

New York Tribune.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1914.

Owned and published daily by The Tribune Association, 2 New York corporation. Ogden M. Reid, President; G. Vernon Rogers, Secretary and Treasurer. Address: Tribune Building, No. 124 Nassau street, New York.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.—By Mail, Postage Paid, outside of Greater New York. Daily and Sunday, 1 mo. \$ 7.50 Daily only, 6 months \$ 35.00 Daily and Sunday, 6 mos. 4.25 Daily only, 1 year \$ 69.00 Daily and Sunday, 1 year, 8.50 Sunday only, 6 months \$ 2.25 Daily only, 1 month \$.20 Sunday only, 1 year \$ 2.50

FOREIGN RATES.—DAILY AND SUNDAY. One month \$ 15.00 One year \$ 150.00 SUNDAY ONLY. Six months \$ 7.50 One year \$ 15.00 DAILY ONLY. One month \$ 1.25 One year \$ 12.50 CANADIAN RATES.—DAILY AND SUNDAY. One month \$ 1.25 One year \$ 12.50 SUNDAY ONLY. Six months \$.60 One year \$ 1.25 DAILY ONLY. One month \$.20 One year \$ 2.00

Care Free Bosses and Their Indispensable "Rolls."

"Curly Joe" Cassidy, on the witness stand in his own defence, drew a picture of the care free boss which deserves to live in history. As a dispenser of nominations and a collector of the contributions of the faithful Cassidy was almost patriarchal in his methods. His memory was his only ledger and his trousers pocket was his only strong box. As chairman of the Queens County Democratic Committee he didn't need the services of a treasurer. A treasurer giving out receipts for donations would have jarred with Cassidy's deep-rooted notions of Jeffersonian simplicity. He was his own auditor and his own big man.

Here are a few excerpts from the testimony of the care free guardian of Democratic interests in Queens:

Q.—Did the Democratic County Committee have a treasurer? A.—Yes, I think it was Wallace. Q.—Did he get any of the primary money? A.—No, he did not. Q.—Did you get it all? A.—Yes. Q.—Did you keep a record of the donations? A.—I did not. Q.—Your only record was your memory? A.—Yes, I remembered the big ones, and I kept no record. I kept the money in my pocket. Q.—Did you keep any record or even a report of any kind to show the amount of the donations, either by items or totals? A.—I did not; it wasn't necessary.

What a bucolic condition of trustfulness unembarrassed by technical details! Cassidy had only to smite the rock of credit, as Webster said of Hamilton, and streams gushed forth abundantly. Nor did he have to bother about measuring the flow with any prosaic contraption like a water meter. The currency flowed in and flowed out, and the only record of high or low water was that lodged in the recesses of the boss's capacious memory. Asked why he took the risk of carrying thousands of dollars around with him in bills, he answered, "I was lonesome without a roll in my pocket."

Most bosses are lonesome under such circumstances, and the public is just beginning to devise ways and means to cure them of that lonesome feeling. No other testimony we know of puts into such condensed and vivid form as Cassidy's does the relations of the old style boss to the confiding and apathetic public on which he preys. Over in Queens everybody worked but Cassidy, and he "raked in the dough." The "roll" which he patting and displayed with such fondness was the outward and visible sign of his own prosperity and of the sheepishness of the people he sheared.

There are still many "Curly Joes" among us—some of them hungrier than Cassidy and less disposed than he to keep their appetites within bounds. The wise ones are getting ready to flee the wrath of the public which they have so long used as an "easy mark." If juries, courts and voters do their duty all of them will be reduced to that abject condition of "lonesomeness" which "Curly Joe" admitted he would sink into if deprived of his pre-primary "roll."

The Mayor's Division of Administration.

Mayor Mitchell's plan for a Division of Administration, to take over the work of the Commissioner of Accounts and combine with that the positive or creative task of building up and improving department work, is excellent. Something of the sort has long been needed in the city. Such a bureau would be, in effect, a clearing house for reforms and improvements, recognizing the good features in a well run department and extending them to the work of another where conditions were not so good.

