

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Mr. Lawson seems to have pierced the thick hide of the oil trust.

The "full dinner-pail" may, after all, be like Wall street stocks—full of water.

Democrats are warned not to go fishing on election day. The Baltic fleet might get them.

The philanthropy that insists upon a regular and gratifying rate of interest has a few blow holes in its armor.

The Carroll D. Wright system of figuring seems to have become epidemic among the g. o. p. officeholders.

Governor General Wright seems fully aware of what he must do to keep in close touch with that splendid salary.

Senator Knox, like Secretary Loeb, should look a little deeper and not deny things that are matters of plain record.

The citizen must take counsel of his reason and love of country, not of his disappointment or desire for retaliation.

The office boy of The Commoner, after reading the cabled political letter from Manila, said, "It don't Luke Wright to me."

Two men were killed in a political quarrel in West Virginia the other day. General Apathy seems to have struck a retreat.

Folk of Missouri and Berge of Nebraska are two of a kind and the title of governor will increase the usefulness of both of them.

Of course those Pullman employes whose hours have been lengthened and wages decreased will be again asked to "let well enough alone."

Of course, Mr. Cortelyou is not to be blamed if the trusts seized him, threw him down, and thrust campaign money into his pockets.

The New York Mail insists that the total cost of the Philippines to date is "only \$189,000,000." The word "only" should be emphasized.

Perhaps the trusts will show the stubs of their checkbooks after while and insist that the administration has been very severe with them.

Doubtless Mr. Parker will cheerfully concede that Mr. Knox's long associations with trusts and monopolies enable him to pose as an expert.

The "coffee-pot statesman" of Indiana has good grounds for believing that his vice presidential aspirations have been sadly unsettled.

Governor Odell say he will never again hold public office. This would appear to make it unanimous.

Perhaps the czar expects to start the Baltic feet about the time the g. o. p. revises the tariff in the interests of the consumers.

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The difference is that Mr. Parker quoted his figures from the records, while Mr. Hay and Mr. Knox merely quoted from their imaginations.

The eminent republican editors who chided Mr. Parker for not speaking, are now engaged in communing silently with their own thoughts.

The g. o. p. explanation department has come down from its "what-are-you-going-to-do-about-it" and assumed a "you-are-another" position.

Dr. Wiley says that 80 per cent of the whisky is adulterated. This makes whisky's record almost equal to Carroll D. Wright's statistics on the cost of living.

The strong efforts to induce Panama to remain quiet is evidence that Panama could tell a whole lot if she got real mad and insisted on telling all the facts.

In the meanwhile Senator Knox is not who is neglecting the interests of the gentlemen who so kindly made it possible for him to wear a senatorial toga.

The Paramans will awaken to a realization of their mistake when Secretary Taft arrives and informs them that they should remain good by staying bought.

In many of the states the last Saturday before a general election day is the last day of registration. If you have not already registered, do so tomorrow without delay.

Of course the eminent gentlemen who have gone to the Philippines for the purpose of drawing large salaries can see nothing but good in American control of the islands.

From the full dinner-pail to the coffee-pot was a distance easily covered by the g. o. p. From the coffee-pot to spring water sipped from a gourd will be the next easy step taken by it.

Messrs. Rockefeller, Morgan, et al., doubtless have noticed the difference between the methods used to scalp Mr. Tyner and the methods used in administration dealings with the trusts.

Mr. Tyner seems unable to realize that his duty to the party is to take without a grimace any old kind of a dose concocted for him. If he takes it there may be less attention paid to the trusts.

If some plague should seize upon this country and claim as many victims in one year as the railroads have killed and wounded during the past twelve months, the country would be frantic with fear.

"The latest political sensation," says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, "is the outburst of republican enthusiasm in New York." Can it be that Mr. Cortelyou has knocked the hoops from the bar?

