

The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

Entered at the postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second class mail matter.

One Year	\$1.00	Three Months	25c
Six Months	50c	Single Copy	5c
In Clubs of 5 or more, per year	75c	Sample Copies Free.	
		Foreign Postage 52c Extra.	

SUBSCRIPTIONS can be sent direct to **The Commoner**. They can also be sent through newspapers which have advertised a clubbing rate, or through local agents, where such agents have been appointed. All remittances should be sent by post-office money order, express order, or by bank draft on New York or Chicago. Do not send individual checks, stamps, or money.

RENEWALS.—The date on your wrapper shows when your subscription will expire. Thus, Jan., '04, means that payment has been received to and including the last issue of January, 1904. Two weeks are required after money is received before the date on wrapper can be changed.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers requesting a change of address must give the OLD as well as the NEW address.

ADVERTISING rates furnished upon application. Address all communications to

THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Mr. Cleveland's victory maker was evidently out of commission in 1894.

Mr. Parry's union to fight unionism seems to have sustained a few punctures.

Perhaps by this time Professor Triggs has elevated his estimate of Shakespeare.

The time for holding primaries and conventions is at hand. Put none but loyal democrats on guard!

Secretary Shaw is advising the boys to stick to the farm. The trusts insist on having somebody to gouge.

A Trenton, N. J., man has not slept for ten years, say his physicians. He should move out of the mosquito belt.

The descent of the republican party is well illustrated by events in Ohio. From a Thurman to a Dick is a far cry.

The spectacle of Mr. Parry's non-union workmen organizing a strike is calculated to create considerable amusement in union labor circles.

The Japanese have thus far escaped one sad affliction. Alfred Austin has not yet attempted to manufacture any verses about them.

Wall street's pretended opposition will have entirely disappeared by the time the gentleman with the g. o. p fryingpan starts on his rounds.

It will be noticed that the papers that claim Abraham Lincoln as their patron saint devote much less space to what Lincoln said than they do to what Grover Cleveland says.

Congressman Burton is earning the gratitude of a heavily taxed people by his opposition to the overgrown naval appropriations, even if he does secure the opposition of the contractors.

It is hinted that congress will adjourn early without doing anything. This is not surprising. The present congress was elected for the purpose of letting the trusts "do" everything—and everybody.

If he undertakes to bust the trusts he will have no campaign fund, and if he does not undertake the task he will lose the support of trust victims. Mr. Roosevelt should try this on his pianola.

The New York World carries at the head of its editorial column daily the market quotation of the bullion in a silver dollar. The percentage continues to be considerably higher than the percentage of democracy in the World's political claims.

Secretary Wilson, after long and patient investigation, has discovered that the people are being robbed by the meat trust. Secretary Wilson will now proceed to study along lines that will reveal to him the astounding fact that 2 plus 2 equals 4.

It will be a brave man who attempts to read aloud to his neighbors the war reports from the Orient.

There are many indications that Mr. James H. Eckles of Illinois is taking himself entirely too seriously.

Poet Laureate Austin's war poem is very much on the "sucking dove" order, but even at that it gives war a close chase for horror.

The report that the Delaware peach crop has been frosted is an indication that Mr. "Gas" Addicks may be expected soon to warm things up.

The man who would have the democracy outbid the republicans for trust support is not a safe man to put on guard in the democratic camp.

The men who pose as democrats, but who have been supporting republican policies and candidates for eight years, should not feel offended if requested by loyal democrats to show their papers.

The making of the democratic platform of 1904 will hardly be entrusted into the hands of the men who found more in the republican platforms of 1896 and 1900 to support than they found in the democratic platforms of those years.

The Boston Herald says that Puck was the first financially successful illustrated comic paper published in the United States. A man must be very old to remember the time when Puck was comic. Or, perhaps Puck issues two editions.

In one of the counties of Illinois in which Hopkins is in control of the democratic organization the committee issued a call for a mass convention to select delegates to the state convention. When, however, the committee saw that it was not a Hopkins crowd it retired to an adjoining room and attempted to select delegates without consulting the assembled voters. Of course, the mass convention went ahead under the call and selected delegates and instructed them, but what shall be said of a committee which repudiated its own call in order to carry out the wishes of Mr. Hopkins? This is a specimen of the politics which we can expect everywhere if the reorganizers take charge of the party.

Secretary Loeb is not yet too old to learn a few things, if reports are reliable, and they seem to be. The other day Secretary Loeb called up the editor of the Washington Post and demanded the dismissal of Miss Wade, society editor of the Post. The demand was made on the ground that Miss Wade had refused to stand in a corner at a presidential reception, the command being issued by an usher under Secretary Loeb's direction. Miss Wade said she was present by invitation and would mingle with the other guests. The editor asked Loeb to explain his reason for the demand and Loeb replied over the 'phone: "Come up here and I will tell you all about it." To this the editor replied: "My office is in the Post building; if you want to see me you can come down here." Miss Wade is still employed on the Post, but she does not visit the White house. The newspaper correspondents side with Miss Wade, and declare that the president's secretary is in very small business when he tries to secure the discharge of a reporter who may happen to offend the young gentleman who designed the pretty buff and green costumes intended to display in official court circles at Washington. He has yet to learn that no self-respecting newspaper would for a moment listen to such insulting demands.