The investigating done by the Commissioner of Accounts has been valuable. It has proved to be a necessary check on carelessness or wrongdoing and a means of acquiring information for officialdom and the public. There has been heretofore no agency for taking the results of department investigations and using them systematically for improvements. This would be done by the co-ordinating branch of the proposed new bureau, the constructive or efficiency department, as distinguished from the investigating end.

Through the aid of the two parts of the Division of Administration the Mayor would be kept in closer touch with the work of governing the city than he can be at present by department reports. There would be opportunity for harmony in that work through interchange of information and ideas. The entire city machine ought to run smoother and produce better results under such conditions. It is to be hoped the Legislature will recognize the worth of this plan and pass the necessary charter amendment to put it into operation.

Points To Be Cleared Up in the Monroe Disaster.

There are at least half a dozen circumstances of the Monroe disaster which call for searching inquiry. One is that vessels which should have passed each other on parallel lines came together at right angles. Was one of them out of her course? Another is the speed at which the Nantucket was apparently gone, judged by the effect of her impact upon the Monroe. Was it such a speed as caution should prescribe in a blinding fog? A third is that of the inefficiency of signals. Each vessel heard the fog horn of the other, yet they crashed together as though deaf and dumb as well as blind.

Most of all, perhaps, it will be interesting to know why the Monroe's watertight compartments did not keep her afloat at least until all could be rescued. She was a comparatively new ship, particularly staunch, divided by watertight bulkheads into compartments, half of which would be ample to keep her afloat if all the rest were flooded. The bow of the Nantucket could not have broken into more than two of the half dozen. Why did not the others keep her afloat? Could not the connecting doors be

closed? Rather, were they closed the moment the vessel entered the fog, as they are supposed to be?

It is gratifying to know that there was no panic; that there were some fine acts of individual heroism and that officers and crews of both vessels displayed energy and courage. But these things neither explain nor atone for the tragic disaster itself, and they leave a thoroughgoing investigation none the less necessary.

Curbing "Brain Storm" Murderers.

An excellent proposal is that made by the State Bar Association for the punishment of "insane" murderers who recover their reason. In that event they are to be treated like other convicted criminals, and sent to prison for the terms which their crimes merit. The Tribune has many times urged such a change in the law and is glad to see its arguments beginning to bear fruit.

Some tender hearted lawyers seemed to think that great hardship might be worked by such a procedure. But as the committee on the question declared in its report:

No injustice would be done to a sane man who, after committing murder, had by the aid of deluded or purchased experts and dishonest counsel persuaded a jury that he was insane. He deserves but escapes the full punishment demanded by the law. He cannot complain if the law takes him at his word and sends him to keep company with those who are really insane.

Later, if he establishes his sanity he certainly should not go free. He should receive the punishment which high priced experts and attorneys saved him from at his trial.

This wholesome reform would go far to discourage the joy-murderers and would certainly prevent a recurrence of the Thaw scandal and disgrace.

Benefit from the Police Bills Certain.

Mr. Gans's argument at the City Club's discussion of Mayor Mitchell's police reorganization bills, that it was unwise to give a good Commissioner these drastic powers because some day a bad Commissioner would be sure to have and misuse them, is too far-fetched to appeal to many people. There is a very apparent benefit to come from giving a good Commissioner power of dismissal without court review and trial power uncomplicated by a court's technicalities. Only a shortsighted or foolish person would sacrifice this benefit because of the odd chance that a bad Mayor would appoint a crooked Police Commissioner who would use the added power to make his men crooks.

It is an axiom of lawmakers that a new law should be tested by the extreme of what would be possible under it. Mr. Gans was applying that test. The application, however, showed the desirability of the changes proposed. Mr. Gans's own arguments in expounding this extreme of possibility showed that the percentage was against it. The public is not so in love with existing inefficiency and loose conditions on the police force that it is likely to hesitate in supporting the changes when their opponents admit the likelihood of distant evil under the new conditions is less than the chance for great and immediate good.

The Gun Fighter's Apprentices.

