

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Dr. Crum appears to have been the only one pinched when that "door of hope" closed.

Up to date that half-a-million appropriation for the attorney general's department has not been used in a manner calculated to make the octopus duck and side-step.

It will be noticed that there is nothing in the strike commission's report to prevent the coal barons from adding that 10 per cent wage increase to the price of the coal.

The "Subscribers' Advertising Department" is bringing satisfactory results to those who patronize it. It is one of the most successful advertising plans ever offered to the public.

When President Roosevelt enters Yellowstone Park his gun will be sealed. Now we know what happened when the president took his gun and started for the trust reservation.

The organization of democratic clubs for the defense and promulgation of democratic principles is a duty that devolves upon loyal democrats in all sections of the country.

One of Mr. Cleveland's worshipers declares that the popularity of the ex-president is "unbounded." This is palpably false. It is bounded on the south, at least, by Henry Watterson.

While shaking hands with the fathers and mothers of large families President Roosevelt should not neglect to explain to them that the trusts are making it very hard to feed so many mouths.

If the "Iowa idea" is not wearing a choice lot of red welts it is not the fault of Colonel Life Young of Des Moines. As a red welter Colonel Young has achieved considerably more than local fame.

Too bad! Too bad, that the Palmer and Buckner party should be disrupted by the quarrel between Cleveland and Watterson. Can't we have a harmony dinner and bring them together in some way?

Mr. Rockefeller has denied the report that he would give a million dollars for a new stomach. Perhaps he figures that without any stomach at all he avoids difficult complications with a vermiform appendix.

If money is so wonderfully abundant, as the administration organs claim, why this tremor of fear lest withdrawing fifty millions of public money from banks to pay for the Panama canal contract the currency to an extent prejudicial to business.

Perhaps those republican ambassadors who want to appear at court clad in velvet coats, knee breeches, ruffled shirts, silver-buckled shoes and short swords would agree to stomp this country for the g. o. p. ticket next year, clad in their court habiliments.

Due note should be made of the fact that the gentlemen who write the most profound articles in support of the Roosevelt policy toward the colored man and brother are best known as writers of fiction.

It is announced that when President Roosevelt reaches Yellowstone Park he will do absolutely nothing for two weeks. A peep into the legal department of his administration will reveal the possibility of doing that sort of thing right in Washington.

The Chicago Chronicle observes that "it is a comfort to know that we do not have to read any more personal organs than we please." It is, indeed. And in that fact may lie the explanation of the quiet satisfaction enjoyed by those who do not read Mr. Walsh's Chronicle.

The ancients knew some things that the present generation has not learned. The ancients knew how to turn the floods in their rivers to good advantage. So far this generation has "improved" its rivers until they are a positive menace to life and property.

The announcement is made by the news dispatches that at least 1,000 more soldiers are to be sent to the Philippines. Is not this rather strange in the light of the assurances we have been given to the effect that peace has been established in our new possessions?

The organization of clubs for the defense and promulgation of democratic principles is a sure way of blocking the plans of the men who would make the democratic party so nearly like the republican party that it would receive the support of undemocratic interests.

A Morristown, N. J., woman has been in a trance for two weeks and physicians are unable to awaken her. If they discover a way to arouse her it is to be hoped that they will immediately take the case of Attorney General Knox in hand and try their skill on that.

A delegation of Virginia republicans went down to Washington recently and warned the president that that state would go democratic if he refused to give some patronage to the state. They will probably be able to carry out a threat of that kind easier than a promise.

It is a pity that Mr. Watterson and Mr. Cleveland should be so far apart when they are really so close together. They seem to differ about the very propositions concerning which they agree—two heads with but a single thought, even if the two hearts do not beat as one.

A thick-and-thin administration organ, referring to the Smoot case, declares that the senate is the sole judge of its own membership. This may be true, but in looking over the senate roll call one must be convinced that the senate is a very poor judge in quite a number of instances.

"Barbarous and short-sighted" is the way J. Pierpont Morgan describes the tariff law levying 60 per cent tax on art objects brought to this country, but the Louisville Times observes that "on the subject of the 60 per cent tariff on articles of necessity Mr. Morgan is singularly free from righteous indignation."

