

The Scranton Tribune

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

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS. State.

Congressmen at Large—GALTBRA A. GROW, EDWARD H. FORBES, J. B. HARTENBERG.

Legislative. First District—THOMAS J. RYAN, JR. Second District—JOHN SCHWARTZ, JR. Third District—EDWARD JAMES, JR. Fourth District—P. A. PHILLIPS.

The mayor's willingness to take a hand in the war on the speak-easies if councils will pass an ordinance designating them as disorderly houses and empowering him to use the police force to close them carries the responsibility to the legislative branch. What will councils do about it?

Why Not?

THE ESTEEMED Lebanon Daily News regards the present as an opportune occasion to make a vociferous appeal to Hon. John Wanamaker to announce himself as a candidate for United States senator. It praises his ability, which it concedes; his public spirit, which in some respects reminds us of that of the late Phineas T. Barnum; and the spotless purity of his public and private character, concerning which opinion does not appear to be unanimous, judging from Mr. Wanamaker's version of the sentiments expressed by Philadelphia's director of public safety. It might also add that Mr. Wanamaker has ample resources to sustain the expenses of a senatorial campaign, as was shown when he ran the last time.

We agree with the Lebanon Daily News that Mr. Wanamaker ought to get into the senatorial arena forthwith. He is the logical candidate against M. S. Quay and if the two should have a stand up fight to a finish, it would result in the elimination of many disturbing factors from the internal politics of Pennsylvania and clear the atmosphere for the future. This thing of battling against each other the hands of set-up targets is not half so sportsmanlike as a clean-cut, quarterless battle in the open. We dare say that Colonel Quay would prefer such a fight and manfully abide its result. It is to be hoped that Mr. Wanamaker is of the same mind.

Ex-President Cleveland's visit to Havana may demonstrate that the opportunities for good fishing around Cuba have not been properly advertised.

Sensible Advice from South Africa.

THOUGH DIFFERING upon the merits of the controversy culminating in the present war, a number of Americans residing in South Africa have joined in an open letter to the American national political conventions and to the American people, in which, as cabled from Cape Town to the New York Sun, a paper friendly to the Boers, they say:

"We entirely agree that the cause of humanity in Africa would be best served by our fellow citizens in America observing strict neutrality. As Republicans and Democrats we unite in deeply regretting the efforts now being made in our country to drag this unhappy matter into politics, recognizing that such a course can benefit neither belligerent, but is calculated to prolong the strife by raising false hopes. We appeal to all the political parties in the United States in the name of humanity to refrain from cruelly playing with this matter for political purposes, believing that the same has not been and never will be the slightest chance of our country departing from its traditional policy by intervening in this foreign quarrel. We are convinced that if this truth were fully realized in South Africa, as it must eventually be, the war would soon terminate and thousands of lives would be saved. Hence we earnestly appeal to the men of all parties to eliminate this matter from the coming campaign." The letter ends by saying: "A large majority of the Americans here desired to express sympathy with England, but to obtain unanimity we agreed to eliminate all expressions of opinion on the merits of the war."

"Our people have seen in the Philippine matter how sentimentality persisted in for partisan reasons has prolonged a guerilla warfare and cost thousands of lives needlessly without accomplishing a single good result. Let us not make the same inhuman mistake in regard to South Africa. In one way the Cuban postal scandal will do good. It will enable the administration to supply an instructive object lesson for the deterrence of similar frauds elsewhere. It appears in a case recently heard in a Philadelphia court that a woman who innocently carries a man already married and does not discover the fact of her husband's earlier marriage within two years has no redress, the statute of limitations preventing the man's punishment for bigamy. In most states bigamy is a felony. In

Pennsylvania it is only a misdemeanor and according to an opinion rendered by Chief Justice Paxson twenty-four years ago is not a continuing crime. The state of affairs revealed in that opinion has never been corrected by legislation, a fact which certainly gives a duty to the next legislature.

The proposed anti-imperialist convention will be regarded with much interest if it is ever held. In case of an official gathering of the disoriented perhaps the rest of the people may be able to learn what the anti-imperialists actually want.

Fair Play for Oleo.

THE HOUSE committee on agriculture, through Chairman Wadsworth, has introduced a bill intended as a substitute for the Groat bill regulating the sale of oleomargarine. The Groat bill not only requires that all oleo shall be stamped and sold as such under severe penalties but makes it illegal to put coloring matter in the oleo and imposes a tax of 10 cents a pound on the manufactured product.

