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**WITH TEN DAYS FREE WEARING TRIAL** in your own home, we furnish the genuine and only **MEIDELBERG ALTERNATING CURRENT ELECTRIC BELTS** to any reader of this paper. No money in advance; very low cost; positive guarantee. **COSTS ALMOST NOTHING** compared with most all other treatments. Cures when all of our electric belts, appliances and remedies fail. **QUICK CURE** for more than 50 ailments. Only sure cure for all nervous diseases, weakness and disorders. For complete sealed confidential catalogue, cut this ad. out and mail to us. **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO.**

**CREAM SEPARATOR FREE**



This is a genuine offer made to introduce the Peoples Cream Separator in every neighborhood. It is the best and simplest in the world. We ask that you show it to your neighbors who have cows. Send your name and the name of the nearest freight office. Address **PEOPLES SUPPLY CO., DEPT. 177, KANSAS CITY, MO.**

**A Mexican Christmas**

The fad in Christmas presents this year is Mexican Blankets, Curios, Drawnwork, and Cut Glass Jewelry. Our purchases are made on a basis of 30 cents on the dollar, Mexican. Goods sent on approval. Write for catalogue. P. O. Box 403, Old Mexico Trading Co. El Paso Tex.



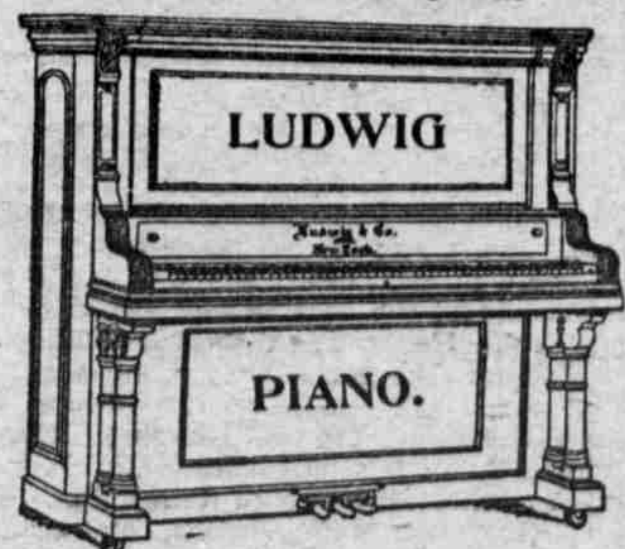
**YOUR EYESIGHT**

Is priceless. Guard carefully; the least ailment may mean blindness. You can be cured in your own home without pain or the knife. Send me a statement of your case and receive my professional opinion and grand illustrated book free. **Dr. F. Geo. Curtis, Shukert Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.**

**DIAMONDS on credit**

**YOU** can make a Christmas gift of a beautiful Diamond. You have only to make a selection of a ring, brooch, locket, stud, earrings, cuff buttons or a watch. We send it for your examination. If it pleases you, pay one fifth of the price and keep it. Send the balance in 5 equal monthly payments. We give a written guarantee with every diamond, make exchange at any time, or cheerfully refund money if goods are not satisfactory. Write for catalogue, it shows thousands of beautiful things for Christmas within the reach of all, through our Liberal Credit System. Our prices are from 10 to 20 per cent lower than local dealers. **LOFTIS BROS. & CO., Diamond Importers and Manufacturing Jewelers, Dept. 3-C, 92 to 98 State St., Chicago, Ill., U. S. A.**

**THE FAVORITE**



**Awarded medal Paris, 1900.**

**Endorsed by Artists, Musicians, Teachers, and 35,000 Pleased Purchasers.**

These well known instruments, celebrated for their Quality, Tone and Finish can be obtained by dealer in any state at most moderate and advantageous terms.

