

The Scranton Tribune

Published Daily Except Sunday, by The Tribune Publishing Company, at Fifty Cents a Month.

L. V. RICHARD, Editor. O. E. BAER, Business Manager.

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.

The following table shows the price per inch each insertion, space to be used within one year:

Table with columns: DISPLAY, Top of Page, Middle of Page, Bottom of Page. Rows for 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100 lines.

For cards of thanks, resolutions of condolence, and similar contributions in the nature of advertising, The Tribune makes a charge of 5 cents a line.

TWELVE PAGES.

SCRANTON, DECEMBER 18, 1902.

Judge Pennington's first appointment is a surprise to everybody and indicates that he is going to run himself. No wonder the wisecracks are already predicting fireworks ere the robins nest again.

The Coal Hearing to Date.

THE CASE in chief of the mine workers as presented before the strike commission makes clear that the groundwork of grievance has been the want of confidence between the men and the immediate representatives of the companies, the mine foremen or bosses. The testimony, simmered down, resolves itself into just that. Conditions of mining in the anthracite fields have been such that it has been largely within the power of the mine foreman to regulate the earnings of the mine worker, and it is evident that in many cases he has done this by prejudice or favoritism. It is not easy to see how such a condition of affairs can be overcome. The only solution which will be permanently effective will be the employment by the companies of a higher grade of foremen on the average, if they can get them; men of broader sympathies and better executive and administrative qualities in addition to technical fitness. The companies can make some headway in this direction by increasing the pay of the foremen who show the best results, not alone in reducing the cost of production per ton, but equally in cultivating fair and harmonious relations with the workers under them. In regard to the latter point, the advisability of establishing from company headquarters a better intelligence service for the purpose of discovering what is going on in the mines is worthy of consideration. There is reason to believe that much of the information which has reached the officials at the top concerning the actual status of things at the bottom has been to some extent misinformation colored in transit.

From the miners' standpoint it is apparent that a union is a necessity to safeguard against unjust discrimination, and we think this has by this time become also the public standpoint. It ought also to be the companies' standpoint, though neither public nor companies are yet satisfied that a union so big and monopolistic as the one over which Mr. Mitchell presides is necessary for the protection of the mine workers or advantageous to the public. That the miners have established their contention before the public that they have been ground down and underpaid in the matter of wages will not, we think, be the general opinion of those who have followed the testimony in detail, assuming that the statistics of the companies stand examination. It undoubtedly was at one time the prevailing public opinion and that it was in due direct to the inexplicable misjudgment of the chiefs of the big coal companies in not taking the American people into their confidence and putting them in possession of the exact facts. Wages should be higher in the mines than they are, and may be higher when the commission gets through with its award. They might also be more fairly distributed; that is, without intentional favoritism as between equally efficient miners and with a more uniform apportionment of work. But the stigma which yellow journalism and yellow labor oratory has sought to fasten upon the anthracite coal fields as a place to be compared for injustice and poverty with the convict mines of Siberia, is removed by the offerings of the plaintiffs themselves, a very important good result of the appointment of the present commission.

While in the presentation of the miners' case one or two blows were struck below the belt, upon the whole an admirable temper has characterized the plaintiff principals and attorneys. In the hearings to come it is hoped and expected that an equally amiable spirit will prevail. Indeed, the opening address of Counsel Walverton for the operators is in this vein. It is salty with statistics and pregnant with facts, but it is not unkind. To this mutual restraint during the airing of matters which might easily rekindle the flames of bitter feeling, the people of the coal fields and the country will largely be indebted for the more brightening prospect of a settlement likely really to wind up in tranquility.

By this time President Castro ought to have ultimatum to burn.

Child Labor.

