

THE O'NEIL FRONTIER

D. H. O'NEIL, Publisher.
O'NEIL, NEBRASKA

All the beasts, numbering thousands, formerly in the vast supply zoo of the Hagenbeck brothers at Hamburg, Germany, have been butchered and fed to the Kaiser's soldiers. The zoo's daily feed bill was enormous, so instead of feeding the animals, the government decided it was better to feed the animals to the soldiers. This is the story of W. Meredith, of Los Angeles, brings home with him from Germany. The collection included lions, tigers, jaguars, leopards, the rhinoceros and hippopotamus—specimens of almost every jungle beast and reptile.

The new department store, said to be the largest and most complete store of the kind in the orient that has been under construction by the Sincere company, Ltd., of Hong-Kong, has opened for business in Shanghai. The store occupies a new five-story building on Nanjing road. Together with the Oriental hotel, the buildings occupy an entire block in the central part of the city. The entire business is Chinese owned and is managed by Wov Chee, formerly connected with the company's department store at Hong-Kong.

The shortage of German dyes inspired LeBlair Hampton, of Picayune, La., to devise the scheme of dyeing cotton as it grew. It is said that he saturated the seed with any dyes desired and that his plantation presented a pretty appearance this fall, with flaming red and blue fields alternating with the pure white bolls. Cotton thus dyed has withstood rain and will not fade.

A new soft drink is being made from alfalfa. Cut when young and tender, the stalks are thoroughly cleaned in warm water and dried by artificial heat. They are then reduced to powder by grinding and put into vacuum pans and boiled. The solid particles are removed by filtering and the liquid that remains is mixed with sugar syrup and bottled for shipment.

The Malay peninsula is the largest rubber producing and rubber exporting country in the world. Two years ago the production was small, as compared with that of Brazil, which was then the primary source of rubber. The advent to first place as a rubber producing country is due to its favorable climatic and soil conditions.

A Maine fisherman claims to have pulled up a pint milk bottle with a live crab in it. It is evident that the crab had crawled into the bottle when small and stayed there until it grew so large it could not get out. The bottle was crusted with barnacles when it was pulled up, which shows it had been in the water a long time.

Among the 1,500 applications received at the ward department for appointments as watchmen or guards at the building in course of construction in Washington was a patriotic woman from Tennessee, who described herself as strong, healthy, tactful, discreet, fair judgment, unusually quick to think and without a nerve.

The crescent was not originally the emblem of the Turk. It was first used by the primitive Christians of Constantinople and the eastern provinces of the old Roman empire as an emblem of the growing influence of Christianity. It was not until after the battle of Constantinople that the Turks adopted the crescent.

In this war 14 out of 15 men come into the safe and sound, not more than one man in 40 is killed, and only one in 500 loses an arm or leg. In the civil war the per cent was much higher. In fact, the soldier in this war stands no greater chance of being killed or injured than a man engaged in a hazardous occupation.

In compliance with Food Administrator Hoover's request for all possible conservation of sugar, the Kansas ice cream manufacturers, representing practically all of the large manufacturing plants in the state, have voted to manufacture no more sherbets or ices as long as the country is at war.

When ex-American James W. Gerard, of Germany, addressed a meeting of 14,000 persons in San Francisco recently, the price of admission was fixed at one pair of usable shoes, either new or old, the same to go to war victims of the allied nations.

A fine of \$100 and costs was imposed in Wilmington on Frank Brocinski for having forced an 8-year-old boy to drink a glass of home made whisky. As there was no law to fit the case, the prisoner was tried on a charge of cruelty to children.

In Exodus, III, 8, Palestine is described as a land "flowing with milk and honey." Bees are abundant even to the present day. In the remote parts of the desert they deposit their hives in the crevices of the rocks and in hollow trees.

The Turkish language, although spoken in many dialects, is so uniform in plan that anyone who speaks Ottoman Turkish can be understood while traveling from European Turkey through Asia Minor and Central Asia.

When Edward Merriam was drunk he liked to see flames. So he set more than 40 fires in Brooklyn during the last two years, some of them imperiling many lives and causing losses as high as \$250,000.

The voracious appetite of their son, who is 12 years old and weighs 140 pounds, forced Mrs. Jessie Bond to ask the New York court of domestic relations for more alimony from her former husband.

