

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

The Brooklyn Eagle appears to be passing through the molting period.

Thorough organization, not reorganization, is what the democratic party needs.

The doctors of Europe seem unable to make the "Sick Man" take his medicine.

If the foreigner pays the tax how comes it that the tariff-fed barons wax so rich?

Judge Grosscup's beef trust injunction shows symptoms of being equipped with velvet fenders.

The time to organize is right now. To wait until a few weeks before election day is political folly.

President Elliot is about due for another outburst that will add greatly to the gaiety of nations.

Mr. Knox thought the original anti-trust bill too drastic. The people think that Mr. Knox is too plastic.

A democratic platform cannot be framed by men who think more of personal profit than they do of principle.

Mr. M. E. Ingalls is said to be harboring political ambitions. If he is he should take steps to secure a rebate.

Mr. "Gas" Addicks should retire from public gaze for a time and ponder on the awful sin of being found out.

Perhaps one reason why the post check currency system was not adopted by congress is that the people wanted it.

It is quite generally believed that Mr. Knox can ignore anti-trust laws even faster than congress can enact them.

It seems that Mr. Littlefield drew his anti-trust bill under the hallucination that President Roosevelt was in earnest.

While Mr. Rockefeller is advertising for a new stomach he should insert a paragraph concerning a new conscience.

Mr. J. S. Clarkson might revive the old "forty acres and a mule" proposition as an offset to the Hanna pension bill.

The republican orators at Lincoln birthday banquets did not make copious quotations from Lincoln's public utterances.

Any platform that is acceptable to the trusts and corporations will not be acceptable to the rank and file of the democracy.

Southern cotton raisers have made note of the fact that the price of cotton did not go up until after they had disposed of their crop.

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If Germany persists in refusing to accept borax treated meat from American exporters it can be stored until another war breaks out.

The people should congratulate themselves that this is not leap year. If it were congress would have been in session just one day longer.

Senator Aldrich may not have earned his salary, but he certainly has won the approbation of the special interests he represents in congress.

Recalling a certain senatorial investigation of sugar speculation the idea comes that perhaps Mr. Rockefeller's coachman sent those telegrams.

It was quite wrong for that White house attache to reprove Mr. Depew for laughing too loud. Certainly some one should laugh at Mr. Depew's jokes.

The indications are that the next time Mr. Baer will not declare there is nothing to arbitrate until after he has made a second examination.

"The Subscribers' Advertising Department" is proving a great success. Those who have used it express themselves as highly gratified with the returns.

It having been announced that the endowment of the Rockefeller Medical Institute is to be increased the people should prepare to deodorize their coal oil.

Subscribers ordering "The Commoner Condensed" should be careful to state plainly whether Volume I. or Volume II. is wanted. See announcement on page 16.

If New Mexicans, Oklahomans and Arizonians are disappointed it is because they were so foolish as to put their confidence in the sincerity of republican platforms.

Young Mr. Rockefeller appears to be one of those philanthropists who believes in giving two shirtless men collars rather than to give one hungry man a square meal.

Mr. Hanna has given his permission to several Ohio gentlemen who yearn to run for governor on the republican ticket. In due time Mr. Hanna will nominate the candidate.

The New York Tribune asserts that "Goebelism is still rampant in Kentucky." The Tribune should take note of the fact that one Taylor is still rampant in Indiana.

Of course those recalcitrant republicans in congress came to the scratch in time to pass the appropriation bills. Nothing could prevent a republican from appropriating.

Owing to the fact that the senate is overwhelmingly republican Senator-elect Smoot can afford to keep silent in all known languages and attend strictly to his fuel heap.

If the date on the wrapper shows that your subscription to *The Commoner* has expired, renew without delay and ask a neighbor to subscribe when you send in your renewal.

The Toronto World is fearful lest Canada be given the worst end of it by the boundary commission. What a confirmed pessimist the editor of the Toronto World must be.

Mr. David B. Henderson doubtless retires with the firm conviction that he made a very useless sacrifice to prevent his party from doing something it never contemplated doing.

A man 200 years old has been found in Russia. This gives us reason to hope that some of us may live long enough to see the republican party redeem at least one of its platform pledges.

The mention of Governor Cummins in connection with the vice presidential nomination is a neat little bait that the governor will not bite at if he is in earnest in his advocacy of the "Iowa Idea."

It may have been rash for Mr. Carnegie to say what he did about Homer, but it is doubtful if the men who are criticising him for it know whether Homer wrote verses or packed hams in Troy.

The holiday habit is growing so rapidly that we may confidently expect those who still believe that the foreigner pays the tax to ask that April 1 be made a legal holiday.

Abdul Hamid, sitting on the Bosphorus, cannot understand why President Castro yielded to those ultimatums. Abdul knows from experience that ultimatums are made for picturesque purposes only.

We congratulate the country upon the fact that up to date no paragrapher has stood up to remark that the trusts seem to be thoroughly inknoxlated against prosecution by the attorney general.

It will be noted that the newspapers so busily engaged in selecting a candidate for the democratic party in 1904 are the newspapers that so cordially supported the republican ticket in 1896 and 1900.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat says: "The country will observe that the republican party is once more carrying out its promises;" to which the Louisville Courier-Journal very aptly retorts: "On a shutter."

Of course Mr. Quay and his fellow lawmakers from Pennsylvania, especially those from Philadelphia, are terribly exercised about the frauds committed in Mr. Butler's congressional district in St. Louis.

In asking that the address of your paper be changed, give the old address as well as the new. It is impossible to look through 140,000 names to find the old address, and it must be had before proper change can be made.

The law prohibits the giving or taking of rebates. There is, however, a wide chasm between enacting law and enforcing law, and up to date Mr. Knox has not shown any disposition to go into the chasm bridging business.

In spite of the fact that Senator Hanna and other republicans assured the American people that "There are no trusts," republican papers are now boasting of the "anti-trust" legislation that has been passed by the republican congress.

A reader of *The Commoner* asks: "Is there any constitutional or statutory law prohibiting a president of the United States from holding said office for more than two or any number of terms in succession?" There is no such prohibition.

The New York World overlooks the fact that tariff reform was "repudiated" by the people at the ballot box before bimetalism was "repudiated" by them at the ballot box. But the New York World has a habit of overlooking the kinks in its logic.

In last week's issue attention was called editorially to Tom Johnson's account of his fight for 3-cent fares in Cleveland. Through an oversight in the make-up Mr. Johnson's article was omitted. It will be found elsewhere in this issue and is well worth reading.

If President Roosevelt is satisfied with the shackles manufactured by the recent congress he is in perfect accord with the interests he once threatened to shackle. They look upon the shackles as being ornaments of rare design and workmanship.

A republican organ that still insists that "the foreigner pays the tax" says that President Castro's order increasing duties 30 per cent will be hard on the merchants doing business in Caracas, but does not explain how that can be when the foreigner pays the tax.

Mr. Littlefield has exhibited all of the Englishman's alleged inability to see a joke. Mr. Littlefield thought the president really in earnest when he talked about "shackling cunning." The gentleman from Maine should secure a copy of Joe Miller's Jest Book and study up.

The governors of the various states have been notified that the government is now ready to supply the militia with "riot shells." The general government would be in better business if it tried to its utmost extent to give the people such a measure of justice that riots would become unknown.