

national paper does not have to devote any space to local questions, but each issue of the country weekly ought to contain a discussion, however brief, of the more important questions before the country.

The country weekly ought also to have a Washington letter—not a letter sent out by some unknown correspondent, who, being paid to advance some secret interest, furnishes his stuff for nothing, but a letter by someone who is known as a democrat and who sends out reliable news.

The weekly newspaper ought to discuss candidates and platforms so that the voters can act intelligently when the time comes for selection.

The Commoner will be glad to exchange with any and every democratic weekly in the country, for it is interested in keeping in touch with the papers that mold public opinion. If your county has no democratic weekly, organize one and get it to work; if your county has a democratic weekly, support it and strengthen it and increase its usefulness.



THE WISE AGE

A reader of The Commoner sends in the following:

"At ten years of age a boy thinks his father knows a great deal,
 "At fifteen he knows as much as his father;
 "At twenty he knows twice as much;
 "At thirty he is willing to take his advice;
 "At forty he begins to think his father knew something after all;

"At fifty he begins to seek his advice;
 "And at sixty, after his father is dead, he thinks he was the smartest man that ever lived."

The above correctly states the stages through which one passes. At about eighteen or twenty the boy feels stronger than he ever does afterwards and thinks he knows more than he ever does know, but he learns after awhile to respect the wisdom of his father, especially when he becomes a father. There is an education in all of the experiences of life. The parent educates the child and the child in turn enlarges the vision of the parent. Brothers and sisters exert an influence upon each other, and another part of our knowledge is gathered from rubbing up against the world.

If the child could only learn in youth that years have given valuable experience to the parent, the child might be saved much costly folly, but some children insist upon learning by experience, and they generally get the experience.

There is a common saying that the young man has to sow his wild oats. This is a complacent excuse given for youthful indiscretions, but it does not state the truth. It is not necessary that a boy should be bad in order to be good afterwards. It is from every standpoint better that his life shall be so regulated from the beginning that the memory is not stained by scars and blots. If the confidence which the boy has in his father at ten continued until he was twenty-five, he would not only escape the habits that carry so many to ruin but would be the stronger for life's work.



PARTIALITY TO WALL STREET

Ask your national banker what he thinks of the partiality which the treasury department has shown to Wall Street. The government has loaned the national banks more than two hundred and thirty millions of dollars without interest, and nearly all of this sum has been loaned to the national banks of New York City. Why this discrimination against the rest of the country? Why is it that money collected from the whole country should thus be turned over to one section of the country? And why is it that preference should be given to that section which by its gambling and stock-jobbing shows itself indifferent to the welfare of the rest of the country? Can your country banker explain why the treasury department is thus administered in the interest of high finance? Why does not the country banker register a protest? Why does he not write to his congressman and call attention to it?

And then, too, why are a few of the national banks picked out for depositories and the others ignored? Where the security is fixed, why is the money not loaned to all who can furnish the proper security? Why this favoritism not only in regard to sections but in regard to the banks of each section? The banks are willing to pay, two, three or four per cent on certificates of deposit. If government money is

THE "DUMPING" ARGUMENT

We are continually told that but for the tariff our country would be made a dumping ground for the surplus products of the old world. It is argued that manufacturers in all countries sell abroad cheaper than at home, using the foreign market as a means of disposing of their surplus. This argument can only apply to cases where there is no permanent foreign trade. If a manufacturer in this country is selling in Europe regularly, he is just as much opposed to dumping his surplus there at a lower price as he is to selling his surplus in this country below the market price, for such a dumping would interfere with his regular trade there as much as here, but it would not take anything like the tariff we now have to prevent this country from any possible dumping. Secretary Shaw, who is one of the most rabid of the standpatters, esti-

mates at from five to twenty-five per cent the discount which the foreign manufacturers give on exports to this country. This discount of course is only given in extraordinary cases and therefore can not be taken as a rule but even if it were given in all cases, a twenty-five per cent duty would overcome the effects of it, and our tariff is twice that on an average.

Senator Beveridge in a recent article in the Reader Magazine gives the list printed below.

The Commoner does not attempt to vouch for the correctness of this list, not knowing from what statistics it was compiled, but taking this list it will be seen that we do not need anything like the tariff which we now have to prevent dumping. The advocates of a high tariff will have to find some more substantial arguments if they expect to withstand the tide that is rising in favor of tariff reform.

