

NEWS OF THE WEEK

A Weekly Resume of the Really Vital News by the Editor

Postmaster General Payne keeps on indicting Beavers. Two or three more indictments were filed during the week. Payne seems determined to keep it up until all the blank indictments are used up.

The trial of James H. Tillman for shooting editor N. T. Gonzales has continued through the week. The Independent has no sympathy with any of the men who engage in these southern shooting affrays, and none whatever with Tillman, but it wishes to register a protest against the way the northern dailies are reporting that trial. They give but one side of the case. One whole day was taken up with reading the denunciations and slanders contained in the editorials printed in Gonzales paper during one year. While Tillman has been denounced continuously by the editors of northern papers, they cut out all reference to the matter in these Gonzales editorials which was sent to them by the Associated press. The nature of these attacks on Tillman by Gonzales can be seen from the following sample and there were scores of them like it. Gonzales, in speaking of Tillman, says: "He is a proven liar, defaulter, gambler and drunkard, a character that has never before essayed to offer himself for the chief executive of a proud commonwealth. A man who has not accounted for the money entrusted to him to build a confederate monument, though repeatedly called upon to do so." Most men will wonder why the shooting was not done long before it was.

The literary bureau of the republican party located in the census office at Washington is about to issue a bulletin denying that the cost of living has increased 27 per cent and declaring that wages have advanced as much as the most of living. That is the kind of work that the bureau was expected to do when it was made a permanent thing. Let any housewife look over her accounts for the last three years and then ask her whether the cost of living has advanced 27 per cent or not.

The Madden raids on this office intended to suppress or curtail the circulation of The Independent have attracted a good deal of attention throughout the United States. The autocracy out in Colorado have adopted a more speedy and effectual method of suppressing papers to which it is opposed. The military raided the office of the Victor Record. The raid was made because in a recent issue the paper called a member of the national guard an ex-convict. Some hours after the editorial and mechanical force of the Record had been arrested and placed in the military jail, called the bull pen, the aggrieved soldier was sent to make a formal complaint against the prisoners. The arrests thus were accomplished before the complaints were filed, and included printers and other persons who were not in any way responsible for the matter published in the paper. Notwithstanding all that, the wife of one of the employes, after barricading all the doors and windows, went to work on a linotype machine, set the matter, made up the forms, smuggled a pressman in, got out the paper on time and although the soldiers were still guarding the building, opened the doors and let the newsboys in who went out and tried to sell papers to the guards. But the soldiers are still there making arrests according to their whims and notions. The "sappers and miners of liberty" of which Lincoln warned us are at work in every part of the country.

The Massachusetts democracy has been so thoroughly captured by the gold democrats that the nomination of Gaston, the greatest corporation man in the state, for governor was made by acclamation. There was not one protesting voice in the whole convention. So thoroughly plutocratic was the whole affair that the convention indulged in insulting flings at the people's party in its platform. In 1896 and 1900 the Massachusetts delegation to the national democratic convention was a Bryan delegation, with that brilliant orator and honest patriot, George Fred Williams, at its head. What hope any man can have of the Kansas City democrats controlling the next democratic national convention is past comprehension.

The pathway of capital is strewn with the blood of the people. During the month of September fifty-four persons were killed in Chicago on street car and railroad crossings, besides a large number wounded and some

maimed for life. Capital not only demands the earnings of the people, but often times their lives also.

The infernal lying constantly indulged by the daily press has an example in the stories persistently published for months asserting that the steel trust had orders ahead for a year to the amount of the full possible output of the mills. The Independent was the only paper to denounce as false these stories. Now the steel trust is discharging thousands of men and shutting down many plants because, as they say, of overproduction, and the impossibility of selling their goods. Still the dailies go lying in their old fashion without any let-up. They seem to think that there is no possibility of an overproduction of lies.

The Colorado militia is still resisting the courts and defying arrest upon warrants issued by the district judges. The sheriff has been told that he could not serve warrants for false imprisonment. The courts have succumbed to military rule. There seems to be little of "the spirit of '76" out in that region. This is the defiance that General Bell, a militia general, issued to the courts: "I will say right now that neither the sheriff of the county of Teller or any other county nor any constable or any number of them will be allowed to serve any civil process from any court in the state upon any officer of this guard while on duty." On with the dance!

The mine owners who brought on the Boer war are suffering the ravages of outraged justice. The official report from Johannesburg announces that there is a shortage of 115,000 laborers in the country and no prospects of any more coming. Half the mines are idle.

