

The Scranton Tribune Daily and Weekly. No Sunday Edition. By The Tribune Publishing Company. WILLIAM CONNELL, President.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: Daily, go cents a month. Weekly, \$4.00 a year. Entered at the postoffice at Scranton, Pa., as second-class mail matter.

TWELVE PAGES. SCRANTON, AUGUST 28, 1897. REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

State Treasurer—J. S. BEACON, of Westmoreland. Auditor General—LEVI G. McCAULEY, of Chester. Election day, November 8.

Resolved, That the platform adopted at the National convention of Democracy in 1896 be endorsed fully and without reserve.—Plank Second in the Platform of the Lackawanna Democracy, adopted Aug. 24, 1897.

That Alien Tax Decision.

The decision of Judge Acheson in the United States Circuit court at Pittsburgh that the law recently enacted in this state, placing a tax of three cents per day per man nominally upon employers of alien labor, but actually upon the aliens themselves, is in conflict with the Fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, wherein it is set forth that no state may "deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws" will undoubtedly inaugurate a long train of analytical interpretations of the clause just quoted. That it will act as a challenge to the yet formidable sentiment in favor of the state's rights is very likely. In the light of past contentions hinging upon the limit of state authority in legislation.

But however this may be, the decision will certainly cause a sigh of relief to arise from the managers of large labor-employing corporations in the commonwealth, to whom the new tax law has meant much annoyance and confusion; and it will not be greatly regretted by the mass of citizens. Excellent as the law was in intent—to protect native and naturalized labor and in some degree to reimburse those who pay taxes for the expense of keeping open house for the benefit of those who don't—it proved in operation a distinct disappointment. Instead of diminishing the competition confronting American labor it had simply the one effect of driving all kinds of aliens in hordes to the naturalization court to start the process of legal metamorphosis into citizenship, and thus the tax was escaped. The jail expenses remained the same as before and the only sure result was a further muddling of the civic currents.

The determination of the present national administration to bend every possible energy to the correction of abuses in immigration will soon remove a good deal of the provocation for such a law as the one now under consideration. That which shall remain will be regarded as a natural heritage from past carelessness in this direction, and may be endured philosophically.

The new premier of Spain says he has personal information that the insurrection in Cuba is "approaching an end." It would be doing this if the executive department at Washington cared to take the bull by the horns.

"Concerning Hard Times."

Under this caption Speaker Reed contributes to the Illustrated American a characteristic article putting sound philosophy into witty epigrams and reasoning cool facts with the Yankee dexterity for which he is so justly famed. First, he notes the alternation throughout recorded history of lean times and fat, and next he suggests that the present period of recovery from one of the lean times is a suitable occasion to search for the concealed good, adding drily: "I suppose that even the saints who are made perfect through suffering do not quite appreciate the process until it is over."

The lesson he would impress is worded thus: "We have in the United States and its wonderful upliftings in the direction of wealth, special temptations, and we stay prosperous, in our minds at least. Longer than ordinarily when our sun is shining and our barns are full. Why should we be careful about hay? Let the cattle trample on it and be bedded in it. We have plenty. Why should we, who live in abundance, glean also the fields like the poor? In such times we all become lavish and expect pennies to take care of themselves. We go on from one folly to another. We spend capital and persuade ourselves that we are only spending income. . . . By our extravagant ways we honey-comb what we have. By and by confidence gets broken up and the clock strikes for settlement."

During the period of settlement necessities of life alone are purchased, and in this very fact, tough as it is at the moment upon the man whose business consists of supplying articles which are not necessary, Mr. Reed finds a source of benefit. As he puts it: "A necessary of life may be a necessary at \$1 and an impossibility at \$2. Hence all the energies of the producers at such a period is bent upon the problem: How can I bring the price of this thing within the means, the diminished means, of those who want it at \$1 and do not want it at \$2? When you spread this idea and make it active all over the trade of the world, or even over the trade of the United States alone, you can see what a power it is. It sets inventive genius at work in all directions. It makes economies possible which were never dreamed of, and never could be dreamed of. In the days of prosperity. This reduction of the cost of production is carried all over the country and throughout all of the industries. It is, indeed, entirely within bounds to say that the direct result of the hard times is that we have lowered the cost of production of all things on an average more than 15 per cent."

