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ISSUED WEEKLY.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

The silence of George Cortelyou is really vociferous.

Mr. Harriman is No. 8 in the Ancient Order of Annanias.

It is up to the railroads to quit explaining and go to expediting.

In the meanwhile Mr. Cortelyou is saying nothing, and putting nothing back.

Job said it in haste, but Mr. Roosevelt is taking his time to make careful enumeration.

"Count the day lost whose sun with dying fire sees none big sticked or called a blooming liar."

When Oklahoma is admitted to statehood it will be to take her place among the ten wealthiest states.

That \$5,000,000 opposition fund seems to have been overcapitalized to the extent of about six eiphers.

The two telegraph companies seem to have succumbed simultaneously to the same telepathic wave.

"San Francisco needs to be cleaned up," says an exchange. That would be better than being cleaned out.

Secretary Loeb's explanation machine requires a lot of lubricant to keep it from running hot in the bearings.

At least Mr. Harriman has been spared the humiliation of being called a mollicodde by President Roosevelt.

Having discovered a five million dollar combine to discredit the president, Secretary Loeb should try another brand.

The three "R's"—Readin', 'Ritin', 'Rithmetic. Root, Ryan, Roosevelt. Recrimination, Ratiocination, Reprehensibility.

It is becoming more and more evident that the safest plan is to burn the paper before you even think of writing the letter.

The Indianapolis News tells of a fisherman who found a two-pound fish in a jug. More than fish has been found in jugs.

The president admits that he didn't think it conducive to success to have Mr. Harriman seen too often at the White House.

Secretary Taft has officially decided that a mother-in-law is not a member of the family. Is this a bid for the henpecked vote?

Several gentlemen prominently in the public eye will have to hustle if they remain there. The umpire is almost due to call "play ball!"

So much carrying of the big stick seems to have caused the president to forget that other part referring to the matter of speaking softly.

It seems that the general national idea about maintaining peace is to build battleships so big that everybody will be afraid to start a fight.

It is reported that an Omaha bank teller broke his wrist while counting silver dollars. Must have dropped one through a crack in the floor.

Doesn't it seem that President Roosevelt is peculiarly unfortunate in having selected so many pernicious prevaricators as his personal friends.

Twelve hundred San Francisco laundry workers are on strike, and just when San Francisco wants to wash a lot of dirty political linen, too!

"Why do men wear suspenders?" queries a magazine writer. Cannot answer for the rest of them, but here's one who knows why he wears 'em.

Mr. Harriman says he would rather be in the penitentiary than the poor house. It isn't the wolf, but the sheriff, that bothers Mr. Harriman just now.

Congressman McCall of Massachusetts is out for Speaker Cannon for president on a tariff revision platform. It sounds as if Mark Twain put him up to it.

"Rough sports make brave men," declares President Roosevelt. Do brave men pass the lie, knowing that they are amply protected by their official position?

One trouble with Mr. Harriman is that when he was on the witness stand his actions and his admissions discounted any revelations he might make afterwards.

"Let the whole truth be known!" exclaims the Wall Street Journal. Well, that means that Cortelyou and Bliss will have to reveal some very well preserved secrets.

A number of daily newspapers are trying to locate the "most beautiful woman in America." They will fail. She is so numerous that she cannot be definitely located.

It seems to be about time for Mr. Cortelyou to be sprinting down the homestretch of his first lap around the cabinet circle. It has been several weeks since he moved up.

Senator Penrose denies that he is the "big man in political affairs" who is raising a five million dollar fund to defeat the president. The denial seems to be based upon the evidence.

The report that Secretary Taft entered a bucket and was lowered into one of the pits of the Gatun dam is evidence that they have excavated quite a bit of dirt down there.

A lot of men are horror stricken at the idea of a \$5,000,000 fund to defeat Mr. Roosevelt. They are the same gentlemen who rejoiced at the thought of a very large sum to elect him.

Minnesota has built a magnificent state house without a suspicion of graft. But Minnesota has had a democratic governor for some time, without any press muzzling laws on the statute books.

New York Central officials have been indicted for a sad wreck on that road. But in the case of such men there is many a slip twixt the indictment and the conviction. If they were accused of stealing a loaf of bread it might be different.

The Milwaukee Sentinel says that Mr. Harriman never expected to live to see the day when he would be classed with Debs. It will be pretty generally agreed by those who are fairminded that Debs is the man who has a kick coming over the comparison.

Mr. Depew, Mr. Aldrich, Mr. Platt, Mr. Penrose, Mr. Dick and several other grave and reverend senators cannot understand why there should be so much surprise at the thought that Mr. Harriman entertained senatorial ambitions. One railroad representative more or less in the United States senate would not count for much.

Paragraphic Punches

Mr. Harriman announces he is going to "give more attention to the public." Hands on pockets! —Atlanta Constitution.

Dispatches from Samar report the "natives just about subdued." The graves must be fairly close together.—Detroit Journal.

Messrs. Haywood and Moyer resent being classed with Harriman for fear of prejudice to their case.—Minneapolis Journal.

However, the railroads are worth just as much today as they were before the flurry. It was only the stock that slumped.—Detroit News.

Perhaps what provokes Mr. Foraker is that Mr. Taft's Ohio advance agent was so all-fired sure of things.—Chicago Evening Post.

Eight congressmen are going to lecture on the Panama canal, and all the time more people are needed to shovel dirt.—Philadelphia Press.

And so it seems that telegraph rates are simply being readjusted. Nevertheless this euphemism doesn't make the extra charge any lighter.—Boston Herald.

Wisconsin is going to build a new capitol. We hope that the Wisconsin authorities will not accept any bids from Pennsylvania.—Rochester Post Express.

As the Cleveland Leader views it, Mr. Foraker is merely maneuvering himself into a good position for a little dicker with Mr. Taft.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Natural gas may be failing in some parts of western Pennsylvania, but the sulphuretted hydrogen odor is still strong around Pittsburg.—Cleveland Leader.

If peace can be arranged this summer between the public and the railways, it will be a greater achievement than the treaty between Russia and Japan.—Washington Star.

The spectacle of Secretary Taft being lowered in a bucket into one of the deep test holes of the Gatun dam on the isthmus would have delighted Senator Foraker.—Boston Herald.

That \$5,000,000 plot to defeat Roosevelt sounds exciting to those who do not know that the big business interests do not go around with their secrets on their sleeves.—Chicago News.

That protracted deadlock in the Rhode Island legislature must sadden Senator Aldrich with the thought of how headstrong the presumptuous youngsters are becoming nowadays.—Indianapolis News.

"My spear knows no brother," may be construed by Mr. Harriman to mean that one "practical man" will knife another when the exigencies of politics make it seem necessary.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Back to the bin for the rolling pin. A woman confined in a York state jail, using her wooden leg as a weapon, successfully knocked out the sheriff, and only timely assistance saved his life.—Columbus Sun.

Somehow that corporate plan for running things in common with the president, and without any regard for the states, has struck a period of strenuousness that has the destructiveness of a cyclone and may threaten brainstorm.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

The Nicaragua soldiers must not violate the rules of civilization and loot the Honduran cities. The soldiers should do the thing in an orderly manner. That is, when they conquer a city let them immediately hold an election and get elected to the council.—Houston Post.

Andrew Carnegie, who is the most canny of Scotchmen, announces to the wondering world that there are more ways to get rich honestly than by dealing in railroad shares. Why, truly! Given a high tariff schedule on steel and iron, and a monopoly in armorplate, witness the happy results in the Carnegies, Fricks, Coreys and Schwabs!—Philadelphia Record.