

# The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN Editor and Proprietor.  
 RICHARD L. METCALFE Associate Editor.  
 CHARLES W. BRYAN Publisher.  
 Editorial Rooms and Business Office 324-330 South 12th Street.

Entered at the Postoffice at Lincoln, Neb., as second-class matter

One Year - \$1.00 Three Months - 25c  
 Six Months - .50 Single Copy - 5c  
 In Clubs of Five or more, Sample Copies Free.  
 Per Year .75 Foreign Postage 52 Cents Extra.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS** can be sent direct to THE COMMONER. They can also be sent through newspapers which have advertised a clubbing rate, or through local agents, where sub-agents have been appointed. All remittances should be sent by postoffice money order, express order, or by bank draft on New York or Chicago. Do not send individual checks, stamps or money.

**DISCONTINUANCES.**—It is found that a large majority of our subscribers prefer not to have their subscriptions interrupted and their files broken in case they fail to remit before expiration. It is therefore assumed that continuance is desired unless subscribers order discontinuance, either when subscribing or at any time during the year. **PRESENTATION COPIES:** Many persons subscribe for friends, intending that the paper shall stop at the end of the year. If instructions are given to that effect they will receive attention at the proper time.

**RENEWALS.**—The date on your wrapper shows the time to which your subscription is paid. Thus January 31, '08, means that payment has been received to and including the last issue of January, 1908. Two weeks are required after money has been received before the date on wrapper can be changed.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—Subscribers requesting a change of address must give OLD as well as the NEW address.

**ADVERTISING.**—Rates furnished upon application.

Address all communications to

THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Oyster Bay must have been named by a "nature fakir."

Chancellor Day seems to be Jeremiahing pretty steadily these days.

The czar is suffering from recurrent symptoms of grand dukelism.

Mr. Watterson says his preferred candidate has a "winning smile." He must take mint in his'n.

General Lawton's eulogy consisted of an hour's explanation of the administration's railroad policy.

When wheat went up flour followed suit. Wheat declined soon after, but flour hasn't heard of it yet.

It seems that the czar is willing to grant representative government provided he is the only one represented.

This is a representative government until some federal judge takes a notion to make it a government by injunction or mandamus.

Governor Hughes' statement that nothing the corporations may do will justify retaliation will be heartily endorsed by the beef trust.

Doubtless the Japanese warriors are watching with interest the fight the American war department is making on one lone woman.

The state house grafters of Pennsylvania point to the treasury surplus of \$12,000,000 as a vindication. They might have taken it all.

When General Kuroki finishes telling his countrymen about the size of Uncle Sam's domain there will be a falling off in Japanese war talk.

The Butte, Mont., baseball team has a pitcher named Roosevelt. Up to date he has made the wielders of the "big sticks" look lonesome.

The postoffice department is on the trail of some gross frauds in the transportation of the mails. The department sleuths ought to experience but little difficulty in following so broad a trail as that. The wonder is that they did not stumble across it a long time ago.

Secretary Harry S. New says the next republican national convention will be a "fight to a finish." Pish, tush, Harry! Also fudge! Hasn't the president already settled upon Mr. Taft as his successor? If Harry keeps on talking that way the "undesirable class" will have to hunch over to admit a new member.

## The Commoner.

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 24

Under the Sherman tablet in the Hall of Fame is the inscription, "War is cruel, and you can not refine it." The censored Hall of Fame is not expressive enough.

The men who study wild animals from behind an office desk seem to have good reason for claiming it to be as advantageous a position as that behind a pair of peep sights.

Senator Daniel says the next democratic candidate must be "neither too radical nor too conservative." But that does not help solve Mr. Watterson's dark horse puzzle.

A recently discovered intoxicant impels the drinker to tell the truth. Great care will be taken by the party managers to keep it away from the majority side of congress.

One of Oklahoma's senators-elect is a blind man, but he will have no difficulty in seeing wherein a lot of senators at Washington have failed to represent the people.

This agitation in favor of getting the upper berth cheaper than the lower berth simply means that the price of the upper will remain as it is, while that of the lower will be higher.

"King Peter of Serbia pays his debts," is the sensational headline in the newspapers. Peter will doubtless be consigned to the undesirable class by his fellow monarchs.

A Missouri exchange tells about the joys of "juggling" for catfish in the Mississippi river. Some of the biggest fish we ever heard about were evidently caught by the jug route.

If ever it is discovered that Mars is inhabited, the advocates of a protective tariff will use the fact as an argument against revision. "No competition with Mars," will be their cry.

