

NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

Postoffice Department May Pay Out



WASHINGTON.—The estimates of Postmaster General Hitchcock for next year show that the postoffice department promises fair to pay its own way. The mail service comes nearer to the people than any other branch of the government, for it reaches every home as well as shops and offices. It costs a lot of money. Mr. Hitchcock asks for \$250,733,943, and the appropriation for the department always is set forth in the expenditures for each year, but the earnings from the mails bring back the outlay to the treasury. This business is not reported in the current daily statement of the treasury which set forth only the deficit paid. This amounted last year to \$17,000,000, and will be \$6,000,000 less for the current twelve months, while it is predicted that it will disappear in the next fiscal year. The department gets no pay for the vast tons of matter which it carries for other branches of the government. If it did the offset against the deficit would be very large. The rent of offices in Washington and in public buildings elsewhere does not cover this traffic.

The work done by the postoffice is

a marvel of cheapness. In volume and in extent of territory covered there is nothing to be compared with it. The reduction in rates since the days when 25 cents was charged for a letter from New York to Columbus, O., does not cease to be a wonder. The system which for two cents delivers a message in writing weighing an ounce from Maine to San Francisco not only but to the Philippines, or from the southern point of Florida to the northern extremity of Alaska, is a model of efficiency at the minimum of cost. When we consider also the burden of mails overseas to certain countries where the foreign rates are the same with our domestic charge, the challenge is bold that the world presents no parallel to the economy and to the achievement.

Europe is compact in population with distances measured by hundreds of miles only. This is especially true of Great Britain. There penny postage is proclaimed as a triumph and an example. Americans forget that the British penny is the equal in current value of two cents of our money. The cent is often called a penny, but it is only half a penny, and thus the term is a misnomer. Our postal rates on letters are now just those of Great Britain. Penny postage has long prevailed here as well as there. That with free rural delivery and with transmission over the continent and to the islands, the earnings are to cover the expenses, may well gratify officials and citizens.

Has Plan to Care for Ex-Presidents



THE great movement for the conservation of the natural resources of the country, at the present time exerting salutary influences upon every important national activity, has embraced a new field. A safe, sane and successful method of conserving and finding a method of caring for our ex-presidents is the latest idea in the conserving line. A provision in the constitution of the national conservation congress is responsible for the proposal, and serious consideration is being given it, not by the political dreamer or theorist, but by the great public figures of the country.

Bernard N. Baker, retiring president of the congress, by virtue of a clause in the constitution, becomes a member for life of the executive committee, and will, so long as the congresses are held, continue to give the benefit of his counsel and experience to the president.

The suggestion has been made, and has already crystallized into an cr-

ganized sentiment, to adopt the same method with the president of the United States, make him, for life, an advisory member of the president's cabinet and give him a competence sufficient to make him independent. Speaking of this proposal, Mr. Baker said that it was really surprising how many men there were in the west who thought that this method furnished the solution of the perpetual perplexing question as to what disposition to make of our ex-presidents.

"On its face the proposition is certainly a plausible one. It stands to reason that after a man has been president for four or eight years he knows the problems and difficulties which confront the man at the helm of the ship of state better than does his successor. If the ex-presidents could be made advisory members of the cabinet of the president, the latter would get the benefit of the advice of the former. No matter if there should be a change in the administration, this would make no difference to broad-minded men."

Of course, there would have to be legislation providing that when a man is elected to the presidency his succession to the cabinet position necessarily follows. All this is not mere theory. It is endorsed by some of the political thinkers of the country."

Expert to Head the Economy Bureau



WHAT is considered a real step toward greater economy and more efficiency in the management of the government's business was taken when President Taft appointed Dr. Frederick A. Cleveland, director of the bureau of municipal research in New York city, as the head of a central staff that will work on the economy and efficiency problem under the direction of the president. Announcement was also made that each of the cabinet officers will organize in his department a committee or commission to be known as an economy and efficiency organization.

These steps were taken under the law passed at the last session of congress directing the president to conduct an investigation into the business methods of the several executive departments, and giving him \$100,000

with which to carry forward the inquiry. The final plans were not approved by the president until he had consulted with a large number of business men and had received written suggestions from numerous audit companies.

The central staff, of which Mr. Cleveland is to be the chief, will be composed of four men in addition to the chief. Its function will be to keep the president informed as to conditions in the several departments. It might properly be called a bureau of inspection. The economy and efficiency commissions to be organized in each department will undertake to ascertain if greater efficiency can be obtained without increasing the cost of the service.

