

except to make use of him and the natives to assist me in my operations against the Spaniards." As that use, under the circumstances, was treating Aguinaldo as an ally, the fact of an alliance is indisputable. Now why did Aguinaldo become Dewey's ally? Was it for his health? Or was it because both he and Dewey understood that through this alliance Aguinaldo would help the United States to defeat Spain and the United States would secure to Aguinaldo's countrymen the independence for which—as the same senate document shows—they were already fighting when Dewey first appeared upon the scene?

Three monthly reports of deaths in the British reconcentrado camps in South Africa have now been furnished by the British government. They are for June, July and August. For June the death rate was 109 per 1,000 per annum; for July it was 183 per 1,000 per annum, and for August 204 per 1,000 per annum. To realize the significance of these figures it is only necessary to remember that the normal annual death rate in England is about 20 per 1,000. In the reports a prevalence of measles in the camps is mentioned as accounting for the terrible mortality and excusing this revolting Weylerization of the Boer population. But the Manchester Guardian makes quick work of that pitiable excuse. At the same time it gives the world a picture of this infamous mode of "pacification." It says:

Let us take the official excuse—an epidemic of measles. How does this affect our responsibility? There is an epidemic raging of which children are dying by dozens, say, in a Transvaal camp. A general sallies forth and "sweeps" so many square miles of country. The women are turned out of their houses. They are given a few minutes to collect what they can. The rest of their goods may or may not be burnt there and then. They, with their children and scanty belongings, are huddled on to trucks with a crowd of other "refugees," and, after one or two or more days of exposure, arrive at the pestilence-stricken camp. Here the

new-coming children, already weakened by exposure, quickly take the measles from the sick. With bad food and insufficient protection from the weather, pneumonia supervenes and they die in turn. Every step of the process could be accurately foretold. Who would think of bringing healthy children into a camp full of measles if he took the smallest thought for their health? Even if the food were perfect and the lodging good, it would mean a constant renewal and increase of the epidemic, and under the conditions of camp life it means the high death rate that we see. The concentration policy may or may not have contributed to the success of our arms, but let us at least be candid and recognize what it has meant and still means in human suffering. Bishops may approve of it, but soldiers like Sir Neville Chamberlain have told us that there is nothing approaching it in the annals of British arms.

Mr. Bryan's Commoner has begun a work of exceptional value in the propagation of democratic doctrines and the strengthening of democratic sentiment. Hereafter, every issue is to contain a department devoted to clippings from the editorial columns of the weekly papers of the country that support democratic principles and policies. This is an encouraging recognition of the fact that it is the weekly and not the daily press of the country which truly represents public opinion. "Who reads a daily paper's editorials?" is a question that might be asked with as much point as used to attach to the question: "Who reads an American book?" Such influence as daily papers have, and this is great, is exerted through their coloration of news reports and by the signed articles they publish. Their editorials go for little or nothing. They are read by but few and they influence fewer still. If we were to speculate upon the reasons, we should say that one reason is the common feeling, also a true feeling, that daily newspaper editorials are not genuine; they do not express the sentiments of the writers. When one reads what purports to be an opinion, he does not like to feel that if not directly at variance with its author's views, it is either a distortion of his views

or is written without any other motive than to fill space; and he is pretty sure to feel this for it is the fact. But if the editorial page of the daily paper has lost its hold, the weekly editorial paper has begun to gain an influential place. It is rapidly becoming in our era what the pamphlet was a century or more ago; and this because its expressed opinions are what they purport to be—the genuine opinions of the writers. For that reason, Mr. Bryan's plan for establishing in the Commoner a department which will reflect the consensus of opinion of the weekly democratic press is something to be welcomed.

Young men ambitious of a future should keep an eye upon the steel trust, which appears to be a profitable affair. No matter how many business men it ruins, nor how absolute its control over workmen in the steel industry, it does make money. Since its organization last March, it has made \$40,295,166, over and above all expenses, including sinking funds, maintenance and interest on bonds. This has enabled it to declare dividends at the rate of 7 per cent. on preferred stock and 4 per cent. on common. In the older days, when men got ahead in the world by working usefully, Horace Greeley's constant advice to young men was, "Go west, young man, go west!" But now, when to get ahead it is only necessary to have a cinch, the useful work being done chiefly by those who don't get ahead, Horace Greeley's famous phrase should be changed to "Get into the steel trust, young man, get into the steel trust!"

Those trade unionists who argue that an eight-hour day will produce as much for employers as the ten-hour day, has been strikingly verified in a Boston shoe factory. The owners of this factory, which turns out the "Queen quality" shoe for women, having voluntarily reduced working hours for their 2,000 employes first from ten hours to nine, and afterwards to eight, report that with