

The Scranton Tribune

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by The Tribune Publishing Company, at Fifty Cents a Month.

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New York Office: 100 Nassau St. N. S. GREENLAND, Sole Agent for Foreign Advertising.

Entered at the Postoffice at Scranton, Pa., as Second-Class Mail Matter.

When space will permit, The Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends upon the current topics, but it is not to be understood that the publication of such letters is a recommendation of the views expressed, or that the Tribune is in any way bound to editorial review.

SCRANTON, NOVEMBER 26, 1900.

It will be noticed that President McKinley in his speech at Philadelphia included among the finalities of the late election "beneficent government under American sovereignty in the Philippines." The "antis" may continue to rave and to imagine vain things, but the flag now flying in the Philippine archipelago is up to stay.

An Object Lesson.

FURTHER INQUIRY into the character of the deception practiced by William Drury, the state senator-elect from the Twenty-first district, dispels all vestiges of the charitable assumption that it might possibly have been intended by him and due to his unfamiliarity with the ways of politics. Testimony is accumulating rapidly from the most reputable and reliable sources both among Mr. Drury's lifelong neighbors and in other communities within the district to the unmistakable purport that he willfully misrepresented his intents and purposes on the subject of the United States senatorship and gained publicity of political support by false and deceitful representations.

Whereas a fortnight ago he had a reputation for veracity and for honorable dealing which was very general and very high, today it is reported that large numbers of his former associates shun his companionship and speak of his course in politics in words and tones of abhorrence. Politically by an act of perfidy committed on the threshold of his senatorial career he has dug deep the grave of his own future and has inflicted unmeasured harm upon his standing as a man of honor. For such a loss there is no possible equivalent.

It seems to us that this case of Drury is worthy of widespread consideration, because it illustrates a point in urgent need of public emphasis. Absolutely no exception could have been taken to Drury's course had he played fairly and announced at the beginning where he stood. Candor and courage above all other virtues are needed in our politics; the candor to speak out; the courage to hold to convictions when formed; but the speak or withhold in politics is always a detestable and trifly so when parading in the vestments of purity and reform. The backers of Drury announce their purpose to purify the politics of our commonwealth and they illustrate their conception of purity of method by setting up an unfortunate old man upon a pedestal of duplicity and false pretense which, being discovered, covers him with reproach and gains for their faction a vote that could have been had with less trouble and far less expense by straightforward and honorable processes.

The suggestion of Comptroller Dawes that bank examiners should receive a stated salary is a good one, to which we beg leave to add that they should try to earn it.

A Prediction.

IN A PUBLISHED interview former Secretary Carlisle, still one of the great factors in shaping public opinion in the South, is credited with having said, very reasonably, that the future of the Democratic party is chiefly to be determined by the southern members of that party. Inasmuch as the south supplies the great bulk of Democratic electoral votes, upon every issue save one there is, however, no substantial present or prospective difference between a southern Democrat and a northern Democrat. They present the attitude of agreement upon questions of taxation. They are as one in opposing centralization of authority and in upholding, theoretically at least, the dogma of states rights. Democrats north of Mason and Dixon's line have divided on the question of a silver or gold standard and upon the question of expansion, but not more so than the Democrats living south of that line. If Populism has tinged the northern Democracy with the delusive hues of socialism and communism none the less has it likewise colored the southern Democracy.

In what respect, then, does the Democracy of the south differ radically from the Democracy of the other portions of our country and wherein, if it shall exercise the deciding voice in the Democratic re-alignments of the future, will it be likely to mark out a new course of policy? The one great fact stamped all over the southern Democracy and occupying its mind and its energies to the exclusion, almost, of every other consideration, is political fear and hatred of the negro. The southern Democracy, from highest to lowest, with exceptions so few as hardly to be noticed, is determined upon doing away beyond all peradventure with the possibility of negro rule either by direct black majority vote or by the exercise of a black balance of power. To this end it is decreeing the negro's disfranchisement.

The substance of a conversation lately had by the writer with Colonel Watson, of the Louisville Courier-Journal, may without impropriety be given as illustrating fairly the position of the more intelligent men of the south who are not swayed by inherited prejudices and try to look upon facts with the eye of philosophy. This brilliant journalist and orator says he first approached the race question with the ardent sympathies of an enthusiastic

Free Soller but he adds that thirty years of study and experience have wrought a complete reversal of opinion and belief. He asserts that the negro of the south is deteriorating; that the generation after abolition is less fit for the franchise than was the generation before; and that there is not a sign to be seen to encourage the hope of a possible building of the negro to a plane of qualification for the ballot. "Remember this black incubus," Colonel Watson said in effect; "take from the white men of the south who are the mainstay and prop of its life and growth this overhanging menace of negro domination, that under no circumstances possible to conceive can ever become tolerable to them, and the solidarity of political action in the south, as well as most of the still lingering sectional prejudices, would vanish in a night; men would divide in parties as they divide in other sections, and a generation would see the southern people carried forward on a wave of prosperity and industrial development hardly within the power of the mind to measure."

