

The Scranton Tribune

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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 acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

THE FLAT RATE FOR ADVERTISING.

Table with columns: DISPLAY, Line, and Rate. Includes rates for 1000 lines, 500 lines, and 250 lines.

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SCRANTON, MARCH 17, 1902.

Senator Penrose's plan to convert the senate into a kind of pale imitation of the house of representatives illustrates the fundamental absurdity of the entire movement for the election of senators by direct popular vote.

The Blair County Primaries.

NUMBER of profitable reflections may be deduced from the returns of the primaries held in Blair county on Saturday, but before considering them a word of review as to the situation in that county is in order.

Criticism has been passed upon the Republican rules of Blair, more especially that provision which requires candidates not only to register in order to get their names on the primary ballot but also to announce their candidacy in at least one newspaper at least three weeks in advance of the date fixed for the primary.

Blair has also been called a "machine" stronghold. That is a familiar term of reproach among minorities. As a matter of fact, Blair is pretty well noted for its independent proclivities.

The first reflection to be drawn from the result in Blair is that there is more noise than substance in what is left of the insurrectionary movement in our politics. General Elkin, the winning candidate, has been credited in insurgent literature with nearly all the political sins that ingenious pens could imagine.

Another reflection apparently warranted by these primaries is that it is advisable in candidates to be visible and pronounced. Much time was lost by Colonel Waites in telling his case statement in Blair. Some of the papers have quoted him as crediting this delay to the men who had charge of his candidacy.

There is a good deal of horse sense in the suggestion that before Republican candidates should speculate on the presidential campaign of 1904 they first attend to the election of the next congress.

Health in Manila.

ONE of the greatest objections to life in the tropics has ever been the conditions which render these sections unhealthy. The experience of the trained and hardened members of Uncle Sam's army who were sent to the Philippines has demonstrated that scarcely any could, under the existing order of things, hope to remain for any length of time immune from the various diseases with which the orient seems to have been cursed.

A report of the health of the city of Manila says that in the month of December, 10,000 cartloads of dirt were removed from 2,000 houses. This is five loads to the house. With that for a basis from which to reckon it is not to be wondered at that the Philippines have been regarded as an unhealthy section of the world, or that sickness has been a common condition with foreigners at certain seasons of the year. In view of these facts it seems

a wonder that even the dusky Malay and his iron-handed Spanish ruler, who have for so long been accustomed to revel in uncleanness, could exist amid such surroundings, not to speak of the civilized Anglo-Saxon, who has been working away from the customs prevalent in the abode of the unenlightened for many generations past.

Before the Cuban war, Havana was a terror to the sanitary authorities of the western world. A breeding-place for filth and disease it kept our southern cities in a constant state of apprehension. Yet in spite of the fact that the yellow fever germ of Cuba has in the past wrought havoc even in many of our cities located well off the coast line, it took but a few months of rigid sanitary discipline to stamp out yellow fever almost entirely from Cuba. The conditions of Manila seem to be almost identical with those of Havana, and there is no reason why the vigorous system mapped out by the late Colonel Waring and carried so successfully into effect by Governor General Wood, should not be equally efficacious if applied to the metropolis of the Philippines. Relieved of unsanitary accompaniments and supplied with the facilities for comfort that Yankee enterprise is bound to introduce, Manila should be one of the most delightful dwelling places on the globe.

A speakership boom for Congressman Littlefield, of Maine, has been launched by the Washington correspondents. The launching is premature, but nobody who has followed this distinguished gentleman's congressional career will question that he is of speakership size.

"Government by Injunction."

ONE OF the demands pressed by some of the leaders of organized labor is for the abolition of what they call "government by injunction." A bill carrying out their idea has been introduced in the United States senate by Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, and has been reported favorably by the judiciary committee, of which Mr. Hoar is chairman.

