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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.

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TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, JUNE 5, 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

The Future of Labor Unionism. N INCENDIARY paper, which

has long been sowing in this community the seeds of class prejudice, strife and strikes, to the injury of all permanent values, including its own, takes excited exception to our statement of yesterday that "if the union is to survive as a potent factor in the industrial life of the anthracite region it will be with its character changed from a property-threatening to an educational, insurance and beneficial institution returning to its membership for dues exacted some thing more than the privations of reckless strikes, which injure all concerned. except possibly the salaried leaders."

This paper says that the miners

union is not a property-threatening organization; and we wish that this statement were fully corroborated by the facts, for if it were the load of apprehension now resting upon the business life of our valley would imme diately disappear. Yet in every issue of the aforesaid paper there is news, often conspicuously headlined, of efforts to force a breaking of the union's written contracts with the soft coal operators, a threat to property whose baleful influence extends over every Americloud on our otherwise prosperous national industrial horizon. Not threaten property? How else can the calling out of mine pumpmen be construed? The men called out had no grievances. They wanted to work. Their families wanted them to work. In an overwhelming reluctantly, under pressure which they fit to be independent, felt unable or unwilling to resist. Their legal right to quit work and let the mines flood is undeniable; nobody challenges it. But there was a complete absence of moral right, under the cir cumstances. It was an action right cously condemned by the best opinior of the country, including that of thousands of the most substantial miners themselves.

We are not seeking controversy in this matter, but what we said yesterday we repeat today, for, whether popular or not, it is gospel truth. Labor unions have, indeed, come to stay; and when they benefit labor by contributing to the general welfare; when their energies go to make better workingmen and better citizens, to care for members in illness or other need and to help the widowed and the orphaned in the hour of bereavement, then they have our fullest approval and support, for on those lines they can do a great work But when they set forth to interfere with personal liberty, to practice boycotting, to conspire in restraint of trade or to rule or ruln, then they must be taught their errors, and he is no true friend of the workingman who continually goads him on to commit mistakes or teaches that he is infallible. On the contrary, such a man, be he politician or editor, is labor's worst enemy and morally largely responsible for much of the suffering caused by strikes and the evils that go with them.

For three or more years this community has been sorely and unnecessarily vexed by one labor agitation after another, mostly worked up by outsiders whose principal Interest was the salary they received or the notoriety that went with making trouble. Our people have grown tired and sick of this kind of thing. They want to see it stopped, for a generation. They regretfully recognize that it can be stopped in just one way; by a fight to a finish. They are prepared for such an ordeal and for the peace and better understanding all around which are sure to follow; and anything short of a complete settlement would simply prolong the friction and postpone without averting the harsher

When a civilized city like Scranton develops men low enough to seize ravish and then murder a defenseless woman and shrewd enough to escape without leaving a clue, the horrible circumstance is well calculated to cause thoughtful persons to meditate, What is wrong?

Roberts was made an earl and Kitch-ener is to become a viscount. England does these things differently than we. Shafter, for a task which, while it a community gets into the state of lasted, was equally as hard, got nothbut abuse and Sampson, who fields during the past three years-a

worked harder then either, was hound-

It is announced in the Oliver papers of Pittsburg that Senator Quay Intends to be a candidate for state chairman. For a man whose "political race is run" and who says he has John Elkin licked, the senator is showing a lot of anxiety.

The One Safe Course.

STIMABLE as Judge Penny packer admittedly is personally and in his official capacity as president judge of one Philadelphia courts of common pleas, the fact remains that his canlidacy for governor was wholly the handlwork of Senator Quay, was not asked for by any considerable number of Republican voters, has not won the approval of a single primary open to direct vote and can be successful before he convention next week only by a display of despotic power exercised in the face of public and party opinion which in our judgment would make it very hazardous,

But for the boss-controlled delegation nominally representing Philadelphia, but in fact representing a narrow machine circle, Judge Pennypacker's name would not be considered in any place in connection with the governorship of Pennsylvania. He has no acquaintance among the people of the state. He is known by sight to hardly a hundredth part of the voters whose ballots must elect. In the works of political management and state-craft he is wholly unknown. A good judge, a bookish scholar and a pleasant but by no means magnetic or brilliant gentleman, he owes his entire position in the present canvass to the fact of a remote relaionship to Senator Quay, combined doubtless, with the latter's remem brance of the judge's efforts as Quay's eloquent panegyrist. We do not doubt that Judge Pennypacker would make If elected, a safe, conservative governor, aided as he would be by the advice, astute suggestions and practical guidance of Senator Quay. The objection to his candidacy is that the manner of its promotion makes it dangerous for the party.

