

Editorials By Commoner Readers

Mrs. H. M. Prince, Pattison, Miss.—As a reader of The Commoner and knowing the interest you take in the common people, I would be glad to see something in your paper about the shoe trust. We know you as a "trust breaker." The shoe trust is more far-reaching than any other trust because it takes in all classes, it hits more people. They make such shoddy shoes. They are responsible for more sickness than all other things combined. In our latitude, the southern states, where we have such changeable weather, freezing one day and very warm, maybe, the next, and always damp, with the shoes we can buy, we have wet feet all the time, consequently we are the greatest sufferers from pneumonia, colds, grippe and, in fact, everything that can be caused by cold, wet feet. Some might ask, "Why buy such shoes?" But how are the people to help it, when no good shoes are put on the market? A poor laboring man will give the last two or three dollars he has got, going to the banker to get the money, thereby placing him in the hands of the banking trust, for a pair of shoes for his wife, or daughter, or for himself to work in. They are gone in no time, in one or two months at most, and they did not keep the feet dry while worn. Therefore he has sickness in his family; maybe his life is lost on account of shoddy shoes. Then he suffers lost time, medicine and doctor bills, maybe death. That places him in the hands of "the coffin trust." He must bury his dead, or his family must bury him, as the case may be. They must buy a coffin. Therefore, as I see it, the shoe trust is the worst of any, for all others come in its wake. Then, another thing: the shoe trust so controls things that it has squeezed out all the little tanners in the country, who used to make a good living tanning skins one-half for the other, making good leather, and making good shoes,—shoes that would keep the feet dry for months before they ever "leaked." These men in our part of the country have been forced into the cotton field, therefore we make more cotton than we can sell at a profit, and spoiling a good tanner who made an honest shoe. It seems to me there is no trust as bad, as hard to avoid, as the shoe trust. We must have shoes. They are a necessity. We cannot get around it. Our public utilities should be forced to conduct themselves so as not to harm other people. The constitution of the country says we shall be free to enjoy the fruits of our labor and in the pursuit of happiness, but we are not free if we are forced by such a corporation or trust to buy such necessary things of such worthless quality. If they make any good quality shoes they are shipped

away to other countries. They are not put on our home market.

B. M., Oleana, Champlain, N. Y.—Like a majority of the readers of The Commoner, I have taken much interest in The Commoner's success and the principles it advocates. While I have not been able myself to do a great deal to assist its circulation, I rejoice in what has been accomplished by others and especially what was accomplished under General Weaver's plan. It proves what may be done by united action. I would like to make another suggestion if it is not out of place. It is this: Why can't one or more true democrats in each ward or voting precinct in the United States send in to The Commoner office a list of twelve or more names of voters who are not subscribers or readers of The Commoner and who they honestly believe would be interested in the principles it advocates, said list to be kept on file in The Commoner office and say one copy of The Commoner per month be sent to each name so listed. The names so listed can be divided into four sections so that only one quarter of the names in each voting precinct or ward would be getting papers in any one week. If preferable the names can be sent in by the democratic county, town or city committee. As to the expense of printing and sending out such a large number of extra copies of The Commoner I expect The Commoner management would be more than glad to meet us half way and as The Commoner is fighting the people's battles, they must do their part. Let's put, fellow democrats, our shoulders to the wheel and see if we cannot get The Commoner before the people in time to open their eyes before the next election. I think also, it would be a good plan whenever The Commoner readers are through with their papers that they mail or hand them to some one of their neighbors. If this were done by all The Commoner readers, it would do a world of good.

W. M. Hunter, Zanesville, Ohio.—It gives me new lease on life to see the sentiment of the people turning toward democracy. I have always insisted that their eyes would yet be opened, but have been repeatedly told that I was a subject fit for the insane asylum. Now, I want to give a helping hand from now until 1908 and know of no better way than to get more people to read The Commoner.

THE REFRESHMENT OF CHANGE

A charming old lady who was socially inclined, but who was kept rather closely at home by the pressure of many cares, used sometimes to exclaim, "I do just love to drink out of somebody else's teacups!"

A fitting pendant to this agreeable anecdote is another of a little girl whose supper invariably consisted of bread and butter, milk and apple sauce—a monotonous diet, of which she frequently complained.

