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The friends of the ship-subsidy bill are not willing to include the prairie schooner among the beneficiaries.

Mr. Mitchell, who has just been returned to the senate from Oregon, has long been an advocate of the popular election of senators.

The Nebraska legislature, although republican, has unanimously adopted a resolution declaring in favor of the election of senators by the people.

The administration's regret over the enormous appropriations comes at about the same time as the regrets of the man who is spending the morning hours after the night before.

Mr. Rockefeller has just given \$250,000 to Brown university. And thus again does vindication come to the subservient trustees who prefer money to the American right of free speech.

"Dry your eyes and cease to weep," advises Alfred Austin. With the gracious aid of Alfred we'll undertake to do it. But Alfred must help us by refraining from further poetic convulsions.

Because of the greed of the sugar barons the manufacturers of machinery in this country are being given an object lesson by Russia, she having a tariff just like the one drawn by the late Mr. Dingley.

There is only one difference between the river and harbor bill and the subsidy bill. The former distributes the "pork" among a great many. The latter is drawn with the idea of giving the whole hog to a dozen men.

The National Watchman of Washington, D. C., has published the speeches of Senator Towne and Senator Vest almost complete. Any one desiring a copy of the Watchman containing either speech can secure it by sending two cents to that paper.

Senator Chandler has introduced a bill prohibiting corporations from contributing to campaign funds. The principle is all right, but the penalties which he suggests are grossly inadequate. It is not worth while to discuss the details of the bill just now because the republicans are

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too busy with legislation paying back to the corporations the campaign funds subscribed last year to devote any time to the consideration of such a measure as that proposed by the gentleman from New Hampshire.

A newspaper correspondent has discovered that the Filipinos would rather fight than work. Well, history has recorded the names of a great many people who preferred to fight for liberty rather than work for a foreign master.

Considering the rapid increase of western influence in political affairs it is not surprising that the eastern states are opposed to a national system of irrigation in the west which is certain to result in a rapid enlargement of western political influence.

It is customary for the outgoing president and the incoming president to ride to inauguration together. As Senator Hanna has been selected to ride with President McKinley the question arises: Is Mr. Hanna just ending or just beginning his executive term?

Mr. Hanna greatly deprecates the selfishness of 76,000,000 people who object to being taxed for the purpose of bribing men to engage in a business admittedly profitable. If Mr. Hanna will wipe his glasses he will be able to see a rapid growth in this sort of selfishness.

The St. Louis exposition, celebrating the centennial of the Louisiana purchase, should be one of the greatest expositions in history. It will celebrate the peaceful acquisition by purchase from a foreign power of a magnificent territory whose inhabitants were guaranteed the rights of citizenship and statehood.

If the Congressmen who are constantly endeavoring to raise the rate of postage on second-class mail matter would give a little attention to the compensation paid railroads for carrying the mails, they would find it possible to make such a reduction in expenses as to render an increase in postage rates unnecessary.

Mr. Hanna has expressed his individual opinion of the river and harbor steal, and it is now up to some other administration leader to express his individual opinion of the shipping subsidy steal. There seems to be a faint hope that just dues are about to be paid to those who always profit when certain interests disagree.

Sixty-four years old and unable to secure work at his trade, that of coatmaker, George Zeigler of Canton, Ohio—mark the place—was ordered sent to the Stark county poor house. At the door of the almshouse he fell dead. And all this ere the echos of the cry about the "full dinner pail" had died out in the hills of Stark county.

The monopolists sometimes try to defend trusts by claiming that they are identical in principle with the labor organization. There is this difference, however, between the two kinds of organization which ought to be apparent to every one. Labor organizations have not yet secured for their

members more than a fair compensation for work done—and in many branches of industry they have not secured what is fair, while many of the trust magnates have within a few years amassed fabulous fortunes. When labor organizations reach the point where the wage earners are able to spend their summers in the north, their winters in the south and the autumn months in Europe, it will be time enough to class such organizations with the trusts.

Senator Kearns of Utah, in a recent speech, said that gold is now so plentiful that it is "rolling into the lap of every fireside." Some of the newspapers indulge in sarcastic comments and accuse the Senator of using bad English. Why do these journals lay aside in this case the reverence which they habitually show to the wealthy? Mr. Kearns is rich enough to make firesides to suit himself; if he wants them with lap attachments he is certainly able to afford them.

The Minneapolis Tribune calls attention to a mistake made in the first issue of THE COMMONER. In an editorial on the Vice-Presidency it was stated that Vice-President Breckenridge was never consulted by President Buchanan excepting in regard to the phraseology of a Thanksgiving proclamation. The Tribune brings to light the fact that President Buchanan never issued a Thanksgiving proclamation. While the correction does not lessen the force of the editorial in which the inaccuracy occurred, THE COMMONER makes acknowledgement of the error.

The logic of the protectionist is something remarkable in its weirdness. Here we have American sugar makers complaining because our impost on sugar is not high enough while American makers of machinery are complaining because the Russian impost on machinery is too high. And although Russia raised the machinery duty in retaliation for our having raised the duty on Russian sugar, the loyal protectionists insist that Russia's action is unfriendly and declare that Russia has no right to deem a similar act on the part of the United States unfriendly. When a protectionist starts out on a logical journey he invariably meets himself coming back.

What's all this talk about withdrawing the United States troops from China and leaving the allied forces of Europe to settle the Chinese question! Treason, deep, dark, inexcusable treason! Haul down the flag from the place where it was planted by the valor of American arms? Copperheadism, to say nothing of Little Americanism and provincialism!! Such a chance to practice benevolent assimilation, such an opportunity for manifest destiny to expand must not be missed. Withdraw from China and lower the flag? Once more we are reminded of Benedict Arnold and a few mouth-filling phrases used in continuous performances by the g. o. p. spellbinders only a few months ago.

Republican papers claim to have discovered that silver never was popular in the South. What a pity this discovery was not made sooner. If the republicans had only found this out five years ago they might have been saved the expenditure