

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

A pass may not always be a bribe, but it is either that or a very plain suggestion

A message of 18,000 words is the natural result of six months of bottled up vocalization.

The conservative usually wears out the breech straps while the radical is acquiring col-lar-marks.

A number of St. Louis families that went to Europe for the exposition period will now emerge from the attics.

The indications are that the Standard Oil company has been forced to sit up and take notice of public sentiment.

Mr. Lawson seems to have put Boston and Massachusetts well into the Philadelphia and Pennsylvania corruption class.

When democracy insists on doing right, regardless of expediency, it will not cut so sorry a figure in the election totals.

The New York World calls it an "astounding disaster." And yet the World wants to keep on courting the very same thing.

The New York World attributes the defeat to 1896. The trouble with the World is that it can not see beyond its office door.

Sir Thomas Lipton will not try for the American cup next year, doubtless because he is still behind with his orders since the last advertising campaign.

It is difficult to find a good but inexpensive present for father and mother. Books are always acceptable. See advertisement of "Under Other Flags."

The only tariff revisionists who will accomplish anything are the protected industries, who will frame new schedules giving them a little more "protection."

The St. Louis exposition having repaid the \$4,500,000 borrowed from Uncle Sam, Uncle Les Shaw should now give some more figures explaining that \$27,000,000 deficit.

If the men who manage the railroads were also the managers of the life and accident insurance companies, there might be a reduction in the number of railway casualties.

Missouri went republican in 1894, and in 1896 gave a democratic majority of upwards of 60,000. The democratic majority in Missouri two years hence will approach the 100,000 mark.

An English magazine refers to Miss Roosevelt as the "princess royal of America." Bless the dear old English publication, we've got millions of princesses of that kind over here.

Joseph Leiter seems to be another eminent coal baron who imagines that he is a trustee of

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the Almighty, with a commission of about 100 per cent on all financial transactions.

With the approach of the glad Christmas time a great deal of worry and perplexity may be avoided by remembering that a good book is always an acceptable Christmas present.

The Sioux City Journal is worried about the future of the democratic party. The Journal is assured that democracy's future is in the hands of democrats, not in the hands of the trusts.

The Delaware peach crop receives no more attention, owing doubtless to the more profitable business of making "Gas" Addicks think he stands a show to be elected United States senator.

These be strenuous days for Secretary Shaw. The St. Louis exposition has paid Uncle Sam all it owed him, and Secretary Shaw will have to look elsewhere for an explanation of the deficit.

Walter Wellman says the president has received so many protests from the "stand-patters" that he has abandoned all efforts for tariff revision for at least a year. It's the same old story.

All hope that the president's literary training would lead him into "polling down" his messages has failed. The next cabinet office established should be that of "secretary of the blue pencil."

"Under the able leadership" of the New York World New York state gives Roosevelt a plurality of 180,000. This is one of the sneering paragraphs about "able leadership" that the New York World did not print.

"We are not here to get all we can," said young Mr. Rockefeller to his Sunday school class. Is it possible that young Mr. Rockefeller's papa has merely been taking a small portion just for the fun of it?

During the campaign an eastern college professor said that a majority of Kansans are crazy most of the time, and we have since been wondering how he knew Kansans would go republican by upwards of 100,000.

The Baltimore News says that Mr. Bryan's inability to drop the silver issue has "all along been a bar" to his political success. Well, Judge Parker succeeded in dropping the silver question, and he failed to remove the "bar."

The defeat of 1904 need not prevent the election of a democratic congress in 1906. The Greeley defeat of 1872 was followed by a democratic congressional victory in 1874 and by a democratic presidential victory in 1876.

Grover Cleveland made a speech at a corner stone laying in New York last week. Before seeking he asked to be shown the contents of the tin box. Did he want to make sure that his "safe and sane" policy was in it?

The Panama army is now about the size of an American college football team, counting in the substitutes. If the Panama army is as dangerous as the average football team Panama should be classed among the world powers.