Country	Rails		Billets		Structural, Including Shapes, Plates, Bars, Angles and Tees	
	Home Price	Export Price	Home Price	Export Price	Home Price	Export Price
Great Britain	\$31.50	\$25.00	\$24.00	\$.60	\$1.30
Canada	33.00	31.00
Germany	50.00	24.00	27.00	\$29.00	1.50	1.25
France	31.00	25.50	27.00	29.50	1.65	1.35
Austria-Hungary	31.00	25.50	27.00	22.00	1.50	1.35
Belgium	30.00	24.00	27.00	19.50	1.55	1.35 to 1.40
United States	28.00	25.00 to 25.00	24.00 to 27.00	21.00	1.60 to 1.70	1.40 to 1.50

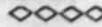
given them for nothing, why is it given to some and denied to others?

And why is the enforcement of the law strict in regard to country banks and lax in regard to some of the big city banks? The evidence shows that the Walsh bank in Chicago was in a bad condition for a long while, and yet, it was allowed to run along and Walsh continued to make a personal use of the money entrusted to his care. Why not have laws made which will make banking safe and then enforce the laws with equal strictness against all? Let the readers of The Commoner bring the matter to the attention of their bankers and see what explanation the bankers can give of the favoritism that has been shown.



MR SHAW SEES TROUBLE AHEAD

Former Secretary of the Treasury Shaw does not take a roseate view of the situation so far as concerns republican prospects. In a Des Moines, Ia., dispatch to the Omaha World-Herald Mr. Shaw, referring to the campaign of 1908, says: "There will be twelve most eventful and historic years of republican administration to be defended against every conceivable attack and misrepresentation. * * * We are not likely to have a walkover in 1908, and location will have slight influence on the ultimate result. The victory will be a party victory, or it will not be worth winning, though the personality of the standard bearer may make success possible and it may make success impossible. Location will cut no figure whatsoever, unless home opposition and factionalism shall render unavailable some man otherwise unobjectionable."



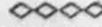
NOT ORIGINAL

It is significant that Judge Gould in rendering his decision against the American Federation of Labor, cited the restraining orders issued by Judge Taft some years ago. This is not calculated to enhance the Taft presidential boom.



POPULAR GOVERNMENT

It is a mistake to confuse "states rights" with the doctrine of secession. The right of a state to control and regulate corporations doing business within the state has no connection whatever with the doctrine that a state has a right to secede.



WILLIAMSBURG

Dr. Lyon G. Tyler, president of the College of William and Mary, of Williamsburg, Va., has published through Whittit & Shepardson, Richmond, Va., a very complete history of Williamsburg, the old colonial capital of Virginia. (The book can be secured from Mr. Tyler.) Mr. Tyler is a descendant of President Tyler, who was at one time president of William and Mary College, and being himself at the head of the institution now, he is in position to do justice

to the subject which he has taken in hand. Williamsburg is one of the most interesting of the early settlements. The college founded there was the first educational institution of the kind in the United States, and Bruton church, which was the religious home of a number of presidents, is one of the oldest of American churches.

Dr. Tyler's book contains pictures of the early statesmen who were connected with the city and the college and gives an interesting narrative of the principal historical events connected with the place. The book will prove a valuable addition to the nation's historical literature.



EDUCATORS

Readers of The Commoner, do you believe that this paper is useful as an educator? If so, bring it to the attention of your neighbors. If your pastor does not take The Commoner, subscribe for it for him. It endeavors to present the moral issue in politics, and the ministers are beginning to understand that political questions are really ethical ones and that there is a question of justice or injustice involved in every great issue.

The newspaper is the cheapest literature that there is, and an argument presented in a newspaper is much more effective than the argument presented in a pamphlet because the people read the newspapers while pamphlets are often thrown away. The weekly newspaper, reaching those who have time to read it deliberately, furnishes not only the cheapest but the best literature circulated. There ought to be a democratic weekly in every county.



DUBOIS AT THE HELM

The Scimitar, published at Boise, Idaho, is a weekly paper of the democratic faith that promises to become a strong factor in the politics of the great northwest. Editor Fred T. DuBois is the editor, a fact which guarantees its strength as a defender of the people's interests, and its ability to adequately set forth to the world the resources of Idaho and surrounding territory. The typographical excellence of the Scimitar is equal to its editorial excellence, and therefore the Scimitar is as pleasing to the eye as it is interesting to the seeker after knowledge. The Scimitar deserves and doubtless will secure a large circulation, and will wield a great influence for good in the Northwest Country.



NO STRADDLER

Yes, Senator Foraker is in the race and although he is "a standpatter from away back," he has at least one merit—he lets the people know where he stands. He does not straddle questions, or postpone, after the Taft position. Foraker is a fighter who fights.