

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, Run of Paper, Reading, Pull Position. Rows include 20 inches, 300, 500, 1000, 2000, 5000, 10000.

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Rates of Classified Advertising furnished on application.

SCRANTON, MAY 19, 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.

Better Reconsider.

THE SANDBAGGING of John P. ELKIN is not meeting with the success that was anticipated. Quay beaten to a standstill in his own county of Beaver and saved from the humiliation of having to take instructions for Elkin only by the courtesy of Elkin's friends; the Mercer delegates, who had been promised to Quay by Major McDowell, chief clerk of the house of representatives, instructed for Elkin by a more than two-thirds vote of the county committee; the contemplated delivery of Schuyler's eight delegates to the Quay camp rudely interrupted by Elkin capturing five outright, with prospects of getting the other three; and finally Elkin victories in Dauphin, Northumberland and Crawford—these constitute developments enough to make last week historic in Pennsylvania political annals.

But for Philadelphia, where, according to the testimony of Judge Penney-packer's insurgent supporters, primaries have no meaning as expressions of public sentiment and delegates are named and voted without regard to popular opinion, the opposition to John Elkin would not amount in the June convention to a corporal's guard. We are not so sure that it, for practical purposes, will amount to much more as the case stands. It is evident that the young Republican stalwarts of the interior counties are awake and determined. Not only have they helped the candidate of the people to win every contest waged in open primaries where public opinion could be registered, but they are rapidly corraling for Elkin the uninstructed delegates upon whom Quay has been relying to give him control. Nor is it certain that Philadelphia can be held in hand by Elkin's opponents. The surprise in this contest may not all be located in the country districts.

As a matter of fact, Philadelphia as well as others are opposed to the kind of politics which would sacrifice fidelity at the dictation of corporate influences and cast off friends tried and true in a vain filtration with unimportant enemies. The foundation of city machine politics is loyalty; and when this is discarded by those in command, revolution in the ranks is certain to materialize sooner or later. The real friends of Senator Quay have warned him repeatedly of the mistake he was making in his attempt to cast aside the favorite of the party. For this he reverses he is undergoing he has nobody to blame but himself. There is yet time, however, for his mistake to be corrected without appreciable injury to the party. But if he persists Elkin into the convention and is beaten, then even though he should manage to consummate the defeat of his most efficient lieutenants in the past and alienate them forever from his standard by the nomination of some man whom the people do not know, wherein would lie his gain?

Senator Quay should reconsider.

The next interesting development scheduled for Pennsylvania politicians will be next Saturday's open primaries in Tioga county, where Waters, Penney-packer and Elkin are all registered. Its outcome will be interesting.

"With Malice Toward None."

WE OBSERVE in the Lancaster New Era an editorial severely censuring Israel W. Durham for his apostasy from the Elkin ranks, and predicting that it spells the beginning of Durham's decline and fall as a political leader. The Lancaster paper says that "the whim of his master, he cast behind him every pledge good men hold dear, and threw away the friendship of a lifetime."

We have no knowledge as to the motives or impelling forces behind Mr. Durham's action, but we are not inclined to share the Lancaster paper's bitterness. It would savor too much of snap judgment. There is good reason to believe that Durham took his hostile stand toward Elkin with the greatest personal reluctance and in obedience to influences which he dared not combat. What these were remains to be divulged. That they may be traced to the headquarters of certain powerful corporations fearful of John Elkin's independence and scorned by the loud yelling of a few insurgents richer in money than in votes we strongly suspect; but of this we have no proof. Time alone can tell the story.

In the meanwhile, Durham's established character as a fair and manly

fighter, loyal to his word and never peridious to a friend, though contrasting strangely with his action in this campaign, earns for him the right to be heard in his own defense before condemnatory judgment is pronounced. There is no need of bitterness among any of the belligerents in this canvass. It is a fight for a nomination. After the nomination shall be made there will come the election, and the Republican party will have room and work for every member, the vanquished as well as the victors in the convention. We hope and believe that John Elkin will win, and we shall do everything that can properly be done to further that end; but it would be unfair to Elkin to be unfair to his opponents. He has no bitter feeling against Durham. We doubt that he has any bitterness toward Quay, in spite of the shabby manner in which Quay treated him. He is too cheerful and too big a man to sear with grudges and his example in this respect is recommended to his supporters.

Nearly 200,000,000 tons of coal of all kinds were mined in the United States last year. That coal is one of the two legs on which our prosperity stands, from being the other. To knock this leg from under would throw every workman in the country out of employment. Will they consent?

How Long Will the Strike Last?

PREDICTIONS are being made in many quarters as to the length of the coal strike. They vary widely. This is natural. There is no precedent later than '77 to guide, and conditions now are in few respects parallel to conditions then.

