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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Mr. Rockefeller says he is in favor of federal control. Of or by?

A man must be awfully ignorant to know less than some "expert witnesses."

The railroads continue to contribute largely to the vital statistics.

Mr. Rockefeller says the people ought to save more than they do. What's the use?

When will the railroad presidents carry out their threat of abolishing the states?

It seems that graft circles in San Francisco offered no good place for a mollycoddle.

The fall in the price of stocks never seems to affect the price of meat and potatoes.

San Francisco's "graft" exposure is shaking up the city worse than the earthquake did.

Senator Cullom says Mr. Harriman ought to be in jail. Becoming well nigh unanimous, eh?

Chicago's all night bank has been closed. The streets of Chicago are bad places to save money at night.

News dispatches indicate that Mr. Harriman would do well to prepare for a Stuyvesant Fish come-back.

Don't know what "brain storm" means? Why, just look at the comic supplement of the daily newspapers.

A few more perversions of the "unwritten law" and somebody will write it, with needed amendments.

The Porto Rican assembly has appropriated \$150,000 for a capitol building. Pennsylvanians think it a great joke.

Having emerged from the tall timber with safety, Senator Depew declares that he is in favor of forest reservations.

"Harriman has been dethroned!" exclaims a hysterical contemporary. Dethroned, nothing. He has merely been spanked.

We just knew that if those South American revolutionists kept on evolving long enough one or two of them would get hurt.

They are explaining that Chicago sub-treasury theft by saying that a clerk hid it in a fit of mental aberration and cannot now locate the spot. A penitentiary sentence might produce a brain storm that would result beneficially to Uncle Sam.

The news that a negro has won a Rhoades scholarship in Pennsylvania may be claimed by Senator Foraker as a vindication.

A republican organ in Pennsylvania must have an iron nerve to hold organized labor responsible for the "graft" in San Francisco.

United States Treasurer Treat says there is now \$1,600,000,000 of gold in this country. Funny where the possessors keep it hid.

If it is true that souls can be weighed the scale-makers will have to make some improvements before they can meet all requirements.

The report that the Sultan of Turkey is a skilled chess player may explain why it is so difficult to make him move when it is his turn.

Wall street is talking about the "storm it has just weathered." Storm? We didn't see even a cloud out in the grain and grass country.

The comet slated to hit the earth in a week or two may change its mind when it comes near enough to get a glimpse of the "big stick."

The railroads will experience difficulty in postponing the digging of the canal if they must first to hiring all the army away from the work.

The news of the imprisonment of a coal trust magnate in Omaha would be more interesting just at this time if he happened to be the ice-man.

It seems strange to men of the Harriman type that the people should be angry after learning how thoroughly they had been bilked by the railroads.

Pittsburg was almost submerged by a river flood a week or two ago. It must have made the old town feel funny to wake up with a washed face.

Wanted—The average man to inquire what benefit he derives from the trusts or from a tariff on goods which are sold abroad cheaper than at home.

Probably the railroad presidents decided not to visit the white house because they saw a green flag flying, indicating a second section of "reform" following.

The New Jersey man who laughed eight hours without stopping probably heard some republican spring that old joke about the tariff being revised by its friends.

The managers of the Sage fund for the relief of poverty announce that they will deal only with hard facts. And poverty is the hardest fact they will meet, too.

Two New York men tell a wierd story of battling for their lives against a thousand rats. They ought to have asked the Typographical Union for a few pointers.

Mr. Jerome's 15,000 word hypothetical question is about the same length as the explanation of the republican who tries to tell us why the tariff should not be revised.

Senator Cullom wants to jail Mr. Harriman. If Uncle Shelby lives long enough he may yet be able to get over on the side of the people on a few other questions.

James J. Hill says he is willing to sell his railroads, watered stocks and all, to the government. Is Mr. Hill mindful of the fact that since Uncle Sam purchased the Philippines he tests all of his gold brick offerings with acid?

Mr. Depew says there is only one man in sight for the presidency, and his name is Roosevelt. Up to date, however, the Roosevelt Third Term League headquarters in Chicago, has not used the Depew statement for advertising purposes.

The Atlanta Journal says that all it takes to organize a railroad these days is a roller top desk in a New York office and a little nerve. That's only two-thirds of the requirements, however. There must be a hydrant somewhere near at hand.

A San Diego (California) democrat complains that his city was not mentioned in Mr. Bryan's account of his Western trip. No cities were mentioned except those visited and the pleasure of revisiting San Diego had to be reserved for another time.

Chancellor Day says there is no such thing as "tainted money." Possibly the chancellor grabs it so quick that he shakes off the microbes.

Sixty congressmen have landed in the canal zone. Now is an elegant time to make them earn a portion of that 50 per cent increase in salary.

It doesn't pay to sit up nights to figure out what will be done with Mr. Rockefeller's \$32,000,000 donation—that is if you have to use a light to figure by.

Mr. Harriman, Mr. Mellen and other eminent railroad financiers are now loudly declaiming their belief in federal control. "Beware of the Greeks bearing gifts."

Having become accustomed to heading "relief expeditions" Secretary Cortelyou might safely head one in the direction of Mr. Perkins, who recently put it back.

Mr. Cleveland deprecates public attacks on railroad corporations. By the way, when was it that Mr. Cleveland deprecated railroad corporation attacks on the people?

Wall street says that "Cortelyou saved the day." Wrong. The people saved the day—Mr. Cortelyou merely handed their money over without asking them about it.

A London murderer was tried, convicted and sentenced in less than nine hours. The defense was insanity, too. Seldom hear of a lynching in Great Britain, do you?

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat is always fighting for a free bridge. Will the Globe-Democrat kindly tell us why a toll bridge at St. Louis does not protect and foster St. Louis industries?

Senator Spooner resigned his seat in the senate because he could not afford to retain it. This is a refreshing change from the sight of men who retain their seats in the senate because they cannot afford to relinquish them.

Down in New York they have furnished a python with false teeth. By the time the people have finished with the Wall street wolves they'll have to ask for the same thing.

Now comes the rumor that President Roosevelt has picked Cortelyou as his successor. It will be admitted that Cortelyou could give his campaign manager some valuable pointers on how to make the fryingpan produce the most satisfactory results.

State Treasurer Berry of Pennsylvania made the first charges of "graft" in connection with the state's new capitol building. People who criticized him for being so extravagant in his charges are now wondering how he could have been so conservative.

The Nebraska railroads are going to punish the ministers by withdrawing their half-fare permits for allowing the people to reduce railroad fare to 2 cents. Well, the members of the congregation can afford to make up the loss, and then, perhaps, a few good strong sermons against the grand larceny practiced through watered stock would be forthcoming.

Noting the fact that Mr. Harriman offers to sit all day by the president and give him advice, the Washington Post says it would like to have an oil painting of Theodore Roosevelt taking some of Mr. Harriman's advice. And we would like to have an oil painting of Mr. Harriman after he had spent a day sitting by the president.

Some Chicago crooks steered a man up against an electrical machine. When he grabbed the handles he couldn't let go and the crooks robbed him. But that is not a new scheme. The beneficiaries of the tariff tax regularly steer a lot of people up against the tariff schedules, and when the people cannot let go the beneficiaries go through their pockets with neatness and dispatch.

How much have the railroads saved in rebates since the anti-rebate law passed? And how much have they saved since the anti-pass law was enacted? And when are they going to give the public the benefit of these increases in railroad earnings? If the rate law is going to help the railroads only its net benefits are small. Nebraska will get a part of her share by the two-cent rate, but she did not get it from congress.