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The esteemed contemporaries in remote sections which are beginning to perspire in dread of a soft coal famine may feel assured. There's nothing the matter with anthracite.

That Bicycle Ordinance.

The growth of the bicycle habit, a thing unprecedented even in these days of abounding wonders, has called forward the necessity of an adjustment and enforcement of legislation calculated to safeguard the riding of bicycles in public places and to protect the safety and comfort of those who do not ride. It has been well said that in a proper government the rights of one citizen end where the rights of another citizen begin. The application of the generality to the custom of bicycle-riding must consist of the placing of such limitations upon riders that they will not invade the rights of others. So long as they damage nobody and menace nobody the law has no business with them; but the moment that their pleasure or convenience as riders is obtained at the expense of the pleasure or convenience of other citizens equally entitled to the protection of government, then they stand in fault morally and should be restrained or punished by law.

Coming to details, it is clear to all fair-minded persons, whether riders of bicycles or not, that there are certain practices by some wheelmen which palpably infringe the rights of the general community, including both other persons who ride and those who do not. For example, the wheelman who, whether with or without warning, propels his vehicle at a high and dangerous rate of speed upon streets busy with miscellaneous traffic, constitutes a public menace. He not only endangers the comfort and safety of persons compelled to cross those streets on foot but he is equally dangerous to other wheelmen, since at any corner requiring a sharp turn he makes possible a serious collision. Again, the wheelman who persistently rides upon the sidewalks is a nuisance. With equal propriety might he ride a saddle-horse upon those walks or insist upon pedestrians taking to the middle of the road while he utilizes the sidewalks as a driveway for his There are exceptional places in poorly-kept streets where it would seem to be permissible a reasonable distance and with reasonproper highway, the roadbed. In such places, if wheelmen use the sidewalks, the fault may fairly be attributed to the city; but even here the wheelman who respects himself will not forget that he is enabled to use the space belonging to pedestrians through their courtesy, and if he be a gentleman he will not abuse that courtesy.

Other specifications might be given but they are not required. The ground has been carefully, fairly and judiciously covered in an ordinance now before councils, the provisions of which were made public yesterday. This ordinance is not meant as a blow at wheelmen and it will not be so interpreted by wheelmen of discretion. It aims simply to surround an admirable utility with equitable safeguards for the public's protection. That it will pass and become a law is reasonably certain That it shall afterward be enforced will depend upon how far the general public is disposed to insist upon its rights. For The Tribune's part it proposes to do what it can to make such an ordinance effective.

It is announced that the Indianapolis conference of bankers will appoint a currency commission of its own. That is sensible. Let every citizen who so desires feel himself specially commissioned to study the currency question in its numerous bearings. If it do nothing else it will at least improve the mind.

A Lesson to Be Heeded.

Some of our readers are possibly ac-Barrett suicide case in Boston; others, perhaps not. A young woman, handsome, well-educated, of amiable disposition, was found flead in the business of- cabman is likely to have a rough road. fice in which she had been employed as a stenographer and bookkeeper, with a bullet hole through her heart. At disclosures point to suicide. The Bosmarizes the deductions from the known rett was extravagant, had a wild craze for money and spent it lavishly. Second, she secured large sums of money from unknown sources. Third, the fact that she committed suicide with premeditation, having first tried to destroy her employer's books, points to theft. Then the Record says-and this, rather than any desire to pass judgment on the particular case is our ob-Jective point-"The way in which our young people are growing up to regard money and the spending of it as the great aim in life, is perhaps the most domoralizing feature in our whole modern system. This is especially so with the girls, whose opportunity for earning money is necessarily restricted, and very few of them have the chance that this one did to get it by stealing."

