

NEWS OF THE WEEK

A Weekly Resume of the Really Vital News by the Editor

"The war is over." The Associated press dispatches from Manila under date of October 12 settle the matter. They are as follows: "Lieutenant Velasquez and thirty men of the constabulary were attacked recently by five hundred head hunters of Nueva Viscaya and lost two men, after killing fifty-three and wounding large numbers of the head hunters. The enemy were armed with rifles and bolos." "Eight ladrones have just been sentenced here to be hanged and two to twenty-five years' imprisonment by Judge H. H. Sweeney. These men were captured in Bulacan and other provinces of Luzon adjacent to Manila." The execution of three murderers in New York occupied two or three columns a day in the dailies a week or two ago, but for Filipinos one line to each man hung is deemed sufficient.

The atrocities in Macedonia are as awful as anything in all history. Nothing has been done to stop them. The following is a passage from the correspondence of George Lynch, who is on the ground: "During the past few weeks I have daily witnessed the hardships, sufferings and miseries of the helpless fugitives fleeing from the barbarities of the Turks. I have seen men, women and children of all ages struggling from Macedonia to the frontier and safety, some endeavoring to save a little of their scant fortunes, bowed under the burdens of household goods, others driving a few cattle, but the majority having nothing, being glad to save their lives. Many have been compelled to leave aged relatives, many mothers were compelled to abandon their children in their wild flight from midnight surprise by the Turks. In all my experience in four years I have not seen such misery as existed among the refugees fleeing from the Turks. Never was there a better opportunity for generous Americans to relieve sufferings."

There is a great upsurge in Russia. It was supposed that there was about \$400,000,000 of gold in the czar's war chest. All the estimates made of the gold in the world has accounted for that much locked up there. A recent investigation has revealed the fact that there is less than \$150,000,000 there. The rest of it has been spent in building the Siberian railroad and bribing Chinese mandarins.

The management of the daily press during these fall months of campaigning has been along the old lines. Anything to keep the minds of the people from the questions that are pressing for settlement. Something had to be done to keep the people from investigating the panicky conditions everywhere appearing. The thing that was decided upon was a war between Russia and Japan. The Independent spotted it as a fake and did not even mention it in last week's issue. All the dispatches at this writing say that there was nothing in it.

The isthmian canal is becoming a very live issue again. When congress convenes there will be some lively times over it. It is now boldly charged that the \$50,000,000 appropriated to get a right of way via Panama was all pure boodle. Forty millions were to be given to Wall street and French boodlers and ten million to Colombian politicians. The Colombia chaps were dissatisfied with the distribution of the boodle and kicked the fat into the fire. Under law the president now should order work to be immediately begun on the Nicaragua route. All the treaties could be signed up in ten days and work could be begun immediately. But nothing of the kind will be done. The railroads don't want any canal.

The revenues of the government continue to decline at a rapid rate, just as The Independent said they would when the boom was over. The government will soon want some of that money that Shaw has handed over to the banks. What will the poor bankers do then? If they undertake to call in their loans, we will have worse than '93 over again.

Disastrous floods such as were never known at this season of the year in all the history of the country continue to occur in various parts of the country. This week New York and New Jersey were visited with a downpour that broke all previous records. The losses ran far up in the millions. Patterson, N. J., was the worst sufferer, a large part of the city being flooded and work in many large

manufacturing plants stopped. There is much suffering among the wage-workers, who are never further than thirty days from famine.

The banks, or by one, continue to close their doors. Not a week passes with less than the bankruptcy of from two to six. The great dailies keep very quiet about the matter. The last one reported was in Fergus Falls, Minn.

The Southern Pacific railroad is to follow the example of the New York Central and curtail expenses by laying off employees. The Harriman line is preparing, according to an authoritative report received in Chicago, to reduce its force by 1,200 men immediately. The chief cuts will be made in the shops, but there will be economizing all along the line. There will soon be 100,000 railroad men out of work. That means that they will cease to buy goods, the merchants will find it impossible to sell, they will stop orders on the eastern mills, and thousands more will become idle. That is the way the thing has worked for two hundred years. A boom and a collapse. In all that time the majority of the people have learned nothing. The mission of the great dailies has been to intensify the ignorance.

