

P. O. DEPARTMENT

The Nation's Pride—The Parcel Post, Its Progress and Development, by Hon. H. T. Rainey.

We are pleased to print the following remarks of the Honorable Henry T. Rainey, of Illinois, in the House of Representatives. Read and will know more about the working of the P. O. Department.

Parcel Post. The United States parcel post is handling approximately 1,100,000,000 parcels a year, or over 30,000,000 a month. It is the largest express service in the world. It is impossible to state the proportion of this business which is distinctly rural. It is undoubtedly true, however, that the chief function of the Government's express service has proved to be agricultural. That is, the Government is the principal express carrier now operating between city and country and vice versa. The bulk of the parcel post business is of this nature, whereas the bulk of the business of the private express companies passes between city and city.

The growth of the parcel post as a medium of exchange between city and country has raised questions which are more or less bitterly controverted. Retailing organizations of the cities have attacked the farm-to-table feature of the parcel service which involves direct exchange by Government express of farm products between the rural producer and the urban consumer. A second and a larger controversy has to do with the effect of the development of mail-order business upon the country merchant.

Does the farmer want his new express facilities which he did not have before—taken away? Is he not better off now than he was before? Is he not brought into closer relations, into almost direct touch, with city life? Has the farmer not been drawn into closer association with the entire world, the department of our country? And does not this make for the intelligent development of the farmer, and also make the conditions surrounding life on the farm more interesting and attractive? All these questions are applied to the purely business one of whether the parcel post tends to make the things which the farmer must buy cheaper, and to expand and improve the market for the things which he sells. Undoubtedly the parcel post does do both these things.

And the country farmer is not the only gainer because of the parcel post. The country merchant has gained new facilities, too, which may be more than offset the business secured by the mail-order houses of the big cities. Because of the parcel post he is enabled to handle merchandise heretofore out of his reach, and naturally the scope of people to whom he can possibly sell is greatly enlarged.

Many sections farmers, within second-zone distance of large cities have demonstrated that the farm-to-table feature of the parcel post is a success. In a number of cities from 3 to 500 packages of farm produce are passing through the post office daily. The new service has gained a foothold, and its expansion into genuine economic proportions is assured.

The following letter addressed by a farmer to former Postmaster Peavler, of Washington, D. C., reflects the attitude of practically every farmer toward the parcel post. To my mind nothing has ever been inaugurated in America which will tend to make the farmer more content to stay on the farm than the establishment of the parcel post method of shipment of his products. It gives him business practice; it gives him the feeling of doing a mail-order business. He finds much more satisfaction and pleasure in preparing his produce for real appreciative human hands than in handing it over to a commission machine into which his produce, no matter how painstaking it has been prepared, is dumped. It also tends to practically eliminate the competition with the envid city residents. It gives him the feeling that his efforts are appreciated and rewarded with high incentive to produce the best possible articles, and thus win the confidence of his patrons.

One of the most interesting developments of the last year in the Parcel Post Service is the treatment in the average weight of parcels. The count of April 15, 1915, showed an average weight of 1 pound 7 ounces. The count of October 15, 1915, and of April 15, 1916, both returned an average weight of 1 pound 11 ounces. The parcel post act and the change of rates and regulations as to weight limits subsequently made by Postmaster General Harrison greatly reduced the rates upon the heavier parcels and opened the mails to parcels weighing 20 pounds throughout the country and to parcels weighing 50 pounds within the first two zones or within 150 miles of the point of each-shipment origin.

- (1) Reducing postage for distance up to the sixth zone.
(2) Increasing the weight limit from 11 to 50 pounds in the first and second zones and from 1 to 25 pounds beyond the second zone.
(3) Admitting books to the parcel post.
(4) Increasing the size limit from 7 inches to 39 inches combined length and girth measurement.
(5) Reducing the cost of insur-

Garrick Theatre.

"The Blue Paradise." One of the most successful musical plays of recent years is "The Blue Paradise," which was seen in New York last season at the Casino, and ran there for an entire year, and which is to be seen at the Garrick Theatre, Detroit, for the coming week.

Prohibition has worked a transformation in the living conditions of many Colorado families. Money that formerly slipped away unheeded, to buy liquor for father's passing thirst, is now giving the kiddies a more adequate supply of milk. This statement is an actual truth as it stands and it also may be taken in a broader meaning as expressing the fact that the family income that used to be cut down seriously each week by the toll going over the bar is now going in greater degree to the family itself.

Brown Cannon, a Southfield product, who went West, started on nothing, and is now in the millionaire class, raising up and speaking good words for the cause of Prohibition. Read every word as uttered by the only Brown Cannon, Mr. Cannon is manager of the Windsor Farm Dairy Company.

"We feel the effects of prohibition right from the start. Milk sales increased amazingly. Where monthly accounts used to run about \$1.50 each a pint a day—they are now running \$5 and \$9 a month, proving that the families are being far better supplied.

"Our business has doubled in the districts where working men have their homes. Places we used to sell five or six quarts of buttermilk a day, are now selling seven or eight gallons. Buttermilk is the best substitute for whiskey yet discovered.

"One wagon used to have a route that included 45 saloons. When the state went dry the driver said we might as well take off the wagon as the business had been killed. Well, business has increased in that district that we now have three wagons covering the route.

"Altogether we had to put on 11 more wagons to take care of the increased demand for milk since prohibition went into effect.

