

The Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, The Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends bearing on current topics, but its rule is 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, MAY 14, 1900.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT, CHARLES EMORY SMITH, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

State. Congressmen at Large—GALFERRA, A. GROW, ROBERT H. FORDELER, Auditor General—E. B. HARDENBERGH.

Legislative. First District—THOMAS J. BEYONDS, Second District—JOHN S. SCHIFFER, JR., Third District—EDWARD JAMES, JR., Fourth District—P. A. PHILLIPS.

Secretary Root's recent remark that the United States might soon have to fight for the Monroe doctrine and ought to be ready to accept any challenge that comes is substantially reiterated by Senator Lodge, who appears to have no doubt whatever that a war with Germany is more than possible. These men are not mere alarmists. It is safe to assume that they know what they are talking about and have grounds for what they say. Congress must not lag in the work of navy building.

The Woes of Wanamaker.

THERE IS NO reason to suppose that John Wanamaker's version of what took place in the interview between him and Director of Public Safety English states the facts to his own disadvantage. Mr. English's version states them somewhat differently, but by averaging the two versions we find that English did visit Wanamaker to protest at the abusive course of Son Wanamaker's North American, and that in the course of the conversation English took occasion to notify the senior Wanamaker that the latter's record had been looked up and found vulnerable, the inference being that its vulnerability might, if necessary, be exposed.

It was a foolish move to make. The director of public safety should have known better. He should have known that Wanamaker's relations toward the newspaper press of Philadelphia would not be likely to permit a report of the incident to reach the public free from coloring or prejudiced comment. He should have known that the Wanamaker millions are probably potent in securing in behalf of their possessor an exemption from criticism which would not exist in the case of a poor man with a similar record. He should not have given a man like John Wanamaker the chance to bid for sympathy by posing before the people as a pious martyr to high principle.

But now that the error has been made, a man of those alleged affidavits? Surely a man who is so prone as is Mr. Wanamaker to comment sarcastically upon the shortcomings of his fellow-men, and who is so free and generous in hurling stones of censure at others who stand in his way or thwart his intentions will not object to having his own record placed in light before the public. He is not an ordinary citizen in the properly protected seclusion of private life but a chief spokesman of political purification and reform, whose halo is necessarily before the public for examination. Let Director English make public what he knows concerning the genuineness of that halo. He certainly has provocation.

It is alleged that this man Neely, who is mixed up in the Cuban postal frauds, exhibited the instincts of a financier when, after a recent visit to the states, he turned in an expense account of \$1800, including hotel charges at the rate of \$30 a day. But let us at least be fair enough to Neely to give him the opportunity of defence. The public thus far has heard only one side.

Pure Food.

WHAT IS KNOWN as the Brostius pure food bill has again come before congress, having just been reported favorably from the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce. Its intent is to provide a means for the protection of consumers against the adulteration of food products entering into interstate commerce, and its provisions seem to have been drawn with much care.

It establishes in connection with the "agricultural department" a chemical bureau which is to have charge of the inspection and test of food products, under certain restrictions; and it requires that every product offered for sale which is transported from one state into another shall be marked with its true name, with due penalty for violations. The committee report says of the measure: "It does not interfere with any legitimate trade or industry, or prohibit the use of any product whatever so long as that product has not been duly adjudged injurious to health by an impartial commission. It lifts an immense burden from the shoulders of the retailer, who, under existing state laws, is made to bear the burden of the wrongdoing of men outside his state who sell to him. It permits him to secure a certificate of purity from the men from whom he purchases, and this enables the agent of the government to follow to its fountain head the misbranded product and bring the penalties for violations of the proposed law upon the head of the guilty man, and not upon the innocent druggist or the modest corner groceryman."

The agricultural department after an exhaustive investigation estimates that the amount of fraudulent adulteration practiced in the food products sold in the United States exceeds 15 per cent., of which 2 per cent. is injurious. If it be assumed that our 75,000,000 population consume on an average only \$2 worth of food, drugs and liquors a week apiece, here is \$1,500,000,000 annually, 15 per cent. of which shows \$1,170,000,000 worth of cheating, and 2 per cent. of which gives \$155,000,000 worth of chemically injurious cheating in the nation's food bill. It should be stopped.

