

The Scranton Tribune

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TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, NOVEMBER 25, 1902.

Mr. McVeigh says he believes a compromise agreement reached by the strike lawyers will be more likely to inaugurate an era of industrial peace throughout the coal region than a decision by the commission. Then why was a commission called for?

The Individual Operator.

AT A TIME when the dove of peace seemed to be hovering over the deliberations of the strike commission and the negotiations of the attorneys of the big companies with the attorneys of John Mitchell and the miners' union were tending toward a handshake of fellowship and good will, why should the so-called independent operators raise a cry of alarm and threaten to shoot that dove away? We can imagine persons at a distance asking this question and for their enlightenment it might be appropriate to explain.

The independent operator is in a different position from the big company operator. He has only his coal mine to draw revenue from, and usually it is a mine which some big company has got through with and in which he is picking the leavings. The big company, on the other hand, has both its mines and its railroads, and it can run one very close to the margin of actual loss if it can recoup from the other.

When the mine troubles began they caught the independent, or, more properly, the individual operator—for he isn't nearly as independent as he looks—between the upper and the nether millstone. The union wouldn't treat with him or let its men work for him except by a general settlement and while his mine and that of the big company were both idle the difference in favor of the big company was that its railroad trains were running and helping to keep the wolf from its door.

As a matter of fact, the so-called independent operator was about as dependent a specimen of business man as could be found in the land, having neither the power to bargain for labor without the big companies' consent, nor the assurance that if he could come to terms with the union and get men to go into his mine he could then get cars to carry the mined coal to market.

The strike of 1900 brought some measure of relief to the individual operator, in that it forced the big companies to execute a contract with him agreeing to take his entire output indefinitely upon a percentage basis conditional upon the tide-water price, inasmuch as wages help to determine the tide-water price, the individual operator had no voice or hand in deciding to fight the second demand of the miners' union for increased pay, but again was caught between two warring elements each stronger than himself. With a trust on top and a trust underneath, he was truly an object of pity.

But when, after suffering great loss from a strike he could neither avert nor settle and straining his credit in some instances almost to the breaking point, he managed toward the latter end of the struggle to get some of his properties in operation along comes the sudden lay-down in Wall street, the big companies throw up their hands and the commission is appointed. The commission invites the individual operator to participate in its hearings, he prepares his case and his evidence and is about ready to show to the commission and the country the exact truth about the whole anthracite situation when, again, the big companies execute one of their peculiar moves by trying to negotiate a settlement out of court and once more the man whom it concerns most deeply is not consulted. Naturally the individual operator is becoming tired of this being used as a foot ball and his dispatching an embassy to New York to discover if possible where he is at is a symptom of bewilderment which the moguls would do well to heed.

All these internal troubles in the operating side of the coal trade are of interest to the general public only as they tend to explain the peculiarities of the business. Whether they shall be patched up or emphasized can make little difference to the strike commission, which is operating under a charter from the whole people to safeguard their interests and establish anthracite industrial relations on a just and permanent basis. The commission has said that it will not surrender its functions to a group of attorneys of special interests and the public has confidence in its words.

Justice Peckham evidently knows a political gold brick when he sees it. President Eliot's five conditions of humane employment—a gradually rising wage, steady employment, encouragement for the making of a permanent home, the opportunity to serve generously and proudly the interest with which the laborer has been connected, and relief on disability—are certainly humane, and every employer should seek to establish them. But they require of the laborer in return rising efficiency, due recognition of others' rights and personal ambition to do his

best. None of these humane conditions can come to pass on the basis of a dead level of efficiency and of the belief that the man who employs is to be regarded primarily as an enemy. The report goes forth that the next legislature will be asked to rip William A. Stone out of the presidency of the new state capitol commission. We thought it was to be an anti-ripper regime.

The New Governor's Work.

WHILE nobody has been able yet to get much of a line on the personnel of the Pennsylvania administration, there is general expectation and belief that the new executive of Pennsylvania will stand firmly for certain well-defined policies of government and use his whole power to put them into operation. Among them are: Reapportionment. Ballot reform.