If the doctrines of imperialism had not degenerated the people, it would have been impossible for any governor or commander of state militia to have instituted such a condition of military rule as has been exhibited in Colorado. It was along the line of government by force that the republicans had adopted as a national policy. The result is just what always follows such undertakings. First, the courts were invaded by armed soldiers and their orders defied. Next, corruption among the military. About half of the higher officers are at present under arrest charged with boodling. The foul smell of the affair has reached as far as Europe. The president has had to take notice of the conditions and has sent a request to the republican governor to withdraw half of the militia. The expense has been about \$2,000 a day, which the people will have to pay in addition to their already exorbitant taxes. Republicans rule in Colorado, but the vote 'er straight kind seem to think that they must have it.

Building has almost come to a standstill in the east and to a very great degree in the west. The dailies try to make it appear that it is all on account of the labor organizations. Such statements are constantly made, and multitudes of unthinking readers take it all for the truth. But that is not the truth at all. Labor troubles can scarcely be taken into account when the real cause of the cessation of building operations is understood. Like the distress in the cattle districts, the trusts are at the bottom of the trouble. The lumber trust, the steel trust, the tin trust, the electric supply trust, have raised prices of everything that goes into the construction of a building to such a figure that the people cannot afford to build. That is the truth about the matter.

Mr. Steffens has been writing some articles for the magazines concerning the corruption in the cities. What may be expected of the "business men" in the way of reform may be judged from his report of interviews with such men in Chicago. He says: "I spent one whole forenoon calling on the presidents of banks, great business men and financiers interested in public utility companies. With all the evidence I had had in other places that these men are the chief sources of corruption, I was unprepared for the sensation of that day. Those financial leaders of Chicago were 'mad.' All but one of them became so enraged as they talked that they could not behave decently. They rose up purple in the face and cursed reform. They said it had hurt business." These "business men" of which we have heard so much during the last few years are like the bankers who assembled in Lincoln during this week. They discuss things only to find how much money there is in it for them. "Profit" is the only standpoint from which they view anything. Whether it is peace, war, religion, politics, or government, "profit" is what they plan for. If The Independent had not heretofore made several remarks on the worship of Mammon, it would be appropriate to append them here.

The supreme court of the state of Missouri has sustained the proceed-

ings wherein Editor Shepherd was fined \$500 for criticizing a decision of the court after the case was closed. The decision criticized was believed by the whole population to indicate that the court was corrupt and the fine of the editor was paid by a public subscription. There is one satisfaction in this case. These judges were not "appointed for life," as the federal judges are and there will be an election in the near future when the people can get rid of them. In the federal courts there is no remedy against an unjust judge except by an impractical plan of impeachment.

Rosewater talks of "populist degeneracy" and declares the populist vote has dwindled down to a mere corporals guard. At the last election in Omaha the populists polled on their straight candidate who was on no other ticket almost exactly twice as many votes as they ever before polled in that city. That don't look much like "degeneracy" and "dwindling down."

The case of the ship building trust has disclosed to the public the moral rottenness and vulgar, low down stealing that goes along with "promoting." It was a dirty conspiracy to steal the money of a confiding public through lying publications called a "prospectus." Schwab, Morgan and the whole gang are proved to be just common, every-day thieves. When the steel trust gets into a receiver's hands more damnable things will be discovered. No wonder that steel common is down to 12 and no man has any confidence in any proposition with which Morgan is connected.

The United States government purchased another million ounces of silver for Philippine coinage and the price went up to over 60 cents an ounce, the highest price for many years. When that commission was sent over to Europe to establish bimetalism at the ratio of 32 to 1, The Independent said that it could be easily done. It will not be long before silver will be worth 64½ cents an ounce, a perfect demonstration of the truth of the arguments of populists during the last two presidential campaigns.

The service of the Nickel Plate road to New York city and Boston is unsurpassed. Three fast express trains, in each direction, daily. These trains are composed of modern first-class day coaches, elegant vestibuled sleeping cars between Chicago, New York and Boston and other eastern points. Superior dining car service, meals being served on American club plan, ranging in price from 35 cents to \$1.00; also service a la carte. Passengers can travel comfortably and economically via the Nickel Plate. See that your ticket reads that way. Chicago city ticket office, 111 Adams street. Depot, La Salle street and Van Buren street or the elevated loop.

Sept. 24, Oct. 1-8-15.

