

The Commoner

ISSUED WEEKLY

WILLIAM J. BRYAN Editor and Proprietor. CHARLES W. BRYAN Publisher.
RICHARD L. METCALFE Associate Editor. Editorial Rooms and Business Office 224-230 So. 12th Street.

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The keynote of victory is organization.

Mr. Magoon is lighting on his feet with considerable eclat these days.

The republican campaign in Kansas has again reached the 1861-65 epoch.

Kansas republican officeholders are now "bleeding for the party," not for the state.

An independent in politics is not a man who is too good to take an active interest in politics.

Of course Secretary Cortelyou is very active in his support of Mr. Hughes. He owes it to him.

The Shaw retirement rumor will be discounted until the big bank presidency awaiting him is revealed.

Mr. Taft is doing nobly in his efforts to render it unnecessary for Mr. Loeb to write a disclaimer.

The Chicago packers warmly welcomed the baseball excitement in that city. It gave them a little rest.

Pennsylvania took a day off recently and dedicated a \$4,000,000 capitol building that cost \$13,000,000.

It is only by slipping dates that the republican machine manages to keep its prosperity machine from slipping.

The chief trouble with those automobile races is that the innocent bystander is usually the one who first loses interest.

The report that James J. Hill has secured a foothold in California may portend a loosening of the Southern Pacific's handhold.

Those Pennsylvania grafters point with pride to the fact that President Roosevelt's dedicatory speech contained nothing denunciatory of graft.

The Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette gives utterance to a great truth when it remarks that "a great many 'standpatters' are 'for revenue only.'"

Secretary Root says the republican party is in no danger, but a lot of republican congressional candidates are wildly wig-wagging for help.

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A big telephone merger is reported from the east. Doubtless the telephone magnates are convinced that the common people have been talking too much of late.

If you happen to live in a state having registration laws it behooves every lover of democratic principles to register at the earliest possible opportunity.

At the first intimation of trouble in Cuba the Missouri mule pricked up his ears and took notice. The Missouri mule has had a deciding hoof in most of the recent wars.

As soon as Mr. Loeb can get around to it he will give some attention to Senator Beveridge and proceed to do a little vicarious denying for the administration.

A Pittsburg minister declares that George Washington founded that city. A lot of gay millionaires are doing their best to go George one better by foundering it.

Mr. Rockefeller's declaration that he is opposed to federal supervision of trusts did not create a bit more surprise than an arbitrary advance in the price of refined oil.

Mr. Hughes has made the astonishing discovery that Mr. Hearst has actually incorporated his newspapers. As a discoverer Mr. Hughes is giving C. Columbus a close race.

Mr. Rockefeller says we are "too young a nation to begin tearing down." But not too young to remove the handicap placed upon the people by men of the Rockefeller stripe.

The unanimous declaration of republican organs and orators that Mr. Gompers' opposition will really help Mr. Cannon sounds very much like the familiar graveyard whistle.

It is reported that Pennsylvanians are surprised at a graft of nine million dollars in the building of a four million dollar state house. Did they expect it to be much larger?

Thirty thousand pounds of condemned chickens were destroyed in Chicago the other day. The government inspectors refused to let it be kept on hand until another war broke out.

Dowie has had a vision and says he was instructed to go out and raise \$1,000,000. His first move toward that end should be to get a proper tariff schedule and then "stand pat."

Developments concerning the building of Pennsylvania's new state house indicates that the Pennsylvania temple is sadly in need of a visit from some one bearing a whip of knotted cords.

Mr. Hughes is now asserting that the calamity criers are a menace to the nation. Would Mr. Hughes have us again trust things into the hands of the "valiant defenders of national honor?"

"Uncle Joe" Cannon says that wages have advanced more rapidly than the cost of living. His proof is the republican campaign textbook. He dare not attempt to prove it by the wage earners.

In the light of recent developments it would seem that the Cubans got along about as well in their efforts at running a republic as the republicans of Pennsylvania have in trying to run that state.

The republican organs are now apologizing for Mr. Hughes' failure to put Messrs. Bliss and Cortelyou on the stand. They forget that such action might have arrayed the republican machine against Mr. Hughes.

Senator Hopkins declares that annexation is the only solution of the Cuban problem. It has been quite a while since Senator Hopkins was accused of using his utmost endeavor to represent the people in the senate.

Secretary Shaw says the democrats have lost all hope of winning congress since Mr. Bryan's New York speech. Before Mr. Bryan made the New York speech of Secretary Shaw said the democrats had no hope of winning congress. The gentleman from Iowa is only a "standpatter" when the tariff is under consideration.

The czar is on his way back from the arctic regions because of the cold. He is assured of a warm season in St. Petersburg at any time of the year.

It has been gently hinted from the inner circles that the officeholders under the administration must not make the mistake of thinking that a response to the call for "dollar subscriptions" is the full extent of their responsibility.

Judge Palmer of Denver announces that he will not issue naturalization papers to any socialist, or to any one who has the slightest sympathy with socialism. Judge Palmer's political and business affiliations would not be difficult to guess.

"Is the democratic party dying?" plaintively queries the New York World in the same issue wherein it booms Grover Cleveland for senator from New Jersey. The World seems awfully anxious to furnish the affirmative answer to its query.

Secretary Shaw says the banks he lends government money to must not lend it for speculative purposes. If Secretary Shaw imagines for a moment that the banks will discontinue the practice after this notice he is a candidate for Bloomingdale.

Nebraska has 300,000,000 bushels of corn to be husked and cribbed. This notice is given to the starving thousands in the congested districts of the east. The problem of getting the needy men to the scene of action is left for the prosperity shouters to solve.

Mr. Cannon is paying no attention to the attacks of the "labor agitators," so he says. But every republican organ from Maine to California is striving to explain that the "labor agitators" should be ashamed of themselves for attacking such a benevolent and friendly old gentleman.

"Massachusetts' action on the tariff is significant," says the Globe-Democrat, referring to the republican platform of that state. Quite true. It signifies that the same old gang of tariff barons have resumed control of the g. o. p. affairs in the Old Bay State and intend to run things for their personal profit, as of yore.

There may be some who can not exactly place the Albert J. Beveridge who is now touring the country and declaiming so vigorously and with such oratorical effort that we must annex Cuba, submitting as his chief argument that it is Destiny with a big "D." In order that he may be located with exactness it is here stated that he is the same Albert J. Beveridge who was writing profound articles for the press a few years ago to prove that Russia was going to gobble up Manchuria and "Russianize" the Orient. The Cuban foresight now exhibited by Mr. Beveridge should be compared with the Russian-Manchurian hindsight of the same individual.

As this copy of The Commoner may be read by some one not familiar with the details of the primary pledge plan, it is necessary to say that according to the terms of this plan every democrat is asked to pledge himself to attend all of the primaries of his party to be held between now and the next democratic national convention, unless unavoidably prevented, and to secure a clear, honest and straight-forward declaration of the party's position on every question upon which the voters of the party desire to speak. Those desiring to be enrolled can either write to The Commoner approving the object of the organization and asking to have their names entered on the roll, or they can fill out and mail the blank pledge, which is printed on page 15.