The Scranton Tribune can solve.

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It probably is true that there is no vociferous popular clamer for the enactment at Harrisburg of reapportionment laws, but unless the constitution is to be regarded as a dead letter they will have to be passed.

The Case of Ruiz.

Spain will doubtless appreciate the zeal with which Secretary Olney searches for flaws in the claim that Dr. Ricardo Ruiz, the latest prominent victim of Spanish assassination in Cuba, was an American citizen. But it occurs to us that while the validity or invalidity of that claim is important Spain compensation for Dr. Ruiz's death, it is utterly immaterial in the

Though it should appear that Dr Ruiz's claim to American citizenship was clouded, the fact would still remain that here was an educated and admirable gentleman, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, and for many years one of Philadelphia's most respected dental surgeons, suddenly seized by Spanish soldiers, dragged from his home in Guanabacoa, Cuba and thrust into a foul dungeon, where he was kept for thirty days in ignorance of the charge against him and finally, as it appears, brutally murdered while in chains. We repeat that while the inquiry as to his citizenship Is of importance from a legal standpoint, the assertions as to his treatment, if true as made, brand with new infamy the whole miserable Spanish effort to enslave Cuba and add immeasurably to the odium of this government's silence,

The time has come for the state department to inform the American peowhich appears in the papers is true, the public should know it. The veil of secreey which the traditions of diplomacy suspend before all foreign affairs should in this instance be parted. The public has a right to know whether its opinions with reference to Spain are lacking in-authenticated justification. Unless the state department responds to this rightful demand for information the worst suspicions will naturally be confirmed and there will in all likelihood be a demonstration of the supremacy of aroused public sentiment over official stubborness and seeming indifference.

That the American people like to be humbugged is proved by the large cfr-Journal. Lying, faking and mendacity appear to capture the mob.

The Outlook for Bimetallism.

It must be admitted that the outlook for an International bimetallic agreement, to favor which, if it can be secured, the Republican party in its last national platform, in Presidentelect McKinley's letter of acceptance, and In thirty state platforms, stands committed, is not bright. We shall doubtless know more when Senator Wolcott returns from his tour of in- Patriot is sufficiently true to its name quiry among the principal finance ministers and authorities of Europe. He has expressed in a general way the belief that his mission will have some good results, but that it will lead directly or indirectly to the convocation of another monetary conference is too much to expect.

The house committee on coinage, weights and measures has therefore, in our judgment, acted wisely in so amending the senate bill authorizing the president to appoint commissioners to another conference as to give the executive discretionary power to name, instead, special envoys to make direct negotiation with friendly European powers for an international agreement. There have already been four monetary conferences of delegates representing the principal nations, and each of these has disclosed a general willingness to talk about bimetallism but a very conspicuous reluctance to guarantee any definite action looking to its re-establishment. With the exception of the delegates representing England, each delegation has said nice things for silver but pleaded inability to commit its government to specific legislation in silver's interest. We see no reason to believe that a fifth conference would present different characteristics. But by direct negotiation we can soon learn just where other nations stand and can therefore the more readily decide our

own course on this important matter. The personal belief of the writer of this editorial is that the drift of the civilized world to a gold basis has accelerated the natural decline in prices due to recent changes in the productive processes of industry and thereby has tended to impose severe hardship upon producers in general and agriculturists in particular. He also believes that method of combating the foul newspacould a stable method be employed to restore silver as a metal of primary tender, it would result in substantial and far-reaching improvement in the state of trade. All these points, though, have been relegated by the election of last November to the domain of academic speculation. The people then, with eyez wide open, and by a majority that does not admit of question, voted to ratify and sustain the single gold for various individuals busy with differstandard, and their wish is entitled to ent cares and separated each from the every decent man's respect. If the gold other by distance or circumstance to standard is good for us, bimetallism on keep informed as to each other's do any basis need not trouble us; and if it lings. Such a purpose is wholly legitibe bad for us, we can better endure its ills than any other nation on earth and consequently need not despair of eventual international concert for bimetallism's restoration. Thus in either aslism's restoration. Thus in either as- cial evolution. But while the press move and have their being.

pect, the problem is one that time alone

In 1894, before Philadelphia's city government was reorganized by the Bullitt bill, the expenses of the several city departments amounted to \$8,614 .-389.55, while in 1894 they amounted to \$29,124,343.37, an increase of about 350 per cent., during which time the increase in the city's population was only about 20 per cent. It would be interesting to know all the causes of this increase, and also just who reaped the benefits of it.

