

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.

Table with 4 columns: DISPLAY, Run of, Single on, Full. Rows include 25 lines, 50 lines, 100 lines, 200 lines, 300 lines, 400 lines, 500 lines, 600 lines, 700 lines, 800 lines, 900 lines, 1000 lines.

SCRANTON, MAY 1, 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.

An Error and Some Critics.

OUR READERS may have observed that The Tribune has not yet become widely excited over the alleged misdeeds of General Smith and other American soldiers of good reputation in the past who have been doing a difficult work in the Philippines with scant encouragement from home and still with exceptional success. It may be true that General Smith is a murderer, dastard, double-dyed villain and numerous other things that are odious and vile, as most of the Democrats at Washington and some of the spectacular and gallery-playing Republicans have been passionately proclaiming during the past few days, but in view of the fact that he is undergoing court-martial before a distinguished tribunal whose proceedings are to be reviewed by the president of the United States we think it would do no harm and possibly be fully as fair and just to await the completed testimony and the expert judgment before giving way to furious denunciations of the army, the administration, the Philippines, expansion and everything else in sight.

It seems from his own admission that General Smith made a mistake which, if it had been unprovoked by indescribable native atrocities and perfidy almost, it is believed, without parallel in the annals of warfare, would have been unpardonable. He aimed to make war so hellish to those who were murdering his countrymen under the guise of friendship and subjecting their dead bodies to unmentionable desecration that they would be deterred from their villainous ways in response to the only kind of treatment which, according to many experienced observers of this type of Oriental character, is effective and lasting; and if the colored reports which tell of the clearing of Samar and the surrender of the last armed "pacified" be correct, it would seem that there was a good deal of practical merit in General Smith's plan, barring the ugly look which it has to excitable critics viewing it from the soft and dreamy bowers of peace. If it was severe it was because in the judgment of this experienced and unflinching officer severe measures were called for. They seem to have won at about the same time that the man who put them in operation is subjected to a furious fusillade of attack and vilification from home, participated in by ostensible friends as well as open foes.

We do not defend the order to kill and slay all the inhabitants above the age of ten years, women excepted. It typifies a sternness alien to the American character and not to be accepted in this country, no matter what the provocation. It is the judgment of an overwhelming majority of the American people that they would rather abandon Samar and all the rest of the Philippines than to be credited with such ferocity. Hence it is certain that the policy confessed to by General Smith will not be sanctioned nor condoned. It was a mistake in judgment natural to a man whose atmosphere is wholly military and not civil, and who has been in the thick of the most trying times in our military history. But let those who have never made mistakes cast the first stone. Let the perfect man and the perfect soldier among the excoriating critics in congress and elsewhere leave the luxuries of peace to them to the far-off archipelago, and assuming some of the heat and burden of the day, show Generals Smith, Chaffee and the other bronzed veterans how to battle for the flag valiantly and effectively in a manner to please all concerned, including the enemy.

The shallows at Washington are again murmuring that Cuban reciprocity will fall in the senate and congress adjourn with Cuba left hopeless and the Roosevelt administration discredited in the house of its alleged friends. But in the meantime the deep-sea fishing and, if the metaphor is allowable, "seaweed."

According to the New York Times, the construction of office buildings, "sky-scrapers," so called, was never more active than it is today. Gangs of men work all day and then other gangs go to work at night by electric light, and still the work cannot be done fast enough to satisfy the demand. They think nothing of running up the steel frame work of a modern skyscraper in a month and of turning the keys over to the owner in six months from date of breaking ground, yet as fast as these buildings are completed their myriads of office rooms are rented and eager applicants clamor for

room. Great is the law of urban gravitation. It is said by the Pittsburgh Times that an arrangement has been made by Senator Quay, W. H. Andrews and a few others providing that Mr. Torrance should make an effort to get the Allegheny city delegates, and L. A. Watres, of Scranton, is to be helped in a fight for the delegates in Allegheny county and other districts in Allegheny county outside of Allegheny city. Mr. Quay, it is said, announced that such an arrangement would not bind him to the support in the convention of Mr. Watres, but it was a wise move to keep the delegates from Mr. Elkin. It is a nice little trick, if it will work. We predict that it won't work.

The Safer Plan. NO ONE less desires a controversy with the accomplished editor of the Philadelphia Press than does the writer of these lines, and no one realizes more fully how futile a controversy would be in changing the opinions of either party to it.

