

DEFRAUDING THE GOVERNMENT

Two Rural Free Delivery Clerks Under Arrest.

SEVEN CASES IN ALL NOW.

Other Arrests Expected Shortly—Story of the Affair Is Told by the Officials.

Washington, June 5.—As a result of the sweeping investigation of affairs at the postoffice department, Thomas W. McGregor, clerk in charge of the supplies for the rural free delivery service, and C. Ellsworth Upton of Baltimore, one of McGregor's assistants, were arrested today on the charge of conspiracy, with Charles E. Smith of Baltimore, to defraud the government in the purchase of the leather pouches furnished the rural carriers throughout the country. Their cases make seven in all since the investigation began. Other arrests are expected later. The story of today's arrests is best told in the following official statement, given out by the fourth assistant postmaster-general this afternoon:

Thomas W. McGregor and C. Ellsworth Upton were arrested this afternoon on warrants sworn out in Baltimore by inspectors Simons and Sullivan, charged with conspiracy with Charles E. Smith and others to defraud the government in the purchase of pouches from C. E. Smith of Baltimore. The complaint sets forth that McGregor and Upton agreed with Smith to obtain for him orders for many thousands of leather pouches such as are used by rural letter carriers. The price agreed upon was 40 cents per pouch; the actual value was less than 50 cents. Smith was to pay to them the difference between 40 and 50 cents per pouch.

It is said of the department that the actual number of pouches which were purchased exceeded 20,000, for which the government paid 90 cents each, or \$18,000 in all. McGregor received and retained for his own use \$10,000. The remaining \$8,000 was paid to McGregor and Upton. The government credit have been made the entire number of pouches from the manufacturers for \$8,000. McGregor was the clerk in charge of rural free delivery supplies and Upton was one of his assistants.

Inspector Sullivan, from the St. Louis division and Simons from the Kansas City division of postoffice inspectors. McGregor has been in the postal service since 1891. He came here from Nebraska as a messenger, and subsequently was promoted to a clerkship and finally was promoted to the position of clerk in charge of the rural free delivery service. Mr. Upton is a Baltimorean and has been in postal service for three years. He was arrested after the close of office hours. They were taken into custody at the postoffice shortly before the close of office hours. Upton asked to see his lawyer before being taken to the postoffice. Mr. McGregor at Baltimore instead of in this city because of his wide acquaintance there and better opportunity for securing legal assistance. The office inspectors shortly before 6 o'clock this evening, McGregor was taken to the United States Commissioner Taylor.

The arrests were not made public until 6:30 on account of the time required at the district attorney's office in this city to make out the warrants. United States Dist. Atty. John C. Rose of Baltimore arrived here late this evening and was in close consultation in an advisory way with the fourth assistant postmaster-general for a considerable time over the arrests. McGregor has been under the close surveillance of the inspectors for weeks and has been subjected to a close examination for several hours a day during a part of that time. The inspectors say that today they completed the evidence they wanted before taking action.

Postmaster-General Payne was notified on his arrival by the fourth assistant postmaster-general this evening and they had a short conference on the subject. The postmaster-general was informed that the inspectors had been in the postoffice for several days and had been subjected to a close examination for several hours a day during a part of that time. The inspectors say that today they completed the evidence they wanted before taking action.

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New York, June 6.—An investigation which has just culminated in a hearing before United States General Appraiser Sharratt has brought to light a method of importing diamonds below their real value. However, it violates direct no law, but the officials say it is illegal, however, the officials say that it allowed to continue it will revolutionize the diamond business, affecting particularly whatever of uniformity there is in the price in diamonds. The hearing grew out of an importation through the port of Norfolk, Va. The diamonds were appraised there at \$30 and \$20 apiece. Mr. Sharratt brought the stones to this city and after consulting several experts, the appraisement was raised to \$10 and \$20. It developed during the hearing that the Norfolk concern had never imported diamonds before, and these diamonds originally had been purchased abroad by a New York firm which in turn sold them to the Norfolk dealer who imported them. Much evidence came out at the hearing concerning the practice of certain New York dealers in importing stones through smaller ports where, it is asserted, the appraisers are not in touch with the fluctuations in prices.

British Bark Captured Fined.

Eureka, Cal., June 6.—Capt. J. Tonkins of the British bark Pharos, which arrived from Melbourne, Australia, on Wednesday, has been fined \$1,000 by Collector of Customs Campbell of this port on account of his failure to obtain a consular bill of health before leaving Melbourne.

Indians Destroy Salmon Nets.

Tacoma, Wash., June 6.—The Chilkat Indians have cut and destroyed the big salmon nets placed in position in Lynn Canal by the Alaska Packers' association and the Pacific Packing & Navigation company. During May the Chilkats warned the salmon cannery that they must not plant their nets un-

WELCOMED BACK TO WASHINGTON

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REMARKABLE PERFORMANCE

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There was a large gathering of officials at the Pennsylvania railway station when the president arrived. They included Secy. Root, Secy. Hitchcock, Secy. Cortelyou and Postmaster-General Payne, Commissioners West, McFarland and Biddle, Commander Cowles and Col. Symons, the superintendent of public buildings and grounds. Drawn up in line were Commander-in-Chief Kimball of the department of the Interior of the U. S. A. and a detachment of Spanish war veterans under command of Col. Hodgson.