A Billion Dollar Country.

Continuing its criticism of a recent editorial in The Tribune which pointed out that government expenses, while naturally increasing with the growth of the country, have not increased if we divide the total appropriations by the number of persons benefited, the Harrisburg Patriot says:

Per capita figures of revenue and ex-penditure, like percentages—which they are in effect—are not altogether trustworthy. They can easily hide a great wrong in the appearance of a small bless-ing. The monopoly which now takes two cents aplece from 70,00,000 persons is a greater curse than the one that took in its bearing upon the diplomaric guestion whether we shall demand of less to the people and its employes for the money received, and in the gross is a greater robber than the monopoly that took the 3 cents. The burglar who take tragedy's exemplification of the un- \$100 spiece from ten houses in the same tragedy's exemplification of the un-Christian brutality of Spain's methods of warfare, and without pertinency to the now paramount proposition that the United States, in the interest of civilization, should stay Spain's bloody hand.

\$100 apiece from ten houses in the same night is a more desperate villain than the one that gets 800 in one place and quite But in each case the per capita loss in the greater gross amount is the smaller. It is not the amount of money which the people of a country can spend which makes them prosperous but the amount they can save. The same rule applies to they can save. The same rule applies to a government as well as to an individual. This is not and never will be a billion delar country if its business can be conducted for less than a billion dollars. It is the gross sum unnecessarily spent which makes it rapacious, not the amount which makes it rapacious, not the amount which such individual contributes to the which each individual contributes to the

> These generalities may be all righ in their place, but have they any pertinency of the subject in hand? It remains for the Patriot to prove that the business of the United States at its present magnitude can be conducted with efficiency and wisdom for less than a billion dollars every two years We assert that the natural growth of that business has progressed to such a point that billion dollar congresse do not necessarily mean wantonly extravagant congresses, by any means and we do not think that the Patriot' emarks about robbers and burglar successfully controvert our proposition

The present chairman of the house ways and means committee, Mr. Ding. ley, in whose integrity and candor th ple as to the facts in its possession public has full faith, recently explained with regard to affairs in Cuba. If a in convincing manner in what directenth part of the so-called Cuban news tions the government expenditures are growing. He said:

"While it is true that the appropriation for this congress will run considerably over a billion dollars, it does not appear that there have been any expenditures to which the term extravagant could be justly applied. The government expenditure average about \$5.50 per head of population. Of this amount \$2.50 represents the expenditures for the transaction of the ordinary business of the government Payments for pensions represent \$2 more per head. Fifty cents of the amount goes to paying off the government debt, and the other half dollar represents the ex-penses of river and harbor work, fortifiations, the new navy, and public bullings. It is in the expenditures represented by this last half dollar of the per capita that extravagance might, perhaps expenses of the government keep pas humbugged is proved by the large cfr-culations of the New York World and have for years averaged about \$2.50. The pension legislation has not been extended furing the two last congresses, and the payments on the public debt keep about

Accepting this as true, it can easily be shown that no congress in recent years has out a tighter grip on th throttle of river and harbor jobs that has the present one, under the inflexible economy of Speaker Reed. The lat ter, in fact, has got himself actually disliked by members for his firmnes in refusing to let down the bars to logcolling measures of any kind. If the to believe in liberal pensions to the men who saved the nation, where in the foregoing Itemization can it point to proof of its sweeping charge of robhery?

The fact that there were 10,652 murders committed in this country in 1896 and only 122 murderers legally exc cuted would seem to establish either that the death penalty isn't getting a fair show or that it has so far diseredited itself as to be for practical purposes worthless. We have little doubt that the latter view is the cor-

The Right Way.

