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money with news agencies, postmasters, etc., to be forwarded by them. They frequently forget or remit a different amount than was organized greed have been very rapid left with them, and the subscriber fails to get

Address all communications, and make all drafts, money orders, etc., payable to

> Che Nebraska Independent, Lincoln, Neb.

noticed. Rejected manuscripts will not be

The argument of the republicans in the first place concerning the Philippines was, "There is money there." Whether that was true in the beginning or not, it ought to be true now. Uncle Sam has been pouring a flood of it into the islands for the last three years, and little or none ever comes back.

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The Independent acknowledges receipt of a copy of "Facts and Figures" of the Chicago live stock trade, covering a period of twenty years, issued by Wood Brothers, live stock commission merchants, Chicago. It is a neat booklet of 64 pages, and gives a great deal of valuable statistical information. It will be sent free to anyone. Mention The Independent. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. H. B. Steagall of Montgomery, Ala., a nephew of our correspondent, Major A. H. Steagall, De Land, Fla., is being mentioned as a candidate for legislative honors in his district. The Montgomery Advertiser says: "He is an active and prominent member of the democratic party. He led the fight against the new constitution in Dale county and succeeded in getting a majority his way of about 1,000."

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It is now authoritatively announced that Carnegie proposed to McKinley that it he would make arrangements with the Filipinos to grant them independence, that he, Carnegie, would repay to the United States the \$20 .-000,000 that was paid to Spain. He also requested that he might be sent as a special commissioner or one of a commission to the Philippines to make the agreement with them. Mc-Kinley is reported to have said that Mr. Carnegie did not understand .e matter, and let the whole subject drop. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

This administration makes a howlvolcano makes a wilderness in Marclothing. It kills all over ten in Samar, but sends hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of supplies to keep That is the sort of madness to which imperialism has driven it. The brown people in the islands of the destructive than Mount Pelee.

# \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The western bankers at Kansas City sat down very hard on that economic idiot from New York, Horace White, who came all the way out there to instruct them in their duty to the handful of millionaires of Wall street who have concocted a plan to make the western bankers tellers and bookkeepers in the branch banks which they intend to establish on these plains. If there is anything walking on two legs more ignorant of every branch of political economy than the said Horace White it has never yet been discovered, and his egotism equals his ignor-

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The captured correspondence of the Big Six packing houses which has been printed in the newspapers make a clear case. The letters prove that a series of definite trade agreements exists among the "big six," some being together in one section of the country and some in other parts; that different scales of prices rule in different districts; that the territory is parceled out by explicit understanding. With this state of facts before it, the administration proposes to have the United States courts issue an injunction instead of prosecuting these criminals under the criminal law.

duces no revenue. What increase is made in the cost of the goods to consumers goes to the manufacturers and formed is the most iniquitous legisla-States. It is simply a tax on the peo-

### OUR FOURTEENTH YEAR

Vol. XIV., No. 1, greets the eye of this week. Last week rounded up the full thirteen years of The Independent's existence, and this week it begins its fourteenth year fuller of fight and more optimistic even than when its first copy was issued.

the thirteen years, there are seemingly many things to discourage the man who started out to reform the world and far-reaching. Consolidation and combination of the railroads has progressed so rapidly that now a very few men control practically all the means of transportation and transmission of intelligence; and this consolidation and combination has by far exceeded in rapidity what even the wildesteyed populist thirteen years ago expected, but in principle it has worked is that the populists were conservative would probably be required. Looking back over the thirteen years