How such a law would operate if in effect at Boston at this time is shown by the New York Sun, one of the few papers in this country which has not feared to comment frankly upon dangerous phases of labor unionism: "The Brine Transportation company does business in and about the city of Boston, but does not employ labor-union men, and it refuses to recognize the teamsters' union. Seeking to accomplish the destruction of the Brine company, in which the teamsters' union had failed, a few freight handlers in the employ of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad company in Boston a few days ago refused to touch the freight delivered by the Brine Transportation company. These freight handlers were, very properly, discharged promptly by the railroad company for insubordination, and thereupon a sympathetic strike was ordered by the chiefs of the various unions.

"It should be noted that in the inception of this strike there was no possible excuse for the disobedience of the freight handlers. They had no quarrel with the railroad company; they were not dissatisfied with their wages or with their hours of labor, nor were they endeavoring to assert any alleged rights of their own fellow workers or co-employees. They were going outside of their own business, with a chip on their shoulder, to compel a great common carrier to place itself in a false and unconstitutional position by refusing to accept freight at its station, simply because the transportation company tendering the goods declined to recognize a teamsters' union.

"From early times a common carrier undertook to convey and deliver goods for a reasonable compensation as a business, with or without a special agreement, and for all people indifferently, and he was bound to treat all alike, and at common law the carrier could not unjustly or unreasonably discriminate in favor of one and against another, where the circumstances and conditions were the same. This has been the law for centuries back, not only in this country but in Great Britain, and the reason of the rule is that the property or business of a common carrier becomes clothed with a public interest, because it affects the community at large; and no common carrier, therefore, has a right to refuse to take any goods delivered, whether the party tendering the goods for transportation be or be not approved by a labor union."

But if the sympathetic strike in Boston to compel the New Haven railroad to discriminate between shipments handled by union teamsters and shipments handled by non-union teamsters had continued to the point of tying up that road, there would have been open to it as the law now stands, but closed to it as Senator Hoar would amend the law, one form of redress; namely, an injunctive order restraining the leaders of the strike from interfering with interstate commerce. As the San points out:

It would not be a crime for an individual acting alone to boycott a corporation or to attempt to ruin the business of a railroad or to tie it up; whereas a conspiracy to do any such act might well be treated as a crime. Any one who knows anything about the law of conspiracy knows that the gist of the offense lies in the combination, and that the danger to the community lies in the fact that many men are banded together to destroy and wreck business and property. The effort to do the same thing of one individual would be futile and powerless, and might well be treated with contempt, but a combination of unscrupulous and headstrong men, actuated and prompted by the desire to destroy the business of a great railroad, becomes at once a serious menace to the welfare of the whole state. The one existing safeguard against such conspiracy today lies in the injunctive power of the federal courts, for the judges of those courts are brave and fearless, and, enjoying a life tenure, are not afraid to exert such powers as they have for the preservation of property rights. It is a mistaken notion that the injunctive power of courts is a menace to the welfare of workmen. It is

often a menace to agitators and men anxious to stir up strife and riot, for it puts a dead line in front of them and warns them not to overstep it. But it takes from no law-abiding and law-respecting citizen a single right or privilege. Such a citizen stands in no fear of it, for it cannot touch him to injure him and, in fact, always available for his protection. There can be no gainsaying of the fact that it is an equitable power, since it first gives fair notice of what must not be done and only punishes when this warning is disregarded. Whether this power has ever been abused or not is immaterial; all power is subject to occasional abuse. The fact that this power is vested in judges gives strong reason to assume that it is safely placed, for ignorant or malicious judges are rare and dishonest ones are rarer.

Although the United States Steel corporation has a reserve fund of \$50,000,000, it now proposes to issue a quarter of a billion of bonds partly to reduce interest charges and partly to perfect existing equipment. These are certainly the days of large figures.

The Danish premier, who told the folkething that the great Republic could and would give the Danish West Indies a better position in the world than they had enjoyed before evidently is not much impressed by American anti-imperialist literature.

