

## The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

David was general, but Theodore seems beat on being specific.

The "Ohio idea" seems to be to grab the position in the spot light.

Mr. Carnegie owns the "magic lamp," and Mr. Rockefeller owns the oil.

Every congressman walked up and receipted for the increased pay. This is not a news item.

Johnson had his Boswell, and Roosevelt has his Jake Riis. If this be treason, make the most of it.

The peace congress and the Daughters of the American Revolution might profitably effect a merger.

The railroads are experiencing difficulty in hypnotizing legislatures. Their "passes" no longer take effect.

The Sioux City Journal is thirty-seven years old, and in all respects save one is a mighty good newspaper.

A little armorplate and a twelve-inch rapid fire gun will be among the necessities of future peace conventions.

If Mr. Harriman called at the White House after election Secretary Loeb forgot to make public mention of the fact.

The peanut crop has been cornered again. The same old corner in "goober politics" is still in control in Washington.

"Get busy and do things!" exclaims Chicago's mayor-elect. But isn't that a rather harsh name to apply to Chicago taxpayers?

By the way, Mr. Roosevelt, did Mr. Harriman accept your invitation to call after the election and talk over some matters?

If Colonel Harvey will call at headquarters he will be given a nicely engraved certificate of membership in the Ananias club.

A supply of porch swings having been ordered by the canal commission we may expect the work to proceed without further delay.

Mr. Carnegie has been decorated by the French republic. But he got his first one from Upele Sam, wrapped in neat, clever tariff schedules.

The New York waiter who struck John D. Rockefeller for a ten-cent tip and got it merely cost the rest of us about 'steen million dollars.

Peary says \$100,000 must be forthcoming before he will start for the north pole. A whole raft of men will start for half the money.

A former "Rough Rider" has been appointed governor of New Mexico. The battle of San Juan or was it Kettle—has been terrible in its results.

The report that Secretary Taft will not debate with Senator Foraker is another evidence that Secretary Taft is considerable of a diplomat.

By the way, Abraham Reuf of San Francisco and Edward H. Harriman of New York were delegates to the republican national convention in 1904.

Just as soon as the president can grab off enough adjectives he will probably tell us what kind of a prevaricator Colonel George Harvey really is.

Mr. Harriman breaks silence long enough to say that he is a railroad man, not a politician. This is calculated to sound to Mr. Roosevelt like an insinuation.

If Senator Borah is indicted he will not worry about the fact that his case will be tried before the judge who was appointed on the Borah endorsement.

Mr. Harriman is now pondering over the truth of the old adage that there are only two poor paymasters—the one who pays in advance and the one who pays not at all.

"I have seen three kings and two queens," said Mr. Stead at the peace conference. That is a sight calculated to make men mutter to themselves.

An order has been issued to the effect that newspaper reporters must not call at the White House after dark. Might get the same results by pulling down the blinds.

The Birmingham Age-Herald says "Roosevelt's friends are rallying around Taft." If there are enough to go around the Taft boom certainly has taken on large proportions.

A Johns Hopkins professor has proved that starfish may be taught to turn somersaults. A lot of republican leaders have been doing the educated starfish stunt of late.

Congressman Tawney says the Panama canal can be completed in five years. Presumably with the porch swings and rocking chairs recently ordered by the canal commission.

"Boss" Cox of Cincinnati was robbed of \$6,000 by New York crooks recently. Men who could turn that trick would do well to begin some "high financing" stunts on Wall street.

The Washington Herald insists that the president is not the ruler of the United States. Funny how a great newspaper occasionally overlooks a big item right in its own bailiwick.

The Panama canal commission has made requisition for 4,750 gross of pens. It certainly takes a lot of correspondence to keep the appropriations coming through fast enough.

The Age-Herald says that Birmingham has a Greek waiter who make figures backwards and upside down. What an excellent advocate of the protective tariff that waiter would make!

The Ohio "Penitentiary News" has suspended owing to the fact that there are no printers incarcerated in the "big stir." There are plenty of opportunities, however, to start a bank there.

The presidential vacation begins May 12, and the telegraph operator at Oyster Bay is looking up his code book for signs for "liar," "poltroon" and other much-repeated words.

"The Wisconsin legislature will have trouble in finding a man who can fill Spooner's shoes," says a contemporary. Perhaps, but there are a number of men in Wisconsin who can fill Spooner's hat.

All the mirrors have been removed from the government printing office. It is claimed that the women employes lost too much time "priming" before them. The use of mirrors in other departments would be a good thing if it resulted in the chiefs seeing themselves as others see them.

## Paragraphic Punches

The Root resignation rumor can also be characterized by a shorter term.—Boston Herald.

The shortage of the peanut market may be partly due to the demand caused by Foraker's political methods in Ohio.—Louisville Post.

Pessimists who think the Panama canal will never be finished probably forget that the Chicago postoffice has been completed.—Chicago Record-Herald.

The "discharged stenographer" who sold that Harriman letter to the newspapers seems to recognize a hot document when he gets hold of one.—Washington Herald.

If the court should impose fines against the Standard in the aggregate sum of \$29,000,000, we believe it will be a sign that the price of oil is going up.—Houston Post.

Former Governor Odell of New York refers to political reformers as grasshoppers. They seem to have done a good deal of damage to his crops.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Former Senator Patterson of Colorado paid his fine of \$1,000 and remarked that the Colorado supreme court was worth just about that amount of contempt.—Minneapolis Journal.

Mr. Rockefeller will probably refuse to worry over the charges that he is a party to a political conspiracy, inasmuch as the offense alleged isn't indictable.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Revised returns show that Chancellor Day has not quit smoking, but has stopped smoking cigars. His public utterances are proof that he still occasionally hits the pipe.—Omaha Bee.

Ex-Governor Sweetenham is to take a long tour, and will visit Canada. He probably will not come to the United States, much as the United States would like to see him. Sad!—Boston Globe.

"Gypsy" Smith is conducting revival meetings in Philadelphia, and the papers of that city say he is arousing the people. If this is true he must possess almost superhuman powers.—Chicago Record-Herald.

From the silence which emanates from Chancellor Day's corner since the Standard's recent conviction, we infer that Mr. Rockefeller has not been mailing checks to Syracuse university lately.—Houston Post.

John F. Dryden has fully recovered from the illness which suddenly made him retire last winter from the senatorial race. Anyhow, it saved him the trouble of standing up and being beaten.—New York World.

The secretary of war has furnished enough dope to the Cubans to keep them on good behavior for five or six weeks. Their amiability will last only till they discover that they are not to have spoils.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Senator Stone says he will not assert the president told an untruth, but he does declare that Mr. Harriman's letter was "very convincing." The Missouri statesman is following Mr. Roosevelt's injunction to "walk softly."—St. Louis Republic.

The worst relic of barbarism remaining in the American system of administering criminal law is the treatment of juries. If the Thaw trial results in some sensible reforms, it will have served one good purpose, at least.—Buffalo Express.

The will of Silent Smith, which disposes of \$75,000,000 dollars that eminent inheritor left behind him is to be shredded in court, as a matter of course. Every man who leaves \$75,000,000 is of unsound mind, on the face of it.—St. Louis Times.

That same force which pushed up the rocks and dirt that forms the Rocky mountains is now shaking the continent as it used to do long ago. There is a range of volcanoes along that range that at times destroy cities, and sometimes sinks an island, or raises one. It is the old earth having a spasm, and that great range of mountains shows what it can do when it tries.—Birmingham Age-Herald.