one cannot but be impressed with the rapidity in which other combinations and consolidations have been made. Then the Standard Oil company was almost alone in its glory. It was the great object lesson, not of the value of combination in developing industry, in learning new and better ways to transform the raw product into the finished article, but in demonstrating the value of secret railroad rebates to crush out competition. The art of stifling competition by secret compacts with those controlling the avenues of transportation, transmission of intelligence, and the circulation of two hundred now existing depends up- ant and after the \$5,000 chef had preon this art for its existence. The cry pared a dish from the canned meats that greater economies may be effected used at the capital had it served to by such combinations is simply the themselves and the soldier. Then they cry of "stop thief" to distract public went out and told the newspaper men attention. Some economies there may how they had tricked the soldier into be; but without special privileges of eating canned meat and that he had some sort-either public favoritism in | declared that it was good. The Assoitism in the way of secret rebates from | ticles about it. No doubt Dietrich and | railroads, telegraphs, telephones, ex- Beveridge think that that was a very press companies, banks, etc .- none of statesmanlike and dignified thing to the industrial trusts could menace the | do and that it places them on a level public welfare. Mere mass of capital with Clay, Webster and Calhoun. But may give some advantage, but not the truth about the matter is that it in power. enough to destroy competition; but shows Dietrich and Beveridge to be the small manufacturer is powerless of a lower moral standing than an to compete when secret freight rebates | Arab of the desert. To offer hospitalare against him.

ing wilderness of Samar, but where a be other than optimistic in spite of ceive and slay an enemy. That Dietconditions. The people know more rich would engage in such a thing will tinique it serds shiploads of food and than they did thirteen years ago. They surprise no one who knows him, but pinches. When enough of them be- self is somewhat remarkable. Some come satisfied that they are not misprejudices, they will right the wrongs. of the earth get into the United States The life of one man is too short to senate. No doubt Dietrich and Bev- dents who have preceded him. Butcher Smith let loose on the little see the progress made, unless he is more than ordinarily a close observer. is "conclusive" proof that all the Asiatic seas was more terrible and It is but little over a hundred years since Adam Smith and those of his school were successful in their revolt against the king-commissioned moly are his ideas believed, that it is clusive." hard for the superficial observer to believe that conditions were ever materially different in principle from the

at first tried to combat this tendency lionaires." by governmental interference in the way of creating artificial competition. When one electric light company began to charge exorbitant rates, another was given a franchise. For a the lifeless combatants arose, walked A tariff so high that no goods can off arm in arm, the best of friends. be imported under it of course pro- Then the people discovered that their artificial competition compelled then to support two plants instead of one.

Now the march of municipal ownernot a cent to the treasury. A tariff ship is well nigh irresistible. None of of that kind under which a trust is the old-time bugaboos can stop its progress. The people have learned tion that can be enacted. There are that political corruption is seldom met a good many of that kind in the United | with in public-owned utilities; but ple who buy the goods for the benefit | waterworks, electric light plant, or laws giving the banking business of the trust. There is nothing else in street railroad, the corporations own- "more extensive privileges." The his- that the trust has. They control the it. In that case most certainly the ing and operating these utilities will tory of the horse leach is that it was fresh meat trade by the means of their foreigner does not pay the tax, for the be in evidence at every election. Not always demanding "more." Mr. Jones foreigner has nothing whatever to do even the member of a school board can will get the privileges if the republican of the retail dealers upon them for be elected without their interference. party stays in nower

the careful reader of The Independent | clerks, a similar army of railroad employes and express men, the public employes of the city-owned water-

The city of Lincoln has an army of

postoffice employes and railway mail

works, and the employes of the priis such a thing as a postoffice or wa-It is true that in looking back over | terworks-these public employes vote and go about their business without interfering with the rights of anyone. But everybody knows there is a B. & M. railroad and a gas company every dog-pelter is too small for them to

Thirteen years hence will doubtless see rapid strides in municipal ownership. The city that does not own and operate its waterworks, electric light and gas plant, street railroads, and kindred utilities, will be truly a back number. By that time, too, it is possible that the public ownership of the out exactly as predicted. The only railroads may be accomplished. The criticism that could possibly be made state by that time may be conducting insurance business. It may own and in their estimates of the time which operate the stock yards. In all probability it will own and operate all the telephone lines.

Thirteen years is a long look ahead even in these rapid days. What The Independent may accomplish in that time in its mission of educating the people on economic subjects, time alone can tell. But if its circulation grows proportionately, there can be little doubt that its influence then will be infinitely greater than now.

### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* TWO SENATORIAL YAHOOS

The silliest performance any two political galoots ever entered into was when Senators Dietrich and Beveridge, after a soldier had testified that the canned beef served to the troops in the ity to a man for the purpose of trick-Apparently the people are more ing and taking advantage of him is helpless now than they were thirteen about the lowest and meanest thing years ago. There is ample ground to that a man can do. It stands, in the justify the claims of the most pessi- estimation of all honorable men, on a mistic. Yet The Independent cannot level with using a flag of truce to deof the lowest down specimens of hueridge think that their performance the Philippines is absolutely first-

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# BEGINNING TO LEARN

scheme they will try something else and the bankers of the west will find out after a while that the tremendous concentration of wealth that has been | ly to do. time there was a show of competition, fostered by the republican party generally, however, with as little real- threatens their business and fortunes ism as a stage fight. Behind the scenes just as much as it does that of anybody else. It seems that these men are making a slow beginning toward learning something about political economy. Perhaps after a while they will drop their mad partisanship and pursue a course that will bring prosperity to all the people instead of a few millionaires only.

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### PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

vate-owned gas plant. On election day the policy continued, that the free to live. They are the rulers and the there is nothing to indicate that there and independent citizens of this counhirelings and we should see a concentration of wealth in few hands such as tered its warning then. It said the What would happen then? Suppose time there is an election. Not even they became so powerful that they to lend money and call in all loans. would control every branch of the gov- What would happen then? We all

dent Roosevelt as a man with humane of branch banks become a law and evidently surrounded by influences at and credit of the United States. What Washington too powerful for him to would happen then? The people and past to do that, and the difficulty becomes greater when any connection would stop to consider what will hapbegins to appear more plainly all the the future as they have been in the time that Roosevelt is not made of the past. What will happen? Who can stuff to do it.

The feeble attack on the beef trust is a politician's move and not the work of a great statesman and ruler. The line of attack in the courts was in a criminal prosecution, and in the field of legislation on the discriminations in freight rates and tariff protection. is the Springfield Republican, a fair An approach along those lines would end in the overthrow of not only the it makes the statement "that for the beef trust, but most of the other trusts. before the interstate commerce commission, they were allowed to go scot | prints the following table to prove its free. The same kind of an action was begun against them brought against the beef trust and the roads said they would welcome an inmoney and bank credits, is now wel! Philippines was bad, invited him to junction. When the case came to trial known. Every trust of the more than | dine with them at the senate restaur- | they offered no opposition. The beef trust will likely pursue the same

The Anthracite coal trust has done business in defiance of law for years. The magnates of that trust can meet at any time and put 25 or 50 cents on the price of coal and it is collected from the people with the same certhe way of protective tariffs and pub- ciated press took up the tale, and the tainty that the duties on imports are lic service franchises, or private favor- great mullet head editors wrote ar- collected by the officers of the government. The coal trust has exactly the

long as the republican party remains this country is on the farm, where the men. President Roosevelt allows his but slightly into it. Then a very large supporters to continually announce in proportion of the profits of capital is the columns of the great dailies that not concerned with production at all he has no intention of making the Look at the many millions of capital managers of all the trusts obey the employed in speculation on the boards law. The Standard Oil trust, the coal of trade and in promoting trusts. Not trust, the sugar trust, the steel trust a thing is produced from this use of and all the others are not to be mo- capital, except in a very remote and lested by the administration. That is indirect way, yet the profits of capital not the course that a real reformer engaged in that are enormous. If only would pursue. The Independent is be- that proportion of capital employed in are rapidly learning where the shoe that Beveridge should so disgrace him- ing slowly driven to the conclusion, actual production is meant, still the that Roosevelt, instead of being a conclusion is all wrong. It would statesman, a patriot, and reformer, is seem that if any man, guided by reathe people from dying in Martinique. taken, and overcome their partisan manity that can be found on the face simply the tool of the money mag- son, would take but a casual glance nates like all the republican presi- at the enormous accumulation of

