

## Topics of the Times

Another crisis is feared in Portugal. The young King insists on paying his father's debts.

A Pennsylvania girl recently coughed up a safety pin. They are the only kind that should be swallowed.

If making rubber from skimmed milk is a success, won't there be danger of the formation of a skimmed milk trust?

The present ruler of the district around Mount Ararat has ordered a motor boat. Graciously hasn't the flood dried up there yet?

In his latest description of the war between the United States and Japan, Captain Hobson generously refrains from getting us licked.

The saddest sight in a none too joyous world is to behold two "Merry Widows" trying to crowd under one umbrella and still call each other "dear."

A Chicago baby is to be rocked in a \$1,000 cradle. Still it may not grow to be more useful than some persons who were rocked in a sugar trough during their pinkhood.

Mrs. Ella Potter Stillman, who purchased at \$50 each thirty hats without wearing one of them, certainly showed fine discrimination when she chose a millionaire for a husband.

A Hungarian physician claims to have discovered that nearly all modern ailments are due to the habit of sitting. But that isn't going to worry the men who never get up and offer a woman a seat in a street car.

Having a keen recollection of his father, gay Paris looks upon the demure Prince of Wales as an impostor. The present prince is a young man of good habits, and he has had efficient training by a wise father who has seen "wilder" days.

From Peking comes the news that "Chinese rebels with French arms" are defeating the imperial troops. We know that graft was rampant among the Chinese officials, but grafting French arms upon Mongolian malcontents is remarkable even in these Burbankish days.

A young man has been expelled from the New York Produce Exchange because he advertised that he would guarantee profits of more than 50 per cent to people who would let him speculate with their money. Add another to the list of people who think it is a shame that they can't be "let alone."

The Japanese vessel which the Chinese seized off Macao a few weeks ago, because it had a cargo of rifles, was described in the dispatches as the "steamer Tatsu Maru." This was an error similar to "Yangtze-kiang river," "Kiang" means river in Chinese, "Maru" is Japanese for steamer, and is usually put after the name of steam vessels to distinguish them from sailing ships.

The possibilities of the matrimonial advertisement have been once more disclosed by the revelations made in the Laporte murder mystery. As an institution which thrives by defrauding of a few dollars the ignorant and weak intelligence it has been made especially familiar of late. But as an instrument of more serious criminal enterprise it still needs considerable advertisement. This it is now to receive to the full. Wherever in America people can read the story of Laporte will make its way. The remote mining camps in Alaska and the lumber camps in the Northern wilderness, the loneliest farms ranches of the far West, the plantations of the South and the most ignorant districts of the great cities will each in their due time be full of the wonder and ghoulish fascinations of this mystery. The name of Laporte will fix itself in the memory of at least a generation. This ought to breed some caution, for a while, at least, in the minds of the susceptible and gullible. The thought of the murderess spinning her wide web to catch victims by the familiar lines of the matrimonial advertisement is one to fix itself in the imagination of the dullest.

It happens to be true that there is a tendency in America to talk at such length about doing things quickly that much of the time which might be spent in getting the things done is spent instead in boasting about how quickly they are going to be done, says the London (England) Daily Mirror. It happens to be true, also, that while ordinary "slow and conservative" people are pushing steadily forward and reaching certainly, inch by inch, toward the end of their work, Americans will very likely be explaining loudly to everybody the advantages of some invention which does the work so badly and so quickly that it all has to be done over again. The speed of America is also very largely a matter of external appearances and of show. It is like the hurrying and scurrying of the mysterious waiters whom we have all of us seen racing about in crowded restaurants. They rush here, they rush there, these wonderful waiters; they knock over this table and upset that chair; they drop things, and fall and

stumble about. And meanwhile nobody gets served, nothing gets done, and the hungry guests "look up and are not fed." A little work, they think, would be better than so much hurry.

