the Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, MARCH 10, 1898.

"The right to work," said ex-Attorney General Palmer in his address to the jury in the Martin trial, "is just as sacred as the right to strike," and there you have the whole philosophy of the labor question summed up in a sen-

A Nation Aroused.

Hindsight is proverbially better than foresight. In the light of recent events It is now clear that both Mr. Cleveland and Mr. McKinley were in error when each in turn declined to recognize the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents, but used the power of their office to obstruct the American export trade in of war so far as it related to the Cubans in revolt. As has been repeatedly terials have included 20,000 machetes, pointed out, there exists no warrant in official of any cargo of merchandise consigned to any resident or group of residents of Cuba. Only armed expeditions may be stopped. Yet our government for three years has policed the American commerce, while Spain has been left free to buy in our cities and to ship from our ports arms and explosives which may be in the near future, if they have not already been, property and lives.

It was an excess of consideration for a power not deserving of it; it created among the ignorant population of Spain false ideas of Spain's "pull" with us which have culminated in insolence and threats; and it has aggravated greatly the troubles which now make necessary in this country extraordinary preparations for national defence. We sowed kindness and reaped treachery. We played the part of the good Samaritan and received from the beneficiary of our generosity a series of dastardly stabs in the back. The De Lome letter, the Maine's destruction and lastly the impudent request for the recall of our faithful consul general, Mr. Lee, were incidents which came as the direct result of failure to stamp on the Spanish viper before it had had a chance to bury its fangs in our sheltering bosom.

But, thank God, this period of longsuffering meekness is ended. From now onward Spain will have to deal with a nation aroused. There will be no war, because Spain is too cur-like to fight; but the farce in Cuba will be brought to a speedy end, and it will be your Uncle Sam who will ring down the

The belief is growing at Washington that the president contemplates an early recognition of Cuban belligerency, and afterward, Cuban independence, He cannot do either or both too soon to please the people.

The Martin Verdict.

To acquit Sheriff Martin and his deputies of a charge of murder, preferred because at Lattimer they refused to surrender to a lawless mob, has cost Luzerne county \$40,000 and the American public three months of turmoil, but it was worth the price. Law stands vindicated today where for years it had been persistently disregarded. Justice on all sides is the gainer.

Stripped to its real import the Martin trial from the first was a battle between order and anarchy. Anarchy pressed into its service the whelps of yellow journalism and the incendiary eloquence of political adventurers. It played on Ignorance, class prejudice and unbalanced sympathy. It filled the air with dust and it did its best to enkindle the fires of passion. But in the presence of a court which refused to swerve a hair's breadth from its line of duty and before the analytical and judicial processes of the law, it broke down utterly. The common sense of the jury grasped the issue in its full significance and the verdict of the jury stands as the verdict of the American

Bear in mind what was involved. It was not a case of capital against labor, nor of allen versus native. It had nothing whatever to do with the right or the wrong of the controversy betwoen the Hazieton region strikers and their employers. That was a matter wholly apart, and must not become confused with the vital issue in the Martin trial. The Martin trial was simply and solely to determine whether in a time of riotous assembly amounting to sedition the peace officer of the commonwealth was to be upheld or punished for doing his sworn duty. This was the pivotal point; all other issues placed around this point were put there for the purpose of diverting the attention of the public from the main question and speeding it toward confusion.

The jury says that the sheriff is to be upheld, and by so saying it gives strength and fiber to American institutions. Had it said otherwise the whole fabric of law and order would have received a serious blow.

There is no question about the good intentions of Mr. Dunning, the street commissioner, but his supply of brooms and scrapers is far too limited for a city of the magnitude of Scanton. The taxpayers of Scranton certainly would not object to a liberal appropriation in the interest of cleanliness. Why this obstupefactive obtuseness on the part of councils?

A fool in a Williamsport theatre the

of public assembly to have ample means of exit. This advice is capable

Spain seems to have been holding out bigger war bluff than the yellow

The Times can say that all its classi-fied half-cent-a-word advertisements are genuine, that not a line among them represents padding, and can say so truthfully.-Scranton Times.

If this assertion is on a par with the Times' other assertion that The Tribune habitually carries dead "ads," then t had better not pretend to be truthful, else we might feel called upon to

Among the thoughts growing out of the Lattimer case let it be remembered that every man who seeks the protection and advantages represented by the American flag must yield obedlence to American law.

Where Right Makes Might.

