

# The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

It appears that Mr. D. M. Ferry's senatorial seed wouldn't sprout.

The "Babcock idea" we heard about last winter seems to have been disguised.

The "Iowa idea" seems to have caught cross-wise in Mr. Henderson's partisanship.

Tom Johnson's "circus" is drawing the people, and also a lot of republican imprecations.

Perhaps Mr. Henderson's opposition to the platform was not so great as his fears of the result.

One democrat was elected to the Vermont senate. The Vermont legislature cannot be wholly bad.

Secretary Shaw might afford relief to the money market by tapping the swelling in the idle surplus.

It is barely possible that the president imagines he can cure the trust evil by suggestive therapeutics.

Mr. Babcock's denial machinery is running smoothly save when a bit of its product collides with a recorded fact.

The people would give a whole lot to hear a tariff debate between Congressman Babcock and Chairman Babcock.

From Thomas H. Benton to Richard Kerens—no, the people of Missouri are not going to take such a toboggan slide.

An esteemed exchange says that Mr. Baer was formerly a newspaper man. Beg pardon; don't you mean journalist?

The statement that the steel trust earned \$140,000,000 profit last year is misleading. To earn is to render an equivalent.

Mr. Henderson is to be excused. Of course he never imagined for a moment that a republican platform should mean what it said.

Those wild, fierce trumpeting from Ohio indicate that Tom Johnson has a certain elephant pretty well chained to his snubbingpost.

Since Henderson's spectacular withdrawal the S. O. P. managers have a better conception of what happened when Mont Pelee let loose.

That low buzzing sound from the central portion of Iowa is only Governor Cummins laughing in his sleeve as he casts his eyes Dubuquewards.

Congressman Cousins says the Iowa republican platform is a "dirty, lousy lie," but Mr. Cousins would rather be infected and soiled than lose his job.

A careful reading of the president's touring speeches will reveal an evident desire on his part to ping-pong the tariff question into the re-election net.

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The next time Mr. Stickney undertakes to criticize labor unions he will make sure that Miss Jane Addams is not present and billed for a few remarks.

Bacon said that "Reading maketh a full man." It seems also that Reading has made a very arrogant man. However, Lackawanna may have helped some.

The insurrection in the Philippines has been suppressed again; isn't it about time for the republicans to say what they are going to do with the Filipinos?

Peary says he could discover the north pole if he had \$200,000. Other men, if they had \$200,000, would pass up the north pole and buy a few ounces of anthracite.

If every democrat in Ohio who voted the national ticket in 1900 will go to the polls this year the democratic ticket will be elected. Let every democrat do his duty.

Governor Yates is wroth about the 5 per cent assessment placed upon state employes. Because the assessment was placed, or because the fact became public?

While framing long sentences to conceal his thoughts about the trusts, Mr. Roosevelt might experiment a little by enforcing the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law.

Experience has taught Mr. Henderson the folly of going into battle without making sure that the ammunition train is close at hand. And the trusts supply republican ammunition.

The Philadelphia Public Ledger calls the Ohio democrats' demand for equitable taxation "an eccentric political movement." This sort of "eccentricity" is rapidly becoming universal.

"I don't understand it!" exclaimed Senator Allison when he heard of Speaker Henderson's declination. Is it possible that in his old age the senator is curing himself of the dodging habit?

Anthracite coal is still rising, but be patient, republicans, the president may get his amendment through in four or five years and you ought to be willing to freeze a little bit for your party's sake.

A lot of republican politicians who had no interest in settling the coal strike for the sake of suffering humanity have suddenly been aroused to the necessity of settling it for the sake of G. O. P. success.

Mr. Shaw is quite positive that if the people give up enough in the shape of taxes he can keep the banks supplied with money enough to loan to the people for the purpose of enabling them to pay their taxes.

Imperialists said they could not discuss their Philippine policy until the Filipinos laid down their arms; now they say that the insurrection has been suppressed and that it is too late to discuss the subject.

It is related that Governor Odell worsted Uncle Tom Platt in their little dispute about the republican candidate for lieutenant governor of New York. But just wait until Uncle Tom wants something really worth while.

