

DEMOCRATIC PLOT TO CRIPPLE CIVIL SERVICE UNEARTHED

Post Office Appropriation Bill Has "Rider" Permitting Return to "Spoils System"

REPUBLICANS OPPOSE IT

Plan Removal of Assistant Postmasters to Fill Places With Politicians

Special to The Telegraph
Washington, Jan. 13.—The post office appropriation bill, carrying \$805,247,787, the largest amount ever recommended by a committee to run a government department, was reported to the House by the committee on post offices and postroads. The increase over the present appropriation is nearly \$22,000,000, which is largely attributed to the additional burden of the parcel post.

Republicans in the House and the minority members of the committee declare that a severe fight will occur over a rider in the bill which would give the Postmaster-General sweeping powers to discharge assistant postmasters and appoint successors without regard to the civil service law. The section reads:

Text of the Rider
"That hereafter any assistant postmaster who may be required by law or by the authority or direction of the Postmaster-General to execute a bond to the Postmaster-General to secure faithful performance of official duty may be appointed by said Postmaster-General, who may require such bond without regard to the provisions of an act of Congress entitled 'An act to regulate and amend the civil service of the United States' approved January 16, 1883, and the amendments thereto or any rule or regulation made in pursuance thereof, and the Postmaster-General shall have power to revoke the appointment of any assistant postmaster and appoint his successor at his discretion without regard to the act, amendments, rules or regulations aforesaid."

Representative Steenerson of Minnesota and Madden of Illinois made a caustic minority report. They bitterly condemn the Democratic rider, and charge that it is the first step in a plan to return the postal service over to the spoils system. Mr. Steenerson said: "It is proposed by the majority to include this vicious rider in this bill by a special rule for that purpose. The policy of inserting riders in bills is a vicious one and a resort to it can only be excused by a great public emergency. The great Democratic majority when in the minority uniformly declared against it, but no sooner are they in power than they resort to it."

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2,500 Persons Use Public Library in First Seven Days

Trustees of the Harrisburg Public Library were last night informed that 2,500 books had been circulated in seven days and that the registration of persons who desired to secure books had exceeded 2,000. These figures were a surprise, as it was not thought that the library would be as extensively used during the first month. The library was opened for registration on January 1, but the book service did not begin until January 3. Allowing two Sundays to intervene it appears that the book circulation has been very heavy daily. On last Saturday alone 915 books were circulated. The number of readers reported at the library, however, was 1,231. In addition thirty-five persons were of them sent by telephone, were answered.

Of the books circulated about 30 per cent. were fiction and 30 per cent. of the total taken out were juveniles. The children's work is growing rapidly, as there is a large attendance at the youngsters' daily, and the story-telling hour on Monday has proved to be a notable feature of library activity.

Late News Bulletins

SHIPPING LOST ALONG COAST
Boston, Jan. 13.—The blizzard that gripped New England and the Northeastern part of the United States to-day, lashed the coast from New York to New Foundland with tremendous fury. There were reports of numerous vessels in distress, and a heavy toll of life was known. The schooner John Paul sank in Nantucket sound. Nothing is known as to the fate of her crew. Another schooner, the Grete, is low.

NOTRE DAME OF MONTREAL AFIRE
Montreal, Jan. 13.—Notre Dame Cathedral, famous the world over, caught fire this afternoon from a blaze that originated in the business district. For a time it was thought that the fire was under control, but it was revived by a strong wind and spread from a hardware store where it started, to other structures.

Mexico City, Jan. 13.—The Mexican government will default in the payment of the semi-annual interest on the bonds of the internal and external debts due this month, according to a decision reached at a cabinet council which lasted until midnight.

Washington, Jan. 13.—The failure of the Mexican government to meet its most important financial obligation—the interests of its external and internal debt—emphasized to official Washington that the Huerta government really was in serious financial distress.

Philadelphia, Jan. 13.—The patient in a local hospital upon whom surgeons yesterday performed a rare operation in an effort to save him from the progressive ravages of paresis, died to-day and surgeons who had watched the case with keen interest say that one of the most heroic experiments of surgery has gone to naught.