> readers of this paper that very many canned meat served to the soldiers in times in the last few years it has been declared in these columns that when class. Beveridge declared on the floor | the next great distress came upon the of the senate the other day that evi- people, it would not be the workers of nopolies. So thoroughly and so wide- dence secured by torture was "con- the west who would suffer the most as in the last panic, but the weight of it would fall on the workers of the east-the very ones who have de-The mullet heads of Kansas are at nounced us, called us socialists and last becoming capable of entertaining anarchists. The hands of the trusts But new problems have been pre- an idea or two. The bankers' associa- are very heavy even now on the poor the lish vote, the city vote, or the us to do is to decide whether the game sented. The advent of steam power tion that recently met at Kansas City of the east. Many thousands are forced and electricity has been followed by ucclared that "the members of this as- to labor hard every day without meat, new lines of industry of which Adam | sociation have carefully listened to | and many other things that have been Smith and his school never dreamed. the recent discussion of the subject considered necessaries. As the months studies principles. He tries to arrive make a howling wilderness of the isl-His theory of non-interference by gov- of branch banking as advocated by the | go on they will suffer more and more. ernment and to allow competition to able gentlemen from the east, and Every word that The Independent has regulate trade ,applied very well to combated by some of the ablest and said about the conditions which will known conditions then. But the best known members of this state as- be forced upon these hirelings of the problem cannot now be completely sociation and of our neighboring state trusts will be found to come true. The solved by Adam Smith's formula. The of Nebraska, and we hereby affirm report of the wages paid to the emnew factors require new treatment. our unswerving allegiance to that view ployes of the steel trust shows how why he thinks that it is true. At the The people are slowly learning that in of the proposition which condemns it the army of men who toll for it have time the oleomargarine bill came up, some lines of business there is an ir- in all its forms as being unpatriotic, been ground down to a bare existence resistible tendency to consolidation un-American, unbusiness-like and as while magnates pile up their unearned and combination—an irresistible ten- tending to establish a monopoly of millions. That is a sample of what desired no advantage given to them dency to crush out competition. As the great and honored business of is coming to all these men. There is by law over any other man. Populist competition was their watchword, they banking in the hands of a few mil- no escape. They have brought it all dairymen said all we ask is that there If the millionaires can't work this listen to reason and they must suffer for butter, oleomargarine for what it army is always the chief reliance of the penalty.

There is no hope for relief from anything that President Roosevelt is like-

# WHAT WILL HAPPEN THEN?

Some one connected with the Chicago packers is said to have made this remark: "I have noticed that several large bodies of people have resolved that they would eat no meat for a week or a month. Suppose we should retaliate and declare that we would sell no meat for a week or a month. What would happen then?" No doubt that the trust could do that very thing and At the bankers' association which make money by it. They could check met at Kansas City the other day, up on the buying and put their meat in that wherever there is a private President Jones urged the passage of cold storage. But the thing that suggests itself is the tremendous power refrigerator cars and the dependence

er to bring great suffering upon the Five years ago when the tendency to people, but to inflict it when they form trusts under the protecting wing please. So it is with every other trust. the republican party became appar- There is no good sense in talking ent to all thinking men, The Indepen- about a free and independent people dent called attention to the fact, if | while the criminal trusts are allowed people must submit. The remark of try would by it be made a nation of the Chicago packer starts a long train of thought. Suppose the coal trust should refuse to sell coal for a week the world never saw before. It ut- or a month in the midst of winter. time to crush the trusts was before that the banking trust should refuse know what happened in 1893. But The Independent looks upon Presi- let this Eckles-Horace White scheme good thing if a good many people

# FREAKS OF THE MIND

wonders whether his mind cuts such capers with him as is apparent in the writings of so many men. Now here and honorable sort of a paper, and last ten years capital has been gather-Although the railroads plead guilty | ing to itself a smaller per cent of profit rather than a larger," and then it assertions, saying that "the cause as to labor can be roughly carried back to 1850 with this result:"

	Gross product	Average
	per	wage
	wage earner.	per person
1900	\$2,451	\$438
1890	2,204	445
1880	1,965	347
1870	2,060	377
1860	1,438	289
1850	1,065	247
	The same of the sa	

same power to tax that the govern- But a great part of production is not ment at Washington has. It will con- connected with "wage earners" at all. tinue a kingdom within a kingdom as The great proportion of production of farmer, his wife and children are pro-While the facts are known to all ducers and the "wage earner" enters wealth which has occurred in the last It will be remembered by the old few years and then at the homes of "wage earners" would come to an entirely different conclusion from the one the Republican arrived at.

