

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 columns: DISPLAY, Line (10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600), and Price per inch per line.

SIXTEEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, MAY 27, 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.

Welcome to Our Guests.

THE DOORS and the hearts of Scranton open wide to the strangers within our gates. For experience has taught that they deserve such a welcome and do not abuse it. Four times have the picked sir knights of Pennsylvania masonry invaded the capital city of the anthracite coal fields, capturing it without a struggle, and the exercises of today will illustrate how history repeats. It cannot repeat too often to please the citizens of Scranton.

It is true that our people this time are under the weight of an affliction; that their prosperity, just rounding into symmetrical form, has been dwarfed again for a time by an upheaval in our mines. But this will not be obtruded upon the notice of our guests further than is necessary to explain any possible differences between past and present experiences in Scranton. We do not, however, apprehend that there will be any differences unless in favor of the present convalescence, for the ability of our people to entertain is happily supplemented by the ability of the visitors to make the best of every situation; and therefore a royal time of mutual pleasure and profit is assured.

In the intervals of time apart from the work of the convalescence and amidst the many social diversions prepared for their entertainment, we trust that our guests may take inventory of our city's progress as revealed to public notice in new public buildings, institutions and homes erected since last the grand commandery met here.

A Word of Timely Warning.

IT IS AN interesting commentary on political conditions in Pennsylvania that some of those who are supporting the candidacy of Judge Pennypacker on the high moral plane that he is a clean and able man whose selection would re-write the party who predict his nomination because they say that delegates instructed or pledged to John Elkin will be induced to desert his cause. It is well known that agents of Senator Quay are now at work trying to detach from Elkin some of his interest. Even so high-toned an advocate of reform as the Philadelphia Press concludes an editorial review of the state canvass with these words: "Elkin will be from fifty to seventy votes short when the convention meets. When the ballot is taken he is likely to be short still more than that."

If there is any meaning in this quotation; if there is any truth in the widely circulated reports that delegates in Chester, Blair and other counties instructed for Elkin are being solicited to jump their instructions it means that the Pennypacker movement, having its main strength in Pennsylvania's machine-controlled Philadelphia delegation, is to be patched out in convention, if possible, by subornation and perjury. The Philadelphia Inquirer asserts that it has heard of three different instances where agents of the combine which is pushing Pennypacker have made tempting offers to instructed delegates. In those instances the offers were rejected. Agents of the combine, however, are continuing their quest and they appear to be acting under authority. We cheerfully acquit Judge Pennypacker of any knowledge or part in this campaign of prostitution. The responsibility rests elsewhere.

John Elkin has never posed as a reformer. He is not posing as one now. But neither has nor any agent of his is trying to get any delegate instructed for his opponent to violate good faith. The delegates who have been elected without instructions are proper subjects of proselyting. The supporters of Mr. Elkin will try to get as many of these as they can, and we think that, in spite of the wealthy combine which is opposing Elkin, they will get a goodly number. They will also try to get as many direct expressions of party preference through open primaries as they can, and such expressions they will respect and abide by, whether favorable or unfavorable to their hopes. There is nothing

ing of the sneak in John Elkin and also nothing of the whiner or quitter. He went into this fight assured of the support of many who have since turned against him. He is in the fight yet, stronger since their desertion than before. He has won every fight conducted in the open and he hopes and expects to win in the convention. If another shall be the convention's choice Elkin will be the first to tender assurances of ungrudging support. But for the sake of the party, Elkin must win fairly or be beaten fairly.

We say with due deliberation and upon knowledge that if perjury is a factor there will be trouble. General Chaffee's vigorous disapproval of the acquittal of Major Valler for severe treatment of the natives of Samar and his strong condemnation of cruelty in the Philippines destroy a lot of accumulated Democratic campaign thunder. It is in order for Chaffee's senatorial detractors to apologize.

An Unequal Combat.

BY AN ANALYSIS of the earnings of the coal carrying railroads, a writer for the New York Times computes the cost to the operators of the coal strike of 1900. That strike, it will be remembered, lasted from Sept. 17 to Oct. 29, six weeks. Eight of the companies, in the two calendar months which included the strike, lost in gross earnings \$7,738,765; while in net earnings the loss was \$4,161,858. It should be explained that these figures do not include the losses of two of the largest companies, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western and the Delaware and Hudson, which do not issue monthly statements; nor do they comprehend the losses of the individual operators. Just how to get at the total loss except by a rough guess we do not know; but in all probability the companies and operators of all kinds during that six weeks' strike lost, net, a million a week, while the strikers, according to the best information, lost somewhat more than a million a week.

