The Scranton Tribune

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O. F. BYXBEE . . . BUSINESS MANAGER.

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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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TWELVE PAGES.

SCRANTON, OCTOBER 25, 1902.

REPUBLICAN TICKET.

State.

Governor—S. W. PENNYPACKER.
Lieutenant Governor—W. M. BROWN.
Secretary of Internal Affairs—ISAAC B. BROWN.

County.

Congress—WILLIAM CONNELL.
Judge—A. A. VOSBURG.
Commissioners—JOHN COURIER MORRIS, JOHN PENMAN.
Mine Inspectors—LLEWELYN M. EVANS, DAVID T. WILLIAMS.

Legislative.

Senator—JOHN B. JORDAN.
Representatives—
First District—JOSEPH OLIVER.
Second District—JOHN SCHEUER, JR
Third District—EDWARD JAMES.
Fourth District—P. A. PHILBIN.
Election day, Nov. 4.

The Democratic leaders misjudge the miners of Pennsylvania when they imagine that the latter can be induced to repay President Roosevelt by voting to tie his hands in congress.

A Change for the Better.

THE STATES whose delegations command the greatest influence in congress are those which re-elect their efficient congressmen term after term, thus benefiting from their experience and ripe acquaintance with public affairs. The states which command the least influence are those which for one reason or another do not keep their representatives in congress long enough to enable them to gain recognition and exert influence. Maine and Iowa are examples of the former class, and their delegations are among the strongest in the house, being returned year after year with hardly a change except for death or promotion. Pennsylvania, we regret to say, although in many respects the greatest of American commonwealths, does not command the large prestige in the house of representatives which she should, and the reason is mainly because of the unwise system of rotation prevalent in districts with more than one county and of capricious politics in most of the other districts.

It is not true that the Pennsylvania delegation is accustomed to lack in the ability of its members. On the contrary, their ability compares very favorably with that of any delegation in congress. Their lack is in the important item of experience. As a rule, no sooner do they become proficient in the ways and means of shaping legislation than they are left at home by some shift in the weather vane of local politics and in their stead new men are sent who have to go through the same seasoning process. These frequent changes are as detrimental to the best results at Washington as they would be if adopted in the management of private business enterprises. Indeed, they are more so, because the scope and variety of the interests affected by the work of congress are infinitely more varied and exacting than are those of the average private enterprise and correspondingly call for a greater degree of expert knowledge resulting from experience.

Lackawanna county is to be congratulated that under the leadership of William Connell she has abandoned the foolish and short-sighted practice of changing her congressman every alternate term. It is directly due to this abandonment that her power and influence at the national capital have increased and that her ability to secure results has become so notably superior to that of the average Pennsylvania district where the rotary idea yet prevails.

Don't suppose that the workingmen of Pennsylvania can't see the difference between Democratic campaign guff and Republican achievement.

The Commission Organized.

THE COUNTRY has a right to expect that in the deliberations of the anthracite arbitration commission thoroughness shall not be sacrificed to speed. The clamor for an early decision is natural but it does not represent the sober judgment of the country. That judgment is that now is the time to get to the bottom of the troubles which have prevailed with great cost and annoyance in the anthracite country, precipitating two great and many small strikes within three years and nearly falling a halt upon the general progress of American industry. If this can be done in a month, well and good but no well-informed person expects it to be possible to accomplish in a month, and if it takes six months or a year it ought to be done to the limit.

In order that the commission may have ample time in which to consider the difficult matters to come before it, there should be an earnest disposition on the part of companies and mine workers to compose their own small differences as far as possible and not load them upon the commission. It is easy to multiply and equally easy to check the accumulation of small grievances, according as the disposition is to be captious or generous. The need of patience and forbearance just now in the coal fields is great; and no better public service can be done by leaders of public opinion than to frown upon those who exaggerate the inevitable frictions and misunderstandings arising from the return of the miners to work under unusual and not very clearly defined circumstances.

We have had a long exhibition of the spirit of fight, with both sides making a good showing in that direction. What we need now is an exhibition of how good fighters can get together, bury their grudges and act like men.

