The Commoner.

any business which is unlawful for a domestic corporation. Foreign corporations are not permitted, without the consent of the other party, to remove a case to the federal court, and no corporation is permitted to sell in one community at a lower price than it sells in another community, due allowance being made for transportation.

The legislature is given full power in regard to the levying and collecting of taxes of all kinds including graduated income taxes, inheritance taxes, succession taxes, etc.

Municipal franchises are limited to twentyfive years, and no municipal franchise can be granted, extended or renewed without a majority vote of the people.

No alien or person not a citizen of the United States except bona fide residents of Oklahoma shall acquire title to or own land in that state, and no corporation shall be licensed for the purpose of buying, acquiring or trading any farm property.

Children under fifteen shall not be employed in any occupation injurious to health or morals or especially hazardous. Boys under sixteen and women and girls shall not be employed underground in the operation of mines. Except in cases of emergency eight hours shall constitute a day's work underground in all of the mines of the state. All limit as to amount that may be recovered in cases of personal injury is removed. Contributory negligence is made a matter of fact for the jury to decide, and no contract is valid which waives the benefits of the constitution.

The constitution can be amended by the submission of an amendment to the legislature or by the proposal of an amendment under the initiative and referendum.

The above are a few of the provisions of the constitution. It is a very long document and contains much of detail, but the spirit of the constitution is admirable, and unusual care has been taken in the framing of its provisions. There can be little doubt of its adoption by the people, and the voters will be lacking in appreciation of the great service rendered them by the delegates to the constitutional convention if they do not give to the democratic party an opportunity to put the constitution into operation under the most favorable circumstances. The democrats won a signal victory last fall in spite of the unfair districting of the two territories, and they have rewarded the confidence of the people by preparing a constitution of unusual merit. Oklahoma enters statehood with bright prospects, and she is fortunate in having her organic law prepared and submitted by men who believe in popular government and who are not afraid to trust the

nition throughout the union of the conscientiousness, of fidelity to conviction, that characterized the soldiers that fought on both sides. During the war and just afterwards it was difficult for either side to recognize the principles that actuated the other side. There was a lack of charity both north and south in dealing with the subjects connected with the war. Now that they are able to view the subject from a distance, the people recognize that the generation of forty years ago settled a question left as a legacy from earlier days and removed the one root of bitterness which defied a peaceful settlement.

The union is stronger, not weaker, for the passage at arms. The sacrifices endured by men and women on both sides are a sad but sacred heritage, and the devotion of the people of the south is not to be questioned because they defend the purity of their motives and quote authority in support of the position which they took on the subject of secession. The nation has no more loyal defenders than are to be found in the south, as the Spanish war showed, and the monuments reared to the confederate dead, while proving the warmth of southern affection and the lasting loyalty of southern love, are no menace to the nation's peace and prosperity. The greatest element in the victory of the north is that it has converted opponents into friends, and each side can find a pride in rejoicing in the worthiness of the foe which it met upon the battlefield.

0000

JOHN T. MORGAN

The death of Senator John T. Morgan, of Alabama, removes from public life one of the most illustrious statesmen of our time. As a conscientious student of public affairs, as a faithful exponent of the interests of the people as he understood those interests, he had no superior, and few compared with him in extent of information or in facility of expression. He was an incorruptible man though he served with some senators who were but the hired servants of predatory wealth. His standing was such that no one dared to approach him with a mercenary argument. He has taken part in the discussion of every important question which has come before the senate since he entered public life, and his name is more closely connected with the Nicaragua canal project than with anything else. For many years he worked indefatigably to secure a canal across the isthmus by the Nicaragua route, and while at the last moment the Panama route was selected, it is safe to say that but for his indefatigable work, we would not have made the progress that we have return to the senate in order to have harmony. Is harmony within the party more important than reform? Does the president approve of such a concession? Those who were present at the Gridiron banquet say that the passage at arms between the president and Senator Foraker developed intense earnestness, not to say anger, on the part of both. Is it all a part of the play, and are we to see these differences smoothed over and the supposed antagonişts helping each other to public position?

This may be satisfactory to the politicians. but it will not be satisfactory to those in whom the president has developed a real reform spirit. or more accurately speaking, who, under the influence of the president's language, have revealed the reform spirit within them. The Taft-Foraker fight is descending to the plane of a comedy, but there are millions of republicans who are looking at the matter more seriously and who are not willing to abandon reforms in order to preserve party harmony. Predatory wealth never worries about party harmony. It leaves that worrying to the timid reformer. Predatory wealth makes no concessions or compromises. Compromises and concessions are left to such reformers as prefer a barren political victory to a real triumph of ideas. "Taft quits fighting Foraker"-it is a short sentence but of tremendous import. It measures the difference between reform urged for the sake of reform and reform that is secondary to political expediency.

