

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 PLAT RATE FOR ADVERTISING.

Table showing advertising rates for different display sizes and durations.

For each of these, readjustments of conditions, and similar contributions in the nature of advertising The Tribune makes a charge of 5 cents a line.

SCRANTON, MARCH 25, 1902.

John Mitchell's course during the Shamokin convention has been that of a careful, far-seeing and conservative man.

Peace in Sight.

THE PROPOSITION of a partial strike, limited to three of the six working days of week, as embodied in the programme of the Shamokin convention in case satisfactory concessions shall not be received from the operators, is, we believe, a new feature in labor campaigns.

Not long ago complaint was common among the mine-workers because trade conditions allowed many of them only half time or less.

The saving part of the Shamokin programme is in the opportunity allowed for further negotiations. If the theory of some of the mine-union officials is correct that the financial interests in control of the operation of the anthracite industry do not want a strike at this time, because of the ill effects one would have upon the financial situation, this opportunity provides an avenue to peace.

For this reason, we consider that the chances of a strike are fewer than the chances of another prosperous year in our mines, benefitting not only the miner, his family and the labor that is contingent upon his prosperity, but likewise making all forms of local business more active.

It would seem that a little more getting together might be a good thing for all concerned in South Africa.

Petitioning for Statehood.

SOME VERY strong reasons are advanced for the admission of Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma territories to statehood.

New Mexico, equal in size to New York, New England and New Jersey combined, has 330,000 inhabitants of whom three-quarters speak, read and write the English language; \$300,000,000 worth of taxable property and a debt so low that if it admitted it would be the lowest taxed community in the nation.

Our Ex-Presidents.

AN ACADEMIC discussion of the question, What shall be done with our ex-presidents, revived recently by the New York Tribune, which favors an amendment to the constitution making them senators for life, has elicited an instructive letter from that veteran diplomat and publicist, John Bigelow.

Mr. Bigelow favors the Tribune's idea and goes further. He would allow to these life senators a salary not less than half their pay as presidents. This would not prove much of a tax upon the public purse, for there is living to-day only one ex-president—Mr. Cleveland—and the average number for the 103 years since Washington has been less than three.

railroad has 290 national and territorial banks with \$20,000,000 aggregate resources; has 2500 public school houses or one for every 200 inhabitants; has a number of cities with 10,000 to 15,000 population and all modern improvements; and is a greatest spot, raising 30,000,000 bushels of wheat, 60,000,000 bushels of corn, 200,000 bales of cotton and much fine fruit last year, its agricultural possibilities being almost unlimited.

Oklahoma and New Mexico are Republican in politics, while Arizona is Democratic. The Democrats in caucus have voted to favor statehood for these territories and we see no reason why the Republicans should not make it unanimous. In any event, the admission of Oklahoma is demanded by every consideration of justice.

A winning political issue cannot be made of the proposition to abolish injunctions in labor disputes. The right to enjoin against lawlessness is a necessary precedent of the right to punish.

An Encouraging Balance Sheet.

FROM GOOD Democratic authority—the Washington correspondence of the Philadelphia Record—we learn that the surplus in the United States treasury for the fiscal year closing June 30 is likely to be the largest on record.

The Record correspondent estimates it at \$100,000,000. Last year it was \$77,000,000; the year previous, \$79,000,000. In his analysis of this remarkable showing he emphasizes two reasons: Increased receipts and decreased expenses, both creditable to Republican administration.

Customs receipts for the ten elapsed months of the fiscal year increased \$10,000,000. Internal revenue receipts, however, fell away \$20,000,000 as compared with last year, in consequence of the reduction in war taxes which became effective last July. It is in expenditures that the showing is most striking. For the ten elapsed months of this fiscal year they were \$349,357,464 as compared with \$354,212,278 for the same months of the previous year.

Colonel Watterson expresses the belief that President Roosevelt is headed toward a dictatorship. That, we believe, was one of the charges brought against Lincoln; and less than two years ago some were saying the same thing about McKinley. Colonel Watterson is finding it extremely difficult to work up a scare that will catch.

Danger in Compromise.

