

**Good Advice.** The new mayor of Garnett, Kansas, after being sworn in to office, opened the city council meeting with prayer, and issued a manifesto directed to the city officials advising them to "fear God, keep His commandments, and avoid cigarettes." It would be difficult to get more good advice into a volume than is contained in this terse admonition. If the Garnett mayor's advice is followed the people of that town will have as faithful a lot of public officials as were ever called upon to serve the public.

**Interesting, But Not Reassuring.** Maude Gonne, the famous champion of Ireland, predicts that within ten years Ireland will be a free and independent nation. Miss Gonne's optimism on this point is refreshing, but it would be more reassuring if there was anything in the present situation to warrant the prediction. Certainly there is nothing in the attitude of British statesmen toward Ireland that would give encouragement to Irish patriots. Even the pretenses of the past quarter of a century have been abandoned, and it was only a few months ago that Irish members were ejected by the police from the House of Commons because they exercised their constitutional right of protest.

**New Field For Newspaper Men.** Robert W. Dutton, a newspaper reporter, has been made chief of the fire department in Washington City. This is an unusual move, and yet it will probably prove to be a wise one. The average newspaper reporter is a man of character and ability. As a rule he is clear-headed, possesses strong executive power and is well fitted for large responsibility. It is to be hoped that Mr. Dutton will make an exceptional effort to protect and preserve the honor of the profession in his new position, and his reputation among newspaper men warrants a prediction to this effect.

**Morgan and the Ship Subsidy.** J. Pierpont Morgan has organized another trust. He has purchased the Leyland steamship line and combined it with that of the Atlantic Transport Company. This combination will operate sixty-seven large ocean steamers, and it is freely predicted that the new interest in the ship subsidy bill which this move will give to Mr. Morgan will result in the passage of that measure. The man who is shrewd enough to organize all the trusts of the day, and influential enough to have the attorney for the greatest trust of them all made attorney general of the United States, ought to have sufficient influence with republican congressmen to accomplish the passage of Mr. Hanna's subsidy bill.

**The Cost of Imperialism.** Chief Justice Doster of Kansas, in an article printed in the Arena, says that in 1892 the total market value of the imports and exports of the Philippine Islands amounted to \$30,000,000 in gold. He estimates that, a ten

per cent basis being used, the profits for the traders amounted to \$3,000,000. He also shows that the expenditure incurred in the Philippine war now reaches at least \$200,000,000. The usual government interest rate of 3 per cent on \$200,000,000 would amount to \$6,000,000, and Judge Doster points out that this is twice as much as the total annual profit to the whole world on the Philippine trade, counting that profit at 10 per cent on the custom house values. He adds: "If peace were here now the profits on our Philippine trade for the next two hundred years would not give us back the money thus far expended in the prosecution of the war, with a reasonable rate of interest on the amount."

**Not Loaning on Farms.** At this time when republicans are measuring prosperity by the value of the stock of corporations enjoying more or less of a monopoly, it may be well to remember that it is not always easy to obtain a loan on farm property. For instance a Pennsylvania trust company refused a loan on a farm near Pottsville, Pennsylvania, which cost \$9,250 eleven years ago, is in better condition than it was then and is now assessed for over \$3,500. The trust company says it is loath to make any farm mortgages. Why should the financiers bother about farm mortgages when they can make more money speculating in stocks than they can make loaning on farms?

**Not Interest of the Community.** "Economies in production and distribution" are the object sought in the organization of the trusts (according to the organizers.) When some genius among the trust magnates originated the term, "Community of interest" as a title for the trust, the New York World said that community of interest was "not the interest of the community." It is now pointed out by the World that the steel combine has raised the price of rails two dollars per ton, while the anthracite combine has advanced the price of coal one dollar per ton and will collect a tribute of \$50,000,000. from the consumers. The World thinks there is no reason for a revision of its original declaration and who will take issue with it on this point?

**Twenty Years Was Sufficient.** For twenty years a rich New Yorker courted a charming New York woman. One day last week this rich New Yorker was shocked when he learned that the charming New York woman had been married to another man. When the rich New Yorker demanded an explanation of his whilom sweetheart, she said:

"I waited for you twenty years or more and then decided that I had waited long enough. I have won the love of an honest man and am married to him."

The happy bride added the explanation that on two occasions when she had promised to marry other men she broke the engagement to oblige her long-wait sweetheart. She did not, however, desire to die an old maid, and con-

cluded that a twenty-year wait was long enough for any man.

The explanation is ample. Procrastination is the alienator of affection as well as the thief of time. The man who finally won this woman met her for the first time in February, proposed, was accepted three months later, and was married within twenty-four hours, and it is fair to assume "they lived happily forever afterwards." This fortunate man explained: "She looked so sweet that I could not help myself, and I saw no use in wasting time." Between a suitor who could not summon the courage necessary to a proposal during a period of twenty years, and a man who could offer himself within a period of three months, the preference is decidedly with the latter, and we take it for granted that this woman made no mistake.

**Some Bold Opinions.** The republican newspapers are growing bolder all the time in their advocacy of plutocratic and imperial principles. For instance, the New York Sun warns the democratic party that it is useless to make war on plutocracy. It says that Plutocracy is popular and will prevail.

The Globe Democrat, which is a close second to the Sun in its courageous defense of all that is wrong, criticised President Hadley because of his outspoken opposition to the trusts. It said that he was a pessimist and close to the sedition line. When republican papers openly defend plutocracy and denounce criticism as seditious, the rank and file of the party ought to have no difficulty in seeing the dangerous tendency of republican policies.

**Odell Reflects on Judges.** The republican governor of New York is very near the danger line. A bill was introduced in the New York legislature providing for the appointment of 40 official referees by certain judges. In announcing his determination to disapprove of the measure, Governor Odell said:

"I have had some experience in politics in New York and I know there are judges who use their offices for political effect."

It is a terrible thing for even an ordinary man to "assail the integrity of the courts" or to "question the motives of men who occupy the bench." But how much more terrible it is for the Governor of the great state to make such an assault. It was bad enough when the democratic party intimated that, after all, men who held judicial positions were human and subject to criticism by those whose laws they were selected to interpret. And what a storm of protests went over the country when the democratic party made this criticism! Men who criticised judges, men who intimated that one who held a judicial position was liable to err, or was susceptible to the weakness to which flesh is heir—these were branded as anarchists and as enemies of law and order.

What shall we say of the republican governor of New York? Can it be that anarchy is manifesting itself in the empire state?