

BEFORE THE PUBLIC EYE.

New Postmaster - General Long Prominent in Wisconsin Political and Business Affairs.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 17.—Henry C. Payne, who succeeds Charles Emory Smith as postmaster-general, has been a citizen of Milwaukee for many years and has been prominent in political circles in Wisconsin for over 25 years. For several years he has been Republican national committeeman from Wisconsin, and during the last two national campaigns he was vice-chairman of the national committee. He was postmaster of Milwaukee under Grant, Hayes and Arthur, and was one of the receivers of the Northern Pacific when that property was in the courts. Later he became connected with various large interests including the Milwaukee & Northern Railroad company—now part of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul system—the Wisconsin Telephone company and street railway properties.

Payne on His Appointment.

Jamestown, N. Y., Dec. 17.—Henry C. Payne has been visiting his sister, Mrs. W. S. Camerin, in this city for several days. In an interview tonight he stated that the position was tendered him while in Washington last week. He had nothing to make public regarding his plans for the future.

WOMEN NOW TAKE A HAND.

They Join in Agitation to Better Condition of Polish People in Germany.

Vienna, Dec. 16.—The women of Cracow and Galicia are taking part in the Polish agitation. A meeting attended by over 1,000 women passed a resolution to send a manifesto to the women of America and Europe describing the treatment to which the Polish children are subjected to in Prussia. It was also resolved to boycott the Prussian shops, German schools, German governesses and German newspapers, especially fashion and comic periodicals.

MISS STONE AGAIN LOCATED.

President of American College in Bulgaria Confident That She is in Bulgaria.

London, Dec. 16.—The correspondent of the Telegraph at Sofia says that George Washburn, president of Robert college at Constantinople, has ascertained that Miss Stone is not now in Bulgaria, and also that a majority of the band holding Miss Stone captive are Bulgarians. It is rumored that Miss Stone is in Serbia.

CLEAR PATH FOR TREATY.

Last Obstacle to Purchase of Danish West Indies Said to be Removed.

Washington, Dec. 16.—As a result of negotiations that have been in progress between Secretary of State Hay and Mr. Brun, the Danish minister, the last obstacle of substance to the preparation of the treaty ceasing whereby the United States become possessed of the Danish West Indies islands have been removed. It is said that the points of difference have been adjusted in a manner to ensure acceptance of the treaty by the United States senate, and it is even possible that the convention may be laid before that body before the holiday recess. The decision of the supreme court in the insular cases made easier the preparation of the treaty on satisfactory lines, it is said.

MIRROR IN THE TELEPHONE.

American Invents Device by Which One Can See the Other Person on the Wire.

Brussels, Dec. 16.—The independence Belgium says that Dr. Sylvestro, born an American, but naturalized as a Frenchman, has invented a spectrograph which enables a person using a telephone to see his interlocutor and the latter's surroundings. A French minister, according to the paper, has witnessed conclusive tests of the invention, and King Leopold has arranged a special audience for Dr. Sylvestro for the purpose of inspecting it. It is said that the instrument can be adapted for use on an ordinary telephone wire.

NAMES MORE POSTMASTERS.

President Sends Nominations for Illinois and Iowa to the Senate.

Washington, Dec. 16.—President Roosevelt today nominated these postmasters:

Illinois—Ozias Riley, Champaign; J. C. Baker, Golconda; William L. Ranton, Sheldon; L. F. Watson, Watseka; George N. Mason, Erie; Eva Y. Hole, Ridgefarm.
Iowa—James A. Henderson, Cherokee; P. A. Boland, Le Mars; John Tooley, New Hampton; C. L. Zollinger, Ogden; J. J. Elliott, Onawa; J. W. Wilson, Sac City; L. B. Smith, Sioux Rapids; A. F. Bergman, Spirit Lake; F. C. McCall, Nevada.

