

### NAVY FAILS TO GET ENOUGH MEN

Uncle Sam Has New Problem to Meet — Has More Ships Than Men to Man Them.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25.—In the development of the navy the United States has reached a point at which it is necessary for congress to stop and consider. It is no longer a question of building battleships but a question of manning them. Already the navy has forty-five thousand men, but the number is insufficient to man the ships now at sea and those that are soon to go into commission. To secure a crew for the Michigan, which will on join the Atlantic fleet, it was necessary to place the New York in reserve. On the Pacific coast there are two cruisers, the Milwaukee and Charleston which have but a single crew. When one goes to sea the other must remain fast to the lock. To keep them all in trim the navy has adopted the policy of taking them out in turns. Within the next few months three battleships, in addition to the Michigan, will be ready to join the fleet. These are the South Carolina, a sister ship of the Michigan, and the two giant battleships, North Dakota and Delaware. These will require a complement of at least 800 men each, and at the present time there are none in sight. To place them in commission, it will be necessary to reduce the crews on the ships now afloat, or place three of the four new battleships in reserve.

#### THE RUSS MILL.

The Russ mill is headquarters for the Olympic flour. Free sample sack. Try one. Rolled oats, corn meal and seed oats and wheat. 244

The city of Jacksonville, the business men of Jacksonville and the citizens of Jacksonville have had their experience with a cheaper form of light than electric light several years ago. Before considering a cheaper form of light get their experience. 240

### THE ELECTRIC METER

Contrary to popular impression, the electric meter is the most perfect and accurate measuring instrument; it measures the electricity that passes through it with greater accuracy than the average watch measures time, but like the watch it is delicate and needs to be cleaned repaired and adjusted sometimes.

Electric meters do not get out of order very often (if they are not worn out), and when they do they more frequently register in favor of the consumer than in favor of the company.

We will test our consumers' meters at frequent intervals (free of charge) that they may register correctly, and that there may be no cause for complaint.

If the consumer thinks his bill too large, please notify us at once and we will gladly do all we can to ascertain the facts and make all necessary corrections; if the consumer thinks his bill too small, kindly re-

### "MANANA" PEOPLE TO INVESTIGATE TO BE REFORMED SMYRNA FIGS

Secretary Wilson Plans to Plant Seed of Industry Among Central American People.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—To make the Central American citizen live less in the future and more in the present is the large, not to say strenuous, task which Secretary of Agriculture Wilson is attempting down at Panama.

Agricultural department officials are trying to instill a little farming sense into the Panamanians, but they are having a despairing time of it. "Manana" is the slogan of every true son of South America. It means "tomorrow," but there has never been a paternal Uncle Sam heretofore to take the Monroe Doctrine under one arm and gently indicate that the way of the procrastinator is bare.

Recently the Department of Agriculture was asked to look over the farming possibilities of Panama. The preliminary report submitted by one of the experts sent there says that even food—except the fruit which in that climate cannot be kept from growing—is cared for on the "manana" system.

Uncle Sam is investing millions of dollars in Panama and the operation and surveillance of the canal will necessitate a large colony there. With the excitement of completing the digging of the ditch, vitality perhaps may be fairly well maintained on canned food, but this is only a temporary makeshift, not overly good for engineers' digestions at that, and a very bad basis upon which to lay the activity and health of the permanent future caretakers of the project.

Be sure you are right before you go ahead, is good advice that applies to the light business as well as other business. Electric light has stood the test of time as the safest and most economical light and before considering cheaper lights get the experience of people who have used them several months at least. 240

Agricultural Department Claim That Many New Pests Are Coming to America in Fig Boxes.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25.—The department of agriculture is doing a little muck-raking of its own on the quiet up at the port of New York, with the object of uncovering the cussedness in Smyrna figs.

A corps of experts has been sent by the department to make extended microscopic and bacteriological investigation of fig cargoes entering that port.

Secretary Wilson has kept a weather eye on this business for some time, assisted by the state department. The latter has directed the American consul at Smyrna to investigate packing conditions in the industry and pass upon shipments intended for this country after certifying to their cleanliness. No shipments without this certificate of approval are permitted to enter this country, but despite the vigilance of the consul, recent tests, according to an expert of the department of agriculture, show that as high as 20 per cent of some of the passed cargoes were wormy and unfit for consumption.

It is said that the packers in Smyrna have claimed that the worms are necessary evil arising from the process of caprification. Also that the worm appear during transportation and are caused by the unsanitary conditions aboard ship. It is pointed out that more trouble develops in the layer figs, which are securely boxed. Moreover, worms appear inside the fruit, so that it seems probable they were present, though in small quantities, when the figs left Smyrna and naturally increased while en route.

The consul at Smyrna has recommended the rejection of the cheaper "natural packed" class of figs which are the remnants of packing houses and with which little care is taken, the fruit being cast loose into the boxes or baskets.

Great care is being taken at New York to keep out all uncleanly figs and after the findings of the experts have been considered it is probable steps will be taken looking toward the improvement of conditions in Smyrna.

