

The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

The dinner pail is empty—but the tax is on the tin.

And just as soon as Nick Longworth quit reciting "Casey at the Bat" he struck out.

Having adopted the camel as their party emblem the prohibitionists expect to get a hump on themselves.

As long as people laughed, Nick Longworth admitted it; when his republican friends began swearing about it he denied it.

"I speak for myself, as well as for Little Willie," said Mr. Sherman at Chicago. But why doesn't "Willie" do a little more speaking for himself, James?

The Knoxville Sentinel avers that the czar of Russia's pet yacht is named the "Standard." Over in this country the favorite life boat of some senators bears the same name.

It seems that the cabinet officers are not given much opportunity to make campaign speeches. They must be on hand for consultation before the president can issue campaign letters.

If all the men guilty of trust connections are retired from active participation in the management of the g. o. p. campaign, the rooms of the republican national committee would resemble an air dome resort in January.

MR. BRYAN AND PENSIONS

Fairview, Lincoln, Neb., October 5.—In an interview given out late today by William J. Bryan he denies, as has been alleged, that he ever made a speech or wrote an editorial against the granting of pensions to soldiers. On the contrary, he declares that all of his platforms have indorsed pensions and that he favors a liberal pension policy. He said:

"My attention has been called to a clipping from a republican paper, which purports to be an extract from a speech on the subject of pensions, delivered by me in congress, and the date of the speech is fixed at November 18, 1892. In the purported speech, I am accused of criticizing the appropriations for pensions, and am charged with using language unfriendly to the pensioner. I desire to say that I never used the language attributed to me, either in congress or anywhere else. I never made a speech against pensions in congress or anywhere else. On the contrary, my record shows that I favored liberal

pensions to the surviving soldiers and to their dependents.

"Congress was not in session on November 18, 1892, as anyone can ascertain by examining the records. The first session of congress adjourned in the summer of 1892, and the second session did not assemble until December of that year.

"I think that the language quoted is the same that has been used at other times, when it was charged that I had used the language in an editorial in a paper of which I was at one time editor. It was claimed that the editorial appeared in 1892. This was nearly two years before I became connected with the paper. I do not know whether the editorial ever appeared in that paper, but I know that I was not connected with the paper until long after the date on which the editorial is said to have appeared; and I know that I never wrote an editorial for that paper or any other paper, or ever said in a speech or otherwise, anything unfriendly to the soldier and his pension. As this misrepresentation has been brought to my attention, I take this means of answering it. All of my platforms have indorsed pensions, and I favor a liberal pension policy."

THE CREAM SEPARATOR SPEECH

In one of his speeches in Missouri last Saturday, Mr. Bryan referred to an item that appeared in the papers that morning, regarding a threat made by a Pennsylvania manufacturer of cream separators. Mr. Bryan said:

"A press dispatch announces this morning that a Pennsylvania manufacturer of cream separators has given notice to his employes that the factory will close down for an extended period if I am elected. This is the most discouraging threat that I have yet read. I had supposed that the cows would go on giving milk under a democratic administration as well as under a republican administration, but if as a result of my election the cows are going to dry up in November and not become fresh again for four years, it will really be a serious matter. There must be some mistake about this separator business. The man may be manufacturing the separator that the republican party has been using, for it has been using a separator that has separated the cream from the milk and it has given the cream to the monopolies and the skimmed milk to the rest of the people. That kind of a separator will no longer be used and those who manufacture it may find their occupation gone, but for the rest of the people it will be a glad day, a day of great rejoicing."

MR. BRYAN TO FARMERS

At Blair, Neb., Mr. Bryan replied to Mr. Taft's "farmer speech" as follows:

Mr. Taft has made an appeal to the farmer. Eight years ago the republicans were appealing to the laboring men. They were using a full dinner pail as a party emblem. You could see the picture of a dinner pail on campaign buttons, and it was emblazoned on the bill boards everywhere. They told the laboring man that he was getting plenty to eat, and that so long as he got enough to eat, he need not bother himself about principles or policies of government.

