WARSHIP PLANS INVITED BY NAVY DEPARTMENT.

Aim Is to Build a Ship That Will Equal or Excel England's Monster "Dreadnaught."

Washington - Perhaps the most radical and important departure from established practices in construction of the American pavy since the introduction of the modern armored vessel was taken the other day when the house committee on naval affairs voted that plans for the proposed new battleship. which it is contemplated shall exceed anything affoat, may be drawn by persons outside of the navy department and that the department shall consider! wuch plans in deciding by whom and how the new ship shall be built.

For some time the department has permitted prospective bidders to offer siternate plans when bidding upon the department's plans, in this case the department may draw plans if it wishes, but it must notify outsiders that their plans will be considered before the type of ship is decided upon and the contract let

If congress sustains the view of the house naval committee it will mean the infusion of new thought and young blood into the red tape and conservative mehods of the navy department.

No better illustration of these characteristics can be suggested than the admission by Admiral Capps, chief constructor of the navy, before the committee that it will be two years before the department can begin preparing plans for a hattleship to equal or excel the British leviathan Dreadnaught. This statement indicates better than anything else could the absolute dependence of the navy department upon foreign warship builders for ideas. The theory of the naval committee was that this attitude was unreasonable.

"We believed," said one member of the committee, "that Americans can design just as powerful if not more powerful warships than any foreigner. The history of the American navy up to the close of the civil war period proved this. Then the United States led the world in naval construction. Every new and important improvement in naval architecure was the product of American ingenuity and inventive faculty. Foreigners eyed those improvenients at first with suspicion. They predicted that they would cause the ships concerned to turn turtle and do other unexpected things. But events proved otherwise.

"Since the civil war things have been reversed. We are now following the procession in which every other nation of the world leads. Department bureau chiefs say, forsooth, that they cannot build a ship to equal the Dreadnaught, for instance, until they find out how England built it.

"Indeed, Admiral Capps even went so far as to say that it would be unpossible for a vessel of her tonninge, 18,000 tons, to carry the armor and armament attributed to her. They insinuate that Great Britain is deceiving the world; that the Dreadnaught in reality is of 19,000 or 20,000 tons.

"I predict that one of the outsiders will capture the prize in having his plans chosen over the department's. I believe the committee has acted wisely In determining upon this course and that congress and the country will indorse its action.

"If logically followed out, this plan will surely lead to a return of American laurels to their own and it will not be long before the rest of the world is waiting for our naval ideas to develop before copying them, instead of our navy department depending upon the foreigners for new ideas in warship aconstruction."

10 YEARS WITHOUT EATING

Englishman Who Had Taken Food Through a Tube in His Side That Long.

London.-For ten years before his death at Kingstown lately, a man named Jospeh Knight had not eaten any food.

Eleven years ago white on board the yacht Eliba at Gosport he accidentally drank some detergent in mistake for porter, with the result that his guillet and other internal organs were destroyed. He was removed from the (yacht to a man of-war in Gosport harbor, where first aid was given him and afterward was placed in the hands of an able surgeon, who not only saved his life but also enabled him to live for more than ten years in comparative comfort by means of feeding through a tube in his side leading directly to the stomach.

Wheeling about the town in a bath chair, poor Knight was always an object of sympathy to residents and visitors. It is remarkable that though unable to sat he could always enjoy a smoke. He was about 40 years of age at his death.

Chinese Trade in Widows.

A Fengilen correspondent states that a Japanese has imported about 3,000 Japanese widows, whom he offers for sale either as domestic servants or as secondary wives. Photographs are first shown to intending purchasers, who then make their selection, and the woman is weighed and her value calculated on a basis of 60 cents a cattle (Chinese pound).

Alexieff's Pet.

Admiral Alexieff, the late Russian rviceroy in the far east, owns a pet bear named Muska, to which he is immensely attached. It was always on his flagship wherever he went

SOME ODD WATER WHEELS

They Are Employed in Various Countries to Utilize Power of Currents.

