

# NEWS OF THE WEEK

A Weekly Resume of the Really Vital News by the Editor

Last week Teddy took the bridle in his teeth, which every one knows are pretty solid and strong, and dashed away on a course all by himself which may make a good deal of trouble before the thing is ended. He did it against the judgment of his cabinet. He resolved to forward to the czar a protest against the Kisheneff massacre. The Russian government had given notice to the world that it would not receive such a protest from any nation. Since that massacre, the czar has done all that any ruler could do under such circumstances. He has deposed the governor of the province and arrested over 300 persons, confined them in jail and ordered their prosecution. To further show his indignation at the outrage he has annulled many of the cruel laws in force against the Jews and granted them enlarged privileges. It is said that Secretary Hay in doing this work will take the position that the president is simply forwarding a petition of the Jews in this country and that this government as a government is making no protest. That is "drawing it so fine" it is probable that the Russian government will not see the point. The plan is not to send this in the regular way to the department of state in Russia, but the American minister there will be instructed to present it in person to the czar. The czar should reply that when the United States abandons the practice of burning criminals at the stake, when the Kisheneffs at Rock Creek, Sand Creek, and the murder of Italians at New Orleans and many other things of like sort are wiped from the records of history, he will take Roosevelt's petition into consideration. The massacre of the Jews at Kisheneff was one of the most horrible in history. The people of the United States have made their protest. But this government should keep its hands off the affairs of Europe or we will be overwhelmed in difficulties.

The French government has appointed a commission of three distinguished men to act with the American commission to aid in securing the action of governments of the old world in establishing a fixed price for silver and "to establish the gold standard in Asia with silver an unlimited legal tender." That is the way the dispatches state it, but the fact is that they mean to establish bimetallism at the ratio of 32 to 1.

The second election in Germany, which occurred in districts where no candidate had a majority at the first election, had been held. The social democrats have now 82 members, a gain of 25, and the national socialist party, which advocates the theories known as socialism in the United States, has just one member.

A black pall of disgrace is settling upon these United States. Forty-nine negroes have been lynched since January 1, many of them having been burned alive. Nine have been lynched in the state of Georgia since the beginning of the year. Since the Wilmington affair negroes have been lynched every day somewhere, and in the northern states as well as in the southern. In no case was there any doubt about the execution of the law. It is simply beastly blood-thirstiness. This is a poor time for this government to try to meddle in European affairs on account of the unlawful killing of people there.

The great dailies have often flung their jibes and jeers at populists, charging them with ignorance and illiteracy, although the state where there are the most populists, heads the list of states in the statistics of literacy. But the Chicago Tribune has such an illiterate writer on its editorial staff that he talks about a chafing-dish party and the preparation of a "Welsh rabbit." This long-haired, anarchistic old pop has heard of Welsh "rarebits," but never of a Welsh "rabbit." It wasn't a typographical error either for it was repeated three times.

Sir Thomas Lipton accepted an invitation to dine with the president notwithstanding the Booker T. Washington incident.

Populism has taken such a hold on the people of Chicago that organizations are being formed all over the city to fight the granting of any franchises for street car service at all, either for ten years, twenty years or

any other length of time. They propose to take the roads at the end of the present franchises, the longest of which expires in 1917. The plan is to issue street car certificates, the principal and interest of which will be a lien on the receipts of the street car lines until paid. In this way populism goes marching on.

There was a time, and a good many of us can remember it very well, when Blaine was more the popular idol than Roosevelt is at the present time, but he was not elected president. Wall street didn't want him.

That town where the Jews were massacred in Russia has more names than any other town on the face of the earth. A glance at the New York, Washington and Chicago dailies shows that it has at least the following: Kishineff, Kishenev, Kishinev, Kishinev, and several more.

The people in various parts of the United States seem to have had enough of corporation rule, although that does not apply to Nebraska where the farmers still insist that the railroads shall run the state government, while they, the farmers, pay the taxes. The Chicago Tribune declares that the corporations in that city have been teaching anarchy by example for years and that the telephone company has been making a clear profit of a million a year out of the citizens. It winds up by saying: "If there ever was a public service susceptible of municipal ownership this is one."

The cotton corner is still playing havoc with the manufacturing interests and textile wage-workers of the whole land. It is said that Brown and his partners have 200,000 bales of cotton on hand. Some mills have shut down and all the rest of them threaten to do so. No manufacturer is buying any cotton. All the sales reported on Wall street are speculative. After a while perhaps the people of this country may take a hand in such a way that it will be impossible for a few Wall street gamblers to stop one of the great industries of this country and bring suffering and death upon hundreds of thousands of people.

Great pressure is being brought to bear on the magnates east of the Missouri to grant a one-cent rate for harvest hands. If the grain rots in the field for want of hands to gather the crops the railroads will not get to haul it to market next fall and winter. That rate now prevails west of the Missouri.

The district court of Lancaster county, Nebraska, has decided that the extension of the time of legislatures and the raise in pay is unconstitutional. Lawyers say that it will not invalidate acts passed after the constitutional limit of forty days, but that the legislators will be liable for the overpay they have received. Will the State Journal begin to demand that they "put it back?"

Three men have been fined \$1,000 each for holding negroes in involuntary servitude in Alabama under the "peonage" system. That system consists in getting ignorant negroes convicted of small misdemeanors and then sending them to convict camps where they are worked as the old slaves were worked under the whip. It is the same thing that is practiced by the Elkins crowd upon white men in West Virginia. The democrats do these things in one place and the republicans in another. Let us have a populist party that is composed for the most part of those who work and then we will have no peons and no multi-millionaires.