New York, Jan. 13.—Arthur A. McLean, treasurer of the Democratic State Committee, pleaded guilty to-day to accepting campaign contributions from a corporation. Supreme Court Justice Vernon M. Davis suspended sentence.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Jan. 13.—The Allegheny river closed during the night and reports from up river points to-day indicate the ice is strong enough to bear highway traffic, the first time in a number of years. Christian Clark, a farm hand, was found frozen to death near Etna, Pa.

Thursday Island, Australia, Jan. 13.—An improvement was noticed to-day in the condition of Madame Lillian Nordica, the American singer, who has been seriously ill for several days with pneumonia.

Mobile, Ala., Jan. 13.—Delliah Bradley, 17 years of age, of Browns Mills, N. J., found here in the company of Joel M. Foster, wealthy resident of the New Jersey town, who is charged with violation of the white slave law, to-day said she would return home with her father.

New York, Jan. 13.—The market closed steady. Texas company became weaker on denial that control of the company was being sought by Standard Oil interests. Canadian Pacific also manifested renewed heaviness, but improved again later. Rise in the important stocks was checked, but there were no reactionary symptoms.

STEAMER WITH 150 ABOARD IS BELIEVED TO HAVE FOUNDERED

Last Seen Ashore Near Halifax With Forward Hold Full of Water; Has Disappeared

RESCUE SHIP IS SENT OUT

Exact Whereabouts Unknown; Vain Search For Missing Vessel Is Being Made

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 13.—Wireless communication with the steamer Cobequid has ceased and she cannot be seen from the light-house at Briar Island near where she was reported ashore. When last reported her forward hold was full of water. She is said to have carried 150 persons.

After sending out wireless calls for assistance the vessel's wireless apparatus apparently failed and has not been possible to restore communication with her.

The Cobequid got off her course when bound from the West Indies and Bermuda for St. John, N. B. It was subsequently learned by telephone from Westport, the nearest port to Briar Island, that no sign of the Cobequid could be seen from there. The island's lighthouse keeper reported that he could not locate the Cobequid on the rocks off the island at the western entrance to the bay.

150 Teachers of City and County Enrolled For U. of P. Course

Last night Dr. Youm gave his second lecture in the free section course for the advanced training of teachers, opened last week by the University of Pennsylvania in the Technical High School.

White Slave Traffic Movie Is Suppressed

Under the direction of Mayor Royal, Colonel Joseph B. Hutchison late yesterday afternoon requested the management of the Majestic Theater to discontinue the showing of the moving picture depicting white slavery. Mayor Royal's action was taken after he had been called upon by committees from the Harrisburg Ministerial Association and Civic Council of Churches.

BOSTON VOTES FOR MAYOR

Boston, Mass., Jan. 13.—Boston voters to-day cast their ballots for a mayor to serve four years. Both candidates, Congressman James M. Curley and Thomas J. Kenny, president of the city council, expressed confidence this morning.

RIVER EXPECTED TO FREEZE OVER TONIGHT

Mr. Demain Expects Temperature to Fall to Ten or Thereabouts Tonight

OFFICIALLY 12 LAST NIGHT

In Many Parts of City, However, Mercury Was Crawling in Vicinity of 6 and 7

Observations made at the office of the Weather Bureau, to-day, showed that the temperature in this city fell to 7½ degrees at 11:30 a. m. during the snow flurry that hit the city. This is the lowest official temperature of the winter.

The Susquehanna is expected to freeze over to-night by Weather Forecaster Demain.

Although the mercury did not go down lower than 12 degrees, officially, last night, it was low enough to suit everybody. The coldest weather of the winter it was without a doubt. At 8 o'clock last night the thermometer at the local Weather Bureau registered 14 degrees. It came down only a degree or two during the night, reaching its lowest of 12 degrees at 6 o'clock this morning. At 8 o'clock it had only gone up to 13, and all morning the rise was very slow.

The cold weather is to continue for at least another twenty-four hours. To-night the temperature may reach 10 degrees, and to-morrow it may be warmer, but only slightly warmer.

Although the official thermometer at the Weather Bureau registered 12 degrees, many thermometers in outlying sections of the city went much lower.

At Wildwood the lake is covered with ice two or three inches thick and is getting in condition for skating.