The following sensible resolution was adopted by the recent Congress of Mothers at the instance of Anthony Comstack:

Resolved. That we will admit into our courses only those papers which inspire to be thought and deed, and that our in ence shall go toward cultivating the blic taste, until it shall demand from he press only that which elevates and re

Here we have the right way pointed out to a substantial reform of American journalism. If the women of America who preside over its home life direct their efforts to the casting forth of filthy newspapers, filthy newspapers will soon cease to be profitable and un scrupulous men will not thereafter publish them. The influence of woman might go even further than this. Since men's character are revealed by the papers they read, the frown of society should be east upon that man who habituates his mind to receive the vile suggestions contained in such publications as disgrace the newspaper business. This would be a far more effective

per evil than to enact additional laws directed against that evil. It is by no means feasible to convert the daily press into a kind of Sunday school leaflet, because by so doing its influence for good would be immediately limited to those who are already in accord with noble impulses. Its true function is to report society's innumerable activities and render it possible

should fearlessly "hold a mirror up to nature," it should not convert itself into a gallery of horrors nor lend its pages to the reflection mainly of the disenses of the time. Nor should it be without thoughtfulness as to its responsibly ity for the influence wielded by it on the thousands of persons who rely upon it to do their thinking for them.

It is about time that the United States served emphatic and significant notic upon Spain that there must be a half ! Weyler's methods, not only as applied to his wanton disregard of the personal rights of Americans, but also with respect to the ruin and sequestration of mil-lons of dollars worth of property owned by citizens of the United States.—Philalelphia Ledge

Hooray! Now you're talking sense

The report now goes that President McKinley will proffer to Hon. J. Donald Cameron the ambassadership to Rusda, and that he will accept. Such a disposition of the Russian embassy would be eminently acceptable to all but a few persons who bark at Mr Cameron by force of habit.

The sensational hullabaloo over the past conduct of the state treasury, in the light of current investigation, promises to turn out another case of much ado about nothing." It is usuilly thus with charges grounded in factionalism.

Perhaps, after all is said, the best way to smash a trust is to let it "hog" itself to death.

Just a Word or Two of Casual Mention

In religious, musical, social and politi-cal circles. Select Councilman R. H. Will-lams ranks high on the West Side. As long as thirly years ago he was one of the chief supporters of the late Robert J. James in his palmicst days as choral con-ductor of superior abilities, and in later years, through the combined efforts of Mr. Williams and a few others, Dan Mr. Williams and a few others, Dar Protheroe, the superb conductor of the once invulnerable Cymrodorions, achieved his first laurels in his earlier years in this



ountry. Mr. Williams was president of Mason, a leader in Pythianism, and a member of the Grand Lodg—I the American True Ivorites. He is a formidable candidate for the vice-presidency of the order in America at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge in May. He is a prominent member of the Congregational conference in this section of this state, and a leading member of the First Weish Congregational church of the West Side, Mr. Williams is the trusted foreman of one of the mines of the Delaware, Lackawan and Western company. He represents a and Western company. He represent he Fifth ward in the upper branch of ouncils and is serving his second term n polities he is a stalwart Republican and whelds considerable power on West Side. This he did long before became mine foreman. He is a sturdy citizen and a plain-spoken man. He en-loys the implicit confidence of the entire

There seems to be a constantly increa ng number of young women in this vi s footlights, if only in the chorus of the footlights, if only in the chorus of a fly-by-night burlesque company. One night hast week the police of this city picked up two young girls who had just arrived from Wilker-harre. Their axes were to und 16, and they were very much stage-struck. A smooth-longues young man they met in the Alligator City told them that he would place them with a good company. They are mised to meet their that he would place their with a good company. They promised to meet him in this city, and left home without the consent of their parents to keep their appointment. Through some misunderstanding about the time of their arrival their 'gentleman friend' was not at the station to meet them and soon afterward is police took them in charge. Subarre. The police spent several days by vain effort to find the young man who becomed them here, but he evidently hears that the girls were in custody and there upon disappeared. The fate of the girl and they not fallen into the hands of th office is easy to surmise. The proposi-ion to place the girls with a theatrical empany was of course manufactured for he purpose of getting them away from

