

New York Tribune

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1913.

Owned and published daily by The Tribune Association, a New York corporation; Ogden M. Reid, President; Conrad Hamlin, Secretary; James M. Barrett, Treasurer. Address: Tribune Building, No. 154 Nassau street, New York.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.—By Mail, Postage Paid, outside of Greater New York: Daily and Sunday, 1 mo. \$1.75 Daily only, 6 months \$8.00 Daily and Sunday, 6 mos. 4.25 Daily only, 1 year 12.00 Daily and Sunday, 1 year 8.50 Sunday only, 6 months 1.25 Daily only, 1 month .50 Sunday only, 1 year 2.50

FOREIGN RATES: DAILY AND SUNDAY: One month \$1.50 One year 18.00 SUNDAY ONLY: One month .80 One year 9.00 CANADIAN RATES: DAILY ONLY: One month .50 One year 5.00 SUNDAY ONLY: One month .25 One year 2.50

Entered at the Postoffice at New York as Second Class Matter.

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No Barnes Republican for Speaker.

The Assemblymen-elect who in conference have determined to stand for revision of the Assembly rules and not to support any boss-nominated candidate for the Speakership of the next Assembly are taking an unassailable position. If they stick to it they can win, unless the unenlightened and hide-bound machine members of the Republican and Democratic parties in the lower house unite on a candidate in open, brazen, bipartisan alliance.

It is to be expected that the next Speaker will be a Republican. He should be, as that party will have a clear majority of the membership of the Assembly. But for the best interest of the party and the best interest of the state he should not be a machine Republican.

He should not be a Barnes Republican. No man taking office with the hand of Mr. Barnes on his shoulder will have the confidence of the voters. No Assembly presided over by a machine-selected and machine-elected Speaker can expect to have the approval of the voters for its acts. The men who will take the oath of office next January might as well understand that at the very beginning of their consideration of this subject, the biggest one likely to demand their attention.

Mr. Hinman, leader of the Republican minority this year, is being boomed as the "regular" or "organization" candidate for the Speakership. He comes from Mr. Barnes's county. It is his misfortune that he is known as "Barnes's Assemblyman." It would be his party's misfortune if he ever came to be known as "Barnes's Speaker."

It will be the fault of the progressive, up-to-date Republican Assemblymen-elect and the progressive members of the party who hope to see it other than a minority party in this state if there is ever even a probability of such an occurrence.

There is now, in the reorganization of the Assembly and the work of that body under Republican control in the coming year, an opportunity at hand to regain for the party public respect, public confidence, public approval and support. This cannot be if in the most important act of the new body it continues the traditions and habits which made the Republican Assembly of 1912 a failure and a laughing stock. The Speaker of the Assembly is, next to the Governor, the chief figure in the state's government. Even a drastic revision of the rules of that house, which would deprive him of some of the arbitrary power past Speakers have wielded, would not in any degree diminish the necessity for the utmost care and wisdom in electing this important official.

Fortunately for the Republican party and the state, there is material in the coming Assembly for the selection of a Republican Speaker who shall not bear any boss's brand, and who shall not take his political ideas from the last generation. And the choice is not limited to one man, either.

Nothing is of more vital importance to the Republican party in New York State than the election of a Speaker with the political ideas, ideals and aspirations of the present moment, and imagination and intelligence enough to realize that a political party can only deserve success by striving to meet the needs and the hopes of the people.

The Tiger Across the Bridge.

Those Brooklyn Democrats who have been striking mightily in recent years to drive the Tiger back across the bridge have been working on a wholly mistaken notion. Tammany didn't absorb Kings County when, soon after "Pat" McCarren's death, the Hon. John H. McCooney became the head of the Brooklyn Democracy. Designation of McCooney as "Murphy's section boss for Brooklyn" is a misnomer. Brooklyn has autonomy. "The Chief" himself has said it.

Murphy echoes now what the late Mayor Gaynor said many, many months ago about Tammany as the Democratic organization in New York County. It is unfortunate that "the Chief" does not keep more up to date. Otherwise he'd realize that the community, having at its disposal the much later Gaynor strictures on the rule of the Delmonico Directorate, must know how information from the inside had altered the late Mayor's views. Murphy's talk about Brooklyn autonomy is purely Piekwickian.

A Cure for Alcoholism.

