

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Reorganization is the shibboleth of the disorganizers.

The least that Methuen can do is to place a wreath upon the grave of Scheepers.

The gentleman who versified on Jameson's raid should attempt an epic on Delarey's coup.

General Miles testified like a man who could do some rough riding himself if necessary.

It seems high time that Kitchener begin shooting those Missouri mules for treason.

Is General Funston expressing the views of the administration or will he be reprimanded?

The Standard Oil company has just declared another dividend of 20 per cent—\$20,000,000.

General Miles knew he would be snubbed, but he was patriotic enough to offer his services.

The Boers have the private sympathy of Mr. Roosevelt, but Great Britain has the official pull.

Of course Secretary Root means that the Philippine war is ended for congressional campaign purposes only.

General Funston is not the first military gentleman to fall down in an effort to talk up to his press notices.

The men behind the guns will have to remain there until the "pink tea" department of the navy is eliminated.

Of course Mr. Hanna is boosting the ship subsidy proposition merely because of his great love for the western farmers.

Perhaps the lull in cabinet resignations is due to the fact that no Iowa gentlemen have edged up to the pie counter lately.

The esteemed eastern editors who rejoiced over the "Mississippi resolution" are doing their backing and filling in privacy.

Democratic voters, however, will be quick to resent any resemblance a democratic platform bears to a republican platform.

General Kitchener reports that the Boers who captured Methuen were dressed in the British uniform. Perhaps the Boers were on their way to the coronation.

In 1776 England spoke of "conquering the colonies." Now we speak of "pacifying the provinces." The venerable gentleman who declared that language was given us to conceal our thoughts knew he was talking about.

The proposed Philippine tariff bill is exactly like the tax bill the British parliament proposed for the American colonies in 1767.

The mule system of conveying information of disaster to British commanders looks like an infringement of the Marconi system.

The office files of the New York papers reveal the fact that a "reform administration" was elected in that city a few months ago.

Caterer Fritz's misfortune should be a warning to British caterers to attach padlocks to their silverware during the coronation fetes.

The Nebraska Independent is offering (on another page) to send sample copies on request and its sample copies are worth asking for.

The cabinet officers appear to enjoy their muzzles. At least not one of them has as yet dared to do anything but smile through the wires.

Lord Wolseley has been ordered to South Africa to assist Kitchener. He should leave his military reputation at home, carefully packed in moth balls.

If General Miles will give bond not to accept a nomination for president perhaps he will be allowed to try his plan of ending the Philippine troubles.

The next time Mr. Wood of the Pacific slope gets a chance to address a Manhattan club banquet it will be after his speech is carefully blue-penciled.

When a western farmer objects to a shipping subsidy he will be expected to keep silent after having his attention called to the protective tariff on potatoes.

A few more victories like Delarey's and Mr. Roosevelt may have the pleasure of officially welcoming some British envoys who come to seek intervention.

Every time the British war office makes public a report from Kitchener, General Lord Roberts rejoices that there were no strings attached to that bunch of money.

If conditions in the Philippines were different perhaps the administration's position towards the Boers would be different. Some show of consistency must be made.

Senator Allison is opposed to further agitation of the Cuban reciprocity measure. The strange feature of this announcement is that Senator Allison delayed it so long.

Senator Proctor says that he is opposed to giving the people a chance to vote directly for senators. Mr. Proctor ought to hear from his constituents on this subject.

The president delayed a cabinet meeting fifteen minutes in order to hold a consultation with Mr. Hanna. This is as good an indication as a Manhattan club banquet address.

The next thing we know the isthmian canal obstructionists will be asking us to wait until Santos-Dumont has a chance to demonstrate the practicability of aerial navigation.

Prince Henry, being a naval officer, doubtless noted the fact that we gave the prize money to the men who were not in the battle and the calumny and abuse to the men who won it.

A great many patriots who kept close to the Canada line during the civil war are writing criticisms of John P. Altgeld, who was a soldier for the union before he was seventeen years old.

A number of eminent statesmen who fear that a greenback issued by the government is insecure are heartily in favor of making a sound currency by allowing the banks to issue notes on their assets. These same statesmen figure that they can fool all the people all the time.

While straining every nerve to secure enough enlistments to keep the army in the Philippines up to the usual size, Messrs. Roosevelt and Root pause long enough to remark that "the war is over."

A member of the Astor family contends that a man cannot be a gentleman without a college education. This is calculated to make the furs old John Jacob swapped beads for shed a cloud of hair.

Senator Penrose proposes an amendment to the house resolution in favor of popular election of senators providing for more senators. With Penrose in mind the people will not stand for the increase.

I had hoped to have *The Commoner*, Condensed, ready for delivery before this, but unavoidable delays have prevented. The book is somewhat larger than was at first intended, but it will be issued soon.

Senators Hanna, Foraker, Fairbanks, Beveridge, Dietrich and Millard are willing to "consider" the proposition to elect senators by the people. Their constituents ought to lose no time in writing to them.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat says: "The ship subsidy bill that passed the senate is in accord with the national republican platform." During the campaign of 1900 did the Globe-Democrat contain any burning editorials declaring that the republicans, if successful, would grant a subsidy to ship owners?

Secretary Shaw says the government will not bid for bonds because the government's purchases always advance the price. Of course Mr. Shaw will contend that this holds good in everything except the government's bidding for silver. The law of supply and demand affects everything but silver, according to republican gold standard logic.

Senator Penrose of Pennsylvania writes to one of his constituents that he will be pleased to give to the resolution proposing popular election of senators "the consideration its importance merits." In view of the resolution passed by the Pennsylvania legislature favoring the change, Senator Penrose should have made a more favorable response. His constituents had better stir him up.

A gentleman from Utah was interviewed on the Utah senatorial situation by a Washington Post representative and said that "Reed Smoot is probably the most popular candidate of the lot; he is a prominent young business man of considerable wealth." As the gentleman was talking about republican candidates it will be noted that Mr. Smoot has the chief requisite for a republican senator.

Senators Bailey, Bate, Berry, Blackburn, Carmack, Clapp, Culbertson, Dubois, Foster, Harris, Jones of Arkansas, Mallery, Mason, McEnery, McLaurin of Mississippi, Mitchell, Money, Nelson, Patterson, Rawlins, Teller, Tillman and Turner have expressed themselves as in favor of electing senators by direct vote of the people and therefore need no urging.

Some of the senators are complaining because they are hearing from their constituents in regard to the election of senators by the people, but these are the very senators who should hear from the people. If such senators will announce through *The Commoner* or any other paper of general circulation their intention to support the resolution proposing this reform, they will probably be relieved of further petitions, but the people are in earnest and they will keep after the doubtful senators.

The St. Joseph (Mo.) Daily News is booming Francis for the democratic presidential nomination, and it even quotes some "senator friend" (name not given) as saying that I am favorable to his nomination. Whenever a reader of *The Commoner* sees or hears that I favor the nomination of any man who opposed the platform of 1896 or the platform of 1900 he can set it down as false and he need not waste a stamp in inquiring. It would be an insult to the real democrats of the United States to ask them to favor the nomination of any unrepentent bolter.