The people of Syria and Tidis make their streams do things that Americaus do not seem to have learned the secret of persuading the water courses of this country to perform, says the

New York Tribune. At Tiffis the natives have learned how to utilize the power of the current of the River Kur without building dams. What they have accomplished possibly might be done by an American farmer living on the banks of a rapid moving stream and desiring a small, cheap power. The Caucasians build floats on the surface of the river Into them are set water wheels. The whole affair is fastened to the bank in such a way that it will rise and fall with any change in the level of the surface of the river, so that the power is about constant all the time.

In Hama the ancient "entering in of Hamath," the Syrians have accomplished a feat that makes one think of lifting one's self over a fance by tugging at one's bootstraps. They have harnessed the historic Orontes, or Nahr, el Asi, as the Syrians call it, into the work of lifting itself many feet toward the zenith and trained it thus to water their fruitful gardens and orchards.

As for size the water wheels which do this work are as to other water wheels what Niagara is to other waterfalls. As one stands by one of these great wooden frames revolving upon its wooden axle and looks up at its perimeter 40 feet above one thinks it large and is astonished when he turns his gaze upstream to see that relatively it is not a great wheel, for in the distance looms up one 60 feet in height. Even then he is not prepared for the spectacle of one 90 feet in diameter, grunting around on its cumbersome axle just outside the town.

Life in Hama for some people is like the liking of others for olives, an acquired taste, because of these very water wheels. According as one feels about it, it is a musical efty or one filled with nerve-racking groans. Day and night without ceasing these massive, slow revolving structures utter speech. For those who have acquired a taste for their companionship the neverceasing tones are soothing, resembling the ocean roar or a slow fugue played on some cyclopean organ. The diapason tones are deeper and louder than the deepest organ stop. Now they are in unison, now repeating the theme. one after another, now for a brief moment in a sublime harmony never to be forgotten, according to one traveler, then once more together in a tremendous chorus. The sounds are described as a slow movement up the scale, followed with a heavy drop to the kernote as: Do mi sol, do do do: do sol la, do do do. This unceasing Sisyphean music, it is said, has been going on for a century at least.

PUT HIS FOOT IN IT.

That Was What the Dude Did, Metaphorically to the Official's Hat.

Mr. J. Nota McGill was walking from the patent office to his own office when he came face to face with a nor wester, relates the Washington Post.

Mr. McGill is not of the excitable kind, but when that nor'wester struck him he lost his head -or rather his

"Hey, there," cried the ex-register. stop that brand new hat of mine!

Won't some one stop it?" There was something in the professor's voice that appealed to a dapper looking stranger, who made a lunge at the headgear, but could do no better than put his foot through it. Consequently the brim was the only part recognizable after the fatality.

"Well, you certainly have put your foot in it," shouted Mr. McGill, "Beg pardon, what did you say?"

asked the dude. "I say you've put your foot in it." "By Jove, say not so, old chap."

"Say not so, yourself," growled the professor, "you surely have fixed my hat up all right." "I am awfully sorry-weally," confessed the dude. "Let me 'ave it

mended. "Oh, no," said the ex-register with sarcasm, "the brim is not worth a crown now."

"A crown? I should say it is! Why, the blomin' thing is worth a sovereign

Prince or Sergeant.

The German papers are telling a story

of the German crown prince. The kaiser's heir had occasion recently to

speak to a street sweeper near the barracks of the riflemen of the guard. Good morning, sergeant," said the sweeper, who did not recognize the prince. He said that his son was fighting in southwest Africa, but he hoped soon to have him back safe and sound. The prince, miling, said: "Why, yes, I hope so, too!" and pressed a five mark piece into the old man's hand. But the sweeper, looking wistfully at the coin and then at the giver, handed it back, saying: "No, no, sergeant; I doubt you have

none too much of that yourself!" Estanding Up for It. The orchestra, consisting of a violin-

ist and a planist, stopped to rest, and the chairman of the meeting took oceasion to step to the front of the platform to apologize for the poor ventilation of the hall.

"Gentlemen," he said. "I know how we have all been suffering for the last 15 minutes. This had air

"De air is yout as good as de agcompaniment!" interrupted the indixnant violinist, glaring at the piano player .- Chicago Tribune.

RUSSIA IS A RIVAL.

COMPETITOR OF AMERICA IN INDIA OIL FIELDS.

