

The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

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Editor and Proprietor.

Terms—Payable in Advance.

One Year.....	\$1.00
Six Months.....	.50
Three Months.....	.25
Single Copy—At Newstands or at this Office.....	.05

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Subscriptions can be sent direct to **The Commoner**. They can also be sent through newspapers which have advertised a clubbing rate, or through precinct agents where such agents have been appointed. All remittances should be sent by postoffice order, express order or by bank draft on New York or Chicago. Do not send individual checks, stamps, or money.

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.

Mr. Littlefield seems to be cutting a wide swath.

The sick man of Europe appears to be a victim of too much concert music.

Perhaps Professor Triggs heard himself trying to sing one of the old hymns.

The Beveridge presidential boom seems to be the victim of sadly tangled rudder ropes.

There is a vast difference between contempt of court and contempt for subservient judges.

Kitchener continues to suffer excruciating pains because of a proclamation in his military appendage.

Newport has just had a "dog reception." This must be what we have known as the "howling swell" set.

The fact that the ship subsidy advocates are not making a noise is no sign that they are not as busy as ever.

The implement trust is preparing to plow deeper into the pockets of the people and harrow up the feelings of its customers.

In time John Bull may decide to put the management of the South African matter into the hands of men who fight better than they proclaim.

Mr. Roosevelt declares that he is in favor of government control of trusts. Most Republican leaders are—when there is no political campaign on hand.

The Boers continue to make reply to Kitchener's proclamation. Most of the replies weigh an ounce each and leave the recipients in a state of permanently suspended animation.

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Judge Baker of Indianapolis should have his crown soldered on before it is removed by public sentiment.

It is barely possible that a number of so-called Democratic organs have confused the terms, reorganization and repudiation.

Mr. Wannamaker is not the only reformer who makes the mistake of raising most of his objections between political campaigns.

The judge who sent a striker to jail for asking a fellow laborer not to cut prices for labor would hardly send to jail a manufacturer who asked another not to cut prices for wares.

The Sultan of Turkey knows full well that he will not have to fight for the existence of his country until after other European nations have decided which one is to have the best slice of it.

Mr. Taft says he is "pleased with results." It is natural that one who gets all he expected should be pleased. But what about those who were deluded into expecting much and compelled to accept little?

Every time the Sultan of Turkey gets into trouble he pulls the string on his property war cloud and the stage is immediately filled with military supes. The Sultan is a past master in managing stage properties.

Mr. Hull is of the opinion that the Philippine Islands do not at the present afford young men good opportunities. Is it possible that Mr. Hull has not yet secured all the franchises and concessions he can handle?

"Shall the supreme court reverse itself?" excitedly asks an eastern exchange, referring to Mr. Littlefield's Denver address. There are a great many people who hold that the supreme court's first duty is to untangle itself.

Leslie's Weekly furnishes its readers with an article on "How to get a million." Leslie's, however, uses too much space. The subject may be exhaustively handled in eight words—"Be sure of your congress, then go ahead."

It will not be surprising if some, out of resentment for the terrible deed perpetrated at Buffalo, rush to the other extreme and condemn all criticism of public officials. The distinction between freedom of speech and anarchy is so clear that every one should be able to see it.

J. Ogden Armour, so it is reported, has been compelled to pay \$9,500 on \$30,000 worth of jewelry which he bought in Europe. He is in luck. If he had bought \$30,000 worth of clothing of a low grade the tariff would have been nearer \$30,000.

Fusion in Nebraska resulted in wresting the state from the control of corrupt republican rings. Fusion promises to do the same thing in Pennsylvania. Good sense and good morals demand that no one condemn a move that results, or promises to result, in good to all the people.

It will be noted that Mr. Roosevelt is not making eyes at the southern Republicans just now. Mr. Roosevelt has heard of the fate of the gentleman who was too premature in financing the southern delegates to Republican national conventions.

George Gould should take a day off and devote it to whispering a few burning thoughts into the ear of the guardian of Miss Morton. The Goulds' have had some experience with a French count, their experience might be of benefit to Miss Morton.

Before condemning as traitors all who refuse to admit the inspiration of the supreme court's Porto Rican decision a lot of administration organs should make note of the fact that members of the supreme court have said many harsh things about that same decision.

Mr. Grosvenor is missing a golden opportunity when he fails to impress upon the farmers that the high price of potatoes is due entirely to the Dingley law and the good graces of the administration. Can it be that Mr. Grosvenor is growing careless in his old age?

It is now stated on what seems to be good authority that Admiral Sampson's health will permit his attendance upon the naval investigation. He will, therefore, be asked to take the stand and explain the discrepancy between his petulant charges and some letters he wrote before the trouble broke loose in the navy department.

In view of all the labor troubles Ohio republicans insist on making the campaign on state issues. In view of the disclosures of republican rottenness the g. o. p. managers in Pennsylvania insist that the campaign be made on national issues. Such a party naturally looks upon an artful dodger as being the personification of all political virtues.

A subscriber asks where he can find the full text of Henry Clay's speech (from which **THE COMMONER** recently quoted) in defense of the right of the people of South America to self government. It will be found in Vol. 4, (page 1248) of the *World's Best Orations*, collected by Justice Brewer and others, and published by Ferd P. Kaiser, St. Louis, Mo. I may add for the benefit of readers that it is a most valuable collection of speeches.

While the laborers for the United States Steel corporation are fighting for the privilege of organization, it is announced that the president of that trust, who is said to draw an annual salary of \$1,000,000, has purchased a tract of ground for a residence, paying therefor the sum of \$860,000, and that when completed Mr. Schwab's home will have cost in the neighborhood of \$2,000,000. It would seem that if the revenue from the trust is sufficient to enable one of its officers, who a few years ago was a poor man, to build a palatial home, that the trust is sufficiently prosperous to give to its workingmen the small privilege of organizing for the purpose of protecting their bread and butter.