Strong protest has been made in South Australia against the continued slaughter of such rare birds as the ibis, the egret, cranes and spoonbills to supply the demands of milliners.

Japan has a population of 54,000,000, spread over an area of 147,655 square miles, a territory just a trifle larger than the state of Montana, which has a population of 446,000.

The jail at El Paso, Tex., has steel sun parlors in which prisoners may get fresh air and sunshine without possibility of escape.

Persia has no distilleries, breweries or drinking places, and the only intoxicating beverage made use of is home made wine.

No nation, save the United States, is so economically self-sustaining or possesses such a wealth of diversified scenery and manifold resources as Russia has.

Six hundred and eighty-three rice dealers in Tokio were arrested by the metropolitan police recently for using "short measures" in selling their staple.

It is estimated that the prison sentences imposed on the people of Alsace-Lorraine since the war began for the loyalty to France would total 6,000 years.

CONVICT WILL SOON BE GIVEN LIBERTY

Man Who Murdered Relative Has Earned Good Will of State Authorities.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 5.—Max Ploehm, who has spent 12 years at the state penitentiary, will be a free man within a few days if the governor follows the recommendations of the state board of pardons. For three years Ploehm has been out of prison, but held by the state at the state soldiers' home in Grand Island, where he acted as gardener. His fine record earned for him the commutation he will be given. Ploehm killed a woman relative in Cass county in 1904. It was urged in his defense that he was not of sound mind, but the jury held to the contrary. He is 40 years of age, and with good time has really served 20 years. Cass county people were active in securing clemency for him.

MEN IN TRAINING ARE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS

Camp Cody, Deming, N. M., Jan. 5.—Half the 16 weeks training course outlined for men of the 34th division here has been completed, with the men well up to the point they were expected to reach at this period, according to the announcement of officers. Some units have been deterred by weeks of quarantine for measles, but the camp averages have been held up. The men are looking forward to the remaining drill period with increased eagerness and are keen in their hope to be sent overseas by spring. The 49th depot brigade, composed of the First South Dakota cavalry, First Minnesota field artillery and Nebraska field artillery, which has been called upon at various times to complete the officer personnel of the 34th division, and the noncommissioned officers' staffs of the organizations, will remain intact as an administrative unit and will be recognized as a surplus detachment. Col. C. H. Englesby is senior officer.

GIVES GOVERNMENT ALL HIS LIQUOR INFORMATION

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 5.—Attorney General Willis E. Reed has turned over to federal authorities the evidence supporting his claim that there exists a conspiracy to bring intoxicating liquors into the state in wholesale quantities, in violation of both the state and federal laws. The attorney general has not made public the names of the individuals alleged to be members of the conspiracy, but states that all the details are contained in the mass of information turned over to United States District Attorney T. S. Allen, and that the evidence is so overwhelming that the individuals concerned "might just as well select the number of their cells in Leavenworth penitentiary." The inference of the law is so clear and the guilty ones' connection with the conspiracy so well established, says the attorney general, that there is no possibility of a slip in their trip to the penitentiary. The matter will be taken up by the federal authorities at once.

HIS WAR INSURANCE WAS NOT IN FORCE

Camp Cody, N. M., Jan. 5.—A war risk insurance policy for \$10,000 to become operative until after February 1, next, has deprived the parents of the late Private Emmett R. Baker, Battery F, 12th field artillery, of Merriman, Neb., of that sum, according to a report of the insurance company. He contracted pneumonia and died before the policy became operative. As he left neither wife, child nor widowed mother, the government will not be obliged to pay the policy it is said.

TOOK PART IN BATTLE WITH SIX SUBMARINES

Plainview, Neb., Jan. 5.—To have taken part in a battle between ships of the allies and six enemy submarines, "somewhere in the war zone," and to have seen the oil bubbles on the ocean's surface after the submarines had been sent to the bottom, fell to the lot of Chief Yeoman Ernest E. Senseney, of Plainview, who is here on a visit with relatives. He has a short leave of 15 days, and will go from here to the west coast to take a destroyer through the Panama canal. He was at one time employed by the Union Pacific railroad in Omaha.

TRAPPER CAPTURES LYNX NEAR O'NEILL

O'Neill, Neb., Jan. 5.—The mysterious animal that has frequently frightened hunters in the Hemstreet gorge, six miles west of town, has been trapped. The animal is an exceptionally large lynx.

