From the Philadelphia Times.

## the Scranton Tribune

Published at Scranton, Pa., by The Tribune

Publishing Company. FRANK & GRAY CO.

Room 45, Tribune Building, New York City.

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SCHANTON, PA., AS ERCOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER SCRANTON, JANUARY 25, 1897.

Not to be a second time caught napping, David Martin, it seems, has had his candidates for councilmen nominated on all the tickets going. It will be interesting to learn if the bailot law can be bent to such a scheme.

#### One-Sided Reciprocity.

In 1891 we imported from the maritime provinces of Canada hay to the value of \$2,364, and from the remainder of the Dominion, hay to the value of \$437,040. In 1896 the record stood: From the maritime provinces, hay to the States last year was \$23,181 tons smal-\$2,646,834. This all came from lower- tion of 1894. Recovery from Demo-Canadian hay imports which followed time forward it bids fair to be sure. the enactment of the Wilson tariff robbed the American hay-grower of New York and Pennsylvania. There

In the fiscal year ended June 30, 1895, our imports of Canadian lumber rose to \$12,482,000, under the Wilson bill, purpose of flaunting great wealth will and swept that much money out of the do good. The svil to which this inpockets of American lumbermen. In trepid New York clergyman alluded is paid no duty, and the admission of ran substantially as follows, the immebutter out of the mouths of the Ameri- a gorgeous bal masque to be given by can wool-grower. Last year she sent us two and a half time more hides and skins than she was accustomed to do before the tariff was entirely lifted from these articles; and the effect, again, was to help the foreign at the expense of the domestic producer.

These few casual citations indicate the difficulties which lie in the way of any acceptable scheme of commercial union with Canada. Of the things which Canada wishes to get through our custom houses duty free, scarcely any would fall to enter into immediate and hurtful competition with American producers of the some article What can Canada offer as an offset? Where is her quid pro quo? We have read much on this subject in hope of ascertaining what the reciprocal benefits could be, but up to this time we have been unable to locate enough of them to constitute what we should consider a fair trade.

Out of 89 members of the present United States senate 66 are lawyers. Of the 226 members of the present national house of representatives, 232 are lawyers. Perhaps it is for this reason that the laws they make are on the average so poor.

### Concerning Ventilation.

Dr. Charles B. Dudley, chief expert of the Philadelphia Railread company. says that no sanitary problem is fraught with more practical difficulties than that of properly ventilating movng rallway cars in winter. In order to insure the wholesomeness of the all in a closed space, 3,000 cubic feet of pure air must be supplied every hour for each person. This means that in a crowded car the total air must be changed every 80 seconds. To admit so much cold air at this time of the year would of course neutralize the heating capacity of the steam pipes and give passengers the chills. Hence it becomes necessary to compromise and largely to this compremising disposition travelers owe the fact that they can rarely make a long journey without being annoyed first by a stupid,

sleepy feeling, and then by a headache.

Notwithstanding the practical difficulties to be overcome, the ventilation of rallway cars is upon the whole decidedly better to-day than it was five or ten years ago. The leading railway companies employ expert talent to study for improvements in this respect, and patents governing new appliances designed to minister to the comfort of the traveling public's lungs while in transit are being issued every few days. In this respect the railway car presents a sharp contrast with the average church or lecture room. So far as we know there is not a board of church trustees in the United States which employs expert talent the year around to plan improvements in church ventilation. If there were, Christianity would doubtiess gain in

During the last five years receivers have been appointed for 213 railroads with 56,000 miles of line, or nearly 30 per cent, of the total railway mileage in the United States. It is to be hoped the next five years will witness a return of this vanished prosperity.

## The Proper View.

A very sensible comment is offered by the Chicago Record upon the bill at Springfield to give the mayor of Chicago a five year term at \$20,000 a year and to pay the aldermen of that city (who perform the functions of our councilmen) \$8,000 a year with a requirement for exclusive services. Instead of treating the bill as a joke it

"It is a grave mistake for the citizens to ask their public servants to manage the great affairs of a great community for a pittance. The legal pay of a Chicago alderman is less than that of a street laborer. The mayor of Chicago, it is true, receives \$7,000 a year, but there are many corporations in this city which pay at least twice as much to their presidents or general managers. Possibly \$20,000 is a larger salary than is necessary, but certainly the mayor of Chicago should not receive less than \$12,000 to \$15,000 a year for his services. Chicago is one of the greatest corporations in the world. Any business man knows that there is no economy in placing large affairs in the hands of a manager who can afford to work for small pay. It is equally executive officer of a great city is cheap

