

# The Commoner

ISSUED WEEKLY

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Lincoln J. Steffins should now write one on "Philadelphia—Less Corrupt and More Satisfied."

New York paid \$537 to bury a dead alderman, and doubtless is willing to increase the amount if opportunity offers.

Perhaps Mr. Depew can see no reason why he should resign because he is busy trying to find some reason for not resigning.

The chances are that the Pennsylvania delegation will agree to anything providing only that the tariff graft be left unmolested.

"The canal needs sixteen million dollars!" shouts an excited contemporary. We know of a million people that need sixteen dollars.

Mr. Whitney is yet unable to tell whether the president favors reciprocity or opposes it. In this Mr. Whitney and the country are on equal terms.

The president might well have averaged up his indignation against United States Marshal Matthews with the clean bill he tendered to Paul Morton.

Senator Depew announces that he will give out no more interviews to the press. This is the first suggestion to the effect that the chestnut crop is short.

The postal deficit could be wiped out by merely compelling the railroads to be fair. But just now the railroads, not congress, are doing all the compelling.

There are indications that the "pork barrel" will be guarded with unusual care—until the public gets out of the habit of looking for the Washington date line.

In their frantic efforts to "protect the national honor" a number of more or less prominent gentlemen seem to have overlooked the necessity of protecting their own.

The Sioux City Journal declares that "graft" stands in the way of tariff reform, and the Journal, while not a "standpatter" is willing to stand pat on that proposition.

The census of the saneless and senseless Santa Claus who dressed up in oakum whiskers and cotton batting clothes is bringing forward the same old mortuary list.

One of the sad sights of the otherwise happy Christmas time is that of Mr. Harriman bemoaning the fact that Mr. Ryan is not sufficiently disinterested in his "philanthropy."

A prosecutor who doesn't want to prosecute and a judge who does not want to convict form a combination extremely pleasing to gentlemen who have "vested rights" to protect.

Without venturing at all into the realms of prophecy The Commoner ventures to say that

the old frigate Constitution will be floating long after the present cabinet has been dissolved.

United States Marshal Matthews of Nebraska was removed from office for making light of a farcical sentence imposed upon two rich land thieves. The judge who imposed that sentence is still drawing a salary and can not be reached.

Several cities have passed ordinances prohibiting ticket speculation. Ticket speculation received severe set-backs in New York and Philadelphia a few weeks ago.

Mr. Jerome is saying some harsh things about the courts. This means that Mr. Jerome will be looked upon as an anarchist by certain interests that control some of the courts.

A Kansas City burglar is operating in a dress suit. But this is not more startling than the disclosures that a lot of burglars have been making after dinner speeches in dress suits.

Boston is considerably worked up over Secretary Bonaparte's recommendation that the old frigate Constitution be broken up. But hasn't the secretary ample precedent for knocking out the constitution?

Senator Depew testified that it was his belief Mr. Hyde earned the \$100,000 a year salary. This is the first joke Mr. Depew sprung since the beginning of the present trouble in high financial circles.

It is noticeable that the "System" is not making any boasts about having downed Mr. Lawson. It is probable that the aforesaid "System" has been compelled to load up with a huge bunch of its own undigested securities as a matter of self-defense.

A Michigan reader of The Commoner writes to say that a democratic newspaper man desiring to engage in business for himself might ad-

dress Fred E. Farnsworth, Marlborough, Mich., or J. F. McDannel, Owosso, Michigan.

Uncle Sam needs about \$20,000,000 additional revenue, and how to secure it is a problem that is agitating the minds of a large number of people. The "standpatter's" idea is to raise this additional revenue by increasing the tax on some article of common consumption. Now what articles offer the best opportunities? Ah, sugar and coffee! We produce no coffee and comparatively little sugar, yet the people must have them. So there you are—the tax on sugar and coffee is to be raised. The idea of reducing the tax on some other articles and stimulating imports is not to be entertained. It might lead to a renovation of the protective schedules and a consequent curtailment of the tariff graft that the tariff barons have been enjoying.

General Booth, the official head of the Salvation Army, is a wit as well as a worker. When

asked why he set religious words to music hall tunes he said: "Because I don't want to let the devil have a monopoly on good tunes." Thirty years ago his physician told him he was doomed to an early demise, and urged him to secure some quiet country home where there would be plenty of fishing and shooting. General Booth told about it the other day and added: "I've had plenty of fishing since—for men. And I've had plenty of shooting—at the devil." It is not difficult to explain General Booth's long life. He has been a worker and not a shirker. He has endeavored to do good, and he has taken a cheerful if serious view of life. The idler, the pessimist and the man who works wholly for selfish ends—these are the men who soon wear out or rust out. The world will wish for General Booth many more years of the kind of "hunting and fishing" he delights in.

## TAKING HOLD OF THE TOW LINE

Many Commoner readers are taking hold of the tow line with the view of enlarging The Commoners sphere of influence by increasing its circulation.

The following letters are self-explanatory: D. H. Kirkpatrick, Hubbardston, Mich.—I enclose five subscription cards and money order for three dollars. Please send me five more cards, and I will try to get more subscribers. It gives me pleasure to do what I can to increase The Commoner's circulation in this locality.

Ed F. Poorman, Humboldt, Ill.—Enclosed you will find draft for six dollars to pay for ten special offer subscription cards. I have given to these subscribers the benefit of your clubbing sixty-cent offer and get my pay in the consciousness of working for a good cause. You may send me ten more cards.

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The following named subscribers have each sent five yearly subscriptions to The Commoner: W. A. Houtchens, Missoula, Mont.; J. K. Fridley, Turton, S. D.; D. L. Palmer, Delaware, Ohio; E. L. Arnold, Somerset, O.; J. B. McDonald, Chicago, Ill.; M. R. Bivens, Ceston, Okla.; J. M. Kuhn, Portland, Oregon; J. E. Conry, Hudson, Ia.; M. A. Verhalen, Rhineland, Tex.; J. J. Eubank, Abilene, Tex.; A. M. Fisk, Riley, Ind.; T. W. Norton, Campton, Ky.; Thayer Davidson, Hanging Rock, Ohio; J. B. Weaver, Colfax, Ia.; A. J. Whipple, Winamac, Ind.; John B. Ennis, Oakley, Kans.; D. D. Crumacker, Unionville, Mo.; J. R. Grosgrrove, Middleburg, Pa.; Jake Caughill, Hastings, Ia.; J. L. Hayward, Battle Creek, Mich.; Mrs. R. McCulloh, Donaldsonville, La.; L. Stahl,

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Everyone who approves of the work The Commoner is doing is invited to co-operate along the lines of this special subscription offer. According to the terms of this offer cards each good for one year's subscription to The Commoner, will be furnished in lots of five, at the rate of \$3 per lot. This places the yearly subscription rate at 60 cents.

Any one ordering these cards may sell them for \$1 each, thus earning a commission of \$2 on each lot sold, or he may sell them at the cost price and find compensation in the fact that he has contributed to the educational campaign.

These cards may be paid for when ordered, or they may be ordered and remittance made after they have been sold. A coupon is printed below for the convenience of those who desire to participate in this effort to increase The Commoner's circulation:

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Application for Subscription Cards

5	Publisher Commoner: I am interested in increasing The Commoner's circulation, and desire you to send me a supply of subscription cards. I agree to use my utmost endeavor to sell the cards, and will remit for them at the rate of 60 cents each, when sold.  NAME.....  BOX, OR STREET NO.....  P. O..... STATE.....  Indicate the number of cards wanted by marking X opposite one of the numbers printed on end of this blank.
10	
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