

IS LARGEST DISTRICT

CHICAGO MAIL DELIVERY SERV- ICE AHEAD OF ALL.

Has 1,571 Mail Carriers Who Make Free Deliveries in 192 Square Miles of Territory—Is Second in Receipts.

Washington, D. C.—Chicago is the largest free delivery district in the United States. Its 1,571 letter carriers cover 192 square miles every day, and deliver more mail from the Chicago post office and its branches than is delivered in any other city, except New York city.

Illinois ranks fifth among the states in the number of post offices having free delivery service. 66 towns in the state having over 10,000 inhabitants, with \$10,000 gross postal receipts, and having their streets paved and houses numbered. This equals the total number in the United States 30 years ago.

These facts are brought out in an interesting report compiled by the superintendent of city free delivery. Taking the service by states, New York heads the list with 193 free delivery post offices. Pennsylvania comes next with 94, then Ohio with 73, Massachusetts with 70, Illinois with 68, Indiana with 58, New Jersey with 55, Michigan with 53, and Iowa with 45. The total number of city free delivery offices on January 1, 1905, was 1,104. Bearing in mind what are the requirements of free delivery, this indicates how great has been the development of the country since the service started in 1864, when there were only 66 cities complying with the conditions.

New York with Brooklyn combined has 132 square miles of territory, served by 2,604 carriers, an increase of 128 since January, 1904. Philadelphia has exactly the same area as New York and Brooklyn, but has fewer carriers, 1,147, an increase of 40 during the past year. Boston has 95 square miles and 967 carriers, an increase of 33. Cincinnati has 65 square miles and 301 carriers, a very slight increase.

Baltimore has not increased its carrier service probably on account of the fire. It has 337 carriers, covering an area of 55 square miles. Washington, or the District of Columbia, once known as "the city of magnificent distances," still has 49 square miles of territory, served by 259 carriers. This is only four square miles less than New Orleans, which city gets along with only 125 carriers. It has a greater area than Indianapolis, which has 21 square miles and 117 carriers, and greater than Minneapolis, 33 square miles, 195 carriers, than St. Paul, 42 square miles, 143 carriers, or than Buffalo, 42 square miles, 246 carriers.

Wichita, Kan., has almost a break service of 43 square miles and only 22 carriers, but its postal receipts measure up well, amounting to \$110,206, making the percentage of cost of free delivery 17.94.

Pennsylvania, the birthplace of our postal system, has the distinction of having the two costliest free delivery offices—Nanticoke, with 55.18 carriers, whose pay amounts to 55.18 per cent. of the gross receipts, and Plymouth, with six carriers, costing \$4.13 per cent. of the gross receipts. Each of these cities acquired the free delivery service by reason of a population, according to the last census of 10,000 or upward. The gross postal receipts in both cases fall far below the \$10,000 mark.

Michigan has both the cheapest and one of the costliest services. Marshall costing 3.41 per cent., and Calumet costing 49 per cent. Camden and Augusta, Me., have each inexpensive service, the former costing 3.51 per cent. and the latter 5.44 per cent.

MURDERESS IN TROUSERS.

Declares She Killed False Lover and His Wife and Then Disappears.

Baltimore, Md.—A remarkable story of love and revenge was told here by a woman found in man's clothing. Harvey McGill, a Baltimore county farmer, saw what he supposed to be a man lying unconscious on a dump just outside the city. In giving assistance the farmer discovered that the sick person in corduroy trousers and rough coat and shirt was a woman.

Upon recovering from the fainting spell in which the farmer found her, the woman, who is about 35 years old, begged him not to reveal her sex. Then she told him that she was a native of Mexico. Her mother was a Mexican, her father American. When a young woman she fell in love with an American. He promised to marry her, the day was set, but he disappeared. She determined to find him, and after a long search, located him in another town. He was married. Infuriated by her discovery she procured a pistol and killed him and his wife. Since then she had been a fugitive and had traveled through the southern states.

McGill tried to detain the woman, but she hurried away after telling her story. He informed the police, who hunted in vain for the woman.

Ancient Paris Hotel Closes.

