

1925 Act Cited in Plea To ICC for Increase in Parcel Post Rates

Postmaster General Donaldson has asked the Interstate Commerce Commission to exercise one of its little-used powers to bring about an average 25 per cent increase in parcel post rates.

Mr. Donaldson asked the ICC to approve a prompt increase in the postage charges for fourth-class matter. That covers ordinary parcel post packages, catalogues, books and printed advertising matter in bound form.

Mr. Donaldson estimated the increase he seeks would yield about \$105 million a year in new revenue and would make the parcel post service self-sustaining.

He has been attempting without success for more than a year to persuade Congress to increase virtually all postage rates, last revised in January, 1949.

Refers to 1925 Law.
In a letter to the ICC last week and made public yesterday, Mr. Donaldson called attention to a 1925 act which provides that parcel post charges may be changed either by Congress or by the Postmaster General if (a) he certifies that the parcel service is being operated at a loss and (b) the commission approves.

Mr. Donaldson said that an appropriation bill passed by the current Congress, just before it recessed last month, directed him to go to the ICC for parcel post rate increases.

He asked for approval of these increases:
Ordinary parcel post handled on a zone basis—the charge for the first pound to be jumped in the local zone from 10 to 15 cents; in ones 1 and 2 from 12 to 17 cents; in Zone 3 from 13 to 17 cents; in Zone 4 from 14 to 19 cents; in Zone 5 from 15 to 21 cents; in Zone 6 from 16 to 23 cents; in Zone 7 from 17 to 25 cents; in Zone 8 from 18 to 27 cents, with increases in the rate for additional pounds ranging from fractions of a cent to 3 cents a pound.

Catalogue Rate Higher.
For catalogues and printed advertising matter in bound form—an increase in the first pound to 10 cents, with flat 2-cent increases a pound in all other zones, and a rise of 1/2 cent to 5 cents a pound on the additional poundage.

For books containing no advertising—a change in the present rate of 8 cents for the first pound and 4 cents for each additional pound regardless of zone to 10 cents for the first pound and 5 cents for each additional pound up to 10 cents; with parcels of books above 10 pounds being handled at regular parcel post zone rates.

Mr. Donaldson proposed no change in the present parcel rates on library loan books, on matter for the blind, or on publications handled as fourth-class matter.

Postmaster General Walter F. Brown was the last head of the department to go to the ICC for a change in parcel post rates. He did so in 1930 and two years later got what he asked for.

Nimitz Feels Russia Has Gone Past Peak
BALTIMORE, Oct. 17. — Admiral Chester W. Nimitz believes "Russia has reached and passed the peak of her opportunity to enforce communism on the world."

In a talk with newsmen here yesterday, the retired wartime commander of Allied forces in the Pacific said the cold war was "far from over" but that he felt World War III has been "postponed and perhaps averted altogether."

"The Russians have suffered a setback," Admiral Nimitz declared. "They were caught off balance by the United Nations reaction to Korea. Now it is of the utmost importance to continue to keep them off balance."

The Russians "understand force," he said, and a "posture of defense" on the part of the United States is the key to averting another world war.

District of Columbia—Some cloudiness with high around 68 this afternoon. Rather cloudy and mild tonight and tomorrow. Lowest temperature tonight about 54.

Maryland—Some cloudiness tonight and tomorrow. Continued mild.

Virginia—Rather cloudy tonight and tomorrow. Continued mild. Low tonight, 50 to 55.

Wind velocity at 11:30 o'clock

Scattered showers are predicted tonight for the Southeast Coast from the Carolinas south, as well as in part of the Great Lakes region. The Northwest will have rain with some snow in the higher elevations of the Northern Rockies. It will be somewhat warmer from New England southwest through the Ohio Valley to the Great Plains.

Weather Conditions As of 1:30 A.M. EST Oct. 17

Low Temperatures and Amount of Precipitation Expected Tonight

Temperature Figures Show Average for Area

Arrows Denote Wind Flow

Highs and Lows in Inches

Monthly precipitation in inches in the Capital (current month to date):

Month. Precip. Avg. Record.

