

NOVEL STAMPS FOR 1907

They Will Bear the Names of Cities and States.

(New York Sun.)

A number of reasons have been suggested to explain the fact that all the United States postage stamps for 1907 to be issued from the 6,000 Presidential post offices will bear each one the name of the State and city in which the post office is situated. Twenty-six of the 6,000 post offices will have these names engraved upon their stamps, while in the case of the other post offices the names will be printed across the face of the stamps after they have been engraved.

The chief reason for the change is said to be the belief that it will help to do away with the big post office robberies and make it much easier to trace the criminals. The post office robbery in Chicago a few years ago is a good example of the ease with which stolen postage stamps can be disposed of, for no trace of the perpetrators was ever discovered, although stamps worth nearly a hundred thousand dollars were stolen and these mostly of small denominations.

At one time the authorities thought they had found a clue to the robbers. A Chicago mail order house a couple of years after the robbery received a \$5,000 mail order, in payment of which was tendered a package containing the amount of one and two cent stamps. The order being so unusual in character, the head of the firm informed the United States authorities, and efforts were made to find out from whom the order had come, but without avail. It was regarded as fairly certain that these stamps were a part of those taken from the Chicago post office, but there was no way of proving it.

But this is only one of the purposes the change is expected to serve, say stamp authorities. Another is to enable the Post Office Department to determine the amount of business done by the different post offices.

A great deal of complaint has been made in the past in the ground that certain offices were doing a very much greater volume of business than they were credited with doing, and postmasters have had more or less trouble in showing that they needed increased facilities for handling their mails, as in the opinion of the Congressional committees having the matter in charge the receipts from the sale of stamps did not warrant the increase.

"It is no exaggeration to say that New York City's Post Office does millions of dollars worth of business every year for which it gets absolutely no credit—that is, as far as the sale of stamps is concerned," said Joseph S. Rich, an authority on stamps. "Hundreds of mail order houses each day receive from out-of-town points thousands of dollars worth of stamps, many of which are bought at interior post offices."

"These stamps remain right here in the city and are transferred to smaller houses in part payment, and soon afterward the stamps are doing duty on mail sent through the New York office, but for which that office gets not a cent in revenue."

"Chicago suffers in the same way, as do most of the offices in the larger cities where extensive mail order business is done."

"By this means the Government will be able to find out just how much business is being done in certain minor offices where the postmaster's salary depends upon the amount of stamps he sells, and there is still another use to which the new plan can be put."

"There are many small places having post offices to which there are not entitled by the amount of mail sent that passes through the office. For instance, take a small cluster of houses located not far from the city. Say they have a postmaster, and the number of letters passing through each day is small."

"Well, along comes a postal inspector, looks the receipts and records over, and comes to the conclusion that the business done does not justify the maintenance of a post office. Then he tells the postmaster that there is a possibility of putting the settlement on the rural delivery list."

"The postmaster goes to one of the prominent residents and tells him of the likelihood of losing the post office."

"Now, he says, 'you use a couple of dollars' worth of stamps each day in your business in the city. Suppose that instead of getting them there you purchase them of me. I will get credit for the sale, and the postal business here will appear to be picking up.'

"This is a reasonable proposition; the resident doesn't seem to be deprived of the convenience of a nearby office, and so he falls in with the plan."

"The same proposition is made to two or three other residents of the place. They also agree."

"The result is that the next time the inspector comes around he finds that a material increase has taken place in the sale of stamps, and will then say to himself: 'Well, this little place seems to be growing. I'll just wait and see about that rural delivery idea.'

"The postmaster goes from one resident to another and induces each one to buy from him all the stamps he uses. By this manoeuvre he assures the permanence of the post office at that particular village, although there has not been the slightest increase of business to justify it."

"But some large post office will handle the mail better, and when the postmaster of the large office asks for a greater allowance owing to the growing business, he is told that the rural delivery stamp does not justify the increase."

This plan of engraving the names of the city or issue on postage stamps is not entirely new, as it has been followed in Mexico for years. In Liberia also the names of five of the principal towns are engraved upon the stamps.

Fears and Hopes Set at Rest.

The sole lamentation of Mr. Beckford is that he is alone. He lies on Thanksgiving day without comfort indicating unmistakable a hopeless improvement in the condition of his health, and it should quiet my fears, for his hope which may have been entertained regarding the future of his life.

ALL ROSE FROM THE RANKS.

Leaders in California Pioneers Days Started as Poor Men.

Every leader rose from the ranks. Of the so-called Big Four who built the first railway over the Rockies, Huntington and Hopkins had sold pickaxes, Crocker red shirts and Stanford flour and tobacco. John W. Mackay, one of the greatest of civilization builders in both west and east, was a blacksmith. His three partners, Fair, Flood and O'Brien, were shirt-sleeved miners. D. O. Mills, owner of skyscraper steel mills and hotels, paid rent for a shanty.