The Grand Vefour, a celebrated Paris restaurant in Palais Royal, has just closed. It was founded in 1769 under the name of Cafe de Chartres. The establishment became the rendezvous of Paris society during the first empire and the restoration periods. Murat, when Napoleon I. created king of Naples, was an assiduous visitor. Santerre, the republican hero, Duc de Berry, Rostopchine, and Von Humboldt were also customers. Since the Franco-German war Vefour has been moribund and its demise surprises no Parisian.

THE LINER CAPTAIN.

HAS HIS OWN TROUBLES WHEN SUMMER TRAVEL OPENS.

Subjected During the Voyage to All Kinds of Annoyances by Complaining and Particular Passengers.

When the tourist tide sets in heavily for Europe the trials of an ocean liner captain and his chief steward increase. Both require a large stock of patience and diplomacy to handle the complaints which are registered daily in their presence, says the New York Herald. The inexperienced traveler who learns that he has made a bad selection in his cabin complains because the passenger agent from whom he purchased his ticket did not advise him to better advantage. Then there is the woman who objects to the band's playing outside her port-hole, and the man who insists that one concert a day is not enough. Not at all unusual is the man who brings on board the ship enough milk and cream from his dairy to last him during the entire voyage. He insists that his valet be permitted to visit the cold-storage room each day and make sure that his private stock is being properly used and cared for. One chief steward recently had a regular tilt with a woman who insisted upon using her own German coffee pot with an alcohol lamp, no matter what the weather or what dangers its use entailed for the passengers who sat at the same table with her.

One Friday at luncheon on a boat which serves an elaborate array of cold buffet dishes an irate passenger demanded to know why the greater part of the made dishes were composed of fish. That night after dinner a party of Episcopal clergymen waited on the captain and complained that only one fish dish and a fish chowder had been served for dinner.

The man or woman who makes the greatest trouble for the captain is he or she who has saved money for years to make this trip, and wants to be sure of getting the money's worth. Not long ago an Italian liquor dealer who frankly admitted that 13 years before he had left his native land in quest of a better life, returning to Naples on a palatial ocean liner. His wife did not like the slow service of the dining saloon, and insisted that all her meals be served either in her cabin or on the deck, though she was perfectly able to go to the table. One day she was sitting luncheon on the deck, and an invalid who occupied the next chair ordered broiled chicken from the grill room. The Italian woman looked disdainfully at the fricassee chicken served from the regular luncheon menu, and when her husband came on deck she complained that she had been discriminated against by the deck steward.

One of the most unreasonable complaints ever registered with the chief steward came from a Chicago woman who had engaged the stewardess to dress her hair each night for dinner. One afternoon a terrific storm arose and that night only 50 out of some 450 passengers appeared at the dinner table. After dinner the Chicago woman appeared before the chief steward, complaining that the stewardess had failed to keep her hair-dressing appointment, and she had been subjected to the annoyance of having to arrange her own coiffure under most trying circumstances. And even when the steward explained that his subordinate had over 25 seasick women passengers on her hands, the Chicago dowager refused to be pacified and vowed she would cut the tip she had promised the stewardess, a threat which she carried out faithfully when the boat docked at Southampton.

Real Heroes of War-Time.

In every modern war but one the proportion of deaths among the medical officers has been greater than that among the combatants. In the French campaign against Constantine, while every thirteenth combatant officer was killed, every sixth surgeon died. In the Crimean war the mortality among the surgeons was 18.2 per cent., and among the combatant officers 7.3. In the last Russian campaign prior to the present war 355 surgeons out of a total of 2,839 died. In the Mexican expedition (French) the mortality rate among the surgeons was about 20 per cent., while among the combatant officers it was only about four per cent. Here, then, all unheralded in the daily news of great victories, are the real heroes of war, who die not in an effort to kill, but to save lives. He who would have a correct estimate of war must look beyond the magnificent man on horseback and beyond the ranks of human targets that offer life for life to the quiet, unheralded heroes who put their lives against death and so often lose.—Atlanta Journal.

The Way It Works.

We meet the man whose investment in mining stocks has turned out to be marvelously profitable.

"Glad to hear of the big strike of gold in your mine," we say, heartily. "It must be a great help in one's business to have these pieces of good luck befall him. It must have a noticeable effect on his affairs."