And the result? "This saving of cost of production we carry into the next period of prosperity with all that that implies. With the next run of good prices, lower though they will be than

for former years, we shall have a similar margin of profit and wealth will resume its accumulation. We have also been saving money. We have been accumulating capital, capital which is free from encumbrance, which is disposable to the best bidder. We have, as a single item, added 5,000 miles to our railroad, and \$300,000,000 to their capital and value. Our savings banks show similar increase, indicative of much we do not see. One hundred and eleven million dollars measure the increase in New York state alone. In the banks of the same state \$18,000,000 have been piled up in excess of the best previous prosperous year. We have reorganized our great trunk lines beyond the Mississippi on so sound a basis that the hope is not unreasonable that they will never again need it any more than will the Pennsylvania railroad or the New York Central. Whether the time has come for another period like that between the years 1879 and 1892 we cannot be utterly sure, for while we can discover the looming of the great handlands of the shore we can never be sure of the distance. Nevertheless, of this we can be sure, some of the foundations of prosperity have been laid broad and deep, and it cannot be long before the superstructure will begin to rise, a superstructure worthy of the past, and worthy of a world which, however it may seem to falter, is always steadily advancing toward a richer prosperity and a greater civilization."

Thus, "wasteful as the uses of adversity would like the toad, ugly and venomous, wears yet a precious jewel in its head." The philosophy seems sound and it certainly is consoling.

The Scrantonian who doesn't go to Klondike next spring but stays at home and improves the chances close at hand may not at the end of the season have quite so many dollars as the bonanza-seeker, but he will have had a vast deal more fun, and if he is smart he will also have a goodly supply of lucre. Next year is going to be a delay for Scranton.

It Will Not Do.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Philadelphia Press, thinks that if judges can keep the peace by injunctions, they should be upheld in issuing injunctions. In other words, the end justifies the means, even though the means make a mockery of trial by jury and clothe the judiciary with powers properly belonging to co-ordinate departments of the government.

It would not be difficult on this principle, to construct a theory justifying lynch law or assassination or executive absolutism on the ground that such means often accomplish apparent good. It is to the credit of the great mass of workmen engaged in the bituminous strike that they have respected the injunction of the court out of deference to the official dignity of the judicial position. For their moderation in the face of provocation they merit public commendation, and will ultimately receive their reward in a just review of their course and of the course of their adversaries and of the injunction judges before the supreme court of public opinion.

But none the less this modern use of the judicial prerogative, though upon occasions it may produce good results, will not finally receive the approval of the American people. This is a government of, by and for the people, and one of the granite rocks upholding its whole structure is the principle that every man is to be regarded as innocent of crime until proved guilty before a jury of his peers. To dispense with juries, executive authority and legislatures entirely, in behalf of a judicial assumption of the combined powers of judge, jury and executioner, would not be worse in degree than to permit the assumption of these coordinate powers by the judges through injunctions at their pleasure.

The sense of fairness resident in the mass of our citizenship can be relied upon in the long run to check any such perversion of the underlying spirit of our institutions.

Dollar wheat means dearer bread, of course; but it also means the wherewithal to pay for dearer bread. Prosperity never accompanies a falling market.

Poetic Justice.

Considerable criticism has been excited by the fact that the Republicans of Virginia have decided not to nominate a state ticket this fall. The reason given for this decision is that the election machinery is so thoroughly in the hands of the Democracy that a fair count is out of the question and that to go through the form of a campaign with no possible hope of winning, even should the Republicans as a matter of fact poll a majority of the votes, would be simply a source of useless expense and exasperation.