On both of these propositions Judge Pennington will have the cordial support of the great mass of Republican voters and as he is in a position to command the co-operation of what many persons call the sometimes refractory party machine, he ought to score results. Reapportionment is not only obligatory under the constitution, but absolutely essential to fair play. Equality of representation in the law-making power is a fundamental of American government and Republicans can with poor grace bemoan its absence in the Democratic South when in Republican Pennsylvania, in spite of constitutional mandate and apparently regardless of public and party sentiment, there has been inexcusable inequality maintained with impunity for a score of years.

Secondary only because not reaching so deeply into the equities is the matter of ballot reform. This has become imperative if elections are not to degenerate into farces. The present cumbersome ballot, with its encouragement to netherworld parties swelling the number of columns out of all reason and confusing the count if not the voter, should be swept to the junk heap and the real Australian ballot substituted instead. This would classify candidates by parties under the offices to be filled and instead of wallpaper tickets give a small page with a single column requiring one mark for each man voted for.

Of equal importance is the subject of uniform primaries, but while these are desirable we fear they are remote. For the present, if in addition to giving, as he will give, a clear administration governed by fidelity to public obligation and unswerving high purpose, the new governor shall use his whole power to bring into law those two reforms, the confidence of his friends will be justified and the reasonable expectations of the people fulfilled.

According to the auditor of the post-office department, the present money order system is unprofitable. It certainly is inconvenient. Why not do away with it in favor of the post check system?

The President and Addicks.

AN AUTHORIZED explanation of the president's appointment of William B. Byrne, of Delaware, to be the United States district attorney, is made by Charles Emory Smith in the Philadelphia Press. It does not mean that the president has become a partisan of "Cass" Addicks or a partisan against him; it has no factual significance whatever. Says Mr. Smith:

"Mr. Byrne held the office by appointment of President McKinley. He determined to accept the candidacy of the Addicks faction for congress. President Roosevelt thereupon required him to resign, pending the canvass, because he felt that, while running for the one office under the circumstances, Mr. Byrne ought not to hold the other. After he failed of election the president re-appointed him. Mr. Byrne was re-appointed without the slightest reference to the Addicks or the anti-Addicks issue. If he had been the anti-Addicks candidate for congress he would have been named neither to help nor to hurt anybody. The president appointed him on personal grounds, which in his judgment harmonized with sound public grounds. He was the one federal officer in the state who was personally known to the president. He had rendered valued service to Mr. Roosevelt and to the public interests while Mr. Roosevelt was still governor of New York. He had since served the public welfare in other relations which were specially known to the president, and for these reasons he was re-appointed. It may be further stated that the president will not identify himself or his administration with any faction. The federal patronage will not be used to build up or to tear down any interest." We should imagine that this explanation ought to satisfy reasonable criticism. It seems to be, sure, a little strange that a man should be pulled out of office one day, to be put back in the next, but as long as Byrne and the president are willing to do business in that manner it does not become others to complain. As for Byrne's being a partisan, what man of consequence is not?

The Sultan of Babelod, it seems, could have been more properly designated as the Sultan of Bluff.

Ominous Questions.

CONSERVATIVE men are beginning to ask ominous questions with regard to the prosperity which is now so patent. The other day a former assistant secretary of the treasury, Mr. Vanderlip, told a convention of bankers that he had found in Europe among keen students of economics and finance, a feeling of growing distrust of American security values, and warned his hearers that incautious expansion of credits might be expected hereafter, as in the past, to culminate in disaster. Offsetting this view, the comptroller of the currency, Mr. Ridgely, told another convention of bankers how broadly our prosperity is founded in the substantial achievements of labor and in great developments of natural resources

sources formerly dormant in the earth. He cited figures, which we copied at the time, to show that notwithstanding bank credits had run high, farm and other solid property values had increased in many more rapidly and seemed still far from the limit of probable increase.

