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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

The high price of meat serves as an excuse for many a man to go fishing.

Port Arthur has been falling so long that it will certainly make a big dent when it hits.

Besides, the habit of eating meat in hot weather is very bad and should be severely condemned.

Governor Black wants a man of "granite and iron." The country will prefer a man of "brain and heart."

The sudden virtuous indignation of several European nations is ample proof that some very juicy spoils are in sight.

"After the war, what?" queries the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Hoisting the tax rate to pay the bills, of course.

Those dark red contusions upon the anatomy of Governor Cummins are merely the trademarks of the "stand patters."

The war in the east will not reach the real danger point until one of the combatants calls for the help of the Missouri mule.

Most of the republican newspaper supporters of Mr. Folk have bolted his nomination, but doubtless Mr. Folk expected as much.

Wouldn't it be fine if Guatemala could provide us with any kind of colorea ant that would attack and destroy the trust weevil?

Chairman Taggart used to be a restaurant waiter. Perhaps he was selected because of his expertness in handing around the pie.

Governor General Davis of Panama wants 100,000 yards of mosquito nettings. Wouldn't it be cheaper to discover some kind of an ant?

There is no argument against government control of the railroads that will not apply equally well to government control of the mail service.

The less Mr. August Belmont appears in evidence in the management of the democratic campaign, the better it will be for democratic prospects.

Lieutenant Haight is to be punished for not bearing in mind that this is a campaign year and his commander-in-chief a candidate for the presidency.

The report that Mr. Addicks has sold a gold mine for several millions may be taken as an indication that Mr. Addicks is again about to try to break into the senate.

The Chicago Chronicle could have explained its becoming a republican organ in considerably less space than it really did. It might have said: "The Chronicle has dropped its mask."

Republican organs greatly fear that the numerous strikes will endanger republican success. According to republican logic laboringmen should meekly submit to any and all kinds of injustice for the purpose of keeping the g. o. p. in power.

The Commoner.

It is time for some self-sacrificing republican to let himself be captured by a bandit. The need of spectacular advertising is being keenly felt in the vicinity of Oyster Bay.

"The republicans of Missouri," shouts the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, "will offer something different." This is ample reason for giving Folk about 75,000 majority.

The Chicago Chronicle announced that hereafter it would be "allied with the republicans." One more "I" and a space would make it proper—"all lied with the republicans."

It appears that the Northern Securities decision cut about as much ice as the injunction against the meat trust, and the latter didn't cut enough to frappe a glass of tea.

The Kansas City Journal declares that Mr. Bryan has no sense of humor. And yet Mr. Bryan is highly amused every time he tries to read a Kansas City Journal editorial.

"Looking through the index of *The Commoner Condensed*, I have been surprised to find how valuable it is as a reference book." This is the testimony of one of our readers.

The Chicago Record-Herald reports that the "electric mule" is a great success. This portends a shock to the g. o. p. elephant when it collides with the democratic mule on election day.

Speaking of the recent sharp advance in the price of meat Secretary Shaw says: "We pay it ourselves and therefore so much the richer." Mr. Shaw has the reputation of being a great financier.

After a man has been forced to a breakfast food diet for two or three weeks on account of the packing house strike he can see very little that is humorous in the porterhouse steak jokes.

It may be that the Russian press correspondents would have us believe that it is the ghosts of those 30,000 Japs slain at Port Arthur who are now chasing Russian forces across the country.

Uncle Tom Platt announces that he will spend the remainder of his life upon a farm. There are indications that a great many g. o. p. leaders are about to embark upon a life in the tall timber.

The statement that the packers have used the strike as an excuse for an advance in the price of meat must not be taken seriously. The packers have never yet had to go that far for an excuse.

The worst feature about the Russian seizure of that British merchantman is that it is likely to provoke Rudyard Kipling to grind out some more poetry about Adam Zad, or something else equally suggestive.

Isn't it about time for the meat trust to have its general attorney appointed special commissioner of the government and issue a call for troops to break the strike under the pretense of guarding property?

Russia's rejoicing over the capture of prizes by the Vladivostok fleet somehow or other calls to mind the story of the little boy who thought he had captured a prize when he closed his hand over the wasp.

