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RURAL SERVICE IN GREAT DANGER.

Congressman Aiken Makes Strong Appeal to the People to Support the Service—Points out Danger and Suggests the Remedy

Washington, D. C., Jan. 26.
Editor Sentinel-Journal:
You have doubtless noted in the papers a statement from the Post-office Department, indicating its purpose to discontinue a large number of the rural routes throughout the country, on the ground that "they are not appreciated."

Knowing your deep interest in the welfare of our country, and in the general upbuilding of the rural sections, that make for material prosperity, I desire through your paper, to direct public attention to the necessity for building up the business of the rural service.

Cities and towns only reflect prosperity, the country is its real birthplace. Anything that detracts from or retards the advancement of the producer robs the nation of dollars and cents.

There is a natural tendency in all men to gravitate to populous centres; it is the social or inquisitive side of man's nature that asserts itself. Telephones and trolley lines have done much toward blotting out time and space, toward making neighbors of those geographically far apart, but greater than either of these is the rural free delivery system. Not every community can have a trolley line, not every one can have a telephone, but the humblest citizen may have his mail delivered daily at his door. By these modern agencies, the most remote rural resident is, in essentials, made a suburban resident of the towns and cities, and a long step toward desirable life in the country is attained. Is it not passing strange then, that the government, which must realize the importance of attaining the highest and most intelligent citizenship in the rural sections, would snatch from these good people the only little mite of gratuity they have ever received, of the millions they have contributed to the National Treasury. And yet this order of the Postoffice Department "to discontinue rural routes that do not handle 2,000 pieces of mail monthly," will do this very thing.

Arguments as to the unwisdom of the government's course are futile, when confronted with its declared policy. One cannot help noting, however, the inconsistency in appropriating annually, to the Philippines, an alien people, millions in excess of their revenue, with the single purpose of educating them to a standard of good citizenship, while withholding from the best citizens at home the little amount necessary to supplement the rural routes not entirely self-sustaining.

The government disclaims any intention of discriminating against the South in this order, and we do not charge it with discrimination or sectionalism, but the effect will be none the less disastrous to southern rural routes because of the disclaimer. There is scarcely a carrier in the populous North that does not handle from four to five thousand pieces of mail monthly while many of our own carriers seldom reach 3,000 and some under 2,000 pieces. Truly the government should take the larger view, and extend its bounty to those thinly settled sections which need building up, but we need not expect it.

So great have the government expenditures grown, that the present excessive tariff rates are inadequate for the appropriation, and for once, the Republican party is forced to call a halt to its policy of extravagance. Many appropriations here before made, will be either left off entirely or very much reduced; and "the poor man's lamb," the South's little mite will be taken. It is only too true that this order of the Post Office Department is no idle threat.

Being, as yet, uninformed as to the

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For the farmers we have all kinds of farming implements, a full line of Disc Harrows, Guano Distributors, the famous Cole Cotton Planters, Plows of every description, and everything else needed on the farm.

A carload of Barbed Wire and Nails just arrived.
SWIFT'S GUANO. ARMOUR'S GUANO. COLUMBIA GUANO. PERUVIAN GUANO
Are our leading brands of Fertilizers. All grades of Acid Phosphates, Kainit, Cotton Seed Meal, Muriate of Potash and Nitrate of Soda.

To those who have not yet made their arrangements for their supplies this year, we wish to say, they will do well to call and see us.

A good horse for sale on favorable terms.

Our Dry Goods Department is stocked to overflowing and in order to make room for our Spring Goods, have many bargains to offer. We can mention only a few. This month we are offering special bargains in

LADIES SKIRTS

1 lot, all sizes, at \$1.00 each. 1 lot extra heavy, all colors, at \$1.50 each. 1 lot fancy, blue, black, gray, trimmed in buttons and cords at \$2.50 each. 1 lot grays and blacks with heavy stitched bottom at \$3.00 each. 1 lot light grays, the latest in tucks at \$5.00 each. 2 black broad cloth, fancy tucked pleated skirts and one in blue, the latest styles, at \$6.00. Also a lot of Ladies black under skirts, made of nice silk finish goods, with deep ruffles and pleats, all sizes from 65 cents to \$2.00 each. Be sure and ask to see them.

Ladies Belts—A large lot in patent and dull finish leather and silk, all colors. An up-to-date line of Ladies Collars just arrived. The Ladies are respectfully invited to call. We will take pleasure in showing them the goods.

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amount of mail handled by the various carriers of the Third District, it is impossible to say which routes, if any, will be affected by the order. Some of them are doubtless on the danger line, and feeling the deepest interest in the people who are now served by the routes, and in the ever faithful carriers, I desire to stir them up to a realization of the danger that confronts the system.

More of our people should take the daily and tri-weekly papers, and should do this at once. There is no greater agency for the public good, no better educator than the newspaper. There should not be a white family in the district that does not take some good newspaper. Besides serving the immediate end of increasing the rural business, it will tell for good in our children and children's children.

Aside from the paramount advantages afforded by the rural delivery system for building up and making content sparsely settled sections, the mere matter of money let loose in the South thereby is a consideration. In this district alone, there are something like 130 carriers, receiving an aggregate something like ninety or one hundred thousand dollars annually, which is distributed through our avenues of trade. It is paid to as faithful and deserving men as our country affords; most of them earn in dollars and cents for the government, and all of them earn in labor, every dollar and more than the government pays them. Will we, for lack of proper support, surrender this appropriation, with the greater advantage of a daily mail, stimulating trade between country and town, or will we meet the emergency? It is up to the good people who are served and the courteous carriers, for the government has spoken.

