

MAIL SERVICE IN JAPAN.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press* writes from Japan: "The postal service of this country is always pointed at as a model in its way—one of the foremost departments of the Europeanized Government. And, indeed, it must in all fairness be acknowledged that much credit belongs to Japan for swiftness in the despatch of mails, while fettered with a lack of railroads. In the first place, every train carries a mail, and in Japan, be it known the imperial railroads run through passenger trains every two hours, and on the Yokohama Railroad nearly every hour. Thus while in America three mails each way, daily, would be esteemed the climax of facilities, the minimum between the various cities here (in Japan) is about ten each way, daily. This applies merely to the railroads, of course.

The delivery of mails is also very prompt, and takes place a good many times a day. A person may mail a letter in Yokohama for Tokio, one hours ride to the north, as late as dusk, and yet receive an answer the same night, providing his friend is prompt. While in Yokohama I took occasion to mail a letter in a post-box as late as six o'clock in the evening, at a point fully a mile from the post office. It was soon collected, delivered to the one to whom it was directed over the bluffs, and the same evening I received a call from the recipient. In the interior the mail is carried from town to town by messengers, who travel at a dog trot in cases where stage lines do not exist.

"Every effort is made in the case of foreigners, to deliver their mail to them promptly. So anxious are the authorities to deliver mail, that one of the missionary ladies in Kobe says, when last summer she went up among the mountains, six miles distant, a special man was sent from the office here, really against her wishes, who came all the way on foot, and was not content till he had hunted her up and delivered her the mail. The carriers go about the city at a dog trot.

JOSEPH J. Casey is exposing the late U. S. envelope syndicate in the *Figaro* for November. He strikes some heavy blows at the clique.

Exchange Notes.

Under this heading we will insert notices of Exchange from subscribers only. All notices must be in by 5th of any month to insure insertion in that month's issue. The right to reject all exchanges reserved.

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