On the other hand, in the candidacy of John Elkin there is represented an aggressive and wholly creditable popular sentiment-a sentiment forcefully expressed wherever opportunity has been offered for a direct poll of the people. Mr. Elkin is today the most popular man in Pennsylvania politics and personally the best liked. He is clean, brave, clever and honest; his word is as good as a judgment note and the only reason ever given for doubting the expediency of his nomination at this time-the expressed fear that he would draw the fire of those aiming at the Stone administration-no longer has force since the manner of Senator Quay's attempt to eliminate him brought him before the public for

neasurement on his own feet. The talk of compromise in this con ection is in our opinion academic. A direct issue has been raised and fought out before the people. The people have given their verdict. It is in favor of John Elkin and fair play. The verdict of the people at the primaries must be respected in the convention. Any other evident from the frantic consultations going on in Washington among those seeking to encompass Mr. Elkin's defeat that this fact is assuming formidable proportions.

The more the President's Arlington majority of instances, if conditions in speech is studied the more forceful apand around Scranton furnish a safe pear its wise conclusions. It is time criterion, the men who left the engines enough to consider the independence and pumps at the union's orders did so of the Filipinos when the Filipinos are

The Civic Federation.

N PEACE-MAKING as in everything else, discretion is often the better part of valor. There can be no question that the eminent gentlemen who compose the Civic Federation are sincerely devoted to the principle of arbitration of labor difficulties and unselfishly eager to provide a machinery for the avoidance of great strikes. Whatever politics may be in their movement is, we believe, merely incidental-an inevitable deduction from the fact that the moving spirit of the Federation is, among other things, a politician and national chairman of one of the great parties. Since politics entered into the settlement of the last mine strike it is natural for its appearance to be suspected in the present one But the political conditions today are so different from those prevailing in the fall of 1900 that there would be little room for political factors, even if there were a disposition to introduce them. 'We repeat that we credit the members of the Civic Federation with entire unselfishness and disinterestedness in the part which they took to avert a coal strike; and yet we agree with the operators that their interposition had exactly the opposite effect from that which they intended. They wanted to prevent a strike. As a matter of fact, they precipitated one. An exaggerated estimate of their power, current among many mine workers, prompted the declaration of a strike against the best judgment of the wisest miners, in the vain hope that the Federation would force the operators to yield, and today the business world is reaping the con-

Had the members of the Civic Feder ation been acquainted with conditions in the anthracite region they would have recognized the futility of trying to avert a fight to a finish between the operators and the United Mine Workers of America and would have directed their energies instead toward minimizing the ill effects. No observant resident of the coal fields has been doubted since the soft coal union began its propaganda among the local hard coal workers that before there could be a basis of peace and tranquility there would first have to be a conclusive test of strength. Wherever the Mine Workers of America has gone, its pathway has been forced by strikes. The very nature of the conflict between the two kinds of coal assured that a combination of the anthracite and bituminous workers could not be made to cohere without strikes and additional turmoil. When mind characteristic of the hard coal

condition illustrated by wholesale boycotting and union terrorization with incessant strikes over petty matters-It requires little knowledge of human nature to foresee the result. All experlence teaches that such a condition can be overcome only through the elimination of unionism's excesses.

Our advice to the Civic Federation is to make a personal study on the anthracite region before taking further steps toward the interposition of its pacific offices. Then it will understand what it is doing.

In the long run, of course, the administration will have its way in the matter of Cuban reciprocity. But it must be admitted that the way is very long.

An All-Conquering Tongue.

HE Toronto Globe expresses cordial approval of the South African peace terms and is especially glad that Great Britain did not make a row over the language question. On that scope it

"We have but little sympathy with the one-language-at-any-price idea. The advantage of a single language in a country is apparent, but the impolicy of creating bad feeling in the attempt to create homogeneousness of speech is still more apparent. It is a matter that cures itself, and the supreme policy in such cases is to exhibit no anxiety to produce unilingual conditions. You cannot by force prevent men talking whatever language they choose. It is best, therefore, to accept cheerfully what is beyond our power to mendeven if it were wholly desirable to mend it, or at least to take any set measures to that end. It is altogether unlikely that a language like the Taal, without a literature, will long survive n competition with the commercial language of the world. It is far more likely to fall into desuctude if the English-speaking neighbors of the Boers show a generous sympathy with the difficulty of becoming proficient in any language other than one's mother tongue. To tell a man that he shall not speak his mother tongue is to make him, in all probability, the more determined to speak it."

