

Stephen Jeans, an English authority, computes the cost of manufacturing hematic iron at the greatest steel centers of the world as follows: West Cumberland, England, \$15.65 a ton; Westphalia, Germany, \$13.50 a ton; Pittsburg, \$9.57 a ton. At Sydney, Nova Scotia, the cost is \$7.45 a ton.

Nickel coins similar to those used in Belgium, Germany, and the United States are shortly to be introduced in France. The value of the coin will be twenty-five centimes, equal to five cents. It will weigh six grams. The new coin will be of considerable utility, as at present there is no international money between the ten-centime and the half-franc.

The first prune tree was planted in California in 1870 by a Frenchman, who brought the tree to this country from France. The first orchard—of ten acres—began to yield in 1875. In 1901 the state produced 150,000,000 pounds of prunes, and the total crop of 1902 is considerably larger. The center of the industry is the Santa Clara valley, which contains 3,567,140 bearing trees.

Miss Bessie Robinson, daughter of Col. J. J. Robinson, of Tyler, Tex., has been made deputy sheriff of Smith county. Miss Robinson is well educated and talented. She is the only woman in Texas to hold the office of deputy sheriff. During the trial of a murder case the other day she was placed in charge of the defendant and handled him to the satisfaction of the court.

King Edward daily shows increasing desire to rely upon men of mature years for his companions. Young men seem to be rather a trial to his rotund majesty, and it is rare that a courtier under 30 attains a position among his more intimate acquaintances. As a whole the Edwardian court is very little if any more youthful than was that of Victoria a dozen years ago.

The cancellation of postage stamps at the various offices of the country will soon be done in an ink which will defy the efforts of stamp washers, who have been operating very extensively for some time. This result has been extensively achieved by the bureau of chemistry of the department of agriculture, the services of which was called to the aid of the post office department.

Gen. Andre, French minister of war, is considering how to combat tuberculosis in the army. Typhoid fever is also responsible for many deaths. The average annual deaths number 2,174, while they number only 741 in the German army. Statistics show that the French army, since the treaty of Frankfurt, has lost 99,000 men from disease, and the German army only 13,000.

At least one editor is not inconvenienced by the temperature being below zero. Up in the frozen Northland, almost within the Arctic Circle, Mr. W. T. Lopp is looking after his publication, the Eskimo Bulletin, probably a unique paper. The place is Cape Prince of Wales, and the Bulletin is issued but once every 12 months. Indeed, under the head of the paper is the conceit, "The Only Yearly in the World."

That the American bison is not so near extinction as has been generally supposed has been learned by agents of the national government, who made a thorough inquiry recently as to the number of pure bloods in existence. The result of the investigation showed that there is still some hope of perpetuating the species. Careful inquiries brought out the fact that there are just 1,046 full blooded bison in the world.

As a novel method of advertising, a Washington business house the other day sold 1,000 new one-dollar treasury notes for 90 cents each. The sale lasted for two hours, and all that time the line of would-be purchasers of "good money at reduced rates" was over a block long. No person was allowed to buy more than one bill at a time, but there was no limit placed upon the number of times each person might buy. In consequence, the line was of the nature of an endless chain.

Dr. Dallinger describes the ruthless destruction of spiders by the ichneumon fly and by certain wasps. The young of some wasps can live only on live spiders, and the mother wasp, therefore, renders the spider powerless by her sting—after which it can live a month—and then deposits it in the cocoon where she has laid her egg. On hatching out the wasp grubs feed on the bodies of the living spiders. Another wasp deposits her egg in the body of the spider, which is then buried alive, and is fed upon by the wasp grub.

Prof. Hans Mollisch, of Prague, has discovered a use for bacteria. He has communicated to the Vienna Academy of Sciences the specifications of a mining lamp in which bacteria supply the light. The lamp consists of a glass jar, in which there is a lining of salt-peter and gelatine, previously inoculated with bacteria. The latter develop innumerable in two days, causing the jar to become illuminated with a bluish green light. This lasts brilliantly for several days, gradually dimming until it disappears in about a fortnight.

TO REFUND DEBT OF NATION

Secretary Shaw Will Exchange Two Per Cent. Bonds for Those Paying Higher Interest.

RELIEF FOR MONEY MARKET THE OBJECT

Increase in Circulation Amounting to \$200,000,000 Will Be Possible When Banks Take Out Securities—Act Will Add Largely to Supply of Government Bonds.

Washington, March 27.—Secretary Shaw took an important step yesterday which has direct relation to the relief of the money market next fall. He has resumed the refunding operations suspended by Secretary Gage for reasons not entirely satisfactory at that time.