It is announced by the Cuban delecation in New York that no more filioustering expeditions will be sent from this country to Cuba. The delegation says the insurgents have now enough arms, ammunition and supplies to last until the United States shall intervene or Spain get out voluntarily, one of which alternatives cannot in the nature

of things be long delayed. The present revolution in Cuba began February 24, 1895. Since that date thirty expeditions equipped in the United States and carried through the governrifles, guspowder and other materials ment const patrol, have conveyed war materials to the insurgents. These ma-40,000 breech loading rifles of the most law for the stopping by any American approved and modern styles of manufacture, and 36,000,000 rounds of ammunition. Medicines, hospital stores and miscellaneous equipment have been sent to the value of \$50,000. Altogether the insurgents have received from their seas for Spain and harrassed legitimate ailies and sympathizers in the United States supplies representing an aggregate expenditure of about \$2,000,000.

No doubt to some this seems a trifling affair when contrasted with the \$300,-000,000 which this same war has cost used for the destruction of American Spain; but the very fact that the handful of Cuban sympathizers in this country could by spending \$2,000,000, maintain an insurrection which Spain has not been able to quell after an expenditure 150 times as great argues eloquently in behalf of the Cuban cause, No cause not grounded in justice could withstand such overwhelming odds. We need to remember also that it has from the beginning been the policy of Gomez and his lieutenants to make Spain support both armies. For every rifle and bullet received by the insurgents from the United States they have in turn captured two or three from the Spanish troops, and the proportion with reference to miscellaneous supplies is far larger. The insurrection when begun by Marti had in cash to its credit less than \$40,000, and this was chiefly contributed by American Cubans from their earnings in this country.

These men in a technical sense have been law-breakers; but in morals they stand not only exenerated but glorified. No braver fight against more formidable odds has been chronicled in history. The day which sees their efforts crowned by success in the establishment in Cuba of an independent republic recognized as such throughout the world will be a day fit to be commemorated wherever love of liberty and hatred of oppression find expression in free institutions.

The Toronto Globe fears that Yankee belligerency toward Spain is the creation of rich Americans who want by means of it to check social discontent. It is always interesting to know how far a Canadian paper can go in distorting the truth about the United States.

Worth Considering.

Russia's seizure of Port Arthur, indicating the purpose of the czar to regardless of the moral sentiment of the world, has caused England to hunt for allies in her effort to block this theft and maintain in China open ports, It is now strongly intimated that the authorities of Great Britain would like to effect on this issue an alliance with the United States. The London correspondent of the Sun says it is common rumer in foreign diplomatic circles that Lord Salisbury would willingly join with the United States in forcing Spain out of Cuba if the United States in return would stand by England's Chinese programme. This correspondent quotes as follows Sir George William Des Voeux, who has been governor of several British colonies, including the Bahamas and Hong Kong, and who is recognized as one of the most eminent authorities on far Eastern

politics: "The present is a most grave crisis in our affairs, not merely as regards China, but, in view of the complications all over the world. On the right steering of the ship of state at this moment depends largely our national future. In my opinion, paradoxical as it may appear, what is of the most immediate consequence is to seize the opportunity of expressing our cordial sympathy with the United States in her efforts to secure autonomy in Cuba, and our determination to aid with our fleet against any attack on her coasts This would prevent war with Spain, and make general American sympathy with us, which is now ours only in part, and would thus be of enormous value to both nations, while materially assisting in the solution of the China question. The United States have already a strong interest in preserving the 'open door,' and in the course of time, as their country fills up, the loss time, as their country fills up, the less than ourselves. The opportunity is one for bringing together the two Englishspeaking peoples. It may never occur

To be sure, in neither instance is England wholly disinterested. She has \$75,000,000 invested in Cuba which Spanish misgovernment is rapidly reducing to nil. With regard to China, the success of Russia means England's mail service. The comparison drawn be-

fools are liable to be found anywhere, that if we are to share in the benefits honce care should be taken in all places of the "open door" we ought to be of local as well as general application, of an Angio-American alliance is worth

clearly indicating which way the trade wind is blowing.

Our hysterical contemporaries who are picturing the assassination of General Lee once or twice a week might be better employed these days in weaving a yellow lining for the Chinese war

Chief Justice Sterrett having declined the proffered interstate commerce commissionership, Judge Calhoun of Illinois takes it with thanks. It is not often that Pennsylvanians are so mod-

The announcement that an extra tax will be placed on beer if necessary to provide for a war fund, causes every patriotic man to experience a parched feeling in the throat.

