

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, JUNE 16, 1897.

We are still waiting for the promised demonstration that a T rail on Mulberry street is more desirable for miscellaneous vehicles than a flat one.

An Unfortunate Delay.

The decision of the senate committee on interstate commerce to defer final action on the Foraker pooling bill until the regular session of congress next winter would be more regrettable if the leading railroads, anticipating delay, had not prepared for this emergency by virtually organizing informal pools among themselves.

One great objection in the public mind against any pooling bill, as has already been pointed out by a well-known writer on this subject, is the supposition that it contemplates an increase of rates. That is not the case.

The fact that Mr. Hayward and Squire Smallley are both for and the Dingley bill will give it additional claim upon American favor.

The Same Old Cry.

The Philadelphia Ledger is plain-spoken in opposition to Hawaiian annexation. It says: The scheme of Hawaiian annexation is supported mainly by jingoes and jobbers.

The ledger will have difficulty in making the American people believe that President Harrison and Secretary of State Foster, who negotiated the first treaty of annexation, were either jingoes or jobbers.

Expansion of the United States from the Louisiana purchase to the purchase of Alaska, and in each instance they have been silenced by later events.

It will be easy enough for Seth Low to get himself nominated for mayor of Greater New York without reference to the wishes of the Republican organization in that interesting city; but to secure an election without its aid may prove a different matter.

An Excellent Example.

To one of the German newspapers in New York which calls upon the German-Americans of that city to support for mayor of Greater New York no man who will not in advance give binding guarantee to enforce the Raines law "with liberality," the Sun makes the pertinent reply that before any man can become mayor he must take solemn oath to enforce all the laws "unconditionally and absolutely."

Ex-Ambassador Bayard arises to remark that he views with fearful alarm the "measure of cruel and excessive taxation" which is pending in congress "with threatened success," a "measure which must decrease our foreign commerce, increase our commercial isolation and cause retaliatory legislation by nations who are seeking friendly and reciprocal relations with our people."

It would be a good thing if all newspapers should show the courage which the Sun has shown in pointing out this widely prevalent misconception. The best results in government will never be obtained in this country while any considerable number of citizens of any class, rank or degree of eminence are encouraged to entertain the belief that the operation of a distasteful law can be avoided or softened at will by the cultivation of friendly relations with the officials charged with its enforcement.

In its eagerness to sneer at the Cuban cause the New York Evening Post called Stephen Bonsal, war correspondent, a liar and a thief, and is now named as defendant in a \$50,000 libel suit.

Concerning Oleo.

We have received from the deputy secretary of agriculture, Professor Hamilton, the text of an argument recently submitted by him before the ways and means committee of the state house of representatives, in opposition to the proposed licensing of the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine in Pennsylvania.

The price of butter in Pennsylvania is now very low, ranging from ten to twenty-five cents a pound, the best Elgin creamery selling at fourteen cents.

It will be noticed that the deputy secretary of agriculture here drops the formerly reiterated claim that oleo is worthless and dangerous as a food product. No deleterious substitute embodying the gross ingredients once at-

tributed to oleomargarine could "underdell the dairyman and drive him from the market." Evidently the strategy of Professor Palm, of Mendville, two years ago has silenced this particular battery of the oleo-fighters.

Reduced, then, to its elements, the contention of the state agricultural bureau to the legislature is: "You must not permit the sale of oleomargarine, because it is too cheap." With labor in many quarters reduced to extremities of hardship by industrial depression and the people generally forced to unusual expedients of economy, we are informed that to give a fair commercial field to a demonstrably salable article of common necessity would be unwise, because it would hurt the butter-makers. This is an argument that could easily be answered.

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Gossip at the Capital

Special Correspondence of The Tribune.

Washington, June 15. The many friends of Senator Quay will not doubt be surprised to learn that he is far from being a well man. While he is able to attend the sessions of the senate and transact other business, still he is not enjoying his usual good health.

The Republicans in the senate are somewhat handicapped by the fact that their leaders on tariff matters are unable, by reason of ill health, to be present and participate in the debates now going on.

THE PROPER VIEW.

From the Philadelphia Bulletin. The charge which Insurance Agent French has made against Senator Charles M. Shortt either is true or is not true.

NOT POVERTY STRICKEN.

From an Unidentified Source. This is not a poverty stricken country; the people of this country expended last year \$2,000,000 for chewing gum, \$400,000 for amusements, \$90,000 for jewelry, \$80,000 for tobacco, and \$1,000,000 for strong drink.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaecbus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astralabe Cast: 4:00 a. m., for Wednesday, June 16, 1897.

HAS THE SENATE DEGENERATED?

"Penn." in Philadelphia Bulletin. Glancing over a list of the members of the federal senate that sat in the hall on the corner of Sixth and Chestnut streets, the thought again occurred that we are in the habit of exaggerating the "degeneracy" of the United States senate.

The United States senate then was not much larger than some European cabinets, or privy councils; and now, with ninety members, or a third more than our first house of representatives, it has outgrown its original methods.

MacKay, the first of the senators west of the Alleghenies, was among the sharpest of the critics of the Washington administration, and on one occasion wanted Washington out of Mark Root, the now flow to the Republican. When he lost his fortune and went to prison, there was a much plainer and edifying talk over his misfortune, also even after he takes rich men whose thoughts are set on worldly glories.

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We have a habit now of looking on the new states of the west as hurtful to the personnel of the senate by reason of their crudeness. It is altogether likely that the same thought was in mind when the senators who were sent to Philadelphia by Vermont, Kentucky and Tennessee—probably every one of them a carpet-bagger from the older states—made their appearance at Sixth and Chestnut streets.

Another man who has been missed during the tariff discussion is the venerable senator from Vermont—Mr. Morrill. Ever since his entrance to the senate, on March 4, 1867, Mr. Morrill has been active in tariff matters.

It is now beginning to look as though the new revenue measure will be in the hands of the president for his signature by the middle of July. Much depends, however, upon what course Speaker Reed will take in his collection of amendments.

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