EVERY MAN TO ANSWER FOR DISLOYAL TALK

Ewing, Neb., Jan. 5.—Fred Lau, a shoe merchant here, has been taken to Lincoln to answer to federal authorities for his alleged pro-German talk and actions. It is asserted that his store has been used for disloyal meetings, and that there are others here who will be required to answer for their activity if they are not more careful.

CAKE DECORATED WITH SEVENTY CANDLES

Lyons, Neb., Jan. 5.—Mr. and Mrs. M. Warner attended the 70th birthday anniversary celebration of Edward Frey, at Pender. Mrs. Warner baked a cake for the occasion and placed 70 candles on it. Nearly 100 relatives attended the celebration.

BLOOMFIELD—Capt. J. Harvey Mettlen has gone to San Antonio, Tex., to join the medical department of the aviation section of the signal corps. Dr. Mettlen has practiced medicine in this county for 18 years. Dr. G. E. Peters and Dr. S. B. Kaler have agreed to take care of Dr. Mettlen's practice, while he is away to the war, and turn over to him 2 per cent of the fees.

NORTH BEND—Mrs. Donald Scott, aged 84, suffered the fracture of her limb in a fall. She was walking home from the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Scott is an old settler of the vicinity. Owing to her advanced years, it is considered likely that the injury will be many months in healing.

NORFOLK—A meeting of the executive committee of the North Nebraska Teachers' association was held at the Pacific hotel, where it was decided to hold the teachers' meeting at Wayne this spring. The definite date was not determined, but will probably be the last week in March or the first in April. Another meeting of the committee will be held at Wayne Saturday January 5, to complete arrangements for the meeting.

LYONS—Andrew Erickson, 84 years old, died at his home here. He is survived by two daughters, 10 grand children and 15 great grand children.

NEBRASKA CONVICTS ARE SEEKING PARDONS

One of the Men Had Part in a Lynching in Cherry County Some Years Ago.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 5.—Applications for pardons to three men serving life terms in the state penitentiary were made before the state board of pardons today. The men were Harry Heath, one of the quartet that lynched Charles Sellers in Cherry county some years ago, and Louis Keezer and Isadore Stitzman, convicted of murdering a man in Cass county while robbing him. The board recently held the application of George and Alma Weed, brothers, who were convicted at the same time as Heath, but who had no report to the governor on the case. An 18-year-old boy, Kenneth Murphy, was pardoned some years ago by Governor Morehead and has made good in business since then.

THIS PRO-GERMAN HAS HARNESS ON RIGHT NOW

Bridgeport, Neb., Jan. 5.—This is what Harry T. Dudden, wealthy farmer of Lisco, brought before the county council of defense on the charge that he had openly sympathized with Germany and against America with respect to the war purposes of the United States. Donate \$250 to the Red Cross. Donate \$250 to Y. M. C. A. Purchase \$1,000 worth of Liberty bonds and \$100 worth of thrift stamps. Pay the expenses of the men who came from Lisco to give testimony as to his conduct and utterances. Do not bear a grudge against them for testifying against him. To display an American flag on his residence and keep it flying there for the period of the war.

Dudden was charged with refusing to make any donation to patriotic work, with making pro-German statements, and with tearing the flag from his automobile. He was defiant when first brought before the council, but finally admitted that he had sympathized with Germany and did not agree with the war purposes of the United States. Dudden came to this county, a German born, with \$1,200 worth of property. He is now worth \$40,000.

GERMAN SYMPATHIZER IS HELD AT ALLIANCE

Alliance, Neb., Jan. 5.—A young man, a German, is being held at the county jail pending preliminary examination before United States Court Commissioner Judge Berry. He was arrested near Alliance, because of treasonable utterances. He was found to have in his possession an expensive camera with numerous photographs of railroad tunnels, divisions, head gates, etc. In addition to these were a number of undeveloped films which Judge Tash believes, when developed, will prove to be pictures of the potash plants and sugar beet factories in this part of the country. The young man has numerous individual friends in the northwest states—North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Colorado, Washington and Oregon. Besides this he had a complete map of Canada.

