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.

The following table shows the price per inch each insertion, space to be used within one year:

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Less than 500 inches	.25	.275	.30
500 inches	.20	.22	.24
1000 "	.16	.175	.19
3000 "	.135	.17	.185
6000 "	.15	.165	.18

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Rates of Classified Advertising furnished on application.

SCRANTON, AJRIL 8, 1902.

The recorder's annual message reviews comprehensively the executive conduct of city affairs during the first year of the city's existence under the second-class charter. These details are instructive, as showing how the new charter works, and every citizen should, therefore, read them. Naturally while methods of procedure are new, the attention of the city executive officials has been directed mainly to establishing foundations. These are well along toward completion, and in the coming year we may expect achievements rising higher in the public view. That which has been done has been carefully and economically done, along the lines of business prudence; and that which remains to be done will be approached in the same spirit.

The Petroleum Industry.

IF CREDENCE can be given to a fair proportion of the reports of new discoveries in oil in various parts of the west and southwest—and certainly there have been some wonderful developments in this direction within the past few months—the question of replacing coal as fuel, long considered in a speculative way, may become vital.

Dr. Paul Dvorkovitz, a famous Russian oil expert and editor of the Petroleum Review, recently visited the American oil fields and in his journal recorded his observations. Those which are more especially of present interest to us relate to the possibilities of substituting crude petroleum for bituminous coal in the bunkers of the trans-Atlantic steamships. Dr. Dvorkovitz came over on the Lucania, which consumed on the voyage 3000 tons of coal. To handle this fuel and maintain a proper steaming strength required the employment in the stokeholds of 150 men. At night speed had to be reduced, not because of danger but to give these overworked inhabitants of the ship's inferno some little chance to rest. Bearing these facts in mind, we are prepared to follow the doctor in his deductions concerning this matter.

"By the substitution of liquid fuel for coal the number of stokers would," says he, "be reduced to a maximum of about twenty, while the work of even these would be greatly lightened; in fact, there would be practically nothing more to do than to watch the burners to see that they did not become choked up. The temperature of the stokeholds would also be much more bearable, and there would be no need to load the bunkers with 3,000 tons of coal, as 1,500 tons of oil would see the trip out. Moreover, the loading of this quantity of coal occupies, as a rule at least three days, whereupon the necessary amount of oil could be taken on board in a few hours.

"After inspecting carefully all other arrangements in the stokeholds in connection with the boilers, etc., I came to the conclusion that even at the price of three to one against coal, oil would be cheaper. In addition to this, the vessel would be able to make the voyage in a shorter time. Speed is, of course a very important factor on the Atlantic, especially as the new German boats are making very rapid crossings. The English steamers, in order to maintain their superiority, must take advantage of every facility to secure this end, and there can be no doubt that the introduction of liquid fuel would be of considerable assistance in this direction.

"What such an introduction of liquid fuel would mean to the oil industry I will just indicate by taking two companies—the Cunard and White Star lines. These two companies jointly make over 200 voyages per year, using for each voyage 3,000 tons of coal, or about 600,000 tons for the year. If oil is substituted for this, it means that 300,000 tons would be required for the purposes of these two lines only. My readers may safely assume, also, that if these two companies adopted petroleum others would have to follow."

The foregoing hints at one probable outlet for the growing American oil yield. In a recent issue the Western Oil News notes some of the other new uses to which this product is being successfully dedicated. Thus, for example, in France a large quantity of petroleum is being used in the manufacture of petroleum bricquettes for fuel purposes. These bricquettes weigh only half as much as coal of equal volume and give from only two to three per cent. residue. This form of fuel produces no slag, does not "run" when lighted, keeps its form like coal, burns without odor and without smoke, may be wetted with impunity, losing none of its properties, consumes without explosions or sparke and yet with a bright and long flame, may be kept indefinitely without deterioration, and one ton of it will do the work of more than three tons of ordinary bituminous.

Another new use has been found for Texas oil in the South. It is now used in the place of creosote in preserving railway ties and timbers that are used in harbor improvements, the terredo refusing to bore wood saturated with it. It is much cheaper than creosote, and is said to preserve any kind of wood for a lifetime. For smelting purposes oil is also destined to be used extensively for fuel. A recent report says that enormous deposits of iron ore in California have been allowed to remain in their virgin condition because of the fact that there has been no fuel at hand with which they could become economically reduced. The discovery of petroleum for fuel purposes has solved the long-perplexing problem, and iron development on a large scale will result.

In short, the ability of the market to absorb all the oil that can flow seems to be established beyond question. The experience of California is instructive in this connection. Only a few years ago California's consumption of oil was 50,000 barrels a year. Then came the California oil discoveries, and last year the golden state consumed 7,500,000 barrels, which was half a million barrels in excess of the state's production. Nor have profits fallen. In California last year 31 companies paid in dividends $1,304,000, and it is claimed by conservative observers that the dividend distribution on California oil will this year exceed $1,500,000.

