

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Speaking of "going concerns," there's Kuropatkin.

Vermont would be a better political barometer were it not for Arkansas.

Mr. Thomas Lawson is merely telling what the public has long suspected.

Wisconsin democrats have prepared a Peck of trouble for the republican machine.

There is no "r" in coal, but the price goes up with a bound when an "r" month comes in.

Mr. Schwab is going into the ship building business again, a new crop having been born.

Peabodyism in Colorado is the legitimate fruit of imperialism and militarism in the Philippines.

The meat trust and the coal trust continue to stagger along under the weight of their pneumatic shackles.

Secretary Loeb is writing denials in such emphatic language that he conveys the impression that it was true.

Perhaps Secretary Shaw wants us to believe he can not see any deficit because he is 3,000 miles away from Washington.

The New York campaign is not marked by any large amount of Eljhu Rooting for the republican state campaign.

Another American girl who married a penniless foreign nobleman has discovered that her husband isn't worth a cent.

No union men were allowed to march in the Labor day parade at Cripple Creek. The militia had the front of the line.

Mr. Walter Wellman seems to have made the mistake of issuing a challenge to men who were quite willing to take it up—and did.

Candidate Fairbanks declares that the anti-trust laws have been enforced, and as soon as trust managers quit laughing the trusts will reciprocate.

Doubtless the republican national committee would like to put an expurgated edition of the works of Theodore Roosevelt upon the market.

Perhaps the New York World and the Brooklyn Eagle are laboring under the delusion that the election is to be nothing more than a vindication.

The Commoner's special "educational campaign" offer should be read by every democrat who is interested in the spread of democratic principles.

The army quartermaster who turned back into the treasury the sum of \$450,000, the unexpended portion of an appropriation, has been severely reprimanded. There were a number of army contractors who could have used more than they got.

General Funston is slowly but surely being transferred to the east, where he will be in the social swim much further than he ever was in the real swim in the Philippines.

The king of Belgium wants President Roosevelt to interfere in the interests of peace. European ignorance of American conditions is something appalling.

Ex-Senator Mason says he must stand up for the "infant industries" before he stands up for "infant republics." In other words, the dollar before the flag.

It is said that Senator Fairbanks never makes a speech without referring to a cemetery. The senator is always thinking about the final outcome of his vice presidential aspirations.

With the ability to set the price of the raw material and the finished product, to say nothing of injunctionless injunctions, the meat trust is still of the opinion that it has nothing to arbitrate.

Panama is said to be seeking investment for about two-thirds of the \$10,000,000 paid to it by this country. Here is a chance for Secretary Shaw to borrow enough to make up one month's deficit.

The Lincoln (Neb.) News, republican, remarks that "Nebraska has no Governor Altgeld." Nobody realizes this more than the average Nebraskan. And few states need a Governor Altgeld more.

There is one kind of reciprocity that the republican party managers are willing to practice. The receipts for campaign contributions and the maintenance of the "tariff wall" will locate the reciprocity.

The Inter-Ocean, which complained so bitterly because Mr. Bryan made speeches during his presidential campaigns, is criticising Mr. Parker because he has seen fit to decline all invitations to make public speeches. Democratic ability to please a republican organ and the arrival of the millenium are dated for the same day.

"Americans never haul down the flag," theatrically declared Mr. Fairbanks from the speakers' stand when the flag fell over him. That sounds very pretty, but it is the average republican spell-binder claptrap. We hauled it down in Mexico, and the hauling down was the one bright spot on that unnecessary struggle. We hauled it down in Cuba, and the effect of that example was better than all the armed hosts we ever put in the field. We had it up in Canada once, but we hauled it down. The American flag should be hauled down whenever to leave it flying would mean departure from American principles. This is a fact that all of the cheap fustian of republican spellbinders can not alter.

The coal trust grows more and more arrogant with the approach of winter. It steadily advances prices without reason

The Arrogant Trusts other than its desire to squeeze more money from a long suffering public, and the legal department of the administration does not lift a hand to put a stop to the extortion. The evidence of a coal trust is not far to seek. It is open and notorious and yet the administration whose head was wont to talk about "shackling cunning" will not make even a pretense of enforcing the anti-trust law. It remains to be seen whether a people who are being robbed right and left will give a vote of confidence to the party which, if not directly profiting by the robbery, is at least responsible for its continuance.