Advantage Lies with Our Producers in Advanced Methods of Refinement, fransportation Etc

The illuminating oil trade of British India is at present almost exclusively controlled by Russia. Of the 22,500,000 gallons of kerosene oil imported into Bombay during the fiscal year 1904-05 the exar's empire was credited with more than 17,000,000 gallons, valued at nearly \$2,000,000. This oil, however, is not the highest quality of illuminating fluid, states the New York Tribune. Russia has never been able to meet the United States in competition for their higher grades of oil, but for some years: she has practically controlled the market of British Indian in low grade and, low priced oils.

For these oils, however, other competitors have appeared in the market, which threaten to take away ultimately her present supremacy. Dutch Borneo has within the last three years increased the volume of her export of kerosene to Bombay from 500,000 to 3,-500,000 gallons.

Burma oli also shows a remarkable advance, and its first shipment to Bombay was recorded last year. Being a part of British India, politically, Burma imports her oil into Bombay duty free, which, of course, gives her a great

advantage over the Russian producer. The American producers of kerosene have lately been devoting considerable attention to the importation of Russian oil into Bombay. It is believed that with advanced methods of refinement. system of bulk transportation and immease installations the United States will be able to meet successfully the competition, not only of Russia, but of Borneo and Burma, in the kerosene

markets of India. The Russian oil sent to India is produced near Baku, on the western shore of the Caspian sea. From there it is carried across Trans-Caucasia, some 500 miles, to the port of Batoum, on the Black Sea, on tank cars, holding ten tons each, like those which were used in the Pennsylvania oil fields over 30 years ago. The cost of railway

freight is \$6.50 a ton. At Batoum the oil is loaded on oil steamers, which transport it across the Black sea, through the Bosporus and Dardenelles, down the Aegean' sea, across the Mediterranean, through the Suez canal, through the Red sea and the Arabian sea to Bombay, the distance traversed being some 6,000 miles. although Bombay is only about 2,000 miles in a straight line from Baku, the

point of departure. it is thought by the producers of the United States that in their facilities for transportation they have an advantage which will enable them easily to wrest from Russia the predominance which she has held in the oil trade of British India. Russia, herself, however, is doing a good deal to lessen the eosts of transportation, and this must be taken into account in forming plans

of action in the contest. . A pipe line to unite the wells at Baku with the port of Batoum has been completed, and this cannot fail to have an important and far reaching effect on the Russian oil industry. The length of the line is 570 miles. It crosses the watershed of the province, and will carry crude oil from Baku to

be distilled and shipped at Batoum. The total capacity of the lanks and pipes of the line is, roughly speaking, 112,507 tons. The saving in freight by the pipe line is estimated to be equal to one-halt of the old car freight, which will prove an important factor in the competition to hold the oil markets of British India

The increase of exports is estimated to amount to more than 500,000 tons a year, and it is calculated that as the result of the construction of the new pipe line a lessening of the cost of oil to the consumer can be made of about two cents a gallon. The American producers must be able to meet this reduction, and, possibly, increase it, if it is to secure the rigch field now being worked by Russia.

Shipments of American Tea. This year 12,000 pounds of choice ten will be shipped from what is at present the only tea farm in the western hemisphere. The farm is at Somerville, S. C. In the face of difficulties that at times seemed insurmountable, but, on the other hand, with the kindly assistance of the United States government, the Somerville tea farm has grown to a point where it can offer serious competition with the best grades of tea shipped from China, India, Formosa or Java. But, above all, it has been demonstrated that, barring the question of labor, the finest tea can be successfully grown at home, and there is nothing that gladdens the heart of an American more than the discovery that he can enter into competition in a field hitherto denied him.-Technical World.

There Are Others. "Why do you always tell that story about how you used to drive the cows to pasture whenever we have company to dinner? I don't want people to know that I got the pails ready for

you!" said Mrs. Wouldbeswell "Oh, what do you care?" said her husband. "In these days of rubber gloves you can't tell who's doing her own dish washing."-Detroit Free Press.

Wrong Place,

Pa Twandles-Way are you spanking Tommy ? Ma Twaddles-He needs a lesson, and I'm impressing it on his mind.

"Well, you've got a queer idea as to where the lad's mind is situated."-Chicage Journal.