Mayor-elect Jermyn of Scranton has in mind the institution of police reforms which the late Mayor Gaynor would applaud. It seems that Scranton has been in the habit of gathering her intoxicated celebrants into her jail and, in default of the payment of small fines, of feeding most of them for three and four days there at the city's expense. The fines collected, Mr. Jermyn finds, do not begin to meet the annual bill of about \$6,000 for food for these offenders.

The present method outrages his democracy, also, for it is invariably the drunk and disorderly poor man who takes a ride in the patrol wagon to Police Headquarters, while the drunk and disorderly citizen of means is bundled into a taxicab and sent

home. So he purposes having every "drunk," rich or poor, sent home in "the wagon." In this way he hopes to satisfy his sense of equal justice to all, to save the city of Scranton \$6,000 a year and at the same time to dampen the ardor of those who are out for the long distance swallowing record.

You see, he has a shrewd idea, which we share, that when the head of the house has once driven home in the patrol wagon, to be accorded first a reception by his neighbors and then a welcome in the privacy of his own family, he will seek thereafter to patronize the water wagon exclusively.

Sex Equality Under the Law.

Judge Hunt, of the federal courts, is the latest convert to the doctrine of sex equality. He has announced that hereafter no woman convicted before him of smuggling shall escape a prison sentence because she is a woman. His observation has convinced him, he says, that many women, having paid fines, have gone off laughing in their sleeves at the government.

There is a wholly commendable effort, in many states of widely differing conditions, to make the laws equally fair for men and women—to remove statutory limitations on woman's control of property, right to labor, right to her earnings, right to possess her children in case of domestic difficulties, right to hold office and vote, and the like. It is only logic that there shall be no sentimental avoidance of giving to woman equal penalty with man for the violation of any laws.

A Great Opportunity at Rockaway.

It is encouraging to see that the improvement of the city's park property at Rockaway is being taken in hand with both energy and discretion. Numerous prominent landscape architects and engineers are entering into competition with plans, which are to be passed upon by experts, so that we may hope the development of the tract will be effected in good taste and for the good of all the various interests which are to be served.

There is certainly a great opportunity at Rockaway. New York is almost unique among the great cities of the world in being so situated that it can have within its bounds a seaside park with a long stretch of superb sandy beach fronting directly upon the open sea. But that beach has in addition the broad expanse of Jamaica Bay behind it, giving it a semi-insular situation, with both surf and still water.

In Central and Prospect parks great opportunities were greatly improved. In some respects the opportunity at Rockaway is greater still; at least in its unique features.

The Waldo Petition.

There may be 5,000 persons in this town who want to see Waldo retained by Mitchell as Police Commissioner; New York is a huge place. But there are almost 5,000,000 others, we imagine, none of whom would mourn his passing and the majority of whom would sigh over it with relief.

The retention of Waldo by Mayor Kline had this much justification, that Mayor Kline, in his short term of a few months, was naturally reluctant to break a new man into the difficult job of Police Commissioner, with the probability that he would last only until January 1. And then the Mayor obtained assurances from Waldo that the latter would cease his perverse attitude in police matters and place no more obstacles in the way of cleaning the force and rendering it more effective.

But Mitchell has four years ahead of him. He was elected as much to reform the Police Department as to bring about any other useful improvements in the government of the city. The worst thing he could do at the beginning of his term would be to retain Mr. Waldo.

Mr. Waldo should go, and we think will.

The Service of Iconoclasts.

For the sake of robust common sense we should welcome now and then the advent of an iconoclast. The human propensity to idealize the figures of bygone generations with wide splashes of mental pigment has a tendency to warp our judgment of the present. The late Senator Lyman Trumbull's testimony that Lincoln was among the most ambitious of office-seekers helps us, for instance, to treat more charitably our own public men. It turns the professional politician into a figure of dignity and potential grandeur.

And now Professor Beard, of Columbia, comes along with "An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution of the United States," in which he points out that the "interests" of that day were largely influential in the framing of the Constitution, that "property" and not "the people" demanded its adoption, and that its framers, including Washington, Franklin, Robert Morris, James Wilson and William Blount, were, many of them, land speculators and promoters bent upon feathering their own nests. Professor Beard is not drawing upon his imagination. He has original material to prove these things.

