

The Scranton Tribune

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by The Tribune Publishing Company, at Fifty Cents a Month. L. V. RICHARD, Editor. O. F. BYRDE, Business Manager.

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 RATE FOR ADVERTISING. The following table shows the price per inch for each insertion, space to be used within one year.

For cards of thanks, resolutions of condolence, and similar conditions in the nature of notices, the Tribune makes a charge of 2 cents a line.

SCRANTON, APRIL 29, 1902.

For governor of Pennsylvania, on the issue of an open field and fair play, JOHN P. ELKIN, of Indiana, subject to the will of the Republican masses.

Scranton's Credit.

THE SALE of the new bond issue supplies a striking demonstration of the soundness of the city's credit. The highest bidder, Hayes & Son, takes the \$2,700,000 three and one-half per cent, \$27,905 premium and also agreeing to take care of the state tax amounting to more than \$19,900.

But when the circumstances are considered, this showing is not surprising. On an assessed valuation of \$65,686,762, Scranton's net indebtedness is only \$22,022,500, or less than 8 per cent.

About Trusts Once More.

THERE IS very little if any real difference between the position of our correspondent in Pockville, whose second letter on trusts and combination evils we print today, and that of The Tribune. Extortion cannot be defended, no matter who practices it.

Every season of prosperity brings forth the cry that the well-to-do get all the benefits while the poor man is lost in the shuffle. We do not believe this. It would, of course, be a pleasant spectacle to contemplate if the inequalities of life, which have characterized all history, could be blotted out.

The man on a stationary salary of course feels keenly the pinch of high prices. We know of no way by which this can be avoided, so long as he chooses a salary.

The ministerialists of France were caught in a cyclone at the recent elections. All of the other "ists" seem to have received crumbs of comfort or some sort.

The press agent of the house banking and currency bill displays enterprise unsurpassed by the advance men of the "greatest show on earth."

whetted the appetites of the human hyenas who prey on honest enterprise and on honest labor, and it has developed a pace difficult to maintain. Yet with all its faults, it is still mighty popular; and we suspect that when the wheat has been separated from the chaff it will be found that there has been much less robbing of the masses by the classes than is generally supposed, and that labor's share of the rise in prices far exceeds capital's, as it should.

It was, of course, a mere coincidence that John P. Elkin attended the American club's celebration of Grant's birthday in Pittsburgh Saturday night while Senator Quay did not. The senator had been invited and had come up from Beaver carrying a dress suit case, but at 5 o'clock in the afternoon he returned to the "Saints' rest," carrying his dress suit back with him. It was perhaps also a coincidence that Mr. Elkin received at the hands of the membership of the club and their guests a veritable ovation. Yet to the uninitiated such coincidences look significant.

The Electric Age.

SAYS the Troy Times: "This is the electric age, and America leads the procession. This is no empty boast. The facts to prove the assertion are abundant. The development in the use of electric power has been so rapid and has reached such an extent at home that it is apparent to every beholder. But not only are we employing electricity in uses never before dreamed of. We are supplying the same sort of facilities to the world at large. This amazing growth has been the matter of comparatively few years. It is not so very long ago that ventures into the electric field were attended with much risk and not infrequently resulted in financial disaster.

Perusal of the foregoing suggests that it is time for the business interests of the Electric city to see if Scranton cannot more largely share in electrical developments. We pointed out on Saturday how the General Electric company, located at Schenectady, N. Y., last year paid all its bills and fixed charges, deducted the usual dividends and then put into its surplus fund equal to a 34 per cent dividend on its total capitalization.

We know of no reason why Scranton should not be as desirable a home for electrical industries as any other city in this part of the country. The fact that the Westinghouse people have had their eye on Scranton and are already investing largely in its vicinity is encouraging and significant.

If the farmers in the East would raise stock, instead of selling calves to feed merchants and hay to speculators, and fertilize their land without depending entirely upon phosphates, they would not only make the manipulations of a beef trust difficult but would also be able to harvest larger crops.

Schenectady has frowned upon the Sunday base ball games. The Sunday ball game is something that can well be dispensed with in civilized communities. The only argument that can be used in its favor is the allegation that it sometimes keeps hoodlums out of worse mischief.

The citizens of Pittsburg are deserving of sympathy on account of the recent wind storm. It would seem as though Pittsburg's experience as a political wind storm center ought to make it exempt from other storms.

Mulvar and Guevarra have evidently decided that three square meals a day are more to be desired than the administration of a few fault-finding anti-imperialists several thousand miles away.

The force of the springtime zephyrs thus far predicts that the early straw that will need to be anchored by a cable.

ABOUT TRUSTS AGAIN.

Editor of The Tribune— Sir: I do not wish to trespass upon your valuable space, but your reply to my letter places me, unintentionally no doubt, in a false position. I did not deem it necessary, in a short letter, to make the true statement that there are legitimate aggregations of capital for the better prosecution of business. My simple protest is simply against trusts organized to crush out competition and to put up prices. These charges, in my opinion, can be truthfully made against most of the so-called trusts formed in this State. I am not ignorant of the laws of demand and supply and competition and legal enactment, to which you refer, and that are relied upon to correct the abuses of trusts. But I speak with unlimited capital and natural monopoly and a high tariff, many of these trusts are thwarting the natural laws of trade and turning them to their own selfish use to the detriment of the public.