James R. Keene, master of Wall street game, was a San Francisco proletarian. Sharon, Hearst, Tevis and Haggan, rich afterward as Roman emperors, were at first as poor as any of the gold seekers. "Lucky" Baldwin kept a livery stable. Lux and Baron, the ranch kings, were butcher boys. Senator Perkins was a sailor. Irving M. Scott, builder of the Oregon, had been a helper in a Baltimore foundry. Adolph Sutro,

ANOTHER WONDERFUL CASE

Here is Something That Will Be Welcome News to Many a Discouraged One.

"For several years I have been troubled with gas around my heart, shortness of breath, my food did not digest properly. It turned sour in my stomach, causing me great distress; often, too, I had disagreeable attacks of belching gas and heartburn, and severe pains across the spine of my back."

"I tried Dr. Leopoldoff's Anti-Pill and from the first found relief. Anti-Pill has indeed cured me."

This is the voluntary statement of Wm. H. Reed, of 165 Queen street, King-
ston, Ont.

All Dealers, or the Wilson-Fyle Co., Limited, Niagara Falls, Ont.

FIGHTING THE HEREROS.

German Officers in Africa Picked Off by the Native Marksmen.

Some oddities of campaigning against the Hereros in German Southwest Africa are detailed by Col. Bayer of the general staff in some sketches which he has been publishing from his personal experiences in the field. One point that particularly impressed him was the readiness with which the Hereros and Hottentots singled out the officers at long range.

"It wouldn't have been strange," said he, "if we had worn brilliant uniforms, sashes or other insignia of rank. But we didn't. In the presence of the enemy we used exactly the same uniform and equipment as our troops—suits of khaki and cotton cloth with blue border. We carried no swords."

"Every officer carried a rifle and a cartridge belt with 120 rounds of ammunition in it, exactly like the men. Many of us also wore bayonets. Hands, faces, hair, uniforms, weapons, everything came to be of the same earthy color. We often couldn't recognize one another and all sorts of funny blunders took place."

"In spite of this outward similarity the natives seemed never at a loss to pick out the officers. Their extraordinary power of vision enabled them to detect the slightest sign—a gesture of the hand to control the advance of the firing line, the use of a field glass, the reception of a report was enough to indicate rank."

"In one case I remember, an officer addressed by his superior turned to him and instinctively raised his hand to his helmet in salute. Instantly the fire of the native was concentrated on them and the superior was killed."

FOR ALL HUMOURS

Ecza, Sal Rheum, Putrefac, etc., no remedy heals more quickly than Mira.

Mira relieves inflammation, soothes pain, eases new tissue to cover raw surfaces, and restores the skin to healthy smoothness.

Mrs. J. Webb, 175 Dundas Street, Toronto, writes: "A wonderful cure." J. Tremlett, Hamilton, is also highly recommended your Mira Ointment for Ecza.

Mira Tablets and Blood Tonic help to a more thorough cure. At druggists—or from The Chemist Co. of Canada, Limited, Hamilton-Toronto. Look on getting

Mira
MARVELOUS
TRADE MARK REGISTERED.

Horses Still in Demand.

(Hartford, Conn., Times.)

Happily the horse has a faculty for upsetting the gloomy predictions that he is fated to be put out of business by the automobile. The horse business has fought right on developing in spite of the fact that the automobile industry has been engaged in a similar undertaking. The demand for horses is still great. The supply of some classes of them is inadequate. The price are high. The automobile may scare the horse into the ditch, but it isn't likely to crowd him to the wall. There will always be a field for the horse, as there will always be a field for the automobile.

Of course, if it is laden with iron or corresponding substances, or if it is on iron ship, it sinks rapidly and sometimes strikes the bottom with such force as to smash in pieces. Once sunken a ship becomes the prey of the countless inhabitants of the ocean.

They swim over and through the great boat and make it their home. Besides, they cover every inch of the boat with a thick layer of lime. This takes time, of course, and when one generation dies another continues the work, until finally the ship is so laden with heavy incrustations, corals, sponges and barnacles that, if wood, the creaking timbers fall apart and slowly but surely are absorbed in the waste at the sea bottom.

In vessels are demolished more quickly than those of wood, which may last for centuries. The only metals that withstand the chemical action of the sea are gold and platinum, and glass also seems unaffected. No matter how long gold may be hidden in the ocean, it will always be gold when uncovered, and this fact explains the many romantic and adventurous searches after hidden submarine treasures lost in wrecks.—Baltimore Sun.

A WORD TO THE CLERKS.

To the clerks in the stores we would suggest patience and cheerfulness.

The bright, smiling, willing clerk sells twice as much goods as the one who allows the trials of the day to show in his or her face.

Never be impatient with the woman who is looking for "something cheaper." She must make her Christmas money go a long way and she is trying to get the best value for her money. If she is hard to please, for others as possible show more real Christmas spirit than if you have given away a hundred costly presents.

Often a woman is a distracted mother from buying rings for her children which are of no possible use.

A quiet suggestion here and there, a word of encouragement, a smile, a friendly pat, a sincere gift could be bought in another part of the store will be welcomed with particular gratitude.

We must let it if you lose an entry or two from your sales book?

All the sales book fill quickly at the time of Christmas shopping—that of the cheerful, pleasant helpful clerk the most quickly of all.

What Becomes of Those That Go to the Bottom of the Sea.

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