Vigorous prosecution of the police crusade against the gunmen and gangsters is having decidedly beneficial results. The police themselves aver that in the month since Waldo departed from Headquarters there has been a diminution of murders because of the new policy, while there certainly has been an increase in the number of suspicious characters arrested and the number of arrests made for violating the concealed weapons law and of convictions under it.

One of the curious by-products of this crusade is the discovery that the up-to-date gunman now has his weapon-bearer, like a feudal warrior. Sometimes this is his girl, who may conceal a pistol in her handbag, thus relieving him of the danger of being caught with it. But more frequently it is a boy, one of gangdom's apprentices, who is proud to be with a "bad man." If his chief falls into the toils of the police the boy may be able to sneak off in the confusion of the arrest; at the worst, it is almost impossible to connect him with the gunman in court, and the most youthful ruffian gets in a sentence for juvenile delinquency.

It is impossible, of course, for the police to meet wiles like these successfully every time, just as it is impossible for them to stamp out the thugery and organized crime of the gangs root and branch. Yet the success they have had in a comparatively short time because of an honest, affirmative policy on the part of Mayor Mitchell's administration is most encouraging. It bids the city hope that the easy life and sure profits of the gangman and gun fighter will soon cease to be the ideal of hundreds of half-grown boys.

Obstacles to the Naval Holiday.

Mr. Churchill in England and Mr. Daniels in America may be quite right in advocating suspension of naval construction for a year. There is no doubt that such a course would be a temporary relief to more than one Weary Titan. But there is one grave if not insuperable obstacle to it, the nature of which is suggested by Mr. Daniels himself in his remark that such a naval holiday could not be had without a combination of at least two of the world's greatest nations.

It may be said further that that combination must comprise Great Britain and Germany. For years their naval rivalry has set the pace for the rest of the world, and neither of them will abandon it unless the other does so. Mr. Churchill's proposal of a year's suspension was conditioned absolutely upon Germany's identical course. He would not slacken British naval work one iota unless Germany did the same, even though all other nations would suspend their work. Mr. Daniels, too, would not think of our taking a year off unless either or both of those powers did the same.

Now, Germany could not do this as readily as either of these other powers, even if she were inclined to do so, because her naval construction is based on a different system. Great Britain and the United States live from hand to mouth, deciding year by year how many ships they shall build, while Germany adopts a programme for a term of years. Either of these powers could secure a year's respite simply by omitting some year to provide for any new ships to be begun the next year, but Germany would have to repeal a law already enacted and cancel contracts already made, or else wait until the end of the term of years for which she had already provided. That is one strong reason why Germany has given so little attention to this well meant scheme.

Senator Quay once telegraphed to James A. Beaver, then a candidate for Governor in Pennsylvania, the famous message, "Don't talk." What would he have said if he had had a nominee on his hands like "Plain Bill" Sulzer?

The Conning Tower

GREAT THOUGHTS About Little Animals.

Little Thoughts About GREAT ANIMALS. BY WILL IRWIN. III. BLUE BIRD; JAY. The Blue Bird is not Blue a Bit, The Jay is not a Jay; Let Naturalists ponder it Before They Say me Nay!

To the reactionaries who say the magazines print nothing but fluff our advice is to read "The Confessions of a College Professor's Wife" in the Saturday Evening Post for January 24; "Advertising Honesty," by Arno Doseh, in the February "Pearson's"; and "The Street," by Simeon Strunsky in the February "Atlantic Monthly."

EAVESDROPPED.

STUFFY DAVIS: "I was over in Philadelphia one Sunday—"

HARRIS DICKSON: "How can you tell when it's Sunday in Philadelphia?"

The Hon., no matter what the voters say, Al Jennings writes from Oklahoma City that his campaign for the governorship is on in f. b. If Mr. Jennings fails of election, we nominate him for proxy of the Mixmet Society. "In entering the race," he asserts, "I'll burn all bridges behind me and it will be 'Lay on, MacDuff!'"

COMMERCIAL CANDOR.

The above Government Customs Stamp guarantees you that — Cigars are made of the same tobacco and workmanship as cigars imported from Cuba, 25% less in price.

