

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Is "Whale Colombia" to become our national song?

The president is determined that Crum shall have one more try at the "door of opportunity."

An interesting discussion appears on page 3, and the attention of *Commoner* readers is called thereto.

When the *Chicago Chronicle* talks about "sham democrats" it is time for the general public to laugh.

The Nebraska senatorial scandal is another argument in favor of popular election of United States senators.

Perhaps Mr. Roosevelt performed that Panama "coup" in order to attract the limelight from Mr. Hanna's Ohio victory.

In the opinion of Mr. Hanna "what the sainted McKinley said" amounts to nothing when there is no campaign on hand.

The "Lots of Five" subscription campaign is progressing at a satisfactory rate. Are you taking an active part in the campaign?

Has it come to pass that appeals to national honor and to justice are to be denounced as impertinent by congress and cabinet?

The people who wink at the buying of senatorial seats have very little grounds for complaint when senators sell their political patronage.

The territories will knock separately for admission this time. And despite its platform promises the g. o. p. will do a little "knocking" on its own account.

Emperor William has had a polypus removed from his throat. The polypus is raging in quite a large majority of this government's administrative departments.

The manager of a government department who can prove that there is no graft in his division will be eligible to a paying position with the dime museum circuit.

Are the gentlemen opposed to the promotion of General Wood quite sure that the Jai Alai business is eligible to the protection found in the statute of limitations?

The organs that had no difficulty in locating the causes of the industrial depression in 1892-96 are giving some exhibitions of ground and lofty tumbling in their efforts to locate the cause of the industrial depression of 1903.

The administration action in the Panama case is hardly square with Mr. Roosevelt's announced determination to carry out the McKinley policies. The McKinley name is good to conjure with, but the McKinley policies are obstacles that are not allowed to deter our strenuous executive.

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Senator Hoar's remarks concerning the anti-Smoot petitions are useful as showing with what small favor the average senator looks upon the rights of the people at large.

Those Ohio employes whose wages are being cut to the bone are of the opinion that Mr. Hanna's "let well enough alone" cry referred only to Mr. Hanna and his business associates.

The amount the government pays for carrying the mails and for rent of postal cars comes very near paying the entire cost of running the passenger trains which carry United States mail.

The *Philadelphia Ledger* is talking about "the passing of Perry Heath." The *Ledger* is mistaken. It is not Perry who has passed—it is merely the time embraced in the statute of limitations.

Having executed a complete somersault on the tariff question, President Roosevelt feels quite able to execute a similar acrobatic reversal on the race question if convinced that it is expedient.

Mr. Hanna is on easy street so far as his senatorial place is concerned, but he must watch those gentlemen who are inclined to seduce Mr. Herrick into taking second place on the Roosevelt ticket.

The steel trust is preparing to create a \$15,000,000 vacuum in the dinner pail. But this will not prevent its chief buglers from making the usual appeal when campaign time comes again.

Nebraska republicans love to talk about the "redemption" of Nebraska from "demo-pop rule." Recent grand jury indictments in the federal court at Omaha indicate the extent of the "redemption."

Republican sneers at the "solid south" would be in better taste if "solid New England" did not cling to its idols with a tenacity never equalled by the states south of the old Mason and Dixon line.

The *York (Neb.) Democrat* refers feelingly to "chump factories." Managers of chump factories who are looking for raw material are kindly referred to the overwhelming republican majority in Ohio.

Has the president ever thought of trying the injunction on recalcitrant republicans. Some of his warmest friends and admirers have found it very useful in dealing with obstreperous workmen.

The republican legislature that elected Senator Dietrich was pointed to by administration organs throughout the country as a "rebuke to Bryan." Now the organs have another point coming.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson cheerfully admits that there is a vast amount of grafting in his department, in which Secretary Wilson and his department differ from other secretaries and departments.

If he can postpone action long enough Senator Dietrich may seek refuge behind the statute of limitations, and if he does he will find quite a lot of congenial republican company enjoying the same harbor.

Why not make Mr. Schwab manager of the Panama canal operations? He could organize a company and inject enough water into the stock to wash out a channel before the dredges could get up steam.

The consumers of oil should make ready for another hold-up. The Standard Oil dividends this year are 1 per cent below last year's dividends, and you know Mr. Rockefeller is too poor to stand such a slump.

Emperor William having decided to enter his yacht Meteor in the international yacht race, the *Houston Post* wants to hear from some more monarchs. Messrs. Rockefeller, Morgan, Hanna and the czar of Russia should step to the front and announce their intentions.

A republican administration that hails with delight the French recognition of Panama forgets the republican administration that protested so strenuously against the French recognition of a certain section that endeavored to set up a separate republic a few years ago.

It is reported that Addicks is to retire from politics, but it would be just as well to discount the report. Mr. Addicks has a little matter of delivering a few delegates to attend to before he can gracefully retire.

The attention of the governor of Indiana is respectfully called to the fact that Governor Beckham is to hold office for another term and that he is now ready to accept ex-Governor Taylor and insure him a fair trial.

General Wood is now called upon to step to the front and tell where he got it. This growing inquisitiveness on the part of the people is becoming quite wearisome to a large contingent of administration favorites.

Having promised all kinds of reforms, the sultan of Turkey insists that he has done all that may be fairly required of him. This reminds us that Mr. Philander Kno occupies a very similar position as regards attacking the trusts.

The Durbin vice presidential boom is calculated to make cold chais play tag up and down the spine of one William S. Taylor. Anything calculated to remove Durbin from the Indiana state house is exceedingly dangerous to Mr. Taylor's well-being.

The daily newspapers print the names of the few men who occasionally "clean out the betting ring." Owing to the fact that even the daily newspapers are confined to certain limits as regards size, the names of those who are cleaned out are never printed.

Those deluded persons who point to the ousting of Congressman Roberts as a precedent for ousting Senator Smoot overlook one very vital point. Roberts was a democrat in a republican congress, and Smoot is a republican in a republican congress.

"With all its superb vitality the democratic party cannot survive constant defeat," declares the *Indianapolis News*. But the democratic party has survived constant defeat. The trouble seems to have been that the democratic party could not endure some of its latter day "victories."

A few years ago Great Britain laughed with glee at the suggestion that she might be compelled to pay damages for allowing the Alabama to put forth from her shores. This is a hint to the prominent administration leaders who laughed with glee at mention of the Panama affair.

Shall the democratic party fall under the control of men who always vote the republican ticket when they fail to make the democratic party so nearly like the republican party that an expert cannot detect any difference? That is a question that every loyal democrat should ponder over.

Having denounced and exposed fraud and corruption in the island, Editor Bird of Porto Rico is in jail for being an "anarchist" and "agitator," and a menace to the government. Editor Bird should have accepted a slice of the graft and posed as a patriot if he expected to stand in with the powers that be.

It has been quite a while since we heard any remarks on "clean men" from Theodore Roosevelt. Such remarks might tend to offend a large number of gentlemen now officially connected with the administration and depended upon to do considerable rounding up of the delegates to the next national republican convention.

Mme. Melba says she has no further use for advertising and does not care what the newspapers say about her. If the newspapers should take the fair lady at her word it wouldn't be a year ere she would add a note or two to her register by frantic efforts to attract the attention and favorable comments of the newspaper.

The anthracite mine owners have secured a court decision relieving them of abiding by the strike commission's findings or paying the judgment for back wages obtained by the miners. But had the miners refused to abide by the decision they would have been "anarchists," "traitors," "agitators" and "demagogues." As it is the coal mine owners are only administering the trust reposed in them as trustees of divine providence. It is all very clear when you once understand it.