January 1.91 3.37 8.84 '84

Virginia Prisoner Goes Berserk, Wages Gun Battle With Police



Virginia State Trooper J. R. Wilson inspects the damage in the Groveton station after an hour-long gun battle with the berserk prisoner.

Armed with two .38-caliber revolvers, a crazed prisoner last night fought an hour-long gun battle with Virginia State policemen in the Groveton station before a riot gun blast dropped him.

Shortly after he had been arrested for attempting to throw himself in front of passing automobiles on United States highway 1 south of Alexandria, William Henry Proctor, 38, colored, a laborer of the first block of Fenton street N.E., dashed to the second floor of the station.

He had been left in custody of State Troopers James R. Wilson and C. R. Buchanan. Trooper Buchanan was alone in the main floor office with him when Proctor walked over to the water fountain near the stairway and fled upstairs.

Trooper Buchanan followed him up the stairway and attempted to push open the barracks room door behind which Proctor had barricaded himself.

It was then that Proctor opened fire—the first .38-caliber slug tearing through the door panel, barely missing the trooper. Meantime, Wilson who had been in the basement, came upstairs to the main floor and telephoned a help call.

Then he grabbed a tear gas gun and went outside the station. Proctor tiptoeing downstairs, sent newly arrived reinforcements to cover behind file cabinets and furniture when he poked his head

around the stairway corner and opened fire again.

Once, defying orders to throw his guns down and come down behind him, Proctor tossed down a holster and fired again.

Trooper Wilson began plopping tear gas shells through the second-floor windows and Proctor attempted to get out a second floor bathroom window, but was driven back.

Gunfire riddled the interior of the station and one bullet pierced a police uniform hanging on the wall.

Neighbors, who had been told to douse their lights in order not to miss the policeman, said Proctor's fire, said "it was just like an old-fashioned Western movie."

The end came when Proctor slipped down the stairway again and a riot gun blast was fired through the partition. One pellet struck him in the chest and he staggered down into the office.

Troopers said the man apparently had emptied one of the revolvers, reloaded and then fired one more shot out of the second one.

He was taken to Alexandria Hospital, where attendants said his condition is not serious. He was charged with felonious assault and attempt to kill with a dangerous weapon.

Meanwhile, repairs to the station were under way, but complete decontamination from the tear gas will take three days, police said.

Barry Bingham Receives French Legion of Honor
By the Associated Press
The French government yesterday decorated Barry Bingham, editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, for his services as chief of the ECA mission in France.

Finance Minister Maurice Petesch praised Mr. Bingham's contributions to French postwar recovery in presenting him with the decoration of Commander of the Legion of Honor.

The ceremony was at the residence of Ambassador Henri Bonnet who was among the group of French and American officials present.

Mr. Bingham was chief of the Economic Co-operation Administration mission from April, 1949, to last June.

Two Held as Atomic Spies Enter 'Not Guilty' Pleas
By the Associated Press
NEW YORK, Oct. 17.—Pleas of not guilty were entered in Federal Court yesterday by Julius Rosenberg, 33, and his wife Ethel, 35, charged with conspiring to give defense information to Russia.

The electrical engineer and his wife are accused of complicity in the atomic secrets spy ring centered around Dr. Klaus Fuchs, an admitted spy for Russia, who is in jail in England.

The Rosenbergs have been in jail in lieu of heavy bail. No date for their trial has been set.

Girl Amnesia Victim Held for Observation
A 16-year-old girl, identified as Margaret Welch of 6503 E street, Maryland Park, Md., was in Galinger Hospital today for observation, following identification yesterday by police after she came to Doctors Hospital Sunday night and said she did not know who she was.

She was identified through a soda fountain clerk label in her purse, police said. She had worked for Peoples Drugstore, they added.

Record Temperatures This Year
Highest, 86, on June 24.
Lowest, 18, on March 3.

Tide Tables.
(Furnished by United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.)

Eisenhower Viewed As 1952 Possibility Despite Statement

Gen. Eisenhower today was regarded again as a presidential possibility for 1952 despite a new statement that he has not changed his mind about staying out of politics.

The man who led the Allied armies to victory over Nazi Germany in World War II said yesterday that his position as president of Columbia University offers him "rich opportunities for service" and his convictions about how he can best serve "the cause of freedom" have not been changed.