New York has been having an exhibition of nearly two hundred dolls, collected from all nations, and representing centuries of doll development. Dolls are in existence which date back to 4000 B. C. They were found in Egyptian graves, and are simply miniature mummies. But the oldest dolls of Mrs. Starr's unique collection are from Peking, and came from the palace of the Dowager Empress. Mrs. Starr has dolls representing Dutch fishwives, women from Lapland equipped with snowshoes, Indian soothsayers, Mexican runners, French lace-makers, and New England country girls of a century ago. One Egyptian doll was made entirely of mud, except its hair. Another was constructed of a bamboo stick, dressed in a single garment, and with a mass of long black hair. The pith of a tree was carved into a charming doll, and California seaweed was the material of another. A perplexed lady came to the teacher of her grandchildren with a weary plaint as to the indifference of the two little girls to the sound knowledge which interested their three brothers. "The boys love butterflies and stones and shells and plants, and will read every book I give them on natural science. They are eager to know about everything, from the stars in the sky to the weeds by the roadside. But Mary and Nolly—what do you suppose is their one enthusiasm?" she asked, dejectedly. "Dolls, I guess," said the wise teacher; "and a healthy passion it is, too. We won't interfere with the course of nature, dear Grandmother-of-boys-and-girls; for until the world turns the other way on its axis, and plants grow with their roots in the air and their blossoms in the ground, we may expect our girl babies to love dolls."

### LIVED AFTER HANGING.

Many instances of Resuscitation of Persons Who Have Been Executed. Innumerable instances of resuscitation after hanging are recorded, according to Tit-Bits. Henry III granted a pardon to a woman named Inetta de Balsam, who was suspended from 9 o'clock on a Monday to sunrise on Thursday and afterward "came to." Dr. Plot tells of a Swiss who was hung up thirteen times, without effect, on account of the peculiar condition of his windpipe, it having been converted into bone by disease.

Annie Green, a domestic, was hanged at Oxford in 1650 and recovered fourteen hours afterwards under a doctor's treatment. Mrs. Cope, who was hanged at the same place eight years later, also recovered. On September 2, 1724, Margaret Dickson was hanged at Edinburgh and recovered while being carried to the grave. She lived for many years afterward, and was universally known as "Half Hanged Maggy Dickson."

A housebreaker named Smith was hanged at Tyburn in 1705. A reprieve came when he had been suspended a quarter of an hour. He was cut down, bled and revived. William Duell, hanged in London in 1740, revived and was transported. A man hanged in Cork in 1765 was taken in hand by a physician, who brought him around in six hours, and we are told the fellow had the nerve to attend a theatrical performance the same evening.

Richard Johnson, hanged at Shrewsbury on October 3, 1696, obtained a promise from the undersheriff to place him in the coffin without changing his clothes. After hanging half an hour he still showed signs of life, and on examination it was found he had wrapped cords about his body connected with hooks at the neck, which prevented the rope from doing its work. The apparatus was removed and the man hanged effectively.

It may be offered in explanation of the cases mentioned that there was no drop used at executions in those days.

### Don't Fold Your Arms.

By folding your arms you pull the shoulders forward, flatten the chest and impair deep breathing, says the Family Doctor. Folding the arms across the chest so flattens it down that it requires a conscious effort to keep the chest in what should be its natural condition. As soon as you forget yourself, down drops the chest.

We cannot see ourselves as others see us. If we could, many of us would be ashamed of our shapes. The position you hold your body in most of the time soon becomes its natural position. Continuously folding your arms across the chest will develop a flat chest and a rounded back.

Here are four other hints which should be made habits: Keep the back of the neck close to the back of the collar at all possible times. Always carry the chest farther to the front than any other part of the anterior body. Draw the abdomen in and up a hundred times each day. Take a dozen deep, slow breaths a dozen times each day.

### The Main Trouble.

Wise—Oh, give us a rest for awhile, won't you? Doubtless—Well, every fellow has a right to his opinion, and—Wise—Yes, but the trouble is that he can't be made to realize that there may be a wrong to it.—Indianapolis News.

They always speak of love's young dream, because it so rarely lives to be old.

The theatrical manager has a poor show if it isn't a good one.

# PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

## THE YOUNG MAN IN PUBLIC LIFE.

By United States Senator Albert J. Beveridge.



A. J. BEVERIDGE.

The man who stopped thinking decades ago and who therefore believes that all questions are spurious except those about which he was thinking in his prime, but which have been settled long ago, cannot even grasp the meaning of public life to-day. Indeed, the latter is a real obstacle to the solving of our present-day problems.

Such a man forgets that every year a full million young men and young women come of age, whose minds, fresh and strong, are thinking new thoughts to-day, just as his now obsolete mind thought fresh thoughts in his day.