BAND PATRIOTIC MEN IN SECRET SOCIETY

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 5.—Business men of Nebraska are being asked to join in a nation-wide effort to organize a fraternal organization that carries no life insurance benefits, but which is aimed to line up all the patriotic citizens of the country into a secret organization. One of the objects of the organization is to organize various socialistic movements and organizations with political propaganda inimical to business interests, which is taken to mean that it is a species of camouflage to conceal a fight against the non-partisan farmers league in the west. The organization is to be held in Omaha today.

BIG CHANGES MADE WITH NEBRASKA OFFICERS

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 5.—According to information from Camp Cody there has been a shakeup of Nebraska officers. Col. Phil L. Hall, who lost command of the 12th field artillery, has been named as colonel of the Fourth Nebraska, to succeed Col. W. E. Baehr, of Omaha. What happened to Baehr is not made plain. He was lieutenant colonel for a number of years while the Fourth was a national guard unit, and succeeded to the colonelcy when Colonel Eberly, after the return from the Mexican border, resigned his commission. The Fourth Nebraska is now known as the 12th United States heavy artillery. Colonel Hall has been unassigned for some months, but has had charge of the police force at Deming.

LABOR COMMISSIONER IN ANNUAL REPORT

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 5.—According to a report filed by State Labor Commissioner Norman H. Hall, 13,901 men obtained employment in Nebraska during the year through the free employment bureau maintained by that department. The bureau received calls for help in harvesting state crops during the past summer from practically every county in the state, and by advertising Nebraska's need for men drew harvest hands from four or five states. The commissioner says that his experience during the past year has led him to the conclusion that a great deal of the so-called labor shortage is due to the lack of an efficient means of procuring accurate information as to needs and the distribution of labor where needed. He says that the agitation in favor of the closing of the schools for several weeks in November was ill-advised and unnecessary, and that the same time would have been better spent in such a recourse. The commission has handled a number of complaints in recent months of disregard of the nine-hour law for women workers and of the child labor law.

BROODS OVER WAR HE LOSES HIS REASON

Norfolk, Neb., Jan. 5.—Louis Lammle a German tailor who has been employed in the Puesler tailoring establishment, is believed to have lost his reason because of brooding over the world war. He was arrested and locked up in the police station, where he was waiting for the trial of the county officials. Lammle came to Norfolk from Plattsmouth, Neb., a few years ago.

SIDNEY—George W. Davis, of Potter, and James Kane of Hunstman, Neb., were brought before United States Commissioner Joseph Oberfelder charged with abusing the president and the government generally. Judge Oberfelder placed them in jail and preliminary examinations will be held next Saturday. Davis owns a large farm near Potter and Kane is employed by the Central Granaries company, of Lincoln.

LOGAN—E. B. Blackman, curator of Nebraska State Historical society, has written Charles Lamb of near Magnolia, with a view of securing the Lamb collection of the race antedating the Indian.

COUNTY CLERK HAS INCURRED ILL WILL

Effort Probably to Be Made by Board of Supervisors to Oust Him From Office.

Beatrice, Neb., Jan. 4.—Preliminary steps to oust County Clerk E. M. Burnham were taken by the county board of supervisors when a committee was appointed to investigate the absence of the clerk and conditions of the office. Mr. Burnham's failure to have the real estate tax books completed has caused the supervisors much worry. They should have been in the hands of the treasurer eight weeks ago, and the county is losing the use of the funds which would be paid in before the first of the year. He was several weeks behind in delivering the personal tax books to the treasurer. He has not been at the office this week and his whereabouts are unknown. Last Friday he promised the board while in session that he would be on the job and rush the completion of his work.

FREMONT HAD GREAT PROSPERITY IN 1917

Fremont, Neb., Jan. 4.—Fremont experienced one of its biggest years in business and in growth in 1917, and but for the decided lull in activities near the close, when prices reached heights that made building almost prohibitive, would have boasted the best period in the city's history. Bank clearings of \$32,000,000 were a gain of nearly \$7,000,000 over 1916, which was the previous record. Post-office receipts were \$62,000, or \$1,000 in excess of the preceding year. Improvements all told reached \$19,000 against \$880,000 for the preceding year, which held all records.

Building of the new \$50,000 Methodist church, another \$25,000 orphanage in the Masonic home development and a new Lutheran church were put on account of the war. Two business blocks that had been planned were similarly postponed.