"It does," he replies, very gloomily for a man who has had such a streak of luck. "It does. When a man makes a big winning of that sort it acts as a narcotic to his debtors and a stimulant to his creditors."—Chicago Tribune.

Compound Fracture.

She—Do you think that marriage is a natural bent? He—Bent? No, it is a case of broke where the man is concerned.—N. Y. News.

PRESERVE OLD ART.

A COLONY OF WOOD-CARVERS FIGHT MACHINE INVASION.

Artificers Forced Out of Work by New Invention Join in Constructing Hand-Made Furniture—Add to Work.

Moylan, Pa.—Some persons are still old-fashioned enough to cherish an aversion to an article of furniture that is put together with glue or a piece of wood carving done by a soulless machine that carves as long as the power runs, all the same pattern, until the man in charge shifts the design and starts another pattern going. To them it will be welcome news that a colony of skilled workmen, disgusted with the era of machinery in commercial life, has retired to a pretty country spot called Rose Valley, near here, and has there established itself for the purpose of perpetuating the arts and crafts that are threatened with extinction through the deafness of the modern machine.

Ruined themselves, it was not inappropriate for these exponents of decaying arts to select for their future homes and principal workshops a spot which was for the most part in ruins itself. The principal workshop has been erected on the site once occupied by a mill, the dismantled walls of which afford a shelter to the walls of a workshop. Besides this workshop, there is an old stone building that has been turned into a pottery, a row of cottages for the workmen and an old-fashioned inn that is known as the Guest house.

All the men at the colony are of foreign birth. Among the skilled wood-carvers is James Rigoulet. Here is his story:

"I came to America 21 years ago to make my living as a skilled wood-carver. For several years there was plenty of work at fair wages, with living cheap. Then, one day, a strange machine was brought into the shop and I was asked by the boss to set it going. All I had to do was to follow a pattern already marked out, and a piece of carved wood, or what looked like it, was the result. Then I was set to work to teach a new man how to run that machine, and in two weeks the fellow could do it as well as I could, though he had never carved a bit of wood by hand in his life.

From this time forward we wood-carvers had either to run machines or get what work we could at finishing off and polishing the product of the machines, for it was not long before every shop had them. Of course the machines could do 20 times the amount of work that our hands could do. They turned out so much in excess of the market demand that dull times became frequent and work-scarcer.

This was bad enough, but worse was to follow. About two years ago another kind of machine was invented—just about the time that I came to Rose Valley to live. Now would you believe it? This machine does away with hand carving altogether. It does everything—finishing and polishing included. We wood-carvers have a strong union, but what can the union do for us now? The men say they can't get work—that times are dreadfully dull—but the employers are not finding things dull. The machine kills the man—that's the truth."

It is the belief of the men at Rose Valley that there will always be a demand for hand-wrought articles, and that this demand will more than repay the efforts of the members of the little colony. A pottery is the latest addition to the workshops at Rose Valley.

FIND PREHISTORIC BONES.

Excavators Dig Out Bones of Animals Unknown to Science at Dam in Idaho.

Boise, Idaho.—A remarkable find of remains of prehistoric animals has been made near Minidoka, where the government is building a dam across the Snake river. In excavating a channel the engineers cut through 12 feet of lava. Below this is a bed of sand six feet thick and below that another lava flow. The bones were found in the sand.

The skull of a horned animal was found, the horns spreading six feet from tip to tip. While being removed the skull crumbled, but the horns are perfect and resemble those of a musk ox. A tusk three feet long, resembling an elephant's tusk, was also found, and a lower jaw resembling a horse's jaw. The engineer in charge sent some of the specimens to Washington and has been informed that it was impossible to identify them.

Paying Business, This.

A Wisconsin preacher is to get a raise of salary because he has become the father of twins. This, together with the proposition to tax Wisconsin bachelors, would seem to indicate that the center of population ought in the natural course of events to establish itself somewhere in the Badger state.

Progress.

A Chinaman has been permitted to enter a Missouri prison without having his queue removed. Slowly but surely we are learning to be kind to the yellow race.

The Mint Season.

In Kentucky they have found bugs that are full of tiny electric lights. "Time to switch off," asserts the New York Herald.

And a Foodless Feed.

A German scientist has invented a treeless cookstove. Now let him continue his good work of devising a cookless meal.

