

The Scranton Tribune

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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.

Mr. Lelsenring's Candidacy.

Another Richmond has formally proclaimed his entrance into the gubernatorial field in the person of Hon. John Lelsenring, of Upper Lehigh.

The ambition to be chief executive of the second commonwealth in the union is one which no man need apologize for; and when we consider the infrequency with which, in the past, this honor has come to the northeastern quarter of the state, and bear also in mind the rapid strides which that section has lately made in industrial and political importance, the claim of this region for recognition becomes by no means inconsiderable.

On this hypothesis the formal proclamation of Mr. Lelsenring's candidacy can be viewed with equanimity. The candidate himself, if lacking the prolonged experience in public life and widespread personal acquaintance of some of his competitors, is nevertheless a young man of admirable business qualities, alert, energetic and forceful; and during his single term in congress he exhibited a grasp on new duties and an aptitude for social diplomacy that would augur well for the commonwealth should he ever be chosen as its chief executive.

That part of the Reading platform which refers to state issues gives a good illustration of the pot calling the kettle black.

Cuba's Next President.

It is apparently already assumed that in the election in Cuba today of a successor to President Cisneros the choice will fall upon Bartolome Maso. Maso is a Spaniard in descent; that is, his ancestors came from Spain and he himself received his education in Paris and Seville. But he is described as a resolute and uncompromising advocate of Cuban independence, so firm in this belief that when, at the beginning of the present insurrection a deputation of Cuban autonomists from Havana waited upon him and urged him to cast his lot in favor of administrative reforms rather than war, he listened patiently to what his visitors had to say and then informed them that while they were at that time free to return in peace, the next time they attempted to seduce him from loyalty to his oath as a general in the army of liberation he would treat them as spies and give orders for their prompt execution.

A writer in the Sun, speaking from personal acquaintance with the man, says that should Maso succeed to the presidency of the Cuban republic there would be no possibility of a compromise with Spanish arms. Under his administration there can be no home rule, no autonomy, no peace until the monarchical emblem of red and yellow is forever banished from the island of Cuba. There is no vacillation, no half-way measure, in Maso's position. During the doubtful period of 1880 to 1890, when, discouraged by the failure of what was known as the "little war," most Cubans lost hope and seemed to be in doubt as to what step would be for the best, Maso alone stood out for absolute independence. "There is no other way out of the difficulty," he said. "We must either be free men or be slaves. Spain will permit no Cuban to be anything but a tax-paying serf. If we would have self-respect, we must have independence. This Spain will never give until compelled to. If we cannot enjoy freedom ourselves, let us fight and win it for our children. To me the very thought of autonomy under the Spanish flag is degradation and disgrace. Rather than submit to it I would go to the mountains and live the life of a hermit. There I might be free to think without paying tribute to Spain."

Maso, this writer continues, "is a great admirer of the United States. I have studied your republic carefully; I have once said to an American visitor, 'I have great confidence in your people and in your institutions, but still I do not understand them. Your government is supposed to represent the people. It is selected and placed in power to carry out their will, and yet this is so often seen to fail to do. Your rulers, when in office, do not seem to be studying the desires of the

wellfare of the nation. To me they seem rather to be trying to see how few promises they may fulfill and still remain in office. I trust the United States (the people), and I do not trust her. That is, I put but little faith in the party pledges and administrative promises which are so often held out to Cuba. Your congressional resolutions and legislative expressions of sympathy have many times raised great hopes in our breasts, but the irresponsible and to us cruel indifference of your administration has put an end to such thought long ago. We feel that for the United States, at least, we are entitled to the recognition of belligerency. We will be grateful if it ever comes, but we have ceased to expect it. The single star of our flag is emblematic of our fate. We have got to fight our battle for freedom alone. This century seems too busy to furnish us with a Lafayette. But, what is it you say in English? We will get there just the same."

Such a feeling toward the United States is natural from a Cuban standpoint. It cannot be held by any dispassionate student of our attitude toward the two insurrections in Cuba that we have acted toward the insurgents as from our own historical precedents they had a right to expect. But if we have moved deliberately and without that impulsiveness which is so characteristic of Latin-America the progress of Americans in practical sympathy for the Cubans in revolt has not been inconsiderable. It may be doubted if the present insurrection could last two weeks were all aid from the United States cut off. The showiness of our government in moving toward a final adjustment of the Cuban situation is difficult to defend, but if the present administration shall eventually fulfill the expectations of its friends the words of Shakespeare will apply: "All's well that ends well."

Mr. Singery pronounces the Reading convention the most disgraceful ever held, and says "the opportunity for solidly this year and for success next year has been thrown away." The loss of this mythical opportunity is not worth grieving over; but there is no question that the convention as a spectacle merits all that Mr. Singery says of it.

The Great Business Revival.