**LUDWIG & CO., Mfrs., Southern Boulevard, New York.** Send for catalogue and prices. **Matthews Piano Co., General Agent for Lincoln, Neb.**

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ity in our monetary system. Banks are the natural servants of commerce, and upon them should be placed, as far as practicable, the burden of furnishing and maintaining a circulation adequate to supply the needs of our diversified industries and of our domestic and foreign commerce; and the issue of this should be so regulated that a sufficient supply should be always available for the business interests of the country.

It would be both unwise and unnecessary at this time to attempt to reconstruct our financial system, which has been the growth of a century; but some additional legislation is, I think desirable. The mere outline of any plan sufficiently comprehensive to meet these requirements would transgress the appropriate limits of this communication. It is suggested, however that all future legislation on the subject should be with the view of encouraging the use of such instrumentalities as will automatically supply every legitimate demand of productive industries and of commerce, not only in the amount, but in the character of circulation; and of making all kinds of money interchangeable, and, at the will of the holder, convertible into the established gold standard.

I again call your attention to the need of passing a proper immigration law, covering the points outlined in my message to you at the first session of the present congress; substantially such a bill has already passed the house.

**CAPITAL AND LABOR.**

How to secure fair treatment alike for labor and for capital, how to hold in check the unscrupulous man, whether employer or employe, without weakening individual initiative, without hampering and cramping the industrial development of the country is a problem fraught with great difficulties and one which it is of the highest importance to solve on lines of sanity and far-sighted common sense as well as of devotion to the right. This is an era of federation and combination. Exactly as business men find they must often work through corporations, and as it is a constant tendency of these corporations to grow larger, so it is often necessary for laboring men to work in federations, and these have become important factors of modern industrial life. Both kinds of federation, capitalistic and labor, can do much good, and as a necessary corollary they can both do evil. Opposition to each kind of organization should take the form of opposition to whatever is bad in the conduct of any given corporation or union—not of attacks upon corporations as such nor upon unions as such; for some of the most far-reaching beneficent work for our people has been accomplished through both corporations and unions. Each must refrain from arbitrary or tyrannous interference with the rights of others. Organized capital and organized labor alike should remember that in the long run the interest of each must be brought into harmony with the interest of the general public; and the conduct of each must conform to the fundamental rules of obedience to the law, of individual freedom, and of justice and fair dealing toward all. Each should remember that in addition to power it must strive after the realization of healthy, lofty and generous ideals. Every employer, every wage-worker, must be guaranteed his liberty and his right to do as he likes with his property or his labor so long as he does not infringe upon the rights of others. It is of the highest importance that employer and employe alike should endeavor to appreciate each the viewpoint of the other and the sure disaster that will come upon both in the long run if either grows to take as habitual an attitude of sour hostility and distrust toward the other. Few people deserve better of the country than those representatives both of capital

**Subscribers' Advertising Department**

The "Subscribers' Advertising Department" has been established primarily for the convenience of the subscribers of The Commoner. It sets aside a department wherein they may communicate with one another for the sale or exchange of various articles, such as books, real estate, cattle, poultry, coins, stamps, seeds, etc. In short, it is an "exchange" department. The price of advertising has been fixed at 6 cents per word per insertion. This is the lowest advertising rate made in the paper. Advertisers in The Commoner reach an average of 700,000 readers a week.

The mail order business is becoming greater every day. By taking advantage of this department many a reader of The Commoner may build up a

profitable mail order business. If you have something to sell and do not know how to advertise it, send us a description of it, together with your price. We will arrange your advertisement in the fewest possible words.

The utmost care will be exercised in excluding irresponsible advertisers from the columns of The Commoner. Address all communications to The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb.

Good carpenters always wanted. Be a better carpenter by aid of Roof framing chart and leather bound book on framing. Send P. M. O. for \$1.50 to publisher. C. M. Osborn, Lincoln, Nebraska.

