

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, JUNE 3, 1899.

Now that his battle with the Barber octopus is over, the mayor will doubtless have time to execute that promised campaign against the speak-easies.

The Marion Clarke Case.

Although not all the facts in the Marion Clarke abduction case are yet known, one fact stands forth conspicuously in this and in recent similar cases—the practical impossibility of carrying such a crime through to completion without detection.

The situation is now in the more civilized communities, the man or woman who plans to commit crime must reckon upon a probability of detection amounting almost to a certainty.

In the Clarke case the recovery of the stolen child will speedily be followed by the arrest and detention of the instruments of its abduction.

The exchange which occurred yesterday in the office of building inspector renders it proper to say that in John Nelson the city had an official who thoroughly understood his business and was faithful, conscientious and efficient.

The Civil Service Order.

With respect to the president's recent order exempting from civil service rules certain officers of a peculiarly confidential nature, Secretary Gage, a thorough-going civil service reformer, says the only reason there is adverse criticism is because the facts in the case are not generally understood.

The law authorizing the appointment of deputy collectors of internal revenue gives the power of appointment to the collectors, says Secretary Gage. "The deputies are responsible to the collectors only, and not to the general government.

A parallel case to the placing of deputy collectors under civil service rules would be presented if the treasurer of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad company should be required by law to appoint men as paymasters or receivers of company funds, not on their character for honesty and business reliability, but according to their grading in a series of written examinations covering intricate points in geography, algebra, and various other academic studies.

It is time for the exercise by the people of common sense in the matter of civil service reform. Public opinion rightly condemns the old-fashioned view of political success at a national election as conferring upon the leadership of the victorious party ownership in fee simple of every place in the government service, to be peddled out or given away in payment of partisan or personal debts or on a commission basis calculated to swell the income of the dispenser of patronage.

railway directorate permit him to consider, the entire number of places on the company payroll, down to the errand boys and scrub-women, as perquisites, to be divided among friends without regard to the interests of the service.

But while Mr. Truesdale does not disturb the great body of routine employes he has, as the responsible head of the company charged with the execution of certain new policies of management, a right to wield authority over responsible lieutenants sufficient to bring them into accord with the policies in his keeping.

No citizen of Scranton, whatever his politics or faction, will begrudge to Fred J. Widmayer hearty congratulations upon his confirmation and induction as food inspector.

Importance of the Speakership.

In the course of an article upon the canvass for the speakership of the next congress the esteemed Philadelphia Ledger remarks as follows: It is unfortunate that sectionalism should have arisen in connection with the speakership, but in certain quarters the more preposterous demand is heard that no man should be chosen speaker of the house who is not pledged to support the administration and all its works.

It is unfortunate that sectionalism should have arisen in connection with the speakership, but in certain quarters the more preposterous demand is heard that no man should be chosen speaker of the house who is not pledged to support the administration and all its works. If the speaker's duties and functions were similar to those of a cabinet officer, who is the personal appointee of the president, a member of his official family, a confidential adviser and administrator, chosen largely on personal grounds, dismissible at will and accountable to the executive, there would be some reason for exacting from him the promise to follow the lead of the administration. A cabinet officer must resign, but the speaker of the house of representatives stands on far different ground. He is in the first place, a congressman, a representative of his constituents, and, secondly, as speaker, chosen by the representative of the whole people of the land, he represents all the citizens of the United States.

In theory much which our contemporary here says is true; but its statement omits to consider certain practical conditions which cannot safely be disregarded by those entrusted with official responsibility. In the first place, when an executive task of great magnitude has to be performed, along lines fashioned by congress, it is proper that the executive upon whom will rest the praise or blame for the doing of this task should have an advisory voice in the framing of the underlying legislation. Congress may have the power, under a narrow interpretation of the constitution, to direct the president to attempt impossibilities; but congress would not be justified in using this power simply to show its spirit of independence.

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Fixing the Matter of Responsibility

Rochester Post-Express. The most important contribution to the history of the outbreak of hostilities in Luzon is the report of General Otis just made public by the war department. It is a complete refutation of the charge often made that the Americans were the aggressors. It shows, too, that at no time did they recognize even by implication the government headed by Aguinaldo.

In a letter to the Philippine leader, dated June 2, in regard to a conference between officers representing the American and Philippine governments, General Otis was particularly careful to disavow any action that could be construed into a recognition of Aguinaldo's government. "I cannot," he said, "after calling attention to the fact that he was merely an agent of the United States government, conducting its affairs under limitations laid down by the constitution and the laws of congress, recognize any national or civil government, unless especially authorized to do so by the instructions of the executive of the United States. For this reason, I was unable to receive officially the representatives of the revolutionary government, and endeavor to make that inquiry clear to the distinguished gentlemen with whom I had the pleasure to converse a few evenings since. You will bear witness that my course throughout my entire official connection with affairs here has been consistent, and it has pained me that I have not been able to receive and answer the communications of the cabinet officers of the government of Malolos, fearing that I might be erroneously charged with lack of courtesy." If any one can detect double dealing in these frank and honest words, he is capable of perceiving what does not exist.