FREMONT EDITOR TELLS OF WAR SCENES

Fremont, Neb., Jan. 4.—Ross L. Hammond, Fremont editor, returned from a trip to the French, British and Belgian battle fronts, has gone on a tour through northwestern Nebraska for the purpose of filling 35 speaking dates. Mr. Hammond says that he will give his speeches on the war as his own personal experience. He believes that Nebraskaans need to be stirred to the seriousness of conditions in Europe. Congressman Dan V. Stephens, who was Mr. Hammond's companion on the European tour, completed a speaking trip a few days ago. He left for Washington, D. C., yesterday.

NEBRASKA BANKER IS BELIEVED TO BE DROWNED

Pensacola, Fla., Jan. 4.—After five days' continuous search, with no clue to sustain hope, efforts to locate F. H. Young, of Broken Bow, Neb., who disappeared on the Gulf beach last week, while walking to Pensacola to replenish the gasoline supply of a launch in which he and a slight deformity were from New Orleans, hope was abandoned that the missing man will be found alive, and it is believed that he was drowned in attempting to cross the ford. The two men left New Orleans Saturday and arrived off Pensacola Monday morning when the fog supply gave out. Leaving Morgan in the launch, Young came ashore in a canoe, landing on the sand wastes, miles from any house. At this point the shore line runs into a lagoon formed by a narrow sand pit, running parallel with the beach. Prints of the missing man, recognized by a slight deformity, were found leading to the break in the spit where the tide's action over the ford formed a swift undertow. Young was president of the Custer County State bank, past state grand master of the Masons, a Shriner and member of other fraternal organizations.

FATAL WRECK CAUSED BY 'TAMPED' SWITCH

Hastings, Neb., Jan. 4.—Engineer David Llewellyn was crushed beneath his engine and instantly killed one mile south of Hastings when the Burlington passenger train from Ayr, which more than 100 passengers aboard, was wrecked by a partly opened switch. Fireman Vernon Brown is the Lansing hospital seriously injured and may not recover.

A railroad detective was at the scene when the Lincoln wrecking crew arrived. Several half grown boys, taken into custody a short distance from the scene, have been closely questioned. It is believed the switch was spiked partly open and its condition unobserved by the engineer.

The locomotive was most completely wrecked and headed in the opposite direction. Its wheels followed the main line, while the tender and four cars took the switch. Conductor Utter and his passengers were badly shaken, but none was injured. More than 1,000 people visited the wreck scene.

MAYOR OF BLOOMFIELD KEEPS UP GOOD WORK

Emerson, Neb., Jan. 4.—Mayor Harms, of Bloomfield, the man who imprisoned two of his best friends for unpatriotic actions during the first Liberty loan drive, and Dr. Mullen, of the same place, who speak at German hall, are a half mile northeast of Emerson next Sunday evening. The meeting will be under the auspices of the Thurston county council of defense. The reason for coming over into Dixon county by the Thurston county men is to better reach the people of the northern part of Thurston county. It is expected the meeting will be largely attended and that the speakers will give German sympathizers of the community some good American advice. It is rumored some of the more aggressive pro-Germans of the community are to be publicly reprimanded and warned at that time.

REPRESENTATIVE SLOAN OUT FOR THE SENATE

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 4.—Charles H. Sloan, representative of the Fourth Nebraska district in congress, today announced his candidacy for the United States Senate to succeed G. W. Norris. Mr. Sloan says: "In harmony with the republican party" he will support a vigorous prosecution of the war.

GOES BACK INTO THE SUBMARINE SERVICE

Mitchell, S. D., Jan. 2.—Lieut. Lloyd J. Wiltse, son of Mrs. Jennie Wiltse, who left Mitchell Saturday evening, will immediately reenter the submarine service with the K-3, one of the newest types of American undersea craft. He arrived in Mitchell Christmas eve for the first visit with his mother and other relatives during the past eight years. He reenters the service with the assurance of his commanding officer, the command of a boat within the next 10 months.

GOVERNOR COMMENDS PEOPLE OF NEBRASKA

Asserts They Have Done Well Their Share in Program of National Defense.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 3.—The following message to the people of Nebraska was made public through the Associated Press today by Gov. Keith Neville: "Nineteen hundred seventeen, the most eventful year in our state's history, has drawn to a close and Nebraskans may well feel proud because of the response of our people to every obligation imposed by the government in conserving the nation's welfare in the present war crisis.