President Roosevelt says he is "opposed to any change in the tariff laws that will reduce the standing and living of intelligent American toilers." This should be welcome news to the 150,000 miners in the anthracite regions.

The money wrung from the people by unjust taxation is loaned by the government without interest to favored banks, and the act is called "relieving the money famine." And the wonder is that there are so many people who believe it.

The president's latest suggestion for curbing the trusts is to appoint a bi-partisan board to handle the matter. Doubtless Mr. Baer, who claims to be a democrat, and Mr. Morgan, who is a republican, would be glad to serve on the board.

By all means, let a commission of financiers settle the money question; let a commission of trust magnates settle the trust question, and let a commission of manufacturers settle the tariff question. This would be a settlement by experts, but, on the same principle, why not let the wolves settle the sheep question—don't they understand the flavor of mutton?

Walter Wellman is in New York and reports the discovery of the fact that all the great financiers are opposed to Mr. Roosevelt. As a discoverer the late Christopher Columbus would not pass the distance flag with Mr. Wellman in the race.

After a great deal of editorial circumlocution the republican Register and Leader of Des Moines arrives at the conclusion that stationary wages and increasing prices combine to make a normal condition. They certainly do under trust domination.

Mr. Roosevelt and his political advisors have agreed that there shall be no tariff revision during the next session of congress. The trusts agree, with the amendment that there will be no tariff revision during any session of congress if they can prevent it.

The directors of Northwestern university who refused to admit a negro girl to the school are the same republican gentlemen who objected to certain political doctrines because men who profited by republican favors put up the money to support the school.

Governor Odell is not the first man to grow chesty and pride himself on having unhorsed Thomas C. Platt. Mr. Platt has gone horseback riding many a time after the men who "unhorsed" him had spent all their available resources for walking shoes.

If governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, then it follows that we have no more right in the Philippines now when they yield a sullen submission to superior force than we had when they were able to stand up and defend their inalienable rights.

Editor Finley of Kenton, O., who led the fight for the indorsement of the Kansas City platform in 1901, and was run over by those who wanted to harmonize, was chairman of the platform committee this year and had the pleasure of seeing his position of last year vindicated.

A man named Durham, equipped with a dress suit case, \$7 in cash and a lot of nerve, established a bank in Elnora, Ill., and was soon able to disappear with \$10,000 belonging to a too confiding people. Durham seems to have anticipated the Fowler banking law by a year or two.

Abdul Hamid of Turkey seems to be the possessor of a keen sense of humor. When he received Secretary Hay's protest against Turkish treatment of Jews the sultan called attention to American treatment of Filipinos. It is doubtful if Mr. Hay enjoys the Roland he received for his Oliver.

Brigandage in eastern Europe is said to be increasing at an alarming rate. This wining and dining of an American who profits by a species of brigandage falsely labeled as "protective tariff" has had a bad effect on the morals of our European friends.

The Cleveland Leader says that the timid republicans should vote the ticket and trust "the party" to do all things well. But it is dawning on the republicans of Ohio that they have voted and trusted until "the party" has relieved the corporations from a large part of the taxation and placed the burden on the democrats and timid republicans.

In order to relieve the financial stringency Secretary Shaw will take out of the treasury a few million dollars wrung from the people by taxation and loan it without interest to favored banks in order that the favored banks may loan it with interest to the people from whom it was wrung in the form of taxation. The strange part of this peculiar financial deal is that the people have been approving it for a great many years.

Mr. McLean's paper, The Enquirer, says that there is no such thing as the gold standard. It insists that "all the action of congress pretending to look to such a thing amounted to nothing in the monetary economy," and declares that "that matter, as nearly all other matters in national finances, was regulated by the irresistible course of events." Mr. McLean makes the mistake of considering the "course of events" "irresistible" merely because it swept him into agreement with the plutocrats. Whenever a republican is unable to defend the gold standard, the trusts or imperialism, he falls back upon "the irresistible course of events;" and Mr. McLean is falling into that habit.