We hardly need to say that there are oil gambles which, like the gold gambles of '49 and the Klondike, had better be viewed warily by those who lack the means of informing themselves reliably. But on the other hand, the oil industry has a solid and substantial foundation, just now offers exceptional opportunities for intelligent development and promises at no distant day to work many revolutions in the business field.

Congratulations to Select Councilman Oliver, whose feat in capturing the chairmanship of his branch was Napoleonic; and condolences to Commoner Calpin, who is an excellent member and adroit parliamentarian, but not strong enough to sustain the legality of his bob-tailed rump organization of common.

The Pathos of War.

THERE is an interesting little incident in the late John Gibbon's story in the Century this month of Lee's surrender at Appomattox. General Gibbon, it may be necessary to note, was one of the Union officers who accompanied General Grant when he went to the McLean residence in Appomattox to arrange with General Robert E. Lee for the latter's submission to the North's superior force, and, with two other officers, had charge of arranging the details. General Gibbon thus describes the incident to which we refer:

"Receiving on the 11th (of April) a request from General Lee's adjutant general for a small escort for the general for a few miles on his way to Richmond, it was sent, and, the next day, while seated in the McLean house, I received a message saying that General Lee was at the door and would like to see me. I told the messenger to ask him in, but he came back to say that the general declined to dismount. Going to the door I found General Fitz Lee seated on his horse and looking, I thought, somewhat uneasy. He had been a cadet under me at West Point and I had not seen him for years. As I looked at him, a vision of the past came up before me, and I could only think of a little rollicking fellow dressed in cadet gray, whose jolly songs and gay spirits were the life of his class. My salutation of 'Hello, Fitz! Get off and come in,' seemed to put him at his ease once more, and brought him to his feet. He came into the house and told his story. Early on the 9th, seeing that surrender was inevitable, he had, with his cavalry force, made his escape and proceeded toward Lynchburg; but becoming convinced that the war was virtually ended, he rode to Farmville and reported to General Meade. He was advised to return to Appomattox and be paroled. He became my guest for the night, and, lying on the floor, slept as soundly as a child, after, as he said, having had no sleep for a week. Nothing could dampen his high spirits, and with us he seemed to rejoice that the war was over. With a grim humor he took from his pocket a five-dollar Confederate note, and writing across its face 'For Mrs. Gibbon, with the compliments of Fitz Lee,' he said: 'Send that to your wife, and tell her it is the last cent I have in the world.'"

And this same Fitz Lee is now a retired brigadier-general of the United States army and a possible and, we hope, successful candidate in the sense that his name is being considered for the position of first American minister to the republic of Cuba. Truly, time works wondrous changes.

Miss Stone has resisted all the offers of the magazines to tell in print the story of her capture and abduction and is now on the ocean en route for the United States, where she will utilize her experiences as drawing cards to lectures in the interest of foreign missions. Perhaps that is best. None need hear her lecture who don't want to, while, on the other hand, enough will want to hear to make it profitable to herself and to her cause.

Any Pittsburg politician who is in danger of being forgotten now has opportunity of securing a newspaper personal by announcing that he is not candidate for United States senator.

A realization of the greatness of Cecil Rhodes has already put to shame the efforts of the insignificant newspaper correspondents who maligned him during the last years of his life.

According to a recent census bulletin, there are 437 industrial establishments in this country engaged in the manufacture of chewing tobacco. And still we claim to be civilized!

The experience of the citizens of Tuscumbia the other day shows that it is impossible to conduct lynchings at all times in the conventional "quiet and orderly manner."

The fuss made over the "dry Sunday" indicates that the average citizen of Greater New York possesses a greater thirst than that of the traditional Kentucky colonel.

TWO CHAIRMEN FOR COMMON COUNCIL

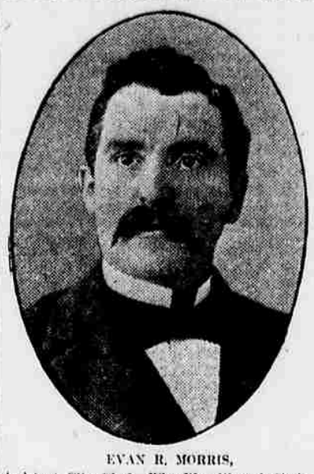
[Concluded from Page 1.]

and the twenty-one members started upstairs to do things. Just as soon as they got into the council chamber things began to be done.

The seventeen Democrats were in their seats and Mr. Calpin was looking smilingly down from the chairman's seat. The Republican members took their seats and called upon Assistant City Clerk Morris to call the roll. The latter demanded the roll books from Clerk Lynott and the latter refused to give it up. Mr. Morris had a pad prepared with the names of the members written on it and as he opened this Alleged Chairman Calpin sang out to Clerk Lynott:

"Call the roll, Mr. Lynott."

