

The Commoner

ISSUED WEEKLY

WILLIAM J. BRYAN
Editor and Proprietor.

CHARLES W. BRYAN
Publisher.

RICHARD L. METCALFE
Associate Editor.

Editorial Rooms and Business
Office 224-230 So. 12th Street.

Entered at the postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter.

One Year.....\$1.00	Three Months.....25c
Six Months.....50c	Single Copy.....5c
In Clubs of 5 or more per Year.....75c	Sample Copies Free Foreign Postage 52c Ex- tra.

SUBSCRIPTIONS can be sent direct to The Commoner. They can also be sent through newspapers which have advertised a clubbing rate, or through local agents, where sub-agents have been appointed. All remittances should be sent by postoffice money order, express order, or by bank draft on New York or Chicago. Do not send individual checks, stamps or money.

DISCONTINUANCES.—It is found that a large majority of our subscribers prefer not to have their subscriptions interrupted and their files broken in case they fail to remit before expiration. It is therefore assumed that continuance is desired unless subscribers order discontinuance, either when subscribing or at any time during the year. **PRESENTATION COPIES:** Many persons subscribe for friends, intending that the paper shall stop at the end of the year. If instructions are given to this effect they will receive attention at the proper time.

RENEWALS.—The date on your wrapper shows when your subscription will expire. Thus, Jan. 31, '06, means that payment has been received to and including the last issue of January, 1906. Two weeks are required after money has been received before the date on wrapper can be changed.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers requesting a change of address must give OLD as well as the NEW address.

ADVERTISING—rates furnished upon application. Address all communications to

THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb

The real independent in politics is never a neutral.

The flea that made Milwaukee furious is receiving an undue amount of advertising.

Banker Stensland is just now filled with the usual amount of "morning after" regret.

President Tuttle of the Boston & Maine continues to wear New Hampshire on his watch fob.

A Tennessee man shot into a car of dynamite "just for a joke." He didn't have time to laugh.

Banker Stensland can speak six languages, and doubtless he is doing a lot of thinking in all of them.

The trouble with this "tariff revision by its friends" is that the friends always revise it with a jackscrew.

"Shall we take Cuba?" asks the Dubuque Telegraph. Will the tobacco and sugar trusts please answer?

Springfield, Ohio, is doubtless terribly wrought up over the outrages perpetrated against the negro in Atlanta, Ga.

Of course the railroad managers believe that the railroad tariff sheets should also be revised by their beneficiaries.

Great Britain has just launched the longest cruiser in the world. We know where short work can be made of it if necessity impels.

The numerous fatalities in the prize ring of late leads to the hope that this sort of "sport" will soon settle itself by annihilation.

Speaker Cannon refuses to talk about the Cuban situation. "Uncle Joe's" epiglottis is still sore from the recent impact of his foot.

It is quite natural for Mr. Rockefeller to spend his leisure time on the golf links. He has been putting the public in a hole for quite a while.

The New York republican state convention managed to wiggle along without the vocal assistance of either of New York's senators.

One bad feature of the Cuban insurrection that has been overlooked is the possible resurrection of the Mole St. Nicholas prevaricator.

Thirteen ministers played a golf tourney in Connecticut recently. The silence which followed

the ministerial fozzles was wonderfully eloquent.

A whole lot of newspapers that never made a protest against railroad ownership of the government are now fairly frothing at the headlines.

At any rate there can be no denying that it would be well for this republic to have a little more government ownership of its public officials.

During the trouble in Cuba the Connecticut factories have been compelled to work overtime to respond to the demand for "pure Havana" cigars.

"Reform, thy name is popcock!" shouts the Washington Post. We are inclined to admit that the Post correctly describes the kind of reform it advocates.

It seems that the first president of Cuba merely managed to establish a sort of step-fatherly relationship with the future history of the young republic.

Having wrecked the bank and squandered a half million of its depositors' money, Banker Stensland is now going to do all he can to help straighten things out.

Speaker Cannon is making a little tour of the western states, but he is keeping in mighty close communication with trusted lieutenants who are watching Samuel Gompers.

In the New Hampshire republican convention more votes than there were delegates were cast. Can it be possible that this explains the republican majority in that state?

The New York republican convention managed to get along very well without the delicate manipulation of Senator Platt and the carefully rehearsed witticisms of Senator Depew.

The little game of recrimination going on between Stensland and Hering is interesting only because the participants are just mad enough to tell the truth, each about the other.

A southern judge says it is the duty of every husband to kiss his wife upon returning home. The husband who kisses his wife from a sense of duty has a whole lot to learn about husbandly affection.