One day she was asked out to supper at a neighbor's. At a late hour the hostess found that no apple sauce had been prepared for the little guest, so she sent one of the maids to the child's home for a supply.

The little girl, on returning to her mother, was enthusiastic about the delightful visit, and particularly about the "beautiful supper," when she had been allowed to pour milk and cream for herself from the daintiest little pitchers.

"And, oh, such good apple sauce, mamma, the best I ever tasted."—Youth's Companion.

THE OLD-FASHIONED PICNIC

It is of the essence of a regular old-fashioned picnic that the variegated feast should be spread on the turf,

and that all hands should taboo chairs and all other conveniences of civilization. Disguise it as we may, the climax of picnic enjoyment is in the "feed," and when the raid on the lunch baskets is over interest in the picnic begins to ooze away and the day is done. It is said that the rollicking primitive games which once made the picnic a red-letter occasion for youths and the old boys and girls are disappearing, and that the home-made pies and cakes are being displaced by the mysterious creations of the professional caterer. This is not picnicking. It is merely dining in the woods.

In searching into the antiquity of the picnic it is discovered that it first came into fashion in England in 1802. The word is traceable, however, far beyond this date to France and Italy. A delver in antique lore says that engravings of the Italians of the Middle Ages indicate the frequency of all fresco banquets, and we are taught that such amusements in France were called "pique-niques," and it is fair to infer that the expression is a Gallicized one from an Italian phrase of the same signification. The picnic is probably an inheritance from dateless antiquity—from Eden.—Public Ledger.

The Omaha World-Herald
ABLY EDITED. NEWSY. DEMOCRATIC.
OUR SPECIAL OFFER—
The Commoner and World Herald (Semi-weekly) BOTH \$1.25
Send Subscriptions NOW to THE COMMONER
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

JUST WHAT YOU WANT
THE PLATFORM TEXT BOOK
BRIMFUL OF POLITICAL INFORMATION BROUGHT "DOWN TO DATE."
CONTAINS:
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES
ALL NATIONAL PLATFORMS
OF ALL POLITICAL PARTIES, SINCE THEIR FORMATION, TO AND INCLUDING THOSE OF 1904.
EVERY PUBLIC SPEAKER OR WRITER NEEDS IT.
PAPER COVER, 188 PAGES, 25 CENTS, POST-PAID
ADDRESS THE COMMONER, LINCOLN, NEB.

THE NEW YORK WORLD
Thrice-a-Week Edition

THIS is a Time of Great Events.....
Changes of a stirring kind are occurring both at home and abroad. The Thrice-a-week World comes to you every other day, except Sunday, with all the news, fully and promptly told.
The Thrice-a-week World always has a serial story running. Special attention is also given to markets, and there are many other valuable features.
The Thrice-a-week World's regular subscription price is only \$1.00 per year, and this pays for 156 papers. We offer this unequalled newspaper and The Commoner together one year for \$1.25. The regular subscription price of the two papers is \$2.00.
Address all orders to THE COMMONER LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

You'll Know

when you get the grip, but you won't know how it happened—no one does. You won't care. You will be too miserable. But you will be intensely interested in how to get rid of it. How to stop those cold chills from chasing up and down the spine, the incessant pains in the limbs and back, nausea, coughing fits, sneezing, discharge from the eyes and nose, muscular pains, and that brain-racking headache. The best treatment known for this dreadful affliction is

Dr. Miles' Nervine

Dr. Miles' Nervine cures by building up the nervous system, and destroying the germs which poison the blood. If taken when first symptoms appear is almost a sure preventive. "I suffered several weeks with Grip, and nothing I took seemed to benefit me. I suffered almost death, until I tried Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine. From the first day I felt better. It relieved my misery and pain, and gave me an appetite, and in a few days I had fully recovered."—MRS. GEO. B. HALL, 149 Lee St., Jackson, Tenn. The first bottle will benefit, if not, the druggist will return your money.

THE PRIMARY PLEDGE
I promise to attend all the primaries of my party to be held between now and the next Democratic National Convention, unless unavoidably prevented, and to use my influence to secure a clear, honest and straightforward declaration of the party's position on every question upon which the voters of the party desire to speak.
Signed.....
Street Postoffice
County State..... Voting precinct or ward.....
Fill out Blank and mail to Commoner Office, Lincoln, Nebraska.