The members of the legislature, according to the recent court decision, have drawn \$215,460 which they were not entitled to, and they owe the state that much money. There are 1,179 of these gentlemen. How many of them will "put it back?"

The discovery of radium is making, scientifically, the whole world over again. Radium raises the temperature of objects around it by several degrees; it gives light enough to read by; it will burn a deep sore in human flesh just by being held near it. It will, according to its discoverer's belief, kill any man who would be rash enough to venture into a room with a pound or two of it. And all this with so trifling a loss of substance that

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|-----------------------|------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1 bushel basket.      | 1 potato masher. | 4 lamp wicks.   | 1 yd. French lace. |
| 25 white envelopes.   | 1 wire strainer. | 6 collar buttons.   | 12 agate buttons.  |
| 1 ink tablet.         | 1 nutmeg grater. | 2 shoe strings.   | 2 hat pins.        |
| 1 pen and penholder.  | 1 stove lifter.  | 1 paper pins.   | 12 hooks and eyes. |
| 1 bottle ink.         | 6 tea spoons.    | 1 box half pins.  | 1 boxwood whistle. |
| 1 box crayons.        | 6 table spoons.  | 1 aluminum thimble.                                       | 1 brownie mask.    |
| 1 lead pencil.        | 1 sponge.        | 1 cone ironing wax.                                       | 1 dressed doll.    |
| 1 leather pocketbook. | 1 kite.          | 1 white handkerchief.                                     | 1 heart patty pan. |
| 1 7-inch comb.        | 1 pair scissors. | 1 pair black hose.  | 1 star patty pan.  |
| 1 pocket mirror.      | 1 pocket knife.  | 1 needle cabinet.   | 1 wire coat frame. |
| 1 spool emb. cotton.  | 1 shaving brush. | 1 combination tool, can opener, glass cutter, plier, etc. |                    |
| 1 box tacks.          | 1 watch chain.   |   |                    |
| 1 screw driver.       | 1 scarf pin.     |   |                    |
| 1 egg beater.         | 6 shelf papers.  |   |                    |

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centuries alone can make it manifest. It is now asserted that within what the chemists have called an atom there is a little universe composed of complex systems of what, for want of a better name, are called "electrons," that are in a continual process of making and being made. That is to say there is life in matter. The unknown force that causes the heart to beat is the same thing that is found in radium. It has been claimed by some scientists, although they could not prove their theory, that the vital forces in all animals was electricity. The action of radium seems to prove it. That is the foundation of the new term "electrons." What a world this is that we live in!

In Wisconsin there is a split in the republican party and the warring factions, which may be called the railroad and anti-railroad crowds, are reaching for each other's scalps. In the democratic party there is a split wider and the war fiercer than among republicans. The sensible thing for the voters of Wisconsin to do would be for the anti-railroad republicans and Bryan democrats all to join the populists and "wipe the earth up" with the plutocratic gangs in both parties.

The revolt against the worship of Mammon still continues. Last week a Boston minister let loose his guns on the millionaires and they seemed to be charged with the same ammunition that The Independent has long been firing at them. Among other things he said: "Not only does the billionaire alienate the people at large from the church; he also does so indirectly by making the church the recipient of his tainted money." "The church's falling popularity with the laboring man is due in a large measure to her reputation for economic injustice."

There are 5,503 teachers in the common schools of Chicago. They rank in numbers as to nationality, first, Americans; second, Irish, and third, Jews. One school has 60 per cent of Jewish children and it stood the highest in the intellectual test in the whole city, while the children were mostly the children of Jewish peddlars.

Indiana is a republican state and the condition of the negro population there is so terrible that hundreds of them are fleeing to Kentucky and the south for protection. The condition is so serious that the governor has called a council of the state officers and officers of other states to devise means for the protection of the negroes. White jurors will not convict any one of crimes committed against negroes and in counties where there are any of that race the white toughs commit all sorts of crimes, charge it to the negroes and escape all punishment. Life and property is becoming unsafe and women dare not at night go out of doors, not on account of the negroes, but because of the white toughs. The "grand old party" that has held power

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so long "because it freed the slaves" is reducing the negro to a worse condition than he was before the war.

The Union Pacific railroad appeared before the interstate commerce commission and acknowledged that it had been paying rebates to the Peavy elevator company of from \$5 to \$7.50 per car. What will be done about it? Nothing at all. No one will be fined or imprisoned. Meantime the elevator bill passed by the last republican legislature is declared to be absolutely worthless. The elevators and the railroads will continue to take it all as long as the republican party remains in power in this state. The farmers stayed at home and husked corn or declared that there was nothing to vote for at the last election and while they continue to do so, they must pay the bill.

The Springfield Republican in speaking of the Iowa democratic state convention and of Mr. Bryan says: "Identifying himself with the living radicalism of the twentieth century, he would be a greater power than he could now hope to be in the democracy of Iowa and the nation." What the Republican calls radicalism is the public ownership of railroads and a like policy in regard to municipal public utilities. That the whole world is tending in that direction cannot be denied. A sane opportunism which does not involve the abandonment of any fundamental principle, has been the distinguishing thing in the career of all great statesmen. Of this kind of statesmen, Lincoln was the great exemplar.

The leading Jews everywhere are