

NATIONAL

So long as bicycles kept changing and improving every year many conservative persons of economical instincts refused to buy. Likewise many people are now waiting for the automobile to be perfected before they throw over the horse and buggy. It is a pity a nation can not adopt the same canny policy with respect to warships. Here now is the news that immediately following the kaiser's victory at the polls he has given orders for the construction of warships of 25,000 tons displacement and twice the length of a city block. This when we had hardly gotten over the ripple caused by the launching of the British Dreadnought of 18,000 tons. Two frogs met in the highway. One frog puffed out his sides to impress the other frog. Not to be outdone frog number two puffed out his sides also. Then the first frog puffed out his sides still further. The second frog made another effort, and they kept up the competition till they both burst wide open. If we only dared it would be pleasant to let the other nations do the frog act alone.

Under the Nebraska law when a criminal case is decided in favor of the defendant on a point of law, the prosecution is permitted to appeal to the supreme court in order to establish the soundness of the decision and definitely establish the point. The defendant is of course not allowed to be endangered by the proceeding. No such practice has been permitted in the federal courts, the result being that case after case may be determined by the lower courts on a construction of law which may later be held wrong by the supreme court. In his message last December the president cited such an instance. "Recently in one district," he said, "where the government had indicted certain persons for conspiracy in connection with rebates, the court sustained the defendant's demurrer; while in another jurisdiction an indictment for conspiracy to obtain rebates has been sustained by the court, conviction obtained under it, and two defendants sentenced to imprisonment." He added, "At present there is no way by which the government can cause such a conflict, when it occurs, to be solved by a higher court; and the wheels of justice are blecked without any real decision of the question." At the last session the house passed a bill remedying this defect. Among the 991 bills passed by the senate on Wednesday was this one, which will now become a law.

Last year we consumed in this country 6,415,000,000 pounds of sugar. One-fifth of this, 1,304,500,000 pounds, was produced here. Cuba produced almost exactly twice as much as we furnished ourselves; having an advantage over other foreign countries of a twenty per cent reduction from the regular duty. Hawaii and Porto Rico, whose sugar comes in free, furnished about as much as we produced ourselves, while Germany, Java, and South America each shipped us more than a hundred million pounds. From our oriental possessions, the Philippines, there came 26,000,000 pounds, less than half the amount received from Belgium. It is this two hundredth part of our total sugar importation together with a correspondingly terrible menace to the tobacco trust that keeps the senate from admitting the Philippines to the advantages as well as to the disadvantages of American sovereignty. There are only two weeks more in which to pass the bill admitting Philippine products to American markets on equal terms with other parts of the United States.

While the business of the United States with its non-contiguous territories shows an enormous increase in two years, the trade with the Philippines does not share liberally in the general advance. In the calendar year 1906 the total of this trade reached \$11,000,000, against a total of less than \$100,000,000 in 1904. Of the \$59,000,000 of exports of merchandise in 1906 to these territories, Porto Rico received \$22,000,000, Alaska \$17,500,000, Hawaii \$12,500,000 and the Philippines only \$7,000,000. The latter figure is disappointing, but it represents an increase of about two millions over the exports of this class of goods two years ago. In the two years the shipments of merchandise to the United States has increased as follows: From Hawaii from \$25,500,000 to nearly \$30,000,000; Porto Rico from \$14,-

600,000 to \$20,750,000; Alaska from \$10,500,000 to \$12,000,000, and from the Philippines a slight decrease.

Perhaps if congress would give a little attention to the needs of the far-away Filipinos in the matter of customs duties, this neglected trade might begin to flourish. In its present stage it is somewhat discouraging.

Apparently the senate, after only four years' discussion and investigation, is going to take a vote on Senator Smoot before the adjournment. Senator Knox, one of the members who was on the fence a year ago has made his speech arguing that the only way to get rid of Smoot is to expel him, and that in the interest of religious freedom he ought not be expelled. To expel will require a two-thirds vote, which cannot be had. The other method suggested is to hold that he is not and never has been entitled to his seat, an action requiring only a majority vote. If Smoot is expelled he will be the second senator in the history of the senate to suffer that treatment, excepting, of course, the senators who were expelled in connection with secession and the civil war. William Blount, senator from Tennessee, was in 1797 discovered to have engaged in efforts to incite an attack by Indians upon the Spanish settlements on the Mississippi river. This violation of neutrality in behalf of Great Britain resulted in his expulsion. Senator John Smith of Ohio was tried in 1805 for complicity in the Burr conspiracy, but was saved from conviction by a single vote. The last attempt at an expulsion previous to the attempt against Smoot was the case of Senator Patterson of New Hampshire, whose expulsion was recommended by a special committee in 1873 as a result of the Credit Mobilier scandal. His term expired before the senate got around to his case. It has long been thought likely that Senator Smoot would have the same good luck.

