## The Commoner.

## The Commoner

ISSUED WEEKLY

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### MR. BRYAN'S LETTERS

Mr. Bryan took passage on the Pacific Mail steamship Manchuria, which sailed from San Francisco September 27.

He will go to Japan via Honolulu. After a few weeks in Japan he will proceed to China, the Philippine Islands, India, Australia, New Zealand, Egypt, Palestine, Greece, Turkey, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, France, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Russia, Holland and the Brit-

The trip will occupy about one year, and the readers of The Commoner will be able to follow Mr. Bryan from the letters which will be published in The Commoner from time to time.

Speaking of the Loomis-Bowen controversy, the asphalt trust has not said a word lately. .

Now that it is no longer "headquarters of the nation" perhaps Ovster Bay will emulate the clam, and by his creft we have weath.

The Washington Post says that Secretary Shaw is airing his presidential boom. Hot airing it, of course?

It is a mighty mean man who begrudges Mr Thomas W. Lawson the nice little vindication he is now wearing.

Hall Caine says he is not going to write a book about American millionaires. That is good news as far as it goes.

The press humorists will meet in Philadelphia next year. By that time "Boss" Durham may be able to see the point.

Senator Foraker's ideas about rate making were doubtless formed while assisting in drawing up some republican tariff schedules.

There is no need to worry about those convicted Chicago packers not having enough money left to purchase their winter supply of coal.

President McCall "thanks God" he did, and a few men applaud him. Other men have been sent to jail for misappropriating trust money.

Mr. McCall's solicitude for the widow and orphans is truly "touching," whether the word "touching" is used in its best or in its worstsense.

It will be noted that Mr. Loomis is not the first eminent gentleman connected with the present administration who retired upon his vindication.

"Put your thoughts on the higher things of life." says Mr. Rockefeller. Yes, and let Mr. Rockefeller secure all the oil holes punched in the lower.

President McCall declares he is not a millionaire. Perhaps some determined defender of "honor" is spending Mr. McCall's money unbeknown to him.

The Argentine Republic/has decided to adopt a high protective tariff, and the decision has resulted in making very angry a lot of American manufacturers who insist on being protected to

the limit. The advocate of a high protective tariff who exhibits incipient signs of consistency lays his claims of being a protectionist open to suspicion.

The Sioux City Journal says that "Mr. Mc-Call must be credited with convictions." Yes, of their kind. But there is one kind that has not been rendered yet.

Mr. Taft is quite sure the Filipinos will not be ready for independence for a generation. But is Mr. Taft quite sure that we will have swiped all they have by that time?

A lot of big corporations might find it possible to save a lot of money by merely obeying the laws for a year or two, but it would be hard on the professional lobbyists.

Mr. Hamilton denies that he spent that \$100,-000 of New York Life Insurance company money to influence legislators. Perhaps he influenced them before he got the money.

A lot of eminent financiers who were going to prove Thomas W. Lawson a "vile prevaricator," are entirely too busy defending their own characters to attend to it just now.

Administration organs are bragging loudly about the amount of money deposited in the banks. But are idle freight cars in a railroad terminal a sign of rushing business?

The gentlemen who were so wonderfully considerate of the "widows and orphans" in November, 1896, seem to have lost all interest in them before December of the same year.

The only ones who are surprised at the revelations of corrupt use of trust funds to influence elections are the gentlemen who so used them. They had expected to keep it dark forever.

Senator Platt says he wants to die in the harness, meaning that he will remain active in business in politics. The senator has some express business in politics, it will be remembered.

Is it not a mistake to say that those Chicago packers paid in fines? Would it not be better to say that they advanced the money, pending collection from the consumers of dressed meats?

A wire tapping gang in New York City recently stole \$75,000 worth of electricity. We may now expect one of the gang's leaders to get up and "thank God" that he stood up for the national honor in 1896.

There is no sentiment in the hearts of the gentlemen in charge of the postoffice department;

neither is there any music in their souls. With owlish wis-"Tailholt" dom and due disregard of pub-Not lic feeling they have declared Carroliton "Tailholt" to be lacking in

euphony, therefore the postoffice of Tailholt, Ind., is no more. In its place we are to have Carrollton. In the name of all lovers of real poetry. The Commoner protests. When James Whitcomb Riley wrote "The Little Town o' Tailholt" he made that village famous, and he added to the gajety of nations. And now to have the sordid, unpoetic, prosaic and unsentimental postoffice authorities wipe the village from the map is too much

Mr. Bowen's chief offense seems to have been that he had the temerity to disclose the

shortcomings of a gentleman Where who had secured the confidence Bowen Was of the president. According to the attitude of a majority of Wrong the republican organs, Mr.

Bowen should have remained silent and not made public the actions of a republic official, because that meant discrediting the president and the party. This is the characteristic republican view. President Roosevelt has not only been unfortunate in the selection of some of his friends. but he has been doubly unfortunate in rushing to their defense in spite of the manifest truth of severe charges made against them.

Mr. Lawson is going to call a great convention of policyholders in life insurance companies,

Lawson Has a Huge Scheme

and declares that before he gets through with his disclosures there will be from 100 to 150 big insurance men serving from eight to fifty years in the penitentiaries of the country. And people are not pooh-poohing Mr. Lawson's assertion like

they did a year ago. They couldn't believe he was telling the truth when he started his story of "Frenzied Finance" but the broadest assertions that Mr. Lawson made about the methods of the eminent financiers were narrow when compared with the faors that have since developed. It is probable that the eminent financiers themselves will hardly care to engage in any controversy with Mr. Lawson at this stage of the game.

Newspapers that have never given any particular thought to the matter of providing amuse-

Home Before All Else

ments for the thousands of children in the tenements and sweatshops of the great cities are just now wonderfully interested in providing amuse-

ments for the men engaged upon the Panama canal. There are thousands of workingmen in America who are barred from all healthy amusements by reason of onerous conditions forced upon them. Why not give them some attention? Factories and mines are full of little children whose lives are being ruined. Why not some show of newspaper interest in their welfare? While we are building hotels and providing amusements for the canal workers, why not do a little in that line for the hundreds of thousands of workers right here at home?

#### OTHERS MAY HELP

Taking advantage of the special offer, Commoner readers have sent in yearly subscriptions in number as follows: W. C. Goodwin, M. D., Odessa, Mo., 15; Philip Kellett, Mt. Leonard, Mo., 10; A. J. Beale, Cynthiana, Ky., 9; Nathan Smith, Fulford, Colo., 9; William S. Gilliland, Karthaus, Pa., 10; J. H. Williams, Fayetteville, Ark., 10; James Dundas, Ona. W. Va., 8; John Bratsing, Philadelphia, Pa., 12; A. Janney, Martinsburg, W. Va., 6; Albion P. Mann, Mineral, Va., 10; Allen Scott, Plato, Mo., 6; J. R. Barnett, Chrystal, Wyo., 6.

The following named subscribers have each sent five yearly subscriptions: J. K. Soward, Fithian, Ill.; W. E. Pierce, Pulaski, N. Y.; N. J. Blosser, Willits, Calif.; D. S. Lowrey, Copperas Cove, Texas; Joe Gracey, Qualey, Ohio; George T. Wolfe, Blue Mound, Kans.; John T. Washington, St. Louis, Mo.; W. Zimmer Jinan, Alderson,

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