His statement was issued after Gov. Dewey of New York, titular head of the Republican Party, came out Sunday with a boost for Gen. Eisenhower as the Republican presidential candidate two years hence.

Regarded as Threat in Race.
Despite the statement, sources close to Gen. Eisenhower reported that he would submit to a draft as the Republican presidential candidate although he would not actively seek the nomination. The view was that Gen. Eisenhower would continue to be a big threat to all would-be candidates, Democrats and Republicans alike, unless he takes himself out of the running with a statement far more emphatic than the latest one he has issued.

In his statement following the Dewey endorsement, Gen. Eisenhower said:

"Any American would be complimented by the knowledge that any other American considered him qualified to fill the most important post in our country. In this case, the compliment comes from a man who is Governor of a great State and who has devoted many years of his life to public service. So, of course, I am grateful for Gov. Dewey's good opinion of me."

Cites Columbia Opportunities.
"As for myself, my convictions as to the place and methods through which I can best contribute something to the cause of freedom have been often expressed. They have not changed. Here at Columbia University, I have a task that would excite the pride and challenge the qualifications and strength of any man. I still believe that it offers to such an individual as myself rich opportunities for service."

Gen. Eisenhower has said over and over for more than two years that he is not a candidate for public office, that he is a man without political connections or ambitions, and that he has a job to do at Columbia University.

But his latest statement was not as strong as the one he issued in 1948 when Democrats and Republicans alike were boosting him for the presidential nomination. At that time, he refused to let either party draft him and said he could not be a candidate for any public office.

Stronger Than Press Interview.
Nor was it as strong as he put it in an interview published yesterday by the university newspaper, the Columbia Daily Spectator. In that interview, he said:

"I don't know of any one in modern times who has made himself clearer on the subject. So far as I am concerned, I put my hand to a job and am doing my best. I don't know why people are always nagging me to run for President. I think I've gotten too old. I have no desire to go anywhere else if I can help do what I want here at Columbia. This is the place for me."

However, that interview had been given a full week before Gov. Dewey's endorsement.

After his statement yesterday, the New York Journal-American and the New York World-Telegram and Sun quoted sources close to Gen. Eisenhower as saying he would submit to a Republican draft, but would not say so for sometime.

Recent Comment Cited.
This was the opinion of some Republican leaders and some Democrats too. Some of the Democrats privately expressed the opinion that Gen. Eisenhower has sounded like a Republican presidential candidate in recent months with speeches hitting at high taxes, Government subsidies and unbalanced budgets and demanding that the country be protected "against insidious and ever-traitorous corruption in responsible places."

Gen. Eisenhower has insisted he has a right to discuss public questions and issues without being called a political candidate for doing so.

In the light of Gov. Dewey's support, however, it will take a much stronger statement to remove his name from the list of potential presidential candidates in 1952. At the moment, no one else of prominence in the party is actively seeking the nomination, although there is plenty of time for that.

Stassen Still Contender.
Word has gotten out that Senator Taft of Ohio will not work actively for the nomination as he has in the past. Harold E. Stassen, former Governor of Minnesota and now president of the University of Pennsylvania, remained in the picture.

Without eliminating himself as a candidate, Mr. Stassen said in a statement in Philadelphia yesterday that Gov. Dewey had shown real statesmanship and that he continues to have a high regard for him.

Mr. Truman sent Gen. Eisenhower out of the country he might have been trying to rid himself of the man who might be his most dangerous political rival in 1952.

The Dewey endorsement was seen here as making it more difficult, if not impossible, for President Truman to pick Gen. Eisenhower to command a proposed international army to defend Western Europe against Communism. There had been speculation that Gen. Eisenhower, still on the Army's active list as a five-star general, would be called back to duty for that position. But if Mr. Truman sent Gen. Eisenhower out of the country he might have been trying to rid himself of the man who might be his most dangerous political rival in 1952.

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Maryland and Virginia

News in Brief

Three Judges to Rule On Virginia Poll Tax

A special three-judge Virginia court has been appointed to pass on the constitutionality of the State's poll tax laws.

The panel was named yesterday by Chief Judge John J. Parker of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in accordance with an opinion handed down by the Appeals Court Saturday.