The Maywood (N. J.) Mirror refers to he good old church times in Scrantor n this wise: "It is related of Rev. David Short that when he was paster of the Penn Avenue Baptist church at Scranton Pa., he was zealous in the work of securw members. One man, with whord labored exhaustively, was finall rounded as to his Christian duty, bu ould not make up his mind whether to scome a Baptist or a Methodist. Final y he hit upon a compromise and wrote o the dectar that he had divided to units with the Methodists, but would like to be iptized in the Baptist church by Immer sion. This so exasperated the good do: for that he sent the following reply;

One of the very greatest planists to be heard is Martinus Sleveking, the famous butch planist. Mr. Sleveking is a young man, and a giant in build, baying a mus-cular development which is compared to hat of Sandow. But in spite of his great trength, Sleveking has a touch as light is down, when he chooses to use it that way. But at other times he is capable of evoking tonal whirlwhids. Ho plays with great fire, fluency and vigor, but is a thorough artist and subordinates digital accomplishments to the interpretation of the music before him. His reappearance Scranton next month is awaited with interest by lovers of good music.

The many friends of County Chairman The many trends of County Chairman , ce Holcomb, of Luzerne, will be glad to earn that he has been promoted to the leputy recordership of that county. Mr. Jolcomb has proved himself an executive officer of rare ability. His conduct of the county chairmanship has been a pleasant surprise to his friends and a source of auxiety to his opponents. As one of the oright and energetic young Republicans who are pushing to the front of Penn-sylvania politics his success appeals to sympathy of those who like to see it recognized, and we predict for him further advancement in the near future.

Arthur C. Prati. of Holyoke, Mass,, epresenting the Plymouth Paper com-

STATE LEGISLATIVE TOPICS.

Liquor laws are to occupy a prominer Liquor laws are to occupy a prominer place, it would seem, in the calendar of the present legislature. Senator Gobin of Lebanon, yesterday introduced a bit which is in part the Raines bill of Nev York. It was drawn by a widely-know Philadelphia jurist, and its purpose is a provide for the sale of liquors in hotel on Sunday, or at any time of the day or night to those who are designated as legitimate guests of the house. The bill first of all designates what is meant by the term hotel. It provides that any publicance of entertainment which is kept for term hotel. It provides that any public house of entertainment which is kept for the accommodation of the public shall be designated as a hotel, and to have the effect of the law in question must have at least thirty rooms to be used as hedrooms to be used by the guests of the house. Liquor can be served in these rooms to guests on Sunday or at any other time, but all public burs, saloons or other places in the building where liquor is soll openly during the week to the public must be closed on Sunday. It is said that this bill, which, by the way, is to be ofmust be closed on Sunday. It is said that this bill, which, by the way, is to be of ferred in the shape of an amendment to the Brooks high license, was drafted a the request and under the direction of the Hotel Men's association. The different between this bill and the celebrates Raines law of New York, where one has sandwich constitutes a meal and doed uty as a stool pizcon for all the drink needed in an election district, lies in this that the objectionable phases of the Raines law are omitted, and the number of rooms that are necessary to enable to of rooms that are necessary to enable nan or hotelkeeper to sell lanor to grest s larger than that fixed by statute

More than 500 acceptances have a More than 500 acceptances have already been received by the committee of the state league of Republican clubs having in charge the arrangements for the dirmer to be given to United States Senator-elect Boles Penrose, on Friday evening next, and additional acceptances are being received in every mail from well-known men in different parts of the state. The dimers will probably be served in Horticaltural hall. Philadelphia. The dimers will sit down at 7 o'clack, Isadore Sobel, president of the league, will preside, with the guest of the evening on his Solicil president of the cogning on his pile, with the guest of the evening on his right, and Senator Quay on his left. Mr Quay will start for his place at San Lucie Pla, a few days later, having remainen North purposely to do honor to his junio olleague. While the Beaver man is no given to public speaking, the committee s hopeful of inducing him to respond a toast. Senator Cameron is also expected to make a short address, and his remarks will be interesting as terminating the public career of the Cameron dynasty in Pennsylvania, beginning as it did, in-directly through an uncle of Mr. Penrose, who was state senator when the elder Cameron was first elected to the national Cameron was first elected to the national senate in 1857. Governor Hastings is also down for a toast, and among others who are expected to make addresses are Con-gressman Doiliver, of Iowa; President Woodmansee, of the National League of Republican clubs, and Congressman "Joe" Canage of Higgs. Cannon, of Illinois.

