

Next week the electoral college will perform the last act in sealing the sarchopagus of Grover's "safe and sane" democracy. The mourners will turn away and silence will reign over it while the eternal ages roll on.

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Morgan's Buzz-Saw and The Independent both one year, for \$1.25. A good combination and every populist should take advantage of this offer.

The phrase "not prepared for self government" has become the shibboleth of the ruling class in this country, and seems to them a perfect answer to all demands for liberty. But during the last week that question has been frequently asked concerning Colorado. Strange to say it is not asked by the people who have been using it, but by the other side.

The deficit during the month of November was almost a million dollars a day. In these days of incomprehensible figures that does not excite comment at all. During the civil war when the expenses of the government rose to a million dollars a day, there was consternation all over the land. The fate that presses hard upon such conditions as now exist in this country, has often been recorded in the history of the past. When a nation sows to greed and extravagance, it reaps hell.

A decision of the United States supreme court last week makes the southern states liable for over \$200,000,000, which those states repudiated during reconstruction times. If the bonds are to be collected by the power of the federal government there will be serious times ahead. The burden put upon those states will be enormous and almost unbearable. Some of those bonds were issued through the power of the government instituting carpet bag governments.

Three senators and three congressmen have been proved to be every day small thieves during the last year and how many more of the same kind there are, no one knows. Of the larger kind, the men of greater intellects, whose thieving is not connected with a few post offices, race track postal business, and some sections of public lands, none have yet been exposed. Among those caught are Senators Burton, Dietrich and Mitchell, the latter last week had to hasten home in connection with the Oregon land frauds. The congressmen are Driggs, Hermann and Litauer. One United States judge, Swaine of Florida, also adorns this list of grafters. The senate and house is made up of the same class of men as we have in the city councils of the various cities. They are members of the predatory class.

Of the 124,381 votes reported to be cast for the peoples party ticket, 22,636 were returned in the state of the presidential nominee and 20,518 in the state of the nominee for vice-president. These two men, certainly had influence among the people of the states where they reside.

Some of the dailies are giving statistics of the awful poverty in London but they publish not a word about the awful poverty in the big cities of this country. The same plutocratic, economic system prevails in both countries and produces exactly the same results.

The control of railroad rates con-

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tinued to be discussed during the week, but with somewhat less earnestness. One thing was noticeable. While the railroad managers objected to the commission, because as they said it was not right to submit the regulation of rates "to men who are not trained in railroad work," they were all willing to submit them to the federal judges. Those judges had never had any such training, but the managers are perfectly willing to trust them. They know who have been their friends in the past.

The senate passed the bill guaranteeing interest on the Philippine bonds to build railroads at four per cent interest, when the government can borrow all the money it wants at three per cent. In the first place the interest was placed at five per cent, but some ominous threats from the west, made the senators conclude that that was a little too big a steal.

The First National and the Marine Bank of Caneaut Harbor, Ohio, closed their doors last week. They lay the blame on Mrs. Chadwick, but there is a good deal of doubt about that. The increase in bank failures still goes on.

After forty years of silence the Standard Oil company is beginning to reply to the attacks upon it. During the campaign it denied that it was identified with politics of any kind, and now it denies that it is interested in Amalgamated Copper. The corporation may not be, but Wm. B. Rockefeller is a director in both companies and H. H. Rogers is president of the Amalgamated and vice-president of the Standard.

A prophet down in Boston prophecies after this fashion: "Great riots will shake this land in the next two years, and the workingman will parade the streets. This great struggle between oppressors and oppressed will result in the formation of a new political party, of which the president will be the indirect founder. The working classes, under the leadership of Roosevelt, will triumph over the trusts."

There was a vote in the senate on the government regulation of railroad rates and it was beaten 39 to 23. It occurred on an amendment to the Philippine bill. The president's recommendation on that subject does not seem to have a majority in the senate.