Where is the full dinner pail today? I have traveled all over the country and I have not seen a picture of it in this campaign, and have not heard a republican mention it. Why? Because the bottom is out and the dinner pail is empty. The laboring men who were deceived then are embittered now by the disappointment, and we have the support of a larger percentage of the laboring men than we have had before in forty years.

The republican speakers are now trying to practice the same deception on the farmer that they practiced on the laboring man. It is the "full barn basket" now. The spell binders tell of big crops and high prices, and ask that the republican party be given credit for it. Does the republican party hold the clouds in its hands? Does it scatter the rains in due season? Does it furnish the sunshine and the fertile soil? It is sacrilege for these republican leaders to claim a credit that belongs to a generous heavenly Father.

Is republican legislation responsible for the price of farm products? In Canada farm products are as high, and there is no republican party in Canada. In England farm products are as high, and they have neither a republican party nor a high tariff there.

What has the republican party done for the benefit of the farmer? Not one thing. But it has permitted the farmer to be afflicted by

"known abuses" that have grown up under republican rule—the abuses that the republican leaders refused to remedy.

The farmer has suffered from the extortion of the trusts; he has suffered from the burden of high tariff; he has suffered from the insecurity of his deposits, and he shares in the evils that follow from the growing estrangement between labor and capital. Extravagance in federal appropriations lessens his income and he finds himself unnecessarily taxed to support a colonial policy in the Orient.

The farmers believe in the rule of the people, and this has been prevented by the republican leaders; the farmers believe in the election of senators by popular vote; and this proposition was defeated in the republican convention; the farmers believe in honest elections, as well as in honest government, and they know that the republican convention rejected the publicity plank. Mr. Taft underestimates the intelligence of the farmers of the west, when he asks them to accept the republican record of the last eleven years as evidence of the willingness of the republican party to do justice to those who till the soil.

MARYLAND, MY MARYLAND

Walter Wellman sends to his paper, the Chicago Record-Herald, a Baltimore dispatch from which the following is taken:

"There is at least one eastern state in which Bryan's chances are a shade better than Taft's. Maryland is a doubtful state, but the probabilities are she will give her eight votes in the electoral college to the democratic candidate."

MESSRS. TAFT AND BRYAN AT CHICAGO

Mr. Taft and Mr. Bryan were guests, October 7, of the Chicago business men at a banquet. Addresses were delivered by both gentlemen. Messrs. Bryan and Taft addressed the deep waterways' convention.

WHO PAID THE BILL?

New York, October 9.—The fact that Andrew Carnegie has contributed \$20,000 to the campaign fund of the republican national committee was announced today by State Chairman Woodruff.—Associated Press Dispatch.

Twenty thousand dollars—that is but a little dab

Andrew Carnegie has given Mr. Taft. Just the profit of an hour of his tariff grabbing power,

Just a sample of his lucious tariff graft.

Twenty thousand families go hungry for a day

To help the "Laird o' Skibo" work his will;

But amidst our toil and sweating there's no danger we're forgetting

That those who died at Homestead paid the bill.

Twenty thousand dollars—there's a red-brown, dirty stain

On the money that can never be erased.

'Tis the blood of honest toilers shed by greedy trust despoilers

Who at vantage points their Pinkertons had placed.

Just the profits of oppression wrought by those who had possession

Of the power held by kings to save or kill;

But the third day of November let the toilers well remember

That those who died at Homestead paid the bill.

The martyred dead at Homestead—green the grass above their graves—

Green the memory of how the martyrs died.

And again we see the battle; hear the rifles' crashing rattle,

See the blood of workers flow in crimson tide.

Aye, upon that contribution is the stain of destitution—

"Hungry children, hopeless widows wan and ill—

Woe and want the worker pinching—gold the tariff baron clinching—

And those who died at Homestead paid the bill.

—The Steelworker.