

# The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Mr. Wright's figures read wonderfully like a Russian report of Japanese losses.

One contribution to the g. o. p. campaign fund counteracts two federal injunctions against a trust.

Popular election of senators will make the senate a representative body instead of a political board of trust directors.

The fact that the New York Sun is supporting Roosevelt is another indication that Mr. Parker was born under a lucky star.

It may be that the president is talking as much as ever, but his voice is drowned by the rattle of the contribution basket.

Mr. Parker says the anti-trust laws are not enforced, and the administration press is whining about "a campaign of personalities."

The southern watermelon raiser is just now considerably more worried about the "black peril" than he is about perils of other colors.

It is to be hoped that Nicholas will not give the new heir a name that sounds like the cognomen of one of those bottled-up battleships.

It will be noted that the fiercest opposition to state ownership of railroads comes from those who are opposed to anything but private ownership of railroads.

The Japanese might secure earlier success by leaving a few General Slocumized life preservers where the commander of the Russian fleet could find them.

When postoffices are given out as a mark of public confidence instead of as a reward for partisan activity, there will be few repetitions of the Indianola incident.

It is announced that Chairman Cortelyou is not going to make any speeches during the present campaign. Chairman Cortelyou hopes to be kept busy signing receipts.

The man who talks about "granting self-government" when the subjects are "fit for it," is the same man who never would go into the water until he learned to swim.

The Kansas City Journal continues to talk about silver dollars "that can not be forced into circulation." Has the Journal any silver dollars on hand that it can not get rid of?

It is reported that agents of the department of commerce are in Chicago for the purpose of investigating the packers' strike. This portends a conjunction between an injunctionless injunction and a spot cash contribution.

"Gas" Addicks says his fight in Delaware will never end until he is "either dead or in the senate." Delaware should repudiate Addicks with such emphasis next time that he will realize the impossibility of getting into the senate and accept the other alternative.

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The only court injunction that the beef trust pays any attention to is the one it secures for its own use.

Editors Deer and O'Brien of Manila now realize the impropriety of running a paper called "Freedom" in Luzon.

A couple of United States warships are en route for Smyrna for the purpose of giving the sultan of Turkey a post graduate course in mnemonics.

Union labor is preparing for a great parade on September 5. Union labor should also be getting ready for a practically unanimous parade on November 8.

Those Manila editors have discovered that they can have anything the carpetbaggers want them to have, and very few things that they are entitled to.

Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan seems to have made up his own mind and the New York Sun's just about the time the Panama commissions began coming his way.

No matter how ignorant a newly appointed secretary of the navy may be about shipping, it never takes him more than a week to discover that the Dolphin is a mighty fine pleasure boat.

Will somebody please explain the difference between an elevator that carries people up and down in a building and a similar contrivance that carries people to and fro between buildings?

The Denver News says, "Montezuma county is short on candidates but long on Ben Davis apples." Political conditions must be something awful in a county that prides itself upon its Ben Davis apples.

It was real mean of the sultan to back down before Mr. Hay could send one of his grandiloquent "Pericardis-alive-or-Raisuli-dead" cablegrams. The g. o. p. end of the campaign is suffering terribly for want of a chance to pose and spout.

Prussia is about to make war upon its coal trust, and the way to a successful conclusion is very clear. By noting what this republic's present administration has done and then doing the other thing Prussia will land an easy winner.

An exchange asks the coal trust to explain why it has raised prices if it has so much coal on hand that the mines have to run on half time. The aforementioned exchange will sooner or later learn that the coal trust does not have to explain.

We wait with patience for Chairman Cortelyou to point with pride to the administration's record for economy and offer to prove it by showing that less than \$50,000 of the \$500,000 appropriated to fight the trusts has been expended.

The coal trust has so much coal on hand that it is compelled to put the miners on half time, and such a small stock on hand that it is forced to elevate the price 10 cents a ton every day or two. The coal trust evidently is not worrying about the "shackling of cunning" just at present.

The dispatches tell us of a Missourian who recently died at the age of 87 without ever having seen a locomotive. But stranger things than that happen every day. For instance, we've had attorney generals of late years who never saw the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law.