"A comparatively small number of men who cannot get along without drinks are patronizing the blindpigs and loggagers or are buying the liquor shipped in to them."

While what is said about tired women it must be remembered that men also feel the reality of overwork. When the kidneys are weak, nervous or sluggish, when one feels tired and the head aches, when there is "blues," lacks energy and ambition, Foley Kidney Pills are tonic and strengthening. Take act quickly. Sold everywhere. Adv.

Man Feels Tired, Too. The Rural Delivery Service and has used the money this made available to grant service to a large percentage of the farmers of each such county and justly deserves such service. It has been denied the same in the past. Under the present administration of the parcel post, the service has been adopted, and consistently worked under that policy, of providing equal consideration and fair treatment to all sections of the country in allowing to each adequate postal facilities.

Worms Sap Your Child's Strength. As your child pale and fretful? Does he sleep or eat? Do his bowels move? These symptoms may mean worms, and you should obtain relief at once. Kickapoo Worm Killer is a pleasant remedy that kills the worm, and its mildly laxative quality expels it. It is safe for the child, and it is so easy to take and make your child more susceptible to other ailments. Write for a free trial of Kickapoo Worm Killer, 25c a box—Adv.

H. BROWN CANNON

Brown Cannon, of Denver, Speaks on the Results of Prohibition in His Own State.

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EXQUISITE IDAHO POTATOES

\$2.25 Bushel—60c Peck. Beautiful for baking—best you have had in years. Get yours now. Save money by buying early.

OLIVES

PLAIN STUFFED RIPE. In Standard, Fancy and Supreme sizes, at prices unchanged, although Olives are 40 per cent higher than 90 days ago.

PICKLES—Bulk or Bottled

In every style at every price to suit the buyer. Frost and cold brings prime New York Buckwheat Flour, and Genuine Pure Maple Syrup to go with it.

MINER GROCERY CO.

THE HOME OF GOOD THINGS TO EAT

Phone 230 Phone 222

The Birmingham Grocery

THANKSGIVING. Decared by President Wilson for Thursday, Nov. 30. Fruit, Vegetables and Seasonings of all kinds obtainable at the Daylight Store.

Heinz 57 Varieties, a stock of guaranteed quality 1916 pack Large Dills, 2 for 5c. Caudies in package or bulk. Filberts, Almonds, Brazils, Chestnuts, Walnuts, Hickory, and Mixed Nuts.

Wilson's Pound Cakes are the best obtainable. Try a pound and be convinced. Sunkist Prunes, seal-tight cans, already cooked, no syrup, no can flavor to taste, new label, new pack, guaranteed to win.

Call Central for No. 222 or 230, give us your name and order—we do the rest. Good luck to all, the 30th.

The Birmingham Grocery

The Day-Light Store

EYESIGHT SPECIALIST

EYES EXAMINED GLASSES FITTED. Open Evenings till 8 O'clock. J. F. CODLING, Registered Optometrist, ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN.

Chronic Diseases and Cancer a Specialty

ENOCH MATHER, M. D. Office and Residence at "Grey Gables", 228 South Gratiot Avenue, Mount Clemens, Michigan.

OAKLAND REALTY CO.

PADDOCK & LYNCH. Local Agents for the Globe Indemnity Co., of New York. Workmen's Compensation Insurance, Burglary and Plate Glass, Fidelity and Surety Bonds. Also Liability, Automobile, Steam Boiler, and Accident and Health Insurance.

JNO. D. RIKER, M. D.

Practice limited to EYE, EAR, NOSE, THROAT, PONTIAC, MICH.

ADVERTISED LETTERS.

The following is a list of letters remaining unclaimed at the Birmingham, Mich., P. O. for the week ending November 18:

- Atiam, Lew
Burr, Carl
Beckwith, Bert
Harley, John
Cirney, Fred
Harten, George
Everett, Sam
Hearn, Cecelia
Hoffau, Helen
Eley, and Louise Kelley.

POST CARDS

- Brian, Robert G.
Edson, Margella
Frederick, Albert
Warren, Waite
Wood, J. L.
Lewis, W. W.
Mudge, Mrs. V. M.
Martin, Adelt
Warren, Walter
Persons calling for any of the above letters will please say "advertised."

Baby Had Whooping Cough.

Mrs. Sam J. Small, Clayton, N. M. writes: "My grandson had whooping cough when he was three months old. He lost his appetite and I felt he could not be saved. His life is now big and fat. Foley's Honey and Syrup acted in a minute and saved the child. Persons calling for any of the above letters will please say "advertised."

OBITUARY.

Eileen Jane Brooks, daughter of Alanson and Desire Brooks, was born near Washington, Macomb County, Michigan, December 23, 1834, and died at the home of her son, Steven, in Troy township, Oakland County, Michigan, Wednesday, November 15, 1916.

She was one of four children, two of whom, her brother, Ed, of Denver, Colorado, and Eugene, of Birmingham, survive her.

She was united in marriage to Edward Chatfield, in Troy Township, where for fifty-six years she has made her home. Mrs. Chatfield was the mother of six sons: Albert, Ed, Bruce, Jay, Mack, and Steven. All but Bruce are still living.

In August, 1908, the husband died, and the responsibility, but real privilege of mother's care then fell to the families of her sons, particularly those of Steven and Jay. Until her last illness, however, it was care only in the sense of affection, bestowed, as self-help was passion with her.

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