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NEW PENSION PLAN Would Result in Saving to Pen sioners and Government.
Wrashingtos, Oct 2s-A Asting. estimated at $\$ 1,000,000$ anononily to the pensiopers of the Unite States and ereatanily 4 boot siso, 000 a year to the goveromed,
contemplated by a simplified plan contempiated by a simpinied piad
for the payment of pensions withfor the paymentor vensmmissioper out vouchers which commisat, sensions, J. L. Davenport, sub
of mitted to the secretary of the in terior in his annual report jus made public. During the year $\$ 157,325,160$ was paid as pensions, a decrease of $\$ 3,498,154$ from las year, bringing ap the total amoun in pensions since the foundation of the government to $\$ 4,230,391,780$. There were 65,185 names dropped from the rolls and 26,200 added leaving a net loss of 28,985 pensioners and making the total num ber at the end of the year 892,098 , the smallest since: 1892. Method of economy resulted in a decrense of the cost of administration by $\$ 140,946$ to $\$ 2,517,127$, the lowest since 1882.
The commissioner's plan, which was devised at the request of congress and which will require the arsing of a law by tont bads simplify the methods of paying pensions, result in the mailing of pension checks on the date apen which the pension falls die elimi which the pension falls due, elim nate the pensioners in a large ma jority of cases of the execution of pension vouchers, which varies
from $\$ 1$ to $\$ 3$ yearly; decrese to from $\$ 1$ to $\$ 3$ yearly; decrease to a drawing and mailing of pension drawing and mailing of pension checks eliminate the sending of
$4,000,000$ letters yearly through the mails, saving about $\$ 80,000$ tbe mails,
thereby.
The plan contemplates payment direct by checks, mailed to the last address of the pensioner. Co-operation from the postoffice departin delivering the. letters contain-
ing the checks would be reguired ing the checks would be required.
Bosides the indorsement on the back of these checks, the government would require. onder this
plan, certification by two witnesses ns to the identity of the person obns to the identity of
taining the money.

Cost of Cotton Production Raleigh, Oct. 25. -The chapter State for the forthcoming annual report of Mr. M. L. Shipman, as State Commissioner of Labor and Printing, will show that cotton has been produced in this State this sea son at an estimated cost of $\$ 33.07$ a bale, as compared with $\$ 38.37$ a
bale last year, the decrease in the cost of production being attributed
cost year, the decrease to increased yield in spite of higher cost of farm operation that tended to increase the cost of procnction. Concerning the cost of production of other crops the report will show in 85 counties; corn at 48 bushe bushel in 99 counties; oats at 35 eents a busbel in 96 connties and in 54 counties.
Twenty-eight counties reported increase in farm wages and 28 was report of increased cost of living in 98 counties. Increase in the value of farm lands was reported from 98 counties and no in--
crease in 2 counties and 97 cotintien reported retention of farming fertility with tendeney to smaller farms in 91 counties and to. larger farms in 8 counties. Labor is reporied scarce in or counties and plentiful in 9. Reports of unrefrom 94 counties iabor is reporte
T. E. Fields, one of Hiekry's oidest merchants, has filed a vol untary petition in benkrupcy nearly $\$ 20,000$, with liabilitien the amount of, about \$05,000

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