"The simple truth is," remarks the Kansas City Journal, "that the salary of a United States senator is not sufficient to defray the expenses of his official station." That may be true. If it is, what is the matter with reducing the expenses of his "official station?"

"Shall the democratic party die?" plaintively queries the New York World. A party that has survived both the support and the opposition of the New York World seems to be well in line for the longevity record.

It is presumed that Senators Aldrich, Platt, Depew, Penrose and others like them are greatly saddened by the charge that any senator should so far forget himself as to represent any corporation in a senatorial capacity.

Governor Alva Adams has been nominated for governor by the democrats of Colorado. The republican gang would do well to at once begin framing up its schemes to steal the election, fortifying itself with a scheme to thwart the will of the people in some other way in case they fail to make good their efforts at stealing.

WHO WOULD UNDO THE WORK?

The United States has "intervened in Cuba" and it is now exercising sovereignty over the island. "'Tis true 'tis pity, and pity 'tis, 'tis true."

It would have been better had the American authorities been content to use their influence in bringing about a peaceful termination of the difficulty. To be sure Secretary Taft seemed to do some work along this line, but apparently the success of his efforts depended largely upon the attitude of one man, President Palma. When Palma persisted in his resignation, then, so we are told, intervention became necessary.

It may be said right here that President Palma cut a very sorry figure in this affair. The very fact that resignation meant intervention

should have persuaded him to retain his office in order that the difficulties might be settled without outside interference—while the Cuban republic remained intact. It is true that in resigning, Palma struck a severe blow at his enemies—doubtless the severest blow he could administer. But when Palma accepted the presidency of the little republic, he took that place of responsibility for better or for worse, and beyond any personal comfort of his own, beyond any public or private quarrels with rival statesmen, beyond any other human consideration, Palma owed his service, and if necessary his very life to the little republic which began its career in the great family of nations under the brightest of skies.

It can not be forgotten that many of the people of Cuba regarded President Palma as an interloper at the time of his election to the presidency. Indeed, it was freely charged that he had not been fairly chosen but that his selection was largely brought about through United States influences. While Palma had in years past rendered faithful service to the Cuban cause, he had lived so long outside of the island that he was quite a stranger to the present generation. Then, when, as president, he surrounded himself with some of the men who were conspicuous in the Spanish administration, and who had therefore made themselves obnoxious to the people of Cuba, it is not strange that the sentiment against the Cuban president increased.

President Palma would have done better for his own record, for the Cuban people, and for the United States of America, had he remained at his post even for the plain purpose of avoiding intervention, and if necessary, striving patiently and persistently for the selection by the Cuban people of a successor, and for the salvation of popular government among that people who may, in perfect truth, sing with the poet: "If blood be the price of liberty, Lord, God we have paid the debt!"

So far as the people of the United States are concerned, they are confronted with a condition and not a theory in this Cuban question. Now that the authorities have intervened, the best thought and the highest form of patriotism on the part of the American people will be necessary, in order that our country's good name may not be tarnished. Public sentiment will have considerable to do with America's future course in the island of Cuba. Let men of all political parties give to the American authorities that support which they have the right to expect. Let us hold up their arms while they are restoring order in Cuba. Then let us insist that there shall be no acquisition of territory, no forced acquirement of allegiance. Let us insist that the people of Cuba shall be given the privilege of choosing a president and building a government in order that the Cuban republic may live—in order that the American flag may be revered among the people of Cuba, and among all men everywhere, because yesterday, today and forever, it stands for the great truth to which the fathers dedicated their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.

Describing the birth of the Cuban republic, the editor of The Commoner wrote:

"As soon as General Wood ceased speaking the American flag on the palace was lowered and the Cuban flag raised in its place amid the acclamation of the multitude. Simultaneously with the lowering of the flag on the palace building the flags that floated from the other government buildings were hauled down and Cuban flags quickly substituted for them. The crowd at the end of the Prado raised a mighty shout when the stars and stripes on Morro castle came down and the single-star Cuban flag was flung to the breeze; and yet, happy as they were, there was a touch of sadness in their rejoicing, for they had come to love the American flag. A member of the commission charged with the changing of the flags on Morro castle—that grim fortress that had been the scene of so much cruelty and bloodshed—told me that when the American flag was lowered the Cuban soldiers stationed at that place rushed forward and caught it up, saying that it must not be allowed to touch the ground—they even pressed its folds to their lips. The Americans present were deeply touched by the affection displayed, and well they might be."

Let us not forget that when we lowered the American flag on the island of Cuba, we raised it higher than it had ever been before, and when we brought it away we left it enshrined in the hearts of a grateful people.

Who would undo the work of that day?