

The Scranton Tribune

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LIVY S. RICHARD, Editor. O. F. BYXBEE, Business Manager.

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When space will permit, the Tribune always glad to print short letters from its friends bearing on current topics, but it is a rule that these must be signed, for publication, by the writer's real name; and the condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 7, 1900.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS—C. C. Ferber, E. D. Fellows.

There is no authority for the assertion in Harrisburg and other papers that Congressman Campbell has indicated any candidate for appointment to fill the existing judicial vacancy in this county. The prerogative of endorsement belongs to the Lackawanna county bar.

The Molinex Case.

THE RESTING of the defense in the Molinex trial without any offer of testimony was not so unexpected to the public at large as it seemed to be to the prosecuting attorney. Assuming that the published reports of the proceedings of the trial have been correct, it has at no time appeared likely that the jury would convict. It might feel inclined to do this on general principles; and on general principles the public would not strenuously object; but it is only fair to the defendant to acknowledge that he has not either directly or indirectly been so clearly connected with the killing of Mrs. Adams as to warrant a verdict of guilty on an indictment of a charge number in the first degree. "It is only thing which Roland E. Molinex stands clearly convicted of having killed is his own reputation and that of a number of his 'fast' friends.

It is votes, not prophecies, that count. Yet it is interesting to observe a majority of the prophets predict that Senator Quay will be elected.

An Honorable Course.

TWO WRONGS do not make a right. An odious wrong was perpetrated when the legislature of Kentucky, under the influence of unscrupulous partisanship, was induced to enact the jag-handled Goebel law regulating elections and election contests. That law put into the hands of the Democratic party complete control of elections, yet Taylor, the Republican candidate for governor, was returned by the Goebel commissioners as elected and a revolutionary appeal was afterward taken to a manufactured partisan majority in the legislature to unseat him and to seat the man whose own appointees on the state board of election commissioners had said was not elected.

But this wrong did not warrant Governor Taylor in perpetrating another great wrong by using the militia of Kentucky to prevent the co-ordinate legislative branch from holding its regular proceedings in the customary place; nor did it justify him in assuming the existence of a condition of insurrection and in basing upon that assumption an adjournment of the legislature to reconvene in a different place. In this he acted injudiciously and upon unwisdom. Kentucky's Republican senator, Dr. Deboe, stated the common sense of the matter accurately when he telegraphed Governor Taylor from Washington: "The unanimous sentiment here is that you are wrong in preventing the legislature from meeting, and that you ought to submit the disputed questions to the civil courts. Federal assistance cannot be given on your requisition as long as the legislature is in session or can be convened. There is no doubt that it can be convened if you will permit. The Democrats intend that if any violence occurs you shall be the aggressor. You will by forcible resistance alienate all who formerly sympathized with your cause."

In deciding to recede from this mistaken position the governor has pursued the manly and just course. The legislature may be set up against him and he may, therefore, lose in the immediate outcome; but that will not be his fault. He can go and the Republican party behind him can go before the people in their final appeal without sacrifice of their self-respect and with a claim to public consideration which sooner or later will command respectful attention. It is not credible of the majority of the people of Kentucky that they will permanently consent to be ruled by revolutionists.

Let us have a viaduct. Everybody knows that it is needed. But let us have one which will, when built, be both satisfactory and slightly. There is only one plan which assures these results and that is a viaduct occupying the whole of the avenue in the vicinity of the railway tracks.

For a Neutral Canal.

THE TREATY negotiated by Secretary Hay with the British ambassador at Washington, Sir Julian Pauncefote, for the abrogation of certain parts of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty (which admitted England to partnership in any ship canal that might be built across the Central American isthmus) embodies the following features: A guarantee to the United States by Great Britain of the right to construct, operate, maintain and control an inter-oceanic canal, controlled to be subject to certain conditions, namely: A guarantee by the United States of the absolute neutrality of the canal; a guarantee by the United States that it will not fortify the approaches of the canal; a guarantee to the United States of the right

to police the canal; and a guarantee that warships of belligerents, while permitted to use the canal in time of war, should not remain in it for more than a reasonable time.

It is held by some that control by the United States of such a canal should be absolute; in other words, that we should have the right not only to fortify the approaches and keep out an enemy's warships in case of a war, but also that we should have the right at our discretion to impose upon the commercial vessels of other nations tonnage tolls higher than those imposed upon our own shipping. If the United States pays for the canal it would seem that it ought to have the same right to accord special privileges to its own commerce that it would have if the canal, instead of being located in Nicaragua or Panama, were located in Illinois or Delaware. Whether it would be policy to exercise this right is another question.

The matter of the fortification of the canal is not, in our judgment, so important. The best way to fortify a canal is to have a navy sufficiently good and sufficiently large to prevent any hostile ship from getting anywhere near it. There is no power in this hemisphere, if we except England, which is likely ever to cause alarm in this respect, and the very fact of the neutralization of the canal in time of war would prevent a superior naval force from seizing and holding the canal against our own ships. The convention as signed by the secretary of state will undoubtedly be carefully and fully considered by the senate prior to ratification, and the public can rest assured that no loopholes will be left open to danger if in its present form any exist.

The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain may be all the mean things that his critics affirm he is, but one thing is sure—he is no coward.

The Man for the Place.