We are not sure that the girls morit this apparently invidious comparison. There are many girls who are extravagant; who think a great deal too much of mere finery and pleasure and too little of character. On the other hand, our observation has been that as a class women are more inclined to economy than men; that they can save money better than men and that they

Possibly this is due to the fact that they as a rule lack the opportunities for spending money that come to men from their more frequent contact with ousiness men and business places. But be this as it may, there can be entire concurrence in these words of the Troy Times, elicited by the Barrett case; "The father or mother or other person entrusted with the care of children who does not teach habits of economy, content with such belongings as can be afforded, and the strictest honesty even in trifling matters, neglects a most important duty, and perhaps invites sorrow and shame for their charges in af-

ter years." Trite as these words of admonition are, the necessity for continued counsel of this kind is shown in the general state of American society today-almost wholly given over to a feverish and utterly harmful worship of the almighty dollar. From the earliest moment our children nowadays are taught to regard the acquisition of wealth as the one sure road to eminence prestige, happiness; whereas, all history and all philosophy teach that in itself this road is the least certain of all roads to reach these desirable objective points. We say this not in a spirit of hostility to wealth such as is affected by many demagogues who berate wealth either that they may thus secure it or because they cannot se cure it. We say it because in the economy of Providence some-we may indeed say the majority-must always be poor and should therefore be educated to strive for happiness by means not inconsistent with their material surroundings and possessions.

It is not a reflection upon congress but it is a fact that since congress' adjournment business has drawn the freest breaths in years.

The Base Ball Problem.

We think it is no more than just to the proprietors of the Scranton ball club to commend them for their grit in the face of discouragements well calculated to appall average men. They embarked in the business of base ball, not with a view to profits-not one of the directors in the club is in need of income from this source-but simply in order that Scranton might have good, clean base ball. They doubtless expected a reasonable return on time and noney invested, but primarily their idea was to afford the people in this region an enjoyable and exhilarating summer time amusement properly safeguarded and managed. They did their part in first-class manner. That some of those whom they employed did not perform their's in equal manliness does not detract from the credit fairly due the projectors and sponsors of the club.

The club, with every incentive to play good ball, and after a short period of creditable work, later shirked and soldiered; attendance diminished and soon there was a daily deficit. Most men, entering the business from such motives, would have met this emergency by quitting. These men take a new grip and announce their determination to stay. Whatever changes shall appear to be necessary to satisfy for wheelmen to use the sidewalks for reasonable public expectation will be made. The season will be finished. able care, pending the repair of their | come what may. We do not know how others may view this kind of pluck. but for our part it commands admiration. It impresses us as being the kind of spirit characteristic of Scranton at its best, and of our own volition we suggest to that part of the Scranton public which cares for base ball that

It merits a popular recognition. The question of Scranton's representation on the base ball diamond is not wholly one of sentiment. The city is the gainer from such an identification with the sport as the present owners of Scranton's club are striving to give it. As an advertisement of the city a good club is worth much. There is justification for asking that this fact be borne in mind by those disposed to desist from maintaining interest in the that the local public should give to the owners of the present club the reasonable appreciation of one more chance. They do not ask any favors or any odds, but it occurs to us that they deserve at least to receive due credit and some substantial token of popular cooperation.

Three railway systems-the New York Central, the Pennsylvania and the Erie-have inaugurated cheap cab services for their patrons entering or eaving New York. The fares range from 25 to 50 cents, with a time charge of 10 cents an hour. Added to the cheap transfer systems also in operation by these roads, whereby a passenger's baggage is checked at his office or residence to the hotel or residence to which he is going, without charge quainted with the facts in the Alice save for the drayage, this new arrangement decidedly simplifies and cheapens the problem of travel. In these days of falling prices the extortionate

Unexpected but Welcome.