Such a public man does not understand that the constantly renewed intellect of the nation is yearning with new ideas, born of new conditions; and so he thinks that all new questions are really no questions at all, and would dismiss them altogether if he could. Public men must take their stand on public questions while those questions are up for decision, not after they are decided.

The public man who has no views is more dangerous than the demagogue. The man who utters pleasing generalities instead of taking definite positions on public questions is either a coward or a deceiver of the people, and usually he is both. Never in history was there such a day for young men in public life as that which has now dawned. There is so much more to be done than there ever was before, so many more hands needed for that work than ever before—clean hands, strong hands, trained hands. American public life is crying aloud for men who are honest, industrious and equipped.

## SANITY BEFORE PROSPERITY.

By Ex-Gov. Black of New York.



This is a splendid country. Not one in history has equaled it in its past achievements or in the glory of its future promise. But it must turn in its headlong pace and regather its scattered senses if it would realize the wonderful future which its past accomplishments foretell.

Government is a system which must be carefully thought out, and the results even of that deliberation must be cautiously applied. That is the plan which has built up on this continent a government which we believe is better than any other in the world. We should not change it now except after long and careful consideration.

Foundations securely laid should not be uprooted in excitement. Plans conceived in the study should not be overruled in the stable. The best is none too good for

the citizens of the town assembled in front of the calaboose, as the Town Hall was called. They had to go early because the band practice always drew a lot of farmer boys in town, and the few seats in the council room were at a premium.

"Along about 8 o'clock the band would also begin to congregate, and shortly afterward each man would try out his instrument. When the leather-jungled tuba player entered into the contest with the snare drummer which could make the most impression on the community and a few others players joined in by running the scale, usually in a far from perfect manner, the harmony wasn't any better than some of Wagner's effects.

"It never feazed the citizens assembled inside and outside the calaboose, though, and when the rehearsal finally



THE VILLAGE BAND.

pleasures of seeing the 3:40 go through, but a little confidential chat on the joys of the band practice. I figure that I am qualified to speak on the subject, not only because my father was leader of the band and the only man in town who could solve the mysteries of an E flat cornet, but also because I qualified as a member of the band myself, having with some difficulty mastered the alto horn.

"I had a uniform with just as much gold braid on it as father's had, and when the Jonesville Cornet Band went over to the county seat to play at the Fourth of July celebration I walked at the head of the parade and was the envy of all the small boys of my size in the place.

"I said the band practiced in the village council room. That shows how important the band appeared in the eyes of the village.

"The council room had two cells at one end, that were never used except the time when fifteen tramps were rounded up in the neighborhood following the robbing of a clothing store in a nearby town. The band instruments could, accordingly, be left in the cells with perfect safety, where they shared quarters with the polling booths.

"When Thursday night rolled around

us, and the best never was and never will be devised by those who do not think. Same methods should never be abandoned, no matter how quaint they are. They have stood for many years, and under them the enduring things of the world have been accomplished.

By methods sometimes thought too slow our forefathers carved out results which stand as landmarks in the progress of the race. They were not always swift, but they intended always to be right. Their judgment and example should not be forgotten now. We should remember that the conspicuous is not always great; that high places do not always make great men; the sound of water does not always mean the ocean, and the landscape may be painted on a husk.

I entertain the firm belief that the problems which now dishearten us will be decided right. Political questions may sometimes go by unheeded, but the problems now confronting us involve the elements of honesty and fair play. These are moral questions, to be decided by conscience and education. These two together are not likely to go astray.

## REINCARNATION—ITS MEANING AND PROOFS.

By Annie Besant.



To many people the round of reincarnation carries with it an ideal alien, almost grotesque. Even men who in their youth studied "the humanities" and were familiar with the many allusions to it in Greek and Roman authors, never regarded as serious the belief on which the greatest classical authors based their views of life and framed their canons of morality. However deep their reverence for the master minds of antiquity, this universal belief has been waved aside as a pagan superstition. Reincarnation is found to be interwoven with the texture of all schools of philosophy and all systems of religion. It is imbedded in every scripture and forms the corner stone of common daily life. In India now, as in the elder days, every peasant recognizes as an unquestionable fact that he has been many times reborn on earth, and prepares himself for a coming rebirth; rebirth is an active factor in his daily life.

