

the army who consider the president has been too severe on Colonel Pilcher. Many of them entertain the same views he expressed. They believe the negroes who are now in the army have degenerated from those who served up to the time of the Philippine insurrection. The officials are hiding the fact as much as possible, but nevertheless it is true that the Filipinos detest the black soldiers and that in order to prevent trouble it has been necessary to station colored regiments in the Moro country, where the feelings of the inhabitants are not considered. It was the case in former years that no objection was made by any city to quartering negro troops in its vicinity. But now their assignment to a post leads to a flood of protests—which generally are disregarded."

THE SEVENTEENTH annual session of the Trans-Mississippi commercial congress will be held at Kansas City from November 20, to 23, inclusive. The list of speakers who will deliver formal addresses before the congress includes many men of national prominence, as follows: Elihu Root, secretary of state; E. H. Harriman, president Union Pacific Railway company, New York City; Leslie M. Shaw, secretary of the treasury; W. J. Bryan, Lincoln, Neb.; John Barrett, American Minister to Colombia; John G. Carlisle, New York City; John G. Brady, ex-governor of Alaska; H. D. Loveland, president Pacific Coast Jobbers' association, San Francisco; Joseph E. Ransdell, president National River and Harbor association; Governors George C. Pardee, of California, N. C. Blanchard of Louisiana, Frank Frantz of Oklahoma, John H. Mickey of Nebraska, E. W. Hoch of Kansas, S. H. Elrod of Dakota, Frank R. Gooding of Idaho, John A. Johnson of Minnesota, George E. Chamberlain of Oregon, J. E. McDonald of Colorado, Bryant B. Brooks of Wyoming, and Senator-elect Jefferson Davis of Arkansas. Among the United States senators who will be present are Stone and Warner of Missouri, Millard and Burkett of Nebraska, Patterson of Colorado, Dubois of Idaho, Pyles of Washington, Benson of Kansas, Smoot of Utah, while a number of others have indicated their intention of attending the congress, should their public duties permit. Fourteen members of congress have sent unqualified acceptances to an invitation extended by the executive committee.

THE NEW YORK PRESS, a republican paper, printed an editorial entitled "Cortelyou's Part." The editorial follows: "For the last week of the campaign Mr. George Bruce Cortelyou was established in headquarters at the Manhattan hotel, New York City, where he directed efforts to assist in the election of Mr. Hughes. Having a keener appreciation of his standing with the voting public than was felt by his chieftain at Washington, Mr. Cortelyou sought to veil his operations in all possible secrecy. He did not succeed as well as he did in concealing his partnership in the plunder of the widows' and orphans' funds in 1904. Yet it was a mercy that his activity did not become as notorious before the election as the insult offered to the voters in the elevation of Cortelyou to a cabinet post where common honesty in the handling of money is at least a qualification not to be dispensed with. If Cortelyou had been at his work a week longer, to the knowledge of the general public, and if Root had made his speech a week earlier, nothing could have saved Hughes."

JOSEPH N. STEPHENS, of Denver, writes to The Commoner to say that the secretary's order to the banks "to redeem silver dollars," means that the dollars are to be sent to the United States treasury, there to be held until congress makes a law, or Shaw another ruling, which sends these dollars to the United States mint melting pot, so more interest-bearing bonds can be called for as a basis for more national bank currency. Mr. Shaw says that the people should be aroused against such an outrage as is proposed in this order. He adds, "In The Commoner October 12, page 8, John L. Cowan, in New York Evening Post says: 'Tide of gold rapidly rising.' I hate to see such an outrageous gold bug statement in The Commoner without some accompanying statement to show its falsity. That statement to be truthful and not intentionally misleading should tell of the more than three-fold greater need for gold now in this country since all other 'standards of payment' are about destroyed—a billion of silver dollars and greenbacks about which few say a word and The Commoner but little. Yet the vastly increased need

for legal tender money by the immense increase in population year by year, increase in business, etc.! But the far greatest factor for the constant never ending depletion of our gold supply is the fact that the basis for trade the world over is now gold, and the hundreds of nations which produce none are in a constant struggle to get some from those which do produce it; consequently, of the vast amount of gold coin carried abroad, very little ever returns, and even less of the gold bullion. Such talk of 'The Plethora of Gold,' 'The Glut of Gold,' is all nonsense, even ridiculous, from well informed people, for at the present rate of gold production it will take more than 500 years to replace the silver destroyed as a world money. But the special privileged bank trust and monopoly interests have most all papers under their control; the people can get but little light, and if this 'abundance of gold' talk is to continue, and all debts continue to be made payable in gold coin, the day is not far distant when the few holders of gold will call an accounting and the debtor will find there is no gold, all gone, nor no silver dollars or greenbacks to patch out with, and the crash of 1893 will not be a circumstance. Will The Commoner 'protest' and help try to save the silver dollar and the greenback? To prevent the destruction of this vast volume of real money should now be the leading question. Will The Commoner lead?"

