

The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

Entered at the postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter.

TERMS—PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

One Year.....	\$1.00	Three Months.....	25c
Six Months.....	50c	Single Copy.....	5c

Sample Copies Free. Foreign Postage 52c Extra.

SUBSCRIPTIONS can be sent direct to *The Commoner*. They can also be sent through newspapers which have advertised a clubbing rate, or through local agents, where such agents have been appointed. All remittances should be sent by post-office money order, express order, or by bank draft on New York or Chicago. Do not send individual checks, stamps, or money.

RENEWALS.—The date on your wrapper shows when your subscription will expire. Thus, Jan. 02, means that payment has been received to and including the last issue of January, 1902. Two weeks are required after money is received before the date on the wrapper can be changed.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers requesting a change of address must give the OLD as well as the NEW address.

ADVERTISING rates furnished upon application. Address all communications to

THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Venezuela's next revolution may be head over heels.

The *Commoner* repeats, in the language of Tiny Tim: "God bless us every one."

Mr. Knox is quite well satisfied that his trust busting will have a Mississippi bear hunt finish.

No matter who is elected speaker of a republican congress, the trusts will still have the say.

The selection of Cannon for speaker has not frightened the trusts any more than the message did.

It appears that President Roosevelt's "shackling cunning" performances were for press agent purposes only.

It seems to be about time for the appearance of a presidential appointment under the Smedes, Miss., date line.

Perhaps the treasurer of the republican national committee has increasing proof that the trusts are good.

After reading the message the ship subsidy promoters are more than ever convinced that "silence gives consent."

As long as Pennsylvania is satisfied with Quay, Mr. Addicks will be unable to understand Delaware's scruples.

It appears that it took but mighty little court-plaster to bind up the wounds inflicted upon the trusts by the message.

We are asked by the message to believe that Mr. Knox roped the trusts, but it appears that the president refused to shoot.

Mr. Addicks says he is going to the senate if he has to go there with a stepladder under one foot to even up the length of his limbs.

Mr. James J. Hill admits that he is not opposed to the ship subsidy. This reminds us that ducks are not usually averse to water.

Now that the men who wield the pick are giving testimony the coal operators are finding it difficult to keep their halos on straight.

By increasing wages one dollar and exacting two dollars more for freight the railroads manage to acquire quite a reputation for liberality.

The Boston Herald thinks that not a few aspire for "an hour of Cleveland." Has the Herald been corresponding with the bond gamblers?

Japan intimates that she does not desire the presence of Mr. John Barrett. Mr. Barret is the gentleman who has evinced such a great ability to talk on both sides of any given question.

The Commoner.

Vol. 2, No. 48.

The way to win the battle in 1904 is to begin now. Organization should be the watchword of every loyal democrat.

The "Subscribers' Advertising Department" seems to have struck a popular chord. It shows an increasing number of those who see in it an opportunity for profitable investment.

An eastern writer advises people to laugh heartily two or three times a day. Those who desire to follow the advice should compare the president's public speeches with his message.

Having promised statehood to Arizona and New Mexico the republican party will now proceed to keep the promise like it has kept the one it made concerning the matter of regulating the trusts.

Mr. Heath of Utah is giving a number of reasons why Mr. Reed Smoot should withdraw from the senatorial race. To date Mr. Heath has not given his chief reason why Mr. Smoot should leave the track.

The republican papers are just now engaged in the business of selecting a democratic candidate for the presidency. It is not certain, however, that the democratic convention will be bound by the decision which they reach—in fact, it will do well to avoid picking the man most acceptable to them.

A Calcutta dispatch reports that Lord Curzon, viceroy of India, has secured the throne of King Solomon and will sit upon it during the coronation. The dispatch adds that some astonishing event is expected to occur at that time. Probably the chair will rise up and unseat an occupant so unlike the wise king of olden times.

The Milwaukee Journal is demanding that Senator Spooner shall represent the views of the people of Wisconsin. This is a very unfair demand viewed from a republican standpoint. If Senator Spooner represents the corporations why should he be required to represent the people? Will not the corporations look after the people?

A number of administration organs are horrified because it develops that an American in the Philippines has come to the front as the leader of an organized band of pirates. This horror is un-called for in view of the fact that the retention of the Philippines was for the purpose of increasing "business opportunities."

A Washington dispatch says the opposition to the reciprocity treaty with Cuba is "rapidly clearing away." As the only opposition came from the representatives of the beet sugar industry, the fact that the sugar trust has bought a controlling interest in a number of beet sugar factories may account for the "clearing away."

