

except in terms the most contemptible.—*Michael Davitt: Leaves from a Prison Diary.*

**Common doings** (Americanism), plain, wholesome fare, as distinguished from dainties.

**Commoner** (old cant), a novice; greenhorn.

**Commoner grub** (Winchester College), a dinner given by college to commoners when cricket matches are over.

**Commonise, to** (Oxford University). Two or more are said to *commonise* when they have their meals together. *Commonising* means strictly that each should bring his "commons."

**Common jack** (army), low prostitutes are thus termed by the military in Woolwich, and probably in other garrison towns.

**Common plugs** (American), the common rut of mankind—the *oi πολλοι*—sometimes the great unwashed, but more commonly very ordinary people indeed, neither the big-wigs nor the dregs of society.

Many will meet us in the depths of the forest and go away thinking that we are just *common plugs*, of whom the world wots not; but there is where they fool themselves.—*New York Mercury.*

**Communicator.** Agitate the *communicator*, ring the bell.

**Communion bloke** (prison), a religious hypocrite.

He was a *communion bloke*. This was the pious gentleman.—*Evening News.*

**Comp.** (printers). *Vide* GALLEY-SLAVES. Generally applied to compositors as an abbreviation, but originally the short term for companion used both by pressmen, who work in pairs, and by compositors who work in companionships; nowadays accepted as the abridgment of compositor only.

**Comped** (printers), set up or composed matter; abbreviation of word composed.

**Competition wallah** (Anglo-Indian), members of the Civil Service who have entered it by the competitive system.

The *competition wallah* . . . dins perpetually in our ears the greatness of India.—*Saturday Review.*

**Compo.** (printers), abbreviation for the composition of which printing rollers are made—principally of treacle and glue. (Nautical), a sailor's monthly wages.

**Compradore** (pidgin), from the Portuguese *comprador*, a purchaser. Formerly used in India, where it originated, now in general use only in Chinese-English. The *comprador* of the present day is a steward or butler, who manages all the household affairs, supplying by contract, not only furniture and provisions, but even servants.