Freezing Weather Grips Central and Eastern Sections of Country

New York, Jan. 13.—The entire central and eastern sections of the country to-day are in the grip of hard freezing weather with prospects that it will continue another 24 hours at least, and in some sections for a longer period. From the Rocky mountains to the Atlantic coast decided drops in the temperature were reported last night and early to-day. Even in the south reports indicate a general cold wave and it is feared that in many places the orange crops will be damaged.

In the northwest below zero temperatures were common last night, the lowest, 20 degrees below being reported.

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Tidal Wave Adds to Horror of Volcano Eruptions and Earthquakes in Japan

THE STRONG ARM OF THE LAW



Death List in Stricken Cities May Run Into Many Thousands, Government Believes

WORST DISASTER IN JAPANESE HISTORY

Towns Are Deeply Buried in Ashes and All Communication Is Cut Off

Tokio, Jan. 13.—A tidal wave added its terrors to the earthquakes and volcanic eruptions which struck Kagoshima, in southern Japan, yesterday, according to official advice to-day.

It is believed here that the Kagoshima disaster will prove to be one of the most serious in the history of Japan. The loss of life and property increases with fuller news from the scene.

Communication Cut Off

The full extent of the disaster could not be ascertained to-day, as all communication was cut off from the stricken district south of Cumamoto, 80 or 90 miles north of Kagoshima. The navy department was unable to obtain a wireless report from the warships sent to the scene, although many messages were dispatched to them.

Ashes to the depth of six inches have fallen in the seaport of Miyazaki, on the east coast of Kiusiu.

A postal employee who fled from Kagoshima, states that the big post office building there collapsed during the earthquakes and tidal wave and that a great number of residences were ruined, while many people and animals were killed or injured.

The navy and army departments are hastening succor and supplies to Kagoshima.

Sakura Jima, which was in violent eruption, January 20, when the devastating property over extended areas in Kiusiu, southernmost island of the main Japanese group, has been quiet for more than a century.

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MANNING TO DIRECT PARK DEVELOPMENT FOR ANOTHER YEAR

Park Board in Special Session Yesterday Decides to Continue Service

For another year the development of Harrisburg's park and playground system, including the proposed extensions under the \$100,000 loan, will be carried on with the aid of the expert advice of Warren H. Manning, landscape architect.

At a special meeting yesterday afternoon the Park Board and Commissioner of Parks and Public Property M. Harvey Taylor decided to engage Mr. Manning for another year, beginning January 21, the date of the expiration of his present contract.

Ever since Harrisburg began the improvement of its parks and playgrounds Mr. Manning has served as the expert. In that time the city has made its more remarkable strides toward the development of the "city beautiful" idea.

The laying out of the Wildwood tract, the island, the development of the river parks, the special lines of planting and gardening, the special treatment of the Oak Knoll reservoir, which converted what might have been an ugly, unsightly crest of earth into a pretty driveway and "look-out," these are only a few of the ideas suggested by Mr. Manning and worked out by the commission under Park Superintendent Forrer's direction.

At yesterday's meeting the commission formally accepted the invitation of City Council to continue its service in an advisory capacity and a letter to that effect was sent to that body.

Trouble With Heating Apparatus Causes Closing of Penn Bldg.

More trouble with the heating apparatus at the Penn school building required the closing of five of the eight rooms in the building this morning.

For several weeks the building committee, and members of the board have worried over the Penn building's heating equipment which cannot be adjusted. With an expert on hand the building was visited this morning by Charles Pohl, chairman of the building committee, President Harry A. Boyer, Charles Werner and secretary of the board, D. D. Hammelbaugh. They spent the morning trying to find the cause of the trouble.

HUTCHISON'S LIST OF TENDERLOIN IS CORRECT, SAYS FUNK

Federal Agent Says Chief of Police Returned Nearly All Names to the Court

Colonel Hutchison's list of suspected houses of ill-repute in the city is practically complete, in the opinion of J. Clarence Funk, Federal agent dealing with vice problems.

Mr. Funk said this morning that so far as he knew the list furnished the Dauphin County Court yesterday by the Chief of Police includes most of the resorts of such character. A few, of which the Chief of Police has only suspicions, may have been omitted from the list, in Mr. Funk's opinion, but these are not more than half a dozen.

