

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

The Philippine whistle costs entirely too much considering the music that comes from it.

Lord Milner has resigned as high commissioner of South Africa. They still continue to stagger.

We can build more and better battleships than any other nation in the world—but what's the use?

Senator Knox is talking learnedly about the law these days. When he was attorney general he seemed to be woefully ignorant of certain phases of the anti-trust law.

Who ever thought that the publicity department would become the secret service branch of the republican machine and be used to mix the trusts for campaign purposes?

Senator Lodge is now able to meet a reciprocity resolution in the road without hopping the fence and taking to the woods. The senator evidently figures on a re-election.

Secretary Loeb should improve his first leisure moment by posting up on what his illustrious chief has written into books in the days gone by. It might prevent a recurrence of that Georgia case.

Postmaster General Wynne is a newspaper man. He is doubtless able to edit all the testimony in postal fraud cases so that the public will be properly solaced.

Some newspapers lay great stress on the fact that General Kuropatkin receives a salary of \$100,000 a year. That is a lot of money, but the average man would hardly take Kuropatkin's place for double the sum.

Philadelphia papers are now discussing a public loan for municipal purposes. The people will be made to believe that it is a public loan, but the grafters of Philadelphia fully realize that it is another public donation.

Walter Wellman asserts that he has found 3,000 first voters, sons of Indiana democrats, who will vote for Roosevelt next month. A few years ago this same Mr. Wellman asserted that he was sure to find the north pole.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat says that "It is charitable to suppose that Mr. Bryan is not familiar with the details of Missouri politics." Thanks. But Mr. Bryan is quite familiar with Globe-Democrat tactics, thank you.

A veteran of the Union army claims to have recently found his gun, which he hid under a rock during the first battle of Bull Run. He will have to explain how he found time to hide it before his story will be generally believed.

"No other political business," remarks the Sioux City Journal, "is in order until the motion to elect Theodore Roosevelt president of the United States is disposed of." In less than two weeks the motion will be laid upon the table.

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Perhaps General Kuropatkin is contemplating the relief of Port Arthur by going the longest way around.

President Roosevelt found it easy to overrule the supreme court, having already abrogated the constitution.

Iowa has no child labor law, but it has a republican majority that is the g. o. p. boast twenty-four hours a day.

The Commoner's subscription offer is liberal and should be seized upon by loyal democrats who are anxious to advance democratic principles.

Senator Beveridge says that under republican administration the American workman drinks three cups of coffee to one that he drank under a democratic administration. Well, why not? He needs more stimulant to enable him to stand it.

Republican managers are still protesting against a "mud slinging campaign." The protests are especially vociferous whenever a democratic newspaper or orator quotes from "Life of Thomas H. Benton," or some other Rooseveltian book.

Senator Fairbanks has been discussing the wool question. He insists that a tariff on wool benefits the sheep raiser by increasing the price of wool, and in the next breath tells the workmen of the country that a tariff on woolen goods cheapens them. No wonder a sheep is afraid of man.

"Country Life in America" submits figures that prove that it would cost \$4,500 now to build a house that could have been built for \$2,800 in 1897. This is calculated to make Carroll D. Wright again vociferously call attention to the marked decrease in the price of putty.

The New York Tribune's political chart needs revision. It shows about everything to be due to "wise republican management" save only the enormous and uncalled for increase in the national expenditures. The Tribune fails to mention that important item.

The discovery of a bogus "patent medicine" factory in New York city is being written about, and the accounts show that the factory's products are very similar to a republican platform.

The New York Press says: "For a nation that has been ruined by Rooseveltism this country is just 'rotten with money.'" The Press is among the large number believing that money is the whole thing. "Will it pay?" is always their query. "Is it right?" never seems to worry them.

A republican paper credits the republican party with making this nation "a world power." This country was a world power before the republican party was born—more of a world power when it ruled by its ideas than it will be if it follows the republican plan and rules by force.

General Funston has moved from the northwest to Chicago, where he will assume command of the department of the lakes. The press dispatches announce that he and his family traveled in the private car of the manager of the Harriman system. If it is necessary for our generals to travel in private cars, such cars ought to be furnished by the government. It is not well for army commanders to be obligated to the great corporations. It is against the interests of labor.