For sale—160 acres, good soil, all tillable. Five miles from Wilmar. 5/8 mile from station. \$30 per acre. Terms easy. Failure crops unknown. H. Zimmerman, Raymond, Minn.

and labor—and there are many such—who work continually to bring about a good understanding of this kind based upon wisdom and upon broad and kindly sympathy between employers and employed. Above all, we need to remember that any kind of class animosity in the political world is, if possible, even more wicked, even more destructive to national welfare, than sectional, race, or religious animosity. We can get good government only upon condition that we keep true to the principles upon which this nation was founded, and judge each man not as a part of a class, but upon his individual merits. All that we have a right to ask of any man, rich or poor, whatever his creed, his occupation, his birthplace, or his residence, is that he shall act well and honorably by his neighbor and by his country. We are neither for the rich man as such nor for the poor man as such; we are for the upright man, rich or poor. So far as the constitutional powers of the national government touch these matters of general and vital moment to the nation, they should be exercised in conformity with the principles above set forth. \* \* \*

**CUBAN RECIPROCITY.**

I hope soon to submit to the senate a reciprocity treaty with Cuba. On May 20 last the United States kept its promise to the island by formally vacating Cuban soil and turning Cuba over to those whom her own people had chosen as the first officials of the new republic.

Cuba lies at our doors, and whatever affects her for good or for ill affects us also. So much have our people felt this that in the Platt amendment we definitely took the ground that Cuba must hereafter have closer political relations with us than with any other power. Thus in a sense Cuba has become a part of our international political system. This makes it necessary that in return she should be given some of the benefits of becoming part of our economic system. It is, from our own standpoint, a short-sighted and mischievous policy to fail to recognize this need. Moreover, it is unworthy of a mighty and generous nation, itself the greatest and most successful republic in history, to refuse to stretch out a helping hand to a young and weak sister republic just entering upon its career of independence. We should always fearlessly insist upon our rights in the face of the strong, and we should with ungrudging hand do our generous duty by the weak. I urge adoption of reciprocity with Cuba not only because it is eminently for our own interests to control the Cuban market and by every means to foster our supremacy in the tropical lands and waters south of us, but also because we, of the giant republic of the north, should make all our sister nations of the American continent feel that whenever they will permit it we desire to show ourselves disinterested-

ly and effectively their friend.

A convention with Great Britain has been concluded, which will be at once laid before the senate for ratification, providing for reciprocal trade arrangements between the United States and Newfoundland on substantially the lines of the convention formerly negotiated by the secretary of state, Mr. Blaine. I believe reciprocal trade relations will be greatly to the advantage of both countries.

**ARBITRATION.**

As civilization grows warfare becomes less and less the normal condition of foreign relations. The last century has seen a marked diminution of wars between civilized powers; wars with uncivilized powers are largely mere matters of international police duty, essential for the welfare of the world. Wherever possible, arbitration or some similar method should be employed in lieu of war to settle difficulties between civilized nations, although as yet the world has not progressed sufficiently to render it possible, or necessarily desirable, to invoke arbitration in every case. The formation of the international tribunal which sits at The Hague is an event of good omen from which great consequences for the welfare of all mankind may flow. It is far better, where possible, to invoke such a permanent tribunal than to create special arbitrators for a given purpose.

It is a matter of sincere congratulation to our country that the United States and Mexico should have been the first to use the good offices of The Hague court. This was done last summer with most satisfactory results in the case of a claim at issue between us and our sister republic. It is earnestly to be hoped that this first case will serve as a precedent for others, in which not only the United States, but foreign nations may take advantage of the machinery already in existence at The Hague.

I commend to the favorable consideration of the congress the Hawaiian fire claims, which were the subject of careful investigation during the last session.

**THE CANAL.**

The congress has wisely provided that we shall build at once an isthmian canal, if possible at Panama. The attorney general reports that we can undoubtedly acquire good title from the French Panama Canal company. Negotiations are now pending with Colombia to secure her assent to our building the canal. This canal will be one of the greatest engineering feats that has yet been accomplished during the history of mankind. The work should be carried out as a continuing policy without regard to change of administration; and it should be begun under circumstances which will make it a matter of pride for all administrations to continue the policy. The canal will be of great benefit to America, and of importance to all the