I CANAL ABOUT READY

WATER POWER FOR THE SALT

Carried Forward in Thorough and Expeditious Manner.

water across what is known as Pinto creek and Cottonwood canyon threatened to cause trouble. It finally was decided to transport the water across these two points by means of a pressure pipe, which is really an inverted syphon. Owing to the enormous amount of water that passes through the canyons in this section during the rainy season, it was decided that the pressure pipe should be installed. In this way the water is carried under the heds of the creek instead of over them.

low the bottom of the canal. While the pipe at Cottonwood canyon is only 40 feet in length, it has a drop of eight feet below the canal.

been concreted to facilitate the flow of water and to prevent leakage. There are three miles of tunnel distributed along the canal, which also have been full concrete lined.

In all, 40,000 barrels of cement have been used in lining tunnels, concreting the canal, building culverts and erecting other concrete structures. The greater part of the cement was furnished by the mill erected and operated by the government.

The firm holding the contract for the construction of the dam has laid out a camp without a rival in regard to sanitary conditions and comfort for

Practically all of the work going on at the dam site at present is under the direction of the contractors A company has just finished placing two of their latest improved fiton capacity cableways across the site and the real excavating for one of the targest storage dams in the world will soon begin. These cableways are 1.150 feet in length and are 450 feet above the river. Several smaller cableways have been at work for some time doing preliminary excavating.

foundation of the dam is in progress

Upon the completion of the cofferdams a hydraulic elevator will be installed. This machine has been thorcountries. It is expected to greatly expedite the work of expavating.

BRAZIL UNEARTHS REGALIA

While Searching for Documents in Treasury, Director Finds Relic of Old Empire.

Rio de Janairo. The recalia of the old empire of Brazil, hidden away in the treasury here for 70 years, has been rediscovered in as unexpected

searching for some documents when he opened a box which had not been touched for years. In it he found gold, silver and diamonds worth \$1,200,000, including the crown and scepter and the gold embroidered mantle of the emperors of Brazil. The crown and scepter are valued at \$105,000.

The regalia is supposed to have been placed in the treasury for safety during the troublous times of 1836, and not being required by the republic, have remained there ever since.

SENTENCED TO HIS BED.

on Toper Who Wouldn't Reform.

Bennington, Kan. - Probably the most unique sentence ever imposed by a court of law in Kansas was ordered in the case of "Joe" Transier, who was before Police Judge Herr on the charge of being drunk.

Transier is an old offender, and when he was brought into court Judge Herr fined him two dollars and ordered that he be confined to bis bed for a week. Marshall Horath took Transier home and put him to bed and the culprit's family was instructed to notify the court if Transier showed a disposition to leave the bed before the week was

A Paterson (N. J.) bank president, George W. Murray, who was appointed trustee of an estate left by a man who died 15 years ago, has just turned the property over to the heirs, after having increased the value of it sevenfold. He deserves a place in the Hall of Fame.

CREEK DAM IN ARIZONA.

Big Project of the Government Being

Roosevelt, Ariz.-Everything is ready for the turning of the water into the canal which is to furnish power for the construction of the Salt river dam here. The canal has cost the covernment between \$600,000 and \$700,

For a time the problem of getting

The pipe at Pinto creek is 2,500 feet in length and has a drop of 30 feet be-

The last mile and a half of the canal connecting with the power plant has

the employes.

The contractors are rebuilding the fine which is to carry off the surplus water while the excavating for the A new pile driver has been put in place and the piling for the flumes and cofferdams is being rapidly driven.

oughly tested in the placer-mining districts of Alaska and other mining A St. Louis (Mo.) firm is prepar-

ing to erect an aerial tramway which is to be 1,700 feet in length, which will be used for transporting cement, sand and other materials.

Everything in the way of modern machinery and equipment is being used in the construction of this dam and when completed it will be one of the most wonderful structures of the kind

The director of the treasury was

Kansas Judge Imposes Odd Penalty

Faithful Stewardship.

WOMAN EXPLORER IN AFRICA

With Native Escort She Reaches Khartoum After Trip Through the Interior.