0000

QUITE TRUE

The valued Commoner says the people are "tiring of the advice and counsel of corporation lawyers." Why not discriminate? The biggest legal fee ever earned by Abraham Lincoln was from a railway corporation; and there are plenty of other worthy lawyers who take corporation business.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Quite true. But there is as much difference between the corporations of today and of Lincoln's time as there is between some of the corporation lawyers of today and Abraham Lincoln.

And while no one objects to a corporation lawyer serving his clients as a lawyer, there is serious and well founded objection to those same lawyers serving their clients while disguised as representatives of the people. It is not recorded of Abraham Lincoln that he took fees from corporations while acting as special counsel for the people.

0000

people.

0000

WHAT IS IT?

The New York World has criticized those who favor government ownership of the railroads.

While railway regulation legislation was pending in the senate the World had no word of encouragement for the efforts of those who were trying to obtain justice for the people through that plan.

But the World commends Governor Hughes for the veto of the two cent rate bill.

For its standing question "what is a democrat," Mr. Pulitzer's great newspaper might, for a time, substitute the question, "What is the New York World?"

0000

"BEFORE RICHMOND"

The recent confederate reunion held at Richmond finds its climax in the unveiling of a magnificent monument to Jefferson Davis, the first president of the Confederacy. There was a large assembly of the veterans drawn to Richmond in part by its intimate connection with the Civil war-more than a thousand battles having been fought within the limits of Virginia-and partly by the fact that statues were to be unveiled to General Stewart and Mr. Davis. The unveiling of the Davis monument was preceded by a parade in which the governor of the state, the prominent confederate officers and survivors of the war participated. Speeches were delivered by Governor Swanson of Virginia, Ex-Governor Evans of Georgia, Senator Carmack of Tennessee, and representatives of the Daughters of the Confederacy and representatives of other bodies which had participated in the building of the monument. The speeches breathed loyalty to fallen comrades, to the ideas for which they fought and to the union, of which all sections are now a part.

It is an interesting evidence of the passing of the prejudices of war that there is now recogtoward connecting the two oceans.

His voice will no longer be heard in the counsels of the nation, but he has stamped his influence upon his generation, and the influences of his life have been potent for good. Peace to his ashes.

0000

"TAFT QUITS FIGHTING FORAKER"

The above is the headline from a dispatch which comes from Cincinnati, O., to the effect that the ultimatum of the Foraker-Dick senatorial combine has been accepted. The dispatch says that Secretary Malloy, of the republican state committee, visited the Taft mansion and there had a consultation with Charles P. Taft, the brother of the secretary, Congressman Longworth, son-in-law of the president, and George Cox, the republican boss of Cincinnati. The dispatch says that the consultation lasted until midnight and that "Charles P. Taft, as the representative of his brother, signified his willingness to 'let bygones be bygones' and to acquiesce in the indorsement of Senator Foraker for a third term. The futility of the war that has been waged was made apparent by Malloy, and the desire of Secretary Taft expressed at Columbus was ratified by the practical concession that Foraker should be returned to the senate."

Is this the end of Secretary Taft's fight against Senator Foraker and the corrupt policies for which he stands? If the secretary is willing to assist Mr. Foraker to return to the senate in return for Ohio's endorsement for the presidency, what concession will he not make to plutocracy to win the presidency? If his reforms "are so soon done for, what were they begun for?" Senator Foraker represents the ultra corporate influence in the republican party. He was the one republican who opposed the rate bill even after the president had made a humiliating concession to the Aldrich crowd. . He is the one senator who has conspicuously fought the president and the president's reforms. He is regarded as the leader of the anti-administration forces, and yet, if the press dispatches are to be believed, Secretary Taft is to concede his

THAT TARIFF COMMISSION

Every once in a while we hear that a tariff commission is going to be appointed. Let no one be deceived. A tariff commisison is only a part of the effort to prevent a revision of the tariff. Whenever the people get ready to act, they are sagely informed that the subject is so intricate that it must be submitted to a commission of experts. The first advantage of this policy is that it secures delay. Instead of having tariff reform at once, we have the promise that it may be reformed after awhile. The commission is usually made up of persons who are friends of the tariff and who object to revision. They take evidence, and the taking of evidence occupies time. This enables the protected interest to continue the collection of taxes for an indefinite period. Of course the commission must take time for deliberation after the evidence is all in, and then it must take more time for the preparation of its report, and if the report can be delayed until congress adjourns, further time must lapse before the matter can be taken up in congress. Then the recommendation of the commission can be used as an argument against any further reduction than the commission recommends, and the representatives of protected industry can ignore any recommendations made. It does not help either to have the commission made up of both sides of the question, for the majority will be on the side of the high tariff, and it is likely to prolong the investigation to have both sides taking testimony. When the question finally comes before congress, each representative and senator will act upon his own judgment-or by the mouthpiece of the manufacturers of his district without regard to the recommendations of the commission-and a tariff commission means a delay of from two to four years in the consideration of the question without any advantage whatever in the final settlement, and all this time the manufacturers have the benefit of the schedules against which the people complain. No wonder the tariff commission idea is brought forward every time the people threaten an attack on the tariff wall.