When once we realize the grandiose scheme of human evolution, then we see that what we call sin is only ignorance, lack of experience, youth of the unfolding life. There is no height of splendor into which man may not grow, for he truly is God incarnate upon earth, and the Christs of the race are but the fair first fruits of the universal human harvest which the future shall disclose. Power of brain, strength of will, deftness of finger, nobility of character—they are all of our own weaving; we make the garments that we wear. Not one of the miserable wails of our foulest slums but shall, by repeated births, rise to perfect manhood, to manifested divinity. Such is the promise contained in the word reincarnation.

## CHARACTER IN WALKING.

Traits Which are Readily Disclosed by One's Gait.

"There's a conceited man coming down the streets," said the girl in the group on a corner. "How do I know?" By his walk. I can tell the chief trait of any person's character by watching him or her walk. For instance, if a man walks with a heavy lift to his hips he's sure to be obstinate. If he sinks down a little on his heels he has a comfortable attitude toward wife and the world in general—in fact, he's a bit lazy. That woman coming down the street now is a gossip. Any one could tell that because of her mincing, fussy gait. Indecision is the chief characteristic of that woman's character across the street. Don't you see how she swings her foot rather hesitatingly in the air before she puts it down?

"The man who walks with his knees leading is sure to be of the pious type—the disagreeably pious type, I mean. You see that old codger who is crossing the road with his stomach seeming to lead the rest of him—well, of course it is evident that feeding is his chief delight. When an intelligent man walks his head leads. That girl who sways so is self-conscious. Yes, that girl going down the street has a pretty walk, gliding and quiet, but watch out for her; she is treacherous in the extreme.

"The man who puts his feet down especially solidly is heavy and somewhat stupid. That little person crossing the road with a quick, clean step is energy personified, but he has the sort of energy which has no regard for the rights or feelings of others. The girl coming out of that store has an ugly streak in her nature. Don't you see how she puts her foot down unwillingly as if she were saying: 'I won't! I won't!' I shouldn't advise any man to marry her.

"Of course I don't pretend to know thoroughly a person's character by his walk, but I do discover his predominant characteristic."

### Creative.

A certain man coming from abroad was taken up by the smart set. "We'll make a lion of him," quoth they, "for the distinction he will there upon reflect upon us."

But the man was too little. It takes much material to make a lion.

"Then we'll make a monkey of him," said the smart set, determined to have some exercise for their creative genius. Nor was the world the worse off. For, after all, it is the contribution to the gaiety of nations that is especially needed.—Puck.

### Painfully Natural.

Playwright—Is her acting natural? Manager (enthusiastically)—Natural! Why, when she appeared as the dying mother last night an insurance agent who has her life insured for \$25,000 and who was in the audience actually fainted.—London Tit-Bits.

After praying for what you want get busy and do a little hustling.

## FINDS AN AMERICAN TYPE.

British Paper Praises It, as Shown in Football and Baseball Cuts.

The existence of an American type is denied by R. G. Lindsay of the British embassy at Washington in a recent report on alien immigration into the United States, published as a Blue Book by the British government. Mr. Lindsay, who characterizes the peopling of this country by immigration as "one of the most remarkable movements of population to be met with in history," says on this point:

"It must take many generations before Americans are physiologically differentiated from Europeans as much, for example, as the French are from the Germans. There is no such thing as an American type, and even if in the towns of Europe it is possible to point out a tourist as an American recognition is effected by mere outward marks, such as the style of dress."

With this opinion the British Medical Journal announces disagreement, which it sets forth in terms complimentary to the physical development of Americans. Says this paper:

"In illustration we would draw Mr. Lindsay's attention to the photographs of college football and baseball teams in many of the American magazines, which exhibit a well-marked and, it may be added, a fine type. What has become of the conventional Uncle Sam, the long, loose-limbed creature of Punch cartoons, we know not. The American of to-day presents a firm, square jaw, broad brow and clear, keen eye, which together usually render recognition of his nationality a matter of no great difficulty."

## QUEER STORIES

Coal keeps best under sea water.

The criminal class of London number 700,000.

The painting of the Forth bridge costs \$10,000.

Influenza, like cholera, always travels from east to west.

The sperm whale can stay under water for twenty minutes.

A mole eats as many as 20,000 earth-worms in the course of a year.

In Saxony practically all of the live stock is stall-fed 300 days of the year, and the largest portion of the full 365 days.

St. Petersburg authorities have issued an order forbidding the students of the cadet corps to read "Sherlock Holmes" and other stories of a similar character.

Orsa, in Sweden, has in