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When space will permit, The Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends hearing 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.

THE FLAT RATE FOR ADVERTISING. The following table shows the price per inch each inscriben, space to be used within one year: | Ren of | Siding on | Vall |
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For rards of thanks, resolutions of condolence and similar contributions in the nature of ad-vertising The Tribune makes a charge of 5 cents a line Rotes for Classified Advertising furnished on

TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, NOVEMBER 29, 1961.

"Mabon" has the right idea of what a labor union should be-a force for peace, prosperity and progress, not a means of parading a chip on its shoul-

The Jury System.

NTRAORDINARY care, we are told, has been used in the selection of names to go into the jury wheel for next year. Mr. Sturges has made this a crucial that should the men thus summoned to civic duty exhibit unwillingness to that the government at Harrisburg is serve it will be accepted by him as a honeycombed with fraud! final notice to discontinue his activity as a reformer.

From these premises it is inferred that a large draft is to be made for jury service upon the so-called better element, the men of means and culture who usually ask to be excused and find fault with how things are done in the courts. Just why the impression should prevail that to get a majority of these men into the jury box would improve the workings of the jury system is inexplicable. It is unwarranted

The jury system rests upon the doc trine of averages. It presupposes that the consensus of opinion of twelve men fairly representative of the average this topic citizenship of the community is a safer guide to justice in determining questions of fact from crossplay of testimony than the wisdom of any single individual or of any set, group or class. It is a legitimate offspring of universal nanhood suffrage, which takes the common sense of all the people as a better guide to the attainment of just government than the condescension of aristocracy or the mad tumult of mob-

If in its local workings the jury system has fallen short of justice, the remits conflibrium by excess of silk stockng representation than by keeping out professionals and in making it more broadly representative. It is the plain people who are the saving grace of our court administration, and not the selfflattering, so-called superior people, who fall down every time they try to do something practical in government.

The happiest man yesterday was the man who did something for others. It is a recipe for happiness good for every day in the year.

The House Rules.

ROM THE talk which precedes the assembling of congress it is inferred that at tomorrow's 'caucus of the Republican members of the house the old question of revising the rules will be raised. The situation is thus described by Colonel Henry Hall in a letter to the Pittsburg Times:

There has been for some time past an element in the Republican party in the house opposed to the rules which harbor, and contracts were authorized practically puts the control of legis- for an additional amount not exceeding bation in the hands of the speaker and \$2,000,000. The plans call for the comthe committee on rules. Most distasteful is that feature of legislative prac- water and for 30 feet of water within tice which permits the speaker, should the breakwater, so that ships of the he be so inclined, or think that party largest class now frequenting the port exigencies require it, to refuse to of Manila may be able to lie under its recognize a member rising to press protection; the improvement of the banky life. some, matter opposed by the majority. When Speaker Reed ruled with an iron with the Pasig river; the improvement hand there was opposition, but the ne- of the Pasig river below the bridge cessities of the case when the Dingley of Spain, and the bar at the mouth of bill was up, and the important legis- the Pasig river; a bulkhead to be lation required by the breaking out of reached by a channel five hundred feet the Spanish-American war, led Re- in depth; also a railroad and wagon publicans to submit. Two years ago, and passenger drawbridge across the at the organization of the house in the Pasig river, and the improvement of Fifty-sixth congress, there was an ef- the river between the bridge of Spain fort, led by Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, to and the Laguna de Bay." obtain some modification of this rule. Nearly every account of the Philbut the Republican majority was so ippines dwells upon the wretched consmall that it was not deemed wise to dition of roads, or rather the absence precipitate any dissensions at that of roads, which practically prevents termined to light, demanding, in effect, upon the navigable waters. On the that the speaker must not recognize 12th of September, 1900, the Philippine whom he chooses, but whoever is first commission appropriated \$2,000,000 on his feet and seeks recognition. Of (Mexican) to be expended in the concourse this cannot be literally done, struction of highways and bridges but the spirit of the demand is that Both this work and the river and barthe speaker shall give every member hor work above referred to have been a hearing, should be seek it, and that placed under the charge of the United recognition shall not go by favor. In States corps of engineers. The force support of this it is argued that the of engineers in the Philippines was speaker, as it is now, can practically greatly increased for that purpose, and disfranchise a district by refusing to they have been working during the recognize its representative. Mr. Hep- year on over eight hundred miles of burn says that there are forty Republicans who will follow his lead in this matter, and it is reported that he threatens to bolt the caucus decision should it go against him." it is doubtful if Mr. Hepburn really

means this. He is too good a Republican. That the rules as at present constituted enable the speaker to exercise great power is unquestioned. Theoretically such a centralization of anthority in the hands of a few may seem y ould be done. In fairness to Speaker and all of the small bridges in Manila, other