"Each member of the city council of thickest shades. In the evening the Chicago should receive a salary of not | interior is heated by the saits radiatless than \$5,000 a year. The number of ling the heat they have absorbed duraldermen should be considerably less ing the day. So effective is the sys- beginning of a system of uniformity.

than at present; the council should tem of regulating the temperature that consist of two branches, and each mem- a few hours of smalight, even in freezber of it should devote his whole time to the service of the people. One branch of the council should be composed of members chosen by wards or districts, and the other of members chosen from the city as a whole. If the aldermen were paid ample salaries a far better class of men than the average alderman of today would be elected to fill the offices. It would be simply impossible for a worse class to be

vice, on a suitably smaller scale, for cities. If any mayor of Scranton is not worth more to the city than is represented in a salary of \$2,500 a year, then that man ought never to be elected mayor. He should have power, he should be well paid and the public should hold him responsible. That is the only way to get good municipal re-

The pig from output of the United value of \$126,504; from the remainder ler than in 1895, but it was nearly of the Dominion hay to the value of 2,000,000 tons larger than the producing the duty. The great increase in cratic hard times is slow, but from this

#### An Opportune Protest.

The discussion which has been proisn't a merchant in Scranton who voked by Rev. Dr. Rainsford's recent sermon and subsequent interview announcing his disapproval of ostentations social diversions primarily for the 1895 and 1896 Canada sent us over a serious one, and it is growing instead \$2,000,000 worth of wool, on which she of diminishing Dr. Rainsford's thought which took just so much bread and diate text being the announcement of of the social plungers in New York's Four Hundred:

"I believe that this is not a proper time for such affairs. Whether we like it or not, it is an incontrovertible fact that a large proportion of our population is discontented and they do not hesitate to express their feelings. Never were the lines between the two classes, those who have wealth and those who envy them, more distinctly drawn. It is my opinion, and the opinion of many persons I have talked with that estentations affairs such as this serve to accentuate existing social differences. They draw attention to the widening chasm between the two classes I have mentioned, and should therefore be discouraged. Such affairs give demagogues excuse for attacking the east and furnish texts for homilies on the heartless extravagance of the wealthy in the face of poverty and destitution. Bear in mind, now, that I believe in social entertainments. But there should be a reasonable limit to display and a reasonable time chosen for it. The present is not such a time To gratuitously arouse the discontent and accentuate the poverty of the unfortunate in such days as these is an action greatly to be deplored. To defend such a course by claiming that it puts money in circulation is utterly fallacious. The money spent does not circulate far. Those benefited are persons already wealthy—florists, caterers, fashionable modistes. With want on every side, with discontent rife among the lower orders of society, it would seem unwise to offer texts for dema gogues and political extremists?"

We concur in this opinion mos heartily. A correct understanding of what constitutes genuine social enloy ment would soon, even among the wealthiest, cause a disappearance of that mere, vulgar show of wealth which is as foreign to real refinement as it is non-essential to happiness. The flaunting of one's money under any circumstances is essentially silly and childish. It is on a par with the proneness of the savage to cover himself with gaudy shells and beads and rinkets, thinking thus to enhance his own importance. But at this particuferment, one of the phases of which is shown in the tendency of the poor to blame their poverty directly on the rich, it surely is ill-advised and notably injudicious for persons born into opulence to play like vain children with the wealth which tempts others to envy, malice and open rebellion.

According to the testimony of General Superintendent Lathrop, of the Lehigh Valley Coal company, in a recent lawsuit in the Luzerne courts. the market value of good culm runs from 35 to 40 cents a ton. This is doubtless true at present, but the day is not distant when these figures will e too small.

## Overdoing a Fad.

"Microbophobia" is more than a joke. if we may credit the report which is in circulation concerning Dr. W. Van der Hayden, the Dutch bacteriologist. He has so long pursued the festive microbe that the latter, like a true worm, has at last turned. We read in a San Francisco paper that Dr. Van der Heyden, in his fear of disease germs, has removed to Yokohama and built a house which is one of the wonders of modern Japan.