A clean, honest, able and trustworthy man for governor is the verdict on Judge Pennypacker, and it will not hereafter have to be set aside.

The Hague Tribunal.

THE FIRST case laid before the arbitration tribunal at Hague has resulted in a verdict in favor of the United States. The claim was not disputed by the defendant to the action and the only issue which practically occupied the judicial conservatism of the assessors was the sum total of the amount due and the time and reasonableness of the accruing interest upon it. Mexico and the United States are not merely sister republics upon the same continent, but next door neighbors, whose civilization, if different in many respects, is rapidly becoming similar in the main. If the Hague court had never been called into existence the adjudication of the Pious fund would not have raised international difficulties between the two governments. The Hague decision has created no precedent, nor can we rightly attribute to its award the measure of importance that has been accredited to it in some quarters. Our staid and matronly contemporary, the Boston Transcript, is almost beside itself in the effusion of its gratitude for the "advanced step" we "have taken in this matter. We have in truth taken no advanced step, nor has the Hague areopagus superseded in any particular the measure of importance due to the Paris boundary commission which had to decide upon an issue which went within measureable distance of leading to war between Great Britain and the United States. Disputes or disagreements of the Pious fund stamp have for hundreds of years been settled and satisfactorily through the good offices of arbitrators appointed by one or other of the sovereigns of European countries whose aid was invoked. Although such mediation has hardly ever been refused, it is well known that the honor was rarely welcomed. The Hague court admirably fills a long felt want in reconciling disputatious averments in such limited spheres of conflicting interests between nations. But that it has a broader future in the face of the disposition and armaments of the world is not probable.

The Transcript is so prepossessed with the importance of the Hague decision that it claims that the court is no longer a "barren ideality," whatever that may mean. It can indeed be a vital instrument of beneficence in international affairs without diverging materially from the subaltern position which it seems destined to occupy. Wars have arisen from such trivial aggrandisements and conceited national sensibility that one is at loss to decide whether they were the result of the deliberate judgment of rulers and statesmen responsible for their actions or the objective record of maniacal impulses. When a nation has made up its mind to go to war it justifies its course by declaring that war is inevitable. The inevitableness is measured by the actual or delusive strength of its batallions and the relative inferiority of those of the prospective enemy. The court of the Hague did not prevent the Boer war nor did either of the combatants during the negotiations that led up to it suggest that it could, although on the surface the points in dispute seemed eminently capable of adjustment by arbitration. Millennial anticipations have a psychological interest, but the realities of life are too overwhelming and too important to leave any room for doubt of the lamentably slow progress we are making toward them.

Judging from appearance, all that John Elkin needs to do to have his account balanced is to wait.

The Suicide of Younger.

THE CAREERS of Jesse James and the Younger brothers are strikingly indicative of the imperfect civilization of a country opening up to settlement and a regulated system of police government. The exploits of these brigands were neither heroic nor romantic. Their lives were as sordid as their successes were murderous. Chivalry and crime cannot co-exist. James and the Youngers were ruffians who were as reckless of the lives of others as they were eminently careful of their own. If there is romance in crime, James and the Youngers had too practical a conception of their occupation to be affected by it. They robbed and murdered because robbery and murder afforded them the readiest means of living lives of riotous debauchery. No doubt there is a certain fascination in highway robbery for those exceptional characters who can follow it up for years with impunity; no doubt they found some compensation for the risks of their outlawry in the consciousness that they were admired to a certain extent by ignorant men and silly women; no doubt they were not influenced emotionally by the fact that they were not only feared wherever they went, but that they had that power to engender subserviency, which is no inconsiderable element of fame, among those with whom they associated in their origies. They had, too, the true love of the knight of the road for whiskey, and its inspiration was never wanting in a "hold-up."