NO MATTER what may be offered in explanation or qualification, Judge Gray is emphatically right in saying that the only way to stop the employment of young girl labor in the mills at night, Day labor for the young is bad enough at best in its effects upon the workers and upon society, though it is doubtful if it can be avoided. But surely there is no necessity from the standpoint of any employer for employing mere bits of girls of ten to

fifteen years of age to work at standing labor all night for a paltry few pennies a day. And if there were such necessity from the employer's standpoint, it were better that he go out of business or seek other avenues of enterprise than that the young womanhood of our community should be prematurely sacrificed. The custom of the Hindu mother, who commits her excess of babies to the Ganges, is merciful compared with the sending of American little ones by American parents into the slow torture of night toil. Instances such as were brought to the notice of the strike commission are, we believe, exceptional and infrequent, but nevertheless the commonwealth ought to see to it that they shall disappear entirely. An employer ought not to be tempted, nor a parent permitted, to send young girls into such slavery. A sweeping law with ample machinery of enforcement is called for by every consideration of humanity and it cannot be passed too soon.

Mr. Baer would as soon give the independent coal operators the benefit of his opinions as anyone else.

Why Not Be Frank?

IT IS a remarkable fact that when labor leaders like President Gompers get on the witness stand to testify concerning the methods of organized labor they invariably deplore and condemn violence, boycotting and the like, yet there is not on record, so far as we know, a single instance of effective steps being taken by them to stop such abuses or effectively discipline the men who commit them. We had an illustration in boycotts right here in Scranton during the 1901 convention of the American Federation of Labor, which possibly President Gompers may recall. A boycott was put upon the products of a certain well-known factory in Dayton, O., against the protest and vote of the delegate representing the largest number of its employees. In vain did this delegate plead that the boycott would be unjust to the company and unfair to the company's employees. He was outshouted and outvoted and we had at the time no knowledge that Mr. Gompers lifted a finger in the matter. The facts in regard to many other boycotts exhibit a like disregard of the first principle of Anglo-Saxon fair play, namely, the confronting of accuser and accused and the open hearing of testimony. As for boycotting being voluntary and not obligatory upon union men, our valley was at one time full of notices warning mine workers that they would be fined \$5 each if caught riding in the street cars. There is no public knowledge that any local was ever warned from the national or district headquarters of the organization not to try to enforce this compulsory feature. It may be, as apologists for the boycott affirm, that its injustice is no more than a counterbalance of that of the blacklist of the employer and that one extreme is necessary to offset the other. But if that were true, would it not better become the labor leaders to say so frankly, and urge justification in self-defense, instead of posing on the witness stand as shocked opponents of this useful and potent weapon upon which they chiefly lean for power?

The navy department evidently fears that Dewey's propensity for sinking fleets may prompt him to act before the proper time arrives.

Germany Alone Responsible.

THE LATEST information with reference to the Venezuelan situation to which special significance attaches credits an unnamed official at Berlin with expressing indignation that there should be doubt in the United States of the honesty of Germany's assurances or the rectitude of her intentions. This is, indeed, calculated to provoke indignation. But the doubts to which he refers are not more heinous than were those with which Germany was filled with respect to the United States prior to and during our war with Spain. We feel quite certain that there has been in no responsible American journal comment concerning the imperial government's action regarding Venezuela which can bear even a faint comparison in point of unfairness and disrespect with the comments which pervaded the German press with reference to our intervention in Cuba, an intervention which certainly had ten justifying reasons for every one such reason that Germany can offer for her present course in South America. Moreover, neither before that time nor since have we given any provocation to the German people for the suspicious and unfriendly manner which they then and since exhibited toward us, whereas, on their part, one of their highest admirals during our troubles in Manila acted as no friendly neutral would act, and we think it safe to add, as no German admiral will ever act again without having to accept immediate consequences.

There is no underlying prejudice in the United States against either the German government or the German people; quite the contrary. The presence here of many naturalized German citizens has taught us to value highly the German race for the admirable qualities which they possess and daily exemplify. Every tendency should be in the direction of increasing the friendliness and confidence between this country and their fatherland. We can conscientiously say that we do not believe that any American is at fault for whatever lack of confidence now exists. We have no other rule by which to judge of Germany's official attitude and disposition than that which we apply to other governments. That rule is to judge intentions by actions. When the actions of Germany are such toward us and toward matters in which we are interested as to inspire confidence and promote cordiality, confidence will be inspired and cordiality promoted. But the Yankee is more susceptible to blarney than to blue fire.