The scorcher having shown symp-

nipped in the bud. TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope D: awn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer.

Astrolable cast: 2.45 a. m., for Thursday, March 9, 1898. (3)

A child born on this day will wonder what War Correspondent O'Toole thinks of the Martin jury now. Have the "white wings" all beer clipped? A glance at our streets would indicate that such is the case. The spring poet who cannot absorb

als attention to writing soap "ads." The weather of yesterday was enough o cause Editor Wesley Woodruff to dopt a turn-down collar.

n their systems the year around

A Few Definitions. News scoop-Something that, like lightning, seldom strikes in the same

ace the second time. Spring poet-The literary vegetable that generally decays in the refrigator ear on the way to market.

A yellow journal-A paper that con more "yell" than news. Writer of fiction-The average reporter

t the Martin trial. A clean sweep-Something that Scran-ton streets have not had in many moons.

Mail Service Should Be Self-Sustaining

From the Philadelphia Record.

THE liberal policy maintained by the government during a long series of years in its payments to the railroads for mail service has been of great benefit to the peo-ple, both in quickening and facillating communication. This should be borne in mind in all discussions of the subject of reducing the rates of compensation. A parallel case is afforded in the remarkable development of armor plate manufacture in this country through the liberality of the government. It is certaina matter for congratulation, especial-v in view of recent important events, that this country now possesses facilities the world, as is evidenced by the re-\$200 per ton more than this government is permitted by law to pay for armor for the battleships Illinois, Alabama and

An instructive and Interesting article on postal affairs, by Orville J. Victor, ap-pears in the February number of The Forum. The author states that a single Boston weekly paper issues 600,000 copies every week in the year, and that a Philadelphia monthly circulated—mostly through the malls—725,000 copies of its December number. Certain other maga-gines issue monthly from 250,000 to 500. persevere in the partitioning of China | 600 copies, each weighing from 19 to 15 or more ounces. The growth of this liter-ature in volume is amazing, and Mr. Victor takes the ground that "to prohibit it the freest use of the mails in its distribution over our vast domain is simply a crime against civilization." Mr. Vic-tor goes too far. The government is not justified in carrying every class of mail matter for less than cost, nor in making one class pay more than a remunerative rate in order to carry another class of matter for less than a remunerative rate. But he is quite right in insisting upon a readjustment of railway charges

The cost of railway transportation of passengers and freight over the great trunk lines has been greatly reduced since the fixing of mail contracts by various economies of management, in-creased power of locomotives, increased capacity of cars and decreased cost of equipment, fuel, etc. It is, therefore, proper to inquire whether, in view of these facts, the rates paid by the gov-Mr. Victor states that the government pays about \$5,000 a year for the use of each postal car and for its transportation. In further discussion of the subject he says: "As a car is worth but \$4,500 in twenty years—the average length of life of such a car—the railway receives \$100,000 for the use of one car. Mr. Victor states that the government The New York Central railway, we are told, 'receives an annual payment of \$1.088.90 per mile for transporting mail matter between New York city and Euffalo—a sum exceeding the amount required to pay interest on the cost of a complete double-track line from New York city to Buffalo. * * * The Penn-sylvania railroad receives annually \$3,-801.53 per mile for its service between New York and Philadelphia. A careful examination of the tables given and of the charges imposed discloses the signal fact that if the United States govern-ment owned and controlled all postal ears and paid the railroad for traction of it would affect them scarcely less nostrum yenders would completely disappear. Nay more, there would be a big surplus with which to further the scheme of free city and rural delivery and to silence the enemies of cheap reading, who under the thin mask of postal reform would seriously add to the cost of all periodical publications."

Assuming that these statements are approximately correct, it would certainly seem that the government is now pay-A fool in a Williamsport theatre the other night, by a false cry of "Fire!" it may, is there not some point to the almost precipitated a panic. Such expectations of our British kinsmen expectations of our British kinsmen

that if we are to share in the benefits of the "open door" we ought to be willing to help to keep the door from being forcibly closed? The suggestion of an Angio-American alliance is worth considering.

In 1870 the United States had ten times Canada's population. Francis Wayland Glen esimates that in 1900 the ratio will be 16 to 1, which goes to show that there is nothing like American enterprise.