Not more than three or four battles of the civil war produced as huge casualty lists as the railroad wrecks in the United States during the past twelve months. There's a reason, and a remedy.

Mr. Hay asserts that the Philippines are costing us only \$5,000,000 a year. Mr. Hay should be told by some friend that he stands no earthly show of competition with Carroll D. Wright in that sort of figuring.

Doubtless the first thing Secretary Taft will do when he reaches Panama will be to tell the Panamans that it would be very unwise for them to tell all they know about that little matter of recognition.

The spectacle of a highwayman taking one's purse and at the same time delivering a lecture on obedience to law would not be more diverting than the spectacle of a "big sticker" posing as a peace-maker.

A railroad manager says the huge death list in railway circles is due to the "craze for rapid transit." He would have been much nearer the truth had he admitted that it is due to the "craze for huge dividends."

"No man is above the law and no man is below the law," says President Roosevelt. Then, doubtless, those 429 unmolested trusts are merely outside of the law and therefore not to be attacked by the administration.

Republic or Empire? Big Stick or the Golden Rule? A world power by example or a world power by brute force? These are some of the questions that conscientious voters must answer at the ballot box next Tuesday.

President Roosevelt has more military enthusiasm than the white house can comfortably accommodate. It is cheaper to allow him to retire and use "all-out-doors" for his military ardor, than to enlarge the executive mansion.

Vote for the immediate settlement of the question of "Republic or Empire" by voting to keep this nation a republic. When that question is settled the country can take into consideration economic questions vital to the republic.

The Baltic fleet took as long to start as a republican movement for a revision of the tariff, and then met with about the same amount of success. The tariff protected trusts always manage to head off any g. o. p. movement toward tariff reform.

Patrick Henry exclaimed, "Give me liberty or give me death," and we applaud every mention of his name, although he has been dead more than a century. When a Filipino exclaims, "Give me liberty or give me death," he gets the latter in short order.

The Globe-Democrat says, "Mr. Parker was out \$450,000,000 in his statement of the cost of American operations in the Philippines." The Globe-Democrat is mixed again. It is the American people who are "out," and the amount is much more than \$450,000,000.

Secretary Taft's instructions are to take with him to Panama a number of men thoroughly familiar with conditions there. This will be considered an invitation by the gentlemen who financed the revolution with the understanding that they were to get fat contracts.

Panama insists that the United States post-offices be withdrawn from the canal zone. The demand is impudent and will not be heeded. The constitution may be knocked down and dragged out, but the postmaster will remain right there as long as Uncle Sam continues to send the vouchers.

Those people who are mourning over the awful loss of life in the Russo-Japanese war should reflect upon the solemn fact that in the last twenty years the railroads of the United States have killed and wounded more people than have been killed and wounded during the present war in the far east.

The tower of Philadelphia's new city hall is out of plumb, which fact leads the Baltimore Sun to make the biting comment: "It seems almost impossible for anything to be upright in the City of Brotherly Love." If the tower falls doubtless the headline over the account of the event will read: "Fallen among thieves."

Mr. Bryan has spent two days of the campaign in West Virginia. Mr. Davis, the democratic candidate for vice president, presided at one of Mr. Bryan's meetings in 1896. He was one of the well-to-do men of the east, who was not afraid to trust his money to laws made by the democratic party with Mr. Bryan at the head of the administration. Mr. Bryan took pleasure in returning the compliment this year.

Mr. Bryan is sometimes asked why he does not use the present opportunity to get even with the gold democrats who helped to defeat him. There are four reasons: First, that Parker and Davis both voted for him, and he does not care to retaliate on men who had the courage to vote for him when so many eastern democrats voted against him; second, because he has more important work on hand than trying to get even with anybody; third, because there were so many who contributed to his defeat that life is too short to get even with any large number of them; and fourth, because it will keep him busy the rest of his life to get even with the people who have helped him, and he can only get even with them by securing each year the most in the way of reform that can be secured.