Morgan has not only lost his prestige in Europe, but a good many of the eastern papers are poking fun at him. The following are some of the expressions they use: "Sie transit gloria mundi. We read in the papers, now, that it requires yacht races to get Mr. Morgan's name into the papers—he who, a few short months ago, overshadowed the earth. So passes the glory of this world. Solomon, or whoever wrote Ecclesiastes, would have enjoyed the history of Mr. Morgan. All is vanity." "His name has lost its magic." "An exploded prophet," etc.

The street car magnates of Toledo bought up the city council and had the pegs all set to pass an ordinance to suit them. That is the town Golden Rule Jones rules over. The night that the ordinance was to be passed, half the male population of the city turned out, packed the council room, the halls and streets. The council did not pass the ordinance. They thought that they saw blood in the eyes of the crowd. Would it not have been better for the people of that city long ago to have adopted the referendum? If they had, they would not have had to resort to a semi-riot to prevent a rascally council from selling them out.

The total Jewish population of the United States is now 1,127,268, while there are only 2,614 in the British empire.

A railroad magnate sent his son from the Pacific coast to a college on the Atlantic coast. The boy traveled in a private car and had two chefs, two porters, a valet and other servants to attend to his comfort and belongings. In that magnificent way he passed through the cattle districts of Wyoming and Nebraska where thousands of farmers are facing bankruptcy on account of excessive freight rates and the low price of cattle—farmers who vote to pay the taxes that the railroads ought to pay and for the judges and other state officers that the railroads nominate. The reason they vote that way is because they don't know any better.

The attorney general, Knox is his name, always has an opinion ready for any difficulty that arises from undertaking to make an empire out of this republic. Last week he decided that the officials of Porto Rico, although serving the United States and appointed by the president, are not officials of the United States and not entitled to the franking privilege. Some of these days some foreign complication will arise with these officials. What will their status be then? Will they be simply officials of Porto Rico and will Porto Rico enter into diplo-

matic relations with foreign nations of its own account?

Will there be another Homestead riot? The steel trust has posted notices of a reduction of wages there? The steel trust first induced its employes to invest all the money they had saved in its stock and now it proposes to reduce wages, trusting to win because the workers have nothing saved up to live on during a strike.

Miss Ruth Bryan, daughter of William J. Bryan, was married last Saturday, on her eighteenth birthday, to William Homer Leavitt, an artist of Newport, R. I. It is said that Newport will be the future residence of the happy couple. Mr. Leavitt is a widower thirty-two years of age. He came to Lincoln last spring to see a portrait of Mr. Bryan to be exhibited at the St. Louis fair.

So many persons are killed on grade crossings in Chicago, the Catholic priests keep bicycles standing ready at their doors so that they can instantly mount and hasten away to administer to the dying. Some of the Chicago dailies publish cuts of these bicycle priests. The victims offered up to Molock and Mammon are more numerous these days than at any time in all history.

The feeling against the acceptance of Rockefeller's proposition to get a hold on the state university by donating \$66,000 to construct a building to be used for religious purposes provided that the citizens would give the remainder of \$100,000, is growing all the time. In the excitement that followed the offer about \$10,000 was subscribed and there subscriptions stopped. The Lincoln Evening News remarks: "If it were not for the precedent which Mr. Rockefeller has established of raising the price of kerosene after every donation to Chicago university, the citizens of Nebraska might not be so suspicious of the disinterestedness of Rockefeller benevolence. The price of kerosene per gallon is of more importance to the whole number of Nebraska consumers than the comparatively small sum which the heir of the billionaire has offered to corrupt the judgment and confuse the vision of the people of this state."

The steel trust has been skinning its workmen as well as those people who bought its stocks. The bosses in the works have been making the men pay them a rake-off for giving them work. These great combinations are meeting new difficulties every day. A concern with an income almost as great as that of the largest states, whose plants are scattered all over the country, must expect such things. The bosses stand in very much the same relation as officeholders and they are no better sort of men. They will take a rake-off whenever they can get it. How can the head officers located in New York know what is going on in Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Wisconsin? The trust theory is rotten to the very core.

