

The Scranton Tribune
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When space will permit, The Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends 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 RAIL RATE FOR ADVERTISING.
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TWELVE PAGES.

The Schley case is closed and the jaws of the inhabitants who wish to keep it open will soon become tired.
OF Value to All.
THE AMENDMENTS made in common council Thursday night to the street railway franchise ordinance now pending are fair and will additionally recommend these ordinances to public favor.

The Water Question.
SHOWING THE interest reawakened in the water question since the recorder invited expressions of opinion by citizens on the advisability of the city owning its own water supply, we yesterday received two unsolicited communications on this subject. The first is from Mr. Fred Schuman of the South side and is as follows:
Editor of the Tribune:
I refer to your today's issue that there is at least one man that favors the Scranton Gas and Water company and says, let well enough alone. I believe that this man is not sitting on the South side. The water that has been used in the city since the war has certainly bred disease in this part of the city.

The second letter came from a gentleman who for many years has been prominent in the professional and political life of this community but who, for satisfactory reasons, desires that his name be withheld. He writes:
Editor of the Tribune:
I notice a large independence of the taxpayers who have responded to the recorder's circular are in favor of municipal ownership, but many have misgivings about it, because of fear of political entanglement.

How Strong Races Govern Weak Ones.
THE IMPROVEMENT of the material, moral and mental condition of the people of a colony, and the methods applied by successful colonizing governments in that work is the subject of a chapter in the work on colonial administration, just issued by the treasury department.

Young Cannon and the Old Judge.

Representative Cannon began his political career by running in his father's shoes. His opponent was another young lawyer, who, like Cannon, had not made much headway in the practice of law, but both candidates went upon the stump and promised to do great things if elected.

Did Not Recognize His Crop.

A distinguished member of the United States judiciary has discovered that he still has some things to learn in the direction of agriculture. He thought a farm as a summer home for his family, and finds special delight in walking about the place, commenting on the condition of the crops and in many ways showing his interest in his new possessions.

Hot Air in Boston.

Little Emerson's motto, "I had no marginal note in school," is in many ways being applied in the city of Boston.

Reduction to Practice.

WHEN Secretary Hay declined American diplomacy to consist of the Monroe Doctrine and the Golden Rule, he might well have had especially in mind the course which our diplomacy under his able guidance, was then taking in the negotiations in China.

The Leading Mortgage Holder.

ONE OF THE timely points made by President Schwab of the United States Steel corporation in his recent speech before the Chicago Bankers' club was that labor, not capital, had first mortgage on that great corporation.

An Unmistakable Drift.

PAUL MORTON, vice president and general traffic manager of the Santa Fe railroad, says that one of three things in the railroad business is sure to happen within the next few years: The legalization of pooling, whereby the railroads can make enforceable contracts among themselves for a division of traffic; or the unification of ownership; or the taking over of the ownership of the roads by the government.

should not be surprised if they might turn out to be gradations. To secure enforceable contracts among the roads in respect to division of traffic and to guard against secret deals and concessions it is now almost necessary to have a unification of ownership.

From this to government ownership is a seemingly long step, and one which many people do not want to contemplate. But it is logical. If a small group of individuals are to control the railway interests of this country for the reason that it is advantageous to have control centralized, a powerful argument is put in the hands of those who are clamoring for a still greater centralization, one having no theoretical incentive to put private above public considerations.

TOLD BY THE STARS.
Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacicus, The Tribune Astrologer.
A child born on this day will notice that all things generally come quicker to the man who likes than to him who waits.

Outline Studies of Human Nature.

Could Do His Part Anywhere.
There are funny incidents in the life of a philosopher. A man came in the other day and sat over all the samples, asking the price of each.

Something the Matter with the Phone.

She tripped into the corner drug store with the grace that is distinctly Kentonkin. The girl was sitting at a table in the corner of the drug store when she was suddenly interrupted by a young man who was sitting at the table next to her.

Letta and Her Curly.

In a Wisconsin town were two young girls who were fast friends. The girls had been playing together since they were little.

Hadn't Borrowed Trouble.

Many diffident persons had the beginning of a conversation awkward, especially on ceremonial occasions and with strangers. Sometimes, however, the beginning is not half so awkward as what comes afterward.

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58-Inch Scotch Mixtures.
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Ladies' Natural Wool Vests and Pants, our 75c quality, to close at... 59c
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proving Manila harbor at an expense of nearly \$2,000,000; we are buying as fast as they will sell, the 400,000 acres of land owned, or claimed to be owned by the Spaniards, and re-selling it to the people on easy terms; we have \$20,000,000 in the island treasury, to help meet the contracted obligations for improvements; we have 40,000,000 Spanish authorities say \$20,000,000, acres of the most valuable timber lands in the world; all this and more we get for \$20,000,000 and part of the cost of the Spanish war and all the work we are doing for the betterment of the people is making these new possessions just as much more valuable.

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