At that time, it reversed the Alexandria District Court's refusal to request such a tribunal to hear a case in which Jessie Butler, a colored woman, had sued the Arlington registrar and six State election officials to compel them to register her without payment of the poll tax.

Members of the special court will be Circuit Judge Armistead M. Dobbie, Charlottesville; District Judge Sterling Hutcheson, Boydton, and District Judge Albert V. Bryan. It was Judge Bryan who had dismissed the case in Alexandria.—AP.

Marlboro Fair Opens
The Marlboro (Md.) Fair will open tomorrow with a coronation of a queen and a United Nations pageant presented by 250 school children highlighting the program.

Miss Sylvia Ferguson, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Ferguson of Meadows, Md., will be crowned queen in ceremonies at 1 p.m. The pageant will follow on a stage in front of the Marlboro Race Track's grandstand.

North Beach Bonds Blocked
Calvert County Circuit Court has thrown out a law authorizing North Beach to float a \$250,000 bond issue for a municipal sewerage system.

Judge John B. Gray, Jr., sitting in Prince Frederick, Md., ruled that the act, passed by the General Assembly last February, "is beyond the scope of legislation permitted at the short session."

Supporters of the law claimed it was an emergency measure designed to cope with the lack of central sewerage facilities in the town.

Carfare for Culprit
A sympathetic Prince Georges County magistrate kept a Washington man out of jail yesterday after he had been convicted of petty larceny by suspending a 30-day sentence and then advancing him carfare to get home.

William Mack Porter, colored, of the 400 block of New Jersey avenue N.W., was found guilty by Judge Robert W. McCullough in Hyattsville Police Court of stealing 2 cents from a Mount Rainier newspaper rack.

Porter said he had been drinking and picked up the coin holder to shake it. He said he did not recall taking any money.

Annexation Case Opens
Alexandria's annexation suit against Fairfax County opened today in Fairfax Circuit Court with the judges taking a tour of the 7.5 square miles involved.

The county and city jointly rented a bus to transport the three annexation judges and attorneys for both sides over almost every road in the area Alexandria wants to annex.

Farouk Convinced There's No Future For King's Sons
ROME, Oct. 17 (CDN).—King Farouk has put his foot firmly on the idea that his matrimonial adventures are due to wanting a son and heir.

When he was asked at San Remo, the King answered with a smile:

"Kings are going out of style like tricycles and gas lights. Fifty years from now there won't be a king in the world but the King of England, and people will look on him as just a curiosity."

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The Federal Spotlight

Agencies Must Continue Hiring From Civil Service Registers

By Joseph Young

The Civil Service Commission has informed Federal agencies they will have to continue hiring from regular civil service job registers, despite the fact that appointments will be on a temporary basis only.

The defense agencies already are on an emergency-indefinite hiring basis, and the White House will soon issue an order placing the rest of the Federal service on a similar basis.

Because of the emergency-indefinite type of hirings, there has been a lot of confusion both on the part of Federal agencies and job applicants on how the appointments would be made.

Many applicants, as well as Federal officials, have been under the impression the agencies would have a free hand in hiring whomever they wanted, without regard to established civil service job registers.

However, the commission dispelled this notion recently in a circular sent to Federal departments.

The commission declared hirings will have to be made in regular fashion, from established job registers. Exceptions were made in cases where there are no job registers in existence for certain types of positions.

For example, agencies may hire stenographers and typists through Grade GS-3 without bothering about job registers.

Also, commission officials are giving the defense, security and scientific agencies some leeway in hiring employees without bothering about job registers, if an emergency exists and essential employees are needed right away.

But wherever possible, the commission expects these key agencies to hire from job registers.

As for non-defense agencies, the commission made it clear that persons must be hired from existing job registers, unless no register exists for the particular type of position that is to be filled.

HATCH ACT—The Civil Service Commission soon will issue, in question-and-answer form, a list of "do's and don'ts" for Government employees, regarding their political activity rights in connection with next month's national elections.

Many Federal employees are confused as to what they may and may not do in the realm of political activities. Despite some widespread impressions to the

contrary, Government workers are allowed a certain amount of political freedom in election campaigns. The commission's interpretation of the law, which will be published in this column, should clear up a lot of misunderstanding.