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The president, accompanied by Commander Cowles in full uniform, then entered a carriage, and with his party, which included the officials at the station, including Atty.-Gen. Knox, Secy. Wilson and Senator Fairbanks of Indiana, were escorted by a battalion of high school cadets along Pennsylvania avenue to the White House grounds. At the entrance to the White House the cadets halted, and the president and his party passed them in review. The avenue was lined with people, and the applause which greeted the president on every hand was outspoken and enthusiastic. The fire engines which were stationed at the intersection of the streets on the avenue, and the tolling of their bells added to the welcome.

While the review of the cadets was taking place a large crowd of people gathered to the rear of the White House where the Marine band were in concert in honor of the arrival home of the chief executive. They expected that the president would appear for a short time, but he did not. The city home that had been given him, and in this they were not disappointed. The band played "The Star-Spangled Banner" and then at the president's command they played "Hail to the Chief." The president made a brief speech to the gathering, saying:

"My friends and neighbors, I thank you very much for coming here to greet me this afternoon and I have appreciated more than I can say the welcome back home that I have received today. I have been absent over two months and I have traveled many miles. During that time one thing has struck me and that is the substantiality of the American people. One can travel from ocean to ocean and from Canada to the Gulf and always be at home among one's fellow Americans. I thank you again, my friends, and now I am going in to talk to my own folks."

The run from Pittsburgh to Washington was without incident. None but the necessary stops were made, and the only speech the president made was at Altoona, where he addressed a large crowd. Crowds were at the stations by which the train ran, and warmly cheered every appearance of the president on the platform of the car. The trip just completed has been in some respects the most remarkable ever taken. Mr. Roosevelt and his party traveled over 14,000 miles on railroads and several hundred miles in stage. Not five minutes' delay was occasioned during the whole trip on account of train conditions, and the schedule adopted by Secy. Loeb before the party left Washington was carried out with military precision. Rarely was the train late in reaching its destination, notwithstanding that it passed through the flooded district in Iowa. The health of the president and his party, too, was remarkable. Not one member of the party was seriously ill, and few calls were made on the physician on the train.

During the 65 days that the president spent on the road he made 265 speeches, ordered company K, and the Sparta company, to proceed to the jail at once. The sheriff is determined to protect his prisoner, and an attack on the jail will meet with death and bloodshed.

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Fifty Years the Standard

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A Consul General's Letter.

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There was a large gathering of officials at the Pennsylvania railway station when the president arrived. They included Secy. Root, Secy. Hitchcock, Secy. Cortelyou and Postmaster-General Payne, Commissioners West, McFarland and Biddle, Commander Cowles and Col. Symons, the superintendent of public buildings and grounds. Drawn up in line were Commander-in-Chief Kimball of the department of the Interior of the U. S. A. and a detachment of Spanish war veterans under command of Col. Hodgson.

Promptly at 7 o'clock the train bearing the president and his party rolled into the station. There was a shout of welcome here as Mr. Roosevelt made his appearance on the platform, and it continued while the president was in and about the station. The president entered a few minutes in exchanging greetings with the assembled officials. He talked longer with Postmaster-General Payne than any of the others, the latter throwing his arms about the president and apparently whispering to him.

The president, accompanied by Commander Cowles in full uniform, then entered a carriage, and with his party, which included the officials at the station, including Atty.-Gen. Knox, Secy. Wilson and Senator Fairbanks of Indiana, were escorted by a battalion of high school cadets along Pennsylvania avenue to the White House grounds. At the entrance to the White House the cadets halted, and the president and his party passed them in review. The avenue was lined with people, and the applause which greeted the president on every hand was outspoken and enthusiastic. The fire engines which were stationed at the intersection of the streets on the avenue, and the tolling of their bells added to the welcome.

While the review of the cadets was taking place a large crowd of people gathered to the rear of the White House where the Marine band were in concert in honor of the arrival home of the chief executive. They expected that the president would appear for a short time, but he did not. The city home that had been given him, and in this they were not disappointed. The band played "The Star-Spangled Banner" and then at the president's command they played "Hail to the Chief." The president made a brief speech to the gathering, saying:

"My friends and neighbors, I thank you very much for coming here to greet me this afternoon and I have appreciated more than I can say the welcome back home that I have received today. I have been absent over two months and I have traveled many miles. During that time one thing has struck me and that is the substantiality of the American people. One can travel from ocean to ocean and from Canada to the Gulf and always be at home among one's fellow Americans. I thank you again, my friends, and now I am going in to talk to my own folks."

The run from Pittsburgh to Washington was without incident. None but the necessary stops were made, and the only speech the president made was at Altoona, where he addressed a large crowd. Crowds were at the stations by which the train ran, and warmly cheered every appearance of the president on the platform of the car. The trip just completed has been in some respects the most remarkable ever taken. Mr. Roosevelt and his party traveled over 14,000 miles on railroads and several hundred miles in stage. Not five minutes' delay was occasioned during the whole trip on account of train conditions, and the schedule adopted by Secy. Loeb before the party left Washington was carried out with military precision. Rarely was the train late in reaching its destination, notwithstanding that it passed