Mr. Bryan's eagerness to have the Democratic caucus force an issue on the Boer war is very unfair to the "crime of '73."

According to the health officer of Louisville, Limburger cheese is full of microbes. We suspected it had something in it.

Why Our Exports Are Falling Off

PROSPERITY at home and depression abroad are cited as the principal causes of the continued fall in the exportation of manufactures of iron and steel. Two items in the exports of the United States now show a marked reduction, compared with February, 1901, and January, 1902, and, in fact, since 1900. Exports of iron and steel, according to the preliminary figures of the Bureau of Statistics, just issued, to only 29,912,572 bushels, against 32,621,859 bushels in the corresponding months of the preceding fiscal year, the value being in the eight months ending with February, 1902, \$10,083,200, against \$10,621,569 last year, a reduction in this single item of \$538,369. This reduction, of course, was caused by the shortage in the corn crop due to the drought of last summer.

The most important item in which a reduction is apparent is manufactures of iron and steel. The exports under this head are for the seven months ending with January, 1902, \$16,000,000 below those of the corresponding months of last year, being \$7,210,128 for the seven months ending with January, 1902, against \$23,210,247 in the seven months ending with January, 1901. This decrease in the value of iron and steel industry of the United States to be as easily explained as the decrease in the exportations of corn, above referred to.

The following table shows the exports of principal articles of iron and steel manufactures in the seven months ending with January, 1902, compared with the corresponding months ending with January, 1901, and with the corresponding months of the preceding fiscal year:

Table with columns: Articles, 1901, and 1902. Lists items like Pig iron, Bar iron, Hoop and scroll iron, etc.

A PLEA FOR INDIA.

The following plea comes to us from Miss Emily C. Wheeler, secretary of the National American Relief committee, who, at the request of the former committee of one hundred for India, has consented to help in India for India as well as for those in Turkey: "Some years ago the good people of America rescued from death quite a large number of little orphans in far away India, but in the hurry of our western life many of these little ones whom we then rescued from death have been almost forgotten and are in danger of being forced into something even worse than death, and especially in this time of the year.

"Hence we feel justified in appealing once more to the people of America to help these little ones. The grown-up population of India, so many of whom needed help in famine time, are now able to care for themselves, but the little ones still need our help. First of all, they need something to eat. Second, they need a clean home, and, third, we wish to awaken in them a love of work, which will make them a blessing to their native land, where manual labor is so often looked upon with supreme contempt.

ALWAYS BUSY.



Easter Shoes, Easter Slippers, Easter Oxford, and Charity Ball Shoes and Slippers.

Lewis & Reilly, At 114-116 Wyoming Ave., Where Good Shoes are Sold.

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Never Fails

To give the most perfect satisfaction and

To Make

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Snow White Bread

Ask your grocer for it. We only wholesale it.

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It will be worth your while.

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- Spangled Robes, Spangled Allovers, Rich Lace Robes, Chantilly Lace Net, Embroidered Giffon, Silk Gauze, Point D'Esprit, Embroidered Veilings, Embroidered Batist, Crepe de Chine, Silk Grenadines, Silk Louisines, Peau de Cygne, Crepe de Paris, Moire Silks, Broche Pointelle Soie

Fine Laces and Trimmings

- Persian Tinted Chluy, Silk Passemanterie, Russian Lace, Chantilly Lace, Applique Bands, Flounces, Allovers, Etc.

510-512 Lackawanna Avenue.

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Being the LARGEST FURNITURE DEALERS IN SCRANTON We carry the greatest assortment of up-to-date Office Furniture. You are invited to examine our new line before purchasing.

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The location of this department and its convenient arrangement adds to the pleasure of purchasing here. Experienced men are in charge of our home decorating work and at all times are ready and willing to give you the benefit of their experience or by suggestion or illustrations aid you in securing the desired effect.

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The Man

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