Henderson h should be said that he has moortance to secure from the speaker ad the committee on rules ready recog-

The rules might be colored in some particulars, so as to emble, for indance, a certain percentage of the Resublican membership, by petition, to ccure a special order, this being in consonance with party usage in other lirections. But the complete dismonting of the speaker's power to guide egislative procedure would layite a vorse condition of affairs than is presented in the rules as they now stand. At present, the majority rule, because hey can always call a caucus and lay ts commands upon the committee on rules. But to ordain a go-as-you-please as suggested by Colonel Herburn would be to introduce into the house a license of Interruption which we believe would be well-nigh fatal to substantial restillin.

In any event, talk or bolting the caucus on this proposition is not good Republicanism and we are sure that Colonel Hepburn, if correctly reported, spoke in a purely Pickwickian sense,

Although the state's fiscal year does tot close until tomorrow, it is virtually at an end, and Auditor General Hardenbergh has already totaled the year's collections in his department They amount to \$17,772,432.46, the greatest amount ever collected in one year and \$200,220.68 in excess of last year-a striking tribute to the efflciency of Wayne county's popular repesentative at the capitol. In the general fund there is \$4,981,129 and in the sinking fund \$2,726,892. The receipts matter. He has authorized it to be said this year exceed expenses by \$1,500,000 and yet there are persons who believe

One Year in the Philippines.

TITH THE progress made by our officials in the Philippines in the matter of organizing and exthen sit snugly by their fireside and tending municipal and provincial governments and providing the fundamentals of a system of free public education the American people. through the news dispatches, have been kept closely in touch. Less, however, has been said in print about what has been done in the direction of establishing or developing public works. The annual report of the secretury of war devotes several pages to

Secretary Root first discusses havbor improvements. The harbors of the Philippines are generally shallow. At Manila all the freight of seagoing vessels of over sixteen feet draft has to be transferred by lighters between the ship and the shore for several miles at very great expense and risk. Storms frequently interrupt business altogether, especially in the season of partment. typhoons, and great damage is often aused to the unprotected shipping The burden imposed upon commerce by this method of transacting busiedy lies less in trying to overbalance ness is great. The freight rate between Manila and Hongkong, a distance of about 700 miles, is as as, and sometimes more than, between San Francisco, and Hongkong, a dis tance of about 8000 miles. "The commerce of Manila," the se-

retary says, "urgently demands the

harbor with sufficient depth of wate

to accommodate the largest ships where they can lie in safety and load and discharge their cargoes in all weathers. More than twenty years ago the Spanish government formulated an elaborate scheme for the improvement of the harbor, and had completed about 30 per cent, of the work before the cession of the islands to the United States. After a careful examination of the plans and specifications of the Spanish engineers by Major Biddle, now the engineer commissioner of the District of Columbia, and then chief engineer of the Division of the Philippines, they were adopted with some modifications. A sum of \$1,000,000 in American money was appropriated for the improvement of the pletion of the partially finished breakcanal connecting the harbor thus made

thue, This year Mr. Hepburn is de- internal commerce except immediately roads. Seventy-five thousand dollars have been expended in the construction of a road from the town of Pozorrubio, in the province of Pangasinan, to the town of Baguio, in the province of Benguet;

A cold-storage and ice plant, ample to supply both the needs of the army and the civillans in Manila who are accustomed to the use of ice, has been completed at an expense of about \$700,000. Two market houses in the objectionable; but practically it has city of Manila have been built, and been found very useful in expediting two others are in course of crection the business of the house, now grown The bridge of Spain has been widened to be so complex a body that if every the crection of the Santa Cruz bridge prember had his way all would soon has been commenced, repairs to the become changled and little or nothing Ayala bridge have been undertaken.

or which there are a great many, have avariably responded to the preponders leither been practically rebuilt or exat sentiment of his party and has tensively repaired. Two crematories ever sought to wield authority arbi- for the disposal of garbage have been carrly. Not has it been difficult for eracted in Manila, and an approprianembers with real public business of lifer has been made for the erection of another in that city. A new building for the customs offices has been crected, and new warehouses, affording additional storage space for about 12,oce tone, have been built. About 472 cubic meters of cut stone have been utilized in the extension of the Luneta sen wall,

The Mariveles quarantine station has been improved by the repairing of the old existing barracks and the construction of a hospital for conagious diseases, at a cost of \$25,166.50; by the construction of a wharf, at an expenditure of \$64,500; by the construction of four new buildings on the wharves and two on shore, at a cost if \$38,900; the installation of an electric-light plant, at an expense of \$21,building of sewers, and modern plumbing. The station is now practically emplete, and provides accommodation for 800 steerage and forty cabin mssengers.