KEEPS HIS AUTO PARROT.

Resident of Rye, N. Y., Has a Novel Substitute for a Horn in Talkative Bird.

Rye, N. Y.—The automobile dog has had his day, if the somewhat startling innovation of this city finds many imitators. There is a certain practical side of this idea which may appeal to many who have not taken up the dog-carrying idea to an extent, for this man carries with him a gorgeous-headed parrot that has been trained to cry: "Look out! Look out!" whenever anyone is endangered by its master's car.

Fashionable London was but recently in the throes of a most serious and earnest discussion as to what breed of dogs was best fitted to wear goggles and sit at the guest hand of the chauffeur, but, perchance, the news of the latest Yankee notion may give the British motorist further food for discussion.

According to the cables a young American woman who has been touring in Europe in her motor car has been carrying a pet pig with her, to the great wonder and scandal of continental beholders. One of New York's fashionable women, who drives her own car, is nearly always accompanied by a pet black cat, from which she possibly can get an electric spark when the igniter of her car refuses to do its usual duty.

The man who carries his parrot with him professes to be highly pleased with the idea, as the bird perches on the steering wheel, seat or dashboard, and its penetrating voice has proved far more efficacious as a warning signal than the too familiar sound of an automobile horn.

GIVEN 1,000,000 BEERS.

Pittsburg Constable by Drinking Fourteen Glasses a Day Can Consume All in 208 Years.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Constable John Berges of Allegheny, has just received as a present—1,000,000 glasses of beer. Anton Lutz, a wealthy brewer, is the Santa Claus who has made the constable the most envied man in this end of the state.

Several days ago Berges did a little act of kindness for the big brewer, and Lutz, meeting him later, asked him what the bill would be. Berges said "all was square"—that he did not want anything for doing what he thought was his duty.

"Well, that was worth more than a million glasses of beer to me, Berges," said Mr. Lutz, "and really I'd like to fix you up."

"Well, I'll stand for the beer end of it. Give me 1,000,000 glasses of beer and all is square," said the constable, bantering.

"I'll do it," said the brewer, and he wrote an order for 1,000,000 glasses of beer, to be delivered to the constable personally on the retail plan. Berges spent a good part of his time ascertaining that the order was no joke.

Everywhere the order was honored, and the constable figured that by drinking 14 glasses of beer daily, Sundays included, it will take him 208 years to drink up Lutz's present.

COW SUIT HAS COST \$1,000.

Several Trials Had in Contest Between Owner and a Railroad—Comes Up Again.

Fort Wayne, Ind.—There is soon to begin in the superior court here the suit of James Sutton against the Grand Rapids Railroad company for damages caused by the killing of the plaintiff's cow at Wallen four years ago. The railroad maintained that the cow had intruded on fenced territory and refused to settle.

Sutton sued before a justice of the peace and recovered a judgment of \$37.50. The case was appealed to the circuit court, where a jury gave the plaintiff another verdict for \$37. The costs had amounted to \$90, besides attorney fees. The defense had asked for a struck jury when the case, a new trial having been granted, was about to begin and the plaintiff withdrew the suit to begin over again on another line.

This imposed another cost of \$70 on the road, which, having asked for the jury, must pay for it. The case was renewed and judgments given, new trials ordered, etc., until now it is about to begin again here for its fifth trial, with scores of witnesses summoned. The cost to the defense has been over \$600 and to the plaintiff over \$400.

Dinner and a Little Change.

One day a well-dressed stranger called at a Lawrence hotel, rates the Kansas City Journal, and told the landlord that he was broke and very hungry. The landlord took him to the dining-room and gave orders for the dinner. When he got up from the table a \$20 bill dropped from his handkerchief which he drew from his pocket. A waiter who confronted him with the fact and at once took out 75 cents (25 cents is the regular price) and returned \$19.25 to the stranger, who was apparently dumfounded and speechless. Later on the vigilant landlord learned that the bill was counterfeit.

Hammer and Tong.

A Berlin surgeon says American surgeons use the knife too often, to which an American colleague retorts that that is why they are too busy to use the hammer.

Hobson's Choice.

"Bad teeth," says an English authority, "lead to appendicitis." Choose now between your dentist and your surgeon.

