

# The Commoner.

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However, there is a worse use for straws than the mere taking of ballots.

The Brooklyn Eagle should quit shedding its feathers so near winter time.

The republican campaign has already gotten far into the false statistical stage.

Mr. Root continues to decline the nomination for governor of New York. Mr. Root is not looking for a set-back.

About the nearest Missouri republicans can come to electing a governor is to vote for Folk—as they should do.

It is barely possible that Governor Herrick waxed wroth because Lincoln Steffens' question called up painful facts.

If Candidate Davis continues to rap the prosperity argument the republicans may conclude that he is not so old after all.

For a dead question the money question seems to be giving the eastern politicians and eastern papers a great deal of trouble.

"Horse fever" is causing considerable apprehension in Wisconsin, but not nearly so much as the republican horse play in reference to curbing the corporations.

Mrs. Henry E. S. Taylor, South Wilton, Conn., wishes to know the whereabouts of her brother, James J. Thomas, who, when last heard of, was in Beatrice, Neb.

Perhaps the g. o. p. managers thought the nomination of Mr. Fairbanks would congeal the Ohio river and thus permit those Kentucky negroes to skate across on election day.

Mrs. Goelet ventures the opinion that the newspapers are injuring Newport as a health resort. These testimonials of the public benefits conferred by the press are always welcome.

The czar's baby boy is already a colonel. The indications are that he will be old enough to lead the regiment before Russia succeeds in driving the Japs back and dictating peace in Tokio.

Immigration rates are now so low that the g. o. p. leaders will have to make extra talk about "protecting American labor" in order to call attention away from the invasion of cheap labor.

John Sharp Williams is being roundly abused by the republican press because he "talked sarkastik" while notifying Mr. Davis. Mr. Williams, however, has long since ceased trying to please the republican press.

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Government control of corporations, or corporation control of government—which?

When will the republican leaders regard the Filipinos "fit for complete self-government"? When there is no more money to be made out of them.

Candidate Davis is not saying much but he points to the campaigns of 1896 and 1900 as evidence that he is not afraid to trust his accumulations to laws made by the people and for the people.

A circus man declares that an elephant only sleeps five hours a night in its prime and needs less and less as it grows older. This may explain why the republican elephant opposes an eight-hour day for laboring men.

By sailing about in the Dolphin for a few weeks Secretary Morton is quite sure to learn that there is a great demand for an increased navy among the gentlemen who manage to garner contracts for building battleships.

The president says: "When the need arises there should be a readjustment of tariff duties." Messrs. Frick, Carnegie, Morgan and other trust leaders will doubtless consent to notify the president of the arrival of the need.

The Springfield (Ill.) Register says that "What Russia most needs now is a Schley," and the Register is no longer persona grata with the gentlemen who boss our navy from their sumptuous offices in the army and navy building.

It really amounts to nothing now, but the fact still remains that the democratic leaders and organs that are shouting so loudly for harmony now are the leaders and organs that took particular pains to be inharmonious four and eight years ago.

The Globe-Democrat says that the Filipino commissioners have completed their tour of the United States and "will be able to report to their neighbors that this is a country worth belonging to." That is about the value that some of the republican leaders place upon liberty. To "belong to" somebody is enough to satisfy their ambition.

The Commoner does not urge Judge Parker's election on the ground that he is "the regular nominee." That argument lost much of its force eight years ago when so many distinguished democrats bolted. The Commoner presents a stronger argument. It urges his election because his election will insure some reform while Mr. Roosevelt's election promises no reform whatever.

The Kansas City Journal recently published an editorial under the caption, "Why Crime is Unpunished." We started to read it in the hope that it would tell us why President Roosevelt failed to enforce the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law, but soon found out that the Journal has no intention of ceasing to be republican and becoming right.

The Pittsburg Dispatch, with righteous sarcasm, exclaims: "Let us hope no one will tell the Igorrotes how uncivilized our nation is down about Statesboro." So say we all of us, but let us add that it is to be hoped that no one will tell those dishonest southern republics how dishonest certain leaders are in Pennsylvania, notably in Philadelphia and Harrisburg. There is much in our public affairs that would be better kept quiet when talking to foreigners.

The state grange of Pennsylvania has earned the bitter hatred of every republican congressional candidate and his backers. The grange has asked each one of them this question: "Will you, if elected, assist in passing legislation which will enable American citizens to buy American products as cheaply at home as they are sold abroad?" Such a question is calculated to induce nervous prostration when put to a republican congressional candidate.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found an interesting article under the caption, "The Kingdom of Never-grow-old." The Commoner recommends it to every man and woman who reads this paper, for it appeals to the best there is in every human heart. Like most things that contain thoughts calculated to uplift humanity it deals with the simple little things of life, and its pathos and sentiment will appeal to all. Those who dwell permanently, or even temporarily, in this delectable kingdom are always made better by it, and are able to encounter with greater hope for success the daily toils of this busy life.

### The Beautiful Kingdom

The language used by Judge Parker, in his speech of acceptance, was hardly open to misconception, but some critics having questioned his meaning, he takes the opportunity of setting the matter at rest and promises to deal with the matter explicitly in his formal letter. The judge stands squarely on the platform and his election will be a great victory for constitutional government. It will relieve the country of the greatest menace of recent years and put us in a position to look the world square in the face again. Every man who believes in the Declaration of Independence should see in Judge Parker's success a chance to vindicate the principles of popular government.

### Judge Parker on Imperialism

The packing house strike was called by the skilled and organized workmen in the great packing houses to protect and benefit the unskilled and unorganized workmen. This fact should be borne in mind by those who insist that labor unions are selfish and self-seeking. The skilled workmen were making fair wages and working full hours. The unskilled workmen were drawing starvation wages and working short hours. It is claimed by the strike leaders that the unskilled workmen averaged less than \$7 a week. It was to compel better treatment of the unskilled that the skilled declared the strike. The history of labor unionism contains few brighter pages than the one which records the efforts of the Butcher Workmen's union to benefit the unskilled helpers.

### An Unselfish Strike

The Chicago Chronicle, which once upon a time claimed to be democratic, but became republican in fact as well as in name when it discovered it could not deceive thinking men, says that "the democratic party has no longer principles upon which to base a claim to the favor of honest and intelligent men." Of course, in the opinion of the Chronicle, "government by the consent of the governed" makes no appeal to honesty and intelligence. Of course, in the opinion of the Chronicle, "equal and exact justice between all men" makes no appeal to honesty and intelligence. Of course, in the opinion of the Chronicle, the principles laid down by Jefferson and incorporated into the creed of democracy, make no appeal to honesty and intelligence. But all this is interesting only because it reveals the wonderfully wierd ideas the Chronicle has concerning "honesty and intelligence."

### Honesty and Intelligence

Farmers who are compelled to sell their products in the open markets and buy their supplies in a restricted market should carefully study the boastful statements of the republican organ which says: "In the three months of May, June and July of the present year this country exported \$120,789,769 worth of manufactured goods." This is at the rate of \$40,000,000 a month, or over \$480,000,000 a year. Yet these same manufacturers raise the cry of "infant industry" and insist that they have a high rate of "protection" against the European competition which they so much dread here at home and so blithely meet abroad. As long as they can charge the local consumer two prices and meet the foreigner in competition in foreign lands, the manufacturers naturally contribute liberally to the party that makes shibboleth of protection in order to secure funds to keep itself entrenched in power. The wonder is that the average American citizen has not long since awakened to a full realization of the gold brick game so often worked on him.

### The Great Gold Brick Game