

The Commoner.

Issued Weekly.

Terms—Payable in Advance.

One Year.....	\$1.00
Six Months.....	.80
Three Months.....	.35
Single Copy.....	.05

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Advertising rates furnished upon application. Address all communications to

THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Application made for entry at the postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second class matter.

So many have expressed a desire to have their subscription begin with the first number of THE COMMONER that ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED BEFORE FEBRUARY SIXTH, THE DATE OF THE THIRD ISSUE, WILL BE ENTERED AS OF JANUARY TWENTY-THIRD AND THE SUBSCRIBERS WILL RECEIVE THE PAPER FROM THE BEGINNING. If any subscriber receives the first or second number as a sample copy, he can pass it on to someone else and still have his own file complete.

It is a pleasant duty to correct a mistake made in the first number. It was stated that THE COMMONER entered the field with an issue of thirty thousand. After the plates were made the additional subscriptions and news stand orders were sufficient to justify an issue of fifty thousand. Since then twenty-five thousand more have been printed, making a total of seventy-five thousand copies of number one, volume one.

Why not subsidize the Snake Creek Indians into being good?

The trans-continental railroads are very well satisfied with the status of the Nicaragua canal.

The Winchester (Va.) Star issues a minister's edition February 5th with Rev. W. L. Seabrook as editor.

The transport California brought back from the Philippines seventy-four mute protests against a war of conquest.

While the salt trust and the packing trust are engaged in merry war the public is engaged in sad contemplation.

When the gas was turned on the Delaware senatorial contest, Mr. Addicks was discovered near the footlights.

Senator Chandler can now realize the meaning of the poet's remark: How sharper than a serpent's tooth is a thankless railroad.

It is a mistake to assume that people in the Philippines or in South Africa can be benefited by a carpet bag government held in authority by armies.

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The gentlemen who decry the plan to talk the ship subsidy bill to death never worry about their own plans for taxing the people to death.

Paul Kruger has just submitted to an operation for defective vision. He strained his eyes looking for justice among the crowned heads of Europe.

One of the democratic papers discusses "The passing of Hanna," but the trouble is that the Senator from Ohio has the cat's habit of coming back.

The floral tributes which greeted Mr. Quay on his re-election to the Senate recall the fact that flowers, like showers, fall alike upon the just and the unjust.

The recent burnings in northern states will temporarily embarrass those republican papers which take pleasure in discanting on "southern outrages."

The war in the Philippines is so nearly over that Secretary Root refuses to let 10,000 volunteers come home until he has 17,000 more to take their places.

The return of the Hon. Fred T. Dubois of Idaho to the Senate will be accepted as proof that vindication comes to the righteous, though it sometimes comes tardily.

The parcels post has been indefinitely delayed. Senator Platte is president of an express company; with this as a basis it is not difficult to reason from cause to effect.

Mr. Rockefeller will doubtless point to that anti-trust oil well in Texas as proof of his assertion that the Standard Oil company is deserving of a subsidy for its tank ships.

If some genius will invent a greenback with an interest coupon attached it is believed that Mr. Secretary Gage will soon be able to look it in the face without growing faint.

The large-army idea seems to be more popular with republicans now than it was just before election. Let us also hope that it is more popular now than it will be four years hence.

If there are any more sons of justices of the Supreme Court without fat jobs in Porto Rico, this is the time for them to step forward and give the grand hailing sign of distress.

It seems that some of the republicans still shy at the gold standard when it comes around a corner suddenly. Just now the proposition to redeem the silver dollars is making them nervous.

Adjutant-General Corbin has just received from the Sulu archipelago one of His Majesty's flags. The Sultan is not willing to have it hauled down but he can afford to loan it to the department in return for a few unconstitutional courtesies.

Possibly the West Point officials who defend hazing might be willing to compromise on a settlement of the investigation which would compel the upper class men to furnish at their own expense the tobacco sauce administered to the new comers. Heretofore government sauce has been used.

The gentleman who picked the senatorial deadlock in Ohio about three years ago could secure employment at Lincoln, Nebraska, were it not for the fact that he is trying to escape punishment for stealing a few thousand dollars from Uncle Sam.

The men who complain most about attacks on the Supreme Court are the same men who can see nothing wrong in the appointment of two sons of Supreme Court justices to Porto Rican positions while the Court has the Porto Rican case under advisement.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat says that the republican party of Missouri expects the majority in the Legislature to help and not hurt the cause of republicanism in that state. The G-D should set the minority members a better example before it advises them.

Those Covington, Kentucky, citizens who visited the city council chamber with ropes and tar to protest against the passage of an obnoxious ordinance seem to be laboring under the old-fashioned delusion that executive officers are servants of the people.

Another American official has been guilty of embezzling Cuban postal funds. It may become necessary to abolish postal charges in Cuba, or to withdraw all money from the island and use coon skins for currency, in order to protect our new wards from the effects of a higher civilization.

As we have been giving protection to manufacturers and trusting to their generosity to give to their employes a fair share of the blessings conferred by the government, why not give subsidies to the farmers who export cotton, meat and bread stuffs and trust them to divide with the ship-owners?

According to Dun's report the business failures for the week ending Jan. 19th of this year amounted to 325 as against 242 for the corresponding week in 1900, and 249 for the same week in 1899. If we had a democratic administration this increase in the failures would look bad, but under a republican administration it is regarded as simply the weeding out of weak firms.

The money already expended in a vain effort to subdue the Filipinos and grab their lands would have made tillable more land in western America than there is in the whole Philippine group. This would have created a larger market at home, provided homes for millions of people and made unnecessary the sacrifice of 3,500 American lives on the altar of "commerce." The Philippine game is not worth the candle.

Victoria's long reign was marked by advancement in many directions, but it closed while one of the most unjust wars in history was being waged. Victoria was opposed to it from the start, and its awful horrors caused her great grief and possibly hastened her death. Edward VII, who declares that he reveres the memory of his mother and would carry out her wishes, should use his endeavors to end that unjust war and do justice to a brave people whose only offense is cherishing a love for liberty. In this way he could earn the gratitude of all people who believe in free government.