Gotham Gleanings

*** Much colder is our forecast for to-day. *** Park Com'r. Ward drives everybody out of the park at 12 o'clock these eve'gs.

*** S. R. O. is the business the subway is playing to these days.

*** Alan Pollock the genial and gifted Thespian actor is back from Bermuda, the w. k. island.

*** Folks ask us will we say something about this or that, but unless things are interesting our answer is no.

*** Hewitt Howland of Indpls was here during the wk. and made quite an impression in certain M's. Ah there, Minnie!

*** Miss Elvira Duer the reigning society queen of upper St. Nicholas ave. is engaged to be married to somebody whose name we are as yet unable to ascertain.

*** Mrs. Channing Pollock wife of the playwright of that name has been poorly for a few days with the la grippe, but is better at this inscribing.

*** C. A. Briggs is being dinnared by his many Chgo friends to-night prior to his departure for Gotham, where he has accepted of a position with the Tribune of there to draw pictures.

*** Mrs. Stuyve Fish of here entertained quite many of the jeunesse doree and elite of our city Thurs. eve'g. A pleasant time is reported as having been had by all, and the hostess was voted a fine entertainer.

*** Gene Worden thought Charley Riegelman had given us that paper-cutter, on a c of we having no mention of it in last wk's issue, same being only an oversight, because he has not given it to us yet, only promised it. Leave my name out of the paper, Charley says, and we will after we thank him for that paper-cutter.

PROOFREADING MAKETH A FULL MAN.

The old champion looked like a youngster in action. His skin was clear and his mustache as limber as those of a youth.

Our diction is a bit harsh and Illinois, but we'd rather say "yearrrrs," as New Englanders tell us we do, than "yehs," after the manner of stage folk.

BUT OUR WIFE HAS NO SISTER.

Sir.—You might obtain some valuable hints from the achievements of the first colyum conductor, "Janus Weathercock," who contributed to "The London Magazine" charming little articles that were praised by Charles Lamb and other competent critics. His real name was Thomas Griffiths Wainwright. He poisoned his uncle, his wife's sister, and several other persons, and was deported for life to Tasmania, where he died in 1852.

A section of the pelt of the sheep that got his sidecombs entangled in the shrubbery and saved Jacob's young life from sacrifice.—From "The Adventures of a Chautauqua Lecturer," by Strickland Gillilan, in the Woman's World.

Let's see. That was just after Isaac sold his birthright to Ishmael, wasn't it?

SHOWED? SHOWED? WHADDYVE MEAN SHOWED?

Tango pedometers showing the mileage danced are now worn as garter ornaments at fashionable gatherings. Fourteen miles was the distance which one young woman's pedometer showed after a recent dance.

Motto for tangoists: Rags are royal music when danced for virtue's sake.

WHY SMITH GIRLS LEAVE HOME.

From the Smith College Weekly Bulletin. FEBRUARY 3—7:00—9:30. The Juniors are invited to the observatory to see the moon.

And yesterday, we glean from the same hebdomadal, at the college vesper service, Mr. Sleeper played the piano. He played "Du Bist die Ruh."

NO, BUT YOU MAY IF IT GIVES YOU PLEASURE. Sir: Would you say that a job in the Fed. is worth two in the bush? W. J. F.

Short Circuit Caused by Reading "Lines on the Receipt of a New Waste Basket."

Did you know when you welded that excellent verse '—

Would electrify someone to think That his copperplate effort at humor was first To connect with your basket of zinc?

A. R. F.

We were about to christen our new waste basket The Uneared Zincement, when along came W. H. S. with an idea.

He calls it a zinc of iniquity.

F. P. A.

THE LONESOMEST SORT OF A BOSS.



I was lonesome without a roll in my pocket.—Cassidy.

THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for Public Debate.

