

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

If the isthman canal game is played according to Panama rules spades will not be trumps.

"Manifest destiny" always manages to show up well in the footings of the expense account.

Let the Nicaragua canal bill be pushed at once. It is not necessary to get the consent of the railroads.

Would the supreme court stand 5 to 4 on the constitutionality of a law increasing the salaries of judges?

The bones of starved Boer children are builded into a monument to Great Briatin's efforts in behalf of Christian civilization.

In the year 1902 an American military commander suppressed the Declaration of Independence as an "incendiary document."

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President Schwab should be given credit for having the good judgment to risk his salary at Monte Carlo rather than in Wall street.

By using the Panama scheme to offset the Nicaragua plan the opponents of the isthman canal have fallen back into the last ditch.

If Kruger cannot reach here in time to help us celebrate Jefferson's birthday he might come over and help us celebrate the Fourth of July.

It might do some good to amendment the salary bill so that the increase will not apply to judges who vote to suspend the constitution.

Edward VII. should make up his mind to arise on the glorious festal coronation morn and receive another staggering dispatch from South Africa.

"God give us men!" shrieks the Chicago Inter-Ocean. This appeal indicates that the Inter-Ocean is weary of taking whatever the trusts have a name to give.

Recipe for making imperialism: Dissolve a keg of powder in a barrel of blood and throw in a handful of hypocrisy for seasoning. Drink while hot.

Perhaps it would be just as well to test that Danish West Indies brick before paying over the money. The Philippine brick did not stand the acid test.

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The "old time republican" who wants to vote his party ticket without feeling the pricks of conscience should train his memory to quit when it gets back to 1896.

Governor Taft says the Filipinos are rapidly acquiescing in American control. The dead Filipino makes no objections, and the commission takes silence for consent.

It will please King Edward to know that the men who will represent this republic at his coronation were selected for the purpose of casting reflection on other American citizens.

Will President Roosevelt take Prince Henry over to the treasury department and show him the ragged patches on the republican gold standard law that "saved the national honor?"

Congress is asked to appropriate \$500,000 to build a shelter in Manila for American soldiers. What's the matter with the hospitable homes of the loyal and American-loving Filipinos?

Perhaps Mr.—What's the name of that fellow who wrote the naval history?—would like to test the popularity of the naval clique by following up the track left across the country by Admiral Schley.

"Can a man with a family be a good Christian on a salary of \$5 a week?" is a question causing great discussion in eastern circles. If he is a Christian at all he would have to be a good one on that salary.

Senator Hale uttered a great truth when he said: "If we are to become a great war power, we will have to learn the lesson other nations have learned. Every nation that stands snarling at another country depends upon compulsory military service."

Possibly our special envoys to the coronation can persuade King Edward to delay the crowning until July 4th in order that the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence may be properly commemorated.

Messrs. Hill and Harriman have struck a what-are-you-going-to-do-about-it pose, and the indications are that they are prepared to wait for twenty or thirty years while a complaisant federal court decides the question.

Before paying the purchase price for the Danish West Indies it should be definitely determined that Providence is not throwing the Danish West Indies into our lap. The last batch of islands we got that way has been giving us a lot of trouble.

Our thanks are due to England and Germany for not letting Russia and Austria help Spain whip us, and our thanks are likewise due to Russia and Austria for preventing England and Germany from getting together and holding us while Spain whipped us.

Mr. Taft says the trouble in the Philippines is practically over, and that the Filipinos are falling over each other in their anxiety to become peaceful subjects. Mr. Taft said the same thing about eighteen months ago, and late reports indicate that his remarks are just as accurate now as they were then.

Mr. Nixon, the new leader of Tammany, denies that he has made any requests of any kind of the democratic congressmen from New York concerning the ship subsidy bill or any other bill. Good for Nixon! He must expect to be lied about, but after the people know him well it will not be necessary for him to deny all the statements put into circulation by the republicans.

The Marconi system of wireless telegraphy is so wonderful in its theory and so great in its possibilities that proof of its success is naturally received with some hesitation. Recent experiments, however, such as those just conducted between ships one hundred miles apart and reported in the Chicago American, seems to demonstrate the practicability of the system.

A Detroit widow has just been married to the spirit of a man who has been dead for a number of years. A spiritualistic medium performed the ceremony. In the interest of free government *The Commoner* is willing to pay the customary fee if some medium will bring about a binding marriage between the republican party and one of the revolutionary patriots who fought against taxation without representation and government without the consent of the governed.

An agent reports that one democrat refused to subscribe for *The Commoner* because he had read in some paper that Mr. Bryan had "gone over to the gold bugs" and was "booming Hill for president." If the aforesaid democrat read *The Commoner* he could not be deceived by such absurd rumors. Those who take this paper know that the editor neither has "boomed," is "booming" nor will "boom" any one for the democratic nomination who was against the party in 1896 or even doubtful.

Some of the enthusiastic friends of *The Commoner* exaggerate the income from the paper while unfriendly critics belittle the paper's success. The fact is that the receipts have exceeded the expenditures sufficiently to insure the success of the enterprise, but not sufficiently to relieve the editor of the necessity of lecturing occasionally. The result is entirely satisfactory, for the lectures enable the editor to come into contact with the people throughout the country and thus better equip himself for editorial work.

President Baer of the Philadelphia & Reading railroad has been preaching the gospel that "work is worship," but he thinks that the subject cannot be properly treated except by the denunciation of organized labor. Before he denounces "the absolute despotism and tyranny" of labor organizations he had better read the report of the interstate commerce commission and tell us what he thinks of the respectable criminals who violate the statutes and conspire with others to violate those statutes.

There is one consolation that can be drawn from Mr. Schwab's exploits at Monte Carlo; he was doing less harm to his country than he was last spring when he told a graduating class that it was better for boys to quit school and commence business at sixteen or seventeen than to secure a thorough education. His experience at the gambling table may be a warning to others; his advice to the students was dangerous because his large salary and his business prominence make his word weighty to those who measure life by the accumulation of wealth.

The manufacturers who favored an imperial policy with the expectation that the Filipinos would be compelled to trade with the United States may lose their enthusiasm when they learn that the door must be kept open in the Philippines or it is likely to be shut in other parts of the orient. The commercial advantages of a colonial policy may not be so glittering if we are to have no special advantages over foreigners in securing Philippine trade. Some of our manufacturers are saying: "If the trade argument is so soon done for, what was it begun for?"