

The Abbeville Press and Banner.

BY W. W. & W. R. BRADLEY.

ABBEVILLE, S. C., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1906.

ESTABLISHED 1844

GEMS IN VERSE.

Great Stock Reduction Sale.

FROM NOW UNTIL JANUARY 1ST.

We will Inaugurate a Sale that Should Crowd this Store in a Hurry With Every one Who Wants Dry Goods, Shoes or Millinery.

It is Absolutely Necessary that we Reduce our Enormous Stock High Class Fall and Winter Goods, and to do so at Once we Have Decided to sell the Goods.

It is not a Question of Cost or Profit, it is Simply a Case of Reduction, of Unloading of Converting Goods into Cash.

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO STAY AWAY.

It Matters not What You Need in Dry Goods, Shoes and Millinery, only Come and Share in the Distribution of these Bargains. Only Come and See What this Sale Means to You and Your Neighbors

Many useful Christmas Gifts at Bargain Prices.

Wilson, Henry & Company.

For Sale.

My House and Lot on Magazine Hill.

5 room dwelling and out buildings. So located as to permit sale of 3 building lots if desired.

J. H. DuPre.

Few of those who see this Advertisement may see Yellow-stone Park, the PLACE, but you may see it if you smoke our famous Yellow-stone Park Cigars. They are the kind which satisfy the desire for a good smoke.

McMURRAY DRUG CO.

HAVE YOU LEARNED TO BUY THE BEST?

IT PAYS.

The school of experience will teach you, as it has taught us, that the best goods are the cheapest.

Our store house is new,
Our goods are new,
Our reputation is well known,
Our motto is "THE BEST."

Delicious Fruits,

Fancy Groceries

To fit the taste of an epicure. Confections of all kinds.

Buggies and Wagons

Of the best makes at prices that will interest you.

A. M. HILL & SONS.

Phones 36 and 126. Main and Trinity Streets.

MAKE POSTOFFICE PRIVATE CONCERN.

Chicago Man Submits the Remarkable Proposal to Take Entire Postal Service Out of the Government's Hands.

Washington Times.

To turn over the postal service of the United States to a private corporation under strict public control is the remarkable proposal made to the Postal Commission today.

W. D. Boyce of Chicago, publisher, man of big affairs and several times a millionaire, made the proposition, on behalf of himself and associates, whom he did not name, to take over the postoffice business and run it on business principles.

The proposal includes agreement immediately to cut postage rates in half. There could be no deficit under such an arrangement for the government to meet, because the corporation would have to make ends meet.

Mr. Boyce wants the postal corporation under a postal commission which shall be the regulating and supervising agency of the government.

He proposes to pay Uncle Sam rental for all postoffice quarters occupied in public buildings and over against this he designs to charge the government regular rates for all services performed for it. These government services he now estimates at \$25,000,000 annually.

Applying business methods to postoffice affairs would result in immense economies in transportation. Mr. Boyce figures that the expenditure for railroad haulage would be cut from \$50,000,000 to about one-half that sum.

CUT OUT ALL SINUCRES.

He calculates likewise that ornamental or political sinecures would be eliminated. The "political postmaster" would get short shrift, and the deputy who does the work would be the responsible man.

Mr. Boyce's proposition, he insists, is made in the utmost good faith. Certain it is that it affords a most effective talking point from which to point out the weakness of present postal management.

Direct comparison of the present postoffice organization with methods commonly prevailing in private business and in great public service corporations is considered by the publishers the most effective method of demonstrating the unreason of restrictions which the department is disposed to impose upon them. Mr. Boyce's proposition may have its "hole in the skimmer," but its author doesn't think so. He says good management will make the business pay at half of present rates.

"All I want is to get myself and my proposition taken seriously," he declared. "After that it will be easy, for the public wants lower post rates. I am not a man to be making a bluff at a thing like this; I have too many interests that could be seriously injured by such a course. The backing is ready to form a corporation and take over the postal service on the terms I have outlined.

TO HAVE RURAL POSTAL EXPRESS.

"Of course, we would propose to develop the business, as any private business management would do. For instance, we have a plan of rural postal express, by which rural carriers would receive and deliver goods on their routes, carrying the packages outside the mail. This would not extend off the given route. It would make every country store a mail-order house, and would bring an immense measure of support to the plan from the very people who are afraid of the parcels post lest it should kill the country merchant."

"But doesn't your plan include any recognition of the parcels post, or some provision for it?"

"No, that's too unpopular," replied Mr. Boyce. "Maybe it will come some day, but we don't want to assume responsibility for it now. If Congress ever wanted it, to introduce it under our system would be simple."

"And you haven't figured on the possibility of the postal savings bank attachment to the service?"

