

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Senator Aldrich will adjourn March 4.

The emperor of Germany has recalled his Kipling eulogy for revision.

Mr. Quay appears equal to maintaining a peaceful blockade of his own.

Honduras is experiencing great difficulty in crowding Venezuela out of the slug head position.

Those reciprocity senators might induce Mr. Oxnard to submit the case to The Hague tribunal.

Mr. David M. Parry of Indianapolis should take something for his case of ingrowing pessimism.

The allies may have the warships and the disposition, but Uncle Sam has Minister Bowen and the cash.

The allies are advised to ponder over the fact that prestige is about the cheapest thing they can lose in this hemisphere.

A Pennsylvania legislator has drafted a bill prohibiting caricatures. The caricaturists are taking advantage of the fact.

Of one thing Mr. Doblin may be sure—he did not display enough nerve to warrant his employ by any of the really big trusts.

Senator Elkins offering anti-trust bills somehow or other recalls the historic incident wherein a certain individual rebuked sin.

If reports from Tangiers are to be believed Colonel Bu Hamara, the pretender, is having a regular "Gas" Addicks of a time.

The Doblin explanation is not a whit more gauzy than the average republican explanation of how "the foreigner pays the tax."

It appears to keep Uncle Sam busy reminding his European friends that there is such a thing as The Hague arbitration tribunal.

Some of our most prominent citizens expend more energy in defending the America cup than they do in defending American traditions.

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Perhaps Mr. Hanna was asked to accept the presidency of the Golden Rule association because he would be such a splendid example of how not to observe it.

The telegraph informs us that "Mr. Morgan attended church last Sunday and passed the collection plate." A great many men who attend church pass the collection plate, but the press associations do not see fit to make a note of it.

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Mr. Taylor from Kentucky has read the latest news from his state and proceeds to hurriedly adjust his gubernatorial friend and get him on straight again.

The reports from Fez are enough to give basis to the belief that some enterprising American theatrical manager is working up the plot for a new comic opera.

The three bids for the new guns for the navy department were precisely the same. The steel tariff was put on with the excuse that it would stimulate competition.

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President Roosevelt has employed an Italian fencing master to teach him the art of singlestick. Singlestick is a strenuous sport, but it is not in the same class with trust fighting.

Those republican organs that had so much to say about Mr. Richardson's book publishing business will keep silent in seventeen languages about Mr. Grosvenor's venture in the book market.

Those who charge Mr. Quay with obstructing legislation should be thankful instead of critical. And they would be if they were cognizant of the average kind of legislation transacted by the senate.

As soon as the Mexican sugar combine was formed the Mexican government put sugar on the free list. Yet there are those who shiver every time they think of "Mexicanizing" this government.

A reader of *The Commoner* desires to know whether Attorney General Knox is now receiving any salary from any corporation. The question is asked in order to know whether the attorney general has any private reason for not enforcing the law against the trusts.

Senator Hanna has introduced a bill to pension all ex-slaves freed by the emancipation proclamation. The indications are that Mr. Surveyor of the Port of New York Clarkson will find his delegate bagging work rather more strenuous during the next fifteen months.

Mr. "Gas" Addicks has withdrawn in the interests of the election of two republican senators. It would have been better had he withdrawn in the interests of public decency, but under the circumstances no particular objection will be made to the grounds for his withdrawal.

A Russian nobleman was sent to jail in New York city for expectorating on the pavement. Some friend should inform him that it appears to be much safer to expectorate in the direction of the Monroe doctrine. The foreign noblemen who do that are not sent to jail. They are asked to arbitrate.

The response to stricken Sweden's call for help should be quick and generous. Thousands are starving and relief must be given speedily. All contributions may be sent to Mrs. B. Wernstadt, 307 Richards block, Lincoln, Neb., with the assurance that they will be promptly remitted to the relief committee at Stockholm.