Nominations Confirmed.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The senate today confirmed a large number of Iowa postmasters; also the nomination of John C. Ames to be United States marshal for the northern district of Illinois and Charles P. Hitch to be United States marshal for the southern district of the same domain.



FASHIONS OF TODAY

hair finish is most favored up these gowns.
One of the very swell a glove fitting princess of chasseur blue camel's describes a fantastic so tunic. The close fitting cloth and are finished with fur. Brilliant colors are in evidence among the models for skating. Red is a red in its most vivid shades of color.
While skating gowns dashes of dark fur are made. A gown of golf green with a broad short yoke and front. At the middle the yoke merges into a vest. A rich border of pliques of the seal and gives a finish to the cloth where it borders on the sleeves are capped by points that have the effect of continuation of the yoke. fitting as far as the elbow are ornamented with a deep a puff that is trimmed with of the fur and bronze embroidery.
The skirt has a yoke of green cloth is cut in four that are rounded in the and appliqued flat onto between each panel there narrow line of the seal nearly to the bottom of border of seal applique embroidery gives a finish of each panel.
Princess dresses seem adapted to the skater's first place they are less resistance to the long coated gowns do wear coat tails go flapping in With the Eton model ways present that unpopularity of a separation and corsage whenever the The undisputed grace gown is alone enough it. Unless the princess a contrasting trimming long unbroken lines it loses of its charm. A skating for a tall, slender young in her teens is built of hair cloth. It is a slip fair with a habit back, no habit back but one that a point a few inches below Down the front it has of reverse of unborn Persian tends from the right side bottom of the gown and

the left of the front. The sleeves are slightly full in the lower part and are gathered into a tall cuff that is bordered with a broad band of the Persian lamb. Elaborate frogs of black silk cord and the fur trim the upper part of the gown as far as the waist line. The frogs are repeated in the form of a border on the lower part of the gown. The hat that completes this toilette is a low three cornered affair made of the red cloth. A facing of black velvet covers the rolled brim. The crown is trimmed round with rows of black silk cord that terminate in tassels that droop over the brim at the left side of the back.
A Canadian girl who will spend her winter at the Swiss lakes is having her skating gown made at one of the English tailors here. It is regarded as quite an innovation here, but in Canada, I am told, it is quite the usual thing. The gown is made entirely of

A SMART CREATION.



Short skating gown of violet cloth. Plastron of astrakan. Straps on jacket and skirt of astrakan.
A soft crimson blanket of rare quality and the black border is managed admirably as a trimming. It is a princess affair, fastening down the front where the black borders form an unbroken line. The border is repeated on the upper part of the garment in the form of a Breton hood. Above this there is a high fluted Medici's collar made of the border. It is belted in loosely with a high crush girle of the same. The sleeves are bell shaped and have a border finish.
An elf's cap with its drooping peak ending in a black tassel is made of the same material as the gown. There is an element of the picturesque about this entire costume that is so very attractive and its undisputed warmth and ease will be bound to appeal to any enthusiastic skater, who goes in for comfort.
So attractive are the "Svelt" skating gowns made with glove fitting jackets of suede that match exactly the cloth of the skirt. Often the jackets are embroidered closely in steel threads, with appliques of Persian lamb introduced at intervals.

HER BLANKET GOWN.



Princess skating gown made of a scarlet blanket. The black border is arranged as a trimming. It is also used as a high crush girle in the gown. Elf's cap made of the same material.

NEWS OF ILLINOIS.

ALL SORTS OF THINGS CAUGHT FROM THE WIRES.

General Happenings Throughout the State Prepared for Perusal by Busy Readers.

The war department at Washington has approved the plans of Captain L. L. Wheeler, engineer in charge of construction of the Hennepin canal, to build an immense steel dam across Rock river at Sterling. This dam will be different in design from any that has ever been built or employed for a like purpose. It will be a dam only during the portion of the year when a great quantity of water will be required. At ice and flood times the great structure will be folded up, as it were, and the stream be allowed to flow unobstructed.