"No, that hasn't been taken up. The service can be developed and expanded in its functions just as fast as Congress wants, under our system as well as under any other. We would want to make it earn more revenues; we would make the rural delivery a money-earning end of the service, in-

stead of an expense as now, and we would take mail to every house in the land.

"You know that the Postoffice Department doesn't own postoffice buildings, do you not? Those are built by the Treasury Department and owned by it. The immense cost of rental of space in them for postal purposes is not charged to the postal revenues. Well, we propose to pay rental. We propose regulations that will develop the business; that's how we will make the profit. Reducing the postal rates will expand the business just as it did the last time those rates were reduced, in 1885.

"The traffic features of this plan have been figured out by a competent man; the position of president, or general manager, or whatever the executive may be in the Postal Corporation, has been offered to one of the great traffic experts of the country of \$30,000 a year. Why, my first idea of formulating such a plan as this came from a railroad president seven years ago, when he declared, talking of hauling the mails, that he would rather never do a dollar's business for the government, if he could avoid it; it was so much less satisfactory than doing business for a private concern."

Mr. Boyce was pressed to indicate who are the men backing his enterprise, but he would not do so.

BIG MEN BACKING PROPOSITION.

"As the postal business is all a cash-in-advance operation," he said, "we have calculated that \$50,000,000 capital would be enough. Among the men associated with me in one big advertiser, a tuner, a merchant printer, who has immense advertising interests. I don't want to be set till they knew what chance of the government will indicate towards us, at least to consider our scheme forward and let every there is plenty of fine

Mr. Boyce's basic second class mail made to build up a revenue from it. He has studied and range of advertising written out the number written in response

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matter except county free for weeklies as heretofore.

Second, the wiping out of the deficit.

Third, we will pay the United States all net profits over 7 per cent interest on capital invested.

We call attention to the following statistics:

The revenue, expenditures, and deficit of the Postoffice Department from the beginning of the fiscal year July 1, 1885, to the close of the fiscal year 1885, a period of twenty years, were as follows:

Revenue \$561,223,056.30
Expenditures 642,422,015.63

During this period, first class mail was charged for at 5 cents for one-half ounce or fraction thereof, and second class at 2 cents per pound (a greater rate than 2 cents per pound having been charged during a part of such period on second class matter).

The revenue, expenditures, and deficit of the Postoffice Department from the beginning of the fiscal year July 1, 1885, to the close of the fiscal year 1885, a period of twenty years, were as follows:

Revenue \$1,743,027,626.79
Expenditures 1,884,153,886.63

Deficit 8 per cent

The reduction in the deficit was 45 per cent. The deficit for 1886 was only 6 per cent of the revenue.

During this second period the receipts were more than three times as much as were the receipts from 1885 to 1885.

The rate of postage collected by the government from July 1, 1885, to June 30, 1895, on first class matter was two cents per ounce or fraction thereof

from one-, and a reduction to two-cents on first-class matter.

On January 1, 1896, the amount of postage was increased to three cents per ounce or fraction thereof, and the rate of postage was increased to three cents per ounce or fraction thereof.

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EAST END.

What "H" Sees and Hears on His Rounds in Country and in Town.

A merry Xmas to one and all, yes to everyone and more especially the children.

We are now in the midst of the holidays when everybody is on pleasure bent, all care and work is laid aside and everybody is looking for fun. The big and small hope they will find while the B. F. D. Boys are on rounds of rounds, nothing midmid of the Xmas dinner we miss, we carry a merry Xmas pauper.

The Xmas editor has returned from his rounds and the readers of the Press and Banner expect something newsworthy from him ready to print.

The College girls and boys are coming in in droves, all happy and bright and the students are home and circle.

Their friends greet them and wish for them a very happy Christmas.

Congress has adjourned for Christmas, and we are awaiting their arduous duties on the 3rd of January 1907.

Hon. and Mrs. Wyatt Atkin are in the city where they will spend the holiday with their friends.

The Oysterville singer last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McNeil of St. Louis was a most delightful affair and was well attended, notwithstanding the cold evening.

The recitation of Miss Katherine Whipple was received with great interest and was beautifully rendered and called for a hearty applause of all present.

The bonfire party was at the home of Mr. Thorntree last Friday night for the benefit of the School of Friends was a delightful affair, which every one enjoyed and the music and recitations were not the least of the charming features of the evening.

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On Monday evening the Lebanon School of Friends had a bonfire party and the little folks had a charming and delightful time, as well as the patrons. A song while the dreams shall soften.

So, mother, my love, let me carry your hand, and an end to the young ones in the Lebanon section.

Prof. S. W. Rabb principal of Sharon school spending Christmas with friends in D. West.

W. H. Abbott's graded school closed last Friday for the holidays and both teachers and scholars are on the wing for a good time.

We, all the parents, congratulate the children on their good behavior and the improvement record and bid the deficit from 14 to 8

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