A three-fifths majority of the committee on the itinerancy of the Methodist Episcopal general conference favors the abolition of the time limit of the pastorate and will, it is said, so report. This does not mean that the conference will accept the report without amendment. There will no doubt be a battle royal when the main question comes up for general debate. But the trend of opinion seems to be against the time limit, although by most distinguished observers its abolition would be regarded as a long step away from one of the institutions which has largely contributed vitality and individuality to Methodism.

"The Hope of the South."

THE OTHER DAY three convened at Charlotte, N. C., a body of men likely to wield far-reaching influence upon the future development of the southern states. We allude to the Southern Cotton Spinners' association, 500 in number, and, although only four years old, already representative of half a billion dollars of capital, which is rapidly finding profitable employment in the textile industry in the south.

The proceedings of this association are not in detail calculated to interest the general public but in the opening address of the president occurred a passage which possesses public interest. After congratulating the association upon the large attendance at the convention, he went on to say: "A long period of depression is at an end, every industry is prospering; every man who can work and will work can find employment at good wages. Money is easy, the finances of the country are on a sound and safe basis, confidence is restored, a bright future awaits us, and we may confidently look for a period of industrial development unequalled in the history of this country. It gives us great pleasure to give you a cordial welcome at all our meetings. There will be no division of territory, no Mason and Dixon's line, with the manufacturers. We are all together in one common interest and one common cause. We are endeavoring to convert the raw material into manufactured products and to find a good market in foreign countries. Our export trade alone with the empire of China, without any organized efforts on our part, will exceed \$25,000,000. We should favor and urge a permanent and vigorous policy on the part of our general government in favor of the 'open door' policy with China, and we should hold and govern the Philippine Islands, which are destined to become the distributing center of the Eastern world, and make our country the center of Eastern civilization. I hope to see this association take decided action on this question of public policy.

"The great hope of the South is in its manufactures. We ask for no class legislation. With extended commercial relations with foreign countries, new territory opened before us, we can plant our products wherever our flag floats, and successfully compete with the world. We should give strong expressions in favor of appropriations by the state governments for building and maintaining textile schools. There are many things we could do for our operatives—make tenement houses comfortable, adopt improved sanitary and ventilation regulations, build churches and schools, and provide libraries. We should do all in our power to erect a high standard of morals, and elevate and dignify labor."

These are true words. They are fraught with weighty import to the people of the southern states.

Before an association of bankers the other day Carroll D. Wright showed by the statistics of savings banks that habits of thrift are steadily growing, notwithstanding fluctuations in prosperity. In 1892, the year before the last depression, the average amount due each depositor in the savings banks of the country was \$38.29; in 1893, \$39.55; in 1894, \$36.86; a decrease of less than \$4; while in 1895 the amount rose to \$37.56; in 1896, to \$37.50; in 1897, to \$37.88; in 1898, to \$38.54, larger than any preceding year in the history of savings banks, while in 1899 it was \$39.13, larger than at any other period. In twenty years in New York state deposits in savings banks increased from \$353,000,000 to \$887,000,000, almost treble, or an average annual gain of \$25,600,000. Other states make a similar showing. More than any other nation the American people possess the Midas touch.

The American minister to Turkey has been granted an indefinite leave of absence, and by all the rules of the game the Turkish minister at Washington ought to accept this as a hint to go home in a passion; but he simply smiles and hangs on. Meanwhile, the sultan gives no signs of an intention to pay the old account that he owes us and the authorities at Washington deny that they have contemplated making a forcible collection. Fortunately patience is an American accomplishment.

In the ten years of its existence the American society for the extension of university teaching has carried instruction to a continually widening circle. Last year, in Pennsylvania and parts of Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland, it maintained 95 full lecture courses, consisting of 559 lectures, delivered to an aggregate attendance of 127,479 persons. The value of this work is inestimable.