William Alden Smith, the new Michigan senator, was owing to the sudden death of Senator Alger elected for a short term of about a month as well as for the full term beginning week after next. An older senator said to him on his first appearance, "Mr. Smith, you are playing in great luck. After March 4 you will begin your second term, and senators serving their second terms are permitted all the privileges of veterans. They can talk as long and as often as they please without violating any unwritten law of the senate. Your period of probation will last only three weeks, while most of us have to struggle along as best we may and keep our mouths shut for six years." This was half jest, but it was half true. Under the unwritten rules of the senate Nebraska's junior senator will be expected to be seen and not heard and to do as he is told for at least two years. Thus Nebraska is half disfranchised in the senate. It is a beautiful scheme to give a small group of men practical control of that body, for almost half the senators of the next congress will be in their first term. Senator Barkett of Nebraska is mentioned in the dispatches along with several other first term members as having shown signs of revolt against this caste system in the senate. The public will cheer on any such movement with enthusiasm. It is enough to have an Aldrich seepster from Rhode Island, without having him act also as senator from a dozen other states.

A NEW PENSION LAW.

A new pension law, what is commonly spoken of as the service pension act, was approved by the president on February 7, 1907. This act reads:

Be it enacted: Section 1. That any person who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the late civil war or sixty days in the war with Mexico and who was honorably discharged therefrom, and who has reached the age of sixty-two years or over, shall upon making proof of such fact according to such rules and regulations as the secretary of the interior may provide be placed upon the pension roll, and entitled to receive a pension as follows:

In case such person has reached the age of sixty-two years \$12 per month; seventy years \$15; seventy-five years or over \$20, and such pension shall commence from the date of the filing of the application in the bureau of pensions after the passage and approval of this act. Provided, That pensioners who are sixty-two years of age or over, and who are now receiving pension under existing laws or whose claims are pending may by ap-

plication to the commissioner of pensions, in such form as he may prescribe receive the benefit of this act, and nothing herein contained shall prevent any pensioner or person entitled to pension from prosecuting his claim and receiving a pension under any other general or special act.

Provided, That no person shall receive a pension under any other law at the same time or for the same period that he is receiving a pension under the provisions of this act. Provided further, That no person who is now receiving or who shall hereafter receive a greater pension under any other general or special law than he would be entitled to receive under the provisions herein, shall be pensioned under this act.

Sec. 2. That rank in the service shall not be considered in applications filed hereunder.

Sec. 3. That no pension attorney, claim agent, or other person, shall be entitled to receive any compensation for service rendered in presenting any claim to the bureau of pensions or securing any pension under this act. The foregoing is practically the McCumber bill, amendments eliminated, the word "rebellion" softened to "civil war" and made provision to include Mexican war "veterans," and is practically a "service pension."

Except as to such as have pending applications for increase, or are now pensioned under other laws at a rate less than \$12 per month between sixty-two and seventy or pension at a rate of less than \$15 at ages between seventy and seventy-five or who are over seventy-five years of age receiving less than \$20 per month it seems that application is required executed on the approved forms supported by proof of age of applicant.

The certain way to secure the benefits provided is for each one the several classes to make application under the law unless now receiving under existing laws a rate of pension in excess of the schedules provided for above.

The question of disability does not arise under this act, but age unless heretofore shown, with service and an honorable discharge is required.

WHERE JEWELERS GET GOLD.

Sources From Which Comes Material Used in Their Work.

New York Sun: Refineries, old jewelry and banks are the sources from which the jewelers draw their gold supply. From the refiner the gold comes to the factory in the form of buttons or granules. The refineries take the waste of the jewelry shops and the sweepings, and by burning off the material portions and proper treatment of the residue recover the gold that otherwise would have been lost. That this saving of even the infinitesimal particles of gold dust is worth the time and labor is attested by the number of refineries here, says the Attleboro Sun. The output from the refineries alone amounts to figures in a year that would enable an ordinary man to retire from active work with a fortune.

The government, however, provides the greater part of the raw gold for the use of the manufacturer. For a long term of years there was a steady drain on the gold coin in circulation, caused by the using of the coin by jewelers as raw material. The fact that the government turned out a coin that after passing through the government assay office was of twenty-two karat fineness, only two karats below the pure gold standard, and which also had been worked over, the silver and copper forming the alloy thoroughly mixed in the gold before the coin was minted, made the gold coin particularly inviting to the jeweler.

There was no trouble to the manufacturer when the gold coin was used, as the alloy had always been combined with the metal and all that was necessary was, if needed, to alloy sufficiently to bring the gold down to the point required.

Then, too, it did away with considerable book-keeping and the tying up of a considerable amount of money by the small manufacturer in the raw material. There was some difference between having \$40 or \$60 represented by two or three double eagles in stock and having a bar or brick of gold worth from \$200 to \$500, according to size.