The point is that it cannot make the Constitution less a work of political genius to know that its framers represented the property interests of their time; it cannot detract from what Lincoln did to realize that he was an office-seeker by profession. But knowledge of this sort can help us to a proper and more sympathetic appraisal of our contemporaries, our professional politicians, our representatives of "the interests." If they are no better than Washington, "Ben" Franklin and "Abe" Lincoln it merely means that the improvement in human nature is a most gradual process. On the other hand, this can give such of us as have a working knowledge of our country's history no cause for grave apprehension.

Begin Your Christmas Shopping.

As a rule, a material gift is the easiest method of satisfying a generous impulse at Christmas time. But it needs little thought to convince most people that the proper method of discharging one's full obligation to his fellow beings as well as to himself is to divide the burden of expenditure between purse and will power. In doing so he will strain neither.

The Consumers' League is just now pleading for a small expenditure of will as a reasonable contribution by the Christmas shopper to the Christmas cheer of those who do his bidding in the shops. Every shopgirl who stands all day and half the night behind a counter on tortured feet, all the bundle wrappers, drivers and errand boys, look forward to Christmas now as an ordeal little short of infernal, and only because those who are generous with their money refuse to expend will power enough to do their Christmas shopping early in the season and early in the day.

It is time to begin now to buy those Christmas presents. Remember that Christmas is designed to



Andrew D. White

Boss, could you spare a dime? — I could not, I'm a stockbroker!

TIGHT TIMES IN WALL STREET.

be a Christian festival, and not a pagan orgy embellished with human sacrifices.

A billion alleged mossbunkers were netted last year and transformed into fish oil and fertilizer. It would be interesting to know how many of them were bluefish, bass and other food fish.

It is to be hoped that the news will be verified of the discovery of a lot of live passenger pigeons in Michigan, providing that it doesn't move some powder burning fools to hasten thither and kill them all.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The safety razor industry ought to boom if all the world heeds a warning in "The Lancet" of the perils of the barber's chair. A French scientist has discovered on a shaving brush taken from a respectable barber a culture containing thousands upon thousands of bacteria. A razor had about three times as many after having been stropped on the barber's hand as it had before. One of the reforms suggested is that "brushes and combs should be kept in a hermetically sealed retainer containing a 40 per cent solution of formal."

Candid Hostess (on seeing her nephew's fiancée for the first time)—I never should have known you from your photograph. Reggie told me you were so pretty. Reggie's fiancée—No, I'm not pretty, so I have to be nice, and it's such a bore. Have you ever tried?—Punch.

THE UNITED STATES MAIL.

Another one slain By the speeding mail wagon, Rushing the streets like a Juggernaut dragon, And mowing them down As the crumpling grass Is nipped by the knives of the mowers that pass.

Another one slain By the postoffice drivers Crashing their cars through remaining survivors, While never so much As a thought do they give To the rights of pedestrian people to live.

Another one slain, And a loud cry arises, A cry that is protest against such demises, But the drivers drive on As they please night and day, Still adding their marks to the red right of way.

Another one slain By the U. S. mail drivers Intent upon leaving no hapless survivors. But what are the odds If they do kill a few? Is it not more important to rush the mails through? W. J. LAMPTON.

"Have you any employe who doesn't talk baseball, horse racing and prizefighting all the time, to the exclusion of business?" "Yes." "Where did you get him?" "It isn't a him, it's a her.—Pittsburgh Post.

You can see many things when standing for a minute on most corners in New York City. On this particular occasion it was at 42d street and Fifth avenue. A delivery wagon, of the motor variety, came whizzing by. On its side was the lettering "Doctor, the Butcher." Two men noticed it.

"That reminds me," said one, "that uptown there is a man named Butcher who is a doctor." "Well, look in the directory some 'time," said the other, not willing to be outdone, "and you will find that there is Spring in East 28th street, Summer in Grand street, Fall in William street and winter on Broadway."

She—A woman's mind is more active than a man's. He—Yes, I admit that while a man is making up his mind a woman will change hers a dozen times.—Philadelphia Record.

Some idea of the extent to which manufacturers go in the effort to furnish goods which will appeal to the feminine love for beautiful fabrics may be gathered from a recent announcement by a prominent nearby mill. This concern, on a list of nine printed fabrics, says that 475 patterns, covering 1,980 colorings, are manufactured, which one would think were enough to satisfy a widely varying line of likings and ideals.

The Examiner—What do you understand by the conservation of natural resources? The Student—It means that you talk forever about your water power and coal mines, but never use them.—Buffalo Express.

THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN An Open Forum for Public Debate.

