

The Commoner.

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Mr. T. C. Platt appears to be suffering from a severe attack of gubernatorial elephantism.

It seems that Mr. Knox of Pittsburg, another trust attorney, is to be the new attorney-general.

Beginning with the next issue THE COMMONER will contain twelve pages and contain a limited amount of advertising matter.

Readers will please send in the names of persons to whom they would like to have sample copies of THE COMMONER sent.

No reputable newspaper would dare to print the thoughts of the man who has to keep a hard coal stove going through March and the first half of April.

The Times-Herald and the Record of Chicago have been consolidated under the name of the Record-Herald. The new paper will be independent in politics.

April first ought to have been set apart as a day for reflection by those republicans who were fooled by the President's promises to the Filipinos and the Cubans.

Gentlemen who want to understand just how China feels over the demands for an indemnity should purchase a box of strawberries without asking the price.

The fact that Aguinaldo has already been killed several times ought to be taken into consideration by the administration in fixing the remainder of his punishment.

By paying particular attention to several senatorial elections the Cubans will get some idea of the splendid system of self-government we are going to teach them.

A counting machine has been invented which will count four thousand quarters in seven minutes—a task that would occupy an ordinary person nearly as many hours. This machine is

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not intended for general use. Until prosperity becomes a little more abundant the average man will, by working at night, be able to count his money by hand.

Before another senatorial election comes in Nebraska Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan should obviate all trouble by doing a little railroad consolidation work within the state.

Russia and Great Britain are too wise to fight over the Chinese question. While they fought the other members of the concert would jump in and take the territory in dispute.

A party may achieve temporary success by compromising with evil, but better a party defeated in a fight for principle than a party triumphant through compromise with wrong.

The tin companies "find it necessary to withdraw all quotations on tin cans, boxes and packages." The people will finally "find it necessary to withdraw" their support from a party that tolerates a tin trust.

Fourteen states have enacted laws to protect the American flag from commercial desecration. This is all right, but we can never save the flag from "commercial desecration" until we abandon a colonial policy.

Now what in the world is the use of capturing Aguinaldo and his bodyguard if the Filipinos are "thoroughly pacified" and the people "fully satisfied with American supremacy?" What is the use of stirring up another fuss?

There is much to cheer those cities contemplating the holding of great expositions that will need a government subsidy. As long as the exposition commissions afford soft places for "statesmen out of a job" expositions will receive the cordial support of retiring members.

The Democratic National Committee has a limited number of Senator Towne's speech, which can be secured by addressing Hon. J. G. Johnson, Democratic National Committee, Security Building, Chicago. THE COMMONER published a part of the speech but no extract does justice to it.

The Anti-Imperialist League, room 1520, No. 150 Nassau St., New York, has printed in pamphlet form the article by Mark Twain which appeared in the February number of the North American Review. Any reader of THE COMMONER can obtain this pamphlet by sending a two-cent stamp to the League.

This is the article arraigning the Philippine policy of the administration which has been so widely quoted and commented upon. Every one ought to read it.

Leslie's Weekly describes Guam as "America's first Siberia." The views which illustrate the story of the embarkation of the first political exiles do not bear out the partisan report circulated by the republicans during the campaign. The Filipinos who are compelled to leave their country because they love it, do not look like savages,

and the buildings in the background increase the suspicion that it was not benevolence, but a desire for trade that caused the administration leaders to favor the permanent retention of the Filipinos.

The complete application of the principle which permitted Admiral Sampson to draw \$12,000 prize money because Admiral Schley defeated Cervera would result in General Corbin drawing Secretary Root's salary, and in the Standard Oil company drawing the salaries of Ohio judges.

When Benedict Arnold aided a foreign government in its effort to overthrow American Independence, he was universally condemned by the colonists. We shall have to forget those days before we can grow enthusiastic in praise of the Filipinos who joined in the plot to capture their general.

The New York World thus welcomes the new Attorney General:

The appointment of Philander C. Knox, long-time attorney of the largest factor in the United States Steel Corporation, to be Attorney General, is perfectly in line with all recent precedents, and is highly appropriate in a McKinley-Hanna Administration. Columns of comment could not say more than this.

The disappointment of some of the smaller railroad systems over their failure to secure senators at the recent distribution of prizes by the Nebraska legislature is unreasonable. The republicans are not to blame for the fact that some of the corporations drew blanks. Even Santa Claus could not please a half dozen children if he only had two toys.

By carefully working his Philippine Lumber and Development company under congressional protection Mr. Hull will be able to secure plenty of lumber for the repair of his congressional fences. And by properly repairing his congressional fences Mr. Hull can conserve the interests of the Philippine Lumber and Development company. If Mr. Hull is wise he will take out a patent on his double-action invention.

Secretary Gage would take a rosy view of the future if his hopes did not depend upon so many ifs. He says, "If a trade war does not come up, and if European nations do not engage in a tariff fight, and if no untoward accident happens, and if war does not become universal, I expect to see an era of prosperity long continued."

If Mr. Gage was a different kind of a man and if he favored a different kind of a financial system and if he then had the power to put his policy into practice he might aid in making prosperity general and permanent, but the "ifs" are in the way.

What is there in republican policies to appeal to young men just entering business life? They knock at the door of business opportunity only to find it closed by trust greed. They see legislation enacted for the benefit of giant corporations and combines of capital. They enter the business world only to find competition throttled. They stand on the threshold of society and see a growing aristocracy based on gold. They see opportunities withdrawn, ability discounted by machine methods and a premium put on wealth while honor is discounted. All these things are the legitimate results of republican policies.