A reader of *The Commoner* who has already sent in twenty new subscribers, suggests that *The Commoner* ought to have at least a million names on its list. Well, 140,000 is not quite a million, but if every subscriber would send in twenty new names, as this one well-wisher has done, the paper would soon have 2,800,000 names on the list.

The honesty of the gold standard advocates is measured by the Chinese situation. The powers insist that China pay the indemnity in gold. This means the virtual doubling of the indemnity. China offers to pay gold if allowed to collect her customs duties in gold. Thus the powers refuse because it would injure them.

The Nebraska railroads are opposing a bill before the legislature on the grounds that it will deprive rural communities of the railroad tax necessary to the maintenance of the rural schools. But a glance at some of the Nebraska republican organs reveals the startling fact that there are some who cannot appreciate the humor of the railroads.

Mr. Grosvenor has quit estimating republican majorities long enough to attempt an explanation of a very questionable book scheme. When the average republican politician is not estimating he is explaining.

Senator Depew is calling for an "emergency currency." This is a phrase calculated to appeal to a vast number, but the stock gamblers may be depended upon to provide the emergencies and grab the currency.

David M. Parry of Indianapolis denounces John Mitchell as "an apologist for dynamite and property wrecking." This language indicates that Mr. Baer is in danger of being called upon to divide his divine rights.

Senator Elkins' anti-trust bill provides a fine of \$1,000 in case of giving or accepting rebates. Of course a fine of a thousand dollars would prevent the Standard Oil company from accepting rebates amounting to millions every year.

Having discovered that Romulus did not found the city of Rome the scientists may be expected to come forward with the announcement that Schley was not present at Santiago or that Crunshell never steered a battleship on a mudbank.

Those Montana and North Dakota citizens who want to make a new state and name it Montague are going about it in the wrong way. They should offer to name it New Newjersey if they expect to get any consideration at the hands of this congress.

If Emperor William arises in the morning and finds in his mail a lot of letters bearing English postmarks, he should toss them into the wastebasket. Tomorrow is St. Valentine's day and the English people are just a little sore about the alliance.

A Pennsylvania reader reports that the editor of *The Commoner* is accused of being "the president of the cotton trust," and asks whether it is true. Mr. Bryan is not interested, as officer or stockholder, in the cotton trust or in any other corporation.

A New York reader suggests that with a coal famine on hand and the industries monopolized in the interest of a few, it would hardly be wise to put the whole monetary system of the country into the hands of "the same unscrupulous stock jobbers who now control the industries of the country." In this the New York reader is entirely correct.

A Colorado reader asks several questions which are answered as follows: First, Senor Palma is president of Cuba; second, he was inaugurated May 20, 1902; third, fifteen amendments to our constitution have been adopted, the first ten were submitted in 1789, the eleventh was submitted in 1794, the twelfth in 1803, the thirteenth in 1865, the fourteenth in 1866 and the fifteenth in 1869.

Ex-Secretary Carlisle, ex-Senator Lindsay and several other ex-democrats as well as ex-officials are now studiously engaged in picking out a democratic nominee for the presidency who can secure the support of J. Pierpont Morgan and the financiers. In the opinion of these distinguished ex-democrats it is not necessary to have the support of any one else, and it is not likely that a candidate selected by them would be able to secure the support of many of the real democrats of the country. But the fact that they are actively at work trying to capture the democratic party shows how important it is for those who believe in the Kansas City platform to organize and prepare to meet this insolent attempt at the polls.

A Missouri reader of *The Commoner* asks for information, which is given as follows: First, a gold certificate is a certificate issued on gold deposits at the treasury department; second, a person can secure a gold certificate by depositing gold, but it is probable that he can find one at any bank and obtain it in exchange for any other kind of money, as there are a great many gold certificates in circulation; third, an amount of gold equal to the amount of the certificates outstanding is held for the redemption of those certificates; fourth, a person depositing gold for coinage can secure gold coin, and with the gold coin he can secure gold certificates; fifth, a person presenting gold coin to the treasury department for certificates does not receive any premium.