These are mere beginnings, of course But where Spain planned and did nothing, the United States plans and acts. The difference is certain, sooner or later, to commend itself to the better judgment of the Filipino people.

Colombians are said to be exceedingly ngry at foreigners, especially Amerians, who have put restrictions upon heir methods of warfare. Come to think of it, it must be a trifle aggracating to have the prospect of a glorius victory nipped in the bud every now and then by a "keep off the grass" ign that prohibits fighting in the vicinity of the railroad.

Selfish American interests are bristing up at the administration's suggestion of reciprocity with Cuba, They forget that the American people are responsible for Cuba's welfare and that a prosperous free Cuba will be both a credit to and an invaluable asset of the United States.

say in his own way, regardless of the number of words it takes to say it. And what he says will be read. We notice that most of the predic-

The president is entitled to his own

tions of trouble between President Roosevelt and the senate come from those who want it. One figure in the Bonine trial com-

for all mankind. Snide publishers are unable to come my games on the present postmastergeneral. He is something of a pub-

mands unqualified respect. The de-

votion of the husband is an example

Old Penn may be strong on imparting knowledge but something is evidently very shy in her football de-

lisher himself.

Probably no worse calamity can hapen to any community than to have one of its number draw a lottery prize.

just cause to be thankful yesterday,

Mr. Croker pleads for harmony that will save his political bacon.

Coal Miners as creation of a thoroughly protected Insurance Risks

S OME SIXTY years ago a gentlem surance companies then existing in order he was asked annear other question "Do you drink?" The applicant remind that did not, never had, and never would. "We a very serry," said the teamager, That we do n The medical examiner of the instrume mpany was Sir John Artsulmot, on Comous physicians of his day and undoubtcelly one or the greatest of any day. The gentle man went home more determined in principle but not a little astonished that, conscious as l was or perfect health, he should be refused an assurance upon his life because he was not combered among the elect whom dring, he had as every day, in the city in which he lived, sending in thousands to a premature grave, not short, this gentleman determined to under-his own life and that of his wite and the richest assurance company, one of the richest assurance corporations in the world, one concerning which it is scientific truth to claim that to belong to it means a long and barrow are surprisingly fall.

This brings me to the point. In this valley I believe, throughout the anthracine en-tainers are precluded by very stringer regulations from entering benefit societies and triendly orders that have beneficiary associations cuached to them, and, of course, from the great nourance companies which think that they have reduced actuarial computation to an exadence and that mining is the most risky of al-sies. Miners' organizations can and do under rite their own turnbuts. So far as I am aware owever, the beacht societies attached to the missi Mins Workers' union insure only unabeld also in our of accident.

For not part. I always prefer sceing a great ace palietes and underwriting its own trembers with dignity and solidity to the tabric of with an organization. It intensifies the intereis each individual number has in its welfare prosperity. It leads to public esteem and a emetry or soldly which makes up think the is-ideration and they are periodic of the social is a fact that whether from worry, decrea nt, folding greater tishs in unusual e loyments, or from other causes more observa-at none too less active and accumulating, the is in a trade ergonization, that is one operiance, are very beary in a prolonged period communication industrial discress. The death do mercases alcountable, and unless extransution is taken to toresee such inevitable t retices and sufreguerd against them, the rain upon the prierve and exhausts it. The ome reseasurents. Assessments are very unported are and tightly so. The friendly society that ary and tightly so. The friendly society that annot perform at any time the obligations which a undertook is unworted of support. I know hat recessionists are very general and that they are booked upon is necessary by friendly socioles manufally influential and temerically preferbious. Still I chain that a society which makes request assessments year in with year out is not and a mode in a bealthy condition books are given by the preferbious still a chain that a society which makes request a substitute of the preferbious still a chain to be in a bealthy condition below the preferbious and a standard to the preferbious and a standard to the preferbious and th or allowance for exigent or extantion

that underwrites his own members cannot dis-climinate. It must take every kind of rick, if i us a death beneal attached to it. Indeed, the very condition of membership conveys the as-onance of all the benefits, or she if would be : **601** conicalisation in terms. There is still an-

in assurance benefit. It is this. No matter how onscientionaly the foreness of a death benefit may be reserved for the purpose for which it has may be reserved for the purpose for which it has been accumulated, there may come a crisis when to abtain the living may be or more importance than to provide for the ceremonial, or, as it is called, the Christian interment of the dead. In other words, in order to preserve the interrity of an organization all the funds at its disposal must be used toward that end. The circumstance has occurred frequently. is occurred fromently.