Although the criticism which originfirst murder was suspected, but later ally greeted the appointment by President McKinley of a commission to ton Record, a careful newspaper, sum. | sound the governments of Europe concerning international bimetallism has facts as follows: First, that Alice Bar- abated it has not yet ceased. The lattest and perhaps the most distinguished critic of this act is ex-Minister Edward J. Phelps, who says: "We had in the national election of last year a tremendous battle between the advocates of an honest and of a fraudulent currency, in which business and industry were struggling for their very lives. By an exertion unprecedented in the United States except in the civil war, and in which many thousands of voters abandoned their party for the sake of their country, the cause of sound money prevailed, and a president was elected who was supposed to represent it. But for that supposition he would have been overwhelmingly defeated. If ever a popular verdict was entitled to respect by those placed in power it was that one. Thus far its only fruits have been an embassy of free silverites to foreign nations to see whether those nations cannot be induced to join in establishing the very system that this country has so emphatically repudiated. Between 'bimetallism' and Bryanism there is no

practical difference." We allude to this criticism here and now not so much because it in itself

able admission by a journal heretofore noted for its habitual fault-finding; to wit, the Springfield Republican. Commenting upon the opinion expressed by Professor Phelps it surprises us with the candid and just remarks

which follow: Between free silver coinage undertaken by one nation alone and free coinage audertaken by the leading commercial nations together there is a decided practical difference, and if Mr. Phelps does not see it, so much the worse for his understanding of the subject. But this is not the question. The president was pledged by the platform on which he was elected to do what he could to promote an international monetary agreement, and to fail in that particular would be to set an example of disregard of party pledges hurtful and pernicious. The idea that the popular verdict was for the gold standard expressly and exclusively is a mistaken idea. The great majority of the people of the United States had long favored bimetallism, and the Republican promise of promoting it in the only safe way possible, voiced from the party platform and from every stump during the campaign last year, gives to the verdict at the polls no such interpretation put upon t by this distinguished lawyer. It will probably prove a useless undertaking— this special bimetallic embassy. We have regarded it as quite possibly calculated to harden the opposition of Europe. But he president was pledged to effort of this kind, and we honor him for his loy-alty to the platform promise. It is good for the nation's political morals.

It is gratifying to note this new disposition on the part of a journal so able and influential as the Republican concededly is to be scrupulously fair. Its words cover the truth precisely and in admirable temper. We trust that our contemporary's release from what in former years was sometimes known as Mugwump biliousness is to be permanent. It certainly is welcome.

The New York Sun is making a valiant but fruitless attempt to discountenance the word "brainy." What the Sun has against this word we do not know; to nine persons out of ten it represents the most convenient and expressive word-symbol for the quality for which the Sun is pre-eminent.

Out in Chicago a blackmailing clairoyant and two confederates have just een indicted on a charge of conspiracy to extort money and defraud. An ocasional dose of the same kind of medicine in Scranton would probably have a wholesome effect.

According to the treasury figures there was \$131,467,997 more money in circulation on August 1, 1897, than on August 1, 1896. If you haven't shared in the increase, let it be a tip to advertise and hustle more.

Last year's immigration at Philadelchia fell off over 50 per cent-to be exact, 13,703-as compared with the influx registered the year previous. The ountry can stand it.

A suspicion is forming that from a newspaper standpoint the Klondike opic is beginning to be overworked.

Favoring Rational Mine Inspection

From the Colliery Engineer.

From the Colliery Engineer, better times. Savings banks are get a pretty good gauge of prosperity, of mine inspector was to secure the great-est possible degree of safety for mine workers and protection for the property of the mine owner. To make it possible to secure these desirable ends rational mine laws must be enacted, and the ap-pointment to the office of mine inspector nust be given to a conscientious and time when many mine owners strenuously opposed the passage of laws for the protection of the health and lives of the niners. Their opposition was not due to a lack of sympathy for the miners, but they feared that inconsiderate laws would be enacted, and the result would be increased cost to the mine owner, and no appreciable benefit to the miner. Practical experience with carefully prepared mine laws in Pennsylvania proved that the conditions under which the miner worked could be vastly improved, and at the same time a greater degree of safety could be secured for the property of the perator. Other states followed Pennsyldesist from maintaining interest in the vania's example and enacted mine laws game. At all events, it seems to us and provided for the inspection of the mines by state officials. The National government did the same for the territories. Naturally Pennsylvania, with her great coal interests and greater mining experience, provided the most comprehensive laws. Some of the other states have enacted laws that approach very closely those of Pennsylvaria in thoroughness and efficiency, and followed Pennsylvania's example in providing for the appointment of mine inspectors by ompetitive examinations.

