

# The Commoner.

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### GRATIFYING

The Wall Street Journal says: "Too much importance cannot be attached to the interview between J. Pierpont Morgan and President Roosevelt. It is of course absurd to say that as a result of this interview either Mr. Morgan will surrender his independence or that President Roosevelt will reverse the great policy of government regulation with which his name is identified."

It is gratifying to be assured that Mr. Roosevelt will not "reverse the great policy of government regulation." But it is of the highest importance that Mr. Morgan will not "surrender his independence." Mr. Morgan has the habit of surrendering points of vantage. It would be too bad altogether if he "surrendered that independence" for which he has become famous.

### NOT LIKE 1906

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, republican, says: "But powerful as Mr. Harriman is, and vast as is the interest of which he is a considerable part, neither he nor the remainder of the men of his guild in combination with him will be allowed to rule this country."

This is not in harmony with what the Globe-Democrat told us in 1896. Then Harriman and "the remainder of the men of his guild in combination with him" were the "guardians of national honor" to whom, in the Globe-Democrat's view, the people could safely entrust their interests. What has come o'er the spirit of the Globe-Democrat's dreams?

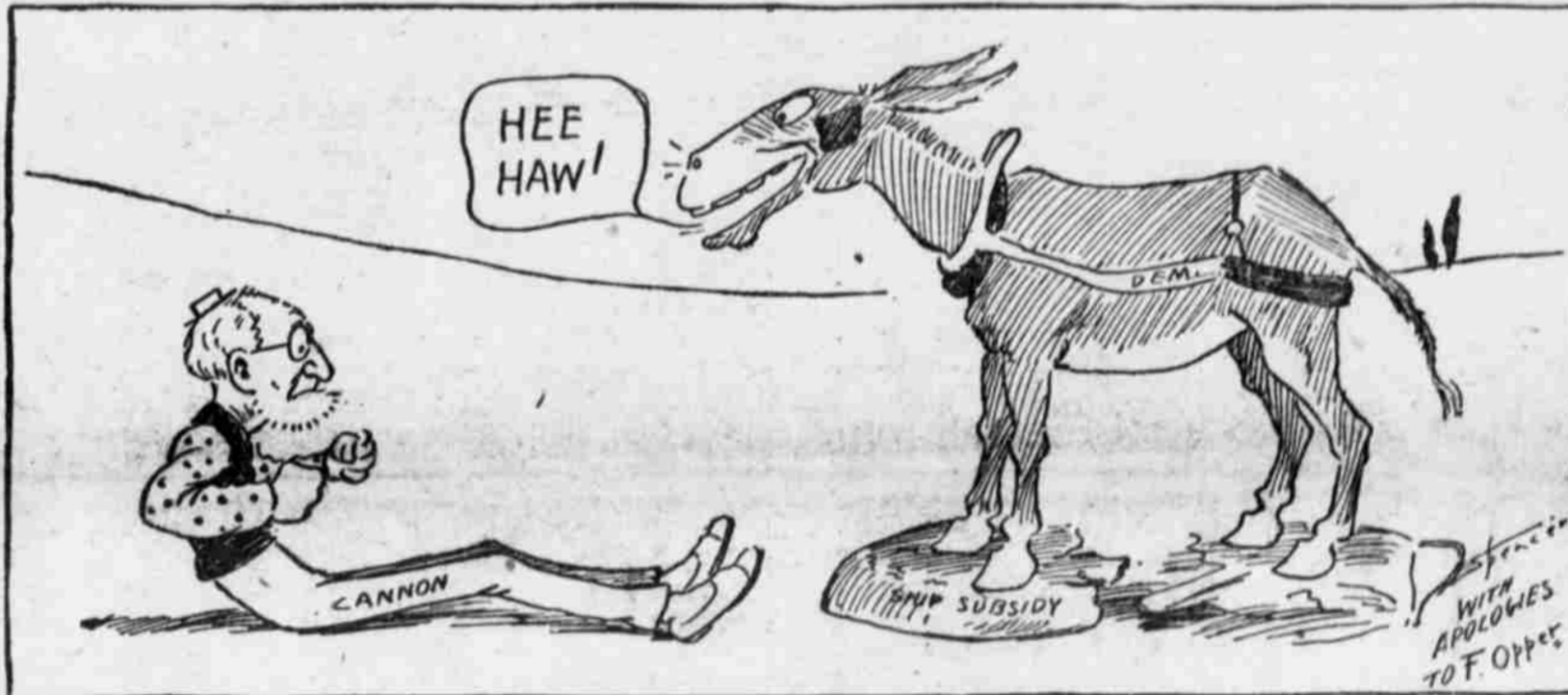
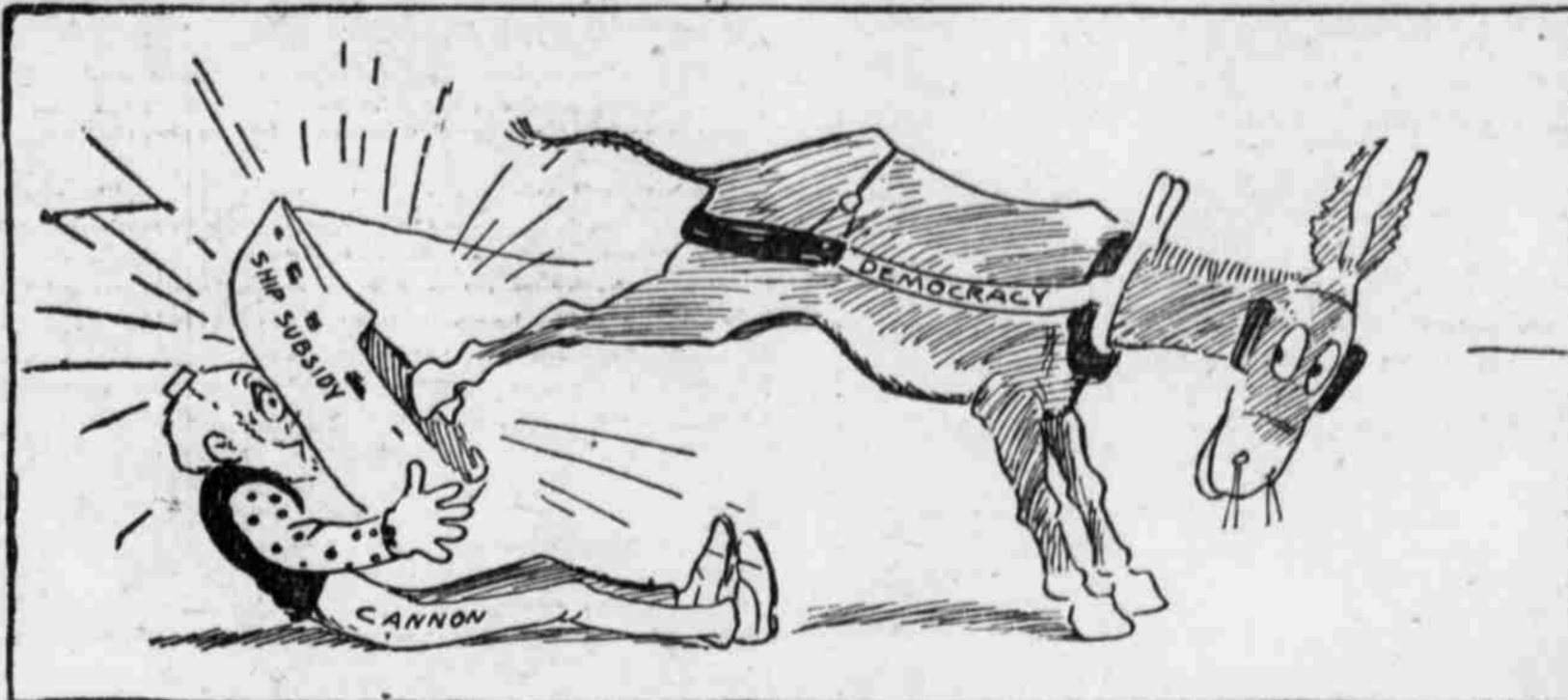
### GET IN LINE