One way to build up the democratic party is for democrats to give hearty support to the local democratic newspapers that have loyally stood by democratic principles as enunciated in democratic national platforms. A strong and well supported democratic press will be an invaluable factor in the campaigns to be waged in the future for true democracy.

While the administration organs are pointing to the Pennsylvania's recent increase of 10 per cent to employes as a sign of prosperity, let them also recall that in 1886 the Pennsylvania cut wages 20 per cent and promised to restore them when times became better. Is it possible that "Roosevelt prosperity" is only 50 per cent better than "democratic hard times?"

An item originating at Toronto, Canada, has been going the rounds of the newspapers to the effect that Mr. Bryan was connected with the purchase of a three million dollar tract of Canadian land which was to be thrown open to colonization. There is no truth whatever in the statement. Mr. Bryan has no interest in Canadian lands and is not connected with any colonization scheme there or anywhere else.

Mr. Creelman, in discussing a prospective candidate for the presidency, says that those who visit him will come away ignorant of his political views save that he is a conservative democrat who believes in tariff revision and is confident that the American people can deal wisely and successfully with every problem that confronts them. That doesn't throw very much light upon disputed questions.

Mr. J. Breckenridge Ellis has issued through Fleming H. Revell Co., Chicago, a little book "for the young from seven to seventy," entitled "The Red Box Clew." It is written in his entertaining style and comes out in time for the Christmas trade. Like his other books, it will doubtless have a large sale.

Mrs. Edith Ogden Harrison, the accomplished wife of Mayor Carter Harrison of Chicago, has just issued through A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, a charming volume of stories for children, entitled "Prince Silverwings and Other Fairy Tales." This is a department of literature that is not at all overcrowded, and Mrs. Harrison's contribution is not only meritorious, but timely. The editor takes pleasure in bringing it to the attention of the readers of *The Commoner*.

The republican Sioux City (Ia.) Journal, speaking of the tea situation, says: "The effect of enforcing the existing law would be to require the payment of some \$7,000,000 in revenues for which the treasury has no need and the payment of which would work hardship upon tea importers and consumers." Will the Journal kindly inform a wondering public how any hardship would be worked upon American consumers of tea when the foreigner has to pay the tea tax?

It seems that the republicans and gold democrats of Wisconsin are inclined to compare the election returns of this year with the returns of 1900. If, however, they will compare this election with the gubernatorial election of 1898, when Judge Sawyer ran on a platform reaffirming the Chicago platform and declaring for a primary law as well as for tax reform, they will find that the republican majority was only 37,000 as against 55,000 this year when the democratic convention refused to indorse the national platform and declared against the primary law.

Mayor Wright of Denver, after disobeying an order of the court, left town on a hunting trip before he could be arrested. As he is a republican of prominence this evidence of lawlessness will not excite so much comment among the partisan papers as the refusal of some lesser man to obey the law might do. The Denver News says that the mayor has no will of his own in such matters; that he does whatever the corporations and his party bosses instruct him to do. This will be another reason why his offense will be lightly treated by the metropolitan dailies.

The *Commoner* has received letters from both political friends and enemies commending the editorial against guessing contests as now conducted. While the editor is always glad to receive words of approval it is more important that the readers shall write to their senators and members of congress urging them to put an end to this method of gambling, and an appeal is hereby made to the readers of *The Commoner*, who feel interested, to send a postal card or letter to their senators and members of congress urging legislation on this subject, and, if they have another card to spare, let them write direct to the postoffice department making a protest.

The New York World asks whether the editor of *The Commoner* is "still in favor of 16 to 1, with the silver dollar now worth just 33c." Yes; the fact that legislation against silver continues to reduce the bullion price of silver is no argument against legislation which would restore the bullion price by opening the mints to the coinage of silver on equal terms with gold. For twenty years the advocates of the gold standard insisted that we could not maintain the parity because the production of silver was increasing more rapidly than the production of gold. If there was any force in that argument it ought to be easier to maintain the parity now when the production of gold is increasing more rapidly than the production of silver.

A Wisconsin democrat in predicting the result in Wisconsin said that resentment against the Palmer-Buckner and McKinley democrats had ceased, but that the memory of their conduct made it impossible for the democrats to trust them with political leadership. This is a correct statement of the situation. If the democrats who are responsible for the republican victories of 1896 and 1900 show their repentance by their works they will be welcomed back to the fold. If they do not repent, but are willing to come back and work in the ranks nothing will be said against them, but when they demand control of the party machinery the demand will be refused because a surrender to them would simply mean an abandonment of the party's principles.