It, however, is true that long strikes, like long wars, are less probable now than in former years. The interdependence of industry is greater. The machinery for holding in check disorderly tendencies is much superior. We are inclined to believe that the spirit of thrift and of reluctance to tolerate the great waste of a prolonged strike on a large scale is more potent today than in the early period of labor strikes. Under the new conditions surrounding the anthracite industry those who live in the vicinity of the mines know the least about what is going on among the powers that be. Consequently their predictions have no more value than those made at a distance and frequently have less. They are in the trying position of helplessness to protect their own interests or to have a guiding hand in the steering of the ship which carries their welfare as cargo.

But looking at the matter dispassionately, as one would look at it from a distance, we should be inclined to predict that the question of the duration of the anthracite strike depends almost wholly upon the ability of the strike leaders to secure effective co-operation among the bituminous workers. To do that they must swing out of comfortable employment 200,000 men without grievances as an auxiliary to the one hundred and forty-odd thousand anthracite workers now idle. Even waging the breach of valid contracts which this would necessitate, and considering it merely as a mass movement, its success looks problematical, to say the least.

Should it succeed, we do not doubt that the miners' union would soon force the operators to terms. But should it fail, and should soft coal come in where anthracite belongs, cutting both operator and striker out of his future, it is incredible that the strike would not break speedily. It is possible that the proposition of a joint convention of soft and hard coal miners to vote on the question of a complete tie-up may be held up before the anthracite workers as an encouragement, not intended to materialize; but we do not take such a view of the organization leaders. Yet we are frank to confess that we never expect to see a complete suspension of coal mining in this country—not, at least, until the coal is exhausted or Gabriel blows his trumpet.

American Generosity.

THE United States consul at Port de France cables that the needs of the Martinique sufferers will be satisfied with the supplies already afloat and that there is no occasion for further subscription. If he is right in his estimate of the situation and the volcanoes do not renew their work of desolation the demand on the generosity of the world has been met and the survivors of the Martinique and St. Vincent calamity can be left to their own resources.

Nothing could be finer than the response which the people of this country made to the cry for help from Martinique and St. Vincent. The prompt action of the government at Washington, in which it led all the world, is reflected by private beneficence all over the country. Other governments might hesitate and look for a precedent. Other people might remain inert and unresponsive before the great calamity which overtook many thousands of human beings in the West Indies. This is not the American habit. The presence of great misfortune and human distress Americans see a duty before them to relieve that distress and mitigate the calamity to that extent at least. This has come to be a fixed principle ingrained in their nature, so the news of great misfortune and corresponding distress is met by subscriptions before there is time even for relief organization and appeals for aid.

The American response to the West Indian calamity illustrated this in a striking manner. Donations have been coming in in an uninterrupted stream of magnificent proportions from every quarter. This is as it should be. There is little danger of the consul being troubled with an embarrassment of the people. If the relief organization shall receive more money than is required for the present need no harm can come of it. The money can be kept

for another emergency. Philadelphia has seen the benefit of a Permanent Relief association, with funds ready on the instant when a great calamity calls for immediate aid. If out of this mighty West Indian tragedy the nucleus of a permanent national relief fund should be established a residuum of good will be left out of this great misfortune.

Americans have been charged with being controlled by a commercial spirit and devoted to the worship of the almighty dollar. Americans are willing to hustle, to toil, to risk much to get that dollar, but they get it to use it, and they have never insisted on using it exclusively on themselves. It is because they get it that they are able to give it. That they are willing to give it to alleviate distress promptly, liberally, without prodding or prompting or waiting to see what others will do, shows that this spirit of commercialism in the acquisition of wealth gives place to the spirit of the good Samaritan in its disposition.

"It seems to me, Mr. President, we must look at the situation as it is. We have the Philippines. We have taken title. We have possession. We have established government. We are establishing law and order. They are ours—ours against all the world; and the thing for us to do is to set that house in order before we talk about making a disposition of it. We are doing our part, and, as I believe, doing it as well as we know how, laboring honestly and faithfully to accomplish just and proper results, and it will be for those who come after us in the congress of the United States for a great many years to come after us before the question is acted upon—to determine what shall be done by the government of the United States; and when they come to take action the conditions existing in the islands, the feeling of friendship or of hostility, whichever the case may be, of that people will undoubtedly have much to do in determining the congress of the United States as to what action it shall take."—Senator Foraker.

We notice that some supporters of Judge Penney-packer are criticizing Quay lieutenants in counties which have gone for Elkin. That is hardly fair. Quay's lieutenants are doing the best they can. Their difficulty is that the people are doing more.

