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RED GIRLS IN BLOOMERS.

Squaws Take Up the New Woman Idea of Their Paleface Sisters.

A band of 15 or 20 North Carolina full blood Cherokee Indians passed through Mansfield, Mo., the other day en route to the Indian Territory, where they expect to spend the winter visiting among their western brothers and in trying to induce some friendly tribe to sell them a body of land that they can hold in common, as they have become dissatisfied with their allotments back east and desire a change.

Some of the red men were afoot, some on ponies and others on bicycles. A novel feature of the bicycle brigade was two old squaws, one in the very latest cut bloomers, and the other wearing only a breechcloth. Each carried a little black-eyed papoose strapped strongly to its mother's back, and although the thermometer was hovering between the freezing and zero mark it had no apparent effect upon their good nature, for all the while the little fellows were busily jabbering at each other in their native tongue. —Kansas City Times.

The crown of Rudolph II. chiefly remarkable for the lavishness with which it is adorned with uncut diamonds and other jewels, is preserved in the imperial treasure house at Vienna.

POSTOFFICE AT HOME

LETTER CARRIERS TO SELL STAMPS AND COLLECT LETTERS.

Details of the Latest Plan Adopted by the Department at Washington to Peddle Stamps From House to House—Has Already Proved a Time Saver by Tests Made.

The postmaster general has issued an order extending the house to house mail collection and delivery system so as to provide for the sale of postage and special delivery stamps by letter carriers while making their rounds. The scheme is one outlined to the postoffice department six years ago by Postmaster Harlow of St. Louis.

The carriers will be provided with an official stamp selling envelope, which will contain order slips, upon which orders for stamps may be indicated as follows:

Five (5) two (2) cent stamps; twenty-five (25) two (2) cent stamps; two (2) five (5) cent stamps; five (5) one (1) cent stamps; twenty-five (25) one (1) cent stamps.

The department order, further provides that the Postal Improvement company shall assign to the United States all United States patents now held by it on the envelopes adopted, and all United States patents pertaining thereto which may be held by it in the future, with the understanding that these envelopes shall only be used in connection with the house to house collection and delivery boxes adopted and tested by the department. It shall also provide one of these envelopes with each house collection and delivery box of the forms adopted by the department, without cost to the United States or to the person purchasing such boxes, such envelope to become the property of the United States. The requisite number of envelopes for the use of letter carriers is to be provided by the department.

Carrier shall collect from house letter boxes official stamps, selling envelopes containing orders for stamps when such orders are properly indicated, with the name and address of the person ordering written thereon, and when accompanied by an amount equal to the value of the stamps ordered, and he shall turn over to the clerk designated to receive them such official stamp selling envelopes, whose duty it shall be to fill such orders by placing in the envelope the stamps so ordered and paid for, and the carrier, on his next trip, shall deliver this envelope in the delivery compartment of the box at the address designated in the order.

This order provides for one of the most radical improvements made in the postal system. In operation the system is perfectly simple. The following is an explanation made by Major Harlow of its workings when he first presented the plan to the postoffice department:

Mrs. A. in San Francisco has written a letter to her husband in New York, but when she goes to post it finds that she has no stamp. She does not live near the postoffice, a postage stamp agency or even a convenient drug store, and it is raining hard. Mr. A. would have to wait for his letter if Uncle Sam did not step gallantly forward and offer his services as errand boy. Mrs. A., having provided herself with a house collection and delivery box of the form specified by the department, has one of the above described envelopes and marks in the space designated on the order slip for unstamped matter a cross—thus, X. She makes a similar mark opposite some one of the quantities of stamps, perhaps five 2's, writes her name and address on the margin, incloses 12 cents and slips the envelope in the collection compartment of her letter box. The act of mailing the letter has raised the carrier's signal on the box. He sees it on his next trip, unlocks the box and carries the letter and the stamp selling envelope to the postoffice, hands them to the clerk in charge, and the latter takes out the money, inserts the proper number of stamps to fill the order, affixes the stamp to the letter, forwards it by the next mail, and on his next trip the carrier returns to Mrs. A.'s letter box the envelope containing the stamps.

