

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Attention is called to the liberal clubbing offers on page 6.

The British taxpayer should prepare himself for another staggerer.

The Shaw presidential boom seems to have acquired sudden terminal facilities.

Perhaps the canal commission is suffering from an attack of that Justicebrownish feeling.

The canal commission seems to be having a regular supreme court sort of a time making up its mind.

The lobby that is working to prevent the entrance of free sugar is usually very free with the "sugar."

The consolidation of the steamship lines is an indication that the subsidy promoters feel quite certain of success.

American representation at the coronation of King Edward offers an inviting subject to composers of comic opera.

After Prince Henry returns home it would be embarrassing if President Kruger should happen to come over for a brief visit.

The administration organs continue to take a tearful interest in the efforts of certain gentlemen to "reorganize" the democratic party.

It is to be hoped that when Admiral Evan's sails out to meet Prince Henry he will not become excited and blow the bow off the royal ship.

The clubbing offers on page 6 will enable *The Commoner's* readers to provide themselves with a variety of reading matter at a comparatively small cost.

How can you spend a dollar to better advantage than in subscribing for a paper which defends your rights at all times and supports the measures in which you are interested?

King Alfonso of Spain will be declared "of age" on his sixteenth birthday. Our Spanish friends lived and learned very rapidly during the past three or four years.

The 22nd of next month is the anniversary of George Washington's birth, and it is safe to assume that General De Wet will celebrate it just as a reminder to the American republic.

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King Edward told parliament that the war in South Africa is now "nearing its close." The shrewd gentlemen who dispense gold bricks are doubtless headed for Buckingham palace.

Newspapers that have for so long been holding up Mr. Schwab as a model and example for American boys should now advise the boys to invest in a few chips and watch the turn of the wheel.

Possibly Congressman Hull could obtain an interest in Cecil Rhodes' South African meat contract in exchange for a block of stock in Mr. Hull's Philippine Lumber and Development company.

George Washington and his soldiers kept it up eight years, and at no time did the Continental armies equal the armies kept in the field by the Boers. And it will be remembered that the Continentals won, too.

When the honor of the nation was "saved" in 1896 the republican party promised that it would enact a financial law that would be a safeguard against further "agitation." The party is still patching up the law.

As it is impossible to apply either a head test or a heart test to an aristocratic gathering, it is eminently proper that the gentlemen who attend the coronation ceremonies should be required to possess well rounded calves.

The contractor who is constructing the new building for the New York stock exchange is having trouble finding a firm foundation. He is down sixty feet and is still troubled by water. Perhaps it is the seepage from the stocks.

Why not push the constitutional amendment providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people? It is more important than the ship subsidy bill and will meet with no opposition from the democrats.

Now is the time to extend the influence of *The Commoner*. Talk with your neighbors and secure their subscriptions. No other paper of national circulation presents so complete and continuous a defense of democratic principles and policies.

Dr. Parkhurst refuses to believe that Mr. Croker has retired from the leadership of Tammany, but it must be remembered that with Mr. Croker out of politics Dr. Parkhurst would have to find some other reason for being a republican.

King Edward says the war in South Africa is drawing to a close. Perhaps Edward has neglected to look up history in connection with what his royal ancestor, George III., said about the time when Washington and his army were encamped at Valley Forge.

The husbands in a Pennsylvania town have joined in a petition to the authorities to stop social gambling. They say that their wives are crazy about cards. If the situation had been reversed and the women had been the complainants, it would have been less surprising.

The McKinley memorial commission complains that the men who have profited most because of the McKinley policy have not come forward with contributions to the memorial fund. Perhaps the gentlemen are too busy preventing the adoption of the latest McKinley policy of reciprocity.

The English Blue Book shows that in the month of December there were 117,017 inmates in the concentration camps, and that there were 2,380 deaths, of which 1,767 were children. If this rate is maintained during the year nearly one-fourth of the entire number will have perished. And this is done in the interests of civilization!

Seven cities, it was said, claimed the honor of being the birthplace of Homer. That's nothing. Some seven thousand democrats, not to speak of editors and political leaders, claim the honor of furnishing Perry Belmont's political death-bed.

Walter Williams, editor of the *Columbia* (Mo.) Herald, is now touring Europe. He says the Americans most often mentioned wherever he has been are Missourians—Thomas Benton and the Missouri mule. Americans are busily forgetting the one and Great Britain is putting the other to an un-American use.

The commerce committee of the house has been hearing testimony on the Pacific cable proposition. The testimony seems to be in favor of the government ownership of a cable across the Pacific. It is certainly much more reasonable for the government to own and operate a cable than for it to appropriate money to build the cable and then let someone else own it.

Mr. Baer, president of the Reading railway, has been talking to some college students. He finds fault with the doctrine that "all men are created equal" and condemns "the loud mouthed, lazy teachers of communism and the fomentors of strife and discord" who hold to these old fashioned ideas. Watered stock seems to have as bad an influence on the conscience of corporation magnates as it has on industry.

Mr. Hanna, writing some anecdotes of Mr. McKinley, says that Mr. McKinley wrote a memorandum that afterwards became the financial plank of the St. Louis platform. It will be remembered that immediately after that convention Mr. Hanna gave out an interview in which he said that "the financial plank was approved by me." This should be sufficient to settle the controversy about the authorship of the plank.

A dispatch from London says that the sobs of women could be heard above the music when a company of recruits embarked for South Africa, but American imperialists will read with pleasure another London dispatch of the same date announcing that Cecil Rhodes has secured a contract "amounting to several million pounds sterling for supplying South Africa, especially the British troops in that part of the world, with fresh meat."

A republican paper points to the fact that Mr. Bryan is building a house (not so expensive as the republican paper reports, but still a good house) as evidence that he is getting "his share of republican prosperity." It may be interesting for the republicans to know that the house is being built from the proceeds of the "First Battle," which was published immediately after the election of 1896 and before the republicans began to boast of prosperity. Republican policies have not benefited Mr. Bryan except in the sense that a physician is indebted to sickness for his income. Republican policies furnish Mr. Bryan texts for editorials and speeches.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman made a speech in London recently in which he declared that the English government "in stopping farm burning in South Africa and in improving concentration camps has justified" his criticisms. He was convinced, he said, "that the war could be ended by conciliation instead of force." Mr. Bannerman's speech proves two things: First, that there have been concentration camps and farm burnings in South Africa; and second, that there is an English sentiment hostile to the imperial policy now being pursued against the Boers. If Englishmen can protest against a colonial system when England has been committed to such a policy for a century, why can't republicans protest against imperialism when it is contrary to the tradition and to the principles of our government?