Gunton's Magazine, in an article entitled "The Labor Vote," has this to say: "It goes without saying that laborers generally are opposed to injunctions. It was the knowledge of this fact that led Bryan to put in the democratic platform in both 1896 and 1900 a clause against 'government by injunction,' but it had no appreciable effect on the labor vote. The laborers perceived that it was put in to catch votes." Doubtless if the real facts were known laborers are now sorry that they did not realize in 1896 and 1900 that the anti-injunction plan was not inserted as a vote catcher. That plank was inserted because it was a protest against

Where The Trick Was

a giant evil that was growing rapidly. The growth of government by injunction has been sure and steady since 1896, and laborers who think with their heads instead of voting at the dictates of their stomachs are rapidly coming to realize that they made a grave mistake in not giving their support to a platform containing a protest against "government by injunction." Those who thought it was a political trick now know that they were tricked by the opponents of that plank—the men who seek to use the machinery of the law to work injustice.

China is in a most peculiar condition. She is a neutral nation, and Russia and Japan, together with neutral nations, have agreed to respect her rights. Yet China is forced to accept a peculiar situation in which the two warring nations make their war upon a large section of her territory, with the likelihood that the section will be vastly enlarged. She has neither an effective military establishment nor a government energetic enough to devise ways and means for securing recognition of her rights. Russia charges her with lack of neutrality in not protecting the Russian warship that sought refuge in Chinese waters. Japan charges that Chinese soil is being used as the base for Russian wireless communications. The Flowery Kingdom is not just now enjoying any "flowery beds of ease," but on the contrary is in the most serious condition.

China's Peculiar Case

William Weightman, who died recently in Philadelphia, made \$50,000,000 out of quinine. Before the civil war began he saw that there would be an enormous demand for quinine from the camps. He secured control of the market and never lost it.

Riches Real And Imaginary

Senator George Frisbie Hoar lies very sick. His entire property yields him an income of less than \$1,800 a year. He has been in public life more than a generation. Compared with Weightman he is little better than a pauper. And yet which of these—the multi-millionaire or the statesman—has conferred the greatest good upon the world? Which of them will be longest remembered? One of James Whitcomb Riley's quaint poems contains a great truth in the line which reads that "There ain't nothin' patheticar than bein' rich." The poorest man in the world is the man who has nothing but money.

The women of Kalamazoo, Mich., have given public officials an interesting and valuable exhibition of how properly to attend to public duties. The Civic Improvement league, made up of women, sought and obtained permission to clean Main street for a distance of six blocks during the summer season at a rate equal to that paid for such work under usual conditions. Permission was readily granted. The women adopted the Waring system, secured the co-operation of abutting property-holders and resurrected and enforced some long dead ordinances. The result has been more than gratifying. The women not only kept the streets clean, but they did it at a less average cost than heretofore paid for work that did not keep the street clean. Kalamazoo's officials admit that the women gave them a valuable lesson and they promise to profit by it. It would be well if other city officials had a similar lesson taught them.

An Instructive Experiment

The New York Sun declares that "Judge Parker stands without reserve or qualification for territorial retrenchment and a general down-hauling of the flag in both oceans." The Sun knows better, but elects to make its campaign on falsehoods. Judge Parker stands for territorial honesty without the sham of "benevolent assimilation" or the hypocrisy of "our duty to the Filipinos." He stands for the real meaning of the flag—honesty, freedom, self-government, no taxation without representation and no carpetbaggism. There is no dishonor in refusing to retain stolen goods, and no "little Americanism" in insisting that the American flag is too sacred an emblem to float over a country ruled outside of the constitution and in direct contradiction to the spirit of our free institutions. The hauling down of our flag in Cuba and Mexico reflected vastly more credit upon this great republic than can ever be reflected upon it by keeping it flying in the Philippines in violation of every principle and tradition upon which the republic is founded.