But a new factor is entering the equation. General and generous increases in wages are being made in industrial circles; but no sooner are they made than steps are taken to charge them back upon the consumer, and with prices already high, price quotations seem destined to go yet higher. As each consumer is raised in price he will naturally try to pass the increase along; but a time will come when, through mishap or caprice of nature, the mutual raising comes to a halt, and what then? Flow and ebb is a natural inevitable. When the flow ceases the ebb begins, on a market full of inflation, with every aim of business and industry apparently being to take out of the nearest pocket more than is put in, the question presents itself to the thoughtful observer, what would be the probable consequence of an unforeseen interruption tending to check the flood tide or reverse it into an ebb?

Where men remain reasonable and cool, panic seldom takes place. But in a fever of good times men become careless or reckless, getting away from sound business principles and too heavily hypothesizing their hopes, is it not reasonable to sound warnings? Are not the American people drifting to danger from the very excitement of their superabundant welfare?

Now here's a curious fact. Good Brazilian coffee costs, raw, in New York only 6 cents a pound, yet by the time it reaches the consumer the price is 30 cents. Wherefore and why?

ROOSEVELT, THE MAN.

From the Harrisburg Patriot, Dec.

However much we may disapprove the public policy which he represents, there can be in healthy minds nothing but admiration for Theodore Roosevelt as a citizen and a man. What a splendid trust he presides in his energetic, untiring activity and lofty patriotism, his multi-millionaire kinsman, William Waldorf Astor, looking Alfred Edward's boots and wearing that America is not fit places for a gentleman to live in! If any better specimen of American manhood exists than the Santiago youth chief magistrate of seventy-five million people, he has not yet come to the front. His mental growth since he came to the presidency is phenomenal. He has risen to every occasion, has never failed to acquit himself not only with credit, but with distinction.

In his democratic simplicity, hearty good humor, broad sympathies, strength of body and mind, physical and moral courage, energy, purity of heart, unswerving Americanism, unswerving honesty; as much at home among the High School boys of Philadelphia as among the grave seigniors of the "Club" in London; as at ease in the stamping of Mississippi as in the executive mansion, Mr. Roosevelt has never been found wanting in any quality that goes to make a man.

We are all proud of this true gentleman; glad to do him honor. The pity of it is that the Democratic party founded on the eternal principles of liberty, equality and justice, has not at present such a leader.

AS CROSS AS A BEAR.

"You're as cross as a bear!" said Bess to Billy. "Uncle Jim whistled. 'Bears aren't cross to members of their own family,'" he said. "Now, I knew a bear once." "Bess and Billy both ran to him and climbed up on his lap. "Did you really ever know a bear?" cried Billy, with wide open eyes. "Well, not intimately," said Uncle Jim, "but I used to go hunting them when I was up in Canada, and one day I was out with a hunting party and we saw right straight in front of us—what do you suppose?" "A real bear?" gasped the children in concert. "Yes, a real mother bear and her little son. The dogs started after them, and the mother bear began to run, and the little baby son came in as fast as she did, and the dogs were gaining on him, so what do you suppose the mother bear did? Leave her little son behind? No, sir-ee-ee, she picked up the dog with her stout nose and tossed him way ahead; then she ran fast and caught up to him and gave him another boost that sent him flying through the air. She kept this up for a mile and a half, then she was too tired to go any further, and the dogs surrounded her. Then she sat up on her haunches, took her baby in her hind paws, and fought the dogs off with her fore paws. And how she did roar!"

"Bess shuddered. "You could hear her miles away. She never forgot her baby; kept guarding him all the time. When the mother was shot, the baby cub jumped on her dead body and tried to light off the dogs with his little baby paws. That's the way the bears stand by each other. Sometimes I think they love each other better than brothers and sisters. Hey, Bess, what are you crying about? I guess I won't tell you any more bear stories if that is the way it makes you feel." "Bess," sobbed Bess, "you're as good as good as a bear!" Then they all laughed together and forgot what they had been cross about.—New York Tribune.