The Wadsworth bill requires that oleo be sold as such, the penalty for false representation being a fine of not more than \$1000 and imprisonment for not more than two years; but it leaves out the prohibition of coloring matter and in place of the 10-cent a pound tax, which is plainly a hold up on the part of the dairy interests, it proposes to tax manufacturers of oleo \$600 a year apiece; wholesalers \$480 a year, and retailers \$24 a year. The Wadsworth bill is in the nature of a compromise between the extremists who want the manufacture of oleomargarine forbidden entirely and those other extremists who would like to have every restriction upon its manufacture lifted. It keeps in mind the need of revenue but does not put on a wholesome article of food, against which, if it were sold on its merits and not palmed off as butter, there could be no just objection, a prohibitive tax, the chief benefit of which would accrue to the large dairy combinations which now largely control the print butter market.

At a hearing given by the agricultural committee the other day testimony was offered by Dr. Crampton, chemist of the internal revenue bureau, and also by Dr. Wiley, the pure food expert of the agricultural department, both of whom said they had made repeated analyses of samples of oleomargarine purchased in the open market and had never found in the ingredients thereof anything harmful to health. They both recognized that oleo should not be sold under false representation; that it should not be called dairy butter; but they considered it a legitimate and nutritious food product, well calculated to grow in popular favor on its own merits.

This being true, it would be manifestly unjust if congress were to put a prohibitive tax upon it at the behest of the dairy interests.

There are not many symptoms of shielding the rascals down in Cuba.

The Army Canteen.

WHILE A PORTION of the Methodist general conference is summing up its episcopal censures upon President McKinley for his refusal to override the law permitting the existence, under strict restrictions, of the army canteen, and in the case of some of the brethren is uttering criticisms most uncharitable and unwarranted, it is interesting to note what the adjutant general of the army has to say in behalf of the much abused canteen as an agency for temperance and good health among the soldiers.

"If the prohibition of the sale of beer at military posts could," he says, "be effective in bringing about a destruction of the drink habit among the soldiers, the adjutant general would unhesitatingly urge its adoption, and in so doing he believes he would voice the practical unanimous sentiment of the officers of the army; but when, on the contrary, it can be stated as a fact that the closing of the canteen section of the post exchange would be to have such soldiers as are now content with drinking an occasional glass of beer within the limits of the post go to the whiskey dens of vice that have surrounded permanent posts, and which on the passage of such a law would soon revive, he cannot too strongly express the opinion that such legislation would be inimical to the best interests of the army."

"In support of this statement attention is invited to the accompanying opinions of 256 commanding officers of companies, troops and batteries of the army, and non-commissioned officers, who remark upon this particular phase of the results of prohibitive legislation. For half a century the military authorities have been fighting these establishments, which pander to the vices and weaknesses of the soldiers, give them credit, encourage all sorts of debauchery, and are a constant menace to discipline, morality and health, but without any degree of success until the introduction of the canteen system (which is no less than a co-operative store) for the special benefit and convenience of the enlisted men) some ten years ago, since which time, and because of the canteen, they are gradually disappearing."

"Around the reservation of Fort Wingate in 1888," says an official report on file in this office, "a number of little rum shops thrived on the earnings and weaknesses of the soldiers. Here crimes and debaucheries thrived, and after each pay day patrols were required to literally drag our soldiers from the clutches of the keepers of these dens. The guard house was always full in consequence of drunks and absentees from duties, as well as those who had committed themselves in other ways, traced to the demoralizing effects of the soldiers' inane craving for amusement and tittle of some character. The exchange system did away with all this. Those of us who were prejudiced against what was termed a government barroom found the benefits of the new system so startling that it could not be combated, and now the improvements along the lines of morality and discipline have been so

marked that officers fairly shuddered when during the past few months there was a possibility through mistaken congressional action of a return to the old system."

"That similar results have followed the introduction of the canteen at many other points is shown by the testimony of officers. Nine hundred and fifty commanding officers and non-commissioned officers, out of the 1,900 whose opinions are contained therein, say that it has improved the discipline of the army, 735 that it has decreased desertion, 822 that it has lessened the number of trials by courts-martial for petty offences, 900 that it has lessened drunkenness. It will be further observed from the careful investigation made by Assistant Surgeon Munson that the effect of the canteen system upon the sick rolls has been so marked as to have attracted the attention of medical experts. These investigations show that the percentage of cases of hospital treatment for alcoholism and its direct results, which for ten years preceding the introduction of the canteen system averaged 64.25 per thousand, decreased during the ten years following the introduction of the canteen; that cases of delirium tremens have been reduced 31.3 per cent.; that the cases of insanity, traced to intoxicants, have been reduced 37.7 per cent. Dr. Munson's investigations have further developed the fact that the percentage of desertions has decreased.

