders, consequently, assume that the market is pretty well prepared for such a showing from the Census Bureau on Monday morning. This report will compare with 11,954,415 bales ginned to December 1st, last year, and 12,816,807 bales two years ago, while the percentage of the crop ginned to December 1st has ranged from 75.5 to 89.1 during the past seven years, averaging around 83.3.

In this connection, however, there have been numerous private reports from the South indicating that a very small proportion of the crop remains in the fields, and small crop estimates have harmonized their view of the yield with expected ginning figures, by claiming that the ginning to December 1st, this season, will represent at least 88 percent of the total. Additional crop estimates have reflected a continued difference of opinion, a prominent New Orleans authority having published an estimate of 13,600,000 bales, excluding linters, while there have been reiterated estimates of some of the larger estimates issued earlier in the season. Neither in the talk around the ring nor in the action of the market, however, has there been anything to indicate any material change in average views as to the probable showing of the Government report, which is due at 2:00 p. m. next Friday, and judging from recent canvasses of cotton exchange members here and abroad estimates of around 14 1/2 million bales, including linters, are more numerous than either higher or lower figures. But such demand as has been created by the talk of a comparatively low Government report has been readily supplied on moderate advances and while none of the recognized authorities have yet reduced their estimates of the world's probable requirements an unfavorable view of general trade conditions has figured more largely in market arguments.

MOVEMENT OF COTTON.

New York, Dec. 5.—The following statistics on the movement of cotton for the week ending Friday, December 5, were compiled by the New York Cotton Exchange:

Weekly Movement.	
Port Receipts	365,098
Overland to Mills and Canada	54,194
Southern Mill Takings (Estimated)	105,000
Gain of Stock at Interior Towns	54,023
Brought into Sight for the Week	
	578,317
Total Crop Movement.	
Port Receipts	5,657,139
Overland to Mills and Canada	344,763
Southern Mill Takings (Estimated)	1,985,000
Gain of Stock at Interior Towns	671,329
Brought into Sight thus far for Season	
	7,758,231

WEEKLY INTERIOR COTTON TOWNS.

New York, Dec. 5.	
	Mid. Repts.
Albany	1,144
Athens	4,400
Atlanta	6,355
Brenham	70
Charlotte, steady	616
Columbia	3,000
Columbus, Ga., quiet	5,275
Columbus, Miss.	3,877
Dallas	2,664
Eufaula	1,134
Greenville	5,116
Greenwood, S. C.	712
Helena	3,037
Little Rock, quiet	10,514
Macon	2,589
Meridian	1,641
Montgomery	12 13 16 6,938
Nashville, quiet	433
Natchez	1,801
Newberry	1,058
Raleigh	849
Rome	3,616
Seima	5,606
Shreveport	5,696
Vicksburg	1,985
Yazoo City	2,604

COMPARATIVE COTTON STATEMENT.

New York, Dec. 5.—For the week ending Friday, December 5:	
Net receipts at all U. S. ports during week	374,293
Net receipts at all U. S. ports same week last year	452,424
Total receipts since September 1st	5,675,760
Total receipts to same date last year	5,874,008
Exports for the week	288,972
Exports for same week last year	310,806
Total exports since September 1st	4,128,506
Total exports same date last year	4,149,217
Stock at all United States ports	1,061,194
Stock at all United States ports same time last year	1,374,014
Stock at all interior towns	822,935
Stock at all interior towns, same time last year	729,438
Stock at Liverpool same time last year	770,000
Stock at Liverpool same time last year	1,035,000
Stock of Am. float for Great Britain same time last year	422,000

FEDERAL AID IN BUILDING ROADS

Three Bills Identical Already Presented Embracing Large Appropriations.

(By W. E. YELVERTON.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 6.—Representatives and Senators from the South have taken immediate advantage of the creation of a roads committee, in each branch of Congress to the extent of introducing several bills which will come before that committee, at least one of which will become a law during the regular session, unless all predictions fail. Some of these legislators characterize the general rush as a desire to "get on the band wagon."

This comment was evoked when the newspapermen discovered one day this week three bills reposing in the office of the House Journal Clerk, all of which bills were identical. One was fathered by Representative Byrnes, of South Carolina, another by Mr. Lee, of Georgia, and still another by Mr. Stephens, of Mississippi. They might have been placed in the House hopper at different times, but they reached the press at one and the same time.

Investigation uncovered the fact that the director of the office of public roads, Mr. Logan Waller Page, had found some disagreement with Representative Shackelford and Senator Hoke Smith, said disagreement arising from the fact that Mr. Page wanted a bill allowing the Department of Agriculture to oversee the disbursement of \$20,000,000 of the government's money along with an equal amount from the states, while Messrs. Smith and Shackelford wanted the States to control the disbursement of thirty-six millions out of the forty. Hence the Shackelford-Smith bill was introduced by its authors and the three others followed. The lists are not yet closed. It may be that Mr. Page's bill will appear several more times with different backing.