Most of the million a week lost by the strikers was lost forever. Very little of it came back. Most of the million a week lost by the companies came back in an increased charge for coal afterward. What was true then is true today. The miners and operators are both losing about a million a week because by a close vote the radicals at Hazleton outvoted the conservative upper district men who opposed a strike; but the operators have the million to lose, knowing full well that most of it is simply a genuine hope in the event of returning, while the great majority of the miners, with homes to pay for and families to support, have not. To the stockholders in the coal-carrying railroads the strike means the passing of a dividend, maybe for six months, maybe for a year, but few holders of railway stock will go hungry in consequence. At the worst it will mean simply trimming a little in reducible expenses—flowers, furbelows, luxuries. But to the average miner the loss of income is total, and it means absolute penury and starvation. It is an unequal struggle in which it would be dishonest and cruel to the miner to delude him into believing that the chances of victory are in his favor.

About the only peg on which it seems to us that the strike leaders can now hang a genuine hope is that the financial world, fearing a panic in the event of a prolonged fuel shortage, may co-erce the coal magnates into compromising. The New York Times writer expresses his opinion on that score: "As a matter of fact, when the strike was on in 1900 the transportation companies in general were so well occupied that they added to their revenues \$9,281,000, and conditions were so favorable that they secured \$2,132,000 to add to their profit total. And this is not the whole of the story, for it must be borne in mind that scarcely an industry in the country but what has been strengthened in the past year and a half, scarcely any of the country's activities but what have grown more active. The base of all operations is firmer as a result, and it may well be doubted whether the advent of a coal strike will produce a convulsion anywhere but at the point of origin. Year by year it is coming to be proved not only that the effects of particular disturbances become more and more localized, but that other influences develop as minimizing factors." The expectation of a bituminous sympathy strike is now generally recognized as having no tangible foundation.

But the best proof that the struggle is unequal is found in the complete absence of enthusiasm with which the substantial men among the miners went into it and stay in it. They were driven by the majority, against their own better judgment. They are loyal to their union and mean to obey its commands as long as flesh and blood can stand the unequal for strain; but they know in their hearts and when talking man to man they will admit that it is a hopeless struggle. They fully realize that it ought not to have been begun. If at the best some slight concession should be wrung from the operators after months of battle, they know it would be poor compensation for the losses sustained and the suffering endured; while if at the worst they have to go back beaten at every point, then they foresee that an end will come to the present miners' organization and much that is good in it will be sacrificed because the hotheads would not let the cool heads lead it. The lesson of it all is very plain to those who have the moral courage to face it; and delay will simply make it plainer and the tuition more costly.

The status of Frederick the Great should be accepted at once. With peace in the Philippines and in South Africa, the monument would furnish an excellent target for the uneasy patriots of congress who will soon have nothing else to throw bricks at. Dairy and Food Commissioner Coffe, according to accounts, is almost too cautious for his position. He does not wish to prosecute the embalmed meat merchants until some one will give practical illustration, which may be used as evidence, that boric acid is injurious when taken into the stomach. If this course is to be insisted upon, it

is eminently proper that Mr. Cope should make the test upon himself. He is paid a salary to secure evidence.

The almost daily announcement that another Chinese rebellion has been suppressed need cause no unusual anxiety. The Chinese rebellions of the present season are of a character that can easily be loaded into a patrol wagon.

Popped Potatoes.

WHILE one day watching the peculiar action of popcorn under the influence of heat, Dr. Anderson, one of the investigating scientists of Columbia university, was inspired to make a study of starch foods, as affected by heat. He found that more than 60 articles rich in starch could be made to pop like corn. When popped, they were noticeably improved for food purposes.

For instance, Dr. Anderson pops potatoes, then subjects them to an immense hydraulic pressure, from which they emerge as white cakes, not unlike soap; these cakes will last for a long time in any climate; and when you want to eat one, just dissolve it in milk, add the required seasoning, and there you are. "Rice, when popped," says an article on Dr. Anderson's experiments published in the New York Herald, "swells up to several times its own bulk and makes a delicate food that actually melts away when placed upon the tongue."

The old theory was that corn popped because moisture contained within the air-tight covering of the kernel was by heat converted into steam and exploded. Dr. Anderson's experiments prove that this is only partly true. Instead of the explosion of the kernel being caused by the bursting of the individual starch cells, the phenomenon is caused by the bursting of the outer envelope of the kernel, thus suddenly relieving the pressure generated by the heat acting upon the moisture contained in the grain.

"This called," says the Herald article, "for three factors in a demonstration—heat, pressure and a sudden release of pressure. The next step was the construction of a steel cylinder, which, on a large scale, would represent the envelope of the popcorn kernel. In this cylinder were placed pieces of raw potato and the receptacle was closed and submitted to an interior pressure of three or four atmospheres. Heat above 220 degrees Fahrenheit was applied for a time and then the pressure was suddenly released. The result proved beyond peradventure the truth of the theory, for there gushed up into the cylinder a snow white, toothsome mass of 'popped' potato, as light as pith, but containing all the nutrition of the original tuber. Similar tests were applied to small balls of flour and water. Upon the release of the pressure they popped out into full fledged biscuits, as light as feathers and wholly free from the fermented leavening which has made so many dyspeptics."