I have briefly commutatized, too briefly, the artantages whele accrue to a trade organization to have death and sickness funds attached to it and the possibilities that may militate against bem in practice. These are fundamental not theoretical, they are obvious, not obscure; they have excited, not that they may occur. Striking a balance between the advantages and disadvantages likely to occur. I should say that they are about equalized for the purpose of some trade organizations; that they are unfavorable in others and impracticable in the rest, It all depends upon the strength and character of the examination. In a small organization where the quently the death rate low, working out a death benefit assurance plan is simple; in an organica-tion like the United Mine Workers, such an intrie-light plant, at an expense of \$2%- stitution would be extremely complicated; for the reputring of old buildings, the an organization such as the Marine Firemen and Sollors' union it is altogether enfeasible, taking all the militant facts under view, I be assert that the discrimination, stereograped and populacible as it seems to be, made by the ma-jority of friendly associations and social orders against the assurance of miners is unjust and detrimental to their own best interests

> . One is forced almost to the conclusion that the majority of peripatetic gentlemen one casually acets in a morning's walk are in one way or unies, jet they eschew the miner as if his occupation was a certain prolude to sudden death. This arises, I am certain, from actuarial ignorance of ascertained or ascertainable facts. No one will deny, least of all shall I do so, that mining is an occupation extremely basardous to the individual. What I do centend is that the aggregate death rate among miners is extraordinarily or exceptionally high, all things considered. It is twenty per cent, less than that among brewery workers and distillery workers; it is somewhat less than that among printers are type founders, where some subtle poison in the netallic ingredients used in the type, probably orsenic, produces phthisis. Painters are not free from accidents, while their occupation is said a shorten life. Indeed, it holds true of almost all occupations that their practice is detrimental o average longevity. Even in the so-called learned professions the same rule holds good. The average life of doctors is said to be no more than forty years, brought on more by worry, it is maliciously said, in collecting their bills, than y the trouble of respectating their patients. Clergymen, too, have their own apprehensions of a premature call to a world where they may ake a much needed test. I am adducing these niners do not greatly exceed the ratio among other occupations. In this intense and intensi-iying life of ows, sudden death is the rule, a retected old uge the exception.

What is rudden death? As I take it, premature sudden break in the physical machinery from the maide or say through a fall of rock from the outside, may be placed in the same category. A man carrying a heavy insurance policy may brink bimself to death in a week; yet you may stand at the mouth of a mine any day and onverse with men who have worked in the mines ten, fifteen, twenty or even thirty years, who he sapient actuary, "Look at our figures, figones, you know, cannot lie. These statistics of as scientifically and mathematically necurate a that two and two make four. We cannot to! on when this man or that shall die, but take a riven number of men, their ages and occupation and we can tell you how many will die within a twelve-month." I admit that figures cannot lie, but their misopplication is a falsehood. New above all the occupations in which working mer are engaged, perhaps mining is the least satisactory for drawing conclusions from statistical aged in it. Because why? The safety of life it empation depends upon the procuntionary measure which the miner himself and those who are in charge over him take to seeme his safety. I admit, of course, that miners are subject to trigic And among others, David Nation had ful accidents which no precautions can safe-ust cause to be thankful yesterday.

It should, leavever, be recognized. connection, that accidents in mines has a peculiar gruesemeness which is natural enough, but which has no bearing on the cause or the sadness of a particular fatality. I am employing conventional terminology, but speaking with al due reverence of death in whatever manuer i occurs, it is all the same to the dead person whether he be killed in a mine or run over and is life quenched at a street crossing. Probably he most trightful death ineginable, if there are emparative degrees of commonplace horror in the idea of the throes of death, which are no oubtedly at the last moments painless, is death in a railway wreck, yet traveling by rail is no natural almost as natural breathing. No one trone readily thinks of certaining death with traveling by rail than or being choked while

I have not by me the last animal report of the number of deaths that were due to mining accordents last year. But it struck me at the tim of reading that for an employment which ha such a notoriously bad reputation as mining the were not near so chastly, taken at their wors as insurance companies and insurange agents make out. While I admit at once that they are high, far higher unfortunately than they should be, I have not the slightest doubt that if we had reliable statistics of the deaths due to arei dents from other causes they would compare very tavorably with them. Yet the miner is debarred from taking advantage of insurance benefits which are not only freely granted to but pertinaciously withstanding they were considered "good sub-series" in the insurance offices. To nake a long from men in every other walk of life except tall-story short, this gentleman determined to under-roulers, and though the death rate among workers on the railroads is minderously heavy, ret

> I am well assure that there are a few someties which accept tributes more or less conditionally.
>
> I am not going to mention any names. But I can safely say that some of those societies which no accept miners on an equality with other metabers have intribet the popularity our reputation of these which debar them. The miners themselves have accepted the situation with what I regard as lumentable increases. I believe that if they agitated this matter they would be able in time to cross the threshold of any beacht or insurance society with no more serious obstacle than possibly a slightly bigher premium.