It is explained at the White House that the general movement does not contemplate the dismissal of government clerks, but the gaining of greater efficiency. The president has come to believe that the departments work at cross purposes in some instances and that it is frequently the case that in a particular department money is wasted because the service is not organized or centered as it should be.

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Opium Invades Army at the Presidio



THE war department is advised that opium, the insidious enemy of the armies of the world, has invaded the ranks of the United States troops stationed at the Presidio, near San Francisco, to such an extent that a strong campaign, in which are involved more than 2,500 men, has been launched in an effort to crush it out.

The officers admit the seriousness of the situation, and declare it to be the gravest problem they have been called upon to settle. Drastic measures are now being taken to rescue those of the troops who have fallen victims to the subtle opiate. With all the energies of the department of war bent to the battle, an appeal has

been made to the civil authorities.

Just how general the use of the poppy juice has become is not estimated, but it is admitted to be more alarming than ever before in the history of the army. Acting Commander Col. C. Deems said that in all his career he had never encountered such a general addiction to the drug, and that at worst his observation had never disclosed a higher percentage of opium usage than two to three per cent. It was at first estimated that forty per cent. of the men at the Presidio were using the drug, but this was declared excessive, a more probable figure after company and hospital statistics had been compiled, being ten per cent.

Alarmed at this high percentage, appeals were directed by Colonel Lundein, commandant at the post, to the district attorney's office and to the office of the chief of police, with the result that raids on opium dens by the civil authorities are being made.

New News of Yesterday

by E. J. Edwards

Inside Story of a Convention

Whitney Violated Tilden's Confidence and So Hancock Was Nominated to Shut Out Henry B. Payne of Ohio.

At the time of his third presidential campaign in which Grover Cleveland was the successful candidate for the presidency, I had a conversation with ex-Mayor William R. Grace of New York, who took a leading part in the politics which culminated in the nomination of President Cleveland at Chicago in 1892. I asked Mayor Grace if there was any truth in the report, widely circulated, that Samuel J. Tilden was not particularly friendly to Grover Cleveland's nomination in

that year, the letter is to be read to the convention. In it I shall acknowledge the propriety and consistency of the action of the party in nominating me, and then I shall state that because of the precarious condition of my health it will be impossible for me to accept the nomination. In this way our party's record for consistency will be unimpeachable.

"We asked Mr. Tilden to whom he would commit his letter, and he replied that he would put it in the hands of William C. Whitney, under a pledge of confidence not to reveal it or its contents or to let it get out, even, that such a letter had been written until after the presidential nomination had been made.

"Well, we went to St. Louis, ready to see to it that Mr. Tilden was nominated by acclamation; but imagine our surprise when, after we had been there a day or so, we began to hear that Senator Henry B. Payne of Ohio would be the successful candidate for the presidential nomination. We asked the delegates who were saying this what made them think so and the answer was that Bill Whitney was working for Senator Payne, his father-in-law.

"But," we protested, "Mr. Whitney

is committed to the nomination of Governor Tilden."

"Oh, no, he isn't," was the reply. "Tilden won't accept the nomination."

"How do you know that?" we asked.

"Why, Mr. Whitney told us. He says he has a letter from Mr. Tilden in which he declines to permit the use of his name."

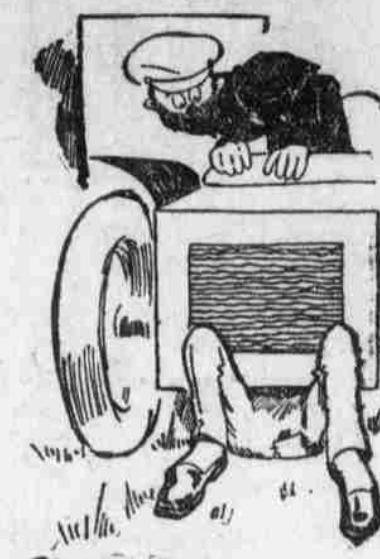
"You may be sure that we made all haste to see Bill Whitney," said Mr. Grace, with a grim smile. "We asked him if it were true that he had spoken of the existence of Tilden's letter."

"Yes, I have," was the blunt response. And when we asked him if he didn't consider that he had violated Mr. Tilden's confidence, his reply was that in politics, as in war, everything was fair, and he meant to do all he could to secure the nomination of his father-in-law.

"The jig was up. Knowing for a certainty that Bill Whitney had spread the authoritative news that Tilden would not run, we were morally certain that he could never be nominated by acclamation. So, to get even with Whitney, we made up our minds that whatever else happened Henry B. Payne should not be nominated. And that purpose explains how, after looking in various directions for a candidate, we concentrated upon General Winfield Scott Hancock."