It is built almost wholly of glass and is dust- and air-proof. "Large panes of glass," the chronicle informs us, "are set in iron frames so as to form the sides of a circular building block. Of these blocks the walls are constructed. There are no window sashes, the air escape being through several small openings around the upper part of the second story, but through which no air from the outside is admitted. The air supply is obtained from a considerable distance, forced through a pipe and carefully filtered through cotton wool to cleanse it of bacteria. To insure further sterilization the air is driven against a glycerine-coated plate of glass, which captures all the microbes the wool The few microbes brought spares. into the house in the clothes of the visitors soon die in the warm sunlight with which the house flooded. The space between the glasses building blocks is filled with a solution of salts, true that good service by the chief which absorbs the heat of the sun, so that the rooms of this house are much cooler than those protected by the

ing weather, render the house habit-It is only when several cloudy days follow in succession that artificial heat is needed. Then it is supplied by pumping in hot air. Dr. Van der Heyden thinks he has solved the problem of a complete germicide on a

big scale." The foregoing description may have embodied some touches of fiction, but not enough to rob it of its usefulness as an illustration of a fad carried too We are inclined to offer the same ad- | far. For "microbophobia" is a fad, just as vaccination was, and skin-Pennsylvania's larger third-class grafting and the bichloride of gold movement. It is one thing to be prudent and quite another to be daft. The human race thrived on microbes for several thousand years, and it is reasonable to assume that it can get along just as well in the future if in the meantime it is not needlessly scared to death. The Van der Heyden type of glass house may be the scientific ally correct thing; but he who lives in it would never make a good pioneer.

According to a statement prepared by Controller Lloyd, the last election imposed a cost on Luzerne county of and the Wilkes-Barre Record estimates that \$55,000 would not much more than cover the expenses of the various local candidates. It would be interesting to have figures for every county in the state. So far as we know, such a table has never been compiled.

#### Our Disappearing Forests.

During 1896, almost 200,000,000 feet of lumber were shipped from Williams port, a gain of 11,000,000 feet over 1895. This lumber comes wholly from Pennsylvania forests. Less than 36 per cent of the commonwealth's original wooded area remains. What is being done to protect what is left and to replace what is gone? We regret to have to say, almost nothing. On this point the governor in his recent message opportunely said:

This is, perhaps, the first generation in his commonwealth that has been brought face to face with the dangers and disas-ters of a timberless country. The re-moval of the marketable timber from our orests, thus cutting off one of the great ndustries of the state, and the fact that Pennsylvania is no longer able to supply o her own inhabitants the lumber which they require, are of themselves discour aging; but, when coupled with the appre-hension that further destruction of th forests will work perpetual harm to our agricultural interests, the situation be comes alarming. It is recognized as a fact that of the waters which fall upor cleared area: four-lifths are lost because they run immediately out of the country while four-fifths of the waters which fal ipon our forest areas are saved; thus proving that if the vast volumes of water which so frequently deluge the state could be retained long enough to soak into the round, destructive floods would be precented and the consequent loss of proper ty and life averted. Two floods have or curred within the past eight years of un equalled proportions and destructiveness, Large areas of alluvial soil once tilled have been abandoned along the Juniata river because the repeated floods have made it impossible to maintain fences of mature crops. This is true also of other portions of the state. During the past eight years the valleys of the Juniata and he west branch of the Susquehanna havest more than a million dollars in the bridges which were swept away. The re curring floods overflowing the banks of hearly all our rivers and the consequent loss of property, the personal danger, epprehension and fear, are quite enough o excite serious solicitude

Cannot the present legislature do omething effective to stay this swift uin of our forests?

## NEED OF A UNIFORM CENSUS.

rom the Times-Herald.

The probability of the establishmen y congress of a permanent census bu eau, which will immediately begin to crange for the decennial census of 1909 alls attention to the importance of ther eing some effort made to secure inter national agreement among the principal nations of the world as to the manner of taking the census. Under the present sys which is one of the most important re sults of a census, is almost impossible Even the most expert statisticians, mer lar time, when, as the Gotham pastor like Mulhall or Mayo-Smith, find their says, society is in the throes of a social- work difficult, and at times they are led to false conclusions. The mere number of copic is easy to obtain for purposes of comparison, but this is a small part of the modern census. The same subjects are not investigated, or when investigated different questions are asked; the man-ner and classification vary greatly, and ven in such a simple matter as vital stadeaths, it is found difficult to make com-