"In proposing to do away with a system that is shown by official data to be so beneficial to the army administration, it is important to consider the probable effect of the alternative system, viz., prohibition. Some years ago congress prohibited the sale of beer at military posts in states in which the sale of alcoholic liquors, beer or wines is prohibited by law. It is a striking commentary on the workings of prohibitive legislation that it is in these so-called prohibition states, where we are thus enjoined from selling beer to our soldiers, that we have found the greatest difficulty in keeping whiskey out of the garrison."

The adjutant general thinks it is "improbable that one person out of a hundred of those who have signed petitions for the abolishment of the canteen change has the slightest comprehension what a post exchange is, how it is conducted, or the purposes for which it is maintained. It is very probable that this activity of the managers of the opposition has been incited because of the sale of beer, and in some cases, no doubt, of spirituous liquors, in certain volunteer camps during the late war with Spain, which sales were in violation of regulations and were promptly stopped as soon as brought to the attention of the department. If this presumption is correct, instead of being an argument against the post exchange in the army under proper regulations it supplies an example of what would occur should the canteen be abolished and the soldier turned over to the mercies of the saloons and their attendant vices." It is a noteworthy fact that the liquor interests are as eager for the abolition of the army canteen as are the prohibitionists.

STAND BY THE PENNSYLVANIAN.

From the Lebanon Daily News. Senator Boies Penrose declares himself in favor of Hon. E. O. Wolcott, United States senator from Colorado, for the nomination of vice-president by the Republican national convention, which will meet in a month at Philadelphia. Senator Penrose favors Senator Wolcott because of his long experience in the senate, and because that state has not hitherto been recognized in the Republican ticket, and because of his ability and preparation for the office, but why should a Pennsylvanian, and particularly a Philadelphian, desire that the candidate for vice-president be taken from another state when we have a candidate who fills the bill in every respect? The Keystone state is as well entitled to the distinction as any other state in the Union, because of its unswerving loyalty to the Republican party, and Philadelphia especially, because in it the first Republican national convention was held and will again be held in the place in which a winning candidate for president will be nominated. Many newspapers and public men outside of Pennsylvania have been endorsing Hon. Charles Emory Smith, and every Republican in the state regardless of faction should be earnestly and heartily desirous of having him nominated for second place on the ticket with William McKinley. Mr. Smith also is a man of wide acquaintance, ripe experience and knowledge of governmental affairs, and is in every way qualified for the position. All Pennsylvanians should fall in line for Charles Emory Smith for vice-president on the next Republican ticket.

GOOD ADVICE FOR CLARK.

From the New York Sun. If Mr. Clark believes that he has been wronged and that the people of Montana want him to represent them in the United States senate, it would be better for him to go home and begin all over again, selecting his agents by means of a competitive examination in ethics, and remembering Caesar's wife.

He Won.

She—Yes, I—I love you, but I always said I was going to marry a rich man. He—Well, do marry me and then I'll be the richest man in the world.—Philadelphia Letter.

AT THE 'PHONE.

Maud Muller, on a summer's day, Called "Number, please!" to earn her pay. Before her, numbers, printed small, Fell down when any one would call. The judge took down his office 'phone, And made to Maud his wishes known. Said he, "I'll ask you just one more, For four-eleven-forty-four." Said Maud, as mild as summer seas, "What number did you ask for, please?" Said he, "I told you twice before, It's four-eleven-forty-four." Said Maud, and you could hear her smile, "Just hold the 'phone a little while." A weary interval ensued. The wires hummed an interlude, And broken bits of talk came o'er The 'phone, and made the waiter sore. The wishbone-shaped receiver hook He seized upon and wildly shook. Till Maud's voice he heard once more, "What number are you waiting for?" The judge responded with a roar, "It's four-eleven-forty-four."

Ex-Candidate Tom Watson is as quiet these days as an understudy of the Hon. David Hill.

THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT.

Yesterday's New York Sun contained a vigorous letter from John E. Barrett, editor of the Scranton Truth, in relation to the proposition put forth at Montgomery, Ala., the other day by a convention of Southern whites to repeal the Fifteenth amendment. Mr. Barrett writes: "The editorial entitled 'The Proposition to Repeal the Fifteenth Amendment' in Saturday's Sun was worthy the best traditions of the Sun. It presented a great question in a clear and comprehensive light, and vividly pictured the evils that might be expected to result from the undoing of the United States constitution in its most vital part, namely, that which extends the shelter of the fundamental law to the newest citizens of the republic on an equal basis with the old."

"The Fifteenth amendment is one of the fairest flowers on our constitutional tree and the vandalistic suggestion that it be plucked off to serve prompt and fitting ends, no matter what source it may emanate from, it is the fruit and complement of that part of the Imperial Declaration of Independence in which Thomas Jefferson laid down the deathless principle: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.' The Fifteenth amendment, giving the vote and the right of office to the colored citizen of the United States, is a direct result of the principle of equality of rights which is the basis of our government. It is a principle which shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude. Until this vital principle became part of our constitution the constitution was incomplete, and now it is proposed to strip it away! What error such an absurd movement in the name of intelligence and liberty?"