Alleged Clerk Lynott began to call the roll and Clerk Morris began to call the roll also. The two stopped for a moment and looked around at one another only to turn around again and



EVAN R. MORRIS,
Assistant City Clerk, Who Was Elected Clerk of Common Council.

keep on calling until the list of members had been exausted. The Democrats answered present to alleged Clerk Lynott's call and the Republicans answered to Clerk Morris' call.

Both Chairmen on Duty.

While the Republicans were electing Messrs. Robathan and Morris as temporary chairman and clerk, the Democrats were having a committee appointed to wait on select council and announce that common was ready to meet in joint session. One man would be making a motion to Alleged Chairman Calpin and another to Temporary Chairman Robathan at one and the same time. Indescribable tumult and disorder prevailed. Mr. Robathan was presiding at a table immediately underneath the desk at which Alleged Chairman Calpin was seated.

The latter was for being firm but he finally leaned back with a twinkle in his eye and remarked: "Well if this thing amuses the Republicans I think I'll let them go on with it."

The Republicans did go on and elected Mr. Robathan as temporary chairman by twenty-one votes. Mr. Morris was elected clerk by twenty votes. David Evans was recorded as voting for Mr. Robathan but failed to vote for Mr. Morris. Without his vote, however, the Republicans had a clear majority of one because Mr. Thomas voted for both Robathan and Morris.

Immediately following Mr. Robathan's election the following newly elected members were sworn in: Second ward, John Henry, David Evans, T. J. Snowdan and J. B. Casterline; Fourth ward, W. W. Evans, E. W. Evans and E. W. Searing; Tenth ward, William Knoepfel; Sixteenth ward, Theodore Fuller.

Alleged Chairman Calpin had appointed Messrs. Galvin, Graf and McGreevy as a committee to wait on select council and inform that body that common council was ready to meet in joint session. Chairman Robathan appointed Messrs. Harvey, W. W. Evans and Calpin as a similar committee. Both waited on Chairman Oliver, of select, but neither was officially recognized, according to the latter. Mr. Chittenden moved that the select council go into joint session, but the Democrats got the idea into their heads that Chairman Robathan's committee had been recognized and the other ignored, and so they voted the motion down. Both councils then adjourned.

Immediately after the meeting, Chairmen Oliver and Robathan got together and prepared a call for a joint meeting on Wednesday night, to hear the recorder's message and elect a city clerk.

Lynott Kept the Books.

Alleged Clerk Lynott kept a tight hold on the minute and roll books of the common council, and when last seen was going downstairs with them. Whether or not he took them outside the municipal building is unknown.

Alleged Chairman Calpin's contention is that it is not necessary to have a yea and nay vote to elect a chairman and that if a majority is present, as shown by the roll-call at the beginning of the meeting, it is proper to assume that such a majority is present when the chairman is elected.

The reorganization of select council was rather a tame and colorless affair. The supporters of J. J. McAndrew, the Democratic candidate for the chairmanship, had practically given up the fight after they sized up the situation. D. W. Vaughan was elected temporary chairman without any opposition. Mr. McAndrew's name was placed in nomination by J. J. Costello, who opposed him in the caucus, and Joseph Oliver's name was placed in nomination by Mr. Clemons. Things looked splendid for Mr. McAndrew's election until the Twentieth ward was called out and Malachi L. Coyne, the successor of William G. O'Malley, said "Oliver." Then the Democrats knew that the gentleman from the Fifteenth was elected, and when the Twenty-first ward was called out, Mr. McAndrew voted for Mr. Oliver, instead of for himself, thus paying him a graceful compliment. The vote was as follows:

McAndrew—H. Costello, Regan, Maloney, Melvin, Quinnan, Cosgrove, Coleman, O'Boyle, Vaughan—9.

Oliver—Ross, Van Bergen, Evans, Morgans, Chittenden, Nagell, Schneider, Merriman, Oliver, Clemons, Coyne, McAndrew—12.

New Members Sworn In.

After the election of a chairman, the following new members were sworn in: Second ward, John Von Bergen; Tenth ward, John Nagell; Twelfth ward, John P. Quinnan; Fourteenth ward, Thomas Cosgrove; Sixteenth ward, E. J. Coleman; Eighteenth ward, Thomas O'Boyle; Twentieth ward, Malachi L. Coyne.

The board of city assessors met for reorganization yesterday afternoon and re-elected Philip Rinsland as president, and Jay G. Seamans as secretary. The meeting was beautifully harmonious, and the cigars were passed out to visiting friends all afternoon.