The present secretary of the treasury, after full consultation with the financial authorities of New York and elsewhere, has determined to take up the work of refunding the national debt exactly where Secretary Gage dropped it. The result of this will be to get rid of a large percentage of the higher-priced government bonds and substitute for them two per cent.

HONOR MISS ROOSEVELT.

Daughter of the President Given a Grand Reception by Citizens of San Juan, Porto Rico.

San Juan, Porto Rico, March 26.—There was a grand reception at the theater here Tuesday evening, under the auspices of the citizens' committee, in honor of Miss Alice Roosevelt, following an elaborate display of fireworks on the plaza which lasted until ten o'clock and was witnessed by Miss Roosevelt, who received a tremendous ovation from the people gathered on the plaza and on the roofs of the houses. One of these pieces, representing President Roosevelt, was 25 feet high. The interior of the theater was decorated profusely, and displayed the word "Welcome," formed of electric lights. Miss Roosevelt spent two hours shaking hands with the invited guests.

SHAKE-UP IN SIGHT.

An Intolerable Condition of Affairs Said to Exist in the Post Office Department.

Washington, March 26.—A general shake-up in the post office department is imminent. It was learned at the department that while the resignation of George W. Beavers as chief of the salary and allowance division, which was announced Tuesday, was voluntary, it is but the forerunner of a number of other resignations which soon

LAND BILL FOR IRELAND.

Long Anticipated Measure Is Introduced in British House of Commons by Mr. Wyndham.

PROPOSES FREE GRANT OF \$60,000,000

Keen Interest Felt in This New Legislation—Michael Davitt Celebrates Fifty-Seventh Birthday by Reentering the House—The Summary of Principal Features of the Bill.

London, March 26.—The Irish secretary, Mr. Wyndham, introduced the government's long anticipated Irish land bill in the house of commons Wednesday afternoon. It proposes a free grant of \$60,000,000 for the purposes of the bill. Tenants are to pay 3 1/2 per cent. interest on loans from the government. Mr. Wyndham said he thought the scheme would not involve \$500,000,000, but that \$750,000,000 could safely be advanced on Irish land. The advances to tenants are limited to \$2,500 in the congested districts and \$3,000 elsewhere. The bill also provides that untenanted farms and grazing lands shall be sold to neighboring tenants and that three commissioners, to be known as estate commissioners, shall supervise the sales. The names of the three commissioners are Michael Finucane, secretary to the government of Bengal revenue, general and statistical department; Frederick S. Wrench, now one of the Irish land commissioners, and William F. Bagley, one of the assistant commissioners on the Irish land question. They will be under the control of the lord lieutenant of Ireland. The bill will become effective November 12.

Important Features.

London, March 28.—The full wording of the Irish land purchase bill, which was introduced in the house of commons by the Irish secretary, Mr. Wyndham, reveals many important features which were not mentioned in Mr. Wyndham's speech when the bill was introduced. All arrears of rent due at the time of the purchase of land are recoverable by the land commission, and not the arrears for a year only, as previously cabled. The land commissioners, however, are given power in special cases to remit part or all of the arrears.

Duties of Commissioners.

The commissioners are not permitted to purchase estates which are not mainly agricultural or pastoral. In cases of untenanted estates purchased by the commissioners they are empowered to execute the necessary works of improvement which tend to enlarge the scope of the commission's expenditure. The commission is empowered to declare subtenants to be tenants of any holding occupied by them which will vastly benefit hundreds.

Bankrupt Estates.

The commissioners are also empowered to determine boundary and other disputes between the proprietors of holdings under the bill. The commission has the first claim to purchase bankrupt estates and can resell them to tenants or use portions of them for the repatriation of evicted tenants. The latter point is regarded as being one of the most vital features of the bill.

TYNER RESIGNS.

Assistant Attorney General for the Post Office Department Gives Up His Position.

Washington, March 27.—Judge James N. Tyner, assistant attorney general for the post office department, has resigned, to take effect on the appointment of his successor, who has not yet been chosen. Mr. Tyner is in a serious physical condition, and owing to that fact and his advanced age he has not been able to discharge the duties of his office for a long time and he will not again visit the post office department officially.

Ate Roots of Poisonous Plant.

Glenwood, Ia., March 27.—Two children, aged eight and 12 years, the sons of J. Y. Johnson, died Thursday as the result of eating the roots of an unknown plant growing in the yard of the home. A third child is still in a precarious condition. Physicians called to wait on the children are unable to say what the plant is, it being a stranger in this part of Iowa.

Officials Indicted.