Governor Bates of Massachusetts in opening his campaign enunciated a great truth in almost his first sentence. He said that the opposition to the republicans was composed of, and made its appeal to the discontented. The man who, when prodded up in a street car under the imperative order to "move forward" after having paid the full price for a seat and is still "contented," is the very sort of a chap that votes the republican ticket down in Massachusetts. The fellows who want what they pay for and when they don't get it "kick" are the "discontented" who go after the corporations and the republican party with a sharp stick whenever they get a chance.

Mayor Low of New York city is a candidate on the fusion ticket for reelection. Like most candidates he gets very populist while the campaign is on. There are four panels in the alderman's chamber which have inscriptions which are somewhat plutocratic and money-worshipping in their nature he has ordered erased and the following populist principles put in their places: "Equal and exact justice to all men of whatever station or position.—Jefferson." "Our commerce should hold an equal and impartial hand.—Washington."

Populist Leaven is Working

Editor Independent: The people's party has much to be grateful for since the Denver conference, which set the leaven to working in the dormant meal. The conferences being held in several states since show that new life is revived in the hearts of many that were only waiting for a leading Moses to urge the hosts on to a marching victory. Now that a Moses has been found,

let us all prepare to follow and do all in our power to educate the unthinking to awake from their slumbers and try to be following Joshuas. It is simply gratifying to read of so many efforts being put forth in so many ways in an off year to arouse the people to see the folly of working so hard and the other fellow reaping the fruits of their toll.

The national federation for majority rule is a step to light the path for all who will open their eyes and look. Had the grangers in their early history advocated the education of political rule by the majority of the voters, this nation might be as prosperous as the green bay tree, and lessons now so hard to learn by the present generation, might have gone into history as one of the noble acts of our fathers. But why mourn the past? The thing to do is ponder (not dream) and work, work, work! MATILDA MAGLEY.

Green Ridge, Mo.

(In a private note to the editor, Mrs. Magley expresses keen satisfaction at the success of the recent state conference at Chillicothe, Mo. Prior to the death of Mr. Magley, both he and his wife were earnest, effective workers for the cause of populism; but since that time Mrs. Magley has been obliged to manage the home farm, a task somewhat too severe for her physical strength, as well as mentally wearing upon her, so that she is unable to take as active a part as formerly in the cause of humanity, although she is as loyal a populist as ever.—Ed. Ind.)

Pushing The Independent

PUSHING THE INDEPENDENT.

Editor Independent: Enclosed find one dollar for which please send The Independent for five months to the enclosed list of addresses. I am making presents of the subscriptions to the first two names. I think the Henry George Edition will be the means of bringing a good many subscribers. JOSEPH STINSON.

Colorado Springs, Colo.

GOOD SENSE

The Socialists of North Dakota Have Shown Good Sense in the Following Resolutions

Adopted unanimously at Fargo Local No. 1, Fargo, N. D., October 1, 1903.

Whereas, Socialism stands for co-operation, co-operation means brotherhood, and as Germany has produced the highest type of scientific socialists, and under great provocation these eminent leaders, by practice and precept, have always taught that war and violence should be discountenanced, and the recent election in that country demonstrates, if any proof were needed, that it is better to rely on education, the justice of our cause and the inherent sense of right implanted in man, than to try to overthrow injustice and oppression by force, thus relying on the old adage that "truth is mighty and will prevail, and though crushed to earth will rise again," and

Whereas, The lately enacted military law has rattled some of our editors, causing them to print articles of doubtful interpretation, and while we believe that it is the duty of every just and liberty-loving citizen to thoroughly expose and unsparingly condemn all wrongs and oppressions, yet we are convinced that any attempt to remove the abuses of capitalism by force is unwise, and all violent methods are instigated by capitalists, their tools or persons of weak and unbalanced minds, and, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we believe that our socialist papers should strongly emphasize that socialist philosophy is unalterably opposed to war and violence, that we will suffer the wrongs of capitalism until the people peaceably remove the same by the ballot, and we roundly condemn any effort to remove same by force, and, further,

Resolved, That we brand as unsafe any editor or teacher who by word, implication or otherwise attempts to teach violence, and believe such person is either lacking in the knowledge of scientific socialism, or is knowingly doing the dirty work of capitalism, and,

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent, through our state secretary, to the socialist press, requesting publication.

A. BASSETT,

State Secretary, Socialist Party.

Fargo, N. D.

Pope Pius X. on October 3 issued his first encyclical, which commemorated Pope Leo XIII.

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