would be laid out first and who would be appointed as carriers.

IMPROVED SYSTEM ADDITED

By February 4, 1902, the rural delivery system had assumed such large proportions a different method was adopted. Upon the recommendation of President Rooseve't, Congress consented to the rural free delivery service being clased under civil service rules.

The regulations then adopted provided that the rural carriers should be selected by rural agents of the Post Office Department after on.; a very superficial test of their ability to read and write. These regulations proved very unsatisfactory. They resulted in charges that the rural agents were controlled in their selection by political in fluence. On Fr bruary 1, 1904, the regulations were agair changed with the object of removing all cause for complaint. The regulations then adopted are still in force. They have been and still are entirely satisfactory. The records of the Civil Service Commission and of the Post Office Department, show that they have raised the personnel of rural carriers to a remarkably high

carriers and living near the office at which the services, of a carrier are needed, an examination is held. The announcement of this examination is sent to the local postmaster, who is required to give it publicity. Copies of the announcement are posted in the lobby of the office and in other conspicuous public places. The examinations are also usually announced in the press as items of news.

The aplication blanks are distributed by the postensisters, or, where there is eity free delivery service, by the local boards of examiners. The applications, when filled ir, are sent direct to Washington, and filled with the Commission. If the Commission believes that the postmaster is attempting to stifle competition in the interest of some personal or political friend, the examination of the applicants is postponed until the number of applications on file justifies the Commission in holding an examination. Additional applicants are usually secured by a re-announcement of the examination. Circular letters are sent sometimes to citizens of the territory supplied by the post-office calling attention to the

The examination is of a simple character. It is principally a test of accuracy. It consists of the filling out of registry and morey order receipts, an example in simple addition, and the reading and writing of addresses. The examination papers are rated by examiners of the Commission all located in Washington. This prevents interference from local influences.

The applicant who receives the most marks receives the appointment. The papers are numbered and thus the Commission does not know who the applicants are. Preference in appointment in all branches of the service is given to persons who have been honorably discharged from the United States Military or Naval Service on account of disability resulting from wounds received or sickness incurred in the line of duty in certain wars, in accordance with the provision of an Act of Congress, provided however, that such person receives a rating of not less than 66 (70 being required for eligibility for all others), and is physically able to do C work.

The regulations require that each applicant must have been a resident of the territory sup-