Representative Conrad, of Philadelpula the presentative contrat, of rimate in the introduced a bill to permit the members of the Citizens' Permanent Relief committee, of Philadelphia, who have been interested in lending money to need; persons who will not resort to pawnshops to form a corporation for this purpose. Mayor Warnick who is chairman of the Mayor Warwick, who is chairman of the Dr. French, the secretary; Joel J. Bally, fustus C. Strawbridge, Dr. E. O. Shakes-seare, John Fleid, Dr. George Straw-gridge and others are said to be interested n the measure. It is proposed, if the busses, to form a company with \$100.0 apital, to lend money to deserving poo eople at a rate of interest not exceeding per cent, per annum. The loans may be obtained on real estate or personal property, but if the applicant has no se-curity the recommendation of responsible neighbors may secure from the corpora-tion sufficient funds to tide him and his family through an industrial depression, infortunate condition of affair night about by siekness or other mis

Senator Losch has introduced a bill to pplement the Corporation law of 1874. t gives water power companies the right o build a dam in any boundary river over hirty-five miles long below the head of he tidewater therein. It also gives any surporation organized under it the right o operate and maintain the dam in contion with any corporation organized an adjoining state, and permits Pennsylvania corporation to mortgage lis property, rights and franchises jointly with the corporation in the other state to secure the payment of the Joint Indebt-edness, and to lease its property rights and franchises to the other corporation. Authority is given to such corporations to develop electric power for commercial and manufacturing purposes by means of water and to maintain for distribution purposes the necessary buildings, poles and wires, after having obtained the con-

Legislation that will affect every beet linker in the state of Pennsylvania will be introduced this week by Representative W. O. Smith, of Jefferson county. He has been in consultation with the authorities at the head of the Department of Pure ad under the secretary of agriculture hape of a bill compelling brewers to keep beer in stock for at least six months fore it is offered for sale or put on the irket. The bill also contemplates the appointment of pure food inspectors who se duty it will be to not only inspect brewries, but have regular and systematic hemical analyses made of the beer rewed and sold in the commonwealth.

A bill introduced by Representative Kunkel, of Dauphin, is said to have the backing of labor organizations. It compels every proprietor of a mill to place in his factory an auxiliary fire alarm, to be connected with the fire-alarm system of the municipality, so that when a fire-product over the placem may be instinuable over the placem may be instinuable. breaks out the alarm may be instantan cously communicated to the fire houses instead of seeking the nearest box. Proerictors of hotels, theaters, public ball and office buildings are also compelled to insert them in their respective buildings. The penalty for noncompliance with the

The movement in favor of sending the National Goard to Washington to the nauguration on a special appropriation for the purpose is not likely to succeed. Officers of the Guard in both house and enate, as well as other members, as opposed to appropriating \$20,000 for this curpose when the revenues of the state re in the condition that they are in to day. Another proposition which will not bear proof is that which proposes to take the legislature in a body to the inauguration at a cost to the state of not more than \$5,000.

Senator Kauffman, at the request of ron Moulders' union No. 146, has intro-luced a bill which provides that no manfacturer, contractor or other employer tubor shall refuse to employ an as plicant for employment for his con-nection with a labor organization, neither shall they discriminate against or discharge any employee because he is a member of a labor union. The penalty for violation of this act is to be a fine \$500 and an imprisonment of not less han six months for each offerse.