Nemaha county, Neb., is very much larger this week than it was last and the portion that has been added to it lies on the east side of the Missouri river. All this comes about on account of a decision of the supreme court which says that McKissick's island, which was cut off from Nebraska by the Missouri river changing its channel in 1867, is still a part of Nebraska. The two words, "erosion" and "axulsion" is responsible for all that according to the supreme court. This was a case of "evulsion." If the soil had "eroded" away it would have been different.

The thing last week that most interested the senators and representatives who make the laws for this great nation was the place for holding the inaugural ball. The senate wanted it in the pension office and the house opposed. The fight grew so fierce that it is now said that there will be no ball at all. How can this nation continue to be a world power and no inaugural ball?

President Roosevelt is sending for a great many congressmen and senators, and when he gets them to the white house he urges that they must adopt his scheme for government control of rates by the interstate commerce commission in order to check the populist sentiment in the country for government ownership, which he insists will sweep the country before long if nothing is done to check it.

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Sir Arthur Conon Doyle, in a recent speech called attention to the fact that: "during the three years of the Boer war in South Africa the British army lost 22,000 lives from all causes, while during the same period the United States lost 31,000 from homicide."

The Record-Herald's editorial endorsement of the Hill currency bill contains a mass of false statements. The bill is a radical transformation of our currency, permits the re-coining of the silver dollars into subsidiary coin that is not a legal tender and allows banks to inflate or retire their notes at their own motion and whenever it will be to their interests to do so. The Independent has no objection to the republicans passing such a law. Perhaps it will be well to let the American people have a trial of money wholly under the control of the banks. They don't seem to be able to learn in any other way.

The facts in the Chadwick case which there has been printed in every metropolitan daily, enough matter up to the present time to make five large volumes, and which have been read by six or seven millions of people are as follows: "A keen Yankee lawyer sues to recover from a woman a loan of \$190,800 because he has become doubtful of the security. It becomes known that the woman has a past. Then that she owes hundreds of thousands of dollars. Her lawyer asserts that she has \$1,000,000 in excess of debts. A bank fails; its president and cashier not only lose their own fortunes, but are arrested for making illegal loans to her. It is whispered that the name of Andrew Carnegie is on notes for \$750,000 on which Mrs. Chadwick got real money. Carnegie declares that his name has been forged. The dupes reveal that the woman had represented him to be her father. The treasurer of another bank who had lost his own estate and innocently assisted her in her operations says that he believed her stories of vast wealth. Her "securities" are found to be a bogus deed of trust and a mythical paper for \$20,000,000. An ex-judge of New York confesses that she duped him. Pittsburg millionaires are said to have been fleeced of nearly a million. She overrules her lawyers and starts for Cleveland after warning her husband to keep away. The entire police force of Cleveland is ordered out to prevent possible mob violence. She arrives and is taken to prison in the same state where she has succeeded in erecting this gigantic fabric of fraud. It is with such stuff that a very large majority of the people of the United States are entertained by the plutocratic press.

The ridiculous propositions of the advocates of the theory of overproduction produce many amusing situations. The cotton growers met last week and passed resolutions recommending the reduction of the acreage of cotton and favoring diversified crops so as to reduce the production and the price of cotton at ten cents a pound, and then asked for big appropriations to exterminate the boll weevil so that they could raise more cotton. If a re-

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restriction of production is wanted, why not propagate the boll weevil instead of destroying it?

About two million democrats didn't vote at the last election and those who did vote out in Colorado, are to have their ballots thrown out. So, what's the use any how?

The Steel trust will maintain its price for rails at \$28 a ton which means \$16 a ton profit. Foreign competitors are kept out by the tariff. On other kinds of steel the profit is still greater. That kind of business will go on until Gabriel blows his trumpet or the Republican party is put out of power.

The newspapers say that some of the Wall street gamblers are going to prosecute Lawson for telling lies to bear stocks. What will they do to Morgan, Schwab, Rodgers and a lot of others for telling lies to bull stocks and get rid of their undigested securities?

Joe Chamberlin is making speeches again for tariff protection. He calls