Mr. Lawson's expose of certain high financial deals explains why certain patriots sought to suppress the magazine because it had a flag on the cover. The financiers claim a monopoly on the use of the flag for financial purposes.

When Mr. Carnegie said he would give a million to the republican campaign fund he may have meant that he would hoist the price of steel rails another notch to American consumers and divide the proceeds with the committee.

"Wrinkle smoothers" is a derisive term applied to democrats by administration organs. Before the campaign progresses much further those same administration organs will be talking to themselves and calling democrats "furrow fasteners."

September 5 will be Labor Day in many if not all of the states, and organized labor is preparing for the greatest celebration in its history. These celebrations of labor's holiday are well and

good, but labor will not succeed in getting its deserts until it votes as solidly on election day as it marches on Labor Day.

Mr. Thomas Lawson has figured as a financier for several years, but it is doubtful if ever one of his financial operations aroused as much interest as the series of articles he is now writing under the caption of "Frenzied Finance." Mr. Lawson claims that he was basely deceived into entering a financial plot having for its object the plundering of the people, and his first two articles would seem to indicate that when he went into it he went in deep. At any rate he seems to have intimate knowledge of some of the most crooked and desperate financial deals pushed during the halcyon days of watered stocks and get-rich-quick grafts. If Mr. Lawson can make good some of the dark hints he has thrown out, the people would better prepare to build huge additions to their penal reformatories, for he hints at bribery, corruption, graft, perjury and grand larceny on the part of men now pointed to as captains of industry or political leaders.

It was announced prior to notifying Mr. Roosevelt of his nomination that "should the weather be inclement the notification would take place 'under cover.'" It was not inclement, however, so it was not necessary to notify him "under cover."

Had it been necessary doubtless it would have been properly managed, for the gentlemen who manage the republican party are experts at doing things "under cover." Indeed, that seems to be their favorite way of managing party and national affairs. "Under cover" is characteristic of the republican party now. It dared not advocate the gold standard, but worked it "under cover." It dared not advocate imperialism, but worked it "under cover." It dares not advocate the ship subsidy graft, but is working it "under cover." And while it dares not advocate asset currency and branch banks, its leaders are working them "under cover" and hope to bring both about by keeping the people misinformed as to their "under cover" intentions.

The indications are that Mr. Carrol D. Wright, chief statistician of the government in general and of the republican party in particular, will be the busiest man in the country for the next three months. As chief juggler of figures Mr. Wright will be called upon by the g. o. p. management to show that labor is better rewarded and has more left after paying living expenses than ever before in its history. If anybody can juggle the figures so as to make a showing, Mr. Wright is the man. Not long ago he proceeded to show that the average cost of living was lower now than it was ten years ago, and did it by showing that while such things as bacon and flour had increased something like 40 per cent, nutmegs and spices had decreased something like 60 per cent, showing a clear decrease of 20 per cent in the cost of living. And in his estimates of the cost of living Mr. Wright forgot to include the important item of rent, which takes fully 19 per cent of the average workingman's income. Mr. Wright will have to work at a desperate rate if he would do what his employers expect him to do for the g. o. p. campaign.

"Beau Monde," a Dallas (Tex.) journal devoted to music, art and society, takes occasion to refer to the political situation and after paying a high compliment to Mr. Bryan says: "He has no business in politics, as he has convictions and is honest." When "Beau Monde's" idea of the kind of men who have no business in politics prevails, it will be a sorry day for this republic. Already there is too much of a disposition on the part of some men to ignore politics because, as they say, "politics is dirty business." If politics is dirty business it is because clean men are not doing their duty by taking a more active interest there. Men who have convictions and who are honest should, of all men, be interested in politics. It is difficult to conceive how a man can be a good citizen and refrain from exercising his suffrage in the interests of good government. There is altogether too much of a disposition to refrain from taking an active interest in the political affairs of the nation. Its fruits are seen in the widespread reign of graft and boodle. Honest men of stern convictions owe it to themselves, to their neighbors and to their country, to take a more active interest in politics.