A Question of Veracity.

During the naval battle of Santiago Commodore Schley stood at one end of a speaking tube on board the Brooklyn and Lieutenant Hodgson, the vessel's navigating officer, stood at the opposite end. Beside Schley stood George Edward Graham, of Albany, the correspondent of the Associated Press. Hodgson stood alone. Nobody was near enough to him to hear what Schley said to him or what he said to Schley; but Graham, at Schley's side,

could and says he did overhear whatever Schley said.

It was charged some months ago by the New York Sun, on hearsay evidence, that when Schley gave orders to Hodgson for the sudden maneuver of the Brooklyn which increased its course during the running sea fight at Santiago and kept the Brooklyn out of the range of the cross fire between the other American ships and the guns of Cervera Hodgson protested, alleging that if he obeyed Schley's order the Brooklyn might run down the Texas, whereupon, according to the Sun, Schley said: "Damn the Texas. Let the Texas take care of itself!"

Mr. Graham declares that Schley never said anything resembling this; but Lieutenant Hodgson comes to the rescue of the Sun by giving it his authority for the accusation. On the one hand, therefore, we have a lieutenant; on the other, an admiral and a distinguished newspaper correspondent of known reliability and fairness. The preponderance of testimony as well as the burden of credibility is against the lieutenant; but the matter is of enough historic interest to excite the wish that Hodgson may be summoned before a naval court of inquiry, there to make good his serious charge against a superior officer or, failing that, to be dismissed from the service in disgrace.

From the position indicated by the visit of Private Secretary Hatton to the Barber agent for the purpose of negotiating a discreditable deal that outlined in the mayor's ultimate veto is a long distance, and it represents the variations in attitude to which a public official who draws his inspiration from the galleries and apparently has no fixed convictions of his own is liable. What the present mayor of Scranton greatly needs is a chart, a compass and a few good friends who are not trying to play him for their selfish purposes.

The Pittsburg Dispatch seems to be about the only Philippine newspaper in Pennsylvania. The Dispatch has for some time past been keeping up a constant fire of peevish criticism of the administration, on the Philippine question, but fortunately has been able to do but little harm. The utterances of the Dispatch have long since ceased to be regarded in any other light than those of a garrulous old granny.

In continually making faces at prominent Republicans throughout the state who are friendly to Senator Quay, the Philadelphia Press practices a small but peevish policy which is neither popular nor, so far as we can see, in the slightest degree beneficial. Why it does this is a mystery.

The Dreyfus drama is approaching the point where the curtain will descend with the long-suffering hero in the center of the stage and the conspirators in the hands of the guards enroute for prison.

Each day of the Philippines campaign proves anew that it is better to waste powder than sympathy upon the treacherous Tagalogs.

The bimetalists at Louisville resemble bewildered sons of the desert who have strayed away from the main body of the caravan.

Developments are coming rapidly in the Dreyfus case. This is always true when conspiracies reach the disintegration period.

It is evident that there were no thorns concealed in the olive branches at Columbus.

Paty de Clam will now have a chance to stew in his own broth.

Is base ball playing out?

Judge Not!

In men whom men condemn as ill I find so much of goodness still; In men whom men pronounce divine I find so much of sin and blot, I hesitate to draw a line Between the two, where God has not.

—Joseph Miller.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

From the Philadelphia Press. "Every man," said Mayor Jones, of Toledo, in a recent speech before the charities conference, "is entitled by the laws of God to work. If he cannot get it something is rotten in the social system." How about something rotten in the man? Mayor Jones has nothing to say about that. Doubtless the "laws of God" entitle a man to work. Any able-bodied, honest, earnest, industrious man can read that title clear in any American farming district, in all years and in every American city in all but years of great depression. But the precise difficulty with the "unemployed" is not the "laws of God" or, for that matter of society which "entitle" a man to work, but the special and personal law of the individual man which entitles him to practice to get an idle life.

It is not lack of work or the "inequalities of the social system" that keep men idle, though men of Mayor Jones' views are always saying that. Look into any individual case of the chronically unemployed and what do you find? A man. Either the man wants more pay or less work or work that suits or work in the city and not in the country, or he is careless or quarrelsome and doesn't agree with employer or his fellow workman, or he drinks, or he swamps work, or he is irregularly and untidy, or his habit largely developed. Any man who will soberly address himself to the dreary procession of men who stop you on the street and tell you they are ready to work will find they are out of work because they are the kind of men who when trade slackens are always first dropped or who when trade is brisk don't keep a place.

