

\$2,342,851 SURPLUS IN THE POST OFFICE, BURLESON SAYS IN REPORT TO CONGRESS

Washington, Dec. 5.—A surplus of \$2,342,851 in postoffice operations for the fiscal year 1919 was announced in the annual report of Postmaster General Burleson. The figures are subject to some adjustment which would increase the surplus, Mr. Burleson said, adding that this was the sixth time in the seven years of the present postoffice administration that revenues had exceeded expenditures.

An aggregate surplus of more than \$35,000,000, as compared to an aggregate deficit of more than \$59,000,000 for the preceding seven-year period, is shown in an appended table.

"The cause of the change is immediately apparent," the report says of this comparison. "Whereas the revenues under this administration increased \$737,597,818, or at the rate of 50.68 per cent compared with the seven-year period prior to the time it assumed office, the expenditures increased only \$643,335,795, or at the rate of 42.49 per cent. The difference between the increase in expenditures and the increase in revenues, less losses, equals the amount of the net change in favor of the public treasury."

Answers Criticisms

Much of the criticism leveled at the department's financial policy, Mr. Burleson said, "was due to lack of complete and accurate information."

"The facts, as presented," he added, "tell a story of achievement. They do not call for explanations or apologies and none is given. The administration stands squarely on its record."

Discussing improvements in the service, Mr. Burleson said nothing had been left undone to insure the authority "to effect readjustments in the interest of all the people and not in that of any special class," adding:

"Because of the curtailment of what may be termed 'special class' postal facilities there has grown up a strenuous hostility upon the part of a limited number of 'special interests' the expense of whose private business was largely paid by the Government instead of by themselves. This has particular force in the case of the 'second-class' making privilege which had until the advent of the present administration been grossly abused."

Improvements in Service

Improvements made are summarized as follows:

Inauguration of the air mail service, establishment of the 'space system' in determining the compensation of railroads for carrying the mail, readjustment of railway mail service in the interest of both improvement and economy, readjustment of organizations in postoffices, methods of service and distribution of supplies on a basis of sound business principle, inauguration of rural and city motor vehicle service and village delivery service, extension of box and collection service and postage stamp, money order and registry facilities to patrons on star routes, improvements in the registry system, insured parcel post and the methods of handling dead letters, readjustment of rural delivery service, providing more equitable distribution of facilities to patrons already served and extensions of facilities to those citizens who had theretofore been denied any service at all, complete reorganization of the equipment and supply service through the extension of operation and economy of production and the introduction of modern shop methods, equipment and appliances, effecting substantial savings and im-

provement in the service, the partial adjustment of the postage rates on second-class mail matter, effecting a saving of over \$15,000,000 annually; reduction of letter postage between the United States and several foreign countries, large extension of international parcel post, and the increase in weight and size of parcels permitted in the mails.

Opposes Labor Unions

Mr. Burleson again asked repeal of legislation permitting affiliation of organizations of postal employees with labor organizations which sanction recourse to the strike or boycott to enforce their demands.

"I again call the attention of Congress to the impropriety of Government employees owing allegiance to any organization which might stand between them and the Government, and to the actual menace to governmental authority which is involved in such affiliation," Mr. Burleson said.

"The avowed purpose of labor organizations is not alone to advance the social and economic welfare of members of their order, but to exercise a coercive influence upon the employer, to compel submission to their demands. The strike and the boycott are weapons designed to be used in attack or in resistance. The Government of the United States is not to be attacked or resisted by any citizen of the land. Surely no such special privilege is reserved to those who, through the nature of their employment, are sworn to serve the Government itself and owe to it the special allegiance of service duty."

Stands For Zone Rates

Reaffirming after detailed discussion his previous stand as to zone rates on publications, Mr. Burleson said: "The Postmaster General has always believed that a low, flat rate of postage should apply to reading matter, for the reason that its primary purpose is the dissemination of news and is educational, but he is also firm in the belief that its low rate of postage should not apply to that portion of the publication devoted to advertising or commercial uses. The law which fixes a zone rate for advertising matter is eminently fair, as the rate of postage is increased in the proportion that the publication is commercialized and according to the distance it is transported; and the publisher, therefore, to a certain extent, fixes for himself the rate of postage on his publication. The Postmaster General earnestly recommends that action be taken by Congress to increase the rate of postage on the portion of publications devoted to advertising sufficiently to pay the cost of transporting and handling same."

With reference to the application of civil service requirements to postmasters, the report said: "In order that the spirit and letter of civil

service might be conscientiously carried out as far as practicable, and pending enactment by Congress of legislation which, though repeatedly urged by the Postmaster General, failed of passage, several Executive orders have been issued by the President extending in effect the classified civil service to postmaster-

ships of all classes and requiring that those who were blanketed into civil service by Executive orders previous administrations without having been subjected to any civil service or merit test whatever shall be required to pass a civil service examination. This is believed to be a long step in the direction of higher

standards in the Government service and a more businesslike administration of postal affairs."

Guaranteed as Per Specifications.

Chloe—I would only marry a man who has lived and suffered.
George—I suppose what you want is a widower.—London Bightly.

Heat in New York Cars Cut Down Today

New York, Dec. 5.—New York took two steps to conserve coal in the face of a shortage, which, ac-

ording to Public Service Commissioner Nixon, threatens to become more acute than the famine of war days.