REAL ROMANCE IN A NOVEL.

Story Writer of Macon, Mo., Tells Love Tale of Her Own in New Book.

Macon, Mo.—"Love vs. Law" is the title of a book written by Mary Anderson Matthews, a young matron of this city. Before her marriage to Otho Matthews she was Miss Mary Anderson, daughter of a lawyer of Palmyra. Miss Anderson was a law student herself and while city attorney of Palmyra met her future husband in court, he appearing on the opposite side of a case. The book is largely drawn from her own romance.

Jack Gordon, a young lawyer of St. Louis, is the hero of Mrs. Matthews' story. He becomes very much interested in Margaret, the heroine, in a lawsuit, and from discussing law they drift into love. Jack is appointed attorney for a tottering railroad in the zinc and lead regions and Margaret is receiver. One day while they are journeying horseback to a neighboring town with sacks of silver to pay off the men they are held up by a highwayman.

Jack holds out his hands for the robber to handcuff him. But Margaret had the foresight to bring her pistol along. She reached into her shirt-waist, leveled it at the bandit and pulled the trigger. The latter day Dick Turpin fell to the ground, blinded for life. Margaret felt so sorry for him that she gave the \$1,000 reward for his capture to founding of a home for the blind. The blind bandit became her friend for life.

Jack was preparing to propose next day when he overheard Margaret discussing the law which permitted ignorant loafers to vote and denied the same right to intelligent women. Jack was a southerner, and to him women were too sacred to be in politics. He wrote Margaret to that effect and things went wrong for awhile. Jack's conversion is an interesting and elaborate brief on the subject of women's rights and privileges, presented to the United States senate, in the presence of the president, by Margaret.

CATCH BIG FLYING SNAKE.

Reptile with Wings, That Fed on Birds, Killed in Virginia—Always Lives in Air.

Comron, Va.—A most remarkable and uncommon "flying snake" that was captured and killed at "Berry plain" the home of John S. Dickinson, in this county, a few days ago, has attracted wide attention and excited no little interest. The curious reptile was first noticed flying about in the air with several feet of its horrid snake-ship dangling around, presenting the appearance, may be, of an ordinary snake attached to a strange looking bird.

As far as is known, it never once descended to the earth and crawled on the ground after the manner of snakes, but it would occasionally alight in trees and catch such birds as best suited its appetite and fancy.

It was finally killed and measured, and proved to be five feet long and about one inch in diameter of body. It had perfect wings of good size, and these were covered with feathers. "Berry plain" where the curious thing made its unceremonious advent and met its untimely end, is one of the finest plantations and homesteads in King George, and being situated on the banks of the Rappahannock, it is conjectured by some that the "flying snake" may have come from an imperceptible marsh of the river or some neighboring creek.

But this theory is not accepted by many, for as far as can be learned, nothing bearing the slightest similarity to this serpent or reptile, or whatever it is, was ever before seen or heard of anywhere in this section of the country. Such a thing was hardly ever dreamed of by a certain professor of airship fame.

DOMES OF CAPITOL TO SHINE.

To Be Lighted Up with 3,000 Incandescent Globes, According to Present Plans.

Washington, D. C.—Three thousand incandescent globes will soon be placed in the dome of the capitol, and it will then outline the dome of the congressional library, far famed for its great brilliancy. Plans for the lighting have been drawn by Elliott Woods, the superintendent, and the bids for the furnishing and installing of the new lights will shortly be issued.

The lights are to be arranged in four rows around the dome. The first row will light the large fresco painting at the top. The other three rows will be at different distances and so arranged that they cannot be seen. Only the light effect will be noticeable. Lights also will be placed over the eight large oil paintings that hang on the wall of the rotunda. The corridors of the building have just been fitted with new and expensive chandeliers, which materially increase the lighting effect through the building.

The dome of the capitol will soon rank as one of the handsomest of its kind in the world, so many are the improvements that are being made. The only feature that is not complete is the frieze work, which encircles the dome about half way of its height. The contract for the finishing of this work is now under advisement.

Something Still Lacking.

Luther Burbank, the plant wizard of southern California, has originated a potato plant which grows its tubers above ground. Now if he will give us an eggplant that will grow omelettes or even the soft-boiled variety or a rhubarb that will give a fruit of ready-made pies, his fame will be complete.