But our friends of the Press have said that they desire a "free, untrammelled and vital" expression of preferences by the Republican people of Pennsylvania and we again point out to them and to all others that in assisting to throttle such an expression as they seem to be doing in the present instance they invite the issue of consistency as well as raise the question of expediency.

Just two candidates for the nomination for governor out of the dozens mentioned have had the manliness to submit their claims to open vote at popular primaries—John P. Elkin and Louis A. Watres. So far as disclosed, no others purpose to ask for a popular judgment in advance of the convention. Thus far Elkin has defeated Watres wherever the issue has been directly raised between them. We think that this fact justifies us in dissenting from the statement of the Press that Elkin cannot be elected. If the candidate favored by the people cannot be elected by an arbitrary selection made in secret by controllers of federal patronage, then it would appear that an end has come to representative government in a foremost American commonwealth. We do not accept this conclusion in advance of the fact. We do not find justification for the course of the Philadelphia Press in accepting and abetting it.

Our contemporary says: "The Press does not dispute that leaders have undertaken and may undertake to name governors without reference to the people, but the power of the people remains as a corrective." The proposition of the Press in the present situation, as we understand it, is that this corrective is not to be made use of until after the damage has been done. In other words, it favors the sandbagging of the people's choice by the leaders in convention with the inevitable risk of popular resentment at the polls. Whereas we, on the other hand, favor the use of the corrective before the convention assembles, so that the choice of the convention may be the choice of the people, afterward as well as before.

We repeat: "All that the friends of John P. Elkin want, and this they have a right to demand, is a free field and no favors; a fair chance to let the majority will of the Republican people of Pennsylvania bring itself into play by the open voting of instructions to the selected state delegates. If then their man is outvoted, and it is shown that he is not the people's choice, their acquiescence will be immediate and cheerful, and the effect upon the party will be without a trace of injuriousness."

We submit that this is a fair and manly attitude. We contend that it spells safety and victory in November. We assert and challenge denial that it is infinitely less burdened with risk than would be the contrary programme of throttling free expression of party preference in will-o'-the-wisp pursuit of insurgent phantasies conditioned upon the turning down with scorn of those who have borne the stress of Republican battle in Pennsylvania and won victory after victory in the face of millionaire combines, corporate conspiracies and fusion.

Secretary Shaw is being criticized in England for predicting in a recent speech that the United States not long hence will not only police the western hemisphere but also be civilization's principal peace agent among all the countries and islands whose shores are washed by the Pacific ocean. They need not worry about it. It is true.

We notice that wherever Elkin gets delegates the public gets from his opponents a large and ingenious but generally fictional crop of explanations. And yet the explanation is not difficult. It merely is that the people want Elkin nominated.

Insurance Commissioner Durham's department paid a profit to the state of 200 per cent. last year. As a manager of men and affairs it will have to be admitted that Durham is something of a success.

Now the insurgents are trying to get President Roosevelt to burn his fingers by trying to meddle with Pennsylvania politics. In vain is the net spread in the bird's sight.

The announcement from Washington that the president has decided not to retire General Miles indicates that, after all the talk against "pull" and in-

fluence in army circles, it is a good thing to have senatorial friends.

Those who said the Republican party would not re-enact Chinese exclusion may now apologize and be forgiven. The deed is done.

The resurrection of Theodore J. Shaffer is one of the labor miracles of the season. After this, nothing need occasion surprise.

We have no doubt that General Smith will be willing to trade jobs with any of his critics.

Some of the trusts are pretty big, but none is yet as big as the U. S. A.

Of course the Fuller bid won. E. L. Fuller was behind it.

MACHINE AND THE PEOPLE. From the Philadelphia Press.

There is no need of passing a controversy with our friends of the Scranton Tribune. The whole question as to the governorship lies in a nut shell.

We wish the party nomination for governor and other important officers in Pennsylvania were made by free vote, untrammelled, vital action of the Republican masses, as it is in Massachusetts, Vermont, Iowa and most of the Republican states. Sometimes it is generally it is not. And since as a rule it is not, since the machinery and not a free and active popular vote generally determines the nomination, we can only fall back on the hope that the machinery will grind out a nomination that comes up to the popular requirement. Next to a real choice by the people is a choice through the machinery that responds to the people's will.

Now, if looked for at a time as though the party machinery would give us John P. Elkin as a candidate. That would have been disastrous for two reasons: First, because Mr. Elkin is a part of the present state administration, with all its significance, and ought not to be elected, even if he could be second, because he couldn't be elected except through colored fraud. These reasons certainly are enough. Those who control the machinery recognized the force of the second, if not of the first, and they indicated that Mr. Elkin ought not to be nominated. Thereupon his boom collapsed. So far we applied their penetration and wisdom. Now it remains to be seen whether, having been wise enough to reject a candidate who does not fulfill the people's requirements, they will be wise enough to nominate a man who does.