GENERAL WOOD, who certainly ought to be accepted by the American people as good authority, repeats what he said some months ago, that a 20 per cent concession to Cuban sugar would be insufficient to afford the relief necessary if the Cuban republic is to have a fair start. The minimum of sufficiency in his judgment is 33 1/3 per cent.

General Wood is right it is worth while to fight longer for the 20 per cent bill before the house. There would be no victory for anybody in a piece of legislation insufficient for the needs of Cuba and destructive of Republican harmony at home. If a 20 per cent bill can be passed by administration pressure, it is probable that a 33 1/3 per cent bill could. Would it not be advisable to make the fight on the basis which would insure a victory if successful?

Those at Washington doubtless know best, but from a distance it would seem that a flat defeat for the administration would be as creditable as a compromise on a basis below sufficiency. A defeat would injure most those Republicans responsible for it. A compromise would please neither side nor the Cubans either.

The small-pox scare is followed by a threatened epidemic of spring fever.

Yesterday the King, today "man so poor to do him reverence" at once the most despised and one of the most powerless private citizens of the republic. Representing not only the eminence of character which called him to the chief magistracy, but the accumulated distinction which the discharge of his duties for one or more terms necessarily begets, he is relegated to the comparative obscurity of private life, unsupported by the slightest recognition of the law the public service sustains in parting with his unique experience and trained familiarity with public affairs. He enters with him into retirement no official rank, no title, not even a ribbon, nor a perquisite—unless it be the framing privilege—to distinguish him from the obscure and least deserving of his countrymen. Neither has he the privileges and exemptions which attach to political obscurity. Like an ascetic, the height from which he has descended makes him on a level with the commonest citizen. If a man of moderate means, as most of our presidents have been, and are likely to be, he is subjected by the very eminence from which he descends to expenses to which no private citizen is liable—expenses for which the state makes no provision and from which there is no graceful or dignified escape. The presidency is the only office in the country which to a considerable extent disqualifies its incumbent from returning to an active prosecution of any profession or calling for which he may have been trained. He is expected to sustain the dignity of first citizen of the republic for the remainder of his life, without any of the resources or privileges which such a rank implies, and every time when available to a public servant is presumably greatest; when he deserves to be regarded as one of the nation's most valuable assets, he is cast aside like the pool of an orange, virtually disqualified for all subordinate positions.

We do not doubt that there is truth in Mr. Bigelow's further argument that the prospect of honorable usefulness in a body like the United States senate, without the political uncertainties and risks which surround elected members, would go far to strengthen the official conduct of a weak president and improve that of all presidents, since human nature is much the same in high place as in low. It would, as Mr. Bigelow remarks, "furnish the president the strongest inducement possible for giving the people an acceptable administration, if for no other purpose than to strengthen his influence in the more enduring position toward which he would be gravitating." The change is one not likely to come, but one which most thinking people will agree is highly desirable.

The report that District Attorney Jerome is to make another attempt to secure the indictment of Florence Burns is probably unauthorized. No amount of evidence would lead to a conviction in this case. The people's money might better be saved for more hopeful prosecutions.

It is to be regretted that the crop of small boys armed with air-guns and flobert rifles is much larger than the flocks of American song birds in Scranton.

WAYSIDE NOTES.

Appropos of the fact that Scranton is to have a base ball team this season, a good many people wonder why a good many other people take so much interest in the national game. There are good reasons. In the first place, there is in human nature an instinctive love for sport, and, secondly, base ball, as played today by first-class clubs, requires the very highest physical training and athletic skill—qualities which are always attractive. Not only this, but it calls for mental qualities of no mean order, notably good judgment, coolness at critical moments, and the faculty of devising instantly a plan of attack for a given situation. Technical and athletic skill is required in every feature of the game. Another fascinating thing about the game is its uncertainty. When a ball is pitched, the result may be a strike-out, a long fly, skillfully judged by an outfielder, a marvelous pick-up by one of the infield, a jungle which just allows the batter to slide to first, or a clean hit, out of the reach of everybody. And, supposing the hit comes in the last half of the last inning, with the home team at the bat, the score a tie, two men out, and a man on third—would he not be a crowd for a few minutes if you were there. But don't be temperate in this or any other sport. To attend a well-played game occasionally acts as a good tonic, since the ideal and takes one's thoughts from business or other troubles. But do not make a business of recreation.

