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ISSUED WEEKLY.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

"Mr. Harriman is taking a rest," says an exchange. "a" or "the?"

The army officer on the canal job will either have to dig or face a court martial.

Mr. Busse, republican candidate for mayor of Chicago, is postmaster at Chicago.

The army is going to tackle the canal job. Now we can see the finish of the canal.

General Grosvenor's ship subsidy monument will be only a dent in political history.

When Wallace resigned—!!!! When Shonts resigned????? When Stevens resigned—()

In China the trains stop when the emperor starts to pray. It's just the other way in this country.

The "Greatest Engineering Feat of the Age" seems to be to keep some engineers at work engineering.

Those poor ship owners will have to go right ahead getting rich at the business without being hired to do so.

By the way, did any one ever hear of a secretary of agriculture being taken to Wall street at a handsome salary?

Wisconsin now has a glorious opportunity to give LaFollette a colleague who can be trusted in White house quarters.

For several months we have vainly scanned the republican organs for means of rejoicing over the "redemption of Colorado."

Several matters now holding slug head positions in the daily press will have to hurry. The baseball season will soon open.

Contractor Oliver says he was handed a lemon for his \$40,000. And Uncle Sam is being pretty well squeezed on that canal job, too.

Major Goethals is to superintend the job of digging the canal. Hope his actions will cause everybody to call him "Goet" for short.

The senate took the time to prevent any ship subsidy monument being erected over General Grosvenor's congressional career—yet.

If we could force those retiring canal engineers to tread the same path they might wear a ditch big enough for all practical purposes.

"Are we prepared to evade a plain duty on the score of expense?" queries the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Perhaps not, but isn't it well to avoid a needless expense on the score of plain duty?

Senator Spooner's resignation recalls what President Roosevelt said to ex-Senator Chandler about the senior senator from Wisconsin.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat calls it a "congress that has done things." A billion dollars! Sure, it has done things—and everybody.

It seems that the easiest thing for the coroner's jury to discover in case of a train accident is where the responsibility does not belong.

Eminent statesmen who were at first convinced that the Philippines were "thrown into our laps by Providence," are revising their estimates of the thrower.

By vociferously talking about what they call the "sacred ratio" a lot of republican organs hope to prevent any discussion of the "sacred" protective tariff.

Mr. Grosvenor didn't get results for the ship owners, but there is no gainsaying the fact that he earned their gratitude, if that was all he was working for.

"The railroads will make no improvements while the present agitation exists," says Mr. Mohler of the Union Pacific. Not even if the investment promises to be profitable?

If the president gives a medal to all who for a time work on the Panama canal, it will take the manufacturers so long to get past the engineers that the men with the shovels are likely to die of old age before they are reached.

Mr. Perkins is not guilty of grand larceny, but if it had been some man without a political and financial pull the prosecution might have brought out some facts as yet unrevealed.

Mr. Oliver prepared a lot of figures on canal work, and then had all but the ciphers rubbed out. Then the president took the big stick in hand and knocked the rims off the ciphers.

There may be several gentlemen confined in New York prisons who were quite as honest in their intent as Mr. Perkins was. They should ask the court of appeals for another chance.

Speaker Cannon and a committee of fifty congressmen will junket to Panama to investigate progress on the canal. We hope they will not clog up the ditch with discarded bottles and corks.

The threat of the railroads to stop extension if agitation is not stopped reminds us very much of the little girl who threatens to take her doll rags and dishes and go home if her playmates do not obey her.

"Let us put an end to favors to special interests," said Governor Hughes. Isn't this a body blow for the party whose principal leaders are beneficiaries of special interests treated with great favoritism?

Of course the "paper trust" was busted, but will somebody please tell us the name of the paper trust that is not a paper trust but is doing just what the paper trust did before the paper trust was busted.

That Chicago sub-treasury theft of \$173,000 is very serious in view of the fact that congress appropriated so much that extreme economy must be practiced if money is to be on hand when pay day comes around.

