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ISSUED WEEKLY.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

The spring hat will soon be sprung.

The Jap war scare seems to have exhausted itself thundering in the naval appropriation index.

A scientist tells us that a twenty dollar gold piece has an odor distinctly its own. So has a cent.

New York has six living ex-governors, but this interesting fact was not gleaned from the New York newspapers.

An exchange mourns the lack of a rhyme for Sweetenham. And that, too, when we are all busy in forgettin' "Ham."

The energy displayed in digging up the facts about the Brownsville affair would have excavated about one-half of the Panama canal.

"The House of Lords may fall," says an exchange. Well, it wouldn't make much of a dent in the ground if it did.

The French claim to lead the world in aeronautics. But they ought to watch some of our modern financiers "ballooning" stocks.

A scientist asserts that the germs of insanity may be found in certain grains and vegetables. Sure—corn and rye, for instance.

As long as the \$5,000 a year collectorships hold out the colored friends and brothers will be willing for the Roosevelt-Forker scrap to go on.

Henry James says that American women cannot talk. If Henry can ever find an end to one of his sentences he might listen for a bit.

Mr. Rockefeller's big donation to education came awfully near crowding a murder trial out of first place in the slug head department.

February 15 was the ninth anniversary of the sinking of the battleship Maine. Considerable history has been made during the nine years.

The czar has one advantage not possessed by American politicians. If he does not like the result of the election he merely declares it void.

A Russian general was shot as he left the theatre. A lot of us would rather be shot than to sit through some performances at the theatres.

If any of those Rockefeller stocks should be affected by legislation, would the colleges holding them prefer honest legislation to discredited stocks?

Mr. Rockefeller has given \$32,000,000 to education, but still the side of the scale containing the widow's mite continues to be lowest.

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Japan's refusal to grow excited over war talk in this country must be taken as an indication that Japan has been reading up on our Hobsons and Perkinses.

It is barely possible that Mr. Rockefeller expects his donation to result in turning out a lot of university men like the chancellor of Syracuse university.

It seems that until we have solved the problem, "What shall we do with our insurance companies?" it will not be necessary to worry about our ex-presidents.

Mr. Harriman sarcastically declares that the interstate commerce commission ought to give him a job. Isn't the commission keeping him pretty busy as it is?

Educational institutions like the one presided over by Chancellor Day will not need for funds as long as they are presided over by men like Chancellor Day.

"The river and harbor bill is reaching for the 100,000,000 mark," observes the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. This is due to the \$5,000,000 easy marks in the country.

A man was sent to jail in Washington the other day for sleeping on the treasury department steps. He wasn't a congressman interested in the river and harbor bill.

The second number of Tom Watson's Jeffersonian is a delightful magazine. It is full of the sparkle and brilliancy which characterize his speeches and writings.

Senator Dryden's physician said he was suffering from a malady that prevented him from entering the race for re-election. Was it a case of congealed extremities?

A great many republican organs observed Lincoln's birthday by printing his picture and carefully refraining from making quotations from his speeches and messages.

Oklahoma need not hesitate between the mistletoe and the alfalfa as the state flower. Just think of how many men have gotten into trouble because of the mistletoe.

The Colorado senate, which voted to send Guggenæm to the senate, has expelled a member for accepting a bribe. The bribe was offered and accepted two years ago, however.

An appalling feature of Mr. Rockefeller's recent gift to education is the volume of vociferous defense of corporations and trusts that will flow from the lips of Chancellor Day.

Mr. Harriman says the present freight trouble is all the fault of the people. Of course the people should have hustled harder and made more money to turn over to the railroads.

But could not the general public give more to educational institutions if they did not have to pay men like Carnegie and Rockefeller such huge commissions for handling the money?

Now that they have raised their own wages perhaps the members of congress will consent to increase the wages of a few other government employes who happen to be underpaid.

"Japan is ready for war and Uncle Sam is not," shrieks a hysterical exchange. Sho, now! Did you ever see Uncle Sam lose any time when it was necessary to make ready for it?

Chicago's socialist daily paper says "We must have \$6,000 before the end of next week." He is not the first one that has felt just that way about it.

The proposed congressional postal law restricts the amount of advertising a newspaper may carry. The publishers would like to be able to restrict the output of congressional windjamming.

It having been reported that President Roosevelt declared that the place for women is in the home, Secretary Loeb might just as well begin preparations to assume responsibility for the remark.

The administration opposes the idea of making a full report of military affairs in the Philippines on the ground that it would be furnishing too much information to Japan. The real reason probably is that it would be furnishing too much information to the taxpayers of the United States.

The Sioux City Journal says that few men would give \$32,000,000 to education, as Mr. Rockefeller has done. This is very true, but there are thousands of men who would dearly love to be able to do it.

An eastern man bought a railroad ticket and because he wanted to ride on top of the coach he was adjudged insane. Perhaps he was sensible enough to want to get as far away from the wheels as possible.

Congress experienced great difficulty in distributing the river and harbor appropriations. The difficulty was not in ascertaining where the money was most needed for river and harbor improvement, but in ascertaining where it would do the most political good.

It will be very generally admitted that Mr. Harriman was not egotistic when he remarked that he could run the interstate commerce commission fully as successfully as the commission has run the railroads.

President Orr of the New York Life Insurance company says that if his wishes are consulted his official connection with the company will be short. A lot of policyholders are short without being consulted.

A Detroit newspaper man has won a prize of \$250 by writing an article about Colorado. There are men in Colorado who could make more than that by writing an article on the state, provided they told what they know.

Noting the fact that the naval appropriation bill carries \$95,000,000 the Knoxville Sentinel wants to know why one new cruiser should not be named "Knoxville." Squandering money like that certainly "Knocks all."

The house judiciary committee has decided against a national child labor law. The interests that maintain an iniquitous tariff seem able also to prevent anybody disturbing their plan of employing children at starvation wages.

No, Rinaldo, the Nebraska legislature which is demanding an income tax, begging for a reduction in the tariff on lumber and denouncing the ship subsidy steal, was not elected by democrats. It claims to be a republican legislature.

The workmen who have succeeded in stopping the flow of the Colorado river into the Salton sea should be hurried to Washington and set to work on the break in the treasury that is flooding the districts represented by the "pork" congressmen.

We are not yet ready for a censorship of the press. The proceedings of a court are public property and the public can be trusted to rebuke a newspaper which in publishing them uses language which offends the moral sense of its readers.

Judge Parker has upheld President Roosevelt's right to discharge those negro troopers. Yes, Alton B. Parker. The flowers of which James A. Garfield spoke seem to be blooming very profusely over the garden wall of politics these bright days.

Electricity as a cure for disease is being used more and more every day, says an exchange. Some very bad cases of disease have been cured by electricity in New York, most of the cures being performed at a famous resort upon the Hudson river.

Women ticket sellers are to be employed on the New York Elevated road. The reason given is that they are more dexterous in handling and making change than men. The real reason is that they can be secured for about half the wages that men demand.

A newspaper declares that there would be more Rockefellers in the world if young men spent as much effort in money making as they do in love making. Perhaps, but there is something wrong about the young man who would rather make money than to make love. Besides, haven't we enough Rockefellers now?

A republican member of the Nebraska legislature deserves the medal as the most consistent standpatter. He voted against the adoption of a resolution asking congress to take the duty off of lumber and steel, saying that while he favored removing the duty on lumber he did not want the duty removed from steel. And his lumber costs him twenty times what his steel costs him every year.