"Our quotas for the army and for the navy have been over enlisted several hundred per cent; our allotment of Liberty bonds has been subscribed; our obligations to the Red Cross and kindred organizations have been fully satisfied; the noble women of the state have worked untiringly in our country's cause; the state council of defense has blazed a way for similar organizations throughout the nation and only two of our sister states have exceeded Nebraska in the efficient administration of the selective service law. "Yes, Nebraska may well feel proud and the loyal citizens pledge a continuation of their patriotic, enthusiastic and untiring efforts until victory shall bring peace.

"Keith Neville, "Governor of Nebraska."

COUNTY CLERK GIVES BOARD MUCH WORRY

Beatrice, Neb., Jan. 3.—Preliminary steps to oust County Clerk E. M. Burnham were taken by the county board of supervisors today when a committee was appointed to investigate the absence of the clerk and conditions of the office. This committee will report January 8. If the evidence is found sufficient a complaint will be filed to remove him from office. Mr. Burnham's failure to have the real estate tax books completed has caused the supervisors much worry. They should have been in the hands of the treasurer eight weeks ago and the county is losing the use of the funds which would be paid in before the first of the year. He was several weeks behind in delivering the personal tax books to the treasurer. He has not been at the office for some days and his whereabouts are unknown.

PHONE COMPANIES MUST KEEP LINES IN SHAPE

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 3.—The state railway commission made some more telephone history Monday, when, in an order issued allowing the Fairfield Telephone company to issue \$6,650 stock to pay for labor done by the officers in past years at unremunerative salaries, it held that the business of the company is to furnish modern service, and to that end ordered it to use a part of its surplus for the purpose of replacing its grounded service with metallic line construction. The multiplication of transmission lines in the state has made grounded wire circuits difficult of use, the induction extending for miles across country. The commission has adopted a policy of restricting dividends of telephone companies to 8 per cent, requiring them to set aside 9 per cent for depreciation and maintenance and to give modern service.

INSURANCE HEAD IS CALLED TO A HOLT

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 3.—Thomas C. Woods has secured an order of the court restraining W. E. Straub and other officers and directors of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance company, which is one of the strongest farmers' companies in the state, from employing any funds of the company for the purpose of gathering proxies for the annual election this month. Woods charges that fraud and deceit were employed in securing signatures to proxies, it being represented that insurance could not be secured unless the blank proxy in each application was signed. He also says that unknown to other policy holders this proxy blank was inserted in fine print in the application, and that it is all a scheme to perpetuate Straub as president and keep the other officers in control where they can legislate to please themselves and do acts inimical to the interests of the other policy holders.

WHISKY RUNNER IS GIVEN LONG TERM

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 3.—Joe Bomber, of Omaha, "whisky runner," was given the maximum punishment by Federal Judge Munger, under the federal statute when he sentenced Bomber to one year in the Lancaster county jail. This was the second conviction of the man. He served time in the Douglas county jail for bringing booze into "dry" Nebraska from "wet" Missouri. "I wish I had the power to send you to the penitentiary," said Judge Munger in passing sentence. Pierce Davis, a negro, was given six months for the same offense. Davis told the court he had served time in a reformatory in Oklahoma. Bomber had brought a large quantity of whisky into Nebraska and was arrested in Chicago.

ENGINEER IS VICTIM OF FATAL INJURIES

Norfolk, Neb., Jan. 3.—Fred G. Molander, an engineer on the Northwestern, fell into a cinder pit while switching near the round house and sustained what may prove a broken back bone, besides internal injuries. Mr. Molander was switching on what he thought was the right track, but when he stepped off the engine fell into the pit.

FRUIT CONCERNS ARE BELIEVED IN COMBINE

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 3.—Attorney General Reed has filed information against Grainger Brothers and Stacy Brothers, two wholesale fruit and grocery firms of Lincoln, charging them with conspiracy in restraint of trade and to prevent competition in the sale of wholesale fruits and other products and to fix the prices for the same.

The metal cap of a new fruit jar is slightly convex and by depressing the center the edges are sprung away from the jar.

IOWA CONCERN MAY NOT DO BUSINESS HERE

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 3.—By a vote of two to one, the state insurance board has refused to license the A. O. U. W. of Iowa to do business in Nebraska. The Nebraska order has been in hard because it increased rates and lost a lot of members. The Iowa brethren tried to get permission to do business in those counties adjacent to Iowa, but the board says that its actuary reports gradually climbing out of the financial well. Because of the similarity of names the board declined the permit.