The Democratic leaders are having difficulty these days in convincing the Democratic "come on" that fusion greenbacks will be the popular currency in Pennsylvania.

There is very little reason to doubt that labor unionism has come to stay. But it will succeed better by obeying the counsel of its conservative leaders.

It is a pretty thin-skinned kind of Americanism which finds fault with the acceptance of Emperor William's proffered statue of Frederick the Great.

Good luck to the young king of Spain. May he equal the sagacity and humanity of his distinguished mother.

It may yet become necessary to put a tariff on princely and grand dukely visitors.

Harking back to ancient times, John Elkin is not a Gilkeson.

Candid Comment About the Strike

From Yesterday's Free Press. THE MAN who advocates the proposition of the present mine strike is no friend of the mine and no enemy of his organization. The Free Press is in neither camp.

How many of the men who now comprise the rank and file of the United Mine Workers of America were in this city in 1877? Without waiting for an answer the Free Press states without fear of being crossed by any person, that for as many of such men there are in the present organization, just so many votes there are against the strike in the locals to which these men belong. The man who would vote against such a lesser before him, must have been so tired of working that he did not fear starvation for himself or his family.

The Free Press was against the strike last Sunday, and it is against it today. The Free Press will not blow hot and cold in the same breath. This is a momentous question, from any standpoint, for a newspaper. Those whom it is aimed to benefit are in need of its appreciation, while those who are not interested are indifferent. The feelings newspaperman cares naught for the feelings of either. There is or ought to be a letter in every word in this case is the good of the community that the newspaper serves.

There was a strike here in 1877 in which not only the coal mines but the miners were involved. There were strikes here prior to that one, but that is remote enough to suit the purpose. It was necessary to have military protection for the men who were to work, but they worked. The companies whose men are now on strike may feel like operating their collieries. Will they do it? Yes, and if it is necessary to call in the entire regular army to assist in this purpose. The one who doubts this statement is dull of comprehension.

The Free Press had these things in mind when it opposed the strike in order in its last issue. You cannot deprive a man from the enjoyment of his own property. You may regulate how a person may use what is his own, but the law will not tolerate a deprivation which would practically amount to a confiscation.

There has been entirely too much sentiment cast about this question of organization, and while the mine workers were not the party in question, the success they had attained made it possible for other straits and callings to see visions of increased prosperity in emulating the example of the mine workers. The result is that today there are all kinds of organizations. The only purpose in evidence so far shown is to demand an increase in wages.

Money is not only thing in life. A wise man would rather give his boys the opportunity to make a good start in some legitimate business, than to sink them in a pitance that he might be able to bestow to them when he dies after a life of frugality and economy, and this has been the rule. Regardless of the salary that the major part of the miners receive, or the increase that may obtain, voluntary or involuntary, the mode of living undergoes a change that when compared to the methods that prevailed in the past, renders it impossible for the miner to do more than was possible under the former circumstances.

The Free Press was opposed to a mine strike and for the reason that the man who could not under any circumstances, who we felt that the companies were forcing the fighting. We thought we knew what the ultimate result would be, the dissolution of the mine workers' union to work of the strikers as individuals. This is as assured as though the last day of the strike were at hand, and persons who hold out any other hope are prophets of evil. History repeats itself. It is not quite two years since the mine workers of Pennsylvania were successful in a conflict with the same forces against which they are now arrayed. Had they waited for the second anniversary they might have hoped for some measure of success. They would not be guided by the councils of the man who more than any one else is responsible for the splendid organization that they were in possession of prior to last Wednesday and the miners of Scranton and vicinity, the English speaking miners, deeply regret

the fact that the wishes of John Mitchell did not govern.

The present strike will not be successful, and the sooner they are started right, The Free Press does not deny that the conditions of the miners will bear amelioration. This paper contends that the strikers who have the hope to receive would have been accomplished to a certainty were the advice offered last Sunday to have been acted upon.

The Free Press does not believe that the miners as a class are underpaid. Fully aware of the fact that such a statement will be considered a slur, the fact still remains. The miners have grievances, and the greatest injustice under which they labor is the overcharge whereby a ton constitutes any thing from three thousand to four thousand five hundred pounds. But this could be remedied by legislative enactment. The demand that they made for eight hours is in force nowhere save where politics govern, and while it is a demand that is very desirable and inevitable, it is still very far from being an ultimatum. The twenty per cent. increase in wages to contract miners would be a bonanza, were they to receive the same, and there is no doubt that those who voted strike were impressed with the conviction that all they had to do to obtain such an increase was to make demand, accompanied by a show of force. They may be successful. The Free Press believed in the contrary. This thought was uppermost when the advice not to strike was given last Sunday.