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* THE LIGHT OF THE EARTH

A genuine populist farmer is not only the light of the earth, but a joy try may be brought to starvation and to the world. He does not trouble the inhabitants reduced to the condihimself about the little tricks of the tion of the East Indians, when they trade of politics. He never says: "If will be at peace. It is no use to dewe do this, we gain the German vote, cry these inhumanities. The thing for farmer vote, or if we do that we will is worth the price. If we decide to lose one or the other of them." He hold the Philippines in subjection, let never thinks along those lines. He us stop the cry of inhumanity and at the truth and when he thinks he ands as soon as possible. The queshas found it, he does not speculate on | tion is: Do we want to do it? the probability of gaining or losing votes by advocating or refusing to advocate it. He goes to talking to his neighbors or friends and explaining farmers wrote to The Independent that they wanted no special privileges, they upon themselves. They refused to shall be no fraud. Let butter be sold is and renovated and process butter be tyrants and usurpers. Without it they treated in the same way. One man got so mad at The Independent for is always put forth to deify it, to detaking that position that he stopped | clare that the army can do no wrong. his paper. But he was not a farmer. He was afraid that the course this paper was pursuing would lose votes public is gone, gone the way of all of the farmers, wherein he was mistaken, for mullet heads do not vote the populist ticket anyhow.

Many farmers have spoken to the editor of The Independent since he has been up here in the north part of the state about the course of the paper in regard to the beef trust. They generally say: "I like what you say about the beef trust. That is right. Stick to it. We pity the toilers in the cittes. We don't want to see any class of the people suffer. There is enough for all and some to spare." How much more noble is such a position than scheming to catch this vote and that vote. In the long run it is the better policy.

tell?

The editor of The Independent often

	Cropp produce	Avelage
	per	wage
	wage earner.	per person.
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The Re	publican use	s the wor
NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.	in regard to th	
	tter said that	
guess work	and no statis	tics at all. I
confines pr	aduction to "w	rage earners

graves there. After a while the coun-

DEIFY THE ARMY The deifying of the army, the idea that the army must be worshipped and that no matter what it does, the man who ventures to criticise it is a traitor. is one of the accompaniments of imperialism everywhere and always. That the republican press has adopted this as the card to play in the coming campaign is everywhere evident. The could do nothing and so every effort Let that sort of madness once take possession of the people and this rethe nations of the past that have ex

The Independent is glad that the republicans are pressing that point. It hopes that they will keep it up. If there is a spark of patriotism left among the people it will flare into a

blaze under such a campaign as that. traitors every man whose humane instincts leads him to protest against the burning and laying waste of whole regions of country and the slaying of all the inhabitants above ten without rebuke, and it will not be long until the army will begin to demand that such men shall be hung. In fact one whatever the "peanut" politicians may general has already made such a de- has a conscience if it pays. If it does



Your opportunity right now is to secure a first-class, up-today Summer Suit several dollars cheaper than you can buy and honorable intentions, but he is few millionaires control the money equal quality at home. Josh Billings says "opportunities are like eggs-they must be set on while fresh." Lose no time in resist. It would take a mighty man, the government itself would be at the sending us your address by postal or letter, and we will place a man equal to any of the heroes of the mercy of these men. It would be a our Catalogue and Samples of Suits for Men and Boys in your hands free of all expense. You will find it an intelliwith the party in power is kept up. It pen if the trusts are to be fostered in gent guide to honest, well-made Clothing at real money. saving prices. Try us once and give us a chance to prove our assertions.