We cannot call the decision wise or the excuse adequate. If Republicanism meant in Virginia what it should mean, those who believe in it would fight for their principles and their rights, to the last ditch. Courts exist for the punishment of persons guilty of crime at the polls, and if the courts do not administer justice in such cases there is sufficient potency in the conscience of public opinion even in Virginia to enable suitors with just claims ultimately to reform the courts and to secure an impartial hearing. Those who have advised this policy of cut and run in the face of obstacles are not chips of the block of true Republicanism.

At the same time there is something akin to poetic justice in the circumstance that the discouragement of the Republicans of Virginia in party contentions came not long after the refusal of Republicans when in power in the nation to take steps to make more probable in such states as Virginia a free ballot and an honest count. The federal elections bill defeated during the administration of General Harrison would have enabled the Republicans of Virginia to make a promising and a comparatively easy fight for their rights. Its defeat shut the door of hope upon the Republicans of many parts of the south. They of course should not despair but they are not alone to blame.

The redoubtable pugilist, Fitzsimmons, can, in a day, in Scranton, draw two audiences aggregating 8,000 people, while the best preacher in the city esteems himself fortunate if he totals

attendance at his Sunday services in one-ninth as large. But we must remember that while there are many good preachers there is only one champion bruiser. Let distinction, therefore, have its rewards. The chances are that few preachers would care to trade places with Fitz.

It is very fitting that the president of the Universal Peace union now in session at Mystic, Conn., should bear the gentle name of "Love." Almost any one would be willing and even anxious to be called a man of peace if, like President Alfred H. Love, he could hope to secure the interest of two million dollars left by Alfred Noole, of Stockholm, the income of which is to be divided to the individual who has done most for peace in the world. A petition in favor of Mr. Love and signed by a multitude of admirers will soon be forwarded to the Norwegian Parliament, five members of which have the awarding of this bequest.

That distinguished British savant, Lord Kelvin, fears that before the world's stock of fuels shall be gone its supply of oxygen will be exhausted. It is true that many men oxygenize unnecessarily.

Mr. Bryan isn't going to Mexico, for the reason that he is learning too many things right where he is.

THE KLONDIKE GOLD BUG.

Selected Editorials. Our subscribers are invited to call in at once and drop a portion of their dust. Deputy Sheriff Pat Grogan has been looking over our stock recently and threatens to find a purchaser unless we arrange several back accounts in short order.

There is no truth in the report that one of Andrew's pigeons had been shot over on Yukon flat. With its usual enterprise the "Bug" sent a special representative over to the flats who was given carte blanche to thoroughly investigate the matter. In doing so, the special correspondent discovered that the supposed pigeon was one of old St. James' same roosters that escaped from the coop about six weeks ago, and states the fact in a full account of his investigation, which appears in another column. We are of the opinion that the fake rooster story was simply an advertising dodge calculated to call attention to the town lots in Yukon flat which have not been selling like "hot cakes" since the "Bug" began to boom property at Dead Man's Junction.

We have been turned down. The wait-crowded diode, who wears a Rhinestone scarf and takes tickets at the second-rate theater, known as Slater's pavilion, has refused the editor of the "Bug" the usual courtesies. Other shows we will be obliged to pay to see the show. This is all right, but in the future the columns of the "Bug" will not be filled with slop concerning the cheap attractions at the pavilion. When Mr. Slater engages an ex-washerwoman with a copy of the "Bug" will not be filled with slop concerning the cheap attractions at the pavilion. When Mr. Slater engages an ex-washerwoman with a copy of the "Bug" will not be filled with slop concerning the cheap attractions at the pavilion. When Mr. Slater engages an ex-washerwoman with a copy of the "Bug" will not be filled with slop concerning the cheap attractions at the pavilion.

For Uniformity in State Divorce Laws

The American Bar association has been moving for the adoption of uniform laws governing marriage and divorce in the United States. At last national convention held by the association a sub-committee on divorces was appointed to investigate this subject. Mr. Slater, of the uniform law commission, of that body. It has completed its labors and has submitted a report, which will be laid before the association at its present meeting. If the plan proposed receives the approval of the bar association an attempt will be made to induce the various state legislatures to enact it into law.