It is announced that Captain Carter, who swindled the government out of \$2,000,000, has been detailed at the Leavenworth army prison for duty as a clerk at headquarters, "which is the most agreeable position that can be found for him." By all means let Carter be made comfortable. His genius for sin is entitled to due recognition.

Great stress is placed in Philippine reports upon the harmonious relations existing between the army and the navy. The fact that General Young has complimented Captain McCalla is telegraphed far and wide, as if it was without precedent for a land officer to be decent to a seaman. We wonder why this is.

And now the Tanner men, having been fairly walloped in open convention, are threatening to defeat Senator Cullom, the majority's choice, by deadlocking the next Illinois legislature in the Dave Martin, Bill Plinn style. Under the lesson of the Quay vote they can do it and remain respectable.

Senator Penrose is entirely correct in his theory that the big steel plants at Bethlehem and Braddock are not depending for their existence upon drab government orders for armor plate. The contrary idea is a hallucination which congress should abandon.

Professor Heinrich Dietzel is the latest European applicant to predict the downfall of the United States. Heinrich is alarmed at the growth of our exports. Considering that he lives in a competing country, this is not altogether surprising.

Edward Lauterbach's determination to fight the Boer war in the Philadelphia convention should cause Edward's friends to give him some good advice.

The sale of postage stamps in the last quarter ran \$24,000,000 beyond the highest previous record, another proof that prosperity is really here.

The Boer campaign is evidently now being conducted on the principle that "he who fights and runs away may live to fight another day."

USEFUL FOR REFERENCE.

From the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. General Grosvener, of Ohio, who has a good record as a political prophet, has given out a forecast of the probable result of the coming presidential election. The following shows the states which he claims for McKinley, those which he concedes to Bryan, those which he regards as doubtful, the electoral vote of each state, and the Republican and Democratic pluralities of four years ago:

Table with 3 columns: State, Prediction for 1900, McKinley, Bryan. Includes Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and Totals.

Washington View of Topics of the Day

Special Correspondence of The Tribune.

Washington, May 13.—Neither the general reader nor the tourist who may travel through our new possessions can form any accurate conception of the amount and variety of the subjects that engage the constant attention of the executive forces employed in the government of our insular possessions. The Spanish government, if government it may be called, for centuries had moulded their customs and habits, and was paternal in the sense that it did not hesitate to interfere with personal liberty, and respect upon its subjects not so much as moral agents as creatures whose chief duty was to pay taxes and obey the laws of a crushing, grinding, hungry, iniquitous representative of the king. It was made to pay taxes, and indeed was taxed, for long, three times as much as it is for the authorities. Lotteries flourished in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, and the profits from this source were counted on as the chief income. Brokers were frequent and hawkers of tickets infested the street corners, hotels, cafes, and even the portals of churches. These institutions were openly advertised in the papers, and the general impression was that there was a short, sure, safe road to fortune.

All this has been changed. Papers giving circulation to lottery advertisements are forbidden and the sale of such papers is prohibited. Gambling has also been made the subject of general orders by the military governors in the insular possessions, and constant efforts are made to suppress it, and they have succeeded in giving it into the dark, so that no longer, as in days gone by, flaunts itself openly, inviting the passer-by to venture his money on the turn of the card. The brutal, bloody bull fight has also been forbidden, and will soon be only a memory among the people who owe their deliverance from this relic of pagan Rome to American occupation. Orders have been issued also looking to the protection of animals, a sentiment that needs much cultivation among people whose ideas of mercy have been derived from Spanish sources. By general orders promulgated in Porto Rico, Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, the laws relating to marriage have been so changed that the ceremony performed by a priest or minister of any Christian church is now the only one which is considered valid in law, and the expense hitherto connected with such ceremony has been so reduced that the poor can no longer plead poverty as an excuse for neglecting to marry. It has been so prevalent among a large class of the population.