Those confiding gentlemen who believe that the administration will now proceed to revise the tariff in the interests of the general public should prepare to receive alluring and glittering propositions from the green goods gentlemen

The jokesmiths who are calling attention to the fact that Standard Oil dividends were reduced from 40 to 36 per cent this year should not overlook that the stock was largely increased by the addition of water a few short months ago. The 36 per cent may really be much more than the 40 per cent.

The Porto Rican commissioner of immigration is paid \$2,500 a year by Uncle Sam. An American going to Porto Rico has no desire to become a Porto Rican, and a Porto Rican can not become an American citizen. It would seem that the immigration commissioner aforementioned has something of a soft snap.

The attraction on the Pike known as "Quo Vadis," was destroyed by fire the day after the

exposition closed. This is in keeping with the historical atmosphere. There was considerable fire in "Quo Vadis."

The congress elected a month ago will not convene until a year from last Monday, but as the present and future congresses are alike in political complexion the present congress can take up the work of extravagance without waiting.

The postoffice department has issued a fraud order against a Chicago mail order firm. Some of these days the P. O. D. may issue a fraud order against a political party that is always promising tariff revision and then betraying the people.

The Philadelphia North American favors "amending the tariff," but is opposed to tariff revision. The North American's view is heartily supported by the tariff protected trusts, each one of which is prepared to hand in an amendment to the schedules affecting its interests.

It is rumored that Secretary Shaw would like to lay aside his cabinet duties and return to Iowa. It may be that Mr. Shaw is of the opinion that a growing deficit during his term as secretary of the treasury would not be a good card to play in 1908 when the g. o. p. national convention meets.

"What is charity?" queries the Columbus Press-Post. If one judged solely by the daily newspaper enconiums of the generosity of our multi-millionaires one would think that charity consists in piling up riches through special legislation and giving a part of it away with the aid of expert press agents.

The voting machine is becoming popular with gratifying rapidity. It has many things to recommend it. While the initial cost is heavy, the voting machine is an economical institution. It saves a great deal now paid out to numerous judges and clerks. It permits of speedy announcement of the results of the election. It is a time saver in many ways, and it is as good as the Australian ballot in all ways and superior to it in many. An increasing number of cities use the voting machine each year, and it seems destined to become general in all thickly populated communities.

Governor Pennypacker of Pennsylvania was so incensed by the cartoonists during his campaign for election that he determined to

The Cartoon Here To Stay put the gentlemen of the pencil out of business. To that end he secured the enactment of a law making it an offense to publish any portrait or cartoon without the consent of the individual in question. Up to date no cartoonist has been thrust into a Pennsylvania jail, and so far as known no Pennsylvania cartoonist has neglected any opportunities to cartoon the executive of that state. The cartoon has come to stay, and is an important factor in American political life. No amount of cartooning can permanently injure a good man or a good cause, but it will put obstacles in the way of a bad man or a bad cause. Cartoons are sometimes brutal, but the tendency is constantly upward, and the public man who waxes wrath at the cartoonists and attempts to prevent them from plying their art merely advertises himself as being afraid of them, and the public is not apt to be long in learning the reason.

The newspapers in those states where legislatures will shortly convene are unanimous in demanding short sessions, economy in public expenditures, and due regard for the wishes of the people. The demands are by no means new. On the contrary they

Making the Same Old Demands Now have a very familiar sound. Every year the newspapers insist upon these things, and then the legislatures meet, remain in session as long as possible, appropriate every dollar possible and serve the interests of the corporations because the corporations have influential lobbies on the spot, while the people have to remain at home and earn the money appropriated by the legislatures. Then when the next campaign comes on the organs of the majority party defend the extravagance and disregard of the public's interests and offer all manner of excuse for corporation control. This sort of thing will continue until the people make up their minds to hold their representatives to strict account, regardless of party affiliations.