THE ORIGIN OF "DIXIE"

It Is Declared to Have Been First Sung at New Orleans in 1861.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: As at this time there seems to be considerable attention directed to "Dixie," and as you recently discussed it in your most popular and trustworthy daily, The Tribune, I herewith beg to submit the following, which I believe is a true account of its birth:

A professional company playing in New Orleans in the spring of 1861 decided to put on a spectacular piece, and as a matter of course in wartime it was decided to introduce in it a song that would fire the heart of the public.

The parts were all cast, the piece being "Pocahontas," by John Brougham, before the sought-for song was found. In the last act there was to be a "Zouave March." New Orleans, always French in its proclivities, being then wildly enthusiastic over its Zouave Volunteers (Confederate). The second night of the performance proceeded with the ordinary spirit until the march of the zouaves. This was led by a sprightly young woman, Susan Denin, who came on the stage at the head of the troops, singing, "I wish I was in Dixie, hooray! hooray!" Instantly there was a wild burst of applause from the audience. Seven encores were demanded and given for the march and song. From that moment "Dixie" was the popular war song of the South.

Believing this to be the only true version of the birth of this popular air and song, now North as well as South, it affords me pleasure to submit the same. NICHOLAS J. DEGRAFF. Late First Lieutenant Company D, 115th Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry. Amsterdam, N. Y., Jan. 30, 1914.

PANAMA CANAL TOLLS

The Exemption of Coastwise Vessels Is Defended as a Subsidy.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The strong protests made by foreign governments, especially Great Britain, against the provision of the Panama Canal law exempting American coastwise shipping from tolls are certainly convincing reasons for curbing the treaty-making craze of our Secretary of State.

If the Hay-Pauncefote treaty can be construed so as to give Turkey, for instance, an equal right in the canal with the country that financed, cut and completed this stupendous work, then John Hay was no match for the wily diplomatists of the Old World. Certain it is that what had at one time been called a great stroke of diplomacy has supplied England with a pretext to make preposterous claims in regard to the management of an American built canal through American territory.

The opposition to exempting American coastwise vessels from tolls comes with bad grace from nations which liberally subsidize their own merchant marine. Great Britain, the most pronounced objector to the free passage of American coastwise vessels, grants large subsidies to her own merchant shipping. The Cunard company is subsidized to the extent of about \$1,250,000 a year. For keeping the Mauretania and the Lusitania in readiness as auxiliary cruisers in case of war this company receives \$750,000 yearly. In 1905 the government loaned the Cunard company \$12,000,000 at the low rate of 2 1/2 per cent, and payable in twenty years. The contract also calls for a grant of \$30,000 a year to carry the mails from Liverpool and Queenstown to New York. Uncle Sam pays the Cunard company \$365,000 a year for carrying the east-bound mails to Great Britain and Ireland. It would be interesting if a total were made of the amount paid yearly by the United States Postoffice to foreign steamship companies. The protests of England and other

THE DEFENCELESS PEDESTRIAN

Let Him Go Armed with a Revolver to Deter the Reckless Chauffeur!

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I cordially agree with every word you utter in your editorial in to-day's issue regarding "automobile murderers." But I would go a step further. I am a tolerably decent, peaceable sort of man ordinarily, and hitherto have been a warm upholder of the Sullivan law, but I have changed my opinion on the subject. I believe now that the Sullivan law should be repealed so that citizens might have some chance to protect themselves against reckless and incompetent autoists and chauffeurs.

I think that every citizen should be permitted to carry a revolver that he could loosen up and have handy every time he crosses one of our streets. The driver of an automobile that races tooting through a thoroughfare and swings blindly around a corner would be far more careful if he knew that the individual he has scared and "shaved" has something in his hand even swifter than a car with which to retaliate. It is the defenceless condition and helplessness of pedestrians that tempt the cowardly chauffeur to murder.

If any man drove a galloping horse down the street he would be promptly stopped and arrested, yet the ordinary speed of an automobile, even under a sensible driver, is twice that of a galloping horse, yet no one interferes. Statistics show that there are annually more deaths and "accidents" of this nature in New York than there are in London, Berlin and Paris combined. Between street cars and autos this city has become a veritable slaughter house. That is a fine showing! Are we civilized men, or are we barbarians, without the gift of devising and enforcing suitable laws for the public safety? W. J. STOKES. New York, Jan. 30, 1914.