THE NEW YORK Chamber of Commerce has adopted the report of its special committee on currency. This report favors asset currency and it is believed that a strenuous campaign in behalf of that so-called reform is to be carried on. The Houston (Texas) Post says: "Evidences are not wanting that the country will soon be called upon to debate the question of money. The great bankers of the large cities are greatly disturbed because of the faults of the currency system, and they are suggesting various plans to relieve the frequently recurring embarrassments that arise in financial circles. At present, however, the bankers seem to find it as difficult to agree among themselves as the people have found it difficult to agree in the past, but even should the bankers agree, it would be no indication that they could win the people to their view of financial economies."

THE RICHMOND Times-Dispatch directs attention to the fact that the income tax has long been effective in Virginia. The Times-Dispatch says: "We impose a straight one per cent tax on all net incomes over and above \$600, and every taxpayer is required under law to list his income each year, and to swear to the return. The law is not enforced as strictly as it should be in some sections of the state, but there has been gradual improvement, and Virginia is receiving a considerable sum in taxes from that source. The income tax is an eminently just tax, in fact the most equitable tax of all. A man may own property which yields him no revenue whatsoever, yet he must pay taxes on the assessed value, in which event the state takes that which the taxpayer has not. But the income tax collected is simply a part of the actual revenue which every man derives from his labors and his investments. If he receives an income above \$600, he pays the state a portion of it; if he has no income above \$600, he pays nothing on that account."

COMMENTING UPON the above statement the Houston (Texas) Post says: "It will be noted that the Times-Dispatch says the law is not enforced as strictly as it might be in some sections of the state, a complaint that has ever been urged against the income tax by those who oppose it. Nevertheless, it can not be said that the ordinary property tax is subject to less evasion than the income tax would be. It is the universal practice to list all forms of tangible property at far less than its actual worth, notwithstanding constitutional and statutory requirements that all property be assessed at its true value. It is yet to be determined whether the enactment of an income tax law in Texas is necessary or desirable, but from the experience in Virginia and South Carolina, it is reasonable to assume that there would not be less evasion of such a tax than there is of the various taxes which are already levied. Virginia has also an inheritance tax which the people of that state regard a just and valuable source of revenue. But the income tax of South Carolina and the income and inheritance taxes of Virginia, it should

be remembered, are levied for revenue only, and not for purposes for which President Roosevelt would levy such taxes in the nation. President Roosevelt ignores utterly the consideration of revenue, the only justification of any tax whatever in a republic. He would impose the inheritance tax and, it is said by those who claim to be in his confidence, an income tax for the sole purpose of controlling and restricting the accumulation of wealth—a new function for taxation, indeed. The president, if he would study the principles of taxation, might find reasons for the income tax and an inheritance tax that might well appeal to the country's sense of justice. To correct the abuses which swollen and artificially accumulated fortunes inflict upon the nation, there are better ways than taxation, and these the president might easily discover if he would diligently search for them."

PLACE THE COMMONER IN EVERY PRECINCT.

In its issue of November 8, The Commoner made this appeal: Now that the elections are over, systematic efforts are to be made to increase The Commoner's circulation. The presidential campaign is now coming on. It will not do to wait until the nominations shall have been made for the discussion of great public questions, but it will be the duty of democrats from now on to seize every opportunity to impress upon voters who have heretofore seemed thoughtless the importance of voting for the public welfare rather than for the benefit of a coterie of men. It is desired that at least one copy of The Commoner be placed in every precinct in every state and territory. This result may be speedily reached if Commoner readers in every county make investigation as to the precincts in their county where The Commoner does not now circulate, and then take advantage of the special subscription offer, in order to place The Commoner in districts where it does not now reach.

In this work the co-operation of every one who believes that The Commoner is engaged in worthy efforts is invited.

Help to place The Commoner in every precinct in every state and territory of the union!

Joseph Williams, Bucyrus, Ohio, writes: "Enclosed find postal money order for \$44.40, and a list of subscribers, 74 in number, at 60 cents each, as per your rates to clubs. The names I send you are all in the hand writing of the parties, and they are of the best citizens in 'old Crawford county,' the banner democratic county of the state. I have been a life long democrat. Hoping that the grand old Commoner will continue to prosper and preach the true gospel of democracy."

Everyone who approves the work The Commoner is doing is invited to co-operate along the lines of the 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:

THE COMMONER'S SPECIAL OFFER		
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.	
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If you believe the paper is doing a work that merits its encouragement, fill out the above coupon and mail it to THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.		