Mrs. A. removes the stamps and keeps the envelope until she wishes to order again. Perhaps she wanted the letter to be delivered quickly, and she generally does. If so, she indicated this on the order slip, in the space provided, by ordering a special delivery stamp, and added 10 cents to the amount in the envelope, and the stamp was put on for her at the postoffice.

The system of collecting mail from houses by means of letter boxes has already been proved a time saver by tests begun under the last administration, as the time saved by having a box in which the carrier can leave mail without having to wait for a tardy servant to answer his ring at the doorbell more than compensates for the time consumed in collecting mail. Now the department takes another step and proposes to sell stamps to its patrons in a manner which will take no more of the carrier's time than to collect or deliver an ordinary letter. It is expected that this peddling of stamps from house to house, for that is what it really means, will largely increase the sales of stamps as soon as the system is well introduced and in general use. —St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A Plea For Cuba.
Americans must aid. Oh, deeply they feel For a people so brave through woe and through weal Struggling against assassins in power. Weyler, avast! Now cometh the hour To prove whether brave men shall fall to the sod, Betrayed and left helpless by tyranny's rod. Help Cuba. Give aid. Your people are free. France was your ally. Far, far o'er the seas, When needing a friend, she came at your call. With money, with guns, a leader and all. Now give of your store to Cuba in need. She's falling. She's dying. In vain shall she bleed! With knife at her throat, with stab in the dark, Assassins her foes. Her people—hark, hark! The cry of her people, a cry full of dread. Macao is fallen! Macao is dead! America weeps for a leader so brave. America weeps. Will she help? Will she save? —Caroline Haas in Atlanta Constitution.

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VOTED FOR JEFF DAVIS.

The Dead Confederate Received Eighty-six Votes For Presidential Elector.

Jeff Davis, although gone, is not forgotten by some of his former adherents in the south, as shown by the returns for presidential electors at the election held on Nov. 8, 1896.

According to the provisions of an act of congress, the secretary of state has filed the certificates of the governor of Arkansas showing that he has canvassed and added up the votes cast for the office of presidential and vice presidential electors at the election in the several counties of Arkansas on Tuesday, Nov. 8. After the names of the eight electors who received the highest number of votes cast, giving the state to Bryan, there appears the name of Jeff Davis, with 86 votes to his credit as an elector for president and vice president.

It has been a matter of current history for many years that some of the old dyed in the wool Democrats are still voting for Andrew Jackson in the backwoods of Kentucky and Tennessee, but it remains for Arkansas to take a new departure by casting votes for the alleged president of the defunct Confederacy. —Chicago Tribune.

Who Shall Lead Chicago's Four Hundred?

This is a question which has agitated Chicago's Four Hundred for some time. For five or six years a battle royal has been waged for social leadership in Chicago, there being three candidates for the office—Mrs. Potter Palmer, Mrs. Arthur Caton and Mrs. H. O. Stone. Up to the time of the World's fair Mrs. Stone ran society as she pleased. But

with the selection of Mrs. Palmer as the head of the women's department of the fair the aspect changed. Mrs. Palmer went into the front ranks almost at once, with Mrs. Caton a close second. To add to this prestige, Mrs. Palmer took a house at Newport. There, by entertaining dukes and earls and lords and princes, she felt that her fight had been won at last. Now the friends of Mrs. Caton and Mrs. Stone have combined to overthrow the reign of Mrs. Palmer. If the charity ball comes off and is a success, they will have succeeded; if it doesn't, they have lost. —New York Journal.

Saucy Chief Comes Out on Top.

After a spirited contest that would have done credit to the political sagacity of the paleface the Osage Nation council has organized and filed its cabinet. In the late election the Connor-Big Heart combination was defeated for the first time in its history by the progressive party, which includes among its membership most of the half breeds. Saucy Chief, a full blood, was elected governor, and, in the face of returns, the progressive party has a working majority in the council, but its indefatigable antagonists annoyed it by filing contests and other dilatory tactics. —Kansas City Times.

The quaking grass and sensitive plant symbolize agitation, the peculiar habit possessed by these of trembling at the slightest touch having no doubt suggested the symbolism.

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