These measures, and indeed many others that are mentioned, are not only making good, but creating a higher standard of official integrity, and preparing the insular possessions for better things, both in social life and in public business. It is a record that, when seen through the vista of coming years, will be something of which America can be proud.

Brunswick, Maine, a place of about 7,000 inhabitants, is probably the first municipality in the United States to undertake forest planting on a large scale, or what is practically the Old World institution of a town forest. The town owns a tract of about 1,000 acres of what was once pine land, but long since given over to fire and huckleberries. At a recent meeting of the council \$100 was appropriated to improve this land by planting it to white pine. Seed will be purchased and a nursery established to raise the young trees. At the right age they will be transplanted in rows and set out in the woods. The pine is not only profitable, but town forests are common in Europe and often furnish a large part of the municipal revenue.

Tree planting for an unusual purpose has been recommended to residents of the western irrigation districts by W. L. Hall, assistant superintendent of tree planting of the district. He is who has recently been in New Mexico on an investigation. Agriculture in that region depends largely on irrigation, and the streams and reservoirs are much depleted by evaporation due to the heat and dry winds. Hall recommends that belts of trees be planted along every ditch and reservoir, not only to shade them, but to shelter them from the wind. The problem of preventing evaporation is very important, not only on account of the loss of water, but because the percentage of alkali in the quantity remaining becomes excessive.

The University of the South, at Sewanee, Tennessee, has placed its 8,000-acre tract of hardwood timber near that town under the management of the division of forestry. An official of the division will mark all trees to be cut and will draw up the logging contracts to provide for the preservation of young growth. It is intended to make the forest yield a permanent annual revenue to go toward the support of the college. Another interesting tract to come under government supervision is one of about 100 acres, owned by the Adirondack game club. It is in the Adirondack mountains of New York, near Lower Saranac, and is kept primarily as a game reserve. The working plan will provide for the removal of all timber which can be spared without injuring the forest.

The Treasury department has ordered a special agent to proceed to the Pacific coast to investigate the matter of the large influx of Japanese coolies to this country within the last few months. The question is still troubling the immigration officials. Until two or three months ago the immigration of Japanese to the United States was small. It has increased so as to excite suspicion that the men are coming here as contract laborers. The Treasury has also requested the State department to ask the Japanese consul to investigate the matter and make reports.

That our sales to the Orient are rapidly growing is shown by the latest export figures of the bureau of statistics. While there has been a continued growth in our exports during the past fiscal year, by far the largest percentage of gain has been in our trade with the Orient.

COMPENSATION.

If the world, as it goes on its journey along. With a joy and a gibe, a sob and a song. Deals out in unfairness, it so seems to be. It deals with all people, as with you and me.

When coming at evening you see things are wrong. Find that of sorrow there's more than of song. The things that are bitter, by those have been sent. Who see through the glasses that Envy has lent.

Remember that critics do not write the books. The critic's always the poorest of cooks; No wrongs have been righted by fault-finders; No 'twas in their power, they would long ago.

Then ever the list of those that you know, With care and attention most carefully go; And if of the number there's one who is true, In joy and in sorrow is faithful to you.

Who meets you in spirit as friend should meet friend, Who shares all the sorrows misfortune can send; Just give thanks in gladness, in happiest strain; And if you on your knees—'and be thankful again!

—Helen Leigh Savin, in Post-Express.

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The receipts of the Philippine Islands from date of occupation to Jan. 31, 1900, reported as having been deposited with the treasurer of the islands, were: Customs \$5,000,000.00; Internal revenue 470,567.17; Seized funds 300,253.99; Miscellaneous 30,253.99; Total \$5,801,075.15. The disbursements during the same period amounted to the sum of \$5,827,488.44.

Taking the entire year of 1899, and the five islands or groups of islands, Cuba, Porto Rico and the Hawaiian, Philippine and Samoan islands, the total for 1899 shows an increase of more than 100 per cent. in exports to those islands over the year 1898, while the imports from them show an increase of nearly 50 per cent. over those of 1898.

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