This state of belief can have but one logical outcome. It must eventually crystallize in a concerted southern demand for the repeal of the fifteenth amendment. The squinting grandfather clauses in the four state constitutions which have already proceeded to rob the negro of the ballot are recognized even by their authors to be diametrically opposed to the letter and spirit of the fifteenth amendment. One or the other must yield in peace. Inasmuch as the south constitutes the body and substance of the Democratic party, what is more natural than that the south should use the party instrument within its grasp to formulate and promote a demand for the complete elimination of negro citizenship?

We predict that this will be a vital issue in the early future.

Difficult Questions.

IN COMPULSORY arbitration practice or desirable in this country? If not desirable in general industrial enterprises, would it be desirable in quasi-public service such as steam or street railways, and, if so, how can it be made effective? Are state boards of arbitration or state interference of any kind, probably to voluntary arbitration? If voluntary arbitration will tend to solve, along the lines of least resistance, the industrial problems now frequently remedied for rough and costly partial solution to such warlike agencies as strikes and lock-outs, how can it best be attained in this country?

These and kindred questions are to be discussed at a national conference to be held in Chicago, Dec. 17-18, under the auspices of the National Civic Federation. Among the eminent men expected to participate in the deliberations of the conference may be mentioned, as illustrative of its representative character, Carroll D. Wright, United States commissioner of labor; E. Dana Durand, secretary United States industrial commission; James M. Gilbert, chairman New York state board of mediation and arbitration; C. H. Watelet, ex-chairman Massachusetts state board of arbitration; Hugh L. Lusk, former member parliament of New Zealand; Samuel Gompers, president American Federation of Labor; T. J. Shaffer, president Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers; John Mitchell, president United Mine Workers of America; Frank P. Sullivan, grand master Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen; E. D. Kenna, first vice-president and general counsel, Atchafalaya, Topoka & Santa Fe railroad; Walter Fieldhouse, secretary and treasurer Association of Western Manufacturers; D. Douglas Wilson, vice-president International Association of Machinists; James M. Lynch, president International Typographical Union; Walter L. Pierce, president Metal Traders' association; S. M. Datzel, chairman Executive Committee, The Illinois Coal Operators' association; William H. Sayward, secretary National Association of Builders; Samuel B. Donnelly, ex-president International Typographical Union; Peter J. McGuire, general secretary of United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America; William H. Pfahler, representative National Foundrymen's association; D. A. Hayes, president Glass-Bottle Blowers' association of the United States and Canada; Charles B. Going, managing editor Engineering Magazine; Thomas O'Donnell, secretary National Spinners' association; John R. Lennon, general secretary Textile Workers' union of America; H. M. Eaton, general secretary Foot and Shoe Workers' union, and E. F. Clark, grand chief conductor of United Railway Conductors of America.

The field of inquiry to be occupied by the conference is full of difficulties, yet it is one in which progress along evolutionary and scientific lines is necessary if the future of the republic is to be protected against class distinctions and clashes. As the easiest way to begin, it seems to us that public opinion should be developed to the point of insisting beyond denial that some orderly tribunal continuously existing should in the labor difficulties and disagreements of the future take a hand in a general way similar to that popularly credited to national chairman Hanna during the recent miners' strike and, by force of the influences at its back, and in the broad interests of peace and civilization, compel a settlement substantially just to both sides in conflict. If this is an ideal view let the reality see how closely it can approximate to the ideal. Surely trained modern intelligence, working with the advantages which civilization bestows, ought to be able to fashion a better remedy for industrial ills than the lock-out, the boycott, the strike and the violence that follows strike-like in their wake.

In the course of the movement, just gathering force, for the moral cleansing of New York, some apologists for

organized vice are repeating the argument, sometimes heard in this city, that resorts of a certain kind are necessary in protection of female virtue. The argument is unsubstantial; otherwise, reasoning by analogy, we should likewise legalize and legalize theft, arson and murder. The thing to do, both in New York and in every other city, is to cut the ties of blackmail and illegal subsidy which often fetter police interference with vice and then strive with society's utmost might to keep the ravages of vice as small in quantity and as closely restricted in location as possible.

A prisoner was released from Sing Sing prison on Saturday who had been committed from New York City three years and one month before and had not in the interval set foot outside the prison walls. The changes noticed by him after his release and return to the city require a column in description. Elevated railroads, skyscraping architecture, trolley and cable surface cars, electric lights and a thousand variations of applied electricity are among the more notable. If the prisoner had been a Scranonian, what local change occurring within the past thirty-three years would most have impressed him and what would he have deemed the most valuable change? Here are suggestions for an interesting speculation by our readers, from whom we should be glad to hear.