One of the most satisfactory enterious of the eath rate of a class of men is the matriage rate. Where a body of men following an occupation marry freely, being men possessed of o dinary to esight and rational providence for the future, may it be taken as granted that the in-struct which guides to demosticity would be seriously retarded if not elected it the deat tate was abnormal in that particular calling of inclustry. Religenders, for instance, seldom many until they the to higher and less fatal positions than brakenen, switchmen or engine hostlers. ess is not the jacolominant partner in than brakenen, switchmen or engine hostlers. But the risks must also be taken into A deep water sallor below the tank of captain or mate would as soon think of committing as marrying. Minors, on the other hand, marry as frequently as other people circumstanced in worbliy goods as they are. Mineral orbhans are not more plentimi than these of any other class or are miners' widows

The general health of the miner is touch above the average. The only curous or organic com-plaint to which he is subject above or beyond the ordinary or average mortal is nature's astimathe ordinary or average mortal is althory assimila-The death rate from this discuse must be very small, because not one doctor in every thirty has a parient at any one time under his charge for irradiment for this complaint or discuss, whenever it have be, if it originates in the mine of all. A miner's work is laborious and exhausting in the mine, not so much because of the physical execution which it produces, but because the all exertion which it requires, but because is stagmant and more or less virtued owing to the presence of very volatile gases which to lowered in the process of taking. Otherwise mining is probably the cleaners and in althous ecupation text to gardening.

Taken on the whole, then, a miner on the average is as good as any other "subject" with regard to unexpected danger. It is unjust as well as inexpedient that he should be excluded from assurance provideges. I do not doubt that in time, and in a very short time, this discrimination.

Christmas Gifts for the Children



THE TRIBUNE'S

Gold and Silver Watches. Sleds, Skates, Games, Toys, Etc.

To be given to the Boys and Girls of Northeastern Pennsylvania who succeed in making the largest number of words out of

S-C-R-A-N-T-O-N T-R-I-B-U-N-E.

Four Weeks of Amusement for Winter Evenings.

RULES OF THE CONTEST.

Prizes will be given to the boy or girl, under 16 years of age, building the largest number of words out of the letters contained in "Scranton Tribune. No letters must be used any more times than they appear in thes

two words. As an instance, a word with more than one "E" would not be admitted, but a word might contain two "R's" or three "N's." Plurals formed by adding "s" or "es" not allowed. Only words found in the main portion of "Webster's International

Dictionary" (edition of 1898) will be allowed. Any Dictionary can be used, but in judging the contest The Tribune will debar all words not found in Webster's.

Proper names, or any other words appearing in the "Appendix" will not be allowed. This applies only to proper nouns or names in the Appendix-those defined in the main portion of the book will be

Obsolete words are admitted if they are defined in the dictionary, Write on one side of the paper only. Write very plainly; if possible, use a typewriter.

Place the words in alphabetical order, numbered in rotation Write your name and address, age and total number of words at the top of your list.

Fold the list-do not roll. Contest closes Saturday, December 21, at 6 p. m.

All letters of inquiry for additional information will be promptly answered. Address your list of words, or any question you wish answered, to

CONTEST EDITOR,

Scranton Tribune,

Scranton, Pa.

Employes of The Tribune Are Debarred from Entering These Contests

Estimate the Number of Words

How many words do you think there are in the letters in "Scranton Tribune?

To put it another way, How many words do you estimate the winner of The Tribune's "Junior Educational Contest" will have?

This is just a little "Estimating Contest" in connection with The Tri-bune's "Junior Educational Contest," in which every reader of The Tri-bune is invited to participate.

Ten Dollars

For the Best Estimates. \$5.00 will be given for the first cor-

rect, or nearest correct, estimate. 2.00 for the next nearest.

1.00 for the next nearest.

50 cents each for the next two nearest. 25 cents each for the next four

Record your estimate on the blank below and mail it to "Contest Editor, Scranton Tribune, Scranton, Pa.," or the envelope may be handed in at The Tribune office. You may send

in as many estimates as you have

Contest Editor,

blanks

Scranton Tribune.

I estimate that the winner of the first prize in The Tribune's "Junior Educational Contest" will have

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