Within a fortnight \$12,000,000 of European gold has been started on its way to New York, to pay for American exports and American securities—a straw clearly indicating which way the trade

The extremely low rates of carriage of wheat, iron ore and other staples on long hauls over our railroads is a never ending source of wonder to foreign en-gineers, and it is largely owing to this inexpensive transportation that our exports of iron and steel, food products, etc., have increased so largely in the past year or two. It thus appears that while the government pays a high price for the transportation of mail matter, it secures prompt and efficient service; and the pays a considerable porand the people recoup a considerable por-tion of the payments of the government through the lower cost of general railway transportation thereby rendered pos-sible. But the postoffice department should conduct its business on business principles by readjusting both what it charges and what it pays for mail ser-vice. The defeat of the Loud bill should not put an end to the attempt to make the postal service self-sustaining.

STATE CONTROL OF PRIMARIES.

Senator Pavey in the Forum. No legislation to reform the caucuses and primaries will be effective which does toms of sprouting once more it again not begin at the bottom. The right to membership in a party is the foundation becomes opportune to advise that he be of all party allegiance. This right should first be defined and protected; and all leg-islation for safeguarding the further steps of political action should be based on this foundation. No substantial su-perstructure can be built until this right is firmly secured.

The rule has been generally accepted that political organizations should de-termine the qualifications of their own members. The proposal to fix by law the basis of membership in a political party strikes men with astonishment. Yet the state has gone so far in the recognition of parties that this step becomes significant. In some states it has already been taken. That it is absolutely essential as the first step in any real progress, becommonly known as the "Kentucky Plan," and provides for the official en-rollment of all members of every political party who desire to take part in the cau-cuses and primaries of that party. A more radical suggestion has been to abol-Many persons have spring fever germs ish conventions and have direct voting at primaries for nominations. This plan is not unknown in the south or west. The proposition is an innovation on existing systems of party government in the east It is sometimes styled the "Record Plan." from its earnest advocate, George L Record, of New Jersey. It may be briefly described as the appli-

cation of the Australian ballot system to caucuses and primaries. It abolishes all conventions, and provides that nomina-tions shall be made by direct vote of the people. A plurality nominates. The first day of registration is made a primary or nominating day. Only official ballots can be used. Any fifty voters belonging to any political party can sign a certificate requesting the proper officer to print upon an official primary ballot the name of the person mentioned in the certificate as a candidate of their party for any par-ticular office. The voter, on the day of registration, goes to his place of registry, registers, announces his party affilia-tion, receives from the board an official ballot of his political party, enters the booth, erases all names except that of his chosen candidate for each nomination, and deposits this ballot in the box question; and his name is printed on the official ballot of the party prepared for the general election. The advantages claimed for this plan are. (1). General and public notice of the time and place of holding caucuses and primaries. (2). producing the best armor plate in Greater interest in caucuses and primaries. (3). The selection of better men as candidates for office, or, rather, the selection of men under better conditions. (4) This system sets apart a day for the se lection of candidates. (5). The corruption of the primaries would probably disap-

These are some of the proposed solutions. No one may possess all the rem-edial virtue claimed by its advocates; but all shuld be granted earnest considera tion and fair judgment. The fibres of American political life are closely in-tertwined with the framework of great political parties. The one cannot be de-stroyed without cutting down the other o its very roots. This fact must be reognized and not decried. The state must rotect these great engines of political ction from internal decay or external lestruction. They must no longer be the ools or toys of the political bosses. The right of every member of every political party to the full use and enjoyment of very piece of the party machinery must be protected. The state must assume the task of this protection and perform the duty to the fullest extent.

NOW IS OUR CHANCE.

From the New York Sun Hawaii, not the property of the United States, will be a perpetual invitation to attack from the western coast of the Pacific, and hence a perpetual millatone when the extension of our trade with upon the extension of our trada with the Asiatic world. Hawaii the property of the United States, vill be a perpetual and impregnable strenghe'l of defence, and an invaluable coundation for the enormous Pacific trade which the future of Asiatic development holds for us. Hawaii is as much to us as Port Arther is to Russia; and yet for Port Arthur Russia, if necessary, would have set in motion the colossal strength of her empire. Hawaii should be annexed at once. Remember that when trouble comes the Sandwich Islands, if the offer of them is rejected now, won't be in the market to be bought like warships.

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ders to match at 5 cents per yard. The grade that we sold last season for 45 and 50 cents, we now sell at 25 cents per double roll, with blended borders to match at 6 and 8 cents per yard.

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