THE HETCH-HETCHY CAMPAIGN

An Appeal for Support in Fight to Preserve Yosemite.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The national committee for the preservation of the Yosemite National Park is in sore need of funds to carry on the fight in the public interest against the bill providing for the flooding of the great Hetch-Hetchy Valley and the further invasion of the national park. This committee was recently organized to focus the opposition of the country to this intrinsically and as a precedent. The honorary president of the committee is Dr. Charles W. Eliot, first president of the Conservation Congress, and among its fifty honorarium vice-presidents are the Hon. William H. Taft, Cardinal Gibbons, Professor J. Horace MacFarland, George Kennan, Professor Charles S. Sargent, Mrs. E. H. Harriman, Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, Cleveland H. Dodge, Mrs. Emmerson Crocker, chairman of conservation of the National Federation of Women's Clubs; Andrew D. White, Frederick Law Olmsted and many other distinguished persons.

Among those opposing this piece of unnecessary vandalism are an overwhelming proportion of the newspapers of the country, a score of organizations chiefly of national scope, such as the American Civic Association, the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, and especially the National Federation of Women's Clubs, which is vigorously at work. The farmers of the whole San Joaquin Valley of California are "up in arms" against the bill. Mr. Taft has written a vigorous letter against it, taking issue with Mr. Pincho's opportunity policy. Frederick Law Olmsted, the distinguished landscape architect and member of the National Fine Arts Commission, has published in "The Boston Transcript" a candid article showing conclusively that the flooding of the Hetch-Hetchy will ruin its beauty.

The advantages of other sources of water supply for the city, in cost, are vigorously being presented to the Senate. The Mayor and other officials have been urged to reinforce the officials who for months have been earning their salaries at Washington lobbying for the project.

In view of the importance of the cause, the national committee earnestly asks the assistance of the public in the effort to save the national park system from the impending calamity.

Brief letters of protest should be sent at once to Senators Elihu Root and James O'Gorman, and checks in any amount to Dr. E. H. Hall, Room No. 508 Tribune Building, New York. The advocates of the scheme have unlimited financial resources, while those who are opposing it must rely upon public support.

R. U. JOHNSON, Chairman. New York, Nov. 24, 1913.

ON PART TIME IN SCHOOLS

Grateful Parent Deplores Penalty His Child Experienced.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A few days ago I addressed a communication to you calling attention to the inadequate school facilities afforded the children of our city and wish to thank you for the interest which you manifested in the case, as I believe it was due to the investigation which you instituted through your representative, who called at my home, that the school authorities have seen fit to notify me to present my son for admission.

While I feel grateful for the progress made, it seems reprehensible that such a course should be necessary. There are doubtless a host of other little children on the waiting list who are missing the advantages of tuition to which they are entitled, to say nothing of the many who are receiving only part time tuition.

There should be an organized movement to remedy these conditions and immediate steps taken to provide seating accommodations for every child of school age, if it requires the leasing of every vacant room in the city. There should be no discrimination in the measure of the privileges, as it is so unfair to provide half time sessions to some as it is to deny

MR. STOVER AT WORK

A Friend Tells Details of Missing Commissioner's Administration.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In view of the unjust criticism at this time directed against Park Commissioner Stover, I would like to point out the valuable services Mr. Stover has rendered as Commissioner of Parks of Manhattan and Richmond for the last four years.

Never in my recollection has there been a Commissioner of Parks who has given the service that Mr. Stover has. He is a conscientious and untiring worker, a man of sincere convictions, beloved by all of his friends and co-workers, both in the department and out of it, of a kindly nature and a valuable citizen.

His interest in the children and the people of the whole city has been of years' standing, as his unselfish devotion to social and humanitarian work amply testifies.

During his administration there have been developed thirty new supervised play centres and several children's school farms, and this without the purchase of an extra foot of ground by the city. He secured the ground by appealing to the private property owners and making available the unused land owned by other city departments. A bureau of recreation has been established, with an administrative head, who devotes his entire time to the subject. In addition to playgrounds, the parks of the city have been developed in an enlightened manner under Mr. Stover and great improvements and additions made, such as comfort stations in Central Park, construction of field houses, construction of storage yards, inclosing centre plots on Broadway between 110th and 123d streets, construction of a new Colonial Park South, construction of John Jay and Columbus playgrounds, construction of drains in the parks, new concrete bulkhead along the Speedway, installation of water supply system in several parks, cleaning up and making sightly and practical the stables in Central Park and replacing of gutters and walks. Many of these things do not appear readily to the eye and have been done in an intelligent manner and with very little cost to the city.