## THE REPUBLICAN DEFENSE

The only defense that the republicans can make concerning the atrocities in the Philippines is the defense that Lord Erskine made of Warren Hastings' conduct in India, but they sad experiences with a soldiery that have no orator of Erskine's ability to could not be criticised. They created speak for them. That such things | what they thought would be a governwere sure to occur when we attacked tion and environment was entirely different from ours-every man of statesmanlike work to shreds and put hought well knew when the conflict imperialism in its stead. Step by step began. In defense of Warren Hastings. Lord Erskine said:

"He may, and must, have offended against the laws of God and nature. If he was the faithful viceroy of an empire wrested in blood from the people to whom God and nature had given it, he may and must have preserved that unjust dominion over timorous and abject nations by a territying superiority. If he was the faithful administrator of a government having no root in consent or affection, no foundation in similarity of interests, nor support from any one principle which cements men in society together. then that government could only be upheld by alternate stratagem and force. To be governed at all, they must be governed with a rod of iron; and our empire in the east would long since have been lost to Great Britain if civil skill and military prowess had not united their efforts to support an authority-which heaven never gaveby means which it never can sanc-

If we are to hold the Philippines in permanent subjection, they must be held in just this way. There will be ever-occurring massacres on both sides and the thing will go on in that way as the weary years pass by. More and more of American youth will find their

alted the army above criticism.

Let the press generally denounce as

hanging and shooting by orders of the army. The great and fundamental idea of the founders of this government was to make the army subservient to the civil power. They all had ment that would prevent such a scourge ever afflicting their descendants. But the supreme court tore their it has advanced, just as The Independent said it would, until the usurpers demand that the army shall be above criticism. What it all portends, no man can tell.

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* FICTITIOUS BANK DEPOSITS

While it has been the fashion of the republican papers for years to pretend that bank deposits represented actual cash, not one of them would ever admit to their columns a true statement on that subject. The other day in recording the proceedings of a meeting of bankers, a reporter incorporated in his article the speech of John B. Forgan, president of the First National bank of Chicago, and, no doubt, through the inadvertance of the night editor, the report was printed in the Chicago Tribune. As this statement is made by a national banker and a staunch republican, some of the readers of The Independent may find use for it when talking to their republican neighbors, all of whom firmly believe that the total of bank deposits represents nothing but cold cash. Mr. Forgan said:

"I have prepared a statement showing the greatest possible multiplication of deposits under our present system of allowing a portion of the legal reserves of one bank to be held as deposits in another. For illustration, national banks in Deadwood (not a reserve city). Omaha (a reserve city). Chicago (a central reserve city) and New York, the financial center of the country, are used.

"On a deposit in Deadwood of \$64.000, \$3,840 must be retained in vault as cash reserve, while \$60,160 may be deposited with an Omaha correspondent.

"Of the deposit in Omaha of \$60,160, \$7.520 will be held as reserve, while \$52,640 may be deposited with a Chicago correspon-

"Of the deposit in Chicago of \$52,640, \$13,180 must be retained as a reserve, while \$39,460 may be deposited with a New York correspondent. "Of the deposit in New York of

\$39,460, \$9,865 is reserve, while \$29,595 may be loaned. "This shows a total deposit of

\$216,260, all based on an original deposit of \$64,000. "This illustrates our method of artificially increasing bank deposits and their greatest possible multiplication under our national

system. It will be seen that to the original \$61,000 there was added \$152,260 of

### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* SOMEWHAT DOUBTFUL

An eastern editorial writer in discussing the recent revelations in regard to the manner of carrying on the war in the Philippines, says:

"America still has a conscience after nearly four years of 'imperialism,' and its conscience is shocked by the discovery that the blue uniform of the American army is desecrated by the brutality of some of its wearers, who have sought within their limited spheres to emulate the crimes of an Attila or a Genghis Khan.'

That statement is somewhat doubtful. Whether America has a con science or not depends very much upon whether there is money in it or not. The dominant force in this country