Both these bills are alike in their essentials, the only difference, practically, being the manner in which the money is to be expended and the amount used at the start. The Shackelford-Smith bill provides that the amount expended by the government not exceed twenty millions a year, that only two million be "bossed" by the Federal government, and that each State shall put up two-thirds to the government's one-third. Post roads are the ones favored, the money being used for both construction and maintenance.

The Byrnes-Lee-Stephens—etc. bill would appropriate three million the first year, six million the second and on up by degrees to twenty millions, the States to pay half. The money would be controlled by the Department of Agriculture. Representative Candler has still another proposition which would appropriate a hundred millions to start with and twenty million a year thereafter, the States paying half. Senator Overman has a bill for constructing and repairing rural and star route roads, appropriating half a million the first year and an increase of \$25,000 a year each year for ten years, the States to pay half. This was introduced at the extra session.

The two latest bills are alike in their plan for distribution. One-third of the money is to be appropriated in the proportion which the total area of each State bears to the total area of all the States; one-third on the basis of population and the final third in proportion to the number of rural post roads in the State as compared to the total in the United States. This seems by all odds the most popular method of distribution.

COLOMBIA'S CLAIM

Secretary Bryan Sends Communication to Senate On Subject, But The Correspondence Is Withheld for Prudential Reasons.

Washington, Dec. 6.—Negotiations now pending between the United States and Colombia for the settlement of the latter's alleged claim arising from the revolution and the secession of Panama are given by Secretary Bryan in a communication which reached the Senate tonight, as of such a character as to make it unwise at this time to give publicity to any of the correspondence between the two nations.

President Wilson sent to the Senate an answer to the resolution by Senator Hitchcock passed last April calling upon the executive department for the transmission of this correspondence. The president endorsed Secretary Bryan's opinion and said that the "transmission at the present time of the correspondence in question would not be compatible with the public interests."

REBEL VICTORIES MEET WITH CHECK; PLANS MODIFIED

Fleeing Federals Headed For Border Line, Turn Their Backs To the Wall

DETERMINE TO DO BATTLE

With the Constitutionals and Reorganize By Beginning Flank Movement

ADVICES AT WASHINGTON

Are Meagre and Officials Reticent. As Usual, But That Much Is Learned

EFFORT TO TRAP VILLAS

Washington, Dec. 6.—In the absence of any changes in the political situation in Mexico, official interest in Washington centered today upon the military operations. Confidential reports indicate that the victories sweep Southward of the Constitutional armies had received a check, the extent of which is not yet known. That rebel leaders have taken alarm, and are preparing to modify their plans to meet the threatened aspect of the Federal forces was, however, positively affirmed.

Telegraphic reports are meagre and officials here reluctant to divulge any of the movements of the contending armies which by any chance might aid one or the other factions.

Flanking Movement Endangers Villa.

It is understood, however, that the Federal leaders in the North, who were believed to be fleeing Northward in an effort to find refuge across the border, actually have abandoned that purpose. Instead, it is reported, they have re-organized their forces and begun a flanking movement on the army which the rebel general, Villa has rushed from Juarez towards Chihuahua.

Villa's line is very much extended and his communications would be seriously jeopardized by a sudden incursion from the formidable force of 1,500 Federals under Orozco which is rapidly advancing toward him, apparently with the purpose of driving him into Chihuahua.

Concentrating On Chihuahua.

At least two other Federal generals with fragments of the army are reported to be concentrating on Chihuahua with the purpose of entrapping Villa. If the Federal troops adhere to their original plan of making their way into the United States, instead of surrendering to the Constitutionalists they probably will not be permitted to figure further in the war. Secretary Garrison today said these refugees might cross the line, but they on the part of the United States officials to permit them to return into Mexico.

SOCIALIST FOR PREMIER

President Poincare Asks Doumergue, Socialist Leader in Senate, to Form New Cabinet.

Paris, Dec. 6.—Senator Gaston Doumergue, a Socialist leader, was invited by President Poincare today to form a new cabinet. Jean Dupuy, invited yesterday to accept this task, declined after consulting his political friends. Senator Doumergue will give his answer to the President tomorrow. Senator Doumergue was formerly Minister of the Colonies and twice Minister of Commerce. He is fifty years old and one of the most experienced politicians in France. His parliamentary service extends over a period of twenty years. He is a Socialist, but the French Socialists are divided into various sections and his Socialism is of a moderate type as compared with the thorough-going quality of that of Jean Jaures. M. Doumergue belongs to the groups which combined to overthrow Premier Barthou. After he had been asked by President Poincare to organize a ministry M. Doumergue arranged to consult with George Clemenceau, an ex-premier; J. Louis Barthou, the retiring Premier; Joseph Caillaux, Jean Dupuy, Alexandre Feltz, Joseph Ribot, Aristide Briand, Leon Bourgeois, all of them former Premiers, and other parliamentary leaders, to ask them for assurances of their support in advance.