Many of the states, however, have placed the appointment of the mine in-spectors in the hands of the governor. The territorial mine inspectors are appointed by the president of the United States. When the appointment is made solely as a reward for partisan political services, the result is an incompetent mine inspector, and the inevitable results of incompatency follow. It is possible for the governor of a state or the presi-dent of the United States to appoint a competent man, but when they do so it is generally an accident. Sometimes a ompetent man secures the appointment by being backed by strong local influence secured by his popularity and reputation as a miner. Such instances, however, are rare. As a rule, the appointee's fit-ness for the position lies in his ability to influence a few votes for the dominant

No greater outrage can be perpetrated on the mining interests of a state or territory than the appointment of a politician as mine inspector. It is bad enough to have politicians, ignorant of nining, enact our mining laws, without having a politician to enforce them. A politician, ignorant of the science of min-ing, in the office of inspector is an injury to both the miners and operators. He is an injury to the miners because he does not know enough to bring about such conditions in the mines as will result in making them healthful and safer. He is an injury to the operator because ne does not know enough to bring about such conditions as will reduce the habitty to accidents. An accident in a coal mine generally means injury or death to the miner, and financial loss to the operator. Therefore both operators and mi-ners are interested in having competent mine inspectors and rational mine laws.

Rational mining laws can be secured if the more intelligent miners and the broad minded operators unite in recom-mending them. If the miners delegate their part of the work to demagogues, or the operators delegate theirs to narrow gauge m=n who cannot appreciate the value of the healthful and safe conditions in the mine, trouble will be experi-enced. No rational mine law was ever enacted in Fennsylvania till the operators and miners met together and sug-gested such measures as were fair to ooth sides. Rational mine laws will pro vide for a rational system of selecting the mine inspectors. There is only one way in which a man's capacity for the position can be judged, and that is by examination. An inspector who wins his appointment by merit is "no man's man." He can fearlessly perform his duties, and can feel assured that he need not curry from any one to hold his position. make the better, household cushiers. makes especial difference, but because favor from any one to hold his position.

Politics or religious belief should not be prime qualifications for such an officer

TWO COLD, HARD FACTS.

From the Pittsburg Times, Nothing can be finer than what is alled the academic argument agains a protective tariff. It is as thoroughly satisfactory and complete to the mind of the person who enunciates it as was the argument of that scientific sharp who conclusively demonstrated that a steamship could not cross the Atlantic terms of the steam the steam of the steam that are the steam of the steam that are the steam that the steam that the steam the steam that the steam the steam that t ocean. It is true that at the time the argument was published a steamahip was actually crossing the ocean and arrived almost simultaneously with the promulgation of his learned theories. This circumstance did not destroy the beauty of his argument, though it ren-dered it valueless. In the same way the arguments against the tariff remain as beautiful and perfect as arguments as ever they were, but the cold facts of everyday experience are constantly showing that, however beautiful they may be, they are valueless as guides to human action.

A conspicuous illustration of this is given in our dispatches this morning, One, from Washington, tells us of the official acknowledgment by Great Britain that the tariff on tin plate, which was fought for so long against the bitter op-position of the Democrats, and which was enacted in spite of their demonstra-tions that the industry could never be established in this country, has almost lestroyed the British market for that pro-luct in America. The other brings the in-elligence that by reason of the tariff on orax in the Dingley bill a million dollar be California mines is to be established. We do not rejoice that any industry in Great Britain has been impaired or destroyed, but we have great occasion to rejoice whenever a policy is adopted which enables us to supply for ourselves a commodity from our own raw materials which was formerly supplied from abroad, and when, as in the case of tin, the money paid for labor not only goes to our own operatives, but results in supplying he article at even a less price than we ormerly paid, when it was imported.