General Lord Kitchener hopes to be able to attend the coronation. In the meantime, he occasionally sends his "regrets."

An old darkey once said that he liked to get the grubstake for his master to grind his ax for him because he was so mighty glad when he got through. Perhaps one would not exactly wish to go through such an old-fashioned winter as we have just had for the sake of the first falling snow of spring, but one certainly appreciates the beautiful spring weather before for the previous four months' experience.

Cuba must raise an immense tobacco crop to supply "all Havana fillers" to all cigars of that type, Cuba or U. S.

Will some student of modern civilization explain why barbers put their customers on exhibition in their windows? It is not especially pleasing to the power-ty and probably not very amusing to the victim in the chair.

How many residents of Scranton have seen their city as viewed from Webster avenue where it runs along the bluff in Pottsville? The prospect is really a fine one, in spite of cutting pipes and some other excrescences, and gives one a clear idea of the great depth of the valley at this point. The view is also fine after the electric lights have been turned on the end of the route and walk two blocks out Ash street. The trip is worthwhile, if you have never made it.

A painting of Millet's—not a very large one, either—recently sold for \$100,000. More of our boys should learn the painter's trade.

SMITH WAS CONVINCED.

From the Philadelphia Evening Telegraph. George Barton, private secretary to Collector of the Port C. Smith, tells a good story of how the late Senator George Handy Smith was forced to lead the knee to the power of the press. It was when the senator, while in the Pennsylvania senate at Harrisburg, there were times when Senator Smith was somewhat in poor-pooling the influence wielded by the newspapers. He always maintained that he was invulnerable to their slurs. Despite this, he was once liked so much as the general editor of the newspaper correspondents. There was one paper in Philadelphia which "Senator Smith, in season and out of season, always belittled.

To its representative he was always fond of saying: "You don't get me!" There came a day of retribution, however, when the senator was effectively silenced. "My paper never read," concluded the correspondent to his associate. "Well, I'll show the senator how wrong he is. I'll open his eyes and close his lips;" and this is what was done: One night in settling off his batch of news in his paper, the correspondent closed his "copy" by adding the following innocent-sounding paragraph:

"Senator George Handy Smith has fifty copies of the superb Bird Book lately issued by the legislature. He will shortly mail them to his friends."



ALWAYS BUSY. The Melba Boots and Oxfords, in style rich and rare; For the Ladies fair; Happy Feet-free from care. Melba Boots, \$3.00 Melba Oxfords, 2.50 Please Call At Our Stores For Your Easter Shoes and Slippers

LEWIS & REILLY, 114-116 Wyoming Ave

CRANE'S WHERE THE LADIES GO SUITS CLOTH JACKETS SILK ETONS SILK RAGLANS DRESS SKIRTS WALKING SKIRTS SILK WAISTS SILK PETTICOATS ENOUGH SAID 324 LACKAWANNA AVENUE 1 WKF ELEVATOR.

Don't Strike! Buy the "Smoot" the Typewriter Man, takes pleasure in exhibiting its merits from morn till night. 1st floor Guernsey Building, Scranton, Pa.

Office Desks and Office Furniture New and Complete Assortment 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.

Every Year We do more business. How is it done? We know; by experience and watchfulness for possible improvements, our monthly trips to the markets of the world, and our special buying facilities enable us to get just ahead of the other fellow for styles and values. We handle only the best, see our spring line of Hats, Storm Coats, Neckwear, etc..... It will be worth your while.

Hill & Connell 121 Washington Avenue.

Louis H. Isaacs 412 Spruce Street. For Wedding Gifts, Silverware, Cut Glass, Clocks and Fine China Mercereau & Connell, 132 Wyoming Avenue.