> There are also wide disparities in the nethods employed in computing agricultural, manufacturing and mining re-sources and production, which have often led to erroneous comparisons, es he proper use of statistics and do not know how to make deductions or omis-sions to gain a basis of comparison Even those who do make such allow-ances, and with the greatest care, fine that they vary greatly from the conclu-sions of other statisticians. Mulhall, the foremost of statisticians, has himself been tables, flattering to Americans, are mad too flattering by showing the production of America to be too far in excess of that f other nations. America's enor ead in manufactures shown by Mulhall' tables, is, for instance, due to the fac that in the American census industric are included in the manufacturing car cass which are omitted incensuses made by the rivals of the United States. Thus America the building trades-carpen ers, painters and paper hangers, as well is kindred industries-are included to an stent not followed by any other natio This, of course, serves greatly to increase the apparent lead of this country in manufacturing. Its effect on the wage ables is even more marked. Men employed in the building trades average higher wages than those in the run of other industries. Their wages, being in-cluded in the census of manufactures, serve to increase the average wages ap-parently earned by the American work-ingman and make it appear to be even further in excess of that earned by workingmen in other countries than it

The remedy is not necessarily that the United States should conform to the standards employed elsewhere, rather that the building trades and kindred industries should be separately computed so that true comparisons can be made, or else that an effort should be made to have the statistical departments of the various nations agree upon the in-clusion of all such industries.

of the various national conference of the representatives of the statistical bureaus of the various governments would seem to the various governments would seem to the various governments would seem to the problem. It would be well scatter it broadcast. the various governments would seem to be a solution of the problem. It would be a good idea for the United States to lead in bringing about the reform. The cost of the congress would add but slightly Let the printing press be whirled. to the total cost of our census, and it would add greatly to its value as to that of all other censuses. Nearly every nation in the world will take a census in 1900, and that would be a good time for a Food, my masters; food for souls.

### SCHOOLS AND POLITICS.

Prominent citizens of Allegheny at working or a scheme to take the publi schools out of politics, and a proposition will be submitted to the councils at thei next meeting that will provide for state legislation to this end, Ex-Mayor Pearson is at the head of the movement and he is supported by the leading educators and business men of the city who are cager to accomplish the proposed reform. The plan that is advocated is to take away from the school directors the power of pointing teachers and place this at thority in the hands of the principals of the ward schools. This, it is argued, will make the principals responsible for the work of their schools and give them an opportunity to remedy the defects by th ppointment of new and better equipped sachers. If any legislation of this char-

acter originates from this movement is Allegheny, it will likely be drafted into

general law, and on this account the pro-posed change in the method of selecting teachers is of interest to the people in all

Undoubtedly the public schools should be divorced from partisan politics, be whether the plan advocated by the All gneny reformers will accomplish this separation is doubtful. Appointive ofes are not niways more free from poli-s than elective offices. Many school di-tors are elected under the present syshey will support some relative or of the ward boss for teacher, but if the appointive power were placed solely in the hands of the principal of each school, there would yet be a chance for political deals in the election of the principal. And in that case the evil would go still deeper, because the whole force of teachers would be under the control of the faction that elected the principal. It may be true that it is harder to set up a couptible man in the position of sch principal than it is in that of school direceven the highest and most exalted offices the state have been filled by men of

It is hard to fomulate any system of selecting officials that will insure the choice of only honest and thoroughly competent men and their retention in the positions where they are useful to their fellow-citizens. Ours is a popular form of government from the highest to the lowest branch, and the will of the people is supreme. Politicians and ward bosses cannot control our schools if the people assert their right of suffrage intelligently and honestly, and the quickest and best way to divorce genools and politics is for the people to assert their own manhood and independence and elect competent and honest men for whatever position the particular system of school training gives them the right.

#### GROWTH OF THE CHURCHES.

From the Washington Post. Although only a minority of the people bers, nearly all citizens are more or less interested in the work of the churches. It is one of the customs of the New York Independent to present in January of each year a comprehensive survey of the growth of all the prominent religious podles during the past year. The issue of any other religious body in this country. Its total number of communicants is estimated at 8.271,309, and its gain during the year at 272,137. This shows an increase of 3½ per cent., while the increase of the churches as a whole was less than 3 per cent. The Methodists, divided into seventeen bodies, holds second place, having a total of 5,653,289, and having added 168,776 ommunicants to their rolls in the past twelve months. The Methodist Episcopa church is the strongest of all the sects of that denomination. It has 2,675,035 members, and shows a gain of 45,050 in the een bodies, having an aggregate of 4,153, 867, and their gain in 1896 was 85,318. Of those, the so-called "regular" Baptists have a membership of 3,890,666, of whom added during the year, Next to the Baptists are the twelve Presbyterian bodies with 1,460,346 members; then follow the nineteen Lutheran bodies with 1.420.905, and next in numerical succession ome the Disciples of Christ with 1,003,072.