The Springfield Republican has no use for a protective tariff and it is not especially enamored of any other predominant political feature of the time, but it is sharp-eyed and candid in reporting facts. At the outset of a long editorial review of the business situation it uses these significant words: "It is difficult to portray the amazing change that has come over the whole face of the business world. Where hardly more than two months ago doubt, hesitation and depression of spirit prevailed, all is now life, activity and high expectancy. Gold discoveries, tariff expectation, sound or unsound, and high crop prices, all coming together by strange chance, have given the commercial body such an electric shock as has not been experienced in eighteen years."

Some facts which it cites are worthy of repetition. Everybody is familiar with the recent bounding jump in the cereal market, but not everybody in these parts appreciates what a change has taken place for the better in the wool market. "Here," says the Republican, "had been enormous importations ahead of the tariff and such active trading as was supposed to have exhausted the energies of that market for a time. But the sales at Boston last week broke all records—12,452,300 pounds, against the previous highest point of 11,578,000 in the last week of March. Prices have also risen until they touch a fifty per cent. advance over the lowest of the season. Here is the Boston Commercial Bulletin's table of prices for August 28 of the years named upon a few staple varieties:

Table with 4 columns: Commodity, Year, Price, and Unit. Includes Terry Kentucky, Ohio XX, Mich. X, Delaine, 1/4-blood, etc.

Prices are thus nearly back to the point ruling prior to the panic and the free wool enactment are still advancing. They are close to the important point under the high tariff, and there is talk of further outside purchases and importations. Indeed, American buyers will attend the London wool sales in September, and this in fact is the fact, as generally admitted, that the country had longed up with a two-years' supply of foreign wools prior to the passage of the tariff bill."

We prefer to give these facts in quotation, so that our readers may be sure we are not exaggerating. The Springfield paper adds: "The commercial agencies report a general advance, and increased trade all about. Railroad earnings reflect this and so do bank clearings outside the speculative centers. Pretty much all the textile mills of Rhode Island are said to be running, practically all the cotton spindles in Fall River are now active and factories all over New England are resuming work where previously stopped. Woolen manufacturing remains particularly active. The dry goods market reports more active inquiry with prices firm. All the voices that fill the air—those of manufacturers, merchants, traders and farmers—are of the new commercial life and hope full of the point of extravagance."

And yet there is a wing of the Democracy which has the effrontery to cry calumny and abuse the administration under which this marvelous commercial revival has been so promptly and so happily inaugurated!

With the local fall trade beginning to reflect the prosperous conditions of business generally, it becomes doubly necessary for the merchants of Scranton to use discrimination and good judgment in the placing of their advertisements. The Tribune is willing to be judged as an advertising medium by the results which follow its intelligent use.

write his autograph in a memorial album in which a false leaf had been inserted containing the text of the insurrection, which the president overlooked. It is also said that this manufacturer subscribed \$500 to the entertainment fund and then made it up by docking the pay of his employees. This is the substance of a current news dispatch. If facts are as alleged, it is too bad that the manufacturer's name is withheld. The public, we suspect, would like to know it.

The nomination yesterday of Hon. Seth Low for mayor of Greater New York, by a group of citizens acting independently and declining to enter into any agreement looking to the union of all the elements opposed to Tammany, will in all probability precipitate a three-cornered fight, in which the voters of the city will win. That in the way such fights usually terminate, hatred for Platt appears to weigh more heavily on the Mugwump mind than concern for consequences. But it was ever thus.

Says Congressman Grosvenor, one of the pillars of the Republican party, "I am wholly out of accord with the system adopted in West Virginia under which Judge Jackson issued his peripatetic, roving injunctions. His views, as I understand them, are bad law, bad morals and worse politics." We believe that this will be the ultimate judgment of the conservative portion of the community.

After the passing of Bryanism, what?

THE KLONDIKE GOLD BUG.

Ed. Torials and News. We feel that we owe the readers of this week's "Bug" an apology for printing the paper on the inside of dusty flour sacks. But the fault is not ours. We ordered from Sitka in plenty of time a consignment of our usual rag fibre, but when it reached the local office of the Aurora Borealis express company the piece-faced gypsies who run that awful example of cold-blooded monopoly refused to surrender it to us because he said we owed him for the expressage on the last lot. We deny the imputation and deny the imputation. The fact is that if accounts were squared for all the guff which the "Bug" has hitherto printed about the Aurora Borealis people, their debt to us could be paid with the season's clean-up of half a dozen claims. But wait, Willie, wait until the "Bug" stops over on 'em again.

Ke Heewood visited our office last Tuesday and informed us that he proposed to enter the push for sheriff. He brought a couple of anti-tobacco cigars and suggested that we accompany him to Shlatter's and have a nip at that new consignment of forty-rod which came last Thursday. He was evidently in the mood of the faithful. But we were onto Ke. We refused the invitation to drink and gave the cigars to our landlord's consumptive nephew. The terms for the official booming in the "Bug" are strictly spot cash, anted up in advance, with a copper-clinched paper giving a grub stake in the earnings of the office.