We might be inclined to see a providential dispensation in the end of James Younger's life. But no. Many a better man than Younger committed suicide with far less reason, and displayed no more fortitude in facing the tribulations that led to it. Younger had political ambition, he declares in his last testament, and consequently enemies. What between his bullet wounds, his civic disappointments and the ingratitude of a world that would not believe in full in the sincerity of his professed conversion, perhaps James Younger did as well as could be reasonably expected in taking, by the hand that laid low so many others, a life which was the most lawful perquisite out of which a hangman was ever cheated.

The fact that King Oscar of Sweden has soaked us in an arbitral decision is not to be wondered at. He is simply observing the European fashion and playing close to his nearest neighbor. We can expect that kind of treatment every time we consent to a crown-wearing referee.

Not a word is said reflecting upon Judge Vosburg's ability or fairness. As the pioneer judge of our orphans' court, he has had the hardest work to do and has admittedly done it well. That should be enough to influence every right-thinking man to vote for his retention.

A simplification of the machinery of coal delivery in the large cities, with limitation of the number of intermediaries claiming profits, would go a great way to relieve distress. It isn't the coal barons altogether who make anthracite prices high.

A Democrat at Harrisburg this winter would be just about as useful to his constituents as a fifth wheel to a wagon. The interests of Scranton and Lackawanna county are too important to be entrusted to powerless hands.

The efforts on the part of certain medical authorities to prove that kissing is unsanitary will probably be as fruitless in results as the continual talk regarding the unhealthy properties of ice cream.

If Hon. Tom Johnson expects to be candidate for president he should not begin to read Democrats out of the party at this early stage. He will probably need them.

Morris and Penman have earned a re-election by good service in the commissioners' office, and, besides, they are Republicans. Keep the Democrats out.

The Republican party has its faults, but compared with the Democratic party it is as Hyperion to a satyr.

With Pennypacker as governor there will be no more ripper bills, or if there are, he won't sign them.

On the base ball bleachers King Oscar's decisions would undoubtedly be characterized as "rotten."

It takes a term or two to teach a new congressman how. William Connell has learned how.

American Versus British Workmen

ON THIS subject, Mr. Ewing Matheson, M. I. C. E., of England, has published a very interesting pamphlet. I quote the following:

"If it is true, as the present writer believes, and as most will agree, that the meat-eating people are those who conquer in the contests of the world, the greater capacity for concentrated work possessed by the American is largely explained. It is not only the artisan and laborer who can do the most in a given time, but the banker, the stockbroker and the journalist. All of them will concentrate into a working day as much more than an Englishman, as the latter exceeds the German or the Frenchman. But at what a cost! The emigrant from Europe has got in him a total fund of energy greater than he had at home, and the born American has no more than his European ancestors. But it is compressed into a shorter life. From the age of 21 to 45 the man is at his best. Meat three times a day supplies the fuel, and the dry (compared with the British Isles) climate, causes it to be eaten so underdone or "rare" as to repel the newly arrived Britisher. Between forty and 50 (?) the reaction comes, and others take his place.

"Abundance of imported labor enables the employer to run his tools quicker and get more out of a given area of shop room with the same number of men. American employers do not care much for apprentices. Why should the employer take the trouble of teaching them, when ready-made full-grown workmen, the most enterprising of those in the Old World, are always available? The almost universal desire of the American-born boy to pose as a man, also helps to account for this. The best artisan, such, for instance, as millwrights, engineers' smiths and pattern-makers, are those who have laboriously learned their trades in Europe. The American youth avoids the long training essential to the working of a first-class workman, and becomes shallow. American employers are not as ready to point out the fact that many of their best workmen are not American-born, as they or others, when riots and tumults occur, are to attribute them almost entirely to the foreigner.

"A career which leads to a head place early, a position in which the labor of others can be exploited; in short, the position of 'boss,' is the one that best suits the American instinct. In the United States, as in England, the material influence discourages 'dirty hands,' and thus is swelled the army of nondescripts, who crowd the ranks of second-rate clerks, etc. The ruder work in the United States is done by Hungarians, Italians and Russians. The best skilled workmen are the English, the Scotch and the German, who have learnt their trades in Europe. The children of European immigrants quickly imbibe American ideas, and avoid long training and manual labor. In the manufacturing districts of the United States, the supply of able craftsmen will fall off if the emigration from Europe ceases. (An important point for us to note).