It was moving day in the city controller's office yesterday. Esdras Howell, who has served as city controller for three years past, turned over the keys of his office to P. W. Costello, the new controller, at 10 o'clock, and together with his deputy, Charles A. Hartley, and his clerk, John W. Howell, left the building, with the personal esteem of all who had been associated with him.

Mr. Costello immediately took charge and installed his assistants into their offices. Former Sheriff John J. Fahey is his new deputy, and Charles Conrad and Eugene Cosgrove, his new clerks. The latter is a hold-over from the Howell regime.

LITERARY NOTES.

The latest issue of Collier's Weekly is a Southern number, exploiting the gratifying prosperity of that revivified section and picturing some of its more distinguished citizens. Since its installation in its magnificent new home, Collier's has broadened appreciably in scope, scholarship and enterprise. It is a vital chronicle of our times.

An extremely interesting feature of the April Criterion is General James Grant Wilson's paper of recollections of Admiral Farragut. The career of this greatest of American naval heroes, who had no streaks of sham in him, will always have a peculiar fascination for students of American history; and General Wilson's paper sheds intimate light upon it through the effective medium of anecdote and personal recollection.

The Protectionist, published by the Boston Home Market club, is one of the strong upholders of the American economic policy. Its monthly contributions to the discussion of varying phases of our commercial and industrial life are always timely, scholarly and practical. The Protectionist is doing its best to sandbag reciprocity. That is its only weak point.

The Greatest of All Educational Contests

OVER $9000 IN SPECIAL REWARDS

The Scranton Tribune will open on May 5 its third great Educational Contest. Like the others, which proved so profitable to the contestants during the past two years, this will be open to young people, not only of Scranton, but throughout Lackawanna and other counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania. There are offered as Special Rewards to those who secure the largest number of points,

Thirty-two Scholarships

in some of the leading educational institutions in the country. The list so far arranged is as follows:

2 Scholarships in Syracuse University, at $432 each...	$ 864	
1 Scholarship in Bucknell University	520	
		$1384
1 Scholarship in Washington School for Boys.....	1700	
1 Scholarship in Williamsport Dickinson Seminary ...	750	
1 Scholarship in Dickinson Collegiate Preparatory School	750	
1 Scholarship in Newton Collegiate Institute	720	
1 Scholarship in Keystone Academy	600	
1 Scholarship in Brown College Preparatory School ...	600	
1 Scholarship in the School of the Lackawanna	400	
1 Scholarship in Wilkes-Barre Institute	276	
1 Scholarship in Cotuit Cottage (Summer School).....	230	
		6026
4 Scholarships in Scranton Conservatory of Music, at $125 each	500	
4 Scholarships in Hardenbergh School of Music and Art	460	
5 Scholarships in International Correspondence Schools, average value $57 each	285	
3 Scholarships in Scranton Business College at $75 each	225	
2 Scholarships in Lackawanna Business College, at $85 each	170	
2 Scholarships in Alfred Wooler's Vocal Studio.....	125	
		1765
32		$9175

Each contestant failing to secure one of the scholarships as a special reward will receive ten per cent. of all the money he or she secures for The Tribune during the contest.

Special Honor Prizes.

A new feature is to be added this year. Special honor prizes will be given to those securing the largest number of points each month. Just what the prizes will be are to be announced later, but they will consist of valuable and useful presents, such as watches, books, etc.

The best explanation of the plan of The Tribune's Educational Contest will be found in the rules, which are here given:

RULES OF THE CONTEST.

The special rewards will be given to the person securing the largest number of points.

Points will be credited to contestants securing new subscribers to The Scranton Tribune as follows:

		Points.
One month's subscription.....	$ .50	1
Three months' subscription...	1.25	3
Six months' subscription.....	2.50	6
One year's subscription.....	5.00	12

The contestant with the highest number of points will be given a choice from the list of special rewards; the contestant with the second highest number of points will be given a choice of the remaining rewards, and so on through the list.

The contestant who secures the highest number of points during any calendar month of the contest will receive a special honor reward, this reward being entirely independent of the ultimate disposition of the scholarships.

Each contestant failing to secure a special reward will be given 10 per cent. of all money he or she turns in.

All subscriptions must be paid in advance. Only new subscribers will be counted.

Renewals by persons whose names are already on our subscription list will not be credited. The Tribune will investigate each subscription and if found irregular in any way reserves the right to reject it.

No transfers can be made after credit has once been given.

All subscriptions and the cash to pay for them must be handed in at The Tribune office within the week in which they are secured, so that papers can be sent to the subscribers at once.

Subscriptions must be written on blanks, which can be secured at The Tribune office, or will be sent by mail.

Those desiring to enter the Contest should send in their names at once, and they will be the first to receive the book of instructions and canvasser's outfit when the contest opens on May 5.

All questions concerning the plan will be cheerfully answered.

Address all communications to
CONTEST EDITOR,
Scranton Tribune, Scranton, Pa.