

SCRANTON TRIBUNE

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SCRANTON, MAY 18, 1894.

WHEN THE Allegheny county Republican delegation on Wednesday unanimously decided to support Lyon and Huff, it virtually settled the only remaining uncertainty with reference to next week's state convention.

Republicanism and the South.

There is a good deal of sound sense in the proposition to alter the basis of representation in the next National Republican convention. At this time the basis is that of general population.

I am entirely in favor of the proposed change, and I have no hesitation in saying that my vote, if necessary, will be cast in that way.

Mr. Martin has gone to the trouble to figure out that if the proposed change is made the number of delegates from Pennsylvania will be increased from sixty-four to fifty-seven.

The obvious advantage of this arrangement is that it will cut off one great and fruitful source of scandal and uncertainty. In sparsely settled communities where Republican voters are few it is comparatively easy matter for a coterie of scoundrels to invest themselves with fictitious titles, assume great importance and "control" the politics of the section.

COXEY'S PEDDESTRIAN ability fits him rather for the domain of the buskin than for the gassy forum of congressional debate.

Curtailing Court Costs. It is a noteworthy fact that a Schuylkill county grand jury has this week, out of sixty-five cases ignored, placed the costs in fifty-eight cases upon the plaintiffs.

The general acceptance by Pennsylvania county courts of the precedent set in this city several years ago by Judge Archbold with reference to exorbitant fees arising from dishonestly formulated justices' charges is proof that this particular evil is widespread and that the public is willing and eager to have the abuse practically

corrected. For a time it may be difficult to get the legislature to give serious heed to amendments needed in existing laws, but entrenched jobbery in politics is daily getting more precarious and shaky. In the end these things will be righted.

IF IT BE really necessary for the western advocates of free silver coinage to have a candidate for president two years hence; if the fever of inflation cannot do better than to vent itself in another political abortion short lived as Greenbackism, we can foresee no likelier candidate than "Silver Dollar" Bland.

THE ESTEEMED Norristown Herald, rather flippantly remarks that "it is a decidedly bad day for denunciations when Congressman Breckinridge is not 'again denounced' by some society or other."

THE UNANIMOUS adoption in the senate yesterday of a resolution providing for a committee of five senators "to inquire whether any contributions have been made by the sugar trust to any political party for campaign or election purposes, or to secure or defeat legislation; and whether any senator has been speculating in sugar stock during the pendency of the tariff bill" indicates that the senatorial mood has lately and abruptly changed.

A reversal thus marked, coming within so brief a period after the original refusal, indicates unerringly that public opinion has gathered force. It is scarcely to be supposed that a committee from the implicated body, chosen by the appointment of a presiding officer whose election to the vice-presidency is alleged to have been included in the sugar trust deal, would under ordinary circumstances exert itself abnormally for the unpleasant purpose of befogging its own nest.

Whether the finding be true or false in this particular case, there will be another committee of inquiry which the Democratic tariff tinkers of the senate will have soon to face, and it will not deal in white wash. The committee will consist not of five, but of 15,000,000 members, and it will conduct an inquiry of which there will be no evasion.

REPRESENTATIVE Michael D. Harter is much displeased with the senate edition of the Wilson tariff bill, and declares he will not vote for it. He fears its enactment would "stamp the Democratic members as a lot of imbeciles and their party managers in both houses as driving idiots."

THE AMERICAN Peasants' Revolt. It is a coincidence of more than transient importance that on the very day when "General" Coxe was cited to appear before the district courts at Washington for conduct notoriously foolish, if not intentionally criminal, he was being nominated for congress by a convocation of excited men representing a district which had once been served in congress by a statesman named William McKinley.

That it is the forerunner of vast economic reforms, to which it bears no more serious relationship than the crowing fowl that sits astride a barn or coop swept onward by an irresistible yet useless flood, is not improbable. We must remember, too, that the utter stupidity of Cornishman Wat Tyler was necessary to enlighten the yeomanry of feudal Britain that they also had rights as well as the hereditary lords.

When gas bags like Coxe are thrown in inflated momentary prominence to the surface of public affairs, though they may be punctured the moment afterward, and collapse like a bubble that is spent, it is a certain indication that things are moving underneath. Froth does not float on quiet water, nor foment exhibit exhibit itself

where progress has run its course. It is probably true at this moment that the future of the American middle classes is at stake in this agitation—not at stake in Coxeism, understand, but in the agitation of which Coxeism is intrinsically the least momentous exponent. Two extreme forces have brought this condition about. One is the force dominant now in congress—a force which may be tersely epitomized as popular spoliation, which has as its allies unprincipled politicians of any or all parties, ready to sell themselves or their country upon any occasion for place or power or pelf.

OF THE outcome we can, in the long run, have no serious doubt. There is a destiny in history which points unmistakably to this continent and to this republic as the theater in which is to be solved humanity's great battle for stable and equitably distributed government. These, only, despair who cannot look ahead.

AS THE Coffee Cools. Referring to a prevalent rumor that 400 competent journalists in New York city, as well as an equal number in Paris, were out of employment, and on the verge of starvation, the Pittsburg Dispatch rather pointedly expresses its disbelief, adding pertinently: "There may be a great many idle men who imagine they are competent journalists, and are not, and perhaps, an equal number of men of good abilities whose habits are so unreliable that they throw away their chances."

ALREADY the idol has fallen. In the land of peanuts and peanut-bait the celebrated Michael J. Kelly, who erstwhile was almost ready to run for congress, is thus belittled by the satirical editor of the Allentown Leader: "Allentown has idolized Michael. He has been alike the archaic demigod and the hero of the age. The lawyer and the doctor and the minister have not refused to yell for him, and the maidens say and toddlers infants have eloquently lauded his praise."

FOLLOWING up a line of thought recently advanced editorially in THE TRIBUNE, the esteemed Allentown Chronicle very sensibly says: "It does not bode well for the future of the State League that there should be so early in the season so much contention, charges of dirty play, fault-finding with umpires, disorderliness on the grounds and undue jealousies on the part of managers."

CURIOUS people who have haunted the vicinity of the Brooklyn gas wells have been unable to get a sniff of the gas or gain any intelligence upon the subject other than that published in THE TRIBUNE several days ago. The derrick has been fenced up and no one is allowed to approach the hole night or day.

CONSISTENCY. On stolen trains Across the plains And through the mountain passes They will not soil Through dark and light In ragged, howling masses.

TO beg and steal The commonest claim Right in every section— Let others toil They will not soil Their hands in base subjection. But still we smile To think the while These "earnest men" are crying For aid from this. The law, that is The thing they are defying.

Science to the Rescue. The political possibilities of the campaign phonograph are unlimited. When the manufacturers of the instrument master the art of producing inextinguishable cylinders it will be possible for Senator Peffer to reach his Kansas constituents. Senator Quay will be able to deliver his tariff speech by proxy, Senator Allen's financial views may be transmitted in this manner, and even General Weaver may grate without fear of eggs.

Senator Voorhees Defined. On Indiana "stamps" he will rave against the Goolds, the Vanderbilts and the money power in language that ought cause him to be arrested and bound over to keep the peace; but in Washington his vote and influence are dedicated to the faithful service of monopoly as it seeks for privileges at the hands of congress.

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And by the Scranton Savings Bank and Trust Company, Trustee under the Mortgage. T. H. Atherton, Counsel, WILKES-BARRE, PA.

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