This is what the tariff does all through ts sphere of influence. It has been doing t right along, and it will continue thus to confound, by cold, hard facts, the beautiful theories of the academicians who have not had a new idea since the days of Adam Smith and Bastlat, and continue to build their argur pon the generalization of medieval philo-

SAVINGS TELL THE STORY.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. Superintendent Kilburn, of the stall anking department, has recently issues statement showing that deposits in the avings benks of New York city amount to \$405,000,000, and that the funds intrusted to these institutions during the past year amounted to \$104,000,000, most of which was deposited since the national election of last November. As this repesents the savings of clerks, minor em doyes, small tradesmen and working peo-ole, it indicates a gratifying growth of

confidence and prosperity.

There have been times when withdrawals from savings banks exceeded the deosits in them, notably during the finanial scare of 1893, and later, though not o so great an extent, during the height of last year's silver agitation. An excess of withdrawals always indicates either an abnormal condition of public sentiment or extreme industrial depression, both of which conditions this country has experiwhich conditions this country has experi-enced within the past four years. Now, however, the triumph of sound money has created confidence from the firancial standpoint while the victory for protection has stimulated business and in-creased the carnings of the people. Conse-quently men and women of small money quently men and women of small means are depositing money more rapidly than they are withdrawing it, a fact which

WOULD BE LESS FUN.

From the Springfield Republican Some one figures that the three conventions of young people's religious so-cieties at Toronto, Chattanooga and San Francisco cost \$6,000,000, and, of co the question is asked, "Did it pay?" do not know whether it paid, but pre-sume it did if the members of those societies think so. The 5,400,000 members of the secret societies in the United States think that their orders pay, yet they spend, it is estimated, for plumes. helmets, swords, sashes, aprons, banners, altars, red fire, lodge room furniture. banquets, spreads, lunches, parades, entertainments to visiting lodges, travel-ing expenses, fees, salaries and incidentals, the vast sum of \$250,000,000 a year, We suppose it pays because respectable people spend the money. The presump-tion is in their favor whatever one's suspicions may be that the money is largely wasted. If there were no exenditures in this country that any critic could brand as useless there would be no hard times, but probably there would be heap sight less fun in the world.

STILL AT THE OLD STAND.

From the New York Sun. A friend in Geneva informs us that certain papers in that neighborhood say that Mr. Dana has resigned as editor of the Sun. This is a falsehood, Mr. Dana has never been of a resigning habit, and hereby declares that he has not com-menced the practice in the present case. He can still be found doing business at the old stand, and the man does not live who can cry that he has seen him, there or elsewhere, turn his back either upon a friend or a foe.



Hello! Who's talking?

This is Cissy. Ah! What is it, Cissy? Did you have a nice time at the races Yes; only it was very warm. Warm! Why, I thought it must hav

Yes. They say Mr. Sweeney would al-"sweat boards" on the ground, Z-z-z-ling!

Explain. I see that Bjones does not go out for

Why is that? He has been told that it is dangerous to rush the growler" in dog days,

To'erably quiet. How is Mr. Finn's candidacy progress-

Rather slow, I fear.
What's the matter? Are there cramps
n his smile? Oh, no. But writing editorials for the Sunday World seems to have lamed his "glad hand." Z-z-z-ling!

Is that you Bill? I hear that Scranton wor. Have you heard how it happened?

Ya-as. What was the cause? Why, the other fellows did not get

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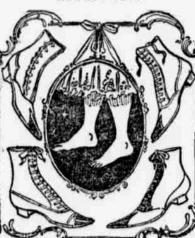
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