Headquarters for Incandescent Gas Mantles, Portable Lamps. THE NEW DISCOVERY Kern Incandescent Gas Lamp. Gunster & Forsyth 253-327 Penn Avenue. Lawyers The Tribune will guarantee to print your paper book quicker than any other printing house in the city.

Jonas Long's Sons Millinery News Grand Millinery Opening Thursday and Friday, March 27th and 28th. Boys' Spring Clothing Boys' Sailor Suits in pretty new spring colors, large sailor collars, neatly trimmed, 3 to 9 years, strictly all wool \$2.48 Boys Fine Suits in double-breasted styles, 8 to 15 years, made of all-wool serge in navy blue, thoroughly made in good workmanship-like manner. Priced at..... \$2.98 Boys' English Walking Suits, made with skirt coat and single-breasted vests, materials made from serge and pretty figured effects, sizes 6 to 12 years. Priced at..... \$3.98 Boys' 3-Piece Suits, round cut and made with vests in a large assortment of pretty new spring colors, light and dark effects, all sizes, 8 to 15 years, serges and clays in blue and black. Priced at..... \$3.98 Wall Paper This department presents a scene of greatest activity. The Special Sale will continue all this week. A few special numbers— 5c Double Roll for 1c 8c Double Roll for 3c 10c Double Roll for 5c 15c Double Roll for 8c 20c Double Roll for 12c 25c Double Roll for 15c 35c Double Roll for 18c Women's Tailor-Made Suits Double-Breasted Coat Suit—Made of Blind Pebble Cheviot. Coat lined with taffeta, faced with Peau de Soie Silk, trimmed with six silk covered buttons, skirt full flounce, has five rows of stitching, lined with Near Silk, black and blue only, made to sell for \$20, but at the Big Store at..... \$15.00 Eton Suit—Trimmed with satin bands around cuffs and collars, 4 silk covered buttons, jacket lined with Roumaine Silk, skirt full flounced, trimmed like jacket. Made of Basket Cloth, blue, brown, castor and black. Priced at..... \$12.50 Furniture Our Fourth Floor is filled to overflowing with the best Furniture from the leading manufacturers of this country. A visit to this Furniture store is a pleasure. Corset Demonstration Beginning today, March 25th, Miss McCarthy will be at our Corset Department to show the many good features about the LA VIDA CORSET. Being an expert corsetiere her advice will be very valuable. The corset is the latest in the new models, embodying the essential features that conform with the present fashion. DEMONSTRATION ON 2ND FLOOR. Scranton's Big Store

Our Fire Sale Of Wall Paper, Shades, Picture Frames and Paint Brushes Goes Merrily On.... HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE are daily reaping a harvest from our recent misfortune. The old saying, "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good," was never better demonstrated than by this great sale. Our loss is your gain, but we are bound to open our new store with an entirely new stock, and with that end in view, are selling our entire line of WALL PAPER, SHADES, PICTURES and PICTURE FRAMES way below the actual cost to us. Some of the stock is slightly damaged, some is not. It all goes at the same price.

JACOBS & FASOLD, Temporary Stores: 505 Linden Street. 308 Washington Avenue, Opp. Tribune Bldg.

A Great Big Loaf Is not enough. Must be white, Must be sweet, Must be delicate. Snow White Flour Will give you all and more. We only wholesale it. Dickson Mill & Grain Co. Scranton and Olyphant.

EDUCATIONAL. Do You Want a Good Education? Not a short course, nor an easy course, nor a cheap course, but the best education to be had. No other education is worth spending time and money on. If you do, write for a Catalogue of Lafayette College Easton, Pa. which offers thorough preparation in the Engineering and Chemical Professions as well as the regular College courses. SCRANTON CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL SCRANTON, PA. T. J. Foster, President. Elmer H. Lawall, Treas. R. J. Foster, Secretary. Stanley P. Allen, Vice President.

Warren-Ehret Co., 321 Washington Ave., Scranton. Contractors for Ehret's Slag Roofing. Absolutely Fire-proof. Guaranteed for ten years.

Allis-Chalmers Co Successors to Machine Business of Dickson Manufacturing Co., Scranton and Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Stationary Engines, Rollers, Mining Machinery, Pumps.