MINISTERS FOR SUFFRAGE

Professor Sedgwick Is Answered by an Array of Figures.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Professor William T. Sedgwick asks why the churches do not rise up to protect the country against the flood of immorality that would result from woman suffrage. Probably some of the pastors have noticed that all the vicious interests are fighting woman suffrage, and they do not care to range themselves in such company. Perhaps, also, some of them have heard from the ministers in the enfranchised states. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe a short time before her death sent a circular letter to all the ministers of four leading denominations in the four oldest suffrage states, asking them whether woman suffrage worked well or ill, and she published the results of her inquiry. She received 624 answers, of which 62 were unfavorable, 46 on the fence and 516 in favor. The replies from the Episcopal clergy were in favor more than two to one; from the Baptist ministers, seven to one; from the Congregationalist ministers, more than ten to one, and from the Presbyterian ministers more than eleven to one. These figures speak for themselves. ALICE STONE BLACKWELL. Dorchester, Mass., Jan. 30, 1914.

THE GANGSTERS

What the "Cat-o'-Nine-Tails" Accomplished in Liverpool.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The flagrant anomaly and preposterous outrage of the existence in such a city as this of the lawless, murderous gangs is, in my opinion, a matter which is squarely up to the magistrates and capable of a ready solution.

Some twenty years ago, when the writer lived in Liverpool, England, that famous seaport was terrorized by the activities of two rival gangs, the "High Rip" gang and the "Logwood" gang—consisting of brutal assaults (particularly on women) robberies with violence and murder.

Conditions went from bad to worse, until an old judge (Justice Day, if I remember rightly) came to try the calendar (the great Assizes, held, I think, twice a year, for the accumulation of the most serious cases, such as murder. When he looked at the calendar he was amazed at the large number of persons charged with serious violence, "assault with intent to kill," "robbery with violence," etc., and indignantly asked, "Where are the police?" To the old Spaniard's question the answer was given that the police had confessed their inability to suppress these gangs, and that there were certain streets down which even the police dare not go except in groups.

That night, accompanied by two picked detectives, the old hero visited the vilest, worst infested sections and saw the actual confessions with his own eyes. The next day, when the first British young rowdy was placed in the prison lock he had the usual sneering, callous look of defiance on his face, anticipating the usual sentence of a term of leisurely imprisonment, which meant just a period of welcome idleness, with food and shelter, all found without effort on his part. But he had an aroused, red-blooded Nemesis to face in the old judge, who asked what he had to say, after the crime had been proved.

The smile froze on his face when the fine old real representative of law and order informed him that mere imprisonment was no punishment for such as he and it was the intention of the court to stamp out once and for all time such gangs as he represented. He further said that the law coward who delighted in inflicting physical torture on women and other defenceless citizens were the first to shrink and "holer" at the approach of such an indictment on themselves.

The sentence was then pronounced of twenty-five lashes with the "cat-o'-nine-tails," five at a time, with intervening periods to recover. Immediately the miserable creature let out a scream and grovelled on the floor, yelling for mercy at the mere thought of the physical pain it was now to be his turn to endure, although he never winced at the infliction on others by himself.

Every one who came before the sturdy judge for a like offence received a similar sentence in varying degrees, and the scenes in the court are remembered to this day as an exhibition of the cowardice and white-livered character of men of that stripe. The gangs were stamped out from the day on, so far as my knowledge goes. Liverpool has never had any recrudescence of such pests.

This page of history is offered in the sincere hope that some magistrate might arise in our midst with the courage to defy whatever influences are engaged in protecting such a menace, and who might discover in the schedule of his powers some substitute for the "cat-o'-nine-tails" which would be, in some measure at least, as genuinely effective. CIVIC PHIDE. New York, Jan. 25, 1914.

ALWAYS POPULAR.

From The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. "An early spring," says "The Detroit Free Press," "is predicted." That is our prediction that never loses its charm for frost-bitten humanity, even though tails of fulfillment about three times as of four.