Editorial Notes.

As soon as the republicans of the south realized that the negro had been eliminated from the voting population, they discovered that they had no further use for him. They excluded every black man from their state convention in North Carolina and they are going to do the same thing in Alabama. Their love for the negro was a love of the offices that negro votes secured for them.

For the first time in nearly fifty years the regular republican nominee for governor in Vermont failed to receive a majority and the contest under the laws of that state will have to be decided by the legislature. Some other of the New England states are in pretty much the same fix, or will be when their elections occur. No wonder that Teddy ordered his whole cabinet up there to help stay the tide.

There was never a greater outrage on American workmen than that deal that allows all the great consumers of tin to get it from Wales without paying any duty upon it. It has resulted in throwing thousands of American wage-earners out of employment and adding hundreds of thousands of dollars to the profits of Rockefeller and the meat trust. That is one of the special privileges that is worth having.

It is announced that President Roosevelt has made a promise to the anti-imperialist leaders, among them ex-Governor Boutwell of Massachusetts, Carl Schurz and Herbert Welsh, that he will give independence to the Filipinos as soon as government can be established on the islands, and the anti-imperialists will now drop their agitation and all vote 'er straight. If Theodore Roosevelt made a specific promise to that effect, The Independent believes that he will do his best to keep it, but can he? Beveridge will hardly let him. It would require action by the senate and it has been shown that the senate was too much for Theodore Roosevelt on several occasions.

The propriety of the president allowing his son to be taken in a special car by a railroad president on a hunting expedition may well be doubted. It seems that the farmers resented it and refused to allow the party to come on their fields. They put up notices to "keep out or look out for buckshot." So the private car of President H. R. McCullough and Marvin Hughitt had to move on in the hope of finding a less hostile country. If Roosevelt cared a particle for the common proprieties of life he would never have allowed a railroad president to take his son and make a special trip in a private car over thousands of miles on a hunting trip. Somebody has to pay the costs of the expensive trip. Who is it? The railroad president or the people who pay fare and freight over his road?

The Independent from this time on will be an ardent advocate of "reorganization" of the democratic party. It is fully convinced that that party can never succeed until it is "reorganized" in such a way that the Hills, Whitneys, Hewitts and McLeans can no longer pose before the public as democrats. The whole crowd should be publicly expelled. That they are not democrats is shown by the action of the McLean followers in Ohio. They could muster but three votes in the democratic state committee and even a smaller percentage in the convention. Now they are openly boasting that they are going to vote the republican ticket because the convention put some anti-republican doctrines into the platform. The whole crowd has voted the republican ticket for the last six years. What right have they to call themselves democrats? Heave them over the transom.

Out in Colorado it seems that very often the office seeks the woman, and especially has that been the case in regard to Mrs. Grenfell, who has for four years been state superintendent of public schools. She has done such efficient work that it has received national recognition. She has been elected vice president of the National Educational association of which President Eliot of Harvard is president and it was the first time that that office ever sought a woman. At the last election in Colorado she ran 5,000 ahead of the state fusion ticket and even 2,000 ahead of the Bryan electors. So efficient has her work been there is a probability that she will have no opponent at the coming election, all parties nominating her. She was given her start in political life by two populist county commissioners who appointed her as a county superintendent to fill a vacancy.

Hardy's Column

If but one man on the state fusion ticket is to be elected this fall, that man should be the one who was once elected governor, but counted and courted out by republican politicians and republican judges, and that man is John Powers. If elected this time a majority of the supreme court will stand for justice and right.

President Roosevelt will not be nominated for president; it will be some dark horse who has not opened his mouth, just as it was with Polk, Pierce, Buchanan and Garfield. What the leading republicans want will be kept hid just as the stoppage of silver coinage was.

Plain eating men need not worry about the cost of living in Nebraska. Luxury eaters may complain a little. Wheat, potatoes and fruit are at low water mark and western coal and warm clothing are also away down. Corn is not going to cost more than half as much as last year. We are glad the meat trusts make the east pay more than reasonable prices because the tariff has made the west pay unreasonable prices for everything they produce. Justice and trusts make one hand wash the other for once in a hundred years.

Why is it not just as fashionable to wear a short dress as it is to wear a long one and then hold it up?

There was one thing at the state fair that was new, but grand and good, and that was the sale of blooded stock. There should be at least three auction circles, one for cattle, one for hogs and one for poultry. Stock can be improved that way better than by only granting premiums. Stock can be taken from the auction circle and kept on exhibit till the close of the fair.

The state farm should be made to produce the best blooded stock in the state and it should be distributed among the farmers of the state at a reasonable price. A very little care can bring out the best breeds of poultry next year and let it be sold at the state fair.

We have already had ten days or more of splendid corn weather, dry, warm and windy. Last year we whined for wet growing weather. So it goes. A little frost now that only nips the leaves will hurry up the late corn. The most of the corn is now out of the way of wind, rain, frost or snow.