#### MERRY CHRISTMAS FOR MAGAZINE WRITER

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 25.—After all it will be a fine Christmas for Edna May Nelson, the seeker after "local color" for magazine stories, who is alleged to have defrauded Seattle merchants in her attempt to get materials for her articles. She has been released from jail and tonight will leave for Portland.

Attorneys for the Stone-Fisher company, which had signed the complaint against her charging the theft of \$127 worth of merchandise, appeared before Judge Gilliam of the superior court and stated that full restitution had been made for the things taken and recommended clemency.

E. W. Bowers, of Eagle Point, did Christmas shopping in Medford Friday.

### CENSUS TESTS ON FEBRUARY 5

Any Person of Good Judgment and Common Education Can Take Tests for Enumerators.

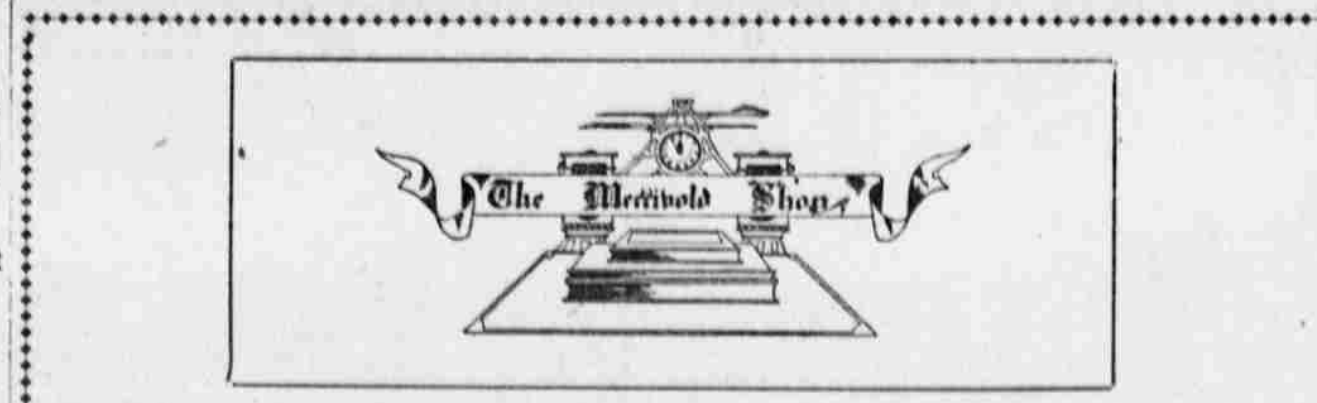
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25.—Any person of good judgment, who has received an ordinary, common school education, can readily pass the test to be given applicants for places as census enumerators on Saturday, February 5, the date finally set by Census Director Durand, according to an announcement from the census bureau today.

It is emphatically stated at the bureau that the test will be an eminently reasonable and practical one. It will consist of filling out a sample, schedule of population from a description, in narrative form, of typical families; and, in the case of enumerators whose work will be in the rural districts, they will be called on to fill out an additional sample schedule of agriculture, from information furnished by the census bureau.

All persons, whether women or men, who may desire to become census enumerators, must be citizens of the United States; residents of the supervisor's district for which they wish to be appointed; must be not less than 18 nor more than 70 years of age; must be physically able to do the work; must be trustworthy, honest, and of good habits; must have at least an ordinary education; and must be able to write plainly and with reasonable rapidity.

Those who can comply with these requirements are invited to apply as there will be at least 68,000 places to be filled by the middle of March in preparation for the enumeration beginning April 15. Application forms and complete information concerning the test can be secured by writing to the supervisor of census for the supervisor's district in which the applicant lives.

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## Books : Stationary Magazines Office Supplies School Supplies Whitman's Candy Post Cards Orders Taken for Fine Engraving

# The Merrivold Shop

134 W. Main St, Medford, Oregon  
[Sherman Clay & Co. Building]

O. Panky, of Central Point, spent a few hours in Medford Friday.

### GOOD COFFEE

EARLY every way of making coffee has some good points; but

#### The Electric Percolator

plan combines them all  
Extracts the delicious flavor without the injurious elements

Simple Safe Rapid Economical  
No alcohol to spill on the polished table

CHAFING DISHES, WATER HEATERS  
OVENS, FLATIRONS, STOVES, ETC.

ROGUE RIVER ELECTRIC COMPANY

### THE... NASH LIVERY CO.

Have the Best Turnouts in the City

You are treated right, the price is right, the team is right—in fact, everything is right. Come and see.

## NASH LIVERY CO.

SEE DANIELS AD PAGES 4 AND 5, SECTION ONE

# 600 = 600 = 600

\$35.00 Suits Sacrificed at \$15.00  
\$18.00 Suits Sacrificed at \$8.50

# DANIELS FOR DUDS

LARGEST CLOTHING STORE IN SOUTHERN OREGON