

The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

Entered at the postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter.

TERMS—PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

One Year..... \$1.00 | Three Months..... 25c
Six Months..... 50c | Single Copy..... 5c
Sample Copies Free. Foreign Postage 52c Extra.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

The Commoner wishes its 600,000 or 700,000 readers a Happy New Year.

The usual amount of paving material is being prepared for January 1 delivery.

Up to date no one has heard of a trust succumbing to the terrific Cannonading.

Attention is called to The Commoner's 1903 announcement elsewhere in this issue.

Hon. J. S. Clarkson, collector of the port of New York, is down south earning his salary.

Mr. Addicks declares that all he wants is fair play, and that's what he has been getting.

Perhaps congress figures on waiting until the president sends in his lists of good and bad trusts.

The Boni de Castellanes have bought a \$160,000 country place. Gould stock must be looking up.

Well, Secretary Shaw got Wall street past the election, anyhow, and the party can thank him for that.

Secretary Shaw helped Wall street so much during the campaign that he has no money to spare now.

If Castro should declare free trade for Venezuela, what would Germany and Great Britain do about it?

It must be admitted that Mr. Baer appears to much better advantage since the Markels lined up by his side.

The downward trend of silver keeps pace with the republican promise to revise the tariff and curb the trusts.

It must be admitted that General Mosby has cut as many wire fences as the president has shackled cunning.

There is a tendency under this administration to allow the Monroe doctrine to acquire a moth-ballish flavor.

Great Britain is well aware that there is another humanity staggering blow concealed in that Venezuelan matter.

"Will congress do anything?" queries an exchange. This congress was elected for the express purpose of doing nothing.

Every time Mr. Rockefeller gives a big slice of money to a college or a church one is inclined to wonder if Mr. Rockefeller is getting the same rebate out of it that he gets from the railroads.

Hugh MacRea & Co., bankers, of Wilmington, N. C., have published an interesting article by E. H. Thwaite, giving an English view of the American invasion of England and Europe.

The Commoner.

The Hereford republican party in the south shows the disintegrating effects of an anti-pie diet.

Up to date the strenuous administration chief has not brought any of the trusts to a cotton bating Santa Claus finish.

It appears that General John S. Mosby's fence destroying crusade had a regular republican-reform-of-the-tariff finish.

It seems that those "agents of providence" do not hesitate at an attempt to deceive the commission regarding wages.

A sniff at Mr. Clarkson's game-bag would convince the sniffer that Mr. Clarkson is getting what he went gunning after.

One pleasing feature of the Venezuelan situation is that there is no seeming possibility of a Whitelaw Reindification thereof.

There appears to have been a lot of Mole St. Nicholasing about the republican promises to curb the trusts and revise the tariff.

Republican reformation of the tariff looks suspiciously like a made in New Jersey corporation organized to benefit the public.

The Commoner's clubbing offers, which appear elsewhere, provide a means of securing the best literature at a minimum outlay.

The gentlemen who insist upon a premature burial of Tom Johnson are likely to find themselves with an empty coffin on their hands.

Mr. Rockefeller has just given Dr. Harper another million for Chicago university. We knew he would from the way the lamps smelled.

"The trusts are taking to the woods!" shrieks an impressionable administration organ. Well, that's true concerning the lumber trust.

While advocating a more thorough course in spelling we have a high regard for the man who knows enough to spell a word more than one way.

Not the most unpleasant feature of the Venezuelan incident is the fact that up to date no acceptable rhyme has been found for "Castro."

The president's talk about the colored vote in the south is not helping the negro much, but it is helping Mr. Clarkson bag the delegates.

Senator Tom Platt's prediction that a yellow dog could be elected governor of New York on the republican ticket came awfully near not panning out.

Mr. Knox wants an appropriation to enable him to go after the trusts. It is possible that Mr. Knox contemplates trying to hire them to be good.

To date the coal operators have not made good their word by showing miners who have pianos in their front rooms and brussels carpets on their floors.

After a considerable experience with their Sethlowish reform the citizens of New York show a disposition to take another chance with Tammany.

The news that "the present congress will not take any hasty or precipitate action on the trust question" has not caused any deaths from heart failure.

Senator Quay voted with the democrats on the statehood bill. Now that the senator knows how to do the right thing let us hope that he will persevere.

The John Maynard Harlan mayoralty boom is once more looking for terminal facilities in Chicago. John is the man who offers to fight any man who does not agree with him—if you want to believe the Chicago organs of republicanism and mugwumpery.

President Baer says: "We will surrender the government of the state of Pennsylvania to no one." That is why it is necessary for the federal government to act. If Baer and his associates would only surrender the Pennsylvania state government to the people of Pennsylvania they would soon attend to the coal trust.

It must be admitted that this government's stand on the Venezuelan matter lacked a whole lot of the "By the eternal" spirit needed in such emergencies.

Considering the whys and wherefores of Nevada's admission the pious attitude of the administration towards New Mexico and Arizona is certainly freakish.

Mr. Littlefield's remedy for trusts is "publicity," also. Yet the trusts expend a lot of money every year buying that very thing in the shape of advertising.

The "Subscribers' Advertising Department," recently established, has met with instant favor. It affords an opportunity that small advertisers are quick to seize.

Those Hamilton (O.) ministers who barred Santa Claus from their churches must have forgotten a great many pleasant things that happened in their younger days.

Those confiding persons who expect tariff revision by this congress would believe the man who told them that on the morrow it would rain marsh-malos and chocolate caramels.

In 1903 democrats who are democrats from principle should organize to thwart the designs of democrats who vote the republican ticket when the party refuses to be republicanized.

Chairman Gray of the arbitration commission expresses a doubt as to the accuracy of some of the statements made by the operators. This is a savage swing at Mr. Baer's divine rights.

President Roosevelt in his exuberant rejoicing over the condition of Porto Rico forgot to say that, according to a New York judge, a citizen of Porto Rico is not a citizen of the United States.

As we gather from an extensive reading of republican organs the difference between Congressman Roberts and Senator-to-be Smoot is that the latter is a republican. And that's enough to land Smoot.

The Hon. Joe Babcock—we came perilously near saying Joey Bagstock—has been for several weeks halting between tariff revision and letting well enough alone. The Honorable Joseph must be planning for something about as satisfactory as the speakership.

Senator Clark offered and gave a million dollars for his first grandson. We know a gentleman who didn't get a cent for the grandson he presented to his father, but who wouldn't take all of Senator Clark's millions for him.

The republican organs are dilating on Thomas B. Reed's ability, honesty and courage. These qualities are among those that prevented Thomas B. Reed from achieving the height of his ambition—the presidency at the hands of his party.

Owing to their small salaries the mail carriers and postal clerks found that they could lay off a day or two and throw things into Mr. Loud's congressional boom. They did not lose much money by laying off, thanks to Mr. Loud's peculiar ideas of economy.

The Philadelphia man who engaged in a legitimate business during the day and burglarized houses at night should, declares the Washington Post, be credited with remarkable versatility. But should he not, rather, have credit for his unique method of training for the Philadelphia common council?

The house committee has decided to report favorably the bill to create a cabinet office to be known as the department of commerce. The name of the man who will fill the place is not known, but he will not be any more of a terror to the trusts than Mr. Knox, and that is certain. This is not a compliment for Mr. Knox, either.

Senator Mason promises to introduce a bill providing that when a coal mine is not being operated by the owners it may be taken in charge by a government receiver and operated for the benefit of the public. The senator seems to overlook the fact that his interest in the public's welfare is the thing that has arrayed his party's bosses against him.