By means of this invention the river will be dammed by a series of gates lowered on a solid sill in the bed of the river. This will result in creating a lake a mile wide and reaching nearly all the way from Sterling to Dixon. The gates will raise the water seven and one-half feet from the sill, and there will be a flow of six inches over the dam. The dam will consist of eight spans, in each of which there will be 37 gate spaces, and each space will have four gates, making a total of 1,184 gates. The gates in each space will be hung one above the other, the first, or bottom gate, being three feet high, the second three feet, the third one foot and the fourth or top gate six inches. This will make a gate opening of seven feet six inches. By means of these gates, it is claimed, the water may be raised or lowered to any depth, figuring even to a fraction of an inch. Three gangs of two men each will be able to remove or change the dam in a few minutes. When not in use the gates will be drawn up and swung under the bridge floor in a horizontal position, entirely out of contact from floating ice or other matter in the river.

The abutments and piers of the gigantic structure will be of concrete, and they will be spanned by steel truss bridges. The total length from shore to shore will be 1,250 feet, the piers being 156 feet apart.
It is estimated that the total cost of the structure will be \$88,015.28, and the work will be commenced some time during the coming summer.

Committed by Yates.

Governor Yates has commuted the sentences of four persons now serving terms in the state penitentiary. His action was upon recommendation of the board of pardons. The commutations were as follows: John Macara, sentenced in Grundy county in 1894 to 23 years for killing an Italian named Memo, commuted to 13 years; John T. Council, sentenced in Williamson county, in 1885 to 30 years for murder, commuted to 18 years; Carl Rolander, sentenced in Bureau county in 1898 to 15 years for rape, commuted to eight years; Christopher Stacy, sentenced in Madison county in 1898 to eight years for manslaughter, commuted to five years.

Among the pardons denied are applications from Thomas McGally and Charles Kuth of Cook county, who on the night of Nov. 15, 1893, killed James Prouty and his son while robbing the Prouty residence.

Woman Cashier a Defaulter.

It has been announced that Miss Mary E. McDonald, cashier and bookkeeper for the Illinois Car Service association since its inception several years ago, was a defaulter for several hundred dollars. Ashley J. Elliott, manager of the association, cannot state just the amount until reports have been received from all the railroad members of the association. Miss McDonald has refunded about \$300 of the amount, and no legal action has been taken. She resides at Washington. She says that she has been stealing for more than a year, and assigns no reason for her action.

Illinois in Brief.

William Morrison, a Cass county pioneer, died near Virginia, Ill., aged 76 years.
Daniel Williams, aged 65 years, died at Jacksonville, Ill. He served in the Nineteenth Illinois infantry under Colonel John B. Turchin during the civil war.
W. G. Patten, agent for a Chicago telephone company, died in a hotel at Piqua, O., from a dose of morphine taken at the bar.
Not a death in 22 months among 211 children is the record of the Chicago orphan asylum, as stated by Mrs. J. A. Edwards in her report as the president of the board of managers at the 52d annual meeting. In the number named 19 nationalities were represented and 13 religions.
President Roosevelt's message has been selected as a model by the class in literature of the Kankakee high school, and is also being studied by the civic class. In addition 500 words have been selected from the message for practice in spelling.
A deal was consummated at Harrisburg whereby the Harrisburg and Chicago Coal company became the purchaser of 840 acres of land underlaid with the famous eight-foot vein of coal known as the Big Muddy vein, paying \$55,000 for the tract.

In an opinion handed down by the railroad and warehouse commission claims to have the right to control the crossings of steam and electric roads. The opinion is given in the case of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad against the Freeport Electric railway.

OLIO OF EVENTS.

The establishment in Rome of an American library has been ordered by royal decree. It will contain all publications relating to the new world since its discovery.

The number of children working in the factories of Germany today is little more than one-third of what it was in 1895, but the laws are still often evaded.

Miss Julia Morgan, of San Francisco, has just completed her studies at the Beaux Arts, in Paris, and is the first woman who has been graduated from that famous institution.

