

The Commoner

ISSUED WEEKLY

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Victory in the skirmish of 1906 presages victory in the battle of 1908.

Republican music since the Maine election has been of the cemetery whistle kind.

The Boston & Maine railroad seems to have run over Winston Churchill at the crossing.

For Winston Churchill the crisis seems to have come rather early in the political game.

Organize thoroughly and assault the entrenched hordes of privilege all along the line.

In Maine Before: "The issue is Roosevelt."
 In Maine After: "The issues were wholly local."

Mr. Taft said that Roosevelt was the issue in Maine. But that was before the Maine election.

Mr. Odell should have opposed President Roosevelt and come in for an endorsement a la Foraker and Dick.

Defeated Candidate Perkins has made up his mind that Editor Perkins can not support Governor Cummins.

During Secretary Loeb's hunting trip in the west who is to do the vicarious sacrificing for the White House?

The more republicans get to democratic principles the more they can boast of doing something for the people.

The most active proselyters for government ownership are the railroad magnates who ignore the interests of the public.

Republican prospects in Kansas have grown so dismal that the Kansas City Journal has resurrected the "bloody shirt" issue.

Ohio republicans stood by Roosevelt by endorsing the two senators who were most active in opposition to the Roosevelt policies.

If General Funston goes to Cuba it will no longer be difficult to name the "logical candidate" for the republican nomination for president in 1908.

Mr. Littlefield still claims that Mr. Gompers' opposition aided him. But it is quite likely that none of the other republican congressional candidates will seek to have Mr. Gompers enter their districts in opposition.

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Pittsburg scandals have not been numerous mentioned in the daily papers of late. They may have become too numerous to be classed as real news.

Novelist Churchill lost out in his political game, but he doubtless has plenty of material for a political novel under the title of "The Cow-catcher."

In the multiplicity of endorsement given by the Ohio republican convention, why was the erstwhile lieutenant of Dick and Foraker, "Boss" Cox, overlooked?

An exchange says that Mr. Rockefeller is "trying to pat the public on the back." But how can Mr. Rockefeller do it and keep both of his hands in the public's pockets?

The papers are talking about a Philadelphia man who has been asleep for eight days. What excellent material for director of a Philadelphia bank and trust company.

Senator Long complains that Senator LaFollette violated "senatorial courtesy" in Kansas. Senatorial courtesy has been responsible for a lot of senatorial corruption.

The republican managers are frightened. They show indications of revising their campaign cry of "stand by Roosevelt" and making it "Remember the Maine—election!"

It seems that Senator LaFollette violated the rules of senatorial courtesy by going down into Kansas and telling the people how Senator Long voted on a lot of important questions.

Ohio republicans performed the feat of endorsing the president and the two Ohio senators, an acrobatic stunt that ought to draw a big bunch of money on the vaudeville circuit.

"Do we want to annex Cuba?" is a question being discussed in various newspapers. The answer depends on whether the tobacco and sugar trusts will profit more by annexation than by independence.

Republican "harmony" is illustrated by the refusal of the republican nominee for governor to make the race in Colorado. The brilliancy of republican prospects in Colorado is also evidenced by the refusal.

With democratic majorities increased in democratic states and republican majorities decreased in republican states, the outlook for the beneficiaries of the "stand pat" theory is not so bright as it might be.

"It would be a sorry day if labor should be entirely ignored by capital," says the Cedar Rapids Gazette. Doubtless that is true, but not nearly so sorry if capital should undertake to get along without labor.

Between the returns from Maine and the returns from Arkansas the g. o. p. leaders see the necessity of dropping the "dollar fund" plan and falling back on the well-tried and long established campaign of "fat frying."

Speaker Cannon's new campaign cry, "put nothing but home-made cake in the pantry, recalls the reply of the French queen who, when told that the people were crying for bread, said: "Why don't they eat cake?"

Workingmen who have built homes during the last few years have contributed more than their share towards financing the g. o. p. campaigns, by feeding fat the tariff trusts that depend upon the republican party for their existence.

The trust attorneys and subsidized editors who rushed to Mr. Bryan as a refuge from the "radicalism" of Roosevelt are now looking for new cover. Why don't they bring out one of their own kind and make an open fight in favor of predatory wealth?

The treasury department is buying silver and the purchase is causing the price to go up. This is calculated to make trouble for those organs that always insisted that the law of supply and demand always ceased to operate when it struck the white metal.

The announcement of the news from Maine was followed by the announcement that a representative of the republican congressional committee would visit the departments at Washington and take up a "voluntary contribution for the campaign fund."

The man elected governor in Colorado this fall will be seated and serve out his term if he lives. Democrats would not turn a trick like the republicans turned on Governor Adams two years ago, and democrats will not stand for a second turning of that trick.

The New York Times is so anxious to make the tariff the issue now that it spends its time denying that government ownership is a suitable remedy. And it is so anxious to fight the party that it fills its columns with abuse and misrepresentation of all who differ from it.

The New York Times will help the democratic party more by its opposition than it could by its support, because it could not make an argument to justify its support of the party without setting forth reasons which would alienate more voters than its influence could draw to the party.

A careful reading of the editorials of those who think the mere suggestion of government ownership a bar to democratic success will disclose the fact that they are written largely by editors who promised the party success two years ago on condition that it would retreat from its position of 1896 and 1900.

"Put nothing but home-made cake in the pantry," says Speaker Cannon in a weak attempt to get up a fetching campaign cry. He doesn't say so, but Speaker Cannon means to have all the preserves, jellies, jams, fruit, etc., stored in the cellars of the corporationists he so deftly and willingly serves.

A Sidney, Ia., man was recently sentenced to the penitentiary for a year for stealing two cherry pies. Men who have stolen railroads, coal lands, timber lands and millions of money are still "captains of finance" and "defenders of national honor." If there is any moral to this it is, "don't be so foolish as to steal mere pies."

Some of the admirers of the late Senator George F. Hoar who point with pride to the republican party's policy in the Orient may be interested in a letter which Senator Hoar wrote to Mr. W. S. Ryan of Indianapolis, February 26, 1900. In that letter Senator Hoar said: "I have your letter of February 24, for which I am much obliged to you. The thought had already occurred to me that Aaron Burr is probably the only statesman of our earlier days who would have tolerated for a moment this policy of conquest and imperialism in which we are now embarked."

The day has gone by when political platform makers can trifle with the intelligence of the people. The Chicago Record-Herald, (Rep.) referring to the platform adopted by the Ohio republicans says: "The platform, if it means anything, means this—that it is dangerous to elect democrats because they are presumptively opposed to the president's policies, but that it is not at all dangerous or paradoxical to encourage, praise and elect republicans who are actually and notoriously out of sympathy with the president. This 'idea' will hardly 'take' in Ohio."

As this copy of The Commoner may be read by some one not familiar with the details of the primary pledge plan, it is necessary to say that according to the terms of this plan every democrat is asked to pledge himself to attend all of the primaries of his party to be held between now and the next democratic national convention, unless unavoidably prevented, and to secure a clear, honest and straight-forward declaration of the party's position on every question upon which the voters of the party desire to speak. Those desiring to be enrolled can either write to The Commoner approving the object of the organization and asking to have their names entered on the roll, or they can fill out and mail the blank pledge, which is printed on page 12.