

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, MARCH 9, 1899.

The unification of the coal trade may be merely a dream; but sometimes dreams modify realities.

In Justice to the Mayor-elect.

The decision of the estimates committee on motion of Councilman Oliver to recommend the lumping of the ward appropriations and to vest their expenditure in the street commissioner is in line with business prudence and common sense.

The adoption of this provision by council would be an act of fairness to the incoming city administration, as well as an act of justice to the taxpayers. The new mayor should have full scope and free rein to carry into effect his ideas of city government.

Scranton has had too much peanut politics in these matters in the past and it is high time to turn over a new leaf. Differ as we may at the primaries or at the polls, it is time to realize that the induction of a fellow-citizen into the office of mayor makes him the executive of the whole city.

A Denial of Justice.

The bribery investigation at Harrisburg has gone far enough to convince public opinion that it must go a great deal farther. Certain men have been accused by name of acts which are amenable to punishment before the law.

Very obviously this is not justice but a mockery of it. It enables the public to hear only one side of the case. It is not an investigation for which the successful reformers at the state capital recently professed to be so anxious.

Under such conditions as these there is only one thing for the accused to do. They must demand to be heard by the legislative committee and if denied justice there they must take the case into the Dauphin county courts.

The United States and China.

The official announcement of the intention of the United States to take no part in the dismemberment of China but to safeguard her treaty rights and commercial opportunities in that great empire which is evidently soon to be reconstructed along modern lines has elicited two significant comments.

The ambassador of Russia at Washington, Count Cassini, in a statement communicated through the Philadelphia Press, says: "There are so many ways of viewing the 'open door' proposal and so many interpretations to be placed upon it, that it is a delicate subject to discuss."

consequently we can take no other attitude than that which has been officially announced from our foreign office many times. But we are wondering what our great neighbor to the west, the United States, will do in this emergency. Of course, I can speak only for Russia, but there seems a similarity of interests to guard and to promote.

A half-starved negro who stole a few cents from a museum to get something to eat was sentenced to two years at hard labor by a Philadelphia judge the other day. It is unfortunate that magistrates who believe in administering justice in large doses are generally identified with cases of this kind.

The Common Sense Plan.

Although there will, during the summer, be numerous conferences of prominent Republican leaders in the next congress on the subject of currency reform, the prevalent expectation in administration circles is that congress next winter will not be likely to go further than to enact into law the recommendations of the president on this subject.

It will be recalled that he proposed that when United States notes are redeemed in gold they be held and only paid out again in exchange for gold. He also recommended that national banks be allowed to issue notes to the face value of the bonds which they have deposited for circulation.

Meat Inspection.

Now that so much is heard about meat inspection in army supplies, it is interesting to note that a prominent authority on the subject declares almost all the cities of the United States are without proper meat inspection and that consequently all the people are exposed to the gravest dangers.

Meat inspection that does not inspect is the order of things in this country. Two meat inspectors for the million and a quarter of inhabitants of Philadelphia are a sample of the care bestowed on the conditions of this great food department.

Present Status of Unfortunate China.

THE COAST is now dismembered. Russia has occupied the most northern province, Shing-king, holding its chief ports and prospecting to cross the railroad.

Of the seven coast provinces of China, Shing-king, Shantung, Kiangsu and the Kiang, are practically pre-empted by Russia, Germany, England and Italy.

When this process began by Russia and Germany at the north and was proposed by France from the south the position of England was precarious.

The impartial American, as he contemplates all this with even-handed realism, is bound to find in one "sphere of influence," cannot help a little admiration at the neatness with which England has again come to the front in China.

NEWS AND COMMENT.

General Gomez, writes Charles M. Pepper, would not be a successful politician in a campaign tour. His ways are too blunt.

The Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse beat the Tuesday blizzard by arriving that morning after a voyage made in 5 days, 21 hours and 8 minutes from the Cherbourg breakwater.

Scarcely a day passes that the Pittsburgh papers do not have from one to a dozen reports of increased business done by old established industries in that city or of new industrial enterprises about to be formed.

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course, we thought it all up with our poor comrades. I had received orders from Sampson to allow no boat to approach the reef and so on. My executive officer reported to me that a steam yacht was drawing near to it and asked if he should open fire.

There is an interesting story behind the recent appointment of Dr. Gossett as assistant at Findlay, O., and W. E. Curtis tells it. A good many years ago the family of the late president, Rutherford B. Hayes, owned a dog, which ran into the street one day and barked at a passing carriage.

The actual work of building the "White City" of the Pan-American exposition, which is to be opened in Buffalo in 1901, will soon begin.

The Joneses, as the Chicago Record notes, are doing very well in official life. In the senate of the United States are James K. Jones, of Arkansas, and John P. Jones, of Nevada, who hold their seats until March, 1901.

The biggest medical contract on record has been given to Dr. Axel Ames, of Massachusetts. He has been ordered by General Guy V. Henry, governor of Porto Rico, to vaccinate every one of the island's 1,000,000 inhabitants.

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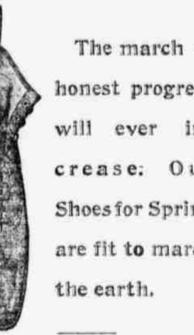
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