RFC—One of the most widespread rumors around town these days is that the Reconstruction Finance Corp's activities have come to a standstill. The story has it that, because three of the RFC's five board directors are new interim appointees and not yet confirmed by Congress, the agency is not making any loans these days.

RFC officials deny the story emphatically. They say the RFC isn't loaning as much money now as in previous years, but the reason for it is President Truman's directive several months ago to hold down nondefense spending and loans as much as possible.

CAPITAL ROUNDUP—The "jame duck" session of Congress late next month isn't expected to act on any legislation of direct interest to Government employees. The session will last only a few weeks. . . . Recent retirees at the Bureau of Internal Revenue who received awards for long and meritorious service were Permelia Eskridge, Mrs. Jennie R. Driggers, Letitia P. Hardesty, Percy S. Gray, Margaret A. Dolan, Myrtle J. Dowe and Edgar J. Rudy. . . . Official Government employment figures for August show a total of 218,063 Federal workers in Washington. Nation-wide, the total was 1,913,242 employees—an increase of 74,052 for the month. . . . Leonard R. Granger has been re-elected president of Army Map Service Lodge 1202 of the AFL American Federation of Government Employees. Also elected were James M. Hawkshaw and James P. Keady, vice presidents, and Floyd A. Wines, treasurer. The secretary post was left open until the next meeting. . . . Paul C. Campbell, chief of the Public Housing Administration's site engineering section in its central office, has been cited for superior performance and given a promotion.

(Be sure to listen each Saturday at 6:15 p.m. to Joseph Young's Federal Spotlight radio broadcast over WMAL, The Star station, featuring additional news and views of the Government scene.)

Bishop McNamara Others Named to Plan Charities Conference
The Most Rev. John M. McNamara, auxiliary Bishop of Washington, has been named honorary chairman of the general committee to handle arrangements for the 40th annual meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Charities here November 2 to 6.

Bishop McNamara's appointment and that of other key officials of the conference and members of the general committee was announced last night by the Most Rev. Patrick A. O'Boyle, Archbishop of Washington.

The Archdiocese of Washington is acting as host to the meeting and that of the annual convention of the National Society of St. Vincent de Paul which will be held in conjunction with it.

Other appointments to the general committee by Archbishop O'Boyle are: Honorary vice chairman: the Right Rev. John K. Cartwright, rector of St. Matthew's Cathedral; Dr. Henry J. Crosson, former president of Catholic Charities of the District; Miss Mary V. Merriek, founder and president of the Christ Child Society, and Adam A. Weschler, treasurer of Catholic Charities for the District.

Co-chairmen: Caesar Aiello, president of Catholic Charities here, and the Rev. Leo J. Coady, director of Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of Washington.

Others include: the Rev. Sylvester Hoffman of the Church of the Nativity, executive secretary; and Francis J. Kane, civic and business leader, treasurer.

Air Co-ordinators Named
Undersecretaries Dan A. Kimball of the Navy and John A. McCone of the Air Force have been named to represent their services on the Air Co-ordinating Committee.

Admiral Willcuts to Retire As Head of Medical Center
Rear Admiral Morton D. Willcuts, commanding officer of the Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md., will retire on April 1, 1951.

It was announced today. At the same time, the Navy announced Admiral Willcuts was elected surgeon general of the Military Order of the World Wars at the group's national convention earlier this month in Swampscott, Mass.

Admiral Willcuts has commanded the medical center since July, 1948. A native of Carthage, Ind., he received his medical degree from the University of Indiana. He joined the Navy in 1917.

During World War II, he served as a lieutenant with the 5th Marine Regiment in France. In World War II, he commanded the Naval Hospital at San Diego and was cited for expanding its facilities for treatment of 12,000 patients.

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Alexandrian Indicted In Assault on District Terminal Policeman

An Alexandria man, who was shot and wounded last month by a Washington Terminal policeman in Union Station basement, during an argument over parking a car, yesterday was indicted on a charge of assaulting the officer.

He is Ernest F. Pearson, 26, colored, whose companion, Oliver Davis, 26, colored, of the 1300 block of Wallace place N.W., was fatally wounded by the police officer, Pvt. Daniel Wolff of Hyattsville, Md.