## The Commoner.

## The Commoner. <br> ISSUED WEEKLY.

## William J. Bryan.



## No Traveling Canvassers are Employed.

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Advertising rates furnished upon application. Address all communications to

THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.
Entered at the postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second class mail matter.

The tariff steal workers show no symptoms of going on a strike. They are perfectly satisfied.

Boer hunting has so exhausted John Bull that he is not in fit condition to indulge in any bear baiting just now.

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Admiral Schley might quiet his traducers by signing an agreement never to stand as a candidate for president.

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In view of Secretary Long's order we need not be surprised if Crowninshield suffers from an attack of obstructed thorax.
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Considering the subject Rudyard Kipling feels impelled to discusè we need not wonder at the kind of verses he is grinding out.

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If the Younger brothers decide to re-enter the bank robbing industry they will not be so foolish as to begin the work from the outside. $\infty$
The country will never believe that Cervera would have towed his vessels out with portholes olosed if Crowninshield had been in command of Santiago Bay.

It is time for some decrepit war department clerk who has been in the bureau for fifty years to rise up and claim the credit for having turned back Lee at Gettysburg.

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The fact that a number of republican organs continue to denounce the trusts emphasizes the fact that there are no congressmen to elect this year, hence no necessity for a fatfrying soitre.
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The tin plate trust is a lusty infant. It has waxed so strong on Uncle Sam's baby food that it can stand up and knock $\$ 40,000,000$ a year out of the general public and never start a perspiration.

The government has plenty of opportunities to keep up the land lottery business. All it
needs to do is to divert a few millions from the conquest of foreign peoples to the conquest of western arid lands.

Dr. Reemelin, of Cincinnati, who was nominated for Governor by the Progressive Democrats of Ohio, declines to be a candidate. $\infty$
At last accounts Brother Morss, of the Indianapolis Sentinel, was still burrying the Kansas Oity platform, but he was perspiring freely and showing signs of exhaustion.
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It has been decided by the Taft commission that judges appointed in the Philippines need not take oath to support the constitution of the United States. The constitution is in the "also was" class for a time.

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The sympathy expressed for Senator McLaurin by the republican organs is truly touching and certainly solaces the feelings of the gentleman engaged in the hopeless task of republicanizing the southern democracy.

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It has been some time since the United Kingdom of Great Britian and Ireland went into spasms of delight because of a victory over a small force of poorly armed Boers. Is it because the financial cramp is too severe?

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How does it happen that so many republicans entered into the contest for homesteads in the Indian Territory? Republicans ought to be giving away land instead of hunting for it, if the country is half as prosperous as they say it is.

People who figure on the loss sustained by the steel trust because of the strike should remember that the steel trust has the last say. The people should begin figuring how much the strike will cost them in the way of increased prices.

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Now is the time for the notoriety seekers. Any man can become "a prominent democrat" at once by announcing his opposition to the Kansas City platform. If he will press the interview button the republican papers will do the rest.
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How times have changed! The republican papers used to abuse the democratic party outrageously, but now they are so friendly that they are willing to tell the democrats how to win. Strange that they should be so generous to the re-organizers.

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The republican farmers have voted so much money into the pockets of the corporations that dominate the republican party that the heads of the corporations will be able to get along for a while even though the drouth is a little severe on the farmer.

As we go to press the signs are less favorable for a settlement of the Steel Strike. It is
unfortunate that laboring men should be compelled to force their claims by an idleness which causes so great a sacrifice to them. Arbitration must come some day-the sooner the better.

Secretary Long's order to the effect that naval officers must not discuss the SchleySampson matter in advance of the investiga. tion comes a bit too late to prevent the publio from getting the impression that the chief weapon of some members of the navy consists of rapid fire mouth organs.

According to Bancroft's History, Commodore Sloat issued the following proclamation when he assumed authority in California in 1847: "Under the flag of the United States the revenue laws will be the same in California as in other parts of the United States, affording them (the Californian Mexicans) all manufactures and produce of the United States free of duty."

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The Chicago Chronicle sees in the action of the Ohio convention evidence that "the democratic drunk is over" and that the party is returning to the Chronicle's position. As the Chronicle bolted the democratic ticket in 1896 and as nearly all the Chronicle's stock holders voted for Mr. MeKinley in 1900, it's praise of the Ohio platform is really libel. Mr. Kilbourne ought to be elected, however, in spite of the Chroniele's support.

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Italy has accepted our apology for the murder of a few Italians and will now await Uncle Sam's check for the amount of indemnity agreed upon. Owing to circumstances Italy will not demand the cession of the port of New York, or forbid us importing arms and keep an armed guard of eight or ten thousand soldiers in Washington. The circumstances are that Uncle Sam would not submit and would put up a better fight than the Chinese ever could.

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Some of the populist papers are giving unintentional aid to the re-organizers. When a populist editor assumes that the democratio party is going back to Mr. Cleveland's doctrines and advises reformers to separate themselves from the party, he plays into the hands of the gold standard editor who thereupon insists that the democratic party has lost its populist allies and must surrender to the men who deserted the party in 1896 and 1900.

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The democratic party stands for definite, positive principles, and the Kansas City platform is the party creed until another national platform is written. Those who argue from the standpoint of expediency seem willing to sacrifice any principle or endorse any poliey if they oan thereby win. But there is no way of judging what is expedient; we can only do what we believe to be right and accept the consequences. We may deserve to win, and yet lose, but it still remains that to deserve to win is the surest road to success. If any one tells you that success can be won by a, surrender of democratic principles just remind him of the campaign of 1894 when we lost both our principles and our candidates.