THE WINNING AND LEADING FARMERS IN THE DAIRY FARMS COMPETITION

	House 150 Points	Buildings 150 Points	Live Stock Cro 200 Points 200 P		Machinery 75 Points	Improve- ments 1000 75 Points
Names	Plan and Finish Lawns Garden Sanitation Arrangement Library, etc. TOTAL Provision and Size	Location Condition Neatness Convenience Light and Ventilation Yard TOTAL	Quality and Condition Breeding Feeding Feeding Foultry Horses Swins Fordra, Troraa, Tields and Condition	We esds TOTAL Botation Rotation Toral Frence, Blothes, Roads, etc. Workmanship Preservation of Manure Blook-keeping and Records	Supply Character Housing Repair	Boads Obstantes Drainage Beautifying TOTAL
	25 25 25 25 25 25 25	25 20 20 20 30 10 40	0 40 40 20 15 30 15 75 75 1	0 25 20 20 20 25 20 20	25 10 25 25	10 25 25 15
1 Geo. McKensie, Thornhill, Ont. 2 D. Duncan, Don, Ont. 3 D. J. McGlure, Churchville, Ont. 4 R. M. Loveless, Aginourt, Ont. 5 J. O. Paterson, Aginourth, Ont. 5 J. O. Paterson, Downsriew, Ont. 7 Thos. Hartley, Downsriew, Ont. 9 Wm. Loveless, Elleamere, Ont. 9 Wm. Loveless, Elleamere, Ont. 9 Edgar Denis, Newmarket, Ont. 1 James Grichton, Searboro Junet, Ont. 3 W. J. Carnaghan, Woburn, Ont. 3 W. J. Carnaghan, Woburn, Ont. 4 John Baffel, Woburn, Ont.	21 22 20 18 12 20 113 23 20 20 20 23 25 20 20 21 25 20 20 22 25 20 20 21 25 20 20 21 25 20 20 21 25 20 20 20 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25	90 13 10 14 15 2 97 25 18 18 19 17 12 6 120 22 20 16 16 15 12 15 4 105 25 20 17 18 15 20 17 18 15 20 17 18 15 20 17 18 15 20 17 18 15 20 17 18 15 20 17 18 15 20 17 18 15 10 20 16 15 14 15 5 106 20 20 16 15 14 15 5 106 20 20 17 17 15 16 20 5 114 20 20 17 17 15 18 25 144 20 20 17 17 15 18 25 144 20 20 18 15 17 17 18 6 118 25 18 16 15 16 18 4 10 20 18 16 16 15 18 4 10 20 20 18 16 16 16 15 18 4 10 20 20 18 16 16 16 15 18 4 10 20 20 18 16 16 15 18 4 10 20 20 18 16 16 15 18 4 10 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	30 35 16 10 10 15 141 65 50 1 30 8 16 2 10 13 101 50 40 1	IS 138 15 18 15 18 15 18 10 10 17 10 11 15 15 14 15 18 10 10 17 10 11 15 15 10 9 16 15 15 10 9 10 17 10 11 15 15 10 9 18 16 15 15 10 19 16 15 15 10 19 16 15 15 10 19 16 15 15 10 10 10 15 16 10 10 15 15 10 10 10 15 10 10 10 15 10 10 10 15 10 10 10 15 10 10 10 15 10 10 10 15 10 10 10 15 10 10 10 15 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	1 20 8 14 20 32 1 20 8 10 15 53 20 8 13 15 56 50 7 12 16 55 4 20 7 12 16 55 8 20 8 12 15 55 7 20 7 20 8 12 15 56 9 22 8 15 20 65 6 20 7 12 16 54	7 20 20 14 61 704 7 10 18 13 56 696 6 18 15 14 53 691 7 15 15 12 49 666 7 20 20 15 62 651 5 8 15 14 42 633 5 18 18 12 52 63 5 10 18 12 45 623 5 10 18 12 45 623 5 10 15 10 40 600 5 10 15 10 40 590 5 10 15 10 5 35 596 5 10 15 10 5 25 586

There were seven other competitors whose names and scores are not given.

standard. The system is very simple and seems perfect in the safeguards that it sets up against political influence.

THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Just here it may be well to explain what the Civil Service Commission is. The commission is composed of three persons appointed by the president. The law provides that not more than two members of the commission shall be adherents of the same party. The present Democratic member of the commission and its president is General John C. Black, of Chicago, who, when the Democrats were in power during the second administration of President Cleveland, was Commissioner of Pensions. The commission prescribe the manner in which apointments to the Civil Services shall be made, including those of the rural 'carriers.

The method of filling positions in the rural delivery service is as follows:

The Post Office Department notifies the Commission of its intention to establish new ryral routes and also of all vacancies on established routes. If the Commission has not got the names of any persons suitable for the position of rural need of applicants and to the fact that competition is open to all citizens who can comply with the requirements.

The examination of the persons desirous to be appointed as carriers are held by local boards of examiners which must consist of members of both political parties. Where there are no local boards, the examination is conducted by the postmaster.

The examination papers are mailed in sealed packages from the Civil Service Commission in Washington to the examiners, who are instructed not to open the packages nor break the seals in the envelopes containing the papers until the classes of competitors have assembled. They are asked to invite the attention of the classes to the breaking of the seals. The examiners are also charged with the duty of seeing that there is no collusion between competitors. After the examination is over, the examiners give the competitors an opportunity to see them seal the envelope containing the papers which are numbered but do not bear the competitors' name, and make them ready for mailing back to the office of the Commission in Washington.

plied by the post office named in his application for all of the twelve months immediately preceding the filing of his application It is also required that an applicant; must be vouched for by four persons who are patrons of rural service and he must also submit the names of five other such persons who are acqualanted with his charaster and who are capable of judging of his fitness for appointment. These requirements of the regulations have proven theoroughly satisfactory and have awakened an interest among the patrons of rural service in the appointment of the persons who are to carry-the mail.

Owing to its being important that rural carriers shall have the good will of the patrons and as a asfeguard against the appointment of unsuitable persons, Section 11 of the regulations provides a way by which the patrons of rural service may keep the registers clear of the names of unworthy or unsuitable persons. The Commission reports that when a person who is unsuitable files application as to his residence, the matter is almost always brought to the attention of the Commission in time to prevent his apointment.

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