Wyatt Aiken.

Texas Cowboy.

Editor of the Sentinel-Journal:

Dear Sir—As the price of cotton is the topic of the day I will say a few words in answer to the most important question—will we

get 15 cents for our cotton? Of course we will if we hold still because the last report shows that there remains but 248,489 bales to be ginned yet. This being the case the mills will be from 1-4 to 1-2 millions short because some mills have enlarged and other new ones built and with the Fall River mills running on full time when they were standing still last year on account of the strike, if spot holders will stand firm for two or three months they will get 15 cents because in that time many mills will be out of cotton, some of which are borrowing cotton now from their neighboring mills to run on, so you see that it will not do to store your cotton in mill warehouses because so long as they have cotton to run on they will not force brokers for their cotton. I talked with the presidents of three mills the other day and two of them told me that both mills put together did not have 200 bales of cotton on hand and would have to borrow to run on this week and the other president said that he had enough to run for two months, so you can begin to see the shape the mills are in, taking the three just mentioned for the average and the northern mills as a general thing are not so well supplied and will soon be forced to come on the market. The mills as a rule have not as much cotton as they claim. The cotton they have bought is only through a broker and they will not force him to fill his contract as long as they can run. Brother farmer stand pat and you will get 15 cents.

Now a word to the man that did not reduce his acreage last year, please be a man this year for I know that you claim to be honest but can you be honest and take advantage of your neighbor by increasing your crop because he reduces his when he does so to improve the market?

A Georgia Letter.

Editor Sentinel-Journal:—I know not who you are and you may say the same about me, but many of your readers know me and if you like, you can give them this to read.

I was born and reared in Pickens county where I lived until in my 49th year, mixing with the people and have lived 21 years since I left there and am living to day in my 71st year. What a blessing to mortal man to be permitted to live out his three score and ten and still enjoy his physical and mental powers, only slightly impaired by the wear and decay of time. But my heart is saddened when I think of the death of quite a number of my truest friends since I left Pickens county among whom I recall the following: Col. Hollingsworth, Col. Hagood, Maj. Ambler, Capt. Thornley, Sheriff Mauldin, Dr. Earle, Dr. Field, and others, but the death sentence has been passed upon all living. Our history whether good or bad is complete at death and may be read by those who survive us.

I have wrote many articles for the Sentinel, a few for the Journal and several for the Easley Messenger and other Carolina papers. I have wrote over 100 articles for our city papers here, and have always given my honest opinion in discussing any subject; give experience and observation with the best advice I can give. My experience in life has been varied. I have always tried to look on the bright side of gloomy prospects, if there appeared to be any bright side to it. I often think of my friends, and the home of my childhood and the experience I have had with people of Pickens county. The history of my life while living in Pickens is known to many of your readers. Since living in Pickens county I have added much more to my history. I am now living and doing among as many true and faithful friends as I ever had anywhere and I am truly proud of them, and love them better than money. I have never made money the idol of my heart, have only wanted enough to pay my way honestly. Who needs

any more, or what can you do with more? Only leave it when you go hence.

The last visit I made to Pickens, the county of my nativity seven years ago, I had invitations enough to visit my friends to have kept me visiting from Christmas to the 4th of July and spend only one day and night in one place. It is quite a pleasure to think of my Pickens friends. I wish them well and would send my kind regards and good wishes broad cast all over the county and don't think that I would hit a half dozen enemies. Nothing would afford me more pleasure than to see and enjoy the friendship and hospitality of hundreds of families and homes in the county. I would appreciate a letter from any of my acquaintance and answer it promptly. When you think of me think of me as one who wishes you well and one who never forgets a friend.

W. G. Field,

Elberton, Ga., Jan. 29.

Obituary.

On January 10th 1906, James, beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. Abner Young, aged two years and six months, was burned to death at their home near Liberty.

Dearest James how we do miss you, Miss you more than tongue can tell—Every day and hour that passes, Brings us nigher with you to dwell.

Friends may think we'll soon forget you, And our wounded hearts be heal'd, But they little know the sorrow That's within our hearts concealed.

Two mournful weeks have vanished, With the memory of our loved one Still fresh within my heart. —Annet Mattie.

FOLEY'S MONEY STAR stops the cough and heals lungs

FATHER'S DUTY
SOLD AND RECOMMENDED BY PICKENS DRUG CO.

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Of Stylish Quality

Being well dressed isn't a question of spending a lot of money it's a question of going to the right store. Most any store has fairly good suits as far as thread and cloth are concerned—getting distinctive style and a real fit is another matter.

But that's what you get her at a price you can easily afford. In fact you can't afford not to wear the kind of clothes we sell. The mere rise in your own estimation (and other's) that our SCHLOSS clothes give you—that prosperous well-groomed look—is the biggest kind of a cash asset to any man. The picture shows one SCHLOSS style. Many others costing from—



\$10. to \$25.

SEE THEM.

Our new stock of Winter Overcoats just in.

H. ENDEL 120 South Main Street, Greenville, S. C.

Nice Line of Fruits

And extracts to make fruit cakes for Christmas have arrived and the prices are reasonable.

I have some rare bargains to offer the trade during the Holidays.

In men's and boy's hats, shoes, pants, underwear, overshirts, gloves, etc. A nice line of fascinators, union suits, calico, corsets, Hosiery etc., for ladies and children. Don't forget to get a sack of Cindrella flour to make Christmas cakes, the best in America. You can't make a nice cake without good flour. The best is the cheapest. Yours for a merry Christmas;

J. F. HARRIS, By Himself.

A nice line of overcoats to go at a bargain.