Great Britain is evidently somewhat embarrassed by the bumpiness of her newly found partner. Notwithstanding its limited area, Hayti's supply of troubles appears inexhaustible.

Festive Christmas



Hunter Baltimore Rye

What custom honors we may all enjoy, and the largest contributor to the genial hospitality of this happy season is the pure and perfect. so well established as the best. No Festival Board will be complete without it.



Sold at all first-class cafes and by jobbers. W.M. LANAHAN & SON, Baltimore, Md.

OPEN EVENINGS.

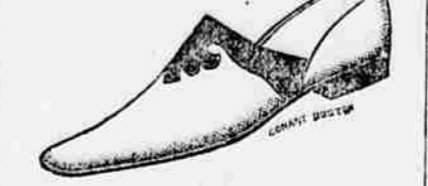


Diamond Bargains, an array of inviting prices, from the Cutter to Consumer, with but one small profit added. 94-Kt. Diamond Ring, worth \$80; My Price, \$60. 54-Kt. Diamond Stud, worth \$60; My Price, \$40. 42-Kt. Diamond Ring, worth \$50; My Price, \$30. 41-Kt. Diamond Ring, worth \$45; My Price, \$25. 3-Kt. Diamond Ring, worth \$30; My Price, \$20. 28-Kt. Diamond Ring, worth \$25; My Price, \$15. All of the above are Amsterdam cut, flawless, and some of dazzling brilliancy. (Enclosure Sent For 3 Diamonds, worth \$80; My Price, \$50. Hungarian Opal Ring, 12 Diamonds surrounding, set in platinum, worth \$10; My Price, \$10. Ruby Ring (genuine blood) surrounded with fine diamonds, \$175; Ruby alone worth over \$200. Sapphire Ring, 14-Kt. (colorful blue color), surrounded with 14-Kt. Diamonds set in platinum, \$100; My Price, \$75. 1-Kt. Diamond Ring, worth \$10; My Price, \$8. 54-Kt. Diamond Ring, worth \$5; My Price, \$3. 3-Kt. Diamond Ring, worth \$10, \$12 and \$15. Diamonds, Rubies, Sapphires, Opals, etc., and choice selection of mountings for same, awaiting your command. TAKE ELEVATOR AND SAVE MONEY and at the same time see exhibit set Black Diamond, Golden Brown Diamond, Canary Diamond, the Priceless (not blue, but) Heliotrope-colored Diamond, (cut) Heliotrope, Sapphires, Opals, etc., as they come from mother earth. Each lady customer will be presented with a New Safety Garter. Purpose, the newest and most practical invention of its kind, an absolute safe way to carry money and jewels. Each gentleman customer presented with a Big leather coin holder, nothing like it, in my own idea. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. "Your Money Back Without Argument." WALTER W. WINTON'S DIAMOND PARLOR, 67 Meigs Building.



Lewis & Reilly MERRY CHRISTMAS SALE

of Good Sense Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Rubbers, on our Main Floors and in the Basement. 125,000 Pairs of the Best Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Rubbers



Our Stores Will Be Open Evenings Until After Christmas.

that ever came to this or any other market. On account of the requests of our thousands of customers whom we have served so well for fourteen years.

Men's Storm King Boots, first quality \$3.00 Boy's Storm King Boots, first quality \$2.25

Youths' Storm King Boots, first quality \$1.50 and \$1.75

Child's Storm King Boots, first quality \$1.25 and \$1.50

We only advertise what we have, and we have what we advertise.

Our Stores Will Be Open Evenings Until After Christmas.



Lewis & Reilly Wholesale and Retail. 114 and 116 - - Wyoming Ave.

"For Rent" sign on your house will only be seen by the casual passerby. "For Rent" ad. in THE TRIBUNE will be seen by ALL who may be contemplating a change of residence. Only One-Half Cent a Word

THE CRANE STORE.