Mrs. John Richard Green, wife of the late historian, is materially assisting his biographer with data which she possesses in various notebooks, including a fragmentary diary and other jottings which illustrate his position.

Dr. Labordi has communicated to the French Academy information about a new writing instrument for the blind, which will enable them to read correctly what is written, and will probably supersede the Braille system altogether.

The Engineer reports that a company has been organized in Amsterdam for the purpose of working the coal mines of Java and Borneo. The coal obtained is to be held for the supply of ocean steamers.

Experiences in wireless telegraphy are to be made between Baltimore and Washington. These cities are chosen because of the historic experiments between them when the Morse telegraph was first invented.

Dr. Farleton H. Bean has been recommended by the fish and fisheries committee of the St. Louis exposition as chief of that department. Dr. Bean is a well known authority on the subject of fisheries.

The crown will probably be used for Queen Alexandri at the coronation next year is that made for Mary of Modena, the wife of the second James. It has 2,673 white diamonds and 23 rubies, besides many smaller stones.

Miss Dorothea Klumpke, who for a number of years has been an assistant at the Paris Observatory, is going to Leland Stanford, Jr., University, as chief assistant to Prof. Isaac Roberts. Her special work will be astral photography.

The Chicago board of education has announced a set of conditions under which high school students in that city may play football. They are based on high scholarship, written consent of parents and physician's certificate of good physical condition.

Dr. Sec. of the United States Naval Observatory in Washington, D. C., has just concluded a measurement of the planet Mercury with the large telescope of that institution, says the Washington Star. Its diameter is found to be 2,658 miles.

George Gould has converted an ugly spot on the grounds of his Lakewood (N. J.) home into a beautiful sunken garden. It is Oriental in idea and said to be the only sunken garden in America.

Governor Miguel A. Otero of New Mexico is about to move in the direction of stopping the vandals who have been dismantling the homes of the cliff dwellers, monuments of a civilization older than the pyramids.

The cable steamer Faraday has finished laying a cable between the Azore islands and Ireland for the Commercial Cable company, completing the fourth line of cable of that company between the United States and England.

The Russian government has sanctioned the plan to erect a monument at Warsaw in memory of the celebrated Polish composer, Frederic Chopin. The originators of the project intend inviting designs for the work from British and foreign sculptors.

The Rev. Dr. Francis E. Clark, president of the World's Christian Endeavor, will sail for Europe in January, to give his personal efforts to establish the society more firmly on the continent, especially in central Europe, Scandinavia, Spain, Italy, Holland, Bohemia and Bulgaria.

Former Congressman William Lorimer has begun suit in the circuit court of Chicago for \$100,000 against the Record-Herald Publishing company and Herman H. Kohltsant, of that city, for alleged libel contained in a recent editorial in the Record-Herald, in which Mr. Lorimer was called a boddler.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shaw of Chicago have just sailed for southern Europe, where they will start upon most extensive automobile trip ever undertaken, including a journey through northern Africa, in a new automobile now being constructed for them in Paris. The tour will cover more than 3,000 miles.

M. Marcellin Berthelot, a distinguished French chemist, after discussing the merits and demerits of the system of capital punishment now in vogue, pronounced in favor of carbon dioxide, a gas used for the destruction of stray dogs. He says this is quiet and painless death and one that does not shock the sensibilities.

A French hygiene journal states that in Tunis the mortality from tuberculosis is 11.3 per 1,000 among the Arabs, and 0.75 per 1,000 among the Jews, who lead pretty much the same life as the Arabs, except that they daily clean all their furniture with moist cloths, and never stir up the germ-infected dust with brooms.

Representative Charles Curtis of Kansas, who is always returned by his constituents, has Indian blood in his veins and is proud of it. No Indian who visits the great father at the white house feels satisfied unless he has seen and talked with Representative Curtis. They regard him as one of the guardian-angels of the Indians in congress.