

cial circles, particularly in Bulgaria. Recent advices from Macedonia report great activity among the insurgents, it being reported that they have burned no less than twelve villages. The Turkish authorities have mobilized their whole force in Macedonia and 18,000 fighting men are there with large numbers of Asiatic troops ready to move.

The national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic closed its thirty-seventh annual session at San Francisco on the afternoon of August 21. The newly elected officers were installed, with the exception of Junior Vice Commander Kessler, who

is now on the way from the Philippines. A resolution complimentary to General Miles, recently retired as lieutenant general of the United States army, was unanimously adopted.

The census bureau recently published as a bulletin a discussion of the increase of population in the United States as shown by the census of 1900. This report shows that the increase in this country is almost double that of Europe, the increase in the United States alone, excluding Alaska and the recent insular accessions being 13,046,861, or 20.7 per cent.

Testing the Elkins Law.

Section 3 of the Elkins law, passed by congress last winter in "restraint of the trusts," is about to be tested in the federal courts. Thus far, in the western states at least, this statute has been set up by the railroads as a reason for refusing free transportation to cattlemen and other large shippers. In the case referred to it is aimed to prevent cheap coal in New England, where the market is almost exclusively supplied by the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad system. In the past ten years this system has absorbed all the smaller lines, so that the cities, towns and manufacturing villages must look to it for coal. Senator Elkins is a large owner of coal mines in West Virginia, which gives him a personal interest in the success of his alleged anti-trust act. The section now in controversy is designed to cut off the advantage to water rates which the old law conceded.

On July 13 the interstate commerce commission, represented by the United States district attorney for the Western district of Virginia, by direction of the attorney general of the United States, filed a petition in the United States circuit for that district against the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway company and the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad company, asking for an injunction prohibiting the Chesapeake and Ohio from further continuing to transport coal from West Virginia mines to Newport News, Va., at less than its published tariff rates, such coal being consigned to the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad company at New Haven, Conn., and also prohibiting the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad company from continuing to accept or receive coal so carried by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad company at less than its tariff rates. The petition also prayed for an injunction as to all other traffic besides coal.

It is interesting to note that the lawsuit is based upon the testimony of President George W. Stevens of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway company, who has entered the lists of the trust pursuers with a purpose. It appears from the petition that the former president of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway company entered into a contract with the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad company to furnish 2,000,000 tons of coal from the New River district of West Virginia to the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad company at New Haven for \$2.75 per ton, delivered. Such coal was to be delivered within five years in lots of not ex-

ceeding 400,000 tons a year, and after deducting cost of coal transportation from Newport News to New Haven and expense of discharging the coal from the vessel, the amount left to the railway company for its transportation and services was, for most of the time covered by the contract, less than the published tariff rates. It further appears that 60,000 tons of coal remained undelivered at the expiration of the contract. In April last a new arrangement was made by the president of the Chesapeake and Ohio with the New York, New Haven and Hartford whereby 60,000 tons of Kanawha coal would be delivered by the end of July at the old contract price of \$2.75 per ton. It appears from the petition that under this price the Chesapeake and Ohio, after paying for the coal, ocean transportation and discharging, would have about 28 cents per ton left for its transportation services from the Kanawha district of West Virginia to Newport News, Va., while its published tariff rate on like coal from the same district to Newport News is \$1.45 per ton.

The matter is set for hearing July 31. In the meantime the performance of the coal contract is enjoined on the ground we presume that cheap coal in New England is against public policy. As a legislative boomerang the Elkins act has won the blue ribbon in the west and east—and half has not yet been revealed. It is coming out in sections.

Moral: When you want the trusts curbed with a double bit, put Senator Elkins of West Virginia in the saddle.—Denver News.

Being Brought Into Line.

The Wall Street Journal, in its issue of Thursday, July 30, says:

"The bankers of Illinois and Iowa are being brought into line in favor of the asset currency plan of financial legislation. Resolutions have been passed by the bankers' conventions in both of those states providing for the appointment of committees to act in conjunction with a like committee of the Chicago Bankers' club, in regard to all measures of financial reform. It is stated in the dispatches that the Chicago Bankers' club is working upon a plan of asset currency and is in close touch with Mr. Fowler, whose asset currency bill was widely discussed at the last session of congress."

The bankers of Illinois and Iowa are not the only persons that are "being brought in line in favor of the asset currency plan of financial legislation." There are some signs that Speaker-to-be Cannon is "being brought into line."

There are, also, reasons for believing that even President Roosevelt himself is "being brought into line."

"Being brought into line" means being brought "in close touch" with Mr. Fowler, whose asset currency was widely discussed at the last session of congress, and concerning which republican orators have repeatedly told us that there was no danger whatever of that measure becoming a law.

Yet "little by little, but steadily as man's march to the grave," republican leaders and republican followers are "being brought into line."—Omaha World-Herald.

To Keep Tools Bright.

"For keeping tools bright and free from rust when out of use," says the Medical Times, "brush them with a preparation made by stirring enough red or black mineral paint into crude petroleum to make the mixture of consistency easy to spread. This can be applied with a brush made of a piece of sheepskin tanned with the wool on, or with any ordinary brush. It will prevent rust, and may be rubbed off readily, leaving the face of the tool perfectly bright."

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