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ISSUED WEEKLY.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

That little 1904 Mormon deal seems to have received its official "O. K."

One good thing about the "unwritten law" is that it is unusually free from technicalities.

Successful battles are mapped out in advance and won by thorough organization and preparation.

The last insanity expert questioned by Mr. Jerome seems to have posted up before taking the stand.

That "Brownville conspiracy of silence" went to pieces as soon as it was transferred to Washington.

Poet Laureate Austin is writing an ode on the Kingston earthquake, just as if Sweetenham were not enough.

Great interest is being manifested in the doings of congress. As soon as it is done the people will be satisfied.

It is reported that the pope has offered the red hat to Mgr. Bonnet. Isn't that a case of carrying coals to Newcastle?

The Toledo Terminal company has gone into the hands of a receiver. He will probably have to build a tank to hold it.

The sleeping sickness in Uganda is said to be produced by the bite of a fly. Heard any buzzing around Washington lately?

An airship subsidy is now proposed. We have just been compelled to pay an increase of 50 per cent for congressional hot air.

It appears from the cable reports that Emperor William took a hand in German politics long enough to jolt the socialists.

* The Japanese papers are making fun of Captain Hobson. Let the Japs beware. It is still possible to goad us into scrapping.

The Nebraska congressman who is advocating a ship subsidy may be laboring under the delusion that it applies to prairie schooners.

It seems, however, that there are no collectorships in the immediate vicinity of Oyster Bay which may be used as a rebuke to Senator Foraker.

It seems that our congressionals "watchdogs of the treasury" sleep often enough to let the "pork" congressmen slip in and come out with heavy loads.

Thirty years ago the electoral commission was dividing eight to seven, and ever since the supreme court has been dividing on about the same basis.

Secretary Taft wants \$30,000,000 to "continue Panama canal work." Gracious, haven't they yet secured sufficient amusements for the canal employes?

The presidential Japanese war scare seems to have fallen almost as flat as the wiping out of the merger or the punishment of the packing trust magnates.

A movement is on to have eggs sold by weight instead of by the dozen. Eggs now on the market in this section of the country should be sold on the hoof.

A Pittsburg astronomer reports the discovery of another sun spot. But he may have had his telescope trained on the reputation of a Pittsburg millionaire.

Senator Warren's bill to provide for an army of volunteers is not needed. The volunteers will be ready when the need comes, regardless of statute provisions.

The president had the new Santo Domingo treaty telegraphed to the senate, with a view, probably of giving the senate more time in which not to consider it.

Representative Champ Clark recently gave a dinner to the congressional "Down and Out Club." Several eligibles were not present, owing to the forgetfulness of the people.

Either the agricultural appropriation, the river and harbor appropriation or the army and navy appropriation will have to be cut. Guess which of the three will feel the knife.

"Uncle Joe" Cannon is disposing of his holdings of Nebraska real estate. Men who own Nebraska real estate are inclined to think that "Uncle Joe" is becoming childish.

The junior Mr. Rockefeller says it is easier to tell the truth than to tell a lie. The young man must be so busy making money that he has no time to exercise his imagination.

"Americans and Japanese are both proud and sensitive," declares a representative in congress. Perhaps it may truthfully be said some day that they are both proud and sensible.

Before squandering too many millions on big battleships of the Dreadnaught class, congress might well ponder for a while on what the little Monitor did to the big Merrimac.

The Washington legislature is considering two bills which aim to establish a censorship of the press. Such bills are usually introduced by gentlemen who are averse to publicity.

An Evansville, Ill., bank was recently robbed of \$3,000, and the fact was telegraphed all over the country. The news feature consisted of the fact that it was robbed by outsiders.

Chicago trades unionists are organizing a bank. This is calculated to increase the dislike for unions entertained by men who think it is their vested right to grab and maintain everything.

A Nebraska legislator opposes removing the duty from steel but favors removing the duty from lumber. He overlooks the fact that there is a lot of steal connected with the lumber tariff.

General Kuropatkin's history of the Russo-Japanese war has been suppressed by the Russian government. Is it possible that General Kuropatkin has learned the American press agent trick?

Now that Mr. Rockefeller's donation of \$32,000,000 in interest bearing securities has been made the "widow and orphan" argument against control of monopolies will be strengthened by the "deserving college" argument. Mr. Rockefeller's head may be bald, but it is extremely longitudinal.

By resort to a technicality the railroads have blocked the proposed reduction in the pay for transporting the mails. Some of these days the people will engage in a technicality busting crusade, and when it is over the railroads will be mere conveniences for the gentlemen who now own them.

Sea accidents are endeavoring to keep pace with railroad accidents.

The chief argument for the ship subsidy is that the promoters of the scheme want the money.

Gentlemen who insist that the Missouri river is no longer navigable may base their argument on the fact that the western railroads have appropriated most of the water for stock irrigation purposes.

It is hardly possible that there is truth in the report that no foundation can be found for the Gatun dam. Uncle Sam has sunk enough money down there to make a firm foundation for almost anything.

Senator Heyburn's resolution calling for an investigation of the Northern Pacific reorganization in 1906 seems to be a covert insinuation against the claim of the administration that it "busted" the merger.

The gentlemen who are making lightest of the threat of Japanese coolie invasion are the gentlemen who represent the interests that import several hundred thousand pauper laborers from Europe every year.

Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Guggenheim and many others will, of course, advocate the establishment of a press censorship such as proposed by President Roosevelt and the congressional postal commission.

Many railroads are experiencing trouble in their traffic departments by reason of floods. The people who pay the freight have been experiencing trouble on account of too much water in the railroad stocks, and the trouble has existed for many years.

Now if Mr. Jerome had gone after those insurance grafters with one-half the vigor he has displayed in digging up the unfortunate history of a misguided and badly advised young girl, the New York penitentiary might now be even more badly crowded.

Last year the people of this country consumed six and one-half billion pounds of sugar. Of this amount they produced a billion and a quarter pounds. They paid the sugar trust tribute on every ounce of the remaining five and three-quarter billion pounds.

A New York man has secured judgment for \$50,000 against the New York Central railroad for damages sustained in an accident. This sort of thing if maintained will induce the railroads to pay a little more attention to safety and not quite so much to dividends.

The assertion that the filling up of the Salton sea is responsible for an increase of rainfall in that arid region should not be taken seriously. The heavily watered stock of the railroads that traverse that country would have provoked an inundation long ago.

A railroad manager protesting against a 2-cent fare bill before the Nebraska legislature, insisted that the cost of operating his road had been greatly increased in twenty years. He failed to declare that the net earnings on the original cost of the road had shown a decrease.

Mayor Schmitz of San Francisco, who is denounced by republican organs as a demagogue, is perhaps the only mayor who was big enough to secure from a president of the United States the right to frame a treaty with a foreign power. And from the owner of the "big stick," too.

During the calendar year 1906 we exported \$7,000,000 worth of merchandise to the Philippines. The total received from the exportations would not pay 25 per cent of the yearly cost of maintaining our rule in the Philippines, and yet that is the country that was fraught with such rich possibilities for American trade.

Less than ten years ago the battleship Oregon made its world famous trip around the Horn. Today the Oregon is out of date and will be remodeled at a cost of over one million dollars. If this is an argument in favor of spending ten million dollars for a battleship of the Dreadnaught type, make the most of it.