The bill proposed by the committee does not aim to prescribe the causes for which a divorce may be granted, but leaves this matter discretionary with the various states. It is modeled after the law in force in the State of Colorado and lays down many requirements concerning residence, notification, proofs of marriage and the manner of hearing the trial. In brief, it provides that a residence of two years in the state in which suit for divorce is brought, and requires that the defendant shall be served personally within the state. No divorce shall be granted unless the summons is returned at the time by the defendant, provided the cause of action arose while he was a resident of the state and he has been absent from the state for one year after the return of a summons not found. All divorce hearings must be held in open court, and no divorce shall be granted unless the parties or their attorneys appear. No divorce shall be granted unless the parties or their attorneys appear. No divorce shall be granted unless the parties or their attorneys appear.

That urgent necessity for divorce reform exists in this country cannot be questioned. In general the proposed law undoubtedly would go far to correct many of the evils of the present lax system. Under the present regime each state is a law unto itself concerning divorces. South Carolina grants no divorces. Several states grant them for one cause only, and a few grant them for two to a dozen or more, as legitimate grounds for legal separation. Until recently a residence of sixty or ninety days was sufficient in certain states to establish a residence for divorce purposes, and misadventured couples could take a flying trip to Dakota or Oklahoma elsewhere, and return in a few months later freed from matrimonial thralldom. Any movement which will regulate divorces and reduce the evils which have sprung from the present system will be welcomed by the great mass of the American people, who believe in the purity of the home and the sanctity of the marriage obligation.

AN ASTUTE JURIST.

The judge, addressing himself to a witness of the female persuasion who is visibly afflicted with at least forty years.

"Mademoiselle, your age, if you please."

ABSURD TRADE DISCOUNTS.

From the Philadelphia Record. The ridiculous complex system of single, double, triple, quadruple, quintuple and even in some cases sextuple discounts from printed price lists now prevailing in some trades where competition is keen has reached a height of absurdity when it is hard to believe can actually exist in any business conducted by sane persons.

In the manure trade, for example, "57 per cent. off the price list" may seem to the uninitiated quite a liberal discount; but there are "troubles" added to this, like knots on a man's tail, increasing in number according to the size of the orrier and the standing of the customer. "Fifty-seven per cent. off a ten cent tin" is a similar quotation in this trade; and as we presume that the majority of our readers will not understand the meaning of this technical phraseology, we will do the arithmetical sum for their benefit. Thus an article is listed perhaps at one dollar; 57 per cent. off leaves 43 cents net; 10 per cent. off of 43 leaves 38.7 cents; 10 per cent. off of 38.7 leaves 34.83 cents; 10 per cent. off of 34.83 leaves 31.35 cents; 10 per cent. off of 31.35 leaves 28.21 cents; 10 per cent. off of 28.21 leaves 25.39 cents; 10 per cent. off of 25.39 leaves 22.85 cents—the net price of the article!

The Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter in its latest issue, in discussing the condition of the plate glass trade, says: "It is not believed that there is much profit in selling at the present low price of 20 per cent. off the list." Further on we read: "It is thought by some people interested in the business that the end is not yet, and that 30 and 40 per cent. will be reached before the war is over." Discounts of "30 and 20 and 10" per cent. are allowed by manufacturers of steel screws; and were it not for fear of confusing our readers we might penetrate still deeper into this maze of discounts.

What is the explanation of such seemingly puerile, or rather imbecile, proceedings? There appears to be a magic charm in discounts. The customer is supposed to believe, and he often does, that for some occult reason the seller is giving him peculiar favors. No matter how transparent the trick may be, the purchaser seems to be incapable of penetrating it; he is hypnotized by the mystic charm of the sextuple discount. This is the more remarkable when we reflect that the purchaser is, perhaps, also a manufacturer engaged in playing the same game himself. One obvious result of this method of transacting business is to wipe out the small retail traders, who can not obtain the sextuple discounts which larger dealers insist upon. The discount system has penetrated almost every trade, from the selling of ponderous power punches to little pills; and the only advantage of a printed price list is to beguile the uninitiated retail purchaser into the belief that he is securing a bargain when he buys an article at a cost less than the printed price list.