The difference between our friends of the Scranton Tribune and the Press is simply this: They are bound up with a candidate identified with the state administration while we believe the people should and would repudiate and condemn and voted against such a candidate so long as it looked like grinding out their man, while we held and still hold it on production till it gives us not any particular Republican but a Republican who unflinchingly and unquestionably measures up to the people's standard.

If the people will not or can not take possession of the machine, the next best safeguard is the power of reviewing and correcting the machinery by the people.

A CORRECTION. Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: There is no need of prolonging the discussion, as we are in substantial accord, and as none of my statements about trusts are denied. I am, to disengage, among the unreasoning passions of the multitude, but legitimate trusts have nothing to fear from intelligent investigation, while it is certain legitimate trusts desire nothing better than to have the people kept quiet.

But my object in this note is to make a correction. I stated in my note that the operators had advanced the price of common coal 75 per cent a ton, but, as pointed, it is 75 cents a ton. This is true, as in this case 75 cents per ton is an advance of 75 per cent, and not 75 per cent in my first letter, but an increase of 75 per cent is a more impressive object lesson.

Thanking you for fair treatment and for the use of your columns, I am, yours sincerely, S. H. Moon.

McKeesville, April 20.

THE SAME OLD YAWP. From the Wilkes-Barre Record.

Those Republicans of Wilkes-Barre who desire to see the Republican party carry Luzerne county next November and elect the candidates for the county offices, will vote for Hon. Morgan B. Williams and Hon. Charles A. Miner for delegates to the state convention. Messrs. Miner and Williams will assist in placing at the head of the state ticket as candidate for governor a Republican who will not drag down our candidate for congress and our candidates for the legislature and for county offices to disastrous defeat.

HOW TIMES CHANGE. From the Philadelphia Record.

It does seem a little out of the ordinary course of events that we must consult Charles Elmer Smith's newspaper at the breakfast table in order to get official delivery of Quay outgivings for the day's current consumption.

LILIES. There are lilies fair and of beauty rare that grow in the garden beds.

There are palest white, and of colors bright, And rival each other in hue, And you'd think that there was a pencil there To touch the centers so true.

In a shady nook, where we seldom look, The lilies of the valley grow, Away from the sun, they seem to shun The gaze, in the bed so low.

—Miss A. C. Green. McKeesville, April 20.

Brass Beds Elegantly Rich Designs. The new patterns we are now showing are beautiful specimens of the metal worker's and designer's skill—they possess character and finish that appeals to the exacting purchaser.

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EDUCATIONAL. Announcement During the summer of 1902, instruction in all the subjects required for admission to the best colleges and scientific schools will be given at Cotuit Cottages, a Summer School of Secondary Instruction, Cotuit, Massachusetts, under the direction of Principal Charles E. Fish. The courses of instruction are for the benefit of five classes of students:

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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 10. High school graduates will be permitted to take both examinations and enter the senior class—where 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 of best colleges. For particulars and catalogue address at once: G. P. BIBLE, A. M., Principal.

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

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:

Table listing 33 scholarships with amounts ranging from \$100 to \$864. Total value \$9574.

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: One month's subscription... 5.50 1 Three month's subscription... 1.25 3 Six month's subscription... 2.50 6 One year's subscription... 5.00 12

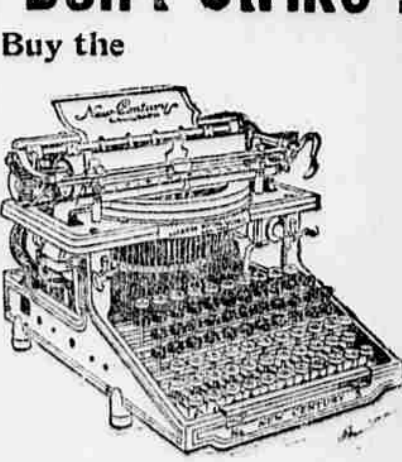
Those desiring to enter the Contest should send in their names at once, and they will be the first to receive the book of instructions and canvasser's outfit when the contest opens on May 5. All questions concerning the plan will be cheerfully answered. Address all communications to CONTEST EDITOR, Scranton Tribune, Scranton, Pa.

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