

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Organization will prevent demoralization.

Speak quickly and organize democratic clubs.

Organize democratic clubs now and be ready for the primaries in 1904.

Mr. Hanna appears to be working his explanation department in two shifts.

Mr. Hanna's attempts to cut the guy-ropes of Tom Johnson's circus tent were dismal failures.

The Myron T. Herrick gubernatorial boom in Ohio has tumbled into the turn-table pit.

President Harrison also made some pretty good speeches, but he failed of re-election.

It appears, also, that the republican reorganizers are having some trouble over in Iowa.

It is unwise to enumerate the busted "mergers" until the supreme court has guessed.

Those Lorimered republicans in Chicago are figuring on how they can delorimerize themselves.

It is barely possible that Mr. J. J. Hill's attack of pessimism is for publication purposes only.

"Speak in a Pickwickian sense and carry a softly stuffed club for the trusts," is the real meaning.

The formation of holding companies may be stopped, but the work of consolidation will go right ahead.

A working democratic club in every voting precinct will enable loyal democrats to keep the party democratic.

"Sporadic brigandage" has a very euphonious sound, but it does not prevent the people from knowing just what it is.

The carving may be done differently, but Hill and Morgan will get the choice meat, while the people will get the neck.

It appears that Senator Allison favors reciprocity, not as a course of procedure, but merely as a campaign dodge.

The "Subscribers' Advertising Department" continues to grow. It is recognized as a business getter by all who have tried it.

As a rule the newspapers that howl loudest about "yellow journalism" are the newspapers that are "scooped" with astonishing regularity by the competitors they denounce.

Well, the girl who reads *The Commoner* has the satisfaction of knowing that, when she gets married, she does not have to hire a man to take her, as the heiresses do who marry titled foreigners.

Mr. Morgan speaks of "undigested securities" with all the emphasis of a man who does not feel the need of liberal doses of pepsin.

A great many people will not thank Dr. Funk for fixing up a scheme whereby departed creditors can still send in their little duns.

When the president arrives in Des Moines Governor Cummins will be expected to hide his "Iowa idea" in the executive mansion rain-barrel.

The president seems much more afraid that the people will hurt what he calls the good trusts than he is that the bad trusts will injure the people.

The Washington Post says: "Senator Allison agrees with the Post." If this is true the Twin Egg Balancers should tour the vaudeville circuit.

New testimony presented in the Goebel murder case is calculated to make ex-Governor Taylor snuggle up a little closer to Indiana's chief executive.

The steel trust has just published a statement of what it calls its "earnings." This language of ours affords plenty of opportunities for disguising the facts.

During the strike at Nishi-Novgorod the Russian troops killed 130 strikers. The Russian government must be dealing out "riot cartridges" at a great rate.

The latest fire in the Beaumont oil fields may be taken as an indication that Mr. Rockefeller will soon see the necessity of giving the price another boost.

Col. Myron T. Herrick is busy showing some political friends figures to prove that the mayoralty result really has no bearing on the gubernatorial situation.

In view of the kind of men who make up the average Pennsylvania legislature we cannot blame the legislators for being a little bit touchy on the cartoon question.

J. Pierpont Morgan speaks of "undigested securities," but he may be figuring on grinding them up into some new kind of breakfast food for the trust promoters.

As the farmers are putting in their crops they will have time to compare their slow processes of accumulation with the get-rich-quick plans of the great monopolies.

Mr. Rockefeller has made a proposition to donate a few thousand dollars to the University of Nebraska, and now Nebraskans are preparing to squirt cologne into their kerosene.

Owing to the acceptable state of peace and quiet in the Philippines several regiments of soldiers are aboard transports and on their journey. Home? No, to the Philippines.

The Cincinnati Enquirer seems to resent the celebration of Jefferson's birthday. It might offer a prize to the person who will guess nearest to the number of years it will require to suppress all mention of Jefferson's principles.

If Mr. Morgan still thinks that the list of tariff protected articles is too large he might secure a compromise with the people on a basis that removes steel products from the dutiable list.

The Commoner is supplying a form of constitution and membership blanks to all who contemplate forming democratic clubs for the purpose of upholding and forwarding democratic principles.

The indications are that Uncle Mark Hanna will be so busy looking after a certain legislative contest that he will have to forego the pleasure of managing and financing another national campaign.

The farmer first decides what kind of a crop he will raise, then he plants the seed and cultivates, trusting to the seasons to determine the quantity of the harvest. So with the reformer: he must decide what principles ought to be applied, then he must preach the doctrine and trust to events to vindicate his position. Only by such methods can progress be secured.

The merger decision is still disturbing Wall street. Has the high water mark of combination been reached?

Secretary Root declares that there is nothing in General Wood's record to warrant an investigation, and General Wood still has that silver service. This seems amply sufficient to both Root and Wood.

The Salt Lake City Tribune might start another guessing contest and offer a reward for the best guess (50 cents to accompany each guess) as to the number of postoffice employes who will be convicted as a result of the present investigation.

Having exhausted themselves in their wild enthusiasm over the president's merger busting exercise the administration organs are beginning to realize that the men who made the merger will go right ahead doing just what they did before the merger was knocked out.

The army officers charged with smuggling in Porto Rico are not to be prosecuted, Secretary Root having ordered proceedings stopped. This, added to the Woods incident, leads one to infer that Secretary Root is beginning to imagine that the commissioned officer can do no wrong.

The postmaster general promises a full and fair investigation of the postoffice department scandal, but before indulging in any undue rejoicing it might be well to recall that the people were promised the same thing when the Philippine situation was undergoing investigation.

Mr. Rockefeller has notified the regents of the Nebraska State University that if the people of Nebraska will raise \$33,333.33 he will raise the price of oil a cent or two a gallon and donate enough more to make it an even \$100,000. The proxy generosity business is being overworked.

People who are in doubt when to call them soldiers and when to call them constabulary should bear in mind that they are soldiers when you denounce the administration's course in the Philippines and constabulary when the administration is explaining why they are needed there.

Comparing our courses in Cuba and the Philippines the Washington Post says: "In the Philippines we have not created a new nation; we have simply bought an old one." This seems to disagree with something we have heard about the Philippines being "thrown into our laps by providence."

It is reported that Senator Allison will be invited to draft the platform for the republican state convention, which is an indication that the Iowa republican platform will be susceptible of quite a large number of interpretations unless the senatorial mind has lost its exquisite powers of balancing.

A subscriber sends in the following query: "Stephen, third earl of Richmond, died in 1102 or 1104, and was succeeded by his son Alan, fourth earl of Richmond. How many sons did Alan have and what was the date of the birth of each?" If any subscriber can furnish the desired information *The Commoner* will forward it to the one making inquiry.

The rivalry between New Jersey and Delaware, each trying to show that it is a better place than the other for the trusts to organize, is certainly a melancholy spectacle, and reminds one of the two ambitious papers that contended with each other for the honor of being the cause of a man's suicide, each paper insisting that he had read in its columns the news that led him to take his life.

Those who think that the trust evil can be entirely met by state law would do well to examine into the New Jersey laws. A New Jersey corporation has recently sent out a circular offering to pay \$25 for each corporation organized under the laws of New Jersey, and that corporation agrees to organize and maintain the corporation. It says: "It is the modern way of doing business." With its circular is enclosed a pamphlet that sets forth the advantage of the New Jersey corporation law over those of other states, asserts "the New Jersey laws are the safest to organize under," and points to the fact that nearly nine-tenths of all the corporations recently organized were organized under the laws of the state of New Jersey.