A few years ago, before the department stores embraced so wide a range of sales, the book publishers sold their retail often at the full list price, and the catalogue with prices attached was conspicuously displayed and consulted for the purchaser's benefit. If the purchaser, however, "knew the ropes" he could always obtain at least 10 per cent. discount, and after a great deal more than this. Now the purchaser is relieved of the necessity of this counter-attack by purchasing the book at a fixed price at a department store. When the department stores first began to sell books the retail purchasers could actually buy books cheaper at their own counters than by buying direct from the publishers. Book publishers do not now seem to be able to meet the competition of retail sellers of their own products, and are giving up the attempt. It is evident that trade discounts have attained such a height of absurdity that the whole system has become top-heavy, and is liable to fall at any moment.

ELECTRICITY IN MODERN LIFE.

From the Chicago Record. An idea of the extent to which electricity has entered into the every-day affairs of American cities may be gained from the experience of Paterson, N. J., last week. The city is a city of 20,000 people, and had the misfortune to be deprived of electric service through an accident to the plant of the local electric company. When the company constructed its new station, from which the city of Paterson and the surrounding country are supplied with electric current for lighting, railway and power service, it placed the top of the building an enormous bin having a capacity of a thousand tons of coal. This bin had been filled, and it seems that the strain was too great, for the supports gave way, precipitating the contents to the engine room. The steam plant was entirely wrecked, and the machinery almost completely buried.

The accident happened at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon; as a result business was immediately suspended in the town, and was not resumed until the damage to the machinery for the power house had been repaired and the plant again started up. All the stores were closed at nightfall, and this of itself means that in a city like Paterson, where the entire population goes "uptown" on Saturday night to look into the shop windows and settle accounts for the week. The streets were dark and the city was in a state of confusion in all parts of the city and on the lines extending out into the country and connecting neighboring towns. The young people were deprived of their favorite trolley parties, which are very popular in New Jersey, and electric fans, which might have stirred up refreshing breezes for those who were compelled to remain in the sweltering city, refused to turn. And all this time many were in ignorance of the cause of the trouble, as the evening paper of the town were among the sufferers, and, being deprived of power with which to operate their presses, were forced to suspend publication temporarily.

So general was the inconvenience arising from this temporary shut-down that the public mind was fully and manifestly in the affairs of the electric company and its relations to the community, was found upon examination that, in addition to furnishing current for the operation of the street car system of the city and the lines extending into the surrounding country, the electric company maintains many local industries dependent upon the electric company for power. Among these were silk and rug manufacturers, machine shops and printing plants. There are 132 motors of various sizes employed in furnishing power in this way, and 12,000 fans for ventilating purposes. Three churches employ motors for pumping their organs, and on this occasion the service was conducted without music. Probably the most important feature of the company's business, and at any rate the one in which the public was most directly interested, was the taking of the streets of the city and country. For this purpose 99 are lighted and employed. In addition to this, the stores and offices of the town are liberal customers of the electric company; and many private residences are supplied from the same source. All told there are 190 acres and 25,000 incandescent commercial lamps used in the town. It must be evident to central station managers that the utmost care and the best engineering skill should be employed, where the service is of such great importance.

Exact Information Required.

"Oh, Mr. Squidley!" exclaimed Mrs. Homewood to a late arrival at her residence, "are you here at last? I have been dying to introduce you to Miss Gimp, of Chicago. She paints beautifully!" "Paints, does she, Mrs. Homewood?" "Yes." "Face or canvas?"—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

GOLDSMITH'S G. B. BAZAAR.

Great Special Sale.

We have made another purchase of a manufacturer's entire stock of about 400 Ladies' Dress Skirts, consisting of Heavy Crask, Duck and Pique, which we will put on sale this morning, August 28th, at

59, 69 and 79 Cents.