Khartoum, Egypt.--After a journey rich in adventure through the interior of Africa Miss Hary Hall, a great woman explorer, has reached Khar-

She started last June from Chinde. Portuguese East Africa, and traveled up the Zambesi as far as Port Heraid. Then she turned north to Lake Nyanza, which she crossed. In November she arrived in German East Africa and then crossed unknown territory where no white man or woman had ever before set foot to Lake Victoria Nyanza. This took her 28 days, and only twice did she see a European. Her escort consisted of two native soldiers belonging to a German

regiment and a few native carriers. The natives she met were friendly and brought her bananas, goas milk and sait.

Although much of the country was disturbed owing to a native rising against the Germans, she managed to reach British territory without trouble

The wild animals she saw included almost every species of the country, and being an excellent markswonian. she had no difficulty in replenishing her larder when necessary.

Her next goal was Uganda, where she found the youthful king playing footbalf. He received her with truly European courtesy and sent her on her way to Khartoum

LARGE STAMP COLLECTION.

Valuable Exhibit to Be Placed on View in London During the Month of May.

London - The most comprehensive collection of stamps ever brought together will be on view at the International Philatelic exhibition, to be held at the end of May in the Royal Horticultural society's hall

"Stamp collecting has made great strides of late years," said H. R. Oldfield, secretary of the Landon Philatelic society, who is organizing the exhibition. 'The price- paid for mills vidual stamps and collections have shown a great increase, recently. To show the value of the exhibits, I may say that I have insured the stumps atready promised for \$750,000, and before the opening day the amount of the insurance will total more than \$2,-500,000

"The prince of Wales and his ton, who are enthusiastic collectors, are sending many rare specimens. Collecters from nearly every country are forwarding exhibits. Gold and silver med de will be awarded in the cartina

"The album collections will each cansist of from 5,000 to 10,000 specimens. Young enthusiasts are to be given a chance and medals will be offered for competition among those from 16 to 21. years, and also for those under 16.

FIRST RIDE ON RAILROAD.

Indiana Man of Fifty-Three Departs from Old Custom of "Hitching-Up."

Crawfordsville, Ind James Caldwell of Darlington, a lifelong citizen of Montgomery county and 53 years old, has experienced for the first time the sensation of riding on a railroad trainwhen he came to this city the other

He says it was not begause he entertained any fear of riding on trains or any prejudice against the ratiroud corporations, but simply he had not had orgasion before to depart from the oldtime custom of "hitching up the old

The members of the family had ridden frequently on the cars, but the head of the family, if he had occasion to go, hitched up the old family nag to a rig and took to the roads.

He has visited Crawfordsville, Leb-

anon. Thorntown and small towns in

his immediate neighborhood, but these trips were always made in a rig.

SETS WEIGHT OF EGGS. Icwa House Passes Bill That Makes No Distinction Between Prod-

Des Moines, la.-The lowe house hus: passed a bill containing a provision which seeks to regulate the weight of hens' eggs. The provise is contained in a substitute for the existing law

uct of the Hen

fixing weights and measures. According to a section of the bill. me dozen eggs must weigh a pound and a half, whether they are the product of Brahma, Cochin China or just plain hen. Representative Freeman. of Oakland, is the author of this measure, destined to create confusion in

the barnyards of lows. Incidentally, the bill does a good turn for the thrifty housewife. When she goes to market for a dozen eggs and is not satisfied with the size of the eggs counted to her, she may demand that they be put on the scales.

The Least of Presents. V. P. Houver, aged 72, a peanut vender at Colorado Springu, is a great admirer of President Rossevelt, but had nothing better to send for a wed-

ding present to the president's daugh-

ter than a five-cent bag of peanuts.

So he sent that and received a letter

of thanks from Mrs. Longworth.

Dogs and Other Dogs. Some folk are astonished because a Chicago man left \$20,000 to a dog, but they do not wink an eyelash when told that some young puppy has inherited

HISTORIC WEDDINGS.

BRIDES OF THE WHITE HOUSE SINCE THE YEAR 1800.

Interesting Record of Matrimonial Alliances Among the First People of the United

States.