A Washington correspondent says Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou will "sit tight for the present and absorb knowledge." He might begin by pondering over the action of George W. Perkins in restoring to the New York Life \$54,000 which he had misappropriated for the use and benefit of the republican party under Mr. Cortelyou's management. If the new secretary of the treasury really "absorbs knowledge" he may conclude that the republican party itself should join in the more or less popular rush for the conscience fund.

### WHITTLED DOWN

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, republican, says: "In a spirit of accommodation Mr. Harriman expresses a willingness to let himself down to the level of the United States. Perhaps the concession offered will be greater before the toboggan slide ends."

Has the Globe-Democrat forgotten that it was the republican party that sought to make Mr. Harriman greater than the United States?



AND HER NAME WAS---DEMOCRACY!

## OUR DUAL GOVERNMENT

Jefferson, on the contrary, was a believer in man; he affirmed not only the right of man to self-government, but the capacity of man for self-government. Commencing with individual liberty and the inalienable rights of the man, he proceeded to the defense of the rights of the community. Following out this doctrine he insisted that matters which concerned the state only should be decided by the state and that only national affairs should be entrusted to the national government. In his first inaugural address he set forth what he deemed "the essential principles of our government, and consequently those which ought to shape its administration." In this statement of principles he presented his views respecting the spheres of the general government and the state government as follows:

"The support of the state governments in all their rights, as the most competent administrations for our domestic concerns and the surest bulwarks against anti-republican tendencies; the preservation of the general government in its whole constitutional vigor, as the sheet anchor of our peace at home and safety abroad."

Jefferson placed his defense of the state government upon two grounds: first, that it is more competent to administer domestic concerns, and second, that it is a bulwark against centralization. So tenacious was he about the preservation of the state's influence that he insisted an amendment should be added at once specifically asserting that "the powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively or to the people."

Jefferson's part in the adoption of the ten

amendments is referred to in a letter which he wrote in 1802, while he was president, to Joseph Priestly. He says: "One passage in the paper you enclose me must be corrected. It is the following: 'And all say it was yourself more than any other individual that planned and established the constitution.' I was in Europe when the constitution was planned, and never saw it until after it was established. On receiving it, I wrote strongly to Mr. Madison, urging the want of provision for the freedom of religion, freedom of the press, trial by jury, habeas corpus, and substitution of militia for a standing army, and an express reservation to the state of all rights not specifically granted to the union. He accordingly moved in the first session of congress for these amendments, which were agreed to and ratified by the states as they now stand. This is all the hand I had in what related to the constitution."

The ten amendments cover many subjects, but they all relate to two things, viz.: the protection of the individual and the assertion of the doctrine of local self-government. The individual was safeguarded in his right to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience, in his right to speak his mind and to put his thoughts on paper, in his right to assemble and to petition; in his right to bear arms, in his right to trial by jury, and in his right to hold property. So careful were those who insisted upon these amendments that after enumerating all the rights they could think of, added amendment nine as a precaution: "The enumeration in the constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people." The tenth amendment carries the same doctrine a little farther, and gives the state the benefit of the presumption as against the