The first step was an order issued by Mr. Nixon, after a long conference with public utility officials, directing that heating in subway, elevated and surface cars beginning

to-day, is to be reduced for two weeks during rush hours, but maintained in "slack" time.

The second was decision by theatrical managers to request all theaters to darken their electric signs at all hours save between 7.30 and 8.30 p. m.



Boudoir Caps

Of satin, crepe de chine, georgette, crepe; pink, flesh, blue, orchid, Nile, maize and American beauty. Each cap packed in individual box, ready as a Christmas gift.

75c, \$1.00, \$1.25 to \$1.50

ASTRICH'S

308 MARKET ST.



Milady's Xmas



Gift Handkerchiefs

Crepe de Chine Monogrammed
Linen Novelty
Cotton Linens Embroidered
Individual or in boxes of three. The daintiest gift and always acceptable to any one.
Individual at 15c, 19c, 25c up to 75c
In boxes of three at 50c up to \$1.50



Suits of Quality

Our entire stock of Suits has been remarked at such large sacrifices that you can save from one-third to one-half on these models—mostly fur-trimmed

\$19.50 to \$100.00

Extra Special Suits

We have selected a large variety of Suits formerly worth up to \$60.00, which we have reduced to

\$35.00

Coats of Distinction

Luxuriant Coats of the last conceptions in style, superior materials and workmanship. The LOWEST PRICES for high-grade coats. Abundant use of fur on collars, cuffs and pockets. From

\$29.50 to \$100.00

Extra Special Coats

A special purchase of Silvertone Coats, fur collared; full fancy satin-lined; all sizes; values up to \$65.00. These Coats will be sold for

\$35.00



AUTO OWNERS
APPLY AT OUR OFFICE FOR
1920 Auto Licenses

Applications cheerfully filled out by our Notary Public. Notary fee only charge.

(Applications are complicated this year. We supply the application.)

Backenstoss Realty Co.
331 Market Street
"The Office of Service"

Shawlettes

The prettiest of gifts is the novel shawlette, made of angora wool in Tan, Brown, Black, Beaver, Gray, Copen, Navy, Garnet, American Beauty, etc. All the wanted shades, with pockets and belt of plain.

\$3.98, \$5, \$7.50 to \$18.50



Furs

Rich—Rare—Luxurious

Chokers Nutria
Scarfs Mink
Capes Kolinsky
Muffs Wolf
Squirrel Fox
Beaver Fisher Coon
Mole Lynx
Seal



Blouses

Distinctive and Exclusive

Beaded, embroidered and tailored models. Colors which harmonize or contrast delightfully. Satisfying in every particular.

—Holiday Boxes—

Dainty Lingerie

Crepe de Chine, Georgette, Satin, Batiste, Dimity, Society Voile and Silk Jersey. Chemise, Gowns, Vests, Bloomers, Knickers, Camisoles, Union Suits, Bloom-Petts and Combination Suits and Pajama Suits. Christmas Boxes make lingerie the prettiest gifts at Yuletide. Our prices are lower than the present wholesale costs.



Imported Beaded Bags

Genuine hand-made imported Beaded Bags. It is impossible to conceive the beauty of these bags unless they are seen. A more handsome gift would be hard to imagine. Let us show these beauties to you.



Petticoats

Of Silk Jersey, Taffeta, Heather-bloom, Mercerized Silk or Cotton.

Navy, black, brown, pastel shades, green, maize, coral pink, American Beauty, floral designs and innumerable other shades. Petticoats from

98c to \$18.50
Christmas Boxes if desired.



Claster's Diamonds---
are not expensive--neither are they an extravagance---

Diamonds are not expensive—some people only think so. At least Claster's diamonds are not expensive.

We will sell you a diamond as low as \$10. We are offering very fine and pretty ones for \$25, \$35, \$40, \$50, \$100 and up, which is very little money for something that will last a lifetime.

Claster's diamonds are really not a luxury. About every diamond we have sold during the past 25 years has in reality been a profit producing purchase for the buyer.

Diamonds have been increasing in value year after year. Diamonds purchased from us five or six years ago are worth more today than we sold them for.

Can you think of anything else you could have bought at such small cost and used or worn for years that would be worth more money than you paid for it?

There may have been a time when diamonds were sold at fancy prices—some dealers may charge excessive prices today. We don't. We sell diamonds on an established commercial basis the same as we sell any other merchandise—at a low percentage of profit and we guarantee every sale.

When you buy at Claster's you buy right.

Now is the opportune time to buy diamonds at the lowest prices.

Let us show you the largest, finest and most varied assortments.

Make it a diamond Christmas.

H.C. CLASTER
Gems—Jewels—Silver
302-MARKET ST. I-N. THIRD ST.

Hosiery---
As a Christmas Gift

The soft silken finish of Astrich Silk Hosiery, combined with the durability and comfort of a heavy gauge, lend a decided charm. With Hosiery of the better kind your gift has everlasting distinction.

Correct Modes in Dresses

Have you seen the new models in the dress section? Each style possesses an individuality which marks it as the different kind.

Tricotine, Serge, Velvet, Jersey, Tyrol Wool, Tricolette, Charmeuse, Poillet, Georgette, etc.

All models are marked extremely low to increase our Christmas sales.

\$16.50, \$18.50, \$22.50, \$25.00, up to \$115.00