After mature consideration the Chicago Tribune has again decided to whoop it up for the g. o. p. and a high protective tariff. The only feature at all surprising in this decision is that the esteemed Tribune waited until the middle of August to announce its decision.

The Illinois educator who proposed that the text books for the schools should be made by convicts at Joliet should hasten to learn something. The idea of children studying from convict-made books is too repugnant to be considered. Besides, it takes printers to make books.

The New York Sun has decided to support Roosevelt. The Sun is a J. Pierpont Morgan organ. J. Pierpont Morgan is the financial agent of the Panama canal commission. The financial agent is already \$400,000 better off by reason of his position, and there is more in sight. Puzzle: "Why is the New York Sun supporting Roosevelt?"

Mr. Addicks, he of unsavory fame, is reported as having given vent to the following: "The issue in Delaware is not Roosevelt or no Roosevelt on Parker—it is Addicks or no Addicks." If this be true, matters are wonderfully simplified—for Delaware. The result should be so overwhelmingly against the impudent and notorious Addicks that even he, with all of his bold impudence, would not again dare to aspire to public office. The mere fact that such a man as Addicks should have any following at all is a discredit to Delaware, and as he has simplified matters so much Delaware should proceed to teach him a lesson he will never forget.

### Addicks Simplifies Matters

"Getting something for nothing" has its charms for the average man—and woman. This is annually demonstrated in New York city by what is known as a "free straw hat distribution." On a selected date all the importing and jobbing houses on Broadway throw from their windows their unsaleable stock of straw hats, and the vast crowds that gather provide entertainment enough to repay the "donors." The same motive that impels well-to-do men to stand around until hats begin sailing through the air, and then grab for one at the loss of dignity, impels men to seek the gaming table in the hope of securing big returns upon the turn of a card or the roll of the dice. The gambling mania is growing in this country, and its evil effects are noticeable in every day's issue of the newspapers, which report defalcations, embezzlements, breaches of trust and suicide.

### The Gambling Mania

It was eminently fitting that "Philippine Day" at the St. Louis exposition should have been made the occasion for a great military pageant. It is reported that 5,000 soldiers were in line in the parade. Doubtless the parade was beautiful to behold, but it must have called up sorrowful memories to thoughtful Americans who witnessed it. The 5,000 soldiers in the parade about equalled in numbers the soldiers that have been sacrificed upon the altar of imperialism; about the number that succumbed to fever and bullets and disease in the "colony." But the military showing was not sufficient to point out all of this miserable Philippine business. It did not include a division made up of widowed wives and bereaved fathers and mothers. It included no division showing the \$600,000,000 worse than squandered in attempting to engraft the un-American doctrine of colonialism upon our system of government. "Philippine Day" at the exposition was not fully taken advantage of by those who insist upon holding the islands for commercial reasons and attempt to excuse themselves upon humanitarian grounds.

### A Day Not Fittingly Observed

In giving the names of the members of the credentials committee of the St. Louis convention who joined with the minority in asking for a reversal of the Illinois convention proceedings, The Commoner inadvertently omitted the name of J. R. Corrigan of Minnesota. Mr. Corrigan was the minority candidate for chairman of the credentials committee, and he lent strong support in the minority's efforts to undo the brazen and undemocratic work of the Illinois convention. The Commoner regrets the oversight and tenders its apologies to Mr. Corrigan.

The labor unions of the country are making great preparations for Labor Day, which falls upon September 5 this year. From all quarters come the reports that the unions are determined to make this year's celebration a record breaker. It is noticed, however, that there is a tendency to abandon the parade feature of the celebration and devote the day to social features, thereby bringing the rank and file of labor into closer relations. This is based upon the claim that the parade, by taking up the greater portion of the day, and entailing great expense and work, prevents laboring men from enjoying the day in full measure. Labor Day has become one of the great holidays of the year, and The Commoner rejoices that labor has become so thoroughly organized that it can and does turn out en masse upon that occasion to show its strength and spirit. The Commoner hopes some day to chronicle another fact—that labor will vote as solidly for its own interests upon election day, as it marches upon Labor Day to show its industrial strength.

### Labor's Deserved Holiday