Klondike has a new woman—its second. She got in yesterday and rumor has it that she intends to make the round of the camp selling a book entitled, "How to be Happy on Ten Cents a Day." Being a woman it is possible she may receive a tip from the "Bug" on the occasion to state that with bacon at \$1 a pound and liquor held at fifty cents a thimbleful the tenorifer who schemed that title must have had palpitation of the brain.

THE MONEY POWER.

From the Times-Herald. The money power of this country consists of 4,875,000 people, who have \$1,810,507,000 in the savings banks, an average of \$371 each; 1,290,000 people who have \$1,048,888,000 in state banks and trust companies, an average of \$808 each; 1,928,000 people who have \$1,701,553,000 in national banks, an average of \$881 each; and 1,000,000 people who have \$500,000,000 in building and loan associations, an average of \$500 each. This makes a total of 9,093,000 people, who have \$5,060,848,000 in all.

NEVER AGAIN.

From the Times-Herald. No matter what may be the dying manifestations of nihilism in the various state campaigns, the wizards of repudiation can never galvanize the sixteen-to-one exclusive. It is dead beyond any hope of resuscitation, so far as a national campaign is concerned. Never again can it be used by boy orators from rear platforms to evoke the glad, heroic strains. Nature has clubbed to death the whole forty-cent-dollar business.

THE HEATHEN.

With Apologies to Rudyard Kipling. The heathen in his folly eats anything that's good. He doesn't try to choose the food that science says he should eat. He dies, gray-haired and weary, at four-score years and ten, and what most sorely vexes him is that he can't eat then. Keep away from pickles, keep away from cold meats, keep away from green peas and corned beef and rice. Never eat a thing that's sweet, and that's rich, and that's good. And thus you'll save your intellect from growing stale and old.

The heathen has three meals a day and sometimes one at night. He thinks his early breakfast to be his honor right; He rises in the morning and hears his hunger call— He never heard that science proves it isn't there at all.

Keep away from breakfast, keep away from tea. Keep away from lunches, wherever they may be. Never let your midday meal be either cold or rich. And every morsel you may take, be careful which is which.

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GET TOGETHER!

From the Commercial-Advertiser. The more the light of intelligent information is thrown upon the present strike, the more the miners are interested. The case of the strikers is certainly a pitiable one, and their grievances are real. From the results of the investigation ordered by Governor Mount of Indiana and conducted by State Statistician J. B. Connor of Indianapolis and Judge W. J. Terhune of Lebanon, the apparent average wage per day of the Indiana miner runs from \$1.52 to \$2.06. But this is not the full statement of the case. The miners' pickers' wages are considerably less. Three tons a day at 47 cents per ton is the usual pay, or \$1.41 for a day's work. Out of this the miner must pay for oil, powder and pick sharpening, an average of 12 cents for each ton mined, while the necessity of patronizing the company store in some instances and of living in company houses in more reduces the wage to the \$1.05 per day that remains. The miners' wages must be made for a season when the mines are shut down, the records showing that there was an average of only four full days' work a week during the past year. It is not strange that the squalid conditions of living necessarily resulting from such an income should have become so intense and a determination to make an earnest effort for better circumstances.

On the other hand, the condition of the operators is one of difficulty. In the absence of organization fierce competition has greatly reduced the price of coal. The operators undertake each original contract, making their yearly contracts, and then, in order to meet their obligations, resort to every device for cheapening the output. In this effort the miners' wages have been the first to suffer, although in the end of the competition has proved ruinous to the operators. It is stated that operators have been known to contract for coal delivered on the car at an average of 30 cents a ton. In making these contracts a "striking clause" is carefully inserted, so that if the miners should strike they will be released from the contract. The coal business has thus reached the point where there is neither profit for the owner nor living wages for the laborer. The consumer is undoubtedly benefited, but it is at the expense of the coal miner. Both the miners and the operators have their grievances, and there are many difficult knots in the problem.

In the main the strikers have conducted themselves in a manner to awaken public sympathy with their cause. But if it is the duty of the strikers to seek redress by peaceful means, it is equally clear that the owners or operators should cease their ruinous competition. The employers are bound to consider the interests of their employees. The refusal of the Indiana and Illinois operators to confer with those of other states interested, such as Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, must be met with public condemnation. Combinations undoubtedly have their evils. But they accomplish one good in giving steady wages and steady wages. In the present instance, in which even the operators profess sympathy for their employees, the one duty by some means to agree together whereby higher prices shall be obtained for the product of their mines and better wages for the miners.

THE FARMER'S YEAR.

From the Philadelphia Times. This is beyond doubt the farmer's year. With a wheat crop worth not less than \$20,000,000, a corn crop worth \$20,000,000, cotton that will sell for \$20,000,000, oats worth \$20,000,000, rye and barley adding \$70,000,000 more to these figures, making a grand total of two billions, with hay, eggs, fruits, vegetables and dairy and meat products yet to be heard from, there will be small chance for raising a claimant cry this year in the agricultural section. That the farmer is not only in receipt of the enormous value of the agricultural products of the country, indicate that the real Klondike of the United States is to be sought in tilling its fertile acres.

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