There has been extensive replanting of trees in Central Park. Dying trees have been replaced and foresight used in replanting, so that the new trees will replace the old as the years go on.

Instead of following the extravagant estimator formerly made for resoling Central Park, Mr. Stover has revived the soil in great areas by ploughing and replanting at a fraction of the cost previously considered necessary.

Until 1912 Mr. Stover was unable to get an appropriation for laying of new permanent roads in Central Park. In that year his first appropriation was obtained, and with that he laid a portion of the West Drive.

With an additional appropriation, secured this year, he has completed paving the West Drive from 59th street to 110th street and has paved Riverside Drive from 73d street to 113th street.

I say these things in justice to a splendid official and an upright citizen. JOSEPH M. PRICE. New York, Nov. 25, 1913.

ADDRESSES CHURCHILL CRITICS

Correspondent Would Ask Those Who Signed Open Letter Certain Questions.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Your editorial in yesterday's issue concerning Mr. Churchill raises certain questions, which I should like very much to place before your readers.

Has any one of the gentlemen who signed the open letter to Mayor Kline protesting against Mr. Churchill's reappointment ever spent a full school day in any one or more of the schools of New York City to which the common people

are sending their children? How otherwise can these gentlemen have first hand information regarding conditions, from which to draw their conclusions?

If education is a preparation for life, who are the "expert educators," unless they be the "laymen," who are carrying on the world's active work? It is a pleasure to be a daily reader of your editorial page.

ALFRED DEB. MASON. Brooklyn, Nov. 21, 1913.

A THEATRE TICKET SUGGESTION

Correspondent Recommends Agency Plan Pursued in London.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In the City of London, theatre tickets may be purchased at the box offices of theatres and at a great number of "District Offices" and agencies conveniently located. All unsold tickets are held at the box offices, where they may be purchased at the standard prices. At other agencies the purchaser selects date and location, the agent by telephone purchases the desired tickets, they are withdrawn at the box office and charged to the agency, and the customer is given a paper slip ticket indicating the date, number of admissions and seat numbers at an advanced cost of one shilling over the box office price. All unsold seats are available at all times at all offices.

Why may not this plan be introduced in New York? A. S. H. New York, Nov. 25, 1913.

THEATRE SHOULD PAY AGENCY

Reader Thinks Latter's Accommodation Worth Something to Box Office.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Theatre ticket agencies have, in hotels, etc., practically become necessities, but that the buyer should pay a "shave" on a ticket is not just. For one man who buys a ticket as a convenience there are eight or nine who are induced to buy because the ticket office is near. Many a person who now crosses a hotel lobby to buy would not think of trudging to the box office.

Thus, it is in the theatre that should pay the agent a fee for selling, as it is the theatre that increases its patronage by placing its tickets where they are easy of access. JOHN R. LIVINGSTONE. New York, Nov. 24, 1913.

Mr. Barnes an Obstacle to Republican Success.

From The Utica Press:

A contribution to the literature of current Republican politics that was doubtless widely read was the letter of Ward B. Edwards, of this city, to Philip J. McCook, president of the New York Young Republican Club, which was published in this paper yesterday morning. Mr. Edwards unequivocally declared that he was in favor of the elimination of Mr. Barnes as the leader of the party in this state and expressed the confident opinion that 55 per cent of the Republicans were of the same mind. There can be no doubt of the accuracy of his statement or his judgment.

The Barnes leadership stands for the success of bossism, and in the pursuit of its object it has been willing to sacrifice party success, confident that it would fare better with the same leadership in a Democratic administration than it would with its own party in power under the new and progressive auspices. Hence the Barnes leadership has been an obstacle to Republican success of the right sort. It has ruptured the party—rent it in twain. It was leadership of the Barnes variety that led up to and caused the split at the Chicago convention last year. It was counsel from leadership of the same variety that caused the administration of Mr. Taft to depart from the pursuit of policies that were then successful and if pursued would probably have continued him in office. Mr. Edwards characterizes the leadership of Mr. Barnes as "destructive." The faithfulness of the characterization is attested by the record. It is no wonder that the demand for the elimination of Mr. Barnes is so general and that 85 per cent of the Republicans, as Mr. Edwards says, take that view of the matter.