Newark, N. J., March 27.—High officials of the North Jersey Traction company, including A. J. Cassatt, John D. Crimmins and others, have been indicted by the grand jury for manslaughter in the killing of nine high school pupils by a grade crossing accident on February 19.

Will Do No Hunting.

Cheyenne, Wyo., March 28.—D. C. Nowlin, state game warden, has received a letter from William Loeb, Jr., secretary to President Roosevelt, declaring that the president does not intend to do any hunting while on his western tour, either in Wyoming or elsewhere.

Died in China.

Rochester, Ill., March 28.—Rev. T. B. Wright has received a cablegram from Shanghai, China, announcing the death there of Mrs. Mary Wright Pease, of this place, who was a Methodist missionary at Shanghai.

Will Remain President.

Caracas, March 26.—After reading his special message to congress, and by request of that body, Gen. Castro has withdrawn his resignation of the presidency of Venezuela.

TALKING TIME IS PAST.



There's a Time to Talk and a Time to Dig.

bonds, put on the market at a premium of two per cent., and which are never likely to get far above par.

Inducement to Banks.

Furthermore, under the existing law, the circulation based on the two per cent. bonds is taxed only at the rate of half a cent a year, whereas all other circulation is taxed twice as much as that.

The refunding of the three and four per cent. loans, which are due in 1908 and 1907, will therefore add largely to the available supply of government bonds and thus furnish an inducement to the national banks to increase their circulation.

Will Prevent Stringency.

The ability of the treasury to loan more money to the national banks under the present law has practically terminated, first, because the available cash balance is not any too large, and, secondly, because the supply of government bonds is so small there is little more inducement for the banks to receive government deposits than to issue circulation.

If the secretary's plans are carried out it will put into the hands of the banks for a basis for government deposits no less a sum than \$330,000,000 of government bonds. In this way it ought to be easy for the big national banks to issue enough circulation to provide money for moving the crops next fall without producing any unusual stringency in the money market.

Bonds Outstanding.

There now are outstanding a total of about \$233,000,000 four per cent. bonds, which are not redeemable until 1907, and \$97,000,000 three per cent. bonds, redeemable after August 1, 1908, these last being all that are left of about twice that amount originally issued to pay the expenses of the war with Spain.

The circular issued by the secretary of the treasury yesterday gives notice that he will exchange two per cent. government bonds, payable 30 years from April 1, 1900, for these short term three and four per cent. bonds on the basis already established by law.

First Response.

Washington, March 27.—The first response to the offer of the secretary of the treasury to refund three and four per cent. bonds into two per cent. consols, was received Friday. The national banks at Richmond, Va., announced their readiness to exchange \$680,000 under the secretary's offer.

Killed Her Children.

Sturbridge, Mass., March 24.—In the hamlet of Fiskdale Mrs. Peter Burke crushed in the heads of her four children, threw their bodies in a closet, scattered oil over them and herself, and then, after setting all on fire, closed her awful work and her own life by cutting her throat.

are to follow. It is said a condition of affairs has grown up in the department which has become intolerable and that there is to be a weeding out of a number of chiefs of divisions and clerks.

A COMBINE OF COMBINES.

Big Steel Companies Merge Into a Corporation Known as the National Steel Company.

Trenton, N. J., March 27.—Articles of merger were filed in the office of the secretary of state Thursday, merging the American Steel Hour Co., National Steel Co. and the Carnegie company. The merged corporation is to be known as the Carnegie Steel Co., with a capitalization of \$63,000,000. The combined capital of the old companies amounted to \$252,000,000.

By this merger the new corporation will save over \$7,000 each year in fees paid to the state of New Jersey.

Mountains at the Pole.

London, March 27.—President Markham, of the Royal Geographical Society, commenting on the achievements of the British antarctic ship Discovery, says that it has been proved conclusively that the greater part of the antarctic region is a vast continent. Capt. Scott, the commander of the Discovery, penetrated 100 miles further south than any previous explorer and discovered an extensive mountainous region hitherto absolutely unknown.

Lived Over a Century.

New York, March 27.—Born in 1802 in this city, Isaac B. Price celebrated his one hundred and first birthday. Mr. Price has been outside the city limits only once; he has never been out of the state; he has never ridden on a trolley car, and he has never been over the Brooklyn bridge. Mr. Price cast his vote in 1823 for John Quincy Adams for president and has voted at every presidential election since.

Freedom in Sight.

London, March 24.—Mrs. Florence Maybrick, the American woman who was convicted at Liverpool in 1889 on the charge of poisoning her husband, James Maybrick, by arsenic, and whose sentence of death was commuted to penal servitude for life, will be released in 1904.