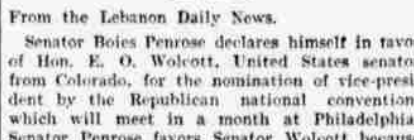
"The proposition to shape the constitution so as to discriminate against a race is reprehensible and richly merits the Sun's condemnation. The admission of ideal statesmen and reformers to the ranks of ideal statesmen and reformers should not be stripped of his political rights! The suggestion is monstrous in a free republic and in an age when advancement for all God's children is the watchword when the Sun's editorial suggests that a great evil that has taken root in the soil and covered the landscape with its spreading branches has expressed its back into the original acre as undertaken to despoil the enfranchised negro of his just constitutional rights. To make him worthy of his privileges as a citizen and a voter is a far nobler task, and to this laudable purpose leaders of his own race as well as white philanthropists are bending their united strength."

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"Those who advocate the repeal of the Fifteenth amendment are not in favor of self-government. This argument is the stock-in-trade of Tory politicians all the world over. It has been the stereotyped argument of the British parliament against the franchise to Ireland, and it was echoed by Lord Salisbury the other day. It is easy to assert that the people are not fit for self-government so long as the opportunity to govern is withheld from them, and equally easy to assert that they are unworthy of the franchise when they are not wanted at the polls."

"The splendid guarantee of the constitution must be kept intact, North and South, and for every race and religion that finds shelter under the grand charter that was ever formulated for the protection of the rights of man."

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NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE.

Thus far in 1900, England has imported 19 per cent. less foreign grain than in 1899, at a total value of 25% per cent. less.

The business of building skyscrapers is being overdone. Only a few of all the buildings in New York are paying anything like a fair rate of interest.

In Indiana there are 14,902 miles of telephone and telegraph wires, valued for taxation at \$4,005,000, and 6,399 miles of railway, assessed at \$150,000,000.

The announcement is made that a line of steamers will soon commence running on the West Sea, the first of the fleet having already been purchased.

There is a public even in nearly every street in Japanese towns, where, for a small payment, the houses may have their dinners and suppers cooked for them.

There are 5,000 silver mines and over 1,000 gold mines being operated in Mexico, and last year the value of these metals exported was nearly \$40,000,000.

Last year the American people ate 2,000,000 tons of sugar. Of this the American Sugar Refining company, otherwise known as the trust, made 1,384,000 tons.

The quaint log church of the Presbyterians in Juneau, Alaska, has fallen into the hands of a brazen company, and it has become the office of the establishment.

An Arkansas woman and her seven children recently traveled to Minnesota on one ticket. The children were all within the prescribed age limit, there being two sets of twins.

The sanitary conditions of Rome are often asserted to be exceptionally bad, but comparative statistics of mortality in the chief cities of Europe during 1898 contradict this misrepresentation.

Oregon has three forest reserves—the Cascade range reserve, area 4,429,800 acres; the Bull Run, area 142,080 acres; and the Ashland, area 1,500 acres, or an aggregate area of 4,573,480 acres.

The old town of Concord, Mass., has just voted an appropriation of \$2,500 with which to celebrate, on April 19 next, the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening fight of the Revolution.

In Java a small state exists which is entirely controlled by women, with the single exception of the sovereign, who is a man. He is, however, entirely dependent on the three women who form his state council.

In the canton of Zurich, with a population of 345,000, the average annual number of deaths is 6,214, 4,043 of which refer to people over 25 years of age. Of this latter number 10.9 per cent., or 412 per year, are due to cancer.

The postal authorities in Belgium will shortly celebrate the fourth century of the institution of the postal service in Belgium. Belgium was one of the first countries in Europe to adopt a regular system for the transmission of letters.

The London Economist's Berlin correspondent remarks that the great German banks have nearly all reported heavily increased earnings for 1899, but have not increased dividends, the same rate as in 1898 being usually maintained on an increased capital.

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Ripans Tabules. An elderly lady living at Fordham Heights, a part of New York City, and who was known to be a warm advocate of Ripans Tabules for any case of liver trouble or indigestion, said to a reporter who visited her for the purpose of learning the particulars of her case: "I had always employed a physician and did so on the last occasion I had for one, but at that time obtained no beneficial results. I had never had any faith in patent medicines, but having seen Ripans Tabules recommended very highly in the New York Herald, I concluded to give them a trial, and I found they were just what my case demanded. I have never employed a physician since, and that means a saving of \$2 a call. A dollar's worth of Ripans Tabules lasts me a month, and I would not be without them now if it were my last dollar."