CABINET FACTS.

from the Philadelphia Ledger. Including the administration of President Cleveland, the individual states have sen represented in the cabinets the fol heen represented in the cabinets the fol-lowing number of times: Massachusetts, 29; New York, 22; Pennsylvania, 27; Yir-ginia, 22; Ohio, 19; Kentucky, 15; Mary-land, 15; Connecticut, 9; Indiana, 9; Geor-gia, 8; Tennessee, 8; Illinois, 6; Maine, 6; Delaware, 5; Wisconsin, 5; Iowa, 4; Michi-gan, 4; Mississippi, 4; New Jersey, 4; North Carolina, 4; Louisiana, 3; Minneso-ta, 3; New Hampshire, 3; West Virginia,

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8; Vermont, 2; Alabama, 1; Arkansas, 1; Colorado, 1; Nebraeka, 1; Oregon, 1. The fellowing states have been without repre-sentation in the cabinet: California, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Neva-da, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming, Judge McKenna's appoint-ment will break the record, so far as Cali-fornia is conferred. fornia is concerned.

The departments of state, treasury and war were created in 1789, and the secre-taries were cabinet officers. In 1798 the many department was added, with its secctary a member of the cabinet. Although he office of attorney general was created n 1789, its incumbent was not admitted a a cabinet officer until 1814. The post-of the department was a branch of the treas ury until 1829, when it became a cabinet office. In 1840 the department of the in-terior was created, with the secretary a cabinet officer. In 1889 the department of igriculture was organized as a cabinet of ice. At present there is considerable agi ntion for the creation of a department commerce, to have charge of the matter reasury, interior and agricultural depart

Pennsylvania's contributions to the excutive departments have been as fol-lows; Washington's second term, William lows: Washington's second term, William Bradford, attorney general (not then in cabinet); Jefferson's first term, Albert Gallatin, secretary of the treasury; Jefferson's second term, Gallatin continued: Madison's first term, Gallatin continued; and William Jones, secretary of the navy; Madison's second term, Gallatin and Jones continued, and Alexanser Dallas, secretary of the treasury (incaping period). Jones continued, and Alexander Dallas, secretary of the treasury (unexpired period), and Richard Rush, attorney general; Monroe's first term, Rush, continued; John Quincy Adam's term, Richard Rush, secretary of the treasury; Jackson's first term, Samuel D. Ingham, secretary of the treasury; Jackson's second term, William J. Duane, secretary of the treasury; Van Buren's term, Henry D. Gilpin, altorney general; Tylet's term, Walter Forward. general; Tyler's term, Walter Forward secretary of the treasury, William Will lams, secretary of war, vice James M. Porter, rejected by the senate; Polk's term, James Buchanan, secretary of state; Taylor's term, W. M. Marelith, secretary of the treasury; Pierce's term, James Campbell, postmaster general; Buchan-an's term, Jeremiah S. Black, attorney general, subsequently secretary of state; Lincoln's first term. Simon Cameron, secretary of war; Grant's first term, Adolph E. Borle, secretary of the navy; Grant's second term. J. Dorald Cameron, secretary of war; Garfield's term. Wayne Mac-Yengh, attorney general: Arthur's term, MneVengh, continued, and succeeded by Benjamin H. Brewster; Harrison's term,

It is to be noted that the exhibit President Pierce is the only cabinet whis served a full four years' term without hange in its membership.

DAVID'S WARNING.

from the Washington Post. Now that Senator Quay is to furn whb will do well to pad that portion of

of the left clavicle.

LILIUOKALANI'S LAUREATE.

Ex-Queen Liluokalani has another bur en to contend with. The poets are after ser. Below is one of the latest contributions to the cause of her ex-royal high ness of Hawait: Forevermore the queen, though ruthless

hand despoiling Thee of Hawall's crown n clutch of rapine still thy fair islekeeping With petty despot's frown; Barring the gates thy queenly hand wide-

Opened, Thine is the high renown. Of justice, dealt with world-wide, pure intention, And mercy's blessed care;

Over thine isles of peace its might extend-Thy people's ceaseless prayer; Thine the true womanhood that shines ex In light the martyrs bear.

Upheld by conscious right, thy wrong appealing To world-wide sympathy Invest thee with a triple power surpass-

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Queen evermore to be. -Cora Wilburn. Greenbush, Mass., Feb. 17.

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