BILL AIMED AT ARMY RED TAPE

Measure Introduce in Congress to Create Department of Munitions Under Cabinet Head.

CHAMBERLAIN IS AUTHOR

Proposed to Co-Ordinate Work of Providing Supplies for American Army and Naval Forces.

Washington, Jan. 5.—A department of munitions under a new cabinet head known as the secretary of munitions is proposed in a bill introduced today by Chairman Chamberlain, of the Senate military committee, as a result of its investigation of war operations. The new department would operate during the war and one year thereafter. The bill has the backing of the Senate committee and will be strongly pressed. The new secretary of munitions would have power under the president's direction to control arms, ammunition, food, clothing, equipment, tentage, transportation and any other materials the president shall designate as munitions of war. Government bureaus, agencies and funds necessary to a munitions administration would be transferred to the new department, which contemplates control of naval as well as army supplies.

Co-Ordination Needed.

"The bill is intended to increase and expedite the supply of munitions of war," said Senator Chamberlain. "One great trouble with the war establishment as disclosed by the investigation has been a lack of co-ordination and the seeming impossibility of getting rid of the surplus of munitions of war. Until there can be co-ordination and methods more direct the United States will be groping in the dark for many months before we can place ourselves in proper fighting trim. "This measure places all jurisdiction over munitions of war in one hand at length in the bill—and covering everything in one person known as the secretary of munitions, subject to the direction of course, of the president. It co-ordinates all the bureaus, cuts red tape, does away with useless agencies which had tended only to hamper direct action and gets to the heart of the whole situation. "I believe if congress can see its way to the enactment of this measure and the proper man is placed at the head of the department of munitions, America will soon be occupying its proper place on the battle front. It will be noted that the measure is only in force during the continuance of the war which brings it into existence."

SLACKERS IN NATION TOTAL ABOUT 50,000

General Crowder Estimates That Many Have Evaded Army Service.

Washington, D. D., Jan. 5.—Fifty thousand real slackers in the United States is Provost Marshal General Crowder's estimate in his report to Secretary Baker. That calculation supposes that 10 men in each registration district have escaped service without being caught. While a few more than 250,000 of the more than 3,000,000 registered men failed to appear when called for examination General Crowder estimates that 85,000 of them have gone into military service without notifying local boards. "This leaves more than 150,000 to be accounted for," said the provost marshal general. "Were they all slackers?" General Crowder answers his own question by estimating that they probably are not real slackers because 100,000 probably are aliens. This, he estimates leaves about 50,000 real slackers to be accounted for. Only a few more than 16,000 have been identified and a few more than 2,000 have been prosecuted. The report shows that 928 Germans of draft age have been accepted for service in the national army. A total of 14,161 enemy aliens were accepted, the remainder being Austrians or Hungarians. The board of registration in this district has a total of 104,672 were called to produce 10,141 accepted. All aliens accepted make a total of 76,545.

ARREST ATTORNEY FOR FAILURE TO AID DRAFT

Tazewell, Tenn., Jan. 5.—A warrant for the arrest of Attorney John P. Davis of this place for refusal to serve as a member of the legal advisory exempting board of Claiborne county was a worn out today by United States District Attorney Kenerly. Davis, who is a former state senator, announced that he will go to Knoxville tomorrow and surrender to the federal authorities.

FAMOUS OLD HOTEL DESTROYED BY FIRE

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Jan. 5.—The International hotel, one of the landmarks of Niagara Falls, was destroyed by fire yesterday and the International theater, an adjoining building, was badly damaged. The loss is estimated at \$550,000. Several firemen were injured.

GERMAN ARRESTED FOR INCITING DESERTERS

Macon, Ga., Jan. 5.—Private George W. Hecker, under arrest here for desertion, is also charged with attempting to incite other men of his company to desert and try an expedition into Mexico. It is said Hecker is a German.

DORIS KEANE WEDS.

London, Jan. 4.—Doris Keane, the American actress, the Daily Mirror announces, was married yesterday to Basil Sidney, an English actor. They had been appearing together in London in "Romance."

BLUE SKY LAW UPHOLD.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 4.—Constitutionality of the Arizona "blue sky law" was upheld today in an opinion handed down in the United States circuit court.