Worth \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$1.98.

SEE LARGE CENTER WINDOW

FINLEY'S

Now Open

FOR

inspection

an advance line of Priestly's Plain and Fancy Black

Dress Goods

for the Fall Trade.

Also an elegant line of

EXCLUSIVE NOVELTIES

IN

COLORED SUITINGS

Which cannot be duplicated.

510 AND 512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE

A Dinner Sets Better

Well! Well! Just Think of It!

600-PAGE LONG DAY BOOKS, LEDGERS OR JOURNALS, FULL DECK BINDING, SPRING BACK, GOOD QUALITY PAPER, FOR 95c.



When served in a fine Dinner Set, and a good dinner should be treated with enough respect to be served in nothing else. You should see our China and Table Ware of all kinds—their beauty attracts universal admiration, AND THE PRICES ARE RIGHT. These goods all come in before the advance in the tariff.

THE CLEMONS, FERBER, O'MALLEY CO., 422 Lacka. Ave.

Advertisement for BOYLE & MUCKLOW, 416 LACKAWANNA AVENUE. Features a large window and text: 'A Fit of the Blues', 'Our Summer Clothing is all cleaned up, except a few Blue Serge Suits. It will pay you to call and see them and Try One.', 'Now Open', 'FOR inspection', 'an advance line of Priestly's Plain and Fancy Black Dress Goods for the Fall Trade. Also an elegant line of EXCLUSIVE NOVELTIES IN COLORED SUITINGS. Which cannot be duplicated. 510 AND 512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE. A Dinner Sets Better Well! Well! Just Think of It! 600-PAGE LONG DAY BOOKS, LEDGERS OR JOURNALS, FULL DECK BINDING, SPRING BACK, GOOD QUALITY PAPER, FOR 95c.'

Lewis, Reilly & Davies.



ALWAYS BUSY. AUGUST SALE SUMMER FOOTWEAR COOL SHOES FOR HOT FEET

LEWIS, REILLY & DAVIES 114 AND 116 WYOMING AVE.

Well! Well! Just Think of It!

Then Think Again!

A LETTER PRESS, 500 PAGE LETTER BOOK, BROWN AND BRUSH COMPLETE ONLY \$5.00.

THEN THINK OF

Reynolds Bros

Stationers and Engravers. Hotel Jermyn Bldg. 159 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, Pa.

FOOTE & SHEAR CO.

Headquarters for SIEGLEY PLANES, BAILEY PLANES, GAGE PLANES, CHAPLIN PLANES, SARGENT WOOD PANES, DISSTON SAWS, WITHERBY CHISELS, GODDELLS SPIRAL SCREW DRIVERS, CHAMPION SCREW DRIVERS, STARRETT'S MACHINIST TOOLS, BRAD'S BRICKLAYERS' TROWELS, ROSE BRICKLAYERS' TROWELS, DISSTON PLASTERERS' TROWELS, PLASTERERS' DARBYS, PLASTERERS' HOCKS, PLASTERERS' FLOATS, EVERYTHING IN MECHANICS TOOLS. No extra charge for special orders.

FOOTE & SHEAR CO. We Give Exchange Stamps.

HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District for

DUPONT'S POWDER.

Mining, Blasting, Sporting, Smokeless and the Reppano Chemical Company's

HIGH EXPLOSIVES. Safety Fuse, Caps and Exploders. Rooms 213, 214 and 214 Commonwealth Building, Scranton.

AGENCIES THOS. FORD, Pittston; JOHN B. SMITH & SON, Plymouth; E. W. MULLIGAN, Wilkes-Barre.

MT. PLEASANT COAL AT RETAIL.

Coal of the best quality for domestic use and of all sizes, including Buckwheat and Birdseye, delivered in any part of the city at the lowest price.

Orders received at the Office, first floor, Commonwealth Building, room No. 42 telephone No. 2624 or at the mine, telephone No. 272, will be promptly attended to. Dealers supplied at the mine.

WM. T. SMITH.