A subscriber asks how gold and silver get into circulation. Under the bimetallic system any owner of metal, either gold or silver, can take it to the mint and have it coined into legal tender money, and the money is then turned over to him. The moment he uses it, it is put into circulation, and is a part of the money of the world.

General Wood explains that the gifts he received in Cuba were merely "personal." Without in the least impugning the motives or the honesty of General Wood it may be remarked that the same explanation has been made by men who had to go to the penitentiary just the same.

Mr. Bryan's remark about the narrow escape he made from naming a child after Cleveland, has brought out the information that one democratic father who named his son after Cleveland changed it when Cleveland went over to the republican party, and now a Kentucky democrat reports that he is going to try to get his boy's name—Grover—changed and he is exceedingly thankful that he did not take any more of the name. This shows how risky it is to name a child after a public man while the man is alive.

General Simon Bolivar Buckner is taking a very pessimistic view of the democratic outlook. However, it has been quite a while since the general looked at the democratic situation through democratic spectacles.

In view of the fact that he has made the most of his money by reason of the protective tariff it illy becomes Mr. Morgan to object when asked to pay the tariff duty on those works of art. But consistency is something not often found in a protectionist.

Rhode Island's republican legislators refused to permit the appointment of a commission to investigate charges of political corruption. Does Governor Garvin think for a minute that the men who carry out the wishes of the trusts and monopolies will permit that sort of thing?

Over in Iowa they recently held court and tried Hamlet on the charge of insanity. In the course of twelve or fifteen centuries perhaps the legal department of the United States will wake up long enough to try some of the trusts on the charge of violating the law. It takes some people a long time to get started.

Times are so prosperous and money so plentiful that the banks holding government deposits are frightened lest a withdrawal of 15 per cent by the government for Panama canal payments may precipitate a panic. There may be something devious in this journey from premise to conclusion, but it's as straight as a string compared to some of the logic of the administration organs.

If the newspapers that are shouting for the reorganizers will publish on their editorial page a list of their stockholders and the names of those from whom they borrow money and who control the policy of the papers, they will cease to have any influence in the democratic party. It is only because these papers conceal the corporate interests behind them that they have any weight whatever.

Those who thought that the republican party would do something for silver in response to the requests from China and Mexico will please note that the provision for a silver commission is stricken out and the president is empowered to "co-operate through diplomatic channels with certain countries" for "the purpose set forth in the message of the president." Only this and nothing more.

According to a cablegram to the Globe-Democrat, William Crosier, editor of the Manila Daily American, was recently convicted of libel "for a malicious attack on Major General Davis because of the latter's unfavorable review of Major Glen." Crosier was sentenced to a month's imprisonment and to a fine of \$1,000. It may seem a little un-American to hear of an editor being convicted of libel because he criticises an official act, but then we must get used to un-American things if we are going to carry out the European policy of imperialism.

The press dispatches first reported that some society wrote Mrs. Roosevelt asking for a handkerchief and then returned it as "too cheap." Now it is reported that she has adopted a new rule and declines to send handkerchiefs at all. Well, she may be blamed by those who do not consider how numerous such requests are, but she will be leniently dealt with by those who will stop to calculate the number of churches and other worthy societies that hold bazaars and then remember that every public mention of such a gift increases the number of requests. To give to a society or two in a neighborhood is one thing; to give to all the societies in the United States is quite another thing.

An Ohio reader of *The Commoner* warned the editor that *The Commoner* would lose subscribers in his town if it opposed the lotteries which are being carried on by some of the newspapers under the guise of guessing contests. Upon inquiry it was found that the other subscribers in the town did not indorse the guessing contests, and the editor in pursuing his investigation found one man, not a subscriber to *The Commoner*, who regretted that he did not receive the warning, as he and two other members of his family had each paid fifteen years' subscription in advance in order to get 45 guesses in one of these contests, and not having won anything, all three are now opposed to the gambling feature involved in these contests. The guessing contest, like other lottery schemes, ought to be frowned down and run out of business.