The publication of the list and the report to the court closed the red light district tight last night. Where the denizens of the underworld have fled to is impossible to tell, but everything was clamped down tight and everybody under cover, as if a raid was expected.

No action will be taken until after the close of criminal court this week, by either Colonel Hutchison or District Attorney Stroup, but the material is at hand on which further investigation and action can be taken.

D. A. Strittlin, an employee of the Lancaster House, to-day promised a letter defending the hotel for which he works. He says the hotel is unjustly referred to by the Police Department.

Suffragists and Antis May Engage in Debate

Washington, D. C., Jan. 13.—The woman suffrage and anti-suffrage camps in the capital have now reached the stage of joint debate. Mrs. Antoinette Funk, of Chicago, temporarily in charge of the headquarters of the National Woman Suffrage headquarters, in the absence of Mrs. Medill McCormick, to-day issued a challenge to Mrs. Augustus P. Gardner, one of the anti-suffrage leaders.

RED FLAG DOESN'T FLY

Announcement was made late this afternoon from the offices of the City Park Commission that skaters who go to Wildwood to-day or this evening do so at their own risk. The announcement was made following an inspection of the condition of the ice this morning. It was found that in places the ice is absolutely unsafe.

WILLIAMS NOMINATED FOR COMPTROLLER OF CURRENCY BY WILSON

He Is Also Named as Ex-Officio Member of Federal Reserve Board

Washington, D. C., Jan. 13.—President Wilson early to-day prepared the nomination of John Shelton Williams, of Virginia, for Comptroller of the Currency and ex-officio member of the Federal Reserve Board. The nomination was sent to the Senate this afternoon.

Mr. Williams is now Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, in charge of the fiscal bureaus and Secretary McAdoo's first assistant in matters of government finance. The office of Comptroller of the Currency has been vacant several months. From time to time various reports have been afloat in congressional circles of opposition being brought to bear against the nomination of Mr. Williams. It was said that the so-called great financial interests were opposing him. There has never been recorded, so far as is known, before any committee or through any official channel, any opposition to his appointment, though there are various reports of impending opposition to his confirmation by the Senate.

Announcement of Mr. Williams' selection followed a conference between

CITY WILL BEGIN NEW FISCAL YEAR WITH FULL PURSE

Estimated Balance \$13,545.56 April 6, According to Gorgas' First Report

Harrisburg will begin its new fiscal year, April 6, with the healthy financial balance of \$13,545.56.

The Water Department will start business at the same time with the equally comfortable balance of \$6,459.88.

The total balance of the various sinking funds is \$101,549.83.

The improvement loan balances show that \$21,942.50 remains in the first, \$409.25 in the second and \$111,818.74 in the third.

City Council was informed of these important facts this afternoon in the first annual report of City Commissioner W. L. Gorgas, superintendent of finance. The report will figure in the preparation of the new city budget and the levying of the mill rate.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair, continued cold to-night; lowest temperature about 10 degrees; Wednesday, clearing, warmer. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair, continued cold to-night; Wednesday, clearing, warmer; moderate northwesterly winds, becoming variable.

River: The river will fall slowly; local rises may occur due to the channel becoming clogged with ice. The river will probably become generally icebound to-night.

Temperature: 8 a. m., 13°; 2 p. m., 11°; Sun: Bises, 7:23 a. m.; sets, 4:54 p. m.; Moon: Rises, 6:44 p. m.; River Stage: Three feet above low water mark.

Yesterday's Weather: Highest temperature, 12°; Lowest temperature, 12°; Mean temperature, 22°; Normal temperature, 29°.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

John W. Birkhead, Clearfield county, and Florence Haulton, Curwensville. Michael Tarbuch and Agata Ilanic, Steelton.

The New Colors For Spring

The stores are already beginning to answer the question that so many women want answered. As you read our newspaper to-day you will notice the spring note creeping into the advertising. The stores are already beginning to show the beautiful cottons from which women will make their summer frocks.

The woman who expects to keep posted to the minute must be an advertising reader. She must avail herself of the service her favorite newspaper provides for her. It is the best fashion news in the world because it is based on actual merchandise and not on theories. It is up to the minute. It is written in a way that makes it clear to her. But it seems almost unnecessary to remind American women of the joys of advertising—for they are already the greatest readers of advertising in the world.