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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 ac-ceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

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SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 26, 1962.

Report has it that one reason why s many Pittston saloon keepers grew careless of the liquor law was because the mayor of Pittston said it was to be a wide open town. Maybe the mayor is now ready to modify that pre-

Short Shrift for Stray Dogs. HE LIABILITY to rables from

the bites of unmuzzled dogs is about one case in ten million exposures; and it is well established that more harm re sults from a scare on the subject than from all the deg bites that ever were bitten.

But dog bites are not pleasant at best. Neither is the spectacle of mangy tramp curs chasing around the streets of a populous city. For that reason, chiefly, the order of the director of public safety commanding the police to effect an early reduction in the or phaned canine population of Scranton will be generally approved.

If anybody tries to raise a rabies scare in your neighborhood, don't get excited and think your last hour has come. But, on the other hand, don't a public necessity.

What a pleasure it is to see the brethren of the board of control dwelling together in harmony. So mote it always

Colonel Watres' Candidacy.

HE ASSERTION is made in that Colonel L. A. Watres, aspirant for the governorship, is about legheny county. One dispatch quotes on he intends to make a fight in every county in which he has any show of

Little has reached us here at home of the colonel's plans; but if the foregoing version of them is true it speaks well for Lackawanna county and for the party, Should Colonel Watres' candidacy result in his nomination, that obviously would be of advantage to this county. Should be make a brisk On the contrary, it would additionally state in a way to the discredit of which had just adjudged him in con neither.

In an interview given out by him in Pittsburg Colonel Watres says he has does not anticipate that they will be opposed. In that statement we have no doubt that he is correct. It has always been the custom in Lackawanna for the Lackawanna candidate for a state office to have an unopposed pathway so far as local delegates are concerned. The only time this wise custom was challenged was in 1895 when Judge Willard came before the state convention for Superior court judge. An effort was then made to dispute his selection of delegates but it failed.

There exists no reason why any Republican in Tackawanna today should test for the gubernatorial nomination his friends will take defeat good nachoice of the majority.

The newspaper wiseacres are no longer prophesying that President Roosevelt will put his foot in it. They are beginning to recognize that he is a president with a head.

About the Pink Slip.

O IMPUTE dishonesty to a more charitable view is possible is often unfair. It is possible that it was unfair in the case in the pink slip matter we censured yesterday. Therefore, we withdraw derwriters bears many appearances of participation in important legislaof unfairness. To say that prom- tion directly and materially affecting ises of rebates on the pink slip were their constituents, unauthorized is to convict a number of local fire underwriters of exceeding their authority in a way very little

representative local underwriters we are assured that the singular course of the middle department board has not had their unqualified approval. The board could easily have justified a flat advance in rates, made equitably, with due notice. But the slapping on of a 25 cents per \$100 special premium alleged o be due to the poor condition of Scranton's fire defense and then the long persisted in refusal to remit or rebate that extra charge after the items complained of had been substantially remedled and the city's fire defense brought up to the best condition in its history if not dishonest, was at least disappointing and unfair. If it had been the board's intent to exact a larger permanent premium, why did it hide behind a temporary excuse? Why did it not face the issue openly, by calling attention to the fact that it could no longer do business in Scranton at a

The communication from a number of local underwriters to which we give ability all the defense that can be made in behalf of the board's course. It loyally lays the blame on the subordinate agents. Perhaps they can stand it: since fire insurance is a necessity at any price and where the rate is a matter concerning which the insured have no voice there is little danger of the subordinate agent losing business. But for our part, we do not believe that the misrepresentation concerning the pink slip has been wholly the work of the subordinate local agents. They are on the whole a pretty clean and reputable group of We do business with most of tifem and, so far as their authority extends, have no complaint to make. We believe that if the local underwriters had handled this pink slip question exclusively there would have been very little misunderstanding and no subsequent feeling of sharp practice.

The effort of Wellington of Maryland to make out that William McKinley was a liar and trickster can hardly be pronounced a coruscating success,

Disfranchising a State.

HE POINT raised in Senator Tillman's behalf, that the senate has no right under the constitution, short of a sentence of expulsion, to withhold from any state its due participation in the votes of the senate, had merit in it. While the senate is the judge of the standards of conduct of its own members, the sovereign rights of the state try to resist the police extinction of to full representation forbids any stray curs. On general principles it is abridgement of the voting power of the individual sengtor whose commission is legal and whose adjudgment in contempt has not been followed by a verdict of expulsion. As the Tillman petition says, if it were in the power of the senate to deprive a senator of the right to vote on pending measures of legislation by the mere fact of adjudging him in contempt, there would dispatches from Pittsburg be no guarantee of the proper representation of any state in the deliberations Lackawanna's only present of the senate. A majority might thus at any time enforce closure on a mito begin a contest for delegates in Al- nority, or a minority, taking advantage of the temporary absence of some the colonel as saying that from now members of the majority, proceed to revolutionize the majority by voting enough of its members in contempt to

give it control of the parliamentary

organization.