A company is to be formed and this discovery commercialized, but in the long run it will no doubt become public property. Considering the ills that physicians charge to the account of an excess of starch in the human diet, if this method shall render the starch more digestible it will constitute a considerable boon to suffering humanity.

The anarchist conference held in Berlin recently was so tame that the disguised police in attendance decided not to interfere with the proceedings. It would seem to be a good plan, however, for the Berlin police to keep an eye upon the new species. Even the tame anarchist is safer for not receiving the benefit of the doubt.

The precedent established by President Roosevelt when he half-masted the flag as a tribute to the dead British ambassador, Lord Pauncefoot, was gracious and timely. It properly honored a distinguished friend.

The New Era claims for Lancaster the honor of sheltering the prettiest women in America. The New Era man has evidently never visited Scranton.

Reasons Why It Looks Like Elkin

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

THAT Senator Quay fears he will be short of delegates in the Republican state convention is the impression among politicians who have been observing the senator's efforts during the past week to get endorsements of Judge Pennypacker from uninstructed delegations, and to capture delegates elected in Attorney General Elkin's interest. The senator is evidently not feeling comfortable over the situation. The success of the attorney general in picking up delegates in the interior counties has undoubtedly emboldened the organizers who expected the Elkin campaign to collapse when the senator issued his ultimatum six weeks ago ordering the attorney general out of the gubernatorial race. Instead of going to pieces, Mr. Elkin's candidacy has grown stronger, until it threatens to capture the state convention. The progress the attorney general is making has forced the Quainties to the conclusion that the opposition to his nomination prior to his rejection by the senator has since developed into a sort of sympathy, that has gained him delegates he would not have gotten under other circumstances. He has also been assisted by the fact that Senator Quay has supplanted him as the organization candidate for governor by a Philadelphiaan, and the attorney general's friends have not failed to use this in the rural sections, where the prejudice against the city can be played upon with good effect.

It has been the experience of political leaders that there is always an element in contests which is anxious to get on the winning side. In the state chairmanship contest of 1885, it was the policy of Senator Quay to claim greater support than he could command, and ex-State Senator Andrews, who was defeated, the Quay side of that contest, actually rejected the support of delegates, when they were worth their weight in gold, declaring: "We have more than a majority and don't need any more." The result was that the floating delegates moved to the Quay side, which won by a small majority. The same tactics are being pursued in the present contest. Senator Quay is showing lists of delegates giving Judge Pennypacker over 25 votes in the state chairmanship, and Andrews is being sent over the state to assure the uninstructed or weak-kneed delegates that "Elkin isn't in it, and that they had better go along with the old man." These representations of the senator and the mission of Andrews are known to the politicians, and convince

them that the Beaver man is not sure of controlling the state convention. If he were, they say, he would not be resorting to a plan to strengthen his forces, that is, to get advice by those who need votes in contests like the present.

LITERARY NOTES.

That literary ability is inherited would seem to be a fact, judging by the list of contributors to the June St. Nicholas. Interest in the capital story, "Hunting the Puma," is increased by the fact that the author-illustrator is a 17-year-old lad and the grandson of Edwin Booth; Ethel Parton, who contributes a charming ballad of the old Puritan days, is the daughter of James Parton, the noted historian; Rosalind Richards, who writes of the woods in June, is the daughter of Laura E. Richards, famous as the author of "Captain January"; and there is a rather remarkable letter in the Books and Reading department, the work of the 17-year-old daughter of Louis Evon Shipman.

The plan, scope and name of the Current and Upcoming are to be changed. The magazine is to have an editorial review of subjects of contemporary interest, in addition to the encyclopedic feature, the number to become "The World Today," and by means of a reduced subscription price and increased energy a push is to be made for a widened circulation. This is one of the most valuable publications ever printed; we wish that it may fulfill all its hopes.

The literature of advertising has lately been a big department by itself; and we know of no periodical devoted entirely to its circulation and development which surpasses the number of the most valuable publications ever printed; we wish that it may fulfill all its hopes.

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An enjoyable bit of nonsense capitulating by its cleverness, quaintness and fertility in the unexpected, is "The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam, Jr.," by Wallace Irwin, whose "The Sonnets of a Hoodlum" diverted thousands. Elder and Shepard, of San Francisco, publish it in their distinctive style; Gelett Burgess does crazy drawings for it and the stuff in itself is delightful foxy.

The Forum is to become a quarterly, with a running review of chief events in current progress, conducted by department specialists. In addition to special topic contributions by writers of renown. The price will be 50 cents a number.

James Bryce, M. P., has written for Success an article of world-wide interest on the following subject: "How America May Avoid the Mistakes of Europe."

No novelette in years has equalled in daring originality and cleverness of management Gertrude Lynch's "The Fighting Chance," which opens the June Smart Set.

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Announcement

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