The march of trade, more and more controlled by men of English speech, is solving the language problem in more places than one.

Candid Comment About the Strike

From the Washington Star. The latest move of the hard coal miners in their strike is calculated to wean from them any sympathy the public may have felt heretofore. They have persuaded about seventy-five per cent, of the force required to keep the mines rom flooding to leave the works, involving a grave danger not only of the destruction of hundreds of millions of thing approximating a state of siege has been compelled in some places by the ugly attitude of the strikers, and trouble cannot be far off. The policy of the operators is now to keep the pumps going at any cost, even if they have to call upon the state and the federal au thorities for military aid. The property is valued at more than half a billion dollars, and if the mines are flooded not only will a large part of this destroyed, but the hard coal industry will be crippled for years. The strikers are acting in a most short-sighted manner in thus placing in jeopardy the very source of their own income when rela-tions are re-established. They have deliberately adopted a policy of destruc-tion which is certain to allenate public sympathy and to place them on the de ensive later when the account is bal-

Inalienable Rights. From the New York Tribune. It should be understood, and it is to be toped that the responsible leaders on both sides will make it clearly understood, that there are on both sides ab solutely inalienable rights which mus be respected. The miners have a righ to stop working; but other man have just as good a right to continue or to begin working. The miners have a right to abandon the mines; but the operamines and to protect them from injury If a man, for any reason, does not want to run a pumping engine any longer, he has a right to give it up and retire; but he has no right to say that the engine shall stand idle and not be run by any one else. With his relinquishment o the engine his authority over it ceases If he wants his right to quit work recognized, he must recognize the right of other men to work. It would be a monstrous thing for the operators by shee physical force to drive the striking min-ers back to their places and compel them to work. It would be equally monstrous for the striking miners, by sheer physical force or intimidation, to drive ould-be workmen away and compel them to abstain from working. These rights should be self-evident and should be instinctively recognized and re-spected by all. If they are respected, in letter and spirit, peace will continue to prevail in the coal regions. If they are violated on either side, there will be grave danger of trouble, for which the violators will be responsible.

Hard to Explain.

Wilkes-Barre Dispatch in th At headquarters, the preparations of he mine owners to safeguard life and property are resented and denounced, but why they should be is not explained. The miners can doubtless find trouble if they seek it, but it will not seek them This morning I visited a number o breakers between here and Pittston and yesterday several near Scranton, am told that they are well guarded, and have no doubt this is true, but I did not see any men about. Evidently the coa and iron police are not obtruding themselves upon the public notice. I have yet to see one. So far as my observa-tion in three districts warrant an opinion, the operators are carefully avoid g the miners any pretext for President Mitchell has ining giving disorder. President Mitchell has in-dulged in more ill-advised talk about the coal and iron police, and characterizes them as "a mob of disreputable men. them as "a mob of disreputable men, who will incite more trouble than they will prevent." He tells a very improb-able story of how, during the strike of two years ago, these special police vis-ited the homes of miners, and, by a show of authority they did not possess, correct them in resume work against coerced them to resume work against their will. He is rapidly losing prestige as a broad-minded, conservative leader.

How to End the Strike.

From the Albany Journal. Because the capitalists who have se

ural product that exists in abundance, have had a falling out with the men whom they employed to prepare that product for the consumer, industry is threatened with paralysis. Because 15,-000 men and boys, obedient to a major-ity vote of their representatives, have laid down their tools and abandoned their work, the interests of seventy-six millions of human beings are placed in jeopardy. Manifestly this is a preposterous condition, for which it should not be difficult to find a remedy.

Let us analyze the condition a little.