As the campaign progresses it becomes more and more evident that the trusts are working for Roosevelt's election. They would not do this if they did not have an iron-clad agreement that will protect them from punishment. It cost the people hundreds of millions when to secure his renomination he put the trusts in charge of the attorney general's office; it will cost the people hundreds of millions more if the trusts elect him.

The Houston Post very promptly reprimands the Boston Herald for making the common Massachusetts—and northern—mistake of believing that ignorance of southern conditions is knowledge of the race problem. And in giving the reprimand the Post exposes a very common quality of northern hypocrisy as well as ignorance. The Boston Herald

charges that negroes are being "driven out of Mississippi for having accumulated property." Whereupon the Houston Post calls attention to the fact that the property owning negro of Mississippi is allowed to vote whether he is illiterate or not, while in Massachusetts the illiterate man, white or black, is not allowed to vote, even though he be the possessor of a fortune in goods and real estate. The Herald complains that negroes are being driven from Mississippi for "publishing newspapers," and for "riding in their own carriages," whereupon the Post shows by the census that negro-owned and published newspapers are constantly on the increase in Mississippi, and that more Mississippi negroes own carriages now than ever before in history. Further, the Post shows that negroes own more property in Mississippi now than ever before. The property-owning negro is not the negro who becomes a disturbing factor. Southern white men know this to be true, and as a result encourage thrift on the part of the black man. But the lazy, shiftless black man—well, the Boston Herald may fly to his defense, but it would hardly defend the idle, shiftless, illiterate, criminal white man of Massachusetts. The Boston Herald should lay aside its prejudices long enough to acquire some knowledge of real facts.

The enormous loss of life in railroad accidents during the last two or three months offers another and weighty argument in favor of public ownership of railroads. As long as selfishness is the basis of railroad management, the disregard for human life will exist. A thousand people are killed in railroad accidents in America for every one killed in the countries where the railroads are publicly owned. The strenuous chase after the almighty dollar breeds disregard for human life. The slaughter of men and women on American railroads is on the increase despite laws requiring safety appliances.

The Brooklyn Eagle has issued its orders that all discussion of the question of imperialism be dropped. This is interesting only because it shows the Brooklyn Eagle's inability to grasp the real and fundamental principles of democracy. It also proves useful because it calls renewed attention to the Brooklyn Eagle's dense ignorance of public sentiment on what is really the most vital question at issue in this campaign. Fortunately there is not the least likelihood that any attention will be paid by democrats to the order, and the Eagle may go right ahead with its dispute with the New York World as to which is entitled to the credit for being the "original personal organ" of the democratic nominee.

William E. Curtis seems to have become identified with the republican national campaign bureau, for he is now trying to prove that Judge Parker erred in his estimates of Philippine expenditures and fatalities. The trouble with Mr. Curtis is that he fails to take into consideration any expense save that actually paid by the government, and does not include in the death list all who have been killed outright or who died of wounds. The pay of the soldiers and sailors and the cost of feeding and clothing them is not the only expense attached to our occupancy of the Philippines, and neither is the death list to be confined to American soldiers and sailors. Mr. Curtis should include in his death list "all over ten" who were killed by order of an American officer.

The American newspaper paragrapher never loses an opportunity to make sport of what he is pleased to term the "unpronounceable Russian names." But when he does so it is clearly a case of the pot calling the kettle black. With Piscataquis, Damariscotta, Mattawamkeag and Wytopitlock, in Maine; Oktibeha, in Mississippi; Heckscherville, in Pennsylvania, and other names equally difficult of pronunciation, to say nothing of the names of many of the lakes and rivers, it seems that the Russians might retort in kind. And the Englishman is in no better position than the American. The English town of Rhodaxton is pronounced "Ribson" by the Englishman. Salt Fleetby is pronounced "Sollaby," and St. Othis is pronounced "Toosy." If there is anything Russian that can compare with that the fact has not been brought out since the opening of hostilities.

Slaughter
of the
Innocents

An Order
to be
Ignored

The Curtis'
View
Too Narrow

The Pot
and
The Kettle

Confounded
by the
Plain Facts