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RATHER FAST.



"What is the fastest run your auto ever made?"

"It ran me \$200 in debt the first week I had it."

AN INTOLERABLE ITCHING

"Just about two years ago, some form of humor appeared on my scalp. The beginning was a slight itching but it grew steadily worse until, when I combed my hair, the scalp became raw and the ends of the comb-teeth would be wet with blood. Most of the time there was an intolerable itching, in a painful, burning way, very much as a bad, raw burn, if deep, will itch and smart when first beginning to heal. Combing my hair was positive torture. My hair was long and tangled terribly because of the blood and scabs. This continued growing worse and over half my hair fell out. I was in despair, really afraid of becoming totally bald."

"Sometimes the pain was so great that, when partially awake, I would scratch the worst places so that my finger-tips would be bloody. I could not sleep well and, after being asleep a short time, that awful stinging pain would commence and then I would wake up nearly wild with the torture. A neighbor said it must be salt rheum. Having used Cuticura Soap merely as a toilet soap before, I now decided to order a set of the Cuticura Remedies—Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Pills. I used them according to directions for perhaps six weeks, then left off, as the disease seemed to be eradicated, but toward spring, eighteen months ago, there was a slight return of the scalp humor. I commenced the Cuticura treatment at once, so had very little trouble. On my scalp I used about one half a cake of Cuticura Soap and half a box of Cuticura Ointment in all. The first time I took six or seven bottles of Cuticura Pills and the last time three bottles—neither an expensive or tedious treatment. Since then I have had no scalp trouble of any kind. Standing up, with my hair unbound, it comes to my knees and had it not been for Cuticura I should doubtless be wholly bald."

"This is a voluntary, unsolicited testimonial and I take pleasure in writing it, hoping my experience may help someone else. Miss Lillian Brown, R. F. D. 1, Liberty, Me., Oct. 29, 1909."

An Awful Moment

The company always included many delightful women, and I remember the consternation caused among them one day by Burnham, the scout. He explained that he attributed his success as a scout to the acuteness of his sense of smell; it was like a bloodhound's.

"There's no one here today," he affirmed, "who at any time anywhere in the future I could not recognize in the dark. Yes, I could tell you, and you, and you, and you," nodding at an alluring group in modish apparel, "by the way you smell."

For an awful moment the conversation flagged.—McClure's.

Knows Tetterine Cures Eczema.

Mocksville, N. C.
I have a friend in the country here who has suffered for years with Eczema, and I told him if he used Tetterine he would soon be relieved, for it is the only thing that I ever used that would kill it.

P. S. Early.
Tetterine cures Eczema, Ringworm, Itching Piles, and every form of Scalp and Skin Disease. Tetterine Soap Ecze; Tetterine Soap Ecze; At druggist, or by mail from the manufacturer, The Shupriner Co., Savannah, Ga.

With every mail order for Tetterine we give a box of Shupriner's Ecze Liver Pills free.

Can You Blame Him?

"Pa, what does 'skeptical' mean?"

"That describes a man's feelings when a woman tells her age."

For HEADACHE—Hicks' CAPUDINE
Whether from Colds, Heat, Stomach or Nervous Troubles, Capudine will relieve you. It is liquid—pleasant to take—acts immediately. Try it 10c, 25c, and 50 cents at drugstores.

There are lots of people who are afraid to sit down at a table with 18, but a hungry boy isn't one of them.

Sore throat leads to Tonsilitis, Quinsy and Diphtheria. Hamlin's Wizard Oil used as a gargle upon the first symptoms of a sore throat will invariably prevent all three of these dread diseases.

Appreciation of good accomplished helps more than much advice on the good yet to be done.

FOR SALE---SOUTH GA. FARMS

500 ACRES, 150 in cultivation, six-room residence. 100 grade pebble land; ideal home. All conveniences. If you desire choice land in south Georgia, see this place. Will sell at reasonable figure.

F. J. BIVINS, Moultrie, Ga.

PISO'S is the name
when you need a remedy
for COUGHS and COLDS.

Another Era.

"Yes," said the lady of uncertain age. "I am proud of the fact that I was the original of the heroine in one of the greatest novels ever written." "Ah, how fine!" commented the tacitless youth. "Ivanhoe" or "David Copperfield?"

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Not Eligible,

Seymour—Hello! What are you thinking about now?

Ashley—Oh, not much; just thinking that Adam and Eve could never have been lawful inmates of an orphan asylum.