President Roosevelt thinks that to check the trusts would be like trying to dam the Mississippi river. We may not be able to dam the river, but we can make the water carry itself to the gulf, so we can take off the tariff and make the trusts carry themselves to market. The Mississippi gives everybody water at the same price; the trusts make us pay forty per cent more than the people of Europe pay for the same goods of the same American trusts.

The Nile dam is nearly done. It will be completed by January. It is one mile and a quarter long and will irrigate thousands of acres of waste land and two crops a year will result. The cotton crop will be multiplied by ten.

The question of difference between the coal strikers and the mine owners is that the working day shall be reduced to eight hours instead of ten and the pay the same as for ten hours, and that the union must be recognized. That recognition means that the owners of the mines must not hire or dismiss a man without the consent of the union.

More and more evidence is brought to light that the republican management of our state government was one continuous string of corruption. The fight between Savage and Rosewater brings out the evidence that piles of state money were lost and the losses handed over from one treasurer to another as current funds. It may come out yet how much loss was handed down to Bartley in that private cigar box. If the pop party had never been born Bartley's losses would have been added and handed down.

We would not recommend a boy to go to a military or naval school or enlist in the regular standing army. Coming out of the standing army the man generally stands still and seldom goes to work with hand or head. It is a splendid machine to make lazy men.

Grape-nuts for health food, advertised so charmingly, is nothing more than bread sliced up, baked a second time brown, then pounded or ground. My mother, seventy years ago, used to bake brown crusts of stale bread, then pound it in a salt mortar and let us eat it in milk. There were no grape vines within forty miles. We called it rusk and milk.

The Commoner never has been charged with getting a subsidy from trusts, corporations or banks, neither has Bryan himself been charged with drawing his ten-dollar bills from the high-protected manufacturers. When he speaks on a fair ground and the gate receipts are doubled the extra money does not come from the millionaires, but from those who get what they pay for.

H. W. HARDY.

News of the Week

The thing of greatest interest that happened during the week was the statement of President Roosevelt that he would not penalize the trusts, but reward them.

The last statement made by Baer that "you cannot arbitrate a question of wages when an increase will destroy the business and a decrease would be unacceptable to the workingmen," is one of those Godly lies with which hypocrites have defended themselves through all the ages. In the first place he assumes a fact as undisputed which the other side and almost the whole population deny, that an increase in wages would destroy the business, and tells another infamous falsehood when he says that a decrease in wages would not be accepted by the workingmen. They have agreed to accept the decision of an arbitration board and if that board should decrease wages, they would abide by the decision. Baer makes no argument and produces no facts or figures to sustain his assumption that an increase in wages would destroy the business. Having previously announced that he is God's vicegerent on earth he expects the public to accept his statements as God's truth without asking a question.

Baer "let the cat out of the bag" in another statement he made during the week. He said that the anthracite trust could not market more than 60 per cent of its output of coal. That is positive proof of the correctness of the position all the time maintained by The Independent that the trust was making immense sums out of the strike. The object was to increase the price of coal and sell the immense stock on hand. It would be a very easy matter for any one of the great dailies of New York to obtain proof of the amount on hand and designate the places where it is stored, but they prefer to fill up their space with pictures of women, columns of criminal news and details of divorce trials.

Wheat is selling from 38 to 49 cents at the elevators along the railroads in northern Nebraska and the mullet heads don't know what is the matter.

The official investigation of Clem Deaver's famous Indian land sale takes place at O'Neill, September 15. The peculiar doings of several republicans will be looked into. It seems that the whole republican outfit in Nebraska is so abominably corrupt that they can't transact an ordinary bit of business without attempting a steal of some kind.

There is an immense amount of grumbling done by the farmers at the price they are getting for their wheat. They should adopt the trust methods and demand pay for four bushels of wheat every time they deliver one bushel. The trusts demand and collect interest on four dollars for every dollar that they invest. The banks have been getting interest on ten dollars for every dollar that they ever invested. Suppose we even things up and see if we don't get along better.

Eleven millions more money was issued to the national banks last week, and the comptroller announces that hundreds of new banks with small capital are being organized all over the country—100 in the state of Texas alone. All that means more checks, more credit and more gas in the balloon.

The body of Bartholin, the degenerate who murdered his mother and sweetheart was found on a wheat shock in Iowa where he committed suicide by shooting himself through the head. The way the great dailies handle the criminal news has had a demonstration in their report of this which certainly must attract attention. The simple fact stated above was spread out in the Chicago Record-Herald over a whole page of seven columns. From the trash of the great dailies, good Lord deliver us.

Some years ago what were called "Police Gazettes" were denounced by almost the whole of society, but the Chicago dailies during the last week, and especially their Sunday editions, had more criminal matter than the old Police Gazettes could publish in a whole year. They were simply abominable.

New England is a fair example of what exorbitant tariffs will do for a country. There is where the tariff was born, bred and then expanded to its present proportions, and Massachusetts, and the most of New England outside of the cities, is a barren and desolate wilderness, where a peculiar people linger in ever decreasing numbers and make their living by keeping summer boarders. This season of rain and cold has nearly destroyed that business and the papers say great distress will be the result. For many years they insisted that they could get rich by taxation. The result has been that a very few are enormously rich and the remainder, when compared with their illustrious forefathers are simply degenerates.