"Two million dollars don't amount to much," said Mr. Harriman while testifying before the interstate commerce commission. Mr. Harriman thinks otherwise when it comes to paying just taxes on his railroads.

General del Castillo says "I feel contempt every time I see an American." The English language continues to trip those South Americans. What he meant to say was that he felt contemptible every time he saw an American.

According to the decision in the Perkins case, the bank cashier who takes bank funds to speculate with, intending to replace them when he makes a "strike," is not guilty of embezzlement, his intent not being criminal.

While not claiming to be an authority on "mollycoddles" we must insist that we have no recollection that any champion wrestlers, football players, sluggers, hammerthrowers, etc., have done much more for the country than men who never had any reputation at such things.

Mr. Harriman ended up his testimony with a "what are you going to do about it" expression that was quite refreshing to behold.

Mr. Rockefeller makes official announcement of the amount of his wealth. But Mr. Rockefeller's testimony in the South Improvement case was impeached on the testimony of documents in his own handwriting.

The Wisconsin legislature has memorialized President Roosevelt to call an extra session of congress to revise the tariff. The gentlemen who profit by the present tariff got their memorial in about campaign collection time.

Speaking of a recent street car accident in New York the Evening Post insists that some one ought to go to prison for it, "whether it be a director, an engineering officer or a motorman." We guess motorman if it is anybody at all.

"Let us put an end to graft and to favors to special interests," declared Governor Hughes at a recent banquet. This is calculated to make a lot of eminent New York republicans hiss "traitor-r-r-r!!" between clenched teeth.

A New England society is raising funds to investigate cruelty to animals on the western ranges. This is much more satisfying to the conscience of some New Englanders than the investigation of factories and sweat shops would be.

Mr. Harriman admits that he sold bonds in order to get money to pay dividends. A man named Miller worked the same game in New York a few years ago and was sent to Sing Sing. He did not own any railroads, however.

Chief Engineer Stevens has also resigned from the Panama canal job. We are informed that "he leaves it in good shape." This relieves us. It would have been a matter for regret if his work on the isthmus had endangered his health.

Mr. Busse is the republican candidate for mayor of Chicago. By placing a "t" on one side of the final letter in Mr. Busse's name, and a "d" on the other, you may get a fair idea of how his chances will look after the votes are counted.

A lot of daily newspapers that denounce what they call "disrespect for the courts" are doing a lot of denouncing on their own account because a Chicago jury acquitted Con Shea. The ownership of the ox continues to cut considerable figure.

Owing to the fact that the people are asserting their rights the railroads are going to refuse to better their facilities for making more money. The man who amputated his nose to spite his face must have been a modern railroad president.

The American people are eminently fair and disposed to deal justly. No one has objected to the proposition to increase Secretary Loeb's salary to \$7,500 a year. A man who has to stand sponsor for so much deserves a good reward.

Mr. Cortelyou's last act as postmaster general was to cut the railroad pay for transporting the mails. Mr. Cortelyou would have won further honors had he begun that sort of thing earlier in his career as head of the postoffice department.

The pet press muzzling law secured by former Governor Pennypacker has been wiped from the Pennsylvania statute books. Now if the state could only wipe out the memory of Pennypacker and the legislature that enacted the law at his bidding!

Mr. Harriman is telling the interstate commerce commission some things about Mr. Fish, and doubtless Mr. Fish will retaliate by telling the commission a lot about Mr. Harriman. And the honest public may expect to get something from this state of affairs.

Now that the ship subsidy graft is dead, the manner of its taking off will not be severely criticized by the people whose pocketbooks were benefited. The criticisms will come from those whose pocketbooks would have been benefited by the enactment of the bill into law.

Mr. Perkins has been acquitted of criminal intent in taking the money of New York Life policyholders and giving it to the republican national committee. However, we would not advise the manager of any small concern to take the money of stockholders and turn it over to some needy mining concern. Courts have a strange way of differentiating between men and between organizations.