A LONG MOVING TRIP.

HOUSE MOVED FROM OHIO TO INDIAN TERRITORY.

Doctor Much Attached to Domestic, When Changing Residence Transplants It Also—Was Torn Down.

Cleveland, O.—Dr. C. E. Bryant, a local physician, has just completed a long moving job that is perhaps without a parallel in this part of the country. He has moved a 15-roomed house from Cleveland to Indian territory. His wife's mother was moving to his new home with him, and she wanted her old homestead to go with them. So it went.

This feat was accomplished quietly and successfully. There was no demonstration, no delaying of traffic and no creation of excitement. This task which seems so Herculean was performed so easily as to destroy the romance that one feels ought to belong in the picture.

The house that traveled from Ohio to metropolitan to the southwest stood in Harkness avenue in the East end. It belonged to Mrs. Austin Beckwith, widow of Wells Beckwith, and was her home some 35 years. She bought when the original Harkness, now dead, laid out his farm in lots.

When it came to moving the house was torn down with as much care as marks the moving of a piano out of a flat. Its fragments were indexed, classified, tied together and packed.

Only two men were employed on the work. They worked slowly, but with precision. Finally the "debris" stood about the premises ranged in neat bundles of boards, timbers, joists, frames, etc. These were bound with straps of metal wire and in the conventional packing case methods. As each came out of the house it was numbered.

The lumber was hauled to the railroad and packed into a freight car. Then it started for its destination, accompanied by a car which was loaded with the household effects.

Mrs. Beckwith, at whose request this strange form of moving was adopted, explains it in this way:

"We liked the old house, of course, but it wasn't sentimental alone that made us move it. Dr. Bryant was moving to Indian Territory to live permanently and we wanted to dispose of the property on Harkness avenue. We sold the lot, and the people who bought it did not want the house. Of course they offered to buy it, but they would have had to tear it down and sell it for old lumber. They were not willing to pay for it what it was worth as a house."

"So we decided that we would take it with us. If it was only good for lumber anyway and had to be torn down by somebody we thought that we might as well be the ones to tear it down. The house will be rebuilt in Muskogee precisely as it stood in Cleveland. We will modernize it somewhat and add a few improvements, but otherwise it will not be changed."

It is stated by the Bryant family that their "new" home will have cost them less than had they bought new lumber and built a new house in their new home. "When we are settled in our new home it will be some satisfaction to know that we are still in our old house," said Mrs. Beckwith.

YANKEE GOLD FAILS TO BUY.

Local Pride Prevents Shipment of 700-Year-Old House to America by a Millionaire.

Paris—An American millionaire, who has sedulously concealed his name, though he had acquired for transportation across the Atlantic one of the oldest and most curious houses in Europe, the famous "house of musicians" at Rheims, which dates from the thirteenth century. It is decorated with five masterly statues representing unknown musicians in the quaint costumes of the period. It was cheap at \$20,000, but the inhabitants rose in protest against the spoliation of one of the glories of the legendary town, a large source of profit in a tourist season.

The two old persons who had arranged to sell their property were threatened with dire personal vengeance if they should yield to the allurements of foreign gold, and were terrified into withholding their final signatures until such time as the city can raise the price.

Lack of Soldiers and Sailors.

In this country we have been long familiar with the complaint that it is hard to get Americans to enlist in the navy or engage in the marine service, says the Boston Globe. On top of this knowledge comes the news from Canada that it has been found practically impossible to garrison the fortifications at Halifax and Esquimaux with Canadian troops. It is probable that both in Canada and the United States the condition responsible for this reluctance of young men to enlist is the very condition of national prosperity which both countries are glad to record. The industrial and commercial opportunities in America to-day are so numerous and widespread that very much more generous inducements than are now held out to young men, apparently, must be offered to persuade them to abandon the civil for the military life.

Most of Him Bad.

That New Jersey criminal with the "dual personality" has been sentenced to 30 years. Evidently the jury thought the evil section of his personality was considerably the larger part.

One Man's Diet.

An Ohio man died from eating his hat. A man who has acquired the breakfast food habit is apt to tackle anything.