Mr. Loeb Has Much to Learn.

Now that the Panama canal treaty has been ratified the real work that confronts the country is beginning to be realized. Before the canal work proper may begin millions will have to be expended in improving the sanitary conditions of the section through which the canal will run. The canal route is through the most unhealthy part of the western hemisphere, and although the French made but a small beginning on the work thousands of lives were sacrificed to the deadly Chagres fever and the poisonous miasmas of the isthmus. Of the fifty-seven engineers, assistants and clerks taken to Panama by De Lesseps, fifty-four died within three months. A naval surgeon appointed to investigate conditions reports such a shocking condition of filth in Panama and Colon

A Sanitary Problem in Panama.

An American steel rail mill has just contracted to deliver to the Canadian Pacific railroad 40,000 tons of steel rails at \$21.25 per ton. The price to domestic railroads at the mill is \$28 per ton. A reasonable allowance for the cost of delivery at Montreal makes the price to the Canadian Pacific \$18 at the mill, or \$10 per ton less than the United States consumer has to pay on account of the tariff which protects the "steel infant." The home consumer is held up for 55 per cent more than the foreign consumer by the aid of the tariff. This is only a fair sample of the manner in which the tariff works to bulwark the trusts and rob the people.

that the surgeon general of the navy refuses to have the report made public. The refusal of the president to accept the alternative canal proposition, and his determination to force his own plan upon the government, will result in a vastly increased cost and in the sacrifice of many lives.

Merely a Question of Politics.

For some time past northern newspapers have been devoting considerable space to denunciations of what they understood to be the position of Governor Vardaman of Mississippi upon the race question. These newspapers experienced difficulty in finding words to convey their detestation of what they conceived to be Vardaman's position, and they practically accused him of being ready to condone lynching in any of its horrid forms, providing the victim had a black skin. But in this case, as in nearly all cases wherein northern newspapers undertake to discuss the race question, they were mistaken, and some of them are fair enough to admit it. Governor Vardaman recently intervened and saved from lynching a negro charged with a nameless crime, and the negro will be tried by jury. The Commoner has said, and now repeats, that what republican newspapers call the "race problem" is with them merely a question of petty politics.

Why Contempt of Court is Growing.

Those who express righteous indignation at what they term a growing contempt for the courts should busy themselves in the work of making the courts more entitled to respect. In view of many court actions and decisions the masses are not to be censured for believing that justice receives little consideration in many cases. The case of ex-Mayor Ames of Minneapolis is one in point. Ames was tried and convicted of accepting a bribe from a fund raised for the purpose of corrupting public officials. The Minnesota supreme court, however, overruled the lower court and released Ames, deciding that he did not receive the bribe from a fund, but from individuals. If there is a growing contempt for the courts, that growth will be hastened by decisions of that kind.

Congressmen by Limitation.

Congressman Lucius N. Littauer of New York has been renominated. It will be remembered that Littauer was accused of breaking the law by sharing in government contracts, but escaped through the intervention of the statute of limitations. Only a short time before Littauer was accused, the president spoke of him as "one of my dearest friends." But the convention which renominated Littauer refused to indorse Roosevelt. This may have been due to the fact that the president did not intervene to prevent investigation of that famous glove contract. But even this should not have sufficed to make the convention overlook indorsement. The president may have been aware of the fact that the statute of limitations would suffice to keep Mr. Littauer out of trouble.

Boomerang Halos For Payne.

The New York Evening Post is of the opinion that the halo the president threw at Postmaster General Payne will act as a "boomerang halo" and return to shine above his own head. There is reason for the Post's view of the matter. The president has written a letter complimenting the postmaster general for having diligently prosecuted the men charged with corruption in the postal department, but the letter sounds very much Pickwickian when one considers that it was addressed to a man who denounced the charges of corruption as "hot air" and who replied to the correspondents who asked him what he had to say about the charges, "Say that the postmaster general just laughed."

Bilking the Home Consumer.

An American steel rail mill has just contracted to deliver to the Canadian Pacific railroad 40,000 tons of steel rails at \$21.25 per ton. The price to domestic railroads at the mill is \$28 per ton. A reasonable allowance for the cost of delivery at Montreal makes the price to the Canadian Pacific \$18 at the mill, or \$10 per ton less than the United States consumer has to pay on account of the tariff which protects the "steel infant." The home consumer is held up for 55 per cent more than the foreign consumer by the aid of the tariff. This is only a fair sample of the manner in which the tariff works to bulwark the trusts and rob the people.