Alice Roosevelt's wedding at the White House was the twelfth which has taken place in that historic national ediffee. The first president who occupied the original structure was President Adams, in 1800, Washington never occupying D, but it was not until President Madison was in office, h 1811, that a wedding occurred in itthat of Mrs. Lacy Payne Washington the youngest sister of Mrs. Madison and the widow of George Steptor Washington, a nephew of the first president. The , marriage of Mrs. Washington to Justice Todd, of the supreme court, took place on March 11

Just after President Madison had begun his second term another relative of Mrs. Madison, Miss Assa Todd, of Philadelphia, was married in the White House to John G. Jackson, I representative in congress from Vin ginia, whose grand-nephew was

Stonewall Jackson, of civil war fame The present structure of the White House, rebuilt on the lines of the first edifice, which the British burned when they occupied Washington in 1814, in the war of 1812, was first occupied by President James Monroe in 1818; Hit daughter, Miss Maria Hester Monroe was the first child of a president to be wedded within its waits. Her usarriage to Samuel Lawrence Convernour, of New York, acting secretary to the president, took place on March %

The next president, John Quanty Adams, had a son who was married in the White House. His bride was Miss Mary Hellen, a nieve of Mrs. Adams. and sister to the secretary of the president. She became Mrs. John Adams on February to, 1828.

In the eight years that Andrew Jackwon was president in course of which there was so much social disturbance ransed by Mrs. "Peggy" Eaton O'Neill. who broke up the cabinet, three weddings took place in the White House, The first was that of Miss Della Lawis, the daughter of one of the president's close friends at Nashville, Tenn., to Alphonse Joseph Yyer Pageot, of Martinique, the secretary of the French legation at Weenington. Another Nashville girl, Miss Mary Easton, & niece of Mrs. Jackson, was married in the White House to Leicien B. Polk. The wedding of Miss Emily Marrin. a relation of President Jackson, to-Lewis Randolph, r grandson of Pterident Jefferson, also took place in the

president's bome the administration of President Van Buren, his son, Maj. Abraham-Van Buren, was married in the White House to Miss Angelica Singleton, a-South Carolina telle, in November, 1838. She was a cousin to Mrs. Madbon and became interress of the White

House upon her marriage. On January 21, 1842, Miss Elizabeth Tyler, third daughter of President Tyler, was married in the White House to William Waller, Jr., or Williamsburg, Va. It was not until 1874 that another

House bride. On May 21, of that year, Miss Neille Grant was married to Algernon C. F. Sutoris, walle Gen. Grant was serving his second term, as president. In the administration of President

Hayes, his nie w. Miss Emily Platt, ba-

presidents daughter became a White-

came the bride of Gen. Russell Hastings on June 19, 5878 The first and only president to be married in the White House was Grover Cleveland, whose wedding with Miss Frances Folsom took place om June 2, 1886. One other president mok a bride while in other, John Tyler, but he was married to the home of Miss Julia Gardiner, in this city, in 1844, his first wife having died at the White House after his term as president had

DOKILD.

It was once the common practice of tourists to shoot birds and alligators from the decks of steamboats om Florida rivers and lakes. This aboutinable, because cruel and useless, warfare was waged until the supply of victims for the brurality was comriy exhausted. The development of the Florida railway system, by which the tide of travel has been directed from the water courses, has had a direct and marked effect on the wifd life of the country. Instead of the leisurely progress by water craft tourists are now whirled through the country

by rail, and the bloodthirsty contin-

gent has no opportunity to deal out

death at every turn. The waters and

the shores are suce again becoming

populated with birds of plume and

even the alligator is coming again into-

Railways Save Birda

peaceful possession of his mudbank: -Forest and Stream. Brazil's Prise for Rubber. The government of Brazil has deereed a prize of \$10,008 for anyone who exhibits 100,000 Manicobs rubber trees within 16 months from the date of the announcement, and three other prizes for the three next tangent plantations, the smallestrof which, in

less than 20,000 trees. Literary. Miss Readlotz-How do you like

order to gain a prize, must not be of

Thackersy? Mr. Numschul-I never could order from a French bill of fare.-Terre Maute Stude

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS Les très penandue en Louisiane et dans tons les Etats du Unde Sa publicité effre dons as commerce les avantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement un l'anné : Reitiens Ouetidienne El 2,000