

# The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

The railroad rebate must go.

"What's the matter with Kansas?"

It seems that "Gas" Addicks' light is out.

Kansas seems to be boring for oil in just the right spot.

A moral wrong is not made right by licensing men to commit it.

Mr. Rockefeller seems due for an experience with a genuine Kansas cyclone.

Up to date Senator Warren has not been confronted with a "burn this letter" spectre.

Those Russ-Jap forces will have to hustle to get their date lines on the same page with those from Kansas.

The bone in the steak has grown no smaller rapidly since the supreme court decision in the beef trust case.

The way to win campaigns is to have a perfect working organization and plan before making the first charge.

Mr. Shaw's request for burglar alarms on the treasury vaults sounds very much like a hard slam at congress.

Of course Senator Mitchell's "burn this letter" postscript was meant merely as a fuel pointer to his law partner.

LaFollette goes to the senate just in time to warm things up there like he did for the railroad magnates in Wisconsin.

Mr. Hyde's hundred thousand dollar luncheon seems likely to cost him several millions before he hears the last of it.

It cost Mr. Rockefeller \$66,000 to muzzle the legislature of Nebraska—and doubtless he believes that the money was well spent.

Will one of our readers advise I. N. Brown, Burnsville, W. Va., where he may procure the "Youth's History of the Civil War."

The report of the finding of a \$4,000,000 diamond in South Africa reads very much like the prospectus of a new steel company.

Mr. Hepburn offers a letter from President Roosevelt as a clean bill of health. Mr. Morton can show one almost exactly like it.

There are reasons for believing that Secretary Morton did not get into the cabinet in time to prove an alibi in the Santa Fe rebate cases.

The senate knows just what it is going to do to the rate bill, but it wants five or six months in which to frame up an excuse for doing it.

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Arizona may feel a little lonesome for a while but her patience will be rewarded as soon as the democrats get control of the government.

The Russian administration is very apt to grow cross-eyed in its effort to keep watch on dangerous situations so widely separated.

The attitude of several republican senators puts them in the light of refusing to do right because the democrats saw the right thing first.

Perhaps the railroads were not worrying about the freight rate bill because they knew that it would soon get lost in the senatorial terminals.

Indiana's legislature has adopted an anti-pass law. Passing a law and enforcing it are two vastly different things, although this should not be so.

It transpires that Mr. Rockefeller knew what he was doing when he gave Nebraska a temple and thus plugged the mouths of the Nebraska legislators.

If money really can talk it is likely to be called upon to do a whole lot of vocalization in favor of the Standard Oil company in Kansas and Colorado.

Czar Nicholas is making his children the same kind of fatherly talk and promises that have become so familiar to the Filipinos during the last five or six years.

Parties desiring a real example of the shrinkage in Standard Oil securities may have it by boiling a new woolen undergarment and then hanging it out on the line.

The Nebraska legislature can sympathize with Kansas, but not to the extent of criticizing Mr. Rockefeller. Nebraska University has a "Rockefeller temple" in sight.

The senate's delay in the matter of the railroad rate bill is only one more addition to the long list of reasons why United States senators should be elected by direct vote.

The eminent financiers who sought to depreciate Mr. Lawson's exposures by personal attacks upon Mr. Lawson are now complaining about the exorbitant price of courtplaster.

Chicago promises to have a boodle investigation that will rival St. Louis' disgraceful exposures. Let the good work go on, but the only complete remedy is public ownership.

"Officials in Poland do not know what to do," is the headline over a Warsaw dispatch in a daily exchange. It's different in this country. Here the officials do know what to do, but will not.

The indications are that the masses of the people are aroused to a realizing sense of the impositions placed upon them by the great trusts and corporations. If this is true, the end of the imposition is in sight.

"No jobs in Panama" is the headline over a canal story in an exchange. What the exchange meant was that there is no work there for men who are seeking situations. The jobs are there, but they have not yet been exposed.

Several eminent gentlemen express the opinion that in building a state oil refinery Kansas is engaging in a dangerous and revolutionary policy. That is the opinion of most men who have secured control of the things the people must have.

Arizona's sorrow may be materially reduced by looking at Pennsylvania, Delaware and Rhode Island. Being barred from the sisterhood of states has its trial, to be sure, but just think of the compensations.

The fact that Senator Aldrich is not planning to return from Europe for several months lends color to the belief that the railway managers are not worrying greatly about the likelihood of precipitate action on the part of the senate.

The legislator who accepts a railroad pass as a "courtesy" would doubtless resent as an insult the offer of a railroad company to pay his board during the legislative session. There are too many legislators who manage to find a difference between a "courtesy" and a "bribe."

Mr. Rockefeller will go a little slow in that Kansas deal. He is not quite sure that the Kansas supreme court is as accommodating as the one he happened to have on hand in Ohio during a similar bit of trouble some years ago.

The Chicago University has received another million. If those who have money to give would divide it up among the smaller colleges it would go farther and bring a collegiate education within the reach of more young men and women.

H. W. Risley, one of the leading democratic editors of the west, has taken editorial charge of the Fremont, Neb., Daily Herald. This means that the democracy of that section of Nebraska will have a strong and fearless champion and the people a newspaper worthy of a place in every home.

Governor Johnson of Minnesota had a chance to meet a number of railroad magnates and trust officials at the merchants' banquet at Chicago. If they expected to get any comfort out of his speech they were disappointed. He reasoned with them, but it was of "righteousness" and "judgment to come."

Ex-Attorney General Monnett of Ohio has been retained by Kansas to prosecute the Standard Oil trust cases. It was Mr. Monnett who caused the conflagration that destroyed a lot of the Standard's books, ledgers and documents. No, Mr. Monnett did not apply the match—that was done by some one vitally interested in keeping Mr. Monnett from getting a look at the books.

President Johnson was impeached for resisting a statute of dubious constitutionality. If he had arbitrarily closed a postoffice established by congress, or appropriated money for pensions by an executive order, or seized a foreign custom house without congressional consent, or made war in Panama without the consent of congress—if President Johnson had done any or all of these things the result of the impeachment trial might have been different.

The Minneapolis Journal in a special dispatch from Washington discusses the intimate relations existing between the great corporations and several United States senators. Senator Platt's opposition to the post check system is due to his interest in the express companies; Senator Depew's subserviency to the railroads is well understood, and the championship of the trusts and the high tariff by other senators is easily explained. If President Roosevelt wants to strike the senate in the solar plexus let him propose an investigation of the senate's corporate connections.

Several newspapers have asserted that Mr. Bryan and other Lincoln men are owners of the celebrated Foster lease of oil lands in Kansas. Mr. Bryan is able to speak only for himself concerning this matter and he owns no stock in any mining or oil companies, has had no dealings, directly or indirectly with any oil, mining or leasing company, and is not connected in any manner with any such company or corporation. Mr. Bryan's friends do not need this announcement to convince them of the falsity of the statements of political opponents. Mr. Bryan's only business enterprises consist of *The Commoner* and the farm.

Dr. William Osler of Johns Hopkins University declares that men have reached the age limit of usefulness at 40, and that men over 60 years old should be chloroformed. He further asserts that men over 40 years of age never accomplish anything of consequence. It is really too bad that so many of our great universities have been advertised to their disadvantage by professors who advance such notions. Dr. Osler has studied his history to poor advantage if he believes that men more than 40 years old have accomplished nothing of consequence. The assertion that men over 60 have outlived their usefulness is so silly and so untrue that it merely makes its author ridiculous. The man who has improved his opportunities and taken care of himself should be able to accomplish his best work between 40 and 70 years of age.

When A Man Ceases to Work