

# The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

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The London Times denies that it has been sold. How about those Piggott letters?

It seems that the effort is not to "doctor up the currency" but to bolster up the speculators.

Now is the time to perfect the party organization. Battles, both of peace and war, are won by thorough preparation.

The "full dinner pail" argument of 1896 would sound pretty empty to the army of the unemployed in the big cities.

Police clubs for the unemployed who meet to demand work. Treasury funds for the bankers and speculators who meet and implore help.

Scientists declare that a toad can live 1,000 years in a state of suspended animation. Tariff revision by its friends is the only thing in the toad's class.

A whole lot of people who claim to be patriotic are hoping that Oklahoma's endeavor to provide a model state government will end in dismal failure.

The mikado's recent speech from the throne occupied about eight minutes in its delivery. But the mikado did not quote eight or ten galleys of speech from the one of the year before.

Secretary of War Taft believes that the question of increased pay for the regular army should be left to the president. He also believes that the presidential succession should be left to the same authority.

Mob law in Indiana, mob law in Utah, mob law in Kentucky—and thus we give the Filipinos object lessons in the art of self-government. The Filipinos will have to get busy if they keep up with the procession.

The New York World has made the startling discovery that tariff revision should be an important issue in the coming campaign. The World employs a number of bright young men to make such important discoveries.

The army of a million continues to grow through the enlistment of earnest men who are willing to make sacrifices of time and energy in order to bring about a triumph of democratic principles.

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### CHAMP CLARK STIRS THE HOUSE

Under date of Washington, January 21, a correspondent for the New York World says:

"Champ Clark stirred up the house today with the first real Champ Clark speech of the session. Sereno Payne, the republican scold, had roused the Missourian by lecturing the democrats for daring to think they had a right to propose any amendments to the penal code. As John Sharp Williams is absent in Mississippi, getting elected to the senate, Clark was acting floor leader.

"He began by saying that Mr. Payne's insinuation that Missouri members were doing their best to get into the Record because they feared their state would go into the republican column for keeps, was sheer nonsense. He said 75,000 democrats in that state stayed away from the polls in 1904 because they didn't like the wording of a certain telegram sent from Esopus to the St. Louis convention. Then he exclaimed.

"The situation is, Mr. Chairman, that on the 8th day of July we intend to nominate William J. Bryan for president of the United States. And with Bryan as the presidential candidate Missouri is safe for 60,000 democratic majority."

"The democrats applauded, shrieked and pounded their desks, and later the republicans in derision joined in the demonstration, which lasted some minutes.

"I have stated who our nominee is," Mr. Clark continued; "I will bet my head there are not ten men on the republican side who will dare to stand up here and say who they are for president."

"Mr. Boutell, of Illinois: 'I can tell the gentleman from Missouri who the gentleman from Illinois is for. You may nominate Bryan in July, but we will elect Cannon in November.'"

"Are you dead certain," asked Clark, "that the administration forces would be for your Uncle Joe?"

"Every republican in the United States will be for him," replied Boutell.

"Oa, don't you believe any such stuff as that. Were you at that gridiron dinner when Foraker and Roosevelt had that fuss?"

"That was simply one of those little ebullitions that will be entirely forgotten by November, and every republican in the country will vote for the republican nominee who is named in June."

"So you believe that men who were in the frame of mind that Roosevelt and Foraker were that night would ever support each other for president of the United States?"

"Certainly."

"They never will while the world stands."

"They will do it with pleasure."

"I have heard of that kind of pleasure before now," continued Mr. Clark. "It does not hurt the congress of the United States and it does not hurt the people of the United States to have a little politics talked sometimes, even here. There is not a man in this house who is not a politician. Thomas B. Reed, that masterful and brilliant man, said that the difference between a politician and a statesman was that a statesman is a politician who is dead; and while the talk goes on about the decadence of the house, there are some of us here now—I do not know who we are—that are rated as politicians now who will be rated as statesmen by the men of the succeeding generations."

### PARAGRAPHIC PUNCHES

And still it is pertinent to inquire who killed Gov. Goebel, of Kentucky.—Boston Herald.

There also seems to be a tendency in Washington to establish federal control of presidential booms.—Indianapolis News.

Now Japan has a financial panic. The march of the up-to-date civilization is going steadily on.—Baltimore American.

Mr. Cortelyou is the target of a good many of the men who want to throw things at the Roosevelt administration.—Baltimore Sun.

The rumor that Cortelyou will withdraw from the cabinet is probably based on somebody's conviction that he can be of more service to Mr. Morgan in some other job.—Philadelphia North American.

In case of war with Japan, our imperialistic friends in New England will quickly discover that the Philippines are not at all an asset of the United States government but a cumbersome

liability. They are at once both a provocation and a vulnerability in our foreign relations.—Oklahoma City Oklahoman.

And now comes another authority who declares there are no canals on Mars. Has the dry wave struck that planet also?—Louisville Times.

Nevertheless, the country can ill afford to spare Secretary Loeb. He is needed to shoulder some of the presidential mistakes.—Boston Herald.

Circumstances seem determined to bull the price of Panama canal bonds to the point where no small capitalist can build one.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

The Boston Herald picks this gem from out Secretary Taft's recent speech: "If President Roosevelt says a thing, it is so; but if he doesn't, it isn't." No disloyalty there; perfect discipline.—Washington Herald.

The Cannon and Aldrich branches of congress are now working in perfect harmony on the theory that the way to proceed cautiously is to keep on doing nothing until there is nothing left to do.—St. Louis Republic.

The New York World is willing, nay, anxious, to pick out the democratic nominee and conduct the campaign. The World had the lion's share in doing this last time, and—think how the donkey suffered.—Washington Herald.

Naturally enough, the Oklahoma republican committee has declared in favor of Mr. Taft, the party leaders in the state being mostly Rough Riders and other friends of Mr. Roosevelt who put them in front in the territorial government.—Buffalo Courier.

### SENSITIVE

In his Cooper Union speech Senator Davis of Arkansas said something about newspapers that habitually rushed to the support of special interests and the New York World was the first paper to enter a protest. Is it not strange that the World is so ready to squirm whenever an indictment is made against the "plutocratic press?"



### A GOOD START

In its report of the annual banquet given by the Rockefeller Sunday school class the New York Sun of December 10, 1907, says: "Young Mr. Rockefeller started a boom for Hughes for president and expressed the hope that as the class of which the governor was once the leader had helped to make him governor it would help to put him in the White House."

The Hughes boom certainly starts off well.

### "GOOD-BY, GOD BLESS YOU"

I like the Anglo-Saxon speech  
With its direct revealings;  
It takes a hold and seems to reach  
Way down into your feelings;  
That some folks deem it rude, I know,  
And therefore they abuse it,  
But I have never found it so—  
Before all else I choose it.  
I don't object that men should air  
The Gallic they have paid for.  
With "au revoir," "adieu ma chere,"  
For that's what French was made for,  
But when a crony takes your hand  
At parting to address you,  
He drops all foreign lingo and  
He says, "Goodby, God bless you!"

I love the words, perhaps, because  
When I was leaving mother  
Standing at last in solemn pause  
We looked at one another;  
And I—I saw in mother's eyes  
The love she could not tell me—  
A love eternal as the skies,  
Whatever fate befell me.  
She put her arms about my neck  
And soothed the pain of leaving,  
And though her heart was like to break,  
She spoke no word of grieving;  
She let no tear bedim her eyes  
For fear she might distress me,  
But, kissing me, she said goodbye  
And asked our God to bless me.

—Eugene Field.