We are On the Way to Turkey

Dinner. Why spoil a good dinner with old linen. It's a foregone conclusion that with the glad home-coming time new linens for the table must be purchased.

The Linens on our linen counters are Irish bleached and of the finest quality. The designs are so pretty they seem almost good enough to eat. How dainty your table will look when ready for dinner.

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SURE CURE FOR BRONCHITIS. Gentlemen: Early last spring I was taken with chronic malaria. I began to lose flesh. Bronchitis set in and catarrh of the air passages followed. I tried most everything, but found no relief, till I took Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey. I commenced gaining strength and after taking fifteen bottles I had gotten so sound which I had lost before I began taking your whiskey. I would advise all who have similar trouble to take Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey. It has cured me from troubles when nothing else would give me relief. H. H. HENNING, Corapolis, Pa.



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is the only purely medicinal whiskey which has stood the test for fifty years, and always found absolutely pure and free from fusel oil. It contains medicinal properties found in no other whiskey. Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey has cured millions of cases in the last 50 years. It is prescribed by over 5,000 doctors and used exclusively by 2,000 prominent hospitals.

Caution—When buying Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey be sure you get the genuine. Unscrupulous dealers, mindful of the excellence of this preparation, will try to sell you cheap imitations and so-called Malt Whiskey substitutes, which are put on the market for profit only, and which, far from relieving the sick, are positively harmful. Demand "Duffy's" and be sure you get it. It is the only absolutely pure malt whiskey which contains medicinal, health-giving qualities. Look for the trade-mark, "The Old Chemist," on our label.

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25 English Box Coats of imported zibiline cloth, in black and oxford; a \$35 value for the low price of \$27. Interesting, is it not?

50 Monte Carlo and English Walking Jackets, in kersey, Montenac and all good cloths. They were made by a good manufacturer to retail at \$30. Our capacity for quantities enabled us to buy the lot and put them out at \$25.

250 Jackets, in addition to the above, all new goods, for we did not carry any over from last year, ranging in price from \$8.50 to \$40.00, are placed on sale at prices that can't be undersold, when the quality is taken into the consideration.

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Table with columns: One Present, Two Presents, Five Presents, Ten Presents. Values in gold and silver.

THE TRIBUNE'S SECOND ANNUAL Junior Educational Contest

A Contest in Word-Building. Who Can Make the Most Words Out of the Letters in T-H-E H-O-M-E P-A-P-E-R.

THIS IS much easier than last year's contest, and twenty of the brightest boys and girls will secure Christmas Gifts in cash for making the largest number of words out of these letters. It is lots of fun to think of the words and hunt them up in the dictionary, and besides it will help you with your spelling. You will be surprised at the number of different ways these twelve letters can be used.

Rules of the Contest. Presents will be given to the boys or girls, whose parents or guardians are subscribers to THE TRIBUNE, building the largest number of words out of the letters contained in "The Home Paper."

No letter must be used any more times than they appear in these three words. As an example, only one "A" could be used, but there might be two "H's" or three "E's."

Only words defined in the MAIN PORTION of "Webster's International Dictionary" (edition of 1898) will be allowed. Any dictionary can be used, but in judging the contest THE TRIBUNE will debar all words not found in Webster's.

Proper names, or any other words appearing in the "Appendix" will not be allowed.

Obsolete words are admitted if defined in the dictionary. Words spelled two or more ways can be used but once. Words with two or more definitions can be used but once. No single letters counted as words except "A" and "O."

How to Write Your List. Write on one side of the paper only. Write very plainly; if possible, use a typewriter. Place the words alphabetically. Write your name, age, address and number of words at the top of your list.

Write the name of parent or guardian with whom you live and who is a regular subscriber to THE TRIBUNE. Fold the list—DO NOT ROLL.

CONTEST CLOSES SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20TH at 5 P. M. All letters of inquiry for information will be promptly answered. Address your list of words, or any question you wish answered, to CONTEST EDITOR, SCRANTON TRIBUNE, SCRANTON, PA.

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