The Providence Journal, reviewing th Independent's figures, suggests that not the least interesting fact which they dis-close is that the Methodists and Baptists though far in the lead of the other Protestant bodies, are growing more slowly in proportion than some of the latter. The Methodists have gained less than ; per cent, during the year, and the Baptists have increased but little more than 2. The Angilcan communion has gained more than 3 per cent, in members, and so has the Congregational church, The Episcopalians and Congregationalists are ineasing very equally. The former add ed 19,930 communicants in 1896, and the latter about 20,000, while the total number of Episcopalians is put at 636,773, and the Congregationalists number 622,557. The Unitarians have a total of 70,000, having increased 1,500 in 1895. The Universalist report 49,925 communicants, with a gau of 1,039. The Seven-day Baptists had 9,244 members a year ago, but now report only 9.173. The total number of communicants of all churches in the country is put at 25,424,335, a gain of 743,333 during 1896.

## AN OUTRAGE.

From the Philadelphia Record. A poor man cannot buy a pound of slee nargarine in the markets of Pennsylva nia without exposing the seller to the danger of conviction for crime in the quarter sessions court. Yet in the forum of conscience and common sense it is no more unlawful to make and sell a pounof oleomargarine than it is unlawful to make and sell a pound of butter or cheese The law which makes the arbitrary dis nction between the two acts is a shame ul exercise of legislative tyranny.

## The Best Arrangement.

Judge (to a couple sentenced for fight ng)-Have you anything to say? Male Defendant-I would like my wif

#### THE "NEW" JOURNALISM. Ply your muck-rakes, thrust them in

To the fetld bogs of sin; Lift them dripping with the slime Of the cesspools of our time; Search through every social sewer, Search for all that's most impure Hunt for every deed of shame And for deeds without a name; Let the eager public see All our moral leprosy. For it is our daily stint The unprintable to print; 'Tis the glory of our clique The unspeakable to speak.

The unspeakable to speak.

Run we through our printing press

Myriad miles of hastness;

Smear with slime its league-long rolls-

fons of moral putridue Let it through the land be spread, Let the people all be fed. Ply your muck-rakes with all haste,

Food, my masters; food for souls

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#### TIME'S SWIFT MUTATIONS.

New York Letter in Philadelphia Ledger Mr. Platt will return to the senate after in absence of nearly sixteen years. Six-een years are a long time in politics. When Platt first entered the senate, it 1881, Grover Cleveland had not yet beet elected mayor of Buffalo, and was un known. He returns to the senate just as Mr. Cleveland retires to private life. The rise and fall of David B. Hill are embraced in the same period. Of all the members of the senate, when Mr. Platt was sworn in, March 4, 1881, only fourtee will be there when he takes his sout. March 4, 1897. These fourteen senators are: Allison, Frye, George, G. Hale, Harris, Aldrich, Hawley, that paper for last week contains the that paper for last week contain will go into the cabinet again of the day Platt enters the senate, Davis Anthony, Beck, Brown, Ferry, Lamar, Logan, Mahone, Saulsbury and Windom, who served with Platt in 1881, are dead. Dawes, Edmunds, Harrison and Ingalis who were senators in 1881, have relifed to private life. Bayard is ambassador England, and Cameron is about to leave

### TWO GOOD SUGGESTIONS.

the senate.

From the Philadelphia Press. Two suggestions have been made with state to charitable institutions not unde state management which should receive serious consideration at the hands of the legislature. The first of these is that every charity should be required to talse by private subscription an amount equal to that appropriated by the state; the second that a voucher shall be presented the auditor general for every dollar of the state appropriation expended.

#### A Natural Deduction. The Teacher-When a woman's husbar

des, Patsie, what is she called? Patsie—A widder. The Teacher—And when a man's wife lies, what do we call him?
Patsic (after some thought)—A wid-outher, mu'um!—Cincinnati Commercial Trib-une.

#### Bad for Them. Benny Bloobumper-Islands don't agree

with volcanoes, do they, pa? Mr. Bloobumper-What do you mean Benny 7 "I read in a newspaper that the volano of Bogoslov, on the Alaska coast s constantly throwing up new islands."

# HIS ONLY BREAK.

He would not break his promised word. To teach the maid to skate; He did not break the slender ice,

The only break he made, in fact Was when he tried to break her fall, And broke a leg and arm

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