One would imagine from Mayor Jones' speech and speeches like his that the woods were full of men in the ranks of the unemployed—strong, able-bodied, honest, industrious, willing men, anxious to work early and late and working nobody as long as they get work, plenty of it and steady pay. There are such men, but they are "unemployed." They have their "laws of God" work with great accuracy in their case. The "laws of God" work with equal accuracy for the unemployed. If a man does not work neither shall he eat, and this does not mean that a man can pick and choose as to his work until he has earned the right to pick and choose by hard work. Barring sickness long idleness for any man in a country like this is self-caused. For a season some financial disaster or may leave a man out of work, but even then if he really wants work and has made a personal reputation for wanting work he will get it.

If, on the other hand, he insists on a particular kind of work and a certain kind of pay and work in a particular place—city and not country, for instance—and don't want to do too much work and has an objection to ever hours and to work early and late and working nobody will not come his way, and this is one of the "laws of God" just as much as the one Mayor Jones cites.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by A. J. A. The Tribune Astrologer. Antelope case, 2:24 a. m., for Saturday, June 3, 1899.

A child born on this day will notice that the faces of numerous young lawyers of Scranton are beginning to wear a judicial expression.

Honesty is the best policy, but many seem to believe that it is the slowest policy if one is in the pursuit of wealth. The discovery of Marion Clarke will give several amateur sleuths in this vicinity an opportunity to sleep.

The sayings of the funny man are never remembered. He is fortunate if they are even laughed at.

While the promoter revels in luxury, the pants of real genius invariably hang at the knee.

Description frequently transforms an ordinary circumstance into a lurid sensation.

Trouble is about the only thing that one is sure to find by looking for it.

The Fashion.

TODAY . . . Last Day of our Fire Sale.

A great slaughter in prices of Dry Goods, Fancy Goods, Millinery, Suits and Infants' Wear, Etc., Etc. Never were sold so low before, here or elsewhere. We make this broad statement unhesitatingly because we know it to be a fact. Come and be convinced.

308 Lackawanna Avenue

Come in and ask to see our Wedgewood Blue, Oriental Rose, MADRAS LINEN.

The most beautiful shades ever displayed in stationery. All Sizes in Stock.

We have the usual complete line of Office Supplies.

Reynolds Bros STATIONERS and ENGRAVERS, Hotel Jermyn Building.

MERCEREAU & CONNELL 130 Wyoming Avenue.

The Scranton Tribune AS AN ADVERTISING MEDIUM Is the best in its field, because it is the acknowledged Home Newspaper of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and circulates in the homes of the thrifty families of this and neighboring counties.

Tribune "Want Ads" bring quick and satisfactory returns. ONE CENT A WORD. PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

THE DEADLY SEWER GAS from a leaky drain may give the doctor a case of typhoid fever to work with unless you permit the plumber to get in his work on the drain first.

Do not hesitate about having the plumbing in your house examined by an expert if you think there is the slightest defect. A thorough overhauling now will save many a dollar later.

The smoke test will convince you whether there is sewer gas or not.

BETTER COME IN TODAY AND SEE US. No chance for disappointment. That's why the little prices are unusually attractive. Each piece of Silverware goes out with a warrant that means something. Don't keep the kind that won't bear a guarantee. It has no place in this money-back-if-you-want-it store.

Rogers & Bros' knives today, set of six, \$1.25. Rogers & Bros' tea spoons today, set of six, 50 cents. Sterling silver tea spoons—dainty patterns—go today at 50 cents each.

A hundred similar values at store THE REXFORD CO., 132 Wyoming Ave. The clock sale is next week.

Luther Keller LIME, CEMENT, SEWER PIPE, Etc. Yard and Office West Lackawanna Ave., SCRANTON, PA.

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FINLEY'S Special Summer Sale of Ladies' and Misses' Fine Muslin Underwear. Early in the spring we placed orders for a line of high class garments, comprising Night Gowns, Long and Short Skirts, Corset Covers, Drawers, Etc. Which have just been received and will be placed on sale this morning. We take pleasure in bringing this particular line of goods to your notice—they being mostly made up from French patterns, are exceedingly handsome and of the newest designs. New line of Children's Umbrella Skirts and Drawers, with lace and embroidery trimming—Elegant line of new Silk and Lawn Shirt Waists.

510 and 512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE THE MODERN HARDWARE STORE Pure Cold Water CAN BE OBTAINED BY USING OUR WATER FILTERS AND WATER COOLERS A FULL LINE OF NEW GOODS JUST RECEIVED. FOOTE & SHEAR CO., 119 Washington Avenue.

The Hunt & Connell Co. Heating, Plumbing, Gas Fitting, Electric Light Wiring, Gas an Electric Fixtures, Builders Hardware.

34 Lackawanna Avenue HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District for DUPONT'S POWDER.

Mining, Blasting, Sporting, Smokers and the Hispano Chemical Company's HIGH EXPLOSIVES. Safety Fuse, Caps and Exploders Room 1011 Conant Building, Scranton.

AGENCIES Pittston, JOHN H. SMITH & SON, Plymouth, W. E. MULLIGAN, Wilkes-Barre.