There is no accounting for tastes. In three days in New York \$100,000 were paid for tickets to Bernhard's performances by people who will neither understand what the French actress says nor discover in her acting any evidences of superiority over that of a dozen American women who come and go without remark.

The efforts of fake correspondents in the employ of some of the press bureaus to dispatch the czar of Russia into eternity do not appear to be meeting with much success in the way of verification.

The American ice trust, it is said, is now reaching out for the Pocono watershed. Our own Lackawanna, however, will doubtless be safe for a time.

A public conscience which gaps at boxing but does not blink at foot ball is fearfully and wonderfully constructed.

Here Is Cause for Thanksgiving

THESE IS ample food for Thanksgiving reflection in some of the figures which the treasury bureau of statistics has just presented regarding the commerce and affairs of the United States in these days of our history. This table is interesting not alone in its presentation of the import and export record, but especially in its showing relative to the excess of imports or exports during the ten-year period. This table is interesting not alone in its presentation of the import and export record, but especially in its showing relative to the excess of imports or exports during the ten-year period. This table is interesting not alone in its presentation of the import and export record, but especially in its showing relative to the excess of imports or exports during the ten-year period.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

The average watch is composed of 176 different pieces. Next to Gibraltar, Malta is the strongest fortress in the world. It has been computed that there are 100,000 rubber stamps in use in the world. The Chinese are essentially cotton consumers, the majority of the people dressing in clothes of that fabric. One million eight hundred and fifty thousand square yards of looking glass is manufactured in England annually. The entire collection of coins and medals in the British museum consists of nearly two hundred and fifty thousand specimens. The highest kilt as a saluting dress and it would not survive as a parade uniform only. Two of the greatest literary productions of the century are the dictionary in 20 volumes and an encyclopedia in 22,007 volumes. The first Protestant missionary in China was Rev. Dr. Robert Morrison, who was sent out by the London Missionary society in 1807. Artificial silks are made of wood fiber, dissolved to a glue-like consistency by acids, forced through looms in glass and drawn out into threads. The New Jersey bureau of statistics has issued a circular showing increase in wages for 1900 as averaging 9.8 per cent. In iron and steel the advance was above the average. At the Seismological observatory of Quarto, near Florence, observations of more than 170 earthquakes were made in the year beginning Nov. 1, 1899, and ending Oct. 31, 1900. The largest cotton ginning plant in the world is now under construction at Corsicana, Tex., and the next largest is being constructed at Bryan, Tex. A third is being put in at Mexico. The garments of the Orientals were not always the same from generation to generation, and for this reason their wardrobes are very extensive. The only fortress in the United States is Fort Mifflin, in Virginia. It is surrounded by a moat filled with water from eight to fifteen feet deep and from seventy-five to one hundred feet wide. The largest balloon ever constructed and capable of lifting over six tons will ascend from Berlin shortly to make meteorological observations, and will be supplied with provisions for several weeks and with two helms.

LET US SMILE. The thing that gives the farthest looking making life worth while. That coats the least and does the most, is just a pleasant smile. The smile that bubbles from a heart that loves its fellow man. Will drive away the clouds of gloom and coax the sun again. It's a gift of wealth, and goodness, too, with nearly a million dollars, and it doesn't cost a cent. There is no room for sadness when we see a cheery smile; It always has the same good look—it's never out of style. It never us to try again when failure makes us blue; The dimples of encouragement are good for me; It pays a higher interest, for it is merely lent—it's worth a million dollars, and it doesn't cost a cent. A smile comes very easy—you can wrinkle up your face a hundred times before you can squeeze out a single tear. It ripples out, unswerving, to the heartbeats that are still alive. And always leaves an echo that is very like a smile again. So, smile away, folks understand what by a smile is meant. It's worth a million dollars, and it doesn't cost a cent. —Josh Winks, in Baltimore American.

The People's Exchange. A POPULAR CLEARING HOUSE for the Benefit of All Who Have Houses to Rent, Real Estate or Other Property to Sell, or Who Want to Buy or Hire. Help—These Small Advertisements Cost One Cent a Word—Insertions Not Five Cents a Word—Except Situations Wanted, Which Are Inserted Free.

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For Sale. FOR SALE—BIRNING ROOM BUSINESS, OLD established, doing a volume of business. Health, Address, W. T. Hackett, Price building.

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Business Opportunity. WALL STREET—IF YOU WANT TO MAKE money in the present market, write us. Stocks, bonds, provisions carried on 2 per cent margin. P. J. Peters & Co., 55 Broadway, New York.

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We Have Just Received. A large assortment of Miniature Calendars for the coming year, such as are used for fancy work and designs. As the stock in this particular line is always limited, we would advise that now is the time to get what you want.

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Mercereau & Connell. Now open for business at our new store, 132 Wyoming avenue.

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