REGAIN YOUR SIGHT It Is Now Time To See Crane. THIS WEEK 50 Walking Skirts, slot seam, full flare; worth \$6.00. On sale at \$3.98

Holiday Presents Hill & Connell's

121 Washington Ave. Where you will find the best and largest assortment of FURNITURE

Christmas Gifts A FEW OF WHICH ARE Ladies' Desks Ladies' Dressing Tables, Parlor Cabinets, Music Cabinets, Fancy Chairs and Rockers, Morris Chairs,

OUR EVER-POPULAR Leather Rockers TABLES

of all the newest designs, including Parlor and Library Tables

And everything to be found in a Complete Furniture Store.

HILL & CONNELL

E. Robinson's Sons Lager Beer.. Manufacturers of Old Stock PILSNER

Brewery, 435 to 485 N. Seventh St., Scranton, Pa. Old 'Phone, 2331. New 'Phone, 2935.

The Moosic Powder Co.

Rooms 1 and 2 Commonwealth Bldg. SCRANTON, PA.

MINING AND BLASTING POWDER

Made at Moosic and Rushdale Works. Lafin & Rand Powder Co.'s ORANGE GUN POWDER Electric Batteries, Electric Exploders, Exploding Blasts, Safety Fuse, REPAUNO CHEMICAL CO.'S HIGH EXPLOSIVES.

Reynolds Bros.' HOLIDAY DISPLAY

More Elaborate and More Extensive Than Ever. Calendars Prang's

By Gibson, Pierce, Hurlbut, Christy, All Newest Designs. Exquisite line of Poster Calendars for the first time shown.

For the Dens

Leather Calendars, in all colors, with embossed Indian heads make most suitable gifts for a man. Waterman's extensive Christmas assortment of Pens can be found at our establishment. Oxford Bibles in all sizes of prints; Fancy Ink Stands and the best assortment of Novelties ever. We are in touch with the leading houses and can furnish you with anything we run short of in due time. Our Stationery Line, as usual, needs no mention. It is the largest and best in town. Our reputation for quality, style and correctness has been well established—we are living well up to it this year.

REYNOLDS BROS. Hotel Jermy.

Berry's Talk: The Truth in a Nutshell.

A Big Fact in Little Type—Our elaborate Holiday stock is ready and was never better in our recollection.

Artistic Designs in Brooches, Cuff Buttons, Scarf Pins, Locketts, Signet Rings and Fobs.

Pearl Opera Glasses are appropriate Xmas gifts. These are only a few articles for you. Visit our store, and convince yourself you buy from a Reliable Jewelry Store.

Berry, The Jeweler

423 Lackawanna Avenue.

DICKSON'S Best PATENT FLOUR

The Celebrated SNOW WHITE

Always reliable. Dickson

Mill & Grain Co. Scranton and Olyphant.

EDUCATIONAL. Do You Want a Good Education?

Not a short course, nor an easy course, nor a cheap course, but the best education to be had. No other education is worth spending time and money on. If you do, write for a catalogue of

Lafayette College

Easton, Pa. which offers thorough preparation in the Engineering and Chemical Professions as well as the regular College courses.

Headquarters for Incandescent Lamps

Portable Lm THE NEW DISCOVERY Kern Incandescent Gas Lamp.

Gunster & Forsyth

325-327 Penn Avenue.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL. EAST STROUDSBURG, PA.

Regular State Normal Courses and Special Departments of Music, Education, Art, Drawing, Stenography and Typewriting; strong College Preparatory Department. FREE TUITION.

Boarding expenses \$3.50 per week. Pupils admitted at any time. Winter Term opens Dec. 23rd. Write for catalogue. E. L. KEMP, A. M. Principal.

SCRANTON CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

SCRANTON, PA. T. J. Foster, Pres. Elmer H. Lawall, Treas. R. J. Foster, Stanley P. Allen, Vice President. Secretary.

HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District for Dupont's Powder

Mining, Blasting, Sporting, Smelters' and the Dupont's Chemical Company's HIGH EXPLOSIVES. Safety Fuse, Caps and Exploders. Room 401 Conell Building, Scranton. AGENCIES JOHN B. SMITH & SON, Plymouth E. W. MULLIGAN, Wilkes-Barre

Lawyers

The Tribune will guarantee to print your paper book quicker than any other printing house in the city.