Of the 145,000 mine workers who are idle, 43 per cent, left their work against their will, for of the delegates to the convention which ordered the strike, 43 percent, voted against a cessation of work It may be assumed that about 62,000 o the mine workers would be at work to the mine workers would be at work to-day if they were not kept under re-straint by the organization to which

they belong .
On the other hand, the mine operators have closed their mines and indicated by what little they have said and by by what little they have said and by their attitude that they mean to keep them closed until their old employes re-turn to work. It may be said that they are virtually compelled to take thi course, since experience has taught that attempts to work the mines with nonunion men would result in disorder at least, and very probably in riot and bloodshed. And even though there was not this probability, it would be dan-gerous to turn the work in the mines over to green hands. Still, if the members of the United Mine Workers should be able to hold out for an indefinite length of time, and by degrees secure other employment, so that they would never return to the mines, it would become necessary to employ other men to do the work which they have aban doned.

For the present between the majority of the miners' union that will not work and the minority that dare not, on the one hand, and the mine operators who are unwilling to make an attempt to employ others to get the coal which they control to the consumers, on the other, the people are compelled to pay exorbitant prices for the meager supply that they are still able to obtain, and in the near future will suffer greater loss through inability to secure any

In other words, a combination of labor and a combination of capital, arrayed against each other, are placing restraint

ipon commerce and trade. Is not "government by injunction," applied to both sides, the obvious remedy? An injunction directing President Mitchell to call the strike order off, and thus leave the miners who would work but for the restraining force of that order, free to do so, and another directing the mine operators to resume the production of coal with such working force as they might be able to obtain should have the effect of providing th relief which the public needs and to which it is entitled. In the matter of the extortion prac-

the matter of the exterior practiced by the beef trust, the government took prompt action. The condition that has been created in the mining region calls far more urgently for prompt and vigorous action. It would be possible for this nation to live and prosper with-out beef for an indefinite period; with its coal supply shut off for any considerable time, disaster would come upon it. Let the miners and operators fight, if they cannot agree, but let it be im do it at public expense.

LITERARY NOTES.

destruction of hundreds of millions of destruction of hundreds of millions of destruction of hundreds of millions of destruction of hundreds of the greatly-feared outbreak of hostilities. The operators have met the strike of the operators have met the strike of the operators have met the strikers with operators have met the strikers with operators have been supported by the strikers with are several striking short stories and operators have met the strike of the pumpmen by replacing the strikers with a force composed of a few regulars suplemented by emergency men recruited from the shops and even the offices of the coal companies. These are guarded by several hundred policemen. If this strike follows the usual course, the strikers will soon begin to adopt harsh mensures to coerce the men now man. haracter sketch of this peculiar type of New York society, "The United States and South America," by H. E. Armstrong, contains a wealth of information interestingly handled, about our next neighbor and the one from whom we have most to gain in commercial advan-

Prof Felix Adler contributes to the June Forum a paper, entitled "The Philippine War: Two Ethical Questions," in which he discusses whether it is treason to condemn a war waged by our country while the war is still in progress, and whether civilized nations are

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Speciacles gress, and whether civilized nations are justified in adopting uncivilized methods of warfare. As far as the first question is concerned, he makes a distinction be-tween different kinds of war, but his answer to the second is an unqualified

The issue of the Outlook for June 7th is the thirteenth annual recreation number. The leading features are "Hunting Big Game with the Camera," by A. G. Wallihan; "When You Meet a Bear," by W. J. Long; "Mountain Climbing," by Charles E. Fay; "Camping for Women," by Martha Coman; "Lost in the Woods," by George Kennan; "Behind the Guns," by James Barnes; "The Salmon Leap." (a beautiful picture Illus trating a passage from Izaak Walton) and "Winning a Y," by Walter Camp There are also Dr. Hale's "Memories an illsutrated article on Jane Austen' Home, a good story, and interesting timely portraits. The number is richly

The first article in the June number of the North American Review. Ships and Flying Machines" is also the first article Santos Dumont has written. It sets forth the principals on which hi machines have been constructed, method of their management, and grounds of his confident belief that he is on the way to master the problem of the navigation of the air. N. S. Shaler, professor of geology in Harvard univer-sity, and one of the most distinguished of living seismologists, expounds "The Nature of Volcanoes"; he shows how the intense heat, by which they are caused, is generated in the under-earth and what occurs when an eruption take place, illustrating his theme by refer ene to observations made by himself on the very edge of the crater of Vesuvius while that mountain was in eruption. There are many other papers of timely

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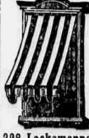
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