Silk Stolen.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., March 28.—Lyman Bros.' wholesale millinery house was robbed of silk valued at from \$4,000 to \$5,000. The thieves climbed up the fire escape and entered the building through a skylight.

Knapp Indicted.

Hamilton, O., March 28.—The grand jury has reported indictments for murder in the first degree against Alfred A. Knapp and Samuel Keeler, both charged with wife murder.

Advertisement for St. Jacobs Oil, featuring a logo of a man carrying a large fish on his back. Text includes 'Just the same as ever', 'St. Jacobs Oil', 'continues to be the sure cure of Rheumatism and Neuralgia', and 'Price, 25c. and 50c.'

Large advertisement for Cuticura, with the word 'ECZEMA' in large letters at the top. Below it, text describes 'Psoriasis, Scalded Head, Milk Crust, Tetter, Ringworm, etc.' and 'Speedily, Permanently and Economically Cured, when All Else Fails, by Cuticura'.

The agonizing, itching, and burning of the skin, as in eczema; the frightful scaling, as in psoriasis; the loss of hair; and crusting of the scalp, as in scalded head; the facial disfigurements, as in pimples and ringworm; the awful suffering of infants, and anxiety of worn-out parents; as in milk crust, tetter and salt rheum,—all demand a remedy of almost superhuman virtues to successfully cope with them. That Cuticura Soap, Ointment, and Resolvent are such stands proven beyond all doubt. No statement is made regarding them that is not justified by the strongest evidence. The purity and sweetness, the power to afford immediate relief, the certainty of speedy and permanent cure, the absolute safety and great economy have made them the standard skin cures, blood purifiers and humour remedies of the civilized world.

Complete External and Internal Treatment

Bathe the affected parts with hot water and Cuticura Soap, to cleanse the surface of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle. Dry, without hard rubbing, and apply Cuticura Ointment freely, to allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and, lastly, take Cuticura Resolvent to cool and cleanse the blood. This complete treatment affords instant relief, permits rest and sleep in the severest forms of eczema and other itching, burning, and scaly humours of the skin, scalp and blood, and points to a speedy, permanent and economical cure when all other remedies and the best physicians fail. As evidence of the wonderful curative properties of Cuticura Remedies and of their worldwide sale, we quote from

The Hon. Mr. Justice Finmore's Letter.

"I desire to give my voluntary testimony to the beneficial effects of your Cuticura Remedies. I have suffered for some time from an excess of uric acid in the blood; and since the middle of last year, from a severe attack of Eczema, chiefly on the scalp, face, ears and neck, and on one limb. I was for several months under professional treatment, but the remedies prescribed were of no avail, and I was gradually becoming worse, my face was dreadfully disfigured, and I lost nearly all my hair. At last, my wife prevailed upon me to try the Cuticura Remedies, and I gave them a thorough trial with the most satisfactory results. The disease soon began to disappear, and my hair commenced to grow again. A fresh growth of hair is covering my head, and my limb (although not yet quite cured) is gradually improving. My wife thinks so highly of your remedies that she has been purchasing them in order to make presents to other persons suffering from similar complaints, and, as President of the Bible Women's Society, has told the Bible women to report if any case should come under her notice when a poor person is so afflicted, so that your remedies may be resorted to."

ROBERT ISAAC FINMORE, (Judge of the Natal Supreme Court), Pietermaritzburg, Natal, Oct. 29, 1901.

Advertisement for Sawyer's Excelsior Brand Suits and Slickers, featuring an illustration of a man in a suit. Text includes 'RAIN-CANT TOUCH SAWYER'S EXCELSIOR BRAND Suits and Slickers'.

Advertisement for Paxtine Toilet, featuring an illustration of a woman's face. Text includes 'FREE TO WOMEN Paxtine Toilet'.

Advertisement for Montgomery Ward, featuring the text 'WE WANT YOUR TRADE' and 'You can buy of us at wholesale prices and save money.' It also includes the slogan 'The house that tells the truth.'

Advertisement for Cascarets, featuring the text 'Cascarets CATHARTIC' and 'Genuine stamped C.C.C. Never sold in bulk. Beware of the dealer who tries to sell "something just as good."'

Advertisement for Potatoes, featuring the text 'POTATOES \$2.50 Bbl.' and 'Best quality of Good Potatoes in America.'

Advertisement for Silver Salt, featuring the text 'SOMETHING FOR SICK WOMEN' and 'Address: North Chemical Co., PEORIA, ILLINOIS.'

Advertisement for Silver Salt, featuring the text 'SILVER SALT' and 'Makes water do the work. Removes tartar and discharges, wonderful as a cleansing vaginal douche, for sore throat, tartar and whitens the teeth. Send to-day; a postal card will do.'