I will specify. The Scranton Gas and Water company, having removed competition and owning the water works of this valley, has raised water rates to an extent that every citizen is bound to complain. The Archbold company charged a person having a bath-room, etc., \$18 per year, and did a profitable business; the present company charges for the same privileges \$27 per year—an advance of over 25 per cent. The old company, considering their money value in real estate, incidentally, remitted the water rent to the churches; the new company raises the rate so high that small churches have been obliged to take out their water-pipes; so that, while these churches may have the water of life, they have no Scranton water, even for thirsty little children.

Again, the large operators in autocratic coal control that whole business, and have within in two years advanced the price of the common kind of coal used in this valley 75 cents per ton. The Standard Oil company, owning about 80 per cent of the territory in this country, and having the ability to sell all recent companies, holds the ability of oil at such a price that it can pay dividends of forty-five or fifty million dollars annually.

Now, Mr. Editor, where do the laws of competition come in when dealing with trusts holding these natural monopolies? There are other trusts or monopolies that are caused and aided by a high tariff. We are seeing even now how the tariff to defeat any fair reciprocity with Cuba or any other tariff legislation that shall at all lessen its enormous profits, is the interests of consumers. The same may be said of the steel trust, with its fabulous dividends, and of many others. They are protected by a high tariff and they are strong enough to resist competition, and they have power enough in congress to have little fear of adverse legislation. It is easy to trade regulations and about enforcing state laws, but the law's operations are slow, conviction is difficult, money avails much, and their great trusts, or whatever they may be called, have successfully resisted any attempt to bring state laws up to the present time, and they are likely to do so for a long time to come.

FORGET-ME-NOT.

One sweet spring morn in the aged grove, When the blossoms were moved with dew, The sky bent and kissed a rare fair flower, And its pale face reflected the blue.

SHAKE INTO YOUR SHOES

Allen's Foot Ease, a powder. It cures painful, smarting, nervous feet and improving health, and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age.

NEW YORK HOTELS.

ALDINE HOTEL. 4TH AV., BETWEEN 29TH AND 30TH STS., NEW YORK. EUROPEAN PLAN, NEW. FIREPROOF.

WESTMINSTER HOTEL. Cor. Sixteenth St. and Irving Place, NEW YORK. American Plan, \$3.00 Per Day and Upwards.

HOTEL ALBERT. NEW YORK. Cor. 11th St. & UNIVERSITY PL. Only one Block From Broadway.

HOTEL RALEIGH

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. WILL MAKE A SPECIAL RATE FROM APRIL TO JUNE OF \$2 and \$2.50 PER DAY—\$10, \$12.50 and \$15 PER WEEK.

Hotel Sothorn

On Virginia avenue, the widest and most fashionable in Atlantic City. Within a few yards of the famous Steel Pier and Boardwalk.

N. R. Bothwell.

Done quickly and reasonably at The Tribune office.

ALWAYS BUSY.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer. It is humiliating to see so many editors in this State who are somewhat in the condition of Artemus Ward, when he said "I ain't got no time; I'm in the show business." The Inquirer, however, a manly, straightforward paper, it flows to see others fight fair, whether they agree with it or not, but it does hate to see intellectual jelly-fishes waiting around until they are given a chance to show their teeth.

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Elkin and Quay.

E. G. Van Buren in the New York Sun. John P. Elkin has for many years been Matthew Stanley Quay's closest, ablest and most faithful lieutenant. He is the attorney general of the state and a lawyer of pre-eminent attainments. In all the contests in which Quay was made the object of powerful persecution, he was always found at his side, his strong arm uplifted in his defense. In 1890, when the Warramaker party succeeded in preventing the re-election of Quay to the senate and in deactivating the Pennsylvania legislature, it was John P. Elkin who labored in season and out for the senior senator.

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The Greatest of All Educational Contests OVER \$9500 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-three Scholarships

in some of the leading educational institutions in the country. The list is as follows: 2 Scholarships in Syracuse University, at \$482 each... \$ 964 1 Scholarship in Bucknell University... 620 1 Scholarship in The University of Rochester... 324

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.

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 according to the following: 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

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STATE NORMAL SCHOOL

East Stroudsburg, Pa. The examinations for admission to the Middle Year and Senior Year classes will be held June 16. High school graduates will be permitted to take both examinations and enter the senior class. Their work has covered the junior and middle years course of the normal. This year will be the last opportunity given to do so, as the three years' course is in full force and all will come under the state regulations of examinations. For full particulars address at once: G. P. BIBLE, A. M., Principal.

SCRANTON CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL

SCRANTON, PA. T. J. Foster, President. Elmer H. Lawell, Treas. R. J. Foster, Secretary. Stanley P. Allen, Vice President.

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is the most healthful, comfortable, cleanly underclothing of any hitherto known. This is a large claim, but those who have used the goods bear testimony to the accuracy of it. Send for descriptive pamphlet and samples of material, or call and examine the garments for men, women and children.

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