"The reason why American trades unions cannot, or do not, impose the same restraints on individual exertion as do the unions of Great Britain, is because of the great variety of nationalities, who cannot be brought into line and disciplined so effectually as workers of one race. High-priced labor obtains the best results for the employer and the employed, but as a condition precedent the workman must have liberty, which is too often denied him by the trades union rules in European cities. As to piece-work, the American range of wages has wider limits than in Great Britain.

"Enterprising workers, whether mechanics, manufacturers or shop-keepers, have in America no limit to their ambition; the social ladder is accessible, and the ambitious man, able and willing to strive, is stimulated accordingly. It is not the zeal of a servant working for a master, but is as a means to an end practically unattainable in Great Britain.

"Class distinction, as such, between rich and poor, nearly all rich people being workers, does not exist in America. The few rich Americans who live without work have to settle in Europe to enjoy such distinction. The absence of this class distinction does leave a clearer field for the best of the working classes. This is eminently for the good of the community. The wishes and convenience of workmen in America is studied to an extent unknown in Europe. Work before breakfast is avoided, the shops are already warmed when the men arrive, and ice-water is available at all times. Differing from the English workmen, the American usually washes, and changes his coat, before leaving the shop, and sits down to his evening meal clean and respectable. This has effect on his children. The early advancement given in the United States to young men puts new ideas into positions of authority. Some times this brings shallowness to the front, but the energy of youth more than balances. Largely by reason of this, the American superiority—whatever may be its cause—will continue.

"No comparison of American with British workmen can be complete without reference to the systematising of processes in American factories, and to the consolidation of trade into specialties, which can be carried on cheaply, because on a large repetition scale. This leads to cheaper prices and quicker deliveries, and carries the day."

American workmen should ponder these facts before hastily interrupting or delaying the course of labor.

—Walter J. Ballard.

Schenectady, Oct. 21.

FORGIVE AND FORGET.

Forgive and forget—it is better
To fling all ill feeling aside
Than allow the deep cankering fetter
Of revenge in your breast to abide;
For your step o'er life's path will be lighter,
When the load from your bosom is cast,
And the glorious sky will seem brighter,
When the cloud of displeasure has passed.

Though your spirit swell high with emotion
To give back injustice again,
Sink the thought in oblivion's ocean,
For remembrance increases the pain.
Oh, why should we linger in sorrow,
When its shadow is passing away,—
Or seek to encounter, tomorrow,
The blast that o'erswept us today?

Our life's stream is a varying river,
And though it may placidly glide,
When the sunbeams of joy o'er it quiver,
It must foam when the storm meets its tide.
Then stir not its current to madness,
For its wrath thou wilt ever regret;
Though the morning beams break on thy sadness,
Ere the sunset forgive and forget.

—Robert Gray, in Success.

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1 University of Rochester.
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1 Brown College Preparatory School.
1 School of the Lackawanna.
1 Wilkes-Barre Institute.
1 Cotuit Cottages.
4 Scranton Conservatory of Music.
4 Hardenbergh School of Music and Art.
3 Scranton Business College.
5 International Correspondence Schools.
2 Lackawanna Business College.
2 Alfred Wooler's Vocal Studio.

Several of these scholarships include not only tuition, but also board, room, heat, light and laundry for periods of two to four years. Among these fifty-one young people there are thirty-three who are really striving to secure educations, and their names appear on another page of The Tribune every morning, in the table showing the "Standing of Contestants." They should be encouraged in their commendable endeavor.

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Or, better still, send your subscription to The Tribune, together with the money to pay for same, designating some contestant which you wish to receive the credit.

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Or, they can send The Tribune to their friends, paying the money themselves. Many are doing this and the contestants are very grateful for this whole-hearted aid.

ONLY NEW SUBSCRIBERS ARE COUNTED.

TO CONTESTANTS

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No points not in The Tribune office by the first stroke of 8, as told by the Court House clock, will be counted.

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