

## The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

And the Harriman that came to boss remained to plead.

Is it not about time that the "unwritten law" be written?

It is to be hoped that the Sixtieth congress will not spend money like it.

It took Elisor Burns but a few minutes to raise the Ruel in San Francisco.

Doubtless all Paris was much shocked when the electrical workers went out on strike.

Mr. Perkins has put it back. But Mr. Cortelyou and Mr. Bliss continue to hang on to it.

Now will the president kindly give his attention to the protective tariff "mollycoddles?"

Mr. Harriman seems to have had a few "brain storms" while kiting those railroad securities.

The Republic of Columbia is doubtless chuckling gleefully over the isthmian canal situation.

By the way, did an embezzling bank cashier ever start to embezzling with "criminal intent?"

As long as it is cheaper to kill than to adopt safety devices we may expect the wrecks to continue.

In some quarters Mr. Oliver's complaints are doubtless taken as an exhibition of "mollycoddling."

The latest reports from St. Petersburg are to the effect that the duma is no place for "mollycoddles."

The railroad magnates are begging for a better understanding. What they need is a greater comprehension.

"Taft is looming up as a presidential candidate," remarks an exchange. Mr. Taft looms up almost anywhere.

Contractor Oliver says he was "whangdoodled" out of that canal contract. Is the "whangdoodle" worse than the "flim-flam?"

Speaker Cannon spent a busy day trying to avoid the quarantine at Colon. But he had come to a full stop, just the same.

There wouldn't be much need for a "people's lobby" if the people exercised more judgment at the primaries and at the polls.

Are ex-secretaries of the treasury taken to Wall street because of what they know, or because of what they have done?

The Cannon isthmian party was caught in a heavy storm, and "Uncle Joe" said it reminded him of a brisk session of congress.

Professor Frederick Starr declares that poetry is a relic of barbarism. Professor Starr of where? O, University of Chicago, of course.

Mr. Perkins has put \$54,000 of it back, Mr. Cortelyou, but there is \$102,000 or more yet to be accounted for by you and Mr. Bliss.

President Elliot objects to college cheering. We've often felt the same way about it when our team had the short end of the score.

"We are all on a common ground," said the railroad magnate the other day. This is an improvement over railroad common stock.

The reports of famine in China are sufficiently horrifying to awaken the American people to a sense of their duty. Feed starving China!

At first Mr. Harriman stood on his dignity. When he slipped and fell the distance was so great that he made a huge dent in the ground.

There is a joke concealed somewhere in the statement that the equal suffrage bill before the British parliament was talked to death.

What this country needs is the certainty of the enforcement of written law with as much certainty as the "unwritten law" is always enforced.

"Sinuosity of explanation" is Mr. Cleveland's latest phrase. "Duckin' the responsibility" may not sound so good, but it explains it a whole lot better.

Now that the states have shown a determination to control railroads within their confines, the railroads are showing fight. We pick the states to win.

"We kill too many people," says Harper's Weekly, a journal of civilization. But Harper's Weekly fails to tell us just how many we ought to kill.

The Pittsburg Dispatch avers that there was no "criminal intent" about Mr. Perkins' return of the money. It does seem that it was merely an evasion.

"Where can this winter's continuous north wind come from?" plaintively queries the Boston Herald. Gracious! Is Boston forgetting the points of the compass?

The railroads did not give excursion rates out of pure benevolence and they will find it to their advantage to grant them again—when they get over being mad.

The man who guessed exactly the number of paid admissions at the St. Louis fair, probably forgets to post his wife's letters just about as often as the rest of us.

Will the present secretary of the treasury now hasten to reimburse Mr. Perkins? It was the present secretary of the treasury who handled the money in bulk last.

The New York Coffee Exchange is preparing to celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary with a banquet. We'd like to be there, just to get one cup of real coffee.

Residents of New York city pay \$31 a year per head for their municipal government, but as it seems to be the kind they want they are not worrying over the price.

Down in Kansas the legislature passed a law prohibiting high school fraternities. Can it be that shingles and the paternal razorstrop have disappeared from Kansas?

"We men at the head of the great corporations are coming to a better understanding of what the government expects of us," says Mr. Harriman. All right, son. It hurt us much worse than it did you to impress that little lesson upon you in the woodshed, but here's hoping you will not forget it.

Referring to the fact that a surplus instead of a deficit shows up despite the extravagance of the Fifty-ninth congress, the St. Louis Globe-Democrat says: "The Dingley tariff is equal to the emergency every time." The Globe-Democrat fails to properly locate the responsibility. It should have stated that the American people have not yet realized the futility of trying to tax themselves rich.

President Elliot says football is "ferce." Such language ill becomes a "mollycoddler."

"A comet is soon to touch the earth," declares the Atlanta Constitution. Well, Well! And just after we have been touched by Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Harriman, too!

A gentleman of the east tells us that the south pole will be discovered by automobile. Perhaps. A lot of new asteroids have been discovered with the aid of the automobile.

An esteemed contemporary says that "Governor Magoon may sit down on the Cubans' favorite sport of cock fighting." That would settle that particular amusement.

Word comes that the railroad managements are going to make the 2-cent fare laws "obnoxious." They may succeed only in making the 2-cent rate seem a little too high.

They are talking about removing the bronze heads from the Pennsylvania state house. What they need to do is to remove a lot of doughheads from the inside of the building.

Before taking up temporary quarters in Gotham Mr. Shaw will visit in Denison, Ia., and give personal attention to the security of the lightning rod upon the old home building.

President Roosevelt might turn his attention for a while from the football "mollycoddles" to the "mollycoddles" of the protective tariff. That would be something worth while.

Postmaster General Cortelyou wound up his administration of the postoffice department just like Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou ought to begin the duties of his new position.

The Minneapolis Journal ventures the disturbing information that the ship subsidy scheme was not talked to death, but merely talked to sleep. Some papers are the genuine pessimists.

The Kansas City Daily Post has blossomed into an unusually good newspaper and an unusually strong champion of democracy. The Post is deserving of the support of genuine democrats.

Rhode Island is going to limit the speed of automobiles to fifteen miles an hour. At that rate the autoists will be compelled to spend at least a quarter of an hour amidst Rhode Island scenery.

We have had some samples of depravity as exposed by witnesses upon the stand. One was recently given in New York city. The other was given before the interstate commerce commission.

"Take a book with you wherever you go," is the advice of a southern minister. We always do, and before we return so thoroughly have the contents been mastered that there is seldom anything in it.

The railroads that are engaged in "getting even" with the states that have enacted the 2-cent fare law may learn a few things about the "getting even" business before they are through with it.

Doubtless General Grosvenor will be willing at any time to take his eyes off that 300-piece silver service and hark back to Washington to bay defiance at those who would lay desecrating hands upon the tariff.

The United States supreme court has decided that the railroads must pay their taxes in Nebraska. The mere citizen cannot hold his taxes until the court acts. With him it is either pay or be sold out.

If these Russian generals who want to fight duels with Kuropatkin had shown half as much willingness to fight a year or two ago, that Portsmouth conference might have brought Russia more satisfactory results.

The last congress appropriated \$177,000,000 for the army and navy and \$8,000,000 for agriculture. The armor plate manufacturers and the gunsmiths and shipbuilders wonder why eight millions should thus be wasted.

It is reported that much dissatisfaction exists among the laborers in the canal zone. The near approach of the time when army engineers will take charge of the work means the near approach of the time when the employes will have to earn at least a part of their wages and salaries.