In selling one's labor, as in selling real estate, the question that should be considered—What is the buyer willing to pay? A house may be worth to its owner, a vast amount more than the intended purchaser is willing to pay, but the offer of the latter is the standard of value. So it is with labor. And the value of the miner's services is not so much what he is earning for his employer, but rather what he would be able to earn were he placed in another capacity. This is a business-like view of the situation and may not have occurred to those who are interested in the struggle either as leaders or followers. The Free Press hopes that none of those who are interested may have occasion to apply this test to their services. If they do they will discover that under the conditions which obtain they were formerly employed were not all that they might desire, they were far superior to those that would prevail were they to offer their labor in another capacity where they could specify the kind of labor they would perform or have a voice in fixing the rate of wages that they would receive. It is to be hoped that this condition will not confront any of those who are interested in this article and who will ensure the writer. To those we say: There are no apologies. The writer has been singularly frank in the best part of the forty years he has spent on earth and in many states of the Union. In no place where he has ever worked would he be more frank than in the present case. He has along lines that makes it impossible for him to believe one thing and give expression to another. The present strike is bound to fail for the reason stated. The miners' interests are not to the company's interests will not leave their posts. These asked that they be not called out. They had an understanding that if they were called out they would not obey the call. Who are they? The pump runners, fan runners, engineers and firemen.

We have no sympathy with the man or set of men who say that the strike should be well known now as some time later. These are the men who want to see unions among workmen destroyed. Were the representatives of corporate interests fair men, the unions would have no cause for existence. It was cruelty and caution that forced them to adopt organization as a measure of self protection. Because they have organized does not necessarily imply that their interests are not identical with those of their employers, although those who are placed in immediate charge of them would give out this impression. The Free Press believes that organization will allow men whose mode of living differs from that in vogue among Americans, who stand of intelligence is lower and whose education is inferior, to sit in judgment as was the case in Haddon last week, on the destiny of the men who are a part of the brain and the intelligence of this and adjoining communities.

The Free Press was opposed to the strike last Sunday. It has seen no reason to change its views since. There is no possibility to influence the miners of Scranton and vicinity by our utterances we would say to them that it would be the part of prudence not to ratify the action of the Hazleton convention. Their union is more important than the whim of an individual and the opinion of John Mitchell is worthy of weight as against the combined judgment of men who are far from being unacquainted with the situation. The Free Press believes that the result of the preponderance of such sentiment. The miners of Scranton and vicinity would not be censured for failing to obey the strike order.

THE UNDISPUTED POINTS.

Attorney for the Defense—You are a black-guard and a bluff, sir! Attorney for the Prosecution—And you, sir, are a slyster and a rogue!

The Court from the top of the stairs, "The result of the preponderance of such sentiment. The miners of Scranton and vicinity would not be censured for failing to obey the strike order."

THE RULING PASSION.

Mrs. Jones—I don't see what she wanted to marry him for; he has a cork leg, a glass eye and false teeth.

Mrs. Smith—Well, my dear, you know women always did have a hankering after remnants.—Smart Set.

AT ONE A. M.

"You're the light of my life," she whispered. "As he kissed her once more good night. And then from the top of the stairs, "The result of the preponderance of such sentiment. The miners of Scranton and vicinity would not be censured for failing to obey the strike order."

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Scranton Tribune's Greatest of All EDUCATIONAL CONTESTS Closes—October 25, 1902.

THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE'S third great Educational Contest is now open. 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.

Table with columns: List of Scholarships, Rules of the Contest. Includes list of institutions like Syracuse University, Bucknell University, etc.

EVERY CONTESTANT TO BE PAID—Each contestant failing to secure one of the scholarships 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 added this year. Special Honor Prizes will be given to those securing the largest number of points each month.

THE CONTESTANT SCORING THE LARGEST NUMBER OF POINTS BEFORE 5 P. M. SATURDAY, MAY 31, WILL RECEIVE A HANDSOME GOLD WATCH, WARRANTED FOR 20 YEARS.

Special Honor Prizes for June, July, August, September and October will be announced later.

Those wishing to enter the Contest should send in their names at once. All questions concerning the plan will be cheerfully answered. Address all communications to

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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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2. Candidates who have postponed examinations until September.

3. Students in Secondary Schools, who, by reason of illness or other causes, have deficiencies to make up.

4. Students in Secondary Schools who wish to anticipate studies and save time in the preparation for college.

5. Students in college who have admission conditions which must be removed before the beginning of the next Scholastic Year.

For particulars address, CHARLES E. FISH, Principal School of the Lackawanna, Scranton, Pa.

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East Stroudsburg, Pa. The examination 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 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 address at once, C. P. BIBLE, A. M., Principal.

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