The mullet head can turn on his axis quicker than a fly-wheel on an engine. When The Independent, and for that matter the whole populist party said, in discussing the sophistries of the republican newspapers concerning the foreign trade, that "you can't forever sell everything and buy nothing," the mullet head turned up his nose and scoffed. He pointed to the "favorable" balance of trade and called those who did not believe, socialists or anarchists. When McKinley in his last speech, which the anniversary of his assassination has called to mind, said, "We must not repose in fancied security that we can forever sell everything and buy nothing," they turned on the axis and replied most cheerfully: "Yep. That's so." But as soon as the tariff league and the trusts could get into print and declared that that was treason to protection, they made another turn and went back to their old statements. Every time a trust or a republican leader takes snuff the mullet heads sneeze.

According to the republican editors over in Iowa they have "an era of good feeling" all over that state. There are two republican parties over there now and nothing worries them. It is true that one of the parties will claim all the offices and emoluments, but nevertheless there is "an era of good feeling." There are no political differences between Governor Boies and his followers and Allison, Dolliver and Cummins. They are all advocating exactly the same things and why should they not all be happy.

One of the republican country yokels says: "There is no Nebraska republican boss." That is true. It is an Iowa boss, and his name is Baldwin.

The enormous imports of pig and structural iron is a puzzle that no one yet has been able to solve. The London papers declare that every steamer from the Clyde and Mersey is taking as much iron to the United States as it can carry. Shipments are made to New York, Baltimore, Pensacola and New Orleans. To say that the United States cannot supply the demand for iron from its own citizens with inexhaustible supplies of both coal and iron lying almost on the surface and must import it from countries where both materials are mined at great depths is ridiculous. This sort of thing will change the balance of trade pretty quick. In the opinion of The Independent, when the real facts become known it will appear that the steel trust is accountable for it. It has probably been curtailing production in order to keep up prices. As no publicity is allowed in regard to any department of its business, no one can tell what it has been doing. When all the industries have been Morganized, such things will constantly occur. Leaving the amount of production of such commodities as steel and iron to the will of one man is a very dangerous thing for the public welfare.

Acording to the estimates of the Hungarian ministry of agriculture, the world's cereal harvests of 1902 are the largest ever known. Europe's wheat crop is placed at 193,120,000 bushels above that of 1901, in which case the outside demand upon the exportable surplus of the United States will not be such as to support such prices as have prevailed in the past two or three years. The republicans tell us every day on the street that the high prices which farmers have received is all because Bryan was beaten and the republican party remained in power. With wheat already below 50 cents and a prospect of a further decline they still keep asserting it. If the republicans produced good crops in this country and short crops in foreign countries and thereby made good times here, and they don't do it again they all ought to be hung.

A parliamentary report issued during the week gives the final official report of the Boer war. There were killed and died of disease 21,946. The total number of British troops sent to South Africa or enlisted there, serving in the war, was 460,961. It took nearly half a million of British troops to overcome 30,000 Dutch fighting for liberty and independence, and then the contest ended in a compromise so favorable to the fighting Dutchmen that it astonished the world.

The anthracite coal trust has produced the same condition that exists in steel and iron. The Philadelphia school board has bought and will import from Wales 25,000 tons of hard coal. It costs one dollar a ton more than the average price in this country for the last few years. That will take another slice off from our "favorable" balance of trade.

The trade union congress held in London last week voted down a resolution favoring compulsory arbitration.

The trades union congress held in London last week passed the following resolution: "That this congress of British trade unionists places on record its unqualified disapproval of the war against the Orange Free State and the Transvaal republic, believing that the question of extending the franchise and the protection of industry was not the real cause of the dispute, but the mere shield to cover an unscrupulous conspiracy to grab territory and replace well-paid white labor with unpaid, partially enslaved blacks and Asiatics. Further, this congress reaffirms its continued hostility to all wars of foreign aggression, which only tend to enrich the sinister figure of cosmopolitan finance whose main object is to hold the workers of all countries in universal social and economic servitude." The principles maintained and the legislation advocated by organized labor in this country and the trades unions in England is practically the same as advocated by the populist party. The above resolution correctly represents the position of the populist party in regard to both the Boer and Philippine wars.

A German war vessel sank a Haytien gunboat, that is a gunboat belonging to one of the contesting parties that have been carrying on civil war in the island. There is no doubt that the Germans were entirely in the right about the matter, for under any construction of international law, the gunboat was a pirate. The European papers are trying to create a good deal of excitement over the matter, talk about the Monroe doctrine and generally make themselves ridiculous. At Washington the correspondents have been talking about annexing Hayti. There is no telling what further foolishness the imperialists will attempt, but it is hardly likely that an attempt to annex that warring lot of half savage blacks would meet with much approbation from the people of these states.