The sort of "spielers" that the republican party sends to govern our "subjects" in Porto Rico may be gathered from the fact that those chaps down in Porto Rico have been using the franking privilege in such a way that the steamers were encumbered with the goods and chattels sent back home through the use of the mails. To cut off the graft, Attorney General Knox decided that they were not officers of the United States and not entitled to the franking privilege. If the "civilizers" at so near a point as Porto Rico do such things, what do you suppose they do in the Philippines 16,000 miles away?

Three thousand business men and citizens of Victor, Colo., sent a petition to the republican governor of the state asking for the recall of the militia, as the militia was sent there in the first place against the protest of the civil authorities. This modern American shah simply replied: "The militia will stay there."

The gold democrats have completely captured the organization in Massachusetts. It is now announced that they will not, for they cannot, make any state campaign. They have no issues differing sufficiently from the republican party upon which to make a campaign. To attempt to make a speech or write an article upon the thesis, "We Want the Offices," don't seem to be an inviting task.

The reorganization of the army has created such continual disturbances at the war department—such prolonged Killenny cat fights—that it has been found necessary to transfer General Corbin to the command of the department of the east and put General Chaf-

fee in his place. All that Miles said about that bill is coming true.

Senator Hanna is making about as big a fool of himself in his speeches as any ward politician ever did. He is accusing Tom Johnson of being indirectly responsible for the murder of McKinley, because Johnson advocates some things which Hanna calls socialism, and the socialists caused the death of McKinley, he says.

George Fred Williams refused even to attend the Massachusetts democratic state convention. The Boston papers speak of his absence in the following way: "The session of today lacked the exciting features of former year. There was missing the picturesque and fire lent by George Fred Williams and his train of moral Bacchantes who formed the Massachusetts corps of the army of Bryanism."

The czar of Russia and the emperor of Austria have been holding a consultation over the horrible state of affairs in Macedonia. It appears that the settlement of the trouble there have, by the other powers, been delegated to them. Some sharp orders were sent to the sultan through the Russian and Austrian ministers at Constantinople. The sultan is accused of needless and barbarous cruelties and the two governments say that it is their duty to come to the assistance of the victims. We may therefore look for something to be done. The agents of the Red Cross say that thousands of women and children are starving to death in the mountains and many hundreds of wounded have no medical attention whatever.

Fifteen new indictments have been handed in during the week of post-office officials at Washington. That Hanna-Heath business demoralized the whole department.

A lot of scoundrels demanded \$50,000 from the Northern Pacific road, setting a time for its payment and threatening that if it were not paid to blow up the trains and bridges with dynamite. Of course the money was not paid, and one day after the time set these scoundrels actually did place dynamite on the track eight miles west of Helena, Mont. The front part of the engine was destroyed, but no lives were lost. That road owes a duty to the public to hunt the wretches down, if it costs \$100,000. As a business proposition for the road, the expenditure of that much or even more would be a good investment.

Two of the "civilizers" that we sent to the Philippines, George Forman, chief inspector, and C. J. Johnston, constabulary supply officer, being charged with boodling, robbed a safe of \$6,000, captured a ship and fled. Finding that their ship needed coal, they pirated a native vessel and took what coal they needed from it. Where they have gone to nobody knows.

The war department has now an official censor in the person of Col. Henry Alexander Greene. Colonel Greene formerly performed the same duties in the Philippines. Imperialism continues to advance step by step. Vote 'er straight.

The shrinkage in the value of steel stock from the price it sold at last year to the present time is \$402,438,768, or just about 50 per cent. Carnegie holds a first mortgage on the whole concern of \$301,059,000, which is probably all that it is really worth. Carnegie don't care a fig whether steel stock goes up or goes down. Morgan is the man who walks the floor.

Your Troubles

Readers of The Independent who have troubles—physical troubles—illness of any kind or character, should write to Drs. Searles and Searles of this city giving a full description of the trouble. It is folly to suffer from a disease that continues to weaken the system, sap the energy and eventually claims your life when you can get treatment from specialists who will cure you in a short time. Many cases can be successfully treated by mail. These doctors conduct all their own correspondence and preserve it strictly private and confidential. All private letters they answer personally with a pen and thus avoid the possibility of information getting out through the carelessness of a confidential stenographer. Tell your troubles to Drs. Searles and Searles, P. O. box 224, Lincoln, Neb., and you will never have occasion to regret it.

Farmers, Attention!

Do you wish to sell your farm? If so, send full description, lowest price and best terms. Or, if you wish to buy a farm, ranch or Lincoln home, write to or call on Williams & Bratt, 1105 O st., Lincoln, Neb.