IT IS ANNOUNCED with every appearance of accuracy that Governor Roosevelt has removed his name from the list of those which have been considered in connection with the next vice-presidency. He appreciates the good will which is back of the public's mention of him in this connection but does not seem to be anxious to accommodate the politicians in New York state who desire to have at Albany a more pliable governor. Coupled with the information of Colonel Roosevelt's final decision not to accept a place on the national ticket at this time is the characteristic announcement that he intends to be a candidate for renomination and reelection as governor and expects to secure these honors.

Those who have had some acquaintance with Theodore Roosevelt have been expecting this. He is not the man to be jockeyed out of the executive mansion at Albany while measures of public value in which his warm interest is enlisted remain unfinished. He also recognizes, we have no doubt, wherein his temperamental characteristics are such as would render unattractive to him the office of vice-president. That position can and should be made by the high qualities of its occupant one of the foremost importance; but it is essentially diplomatic and judicial in its requirements. In it the fine fire and dash and love of strenuous combat which characterize Colonel Roosevelt would necessarily be misplaced. His talents have need for a different field.

In this situation we take pleasure in reverting to the exceptional recommendations of Pennsylvania's superb representative in the cabinet, Hon. Charles Emory Smith. Already by virtue of his tact and finished manner not less than by reason of the soundness of his judgment, the accuracy and wide range of his information and his thorough trustworthiness, he is an indispensable agency in the necessary diplomacy of Washington life. Keeping the administration in touch with the people and the people correctly informed as to the aims and intentions of the administration; and also contributing largely to that friendly cooperation between co-ordinate powers which is so essential to successful government.

To those who have had opportunity to view these matters somewhat from the inside, it is no secret that Mr. Smith is not only one of the safest, thinkers and advisers in the cabinet, but also one of the surest diplomats and most reliable as well as eloquent orators connected with the McKinley administration. He has not only exhibited successful qualities in the difficult executive work of his great and intricate department—the biggest business institution in the world—but has impressed his intelligent judgment and gracious methods upon other circles of public activity, until it is not an exaggeration to say that next to William McKinley he is the great revelation of the quadrennium. His place is at the president's right hand, and the nomination of him for vice-president at the Philadelphia convention four months hence, in addition to honoring this steadfast Republican stronghold of Pennsylvania, which has never yet received recognition on a Republican presidential ticket, would to the country's infinite satisfaction, put him there.

Republicans should bear in mind that on February 20 two members of the school board of six are to be elected at large. The fact that the Supreme court has not yet passed upon the question of the legality of the board of twenty-one but may at any moment turn the management of the school over to the board of six makes it advisable that the entire party vote should be polled for the two excellent Republican nominees-at-large, Messrs. Ferber and Fellows. In those wards where the Republican ward ticket is unopposed it may require some little effort to get the vote out, but the propriety of presenting a united front to the eye of the presidential campaign must be apparent.

It would have been better for the Republican cause in Kentucky if the leaders of that party had done their thinking first.

Interdependence of Business Interests

From a Speech Delivered Last Evening by Senator Beveridge Before the New York Bankers' Association.

MY FRIENDS, shall we union and unity among the American people, the solidarity of all legitimate business, the interdependence of all honest interests, and, therefore, the brotherhood of all who compose our industrial civilization; the brotherhood of business as well as of sections; the brotherhood of manufacturer and dealer, merchant and carrier, of banker and farmer, of all who, by hand or brain, are building up the prosperity of the American people and thus sow the seed of our American citizenship; the ultimate good of any class is the final good of all. Unless we abolish civilization and reverse the salutary principles of property and co-operation on which it is founded, all legitimate occupations are necessary; and, if necessary, then the prosperity of one involves the prosperity of all. There is nothing so vital today as for all Americans to know that fellowship is their highest duty. If farmer, manufacturer, artisan, carrier, banker and all the elements with which God has woven the American nation, can understand that their interests are identical and not antagonistic, that the interests of the public over the markets, mints and mines of all the world is no longer a prophecy, but in the very realization of that great truth, becomes an accomplished fact.

And so the word on the lips of patriots today should be: fraternity. Hatred, suspicion and discord are words for the lips of treason; for there is a treason of peace no less than of war. And if voluntary American patriots must learn to forget and never again acquire. We want today the gospel of affection preached throughout the land. The country weathers the storms of adversity and waits and listens for the Voice speaking peace and good will among all the people of our nation. This text must be upon the tongue of every citizen of every citizen of the republic. "All Americans are brothers and the world is our duty and our field." That is, for us, the motto of our American citizenship. For world opportunities are ours today, and if we grasp them they will increase with the increasing years. Let our eyes be turned to our east, the greatest empire in history is involved in a war which is but the time to the mighty struggle soon to come. We cannot prevent it as we are. But shall we not so unite, conserve and build our power that hereafter we shall finally become the arbiter without whose consent, no nation can move. The great canal awaits the diggers; the diggers are at hand and Manila, by the scope of a spindle is to be the center of the world's commerce. The world is made to pass beneath our sun. To our north, on an island of the Pacific, the great island of Japan is the center of the world's commerce. Our eyes are turned to our east, the greatest empire in history is involved in a war which is but the time to the mighty struggle soon to come. We cannot prevent it as we are. But shall we not so unite, conserve and build our power that hereafter we shall finally become the arbiter without whose consent, no nation can move. The great canal awaits the diggers; the diggers are at hand and Manila, by the scope of a spindle is to be the center of the world's commerce. The world is made to pass beneath our sun. 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