It meant working with a small stock, it is true, but considerable space can be filled by a \$20 gold piece, and the government was a never-failing source of additional supply. Later the government made up the pure gold in brick or bar form, and it is in that shape that the greater bulk of the supply is now found.

Thousands of dollars pass between the banks and the manufacturing jewelers in New England in the form of bars of gold, the banks handling the bars for the benefit of their customers. The bricks vary in value according to weight from \$200 to \$500, and come with the government assay office stamp as a guarantee of purity and fineness marked upon them.

The handling of this valuable supply, however, is not conducted with any ostentatious display of guards in going

to and from the banks. A \$500 bar of gold can be stowed safely away in the coat pocket, wherein it is comparatively inconspicuous, although a trifle weighty.

Nearly every mother imagines her daughter has musical talent, and frequently she makes the mistake of trying to develop that talent to the neglect of plain sewing.



GREGORY'S SEEDS

FREE

Our catalog is rich with information for the guidance of farmers and gardeners. It has been a great help to thousands—has been the means of turning many a failure into success.

The great variety of vegetable and flower seeds include the best of the old standard and such new kinds as have proved of value by actual test.

J. J. H. GREGORY & SON,
Marblehead, Mass.

PURE HONEY From Producer to Consumer.

One or more 50-lb. cans, 6.00 each.
Fourteen or more 10-lb. cans, \$1.00 each.

Address:

Also Apiary Supplies. **F. H. SNELL,**
Catalogue Free. Milledgeville, Ill.

Notice of Probate.

Estate No. 232 of Ida A. Beck, deceased in county court of Lancaster county, Nebraska.

The state of Nebraska, To all persons interested in said estate, take notice that a petition has been filed for probate of the last will of said decedent, and for appointment of James G. Beck as executor thereof, which has been set for hearing herein, on March 8, 1907, at 9 o'clock a. m.

Dated February 9, 1907.

FRANK R. WATERS,

County Judge.
By **WALTER A. LEESE,**
Clerk.

NOTICE OF INCORPORATION.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have united in the formation of a corporation under the name The Pure Food Company, principal place of transacting its business being Lincoln, Nebraska. The general nature of the business to be transacted is the carrying on of wholesale and retail business as follows: purchase, manufacture and sell confectionery, ice cream and baked goods of every kind and description including raw food products and dairy lunches; to conduct soda fountains, restaurants and cafes; to act as caterers; to own and operate stores for the conduct of said business; to acquire, hold, incur, sell and convey and lease real estate and personal property of every kind necessary in the conduct of said business. The capital stock authorized is ten thousand dollars, of which six thousand dollars shall be paid in before commencing business. The corporation commences February 6, 1907, and terminates January 1, 1907. The highest amount of indebtedness to which the corporation shall at any time subject itself shall not exceed two-thirds of the capital stock. The affairs of the corporation are to be conducted by a president, a vice president and a secretary-treasurer and a board of not less than three directors.

HARVEY W. DALRYMPLE,

JOSEPH C. SEACREST,

CHARLES H. WARNER,

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 6, 1907.

NOTICE OF INCORPORATION.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have formed a corporation under the laws of the state of Nebraska.

The name of the corporation is O. J. King & Son. The principal place of transacting its business is in the city of Lincoln, Lancaster county, Nebraska. The general nature of the business to be transacted is to manufacture, import, buy, sell, lease and handle merchandise at whole sale and retail; to buy, sell, own, lease and rent real estate and personal property; to own, manage and operate branch stores and to do all things incidental thereto as may be necessary or expedient in the carrying on of the same. The amount of capital stock authorized is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), of which seventeen thousand (\$17,000) has been subscribed and paid in, and the balance shall be issued only as fully paid up and all stock shall be non-assessable. The time of commencement of the corporation shall be January 1, 1907, and the termination of the corporation shall be December 31, 1908. The highest amount of indebtedness or liability to which the corporation is at any time to subject itself shall be two-thirds of the capital stock actually subscribed and paid in. The affairs of the corporation are to be conducted by a board of not less than three directors and such other officers as may from time to time be authorized or provided for in the by-laws of the corporation.

Dated, Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 5, 1907.

ORVAN J. KING,

HARRY K. MURPHY,

WILLIAM H. KING.

KHERSON SEED OATS

THE NEW KHERSON OATS were originally imported from Russia, by the Nebraska State Experimental Station, and have proven one of the sweetest and largest yielders as well as best sorts ever introduced into this country. THEY DO NOT RUST OR LODGE as many other sorts do, and are fully two weeks earlier than others. In addition to these we have the New Sensation, Early Champion, Lincoln, Texas Red-Rust-proof and other extra early sorts. Price \$5.00 per bushel, bags included. Write for our Big Illustrated FREE Catalog. A postal will bring it. Address, **RATKIN'S SEED HOUSE, Shenandoah, Iowa.**