

Coal Production of the United States. An interesting showing concerning our coal production is made by the New York World. In 1899, the United States wrested from Great Britain the lead in the coal production of the world. In 1900, this country more than doubled its lead in this production. Pennsylvania furnishes a large proportion of the coal, but it does not, however, have a monopoly on the coal mining industry. The World says:

The new returns from Washington show that twenty-six states and two territories contribute to the coal output of the country. Of the 267,542,444 tons mined in 1900 Pennsylvania contributed 136,724,006, of which 57,107,660 tons were anthracite. The state's net gain of 2,150,000 tons was due entirely to an increase in the yield of soft coal, the coal trust having effected a decrease in the other kind.

Next in line is Illinois, with an output of 25,153,929 tons. Then come West Virginia, with 21,980,430 tons, and Ohio, with 19,105,408 tons. No other state reaches the 10,000,000 mark.

Toying with the Constitution. The Boston Journal thinks the opponents of imperialism should be thankful because of the Supreme Court's Porto Rican decision. The Journal says that had the court held that the constitution followed the flag and extended over our new possessions, it would be impossible to alienate any of these islands in the future. This is so, according to the Journal, because there is nothing in the constitution that warrants the surrender of any territory or any people once formally pronounced American.

Will the Journal take another look at the constitution and discover if it can any authority therein, either direct or implied, for the government of subject peoples?

For people who are so ready to ignore the constitution, so quick to set themselves above the constitution, the imperialists are very prompt to rush to the constitution to find prohibitions against doing that which they do not want to do, and authority for doing that which they want to.

In Memory of Rizal. At 6 o'clock in the evening of December 30 of each year, in the churches of the Philippine Islands, the bell is given an extra stroke as a tribute to the memory of Jose Rizal. December 30 is the anniversary of the execution of Rizal. He was a Filipino patriot and was born in Luzon in 1861. Rizal was a well educated man and the author of several books whose purpose was to give to the world a better acquaintance with the Filipino people and to invoke a larger sympathy for the wrongs they had suffered. He persistently agitated the Filipino cause throughout Europe and in 1887 went to Hong Kong where he organized the Filipino League. He returned to Manila in 1892 where he was arrested on the claim that the Spanish officers had found seditious documents in his possession. On December 30, 1896, Rizal was executed by the Spanish authorities on the charge of being a traitor. In the shadow of death Rizal said: "What is death to me? I have sown the seed others are left to reap."

Mr. McCutcheon, the newspaper correspon-

dent, says that when the Filipino bells are tolled on the evening of December 30, the people pay reverent attention and say: "That is to the memory of Rizal." The sacrifices made by this man were made for the love of his native land. His people aspired to liberty; their aspiration was his aspiration. He went to his death cheerfully and with a clear conscience, and ever since the day of his execution his memory has been enshrined in the hearts of his countrymen.

Now, after all these years the United States of America have succeeded to the sovereignty of Spain, and the Filipinos of today are fighting for liberty against this country as the Filipinos of Rizal's time fought for liberty. It must be a gloomy task for the American when he listens to the tolling of the Philippine bells on December 30 to reflect that the seed sown by Rizal, the patriot, has not yet been reaped, and that the harvest has been prevented by the action of a nation that has always pretended to be the greatest of all champions of liberty.

If we are to continue in the possession of the Philippine Islands the American people will learn more of the history of that territory. The pathetic story of Rizal will belong to us, but it will not be pleasant to listen to that sad tale so long as we deny to the Filipinos of today the liberty for which they and their fathers so long fought.

South American Trade Important. The New York World points out that the total exports of South America in 1900 were valued at \$450,000,000 and the total imports at \$350,000,000, using round figures. Of the total exports \$93,665,134 were sent to the United States. Of the total imports \$38,945,721 were sent from the United States. The balance of trade, therefore, last year was \$54,719,413 in favor of South America and against the United States."

The World asks "Of the total foreign commerce of South America, amounting in value to \$800,000,000, why is less than one-sixth with this country and more than five-sixths with other nations?" The World's answer is that we have "neglected the only outlet for our commercial energy through the unfortunate combination of accident and blundering which has sent us to oriental opium dreaming."

But may it not also be true that as we have grown nearer and nearer a policy of imperialism we have grown farther and farther from our South American friends?

A Menace to Business. J. Pierpont Morgan is reported to have on foot the organization of an Anglo-American bank with a capital of \$1,000,000,000. The scheme contemplates the abolition of all financial agencies now engaged in Anglo-American business. It is intended that this bank shall not only dominate the banking business between America and Europe, but that it shall dictate the financial operations of the world. Some idea of the immensity of this bank will be obtained when it is known that the aggregate capital of the 64 national banks

in New York is only \$100,000,000. The bank of England has a capital of \$72,765,000. The bank of France has a capital of \$36,500,000. The capital of Mr. Morgan's proposed bank will be much larger than the combined capital of the bank of France, the bank of Berlin, the bank of Spain, the bank of England and the government bank of Turkey.

Can any thoughtful citizen contemplate the proposition that such a bank be established without being fearful of the results upon the general welfare of the public?

Another Great Achievement. The London Statist, in a recent article, provides the administration politicians with a great campaign card. The Statist says:

"The crops promise to be poor in the greater part of Europe and there is a prospect that France and Germany will have to buy more wheat than lately.

"It is safe to conclude that the United States will either export a larger quantity even than in recent years, or, if the weather of June and July injures the crops, she will be able to sell at much higher prices.

"So far as Europe is concerned, it is desirable that the American crop should be very large. It seems certain that in either event the balance of indebtedness will be increasingly against Europe and in favor of the United States.

"Therefore, it is not an unreasonable conclusion that the volume of money needed in the autumn to conduct the vast business which, it seems likely, will be beyond all comparison greater than ever before, enhancing rates greatly, will result in a large drain of gold to the United States."

It will now be in order for the republican newspapers to pay another high tribute to the McKinley administration. Of course if the price of wheat goes up because of a large European demand, the administration is to be given the credit for the crop shortage abroad.

Is It all Caution in the Cuban Affair? When the Cuban Commission visited Washington they were told by Secretary of War Root that the Platt amendment was the law of the land, that the president was powerless to change that law, and before the executive could obtain authority to act in the premises the Platt amendment, as a whole must be adopted.

The Platt amendment as a whole has been adopted, and now the Washington dispatches say that the administration counsellors have concluded that it would not be wise for the president to act in the matter of withdrawing the troops from Cuba, even after a government shall be organized there, until he shall have submitted the question of American evacuation to congress. It is stated that the president has "fully made up his mind that he will not act upon his own responsibility in the premises."

Is it possible to regard all this as mere caution and a desire to conform to the laws and the equities of the situation? Are not the people justified in suspecting that there is a vast amount of insincerity and hypocrisy in the administration's attitude on the Cuban question?