Mail parcels are carried from New York to London cheaper than from New York to the nearest village. No wonder the postoffice department is trying to economize by saving the twine.

Senator Knox will run up against his first hard chore when he tries to make the republican national convention believe that he is the only man that can save Pennsylvania to the party.

Wouldn't it be a hard jolt on the Missouri railroads if the people found out after three months' trial that the two-cent fare law was too profitable and forced the roads back to three cents?

President Roosevelt addressed the National Editorial association on the evils of swollen fortunes. The president is clearly eligible to membership in the American Press Humorists' association.

It having been decided not to prosecute Mr. Harriman that gentleman may now move up into the Paul Morton class. It will be remembered that the chief executive decided not to prosecute Mr. Morton.

"Prices are on a higher level" says the bureau of labor. Wonderful how obtuse those government officials are. We know a lot of higher prices that lack a great deal of being on the level.

Senator Platt's express company has sent a poor scrubwoman to jail for stealing a bar of soap. She doubtless thought the managers of the company had no intention of using any cleansing material.

The announcement that the legal department of the government is going after the powder trust simply means that the senator from New Jersey will invoke the fetich known as "senatorial courtesy."

James J. Hill says the government will have to come to the aid of the railroads and advance money to provide the equipment necessary for the proper handling of freight. Uncle Sam will first have to come to the aid of the people and advance money so they can pay the freight.

The corporation papers are now singing the praises of Governor Hughes because he had the "courage" to veto the two-cent fare bill. That's nothing; the United States senate has several members who for years have had the courage to oppose every good measure and follow the dictation of the railroads.

Since the exposure of the Pennsylvania state house grafters they have been filled with deep regrets. They overlooked \$14,000,000 in the state treasury.

The beef trust offers the pure food law as an excuse for higher prices. When the time comes for another excuse to be necessary, the beef trust will have it.

Leslie M. Shaw is again smiling like a man who thinks he detects the faint humming of a presidential bee. A close examination, however, is likely to result in the discovery that the cogs are not properly meshing.

By postponing revision of the tariff until after election the republican managers find themselves in a position to decline to revise the tariff on the ground that failure to revise was endorsed by the people.

The New York World calls the initiative and referendum "something new." It is, however, as old as the republic. If the World wants to see some examples of the referendum it might look at any one, or all, of the amendments to the federal constitution.

Viscount Tani of Japan says the American people are radically commercial in their sentiment. All right Viscount; but a little dip into history will convince you that we forget it every now and then when occasion demands.

It is asserted that "outside of the federal officeholders the republicans of Georgia are opposed to President Roosevelt." Impossible! Some of them have to hold two offices in order to keep the plums inside the party lines.

The Roanoke, Va., correspondent for the Philadelphia North American tells of a nine-days old baby that talks of heaven. That is not so very wonderful. We have seen lots of babies even younger that reminded us of heaven.

The New York Mail says that Mr. John Temple Graves' assertion that a paragrapher can not enter heaven is not founded on Matthew xix:24. Yes, we've read it, but you'll have to look it up for yourself, so get a hump on you.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat is still clamoring for a free bridge for St. Louis, but for "standpattism" at the ports of entry. The esteemed Globe-Democrat experiences great difficulty in keeping the pilot of its logic from colliding with the caboose.

### PARAGRAPHIC PUNCHES

After an experience that has thoroughly convinced it that the private ownership of public utilities is most unsatisfactory, San Francisco is about to undertake municipal ownership by taking over the Geary street railway. There is no school like experience.—Denver News.

The packers' remarks about "diseased cows" and "dirty, filthy farms" are a bit reminding of Upton Sinclair. But one can't help wondering why the packers were so long in deciding to resort to those belated measures for the protection of the consuming public.—Sioux City Journal.

There are too many pestiferous thinkers in this country. A good many of them believe, in view of the mighty promises the protection leaders make of doing something two, three or four years hence, that congress should do at least enough next winter to demonstrate its sincerity.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

An Alabama man has been sentenced to the penitentiary for stealing a peck of apples. If the courts had proceeded as they do when a railroad is charged with rebating, he undoubtedly would have been fined the peelings, and, if it were a very aggravated case, perhaps the cores, as well.—Washington Herald.

In passing a law prohibiting the smoking of tobacco by persons under twenty-one years of age, the Wisconsin legislature may have been seeking to confine the youth of that state to cigarettes and five-cent cigars.—Washington Herald.

Postmaster General Meyer has instructed postal clerks to save the twine about their letter packages so it may be used again. He must have been re-reading the old "whip cord" story in McGuffey's school reader.—Omaha World-Herald.