

# NEWS OF THE WEEK

A Weekly Resume of the Really Vital News by the Editor

The spoils of war captured by the Japanese at Port Arthur prove to be very large. The official government report shows the captures to be: Permanent forts, 50; guns, 546, of which 64 are of large caliber, 149 of medium caliber, and 343 of small caliber; shells, 82,670; powder, 30,000 kilos; rifles, 35,252; rifle ammunition, 2,266,800 rounds; horses, 1,920; battleships 4, except the Sevastopol, which is entirely sunk; cruisers, 2; gunboats and destroyers, 14; steamers, 10; besides small steamers, 35 of which will be serviceable after little repairs. Documents captured show that the Russian force was much larger in the beginning than was estimated, there being not less than 50,000 fighting men in the fortification. A dispatch from the Russian headquarters at Mukden says that Marshal Oyama has been reinforced with 168 siege guns and 32,000 infantry all of which have come from Port Arthur.

The New York Herald's poll of the hour puts down all the Nebraska republican members against tariff revision. The whole "push" are for the paper trust, the steel trust and every other tariff trust.

There was "a high old time" out in Denver last week in other fields than politics. The stock growers' convention met there. The packers and railroads got control of the convention, and the stock growers refused to be "regular" and bolted. The packers with a minority of sheep, cattle, horse and pure bred stock growers have an association and the other fellows another. It is the same old game of plutocracy—divide and conquer.

The solid republican senate of the state of Nebraska, which is to economize, reform, reduce taxation and the state debt, began operations last week with 60 elected employees. The "custodians" are numerous enough to care for all the public buildings in the state, while the stenographers, copyists, clerks, proof readers and "sich like" could not all be crowded into the senate chamber at one time.

The cattle growers met at Denver to organize an association to fight the beef trust. The beef trust set up the pins and got admitted to the organization that was to fight them. When a trust is backed by privately owned railroads there is not much use in trying to fight it. The cattle growers can now go home and either let the trust and the railroads take all the traffic will bear, or join the people's party and fight for the government ownership of the railroads. There is no other way out.

Fourth Assistant Postmaster General J. L. Bristow, who conducted the prosecution of the postoffice thieves, has been relieved and resigned. He is appointed a commissioner to look after rates of transportation in connection with the Panama canal. As the canal will not be opened for business for at least a generation to come, this appointment seems rather peculiar. The first step in this business was the transfer of the postoffice inspectors from the control of Bristow to another division of the service. Then followed Bristow's resignation and the appointment to this sinecure.

Special clubbing rate for The Independent and Watson's Magazine in clubs of 5 or more is only \$1.40. Every reader should send in at least one club.

The Springfield Republican, in speaking of Roosevelt's recent demands, remarks that it is irritating for a minority to have its thunder stolen by a party in power. The populists are not irritated at all. They became used to that a long time ago.

The republicans in congress seem unanimously opposed to making the banks pay interest on government deposits. They are so besotted and dominated by the money power that they see nothing wrong in taxing money out of the people and then giving it to certain favored banks to loan and pocket the interest. There never was a more damnable thing done by any government. The gifts and monopolies of the divine-right kings of old were never as bad as that. They never publicly taxed the people and then gave the money to their favorites. Not one of them was as hard-hearted a thief as this republican majority in congress.

The New York Independent says: "Just now there seems to be no real reason why democrats and republicans should not come together." The editor of the Independent must have been asleep for more than six months. Did he not know that thing was accomplished more than six months ago at a convention held in St. Louis.

Another of the celebrated "five to four" decisions was handed down this week. This one reverses the finding guilty against Senator Burton of Kansas and sends the case back for a new trial.

In southern California the capitalization of air and sunshine has added millions to bank clearings in Los Angeles, San Diego and other points, and has swollen to an enormous extent the taxable property in that portion of the state.

The legislative robbery that is going on in congress this winter is greater than ever known in the world before. All the old soldiers now get what is practically a service pension under the imperial order issued last summer by Roosevelt. Why should hundreds of pensions be granted by special act of congress? One day last week the house took up the private pension order of business and a new speed record was made by passing 459 special pension bills in 108 minutes. Think of that! Did any parliamentary body on earth ever steal at that rate before? With rare exceptions, everyone of these bills is a steal, to pay off some political debt. Not a daily in the United States says a word about this enormous corruption. All the notice taken of this sort of business, was the bare statement of the fact that 459 pension bills were passed in 108 minutes and that was printed in the smallest type used in a newspaper and put in the most inconspicuous place that could be found in the great 16-page paper. A murder or a divorce case would have been announced in type three inches long and perhaps printed in red ink.

According to the New York Herald's canvas of the United States senate there are just seven republican senators who favor a tariff revision—Lodge and Crane of Massachusetts, Spooner and Quarles of Wisconsin, Dolliver of Iowa and Hopkins of Illinois. It says that there are several more who can be "whipped in" by the president by refusing them patronage.

# BARGAINS IN WATCHES

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6 SIZE—large size Ladies' watch—Elgin or Waltham—7 jewel—Breguet hair spring—nickel movement—in a guaranteed 20 year—hand engraved James Boss case—closed face.....\$13.00

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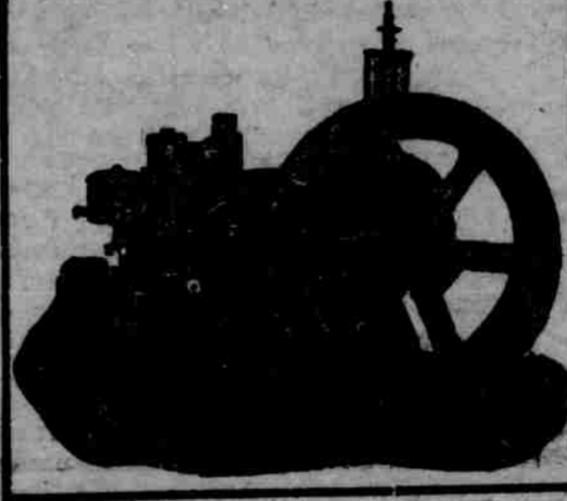
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**F. H. Hatfield, Attorney**  
To Weber Gas and Gasoline Engine Company, Oskaloosa Savings Bank, and Amanda C. Walter, non-resident defendants:  
Each of you is hereby notified that on the 23rd day of December, 1904, Henry A. Somers began an action against you and other defendants in the district court of Lancaster County, Nebraska, to foreclose a tax sale certificate and taxes paid thereunder, number 19663, dated August 20, 1902, on the south east quarter of block 12, in Bethany Heights, in Lancaster county, Nebraska. Plaintiff prays for decree of foreclosure and sale of said land to satisfy the liens found due thereon, and for general relief. You are required to answer plaintiff's petition on or before February 6, 1905.  
**HENRY A. SOMERS,**  
By **F. H. Hatfield, Attorney**

The life insurance companies are looking out for seats in the United States senate. They have thus far secured two, Dryden of New Jersey and Bulkeley of Connecticut. The railroad seats are too numerous to mention while the express companies have quite a bunch with Tom Platt at the head of the list.

practice. That is the kind of work the grand old party is engaged in all over the country.

General Kuropatkin has been sending his Cossack cavalry on raids in the rear of the Japanese lines and they have torn up the railroad in one or two places. Such raids never have any effect upon the result of the campaign. They furnish matter for the poets to write about and the historians to comment upon and that is all. Jeb Stuart, on the part of the confederates, and Kilpatrick, on the part of the federals, performed just such exploits during the civil war. Except to ride a lot of good cavalry horses to death, nothing resulted.

A lot of Russian priests were driven off the battle field in the Russian lines who were administering to the wounded and dying because they belonged to a sect of the Russian church which insisted on crossing themselves with two fingers instead of three. The soldiers who belonged to that sect refused the administration of the regular clergy who insisted on the three fingered crossing. From accounts in the papers this seems to have stirred up a great row, not only in the military camps but all over Russia.

According to the evidence so far put in, republican votes in a caucus in Connecticut ranged from \$5 to \$75. When an insurance company can get a United States senator at that cheap rate there is nothing to hinder the great life companies from running this government. These votes were bought by Bulkeley, the great Hartford life insurance man, and he defended the buying of them openly and above board before an investigation committee of the legislature. The two great dailies of Hartford openly defend the

New birds of prey are constantly gaining root in the senate. More and more, great interests are getting representatives there. During this week the life insurance companies have secured Buekeley of Connecticut, the brewing interest Neidringhaus of Missouri, while the railroads have added another to their long list of senators by the election of Burkett of Nebraska. Depew goes back, after having changed his service from the Vanderbilts to Rockefeller and Harriman. The senate becomes more and more simply a nest of agents of the great corporations.

The first two bills passed by the Nebraska house of representatives appropriated \$100,000 for legislative salaries and incidental expenses. That

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