The conduct of Tillman merits the penalty of expulsion. It is flagrantly bully-like and defiant. Even worse than his fist fight on the floor of the senate was his audacious refusal to decline the president's invitation to attend the dinner in honor of Prince fight and lose fairly, that would do Henry, an invitation extended prior to neither him nor this county any harm. Saturday's disgrace. The impropriety of a senator seeking to represent at an advertise both before the people of the official function a committee of a body tempt should have been recognized by him instantly, to say nothing of the consideration due to the president of put up his delegates in this county and the United States and his guest. But not only did Tillman refuse the opportunity which the president gave to him to get out of the dilemma gracefully; he then followed up the president's compulsory withdrawal of the invitation with such coarse insult to the president and with such an exhibition of brayado and contemptuous disregard of the proprieties of his situation that if the senate shall not now rid itself of his presence it will in the eyes of decent people stand as sponsor for his standards of decorum.

The objectionableness of Tillman as an individual member of the senate meditate a campaign of opposition to did not, however, affect the merit of the one condidate for state office now the constitutional question which was in the field who hails from our county, raised as to his right to vote pend-As for the state at large, a lively con- ing the infliction of a sentence for misconduct. The debate in the Quay case will awaken the party from its leth- clearly established that a vacancy argy and help to insure better results in the senate was not contemat the polls, when next fall's state and plated by the founders as something to congressional ticket comes before the be encouraged and prolonged, but as people. If our townsman can win the something to be remedied at the first coveted place; well and good. If he possible moment. That the senate has cannot, it is fair to assume that he and any right by a mere adjudgment in contempt to disfranchise a commonturedly and cheerfully support the wealth is on its face preposterous, since it visits on many people who are themselves innocent of wrongdoing a penalty hardly to be exceeded in its severity-the penalty of virtual disfranchisement. That the senate may say to the state which sends to it an objectionable member: "We will not permit such a man to remain in our body; send another, who is not objectionable, or do without representation" is another matbody of business men when a ter. In that case there is no disfranchisement. The state affected can have representation if it takes care in its selection. But in the case under of the board of fire underwriters for consideration at Washington, no op-the middle department whose course portunity was afforded to South Carolina to change her representatives. On the contrary, without notice to the that imputation as being too hasty and people of their state the senators from perhaps too sweeping; although as we that state, pending the investigation of view it the course of the board of un- their misconduct, were denied the right

> Against such a ruling the minority had a good right to protest. The ma-

of the brilliance and wonderful versatillty which it displayed during the lifetime of Charles A. Dana, the Sun is yet easily the most readable newspaper printed in the English language and one of the furthest/reaching in its influence upon contemporary thought, The mission to which Mr. Laffan has succeeded is, therefore, an important one. We trust and believe that he is

Avoid Reform by Jerks.

UR neighboring city of Pittston is just now in the throcs of agitation over the refusal by the Luzerne license court of 23 liquor licenses, applied for by men who, according to testimony offered by the Anti-Saloon league, have not been obeying the excise law as they should. In this administration of justice Pittston does not stand alone. Throughout Luzerne county there were 94 refusals. But what makes the case of Pittston especially notable is the fact that the place in another column presents with councils by resolution petitioned the court to be lenient with these applicants for license, since the rejection of their applications would create a most serious breach in the city's revenues. This petition from councils had no effect. In consequence nearly \$10,000 of revenue formerly received from licenses will have to be derived from some other source or the city go into bankruptcy. It is hardly necessary to say that in this action the court has simply done the duty imposed upon it by law. From a human standpoint the hardship wrought by such a wholesale cancellation of permits to do business is not pleasant to contemplate. Nor/is it to be denied that the laxity in enforcing the liquor law which has characterized this entire community for years, and for which all classes of citizens are in some measure responsible, presents, if not a justification of these dealers, then at least some extenuation. But inasmuch as no improvement can be wrought in such a condition without somebody taking the start, the present action of court will, if followed up, prove highly advantageous in the long run. But if it is not followed up; if the present action shall turn out to be one of those spasmodic jerks in the direction of reform which, after a little, end by leaving things in worse condition than before, then instead of the community deriving benefit it will, as a matter of

fact, be actually injured. It has been pretty well established by recent developments in Lackawanna county that human nature is a plant of slow growth; and that the man or group of men who expects to force a condition of public virtue beyond the ability of the average of public sentiment and character to sustain simply builds up disappointment. This is lamentable, for it often discourages good men from doing what they can to make their surroundings better. But as a mischief it presents a strong practical reason why reform movements should many of the greatest planists of the day. be gradual rather than jerky; why they should be ready to follow up whatever they undertake and persistently push ahead until in course of time the average of mankind is moved forward, to learn. When they learn it, the word significance which now often causes its | nigs in a letter advising the young r

As Mr. Tillman could not take the gentle hint in reference to the banquet invitation, the vigorous kick was the proper solution of the problem.

Pittston saloon keepers are now certain that the ground hog did see his shadow a few weeks ago.

A Glimpse of Paderewski

T IS PARDONABLE to be curious as to why ien will make a spectacle of themselves over a popular artist, even if he is great like Paderewski, or want to marry him, as al hundred of them did before he took a wife unto himself last year. Why any woman should wish to marry a man who has to have all the attention in the family, all the bouquets, as it were, passes comprehension. If anyone's comfort is to be considered, it is the great art-ist's. It is his wet feet and not his wife's which set the public into spasms of anxiety. It is the problem of keeping him out of draughts problem of keeping him out of draughts h gives the manager chills. It is his nerves which produce the tiptoe habit in the household.

It would seem that the most devout hereworshipper would begin to backslide in the face of such prospects as these, and that the time would speedily approach when the candles she ourned at her divinity's shrine would grow perceptibly shorter. Even the advantages of voting or making most of the other women in the world mad with jealousy, might scarcely be supcases. However, this peculiar type of adulation has been shared even by royalty for there were princesses of royal blood who were ain remainder of their lives, each as the wife of Paderewski. It is my private opinion that he matried his present wife as a last resort to ea-

This particular phase in the life of a fam riist impressed me the other day as I watched he feverish care with which he was surrounded. thought that they were solicitous of Nordica-guarding that precious nightingale in her broat, keeping sacred her hours of rest, using all the cunning secrets of the toilet to preserve her nearvelous beauty and protecting her as by invisible armor, from any disturbing influence that might have its effect on her art. But really, they were indifferent in the degree of their watchfulness as compared with those where the reasonability of Patenwick's water. have the responsibility of Paderewski's welfare He told me that he sleeps but little and that for days at a time the fiend of insomnia pur suce him. Thus his care takers must watch every least opportunity to have him get rest or a little shumber. If they fancy he is sleeping ever so lightly during a journey they will almost brain a porter who should clumsily stumble against the state-room where he lies,

They surround him like a cordon of soldien from the curious gaze and the approach of the public and they have a holy reverence for himoods of abstraction which precede a recital As a rule he will utter no word for hours previous to a public appearance and he eats n food during that time. Every energy of hod and soul is bent upon the preparation of the programme—the mental attitude, the intangible ual force which makes his playing what

to do what Paderewski does to become great It is all very well to contemplate longingly that \$2,500 a night, which is the lowest guar antee he receives. It is also a fascinating pro-piest to have the possibility of receiving \$6,00 for one week's recitals as he had for playing four nights in Chicago and \$1. Louis on a form different from misrepresentation. If that is true, it would be well for the companies to look into it. If they have agents here who exceed their authority an early understanding with those agents should be reached for the best interests of all concerned.

From talks which we have had with

it were in a world where all men are as shadows and only art is real. Surely one should reap some material reward for this devotion. Surely one thus possessed of an ideal and willing to do all this must compel the fates to grant suc-cess. The price is too high for most men ever if they had the talent or the genius.

Paderewski could have been great in almost any way which he had chosen so wonderful in this ability to concentrate his entire energies on the subject at hand. He is almost the solltary example of supreme musical genius combined with a power of self control and phenomenal judgment in worldly matters. He earns fabulous sums of money and his manager told me that if he would put his thought to it, he would make the ablest of financiers, but he is a concept like ablest of financiers, but he is so generous that about half of his great income he throws out with the two supple hands which rought it in, with the most indiscri

Let a Pole come to him with a tale of w and a prompt reply to prayer is assured by

"I never can refuse them," he said laughingly the other day. "My poor countrymen. Alas, unhappy Poland! The very air there affects me differently. I must not go there too often for I cannot work. I have large estates in Galicia, the last little corner, you know, where they allow us to speak our own language, and when I go there the house is full of visitors and it

see my people—and—ah, I cannot work, I can-not compose—that is all." He was much interested in hearing about the Poles in this city, "They are not bad people these my countrymen," he said pathetically "They have had so little, they have been denie So much. Walt! They will be different! They will yet be good for America. Then that strange beautiful smile lit up his face. "They don't want to be mayor as soon as they land," he said in sly humor. "But they do have christenings and weddings I am told."

How he greeted those countrymen of his Both hands went to each one and there was mist in his eyes, as he gave them such a heart greeting. I thought they would crush his slightingers and many of them wept. They were finlooking, well-dreased men. "I come from Chicago," said one. "I came a thousand miles,"
said another, "to hear you and see you," while there were many from this immediate vicinity including several members of the priesthood.

It may not be generally known that Mr. Pad erewski, as well as his wife, who was the Baroness Rosen, is a Catholic—not of the Greek church, for that is Russian you know. The real Pole of Poland can scarcely be anything that is Russian. Sienkievicz is a very close friend of its. He is not an admirer of Tolstol, whom h

Paderewski almost never sees a newspaper nagazine interviewer. What is still more dis-ouraging to the interviewer, who can remedy the sion by means of his own imagination is explained by the pianist's statement made t writer: "I never read a press notice, said he. They won't let me see them. I don't know whether they fear I shall be made unhappy, but sometimes six months or so later, I may look them over. They are all saved for me. I don't know but they think a press notice cold is less oppressing than one hot. Sometimes they have been hot, I am told."

I should like to tell more of the incidents of his romantic career. Many of them have no reached the public prints. It is this sad, ro mantic story that has held much charm to the who worship at his shrine, and yet beyond an above and surrounding it all is the personal magnetism of the man, the semething that maker illin greater than others who make sweet music in the world. Nothing better illustrates this singular quality than the experience of Professor Theodore Hemberger, of this city.

Sometimes, because we have him with us an he seems contented in our company we forge that he really does not belong to us wholly that such a master as he, is of a wider sphere and a higher attitude. We forget that he ha fact in life not to be ignored without still continues to receive, invitations to hole notable positions both in this and the old world and that he has heard and knows intimately

Back in 1889 Prof. Hemberger was a member of a certain Composer's society in Berlin. There was a young man in the society who was not considered as having any remarkable ability. Indeed That is the great lesson for reformers master. His work as a planist had no particular vogue. They were all chums in the society and their relations were so familiar that frequently reform will lose in the public mind that the other students used to inclose fifteen pich ion to get his hair cut. It was blonde hair and ie wore it long and tousled, Societies and mem

In the winter of 1895 a pianist appeared New York who was the cause of unexample He bore the name of the student a Mr. Hemberger, then a comparatively new comer to Scranton, was interested in the stories which came this way and one day wend whether this is the same Paderewski that I use know," he thought. Carnegie hall was packed almost to the ce-

ing. Mr. Hemberger from his seat far bac caught one glimpse of the performer with the nimbus of fair hair and he said to himself, "Tha is our Paderewski sure enough." but when h began to play the sonata of Beethoven opus 101 he Scranton listener began to wonder. As tha notable composition went on and grander, wider nore sublime under the artist's fingers, Profes-or Hemberger forgot the young fellow at the conservatory, forgot the memories of the pasand only realized that something was speaking to him out of the anusic that never had spoker before. At the conclusion of the recital he rushed out and home perhaps the most devous admirer Paderewski ever had. Professor Hemberger is a modest man and de-spite his past connection as a student with the

great planist he did not attempt to see him after the close of the recital on Monday night as h had no idea of being remembered.

It so happened that he was obliged to go the station with a friend and reached there just as Paderewski was about to enter the sleeper. Mr. Hand hastened to him and took him to the pianist's side. Paderewski looked at him a mo ment a flash came into his eyes and extending hi hand a second time he said: "Well, you have changed a great deal." This almost took the professor's breath but he

replied hastily, "Ah but the men of Poland ar polite. It is kind of you to say you remember me." Paderewski then began to speak rapidly in German: "I pat you on the back," he said, "You remember Felix Dreischock and Stavenhagen, you remember that night after the con-cert," continuing in a swift flow of reminiscence which simply paralyzed Professor Hemberger, wh cape the alarming attentions of the other was so touched by this marvelous gift of recol
women.

Paderewski was most delighted at the meeting and plied him with questions leaving with the exaction of a promise that Professor Hemberger should send him some of his composition

Professor Hemberger listened through the rethat it was one of the most blissful evenings of nusic he had ever known. With his knowledge of virtuesi, none can touch in sympathy this kire of the pianists, has long been his belief. Me Hemberger said:
"Even those people who came from curiosit

and who expressed their opinion of his appearance felt that he spoke to them out of his poetry of feelings, and they were astonished into inteness. This was unexpectedly proved whe after the last number, as people were rushing out in the fashion of Scranton audiences, the applause continued and the pianist came back and played a number while the great assemblage stood listening in breathless silence. If this is fad, then we like the fad."

Paderewski in personality is most gracious and charming. The friendliness in his eyes, the gen-tle voice, the air of lively interest in the person whom he addresses are inimitably his own. It is pleasant to remember his naive remark on Mon-day evening. "Come back and say good night to me again. Surely you will not go without a last word." -Harriet Clay Penman.

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