CRAWFORD POST OFFICE ARTICLES

From 1920’s and 1930’s issues of the Crawford Tribune.

Compiled by the Crawford Historical Society & Museum, Crawford, Nebraska.
The position of postmaster for the Crawford office was finally decided after some delay on account of the equal standing and qualifications of the various candidates. The candidates gradually being eliminated to the number of two, George E. Potton and C. W. Fritts, it was decided to submit the choice to 100 of the most active patrons of the office, to be determined by ballot. The candidate receiving the majority of votes to be recommended for appointment. The result of the vote was 56 for Fritts and 41 for Potton; one voter marking his ballot for both candidates and two out of the 100 failing to cast ballots.

1930 a Good Year at The Post Office

The following report was handed us by Postmaster C. W. Fritts, of the Crawford post office:

1930 was the best year in the history of this office. Christmas mailing was heavier than ever before. Were there those hard times?

Receipts for the year 1930 were $17,154.97 against $16,324.80 for the year 1929. A gain of $829.77. Receipts of the Crawford Post Office are as high as the average city of 2,500 population.

City delivery and two new star routes have been added to the service during the past year. The post office department furnishes employment to ten families in Crawford now, with an income of over $17,000. As Star Route service is not charged to the expense of this office, only $14,600 of the $17,000 is paid out of the Crawford office. We show a profit to the Department of over $3,000.00, which is exceptional for an office of our size.

10,012 money orders were issued in 1930 totalizing $75,682.77 and in 1929, we issued 10,155 totaling $88,456.33. Almost $10,000 less money sent out side markets during the year 1930. Paid money orders in 1930, $21,140.17 and in 1929 they were $17,740.20. This shows $3,399.97 more coming into our city than in 1929.

A Postal Savings Depository was established at this office in March, 1929. We have 40 depositors with deposits amounting to $25,551.00 and Bonds amounting to $18,000.

The Postal Savings system is not meant to compete with banks but is to encourage people to keep money in circulation and discourage the practice of hiding it away or carrying it on their person.

Crawford is at the top looking over the rest. We have no cause to shout hard times. Finances are much better than the average. Let's smile, swap our dollars, and all have new money.
Free Mail Delivery to Start July 1st.

On July 1st, the free delivery of mail will start in the city of Crawford. The delivery to the residence section of the city will start at 9:00 o'clock a.m., and will be the only delivery during the day. There will be two deliveries made to the business section of the city one at 8:00 a.m., and one at about 4:00 o'clock.

It will take some time no doubt to get everything in working order to suit everyone. There will cards placed in each post office box on which the lists of names can be placed for mail delivered to the different homes. You must decide whether you want delivery by the carrier or whether you want to get your mail at the post office. You can not do both. As near as we can learn, there will be no distribution of mail at the post office on Sunday.

There will be a difference in the postage rates on drop letters, after the delivery starts this will be raised to 2c.

C. W. Fritts Re-appointed Postmaster

On Saturday, C. W. Fritts, postmaster of this city for the past eight years, received the confirmation of his appointment as postmaster for the next four years. Mr. Fritts has given good satisfaction as the postmaster and the patrons are glad to hear of his re-appointment.
EQUESTRIAN LABOR DAY

DEDICATION

Labor Day Program Arranged

Dedication of Post Office and Horse Show on Monday

Crawford will be host to almost 10,000 people during a two-day celebration here Sept. 3 and 4, according to an estimate of Maj. James M. Adamson, commanding officer at Fort Robinson, at a meeting of the Labor Day committee held Wednesday evening.

The celebration will feature the new Crawford post office dedication, and people from all over the United States are expected to be here to view the exhibition by the U. S. Army Olympic Equestrian team on Labor Day.

According to Fred Teets, chairman of the committee in charge of the softball tournament, which will also be a feature event of the two-day celebration, 20 teams from western Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming have been contacted and are expected to compete for the three prizes offered. The first prize will be $500.00 cash, second prize $500.00 and third prize $200.00 will be the consolation prize.

Mr. Teets reports that the first game elimination will be held Sunday, September 3, and the final eliminations will be played Labor Day.

The dedication of Crawford's new post office building will be attended by some fine speakers, notable among them Harry Gants, senator from the legislative district from Alliance. The post office department in Washington will also be represented by a speaker, who will take part in the dedication ceremonies.

The United States Olympic Equestrian team will give an extensive exhibition of jumping on the grounds of the city park Labor Day. This is the last complete show that the team will present before it leaves next spring for Finland to participate in the 1940 Olympic games. Horse lovers from all over the country will be here to watch the unsurpassed horsemanship of the riders and superb training of the animals on the team.

It is thought that the Harrison band will be here to take part in the festivities.

POST OFFICE DEDICATION LABOR DAY


Plans Are Being Made For Two Days Of Celebration

The new post office building in this city is nearing completion. As near as we can learn it will be ready for occupancy the latter part of this month.

Plans are being made to hold the dedication of the building on Labor Day, according to Dr. B. F. Richards, chairman of the committee on arrangements from the Chamber of Commerce. A two-day celebration is being planned, including softball tournament and other attractions. Watch for further details.
Dedication

OF THE

New Post Office Building

AT CRAWFORD, NEBRASKA

Monday, September 4th, 1939
STARTING AT 10:30 A. M.

PROGRAM FOR THE DEDICATION

Master of Ceremonies.................................................. Attorney J. E. Porter
"America"........................................................................ By the Band
Invocation................................................................. Father Albert Albel
Address of Welcome................................................ Mayor B. F. Richards
Music by the Band
History of the Crawford Post Office....................... Postmaster George J. Scott
Address........................................................................ Representative of U. S. Postal Department
Music by the Band
Short Address............................................................ Morton Spence
Dedictory Address.................................................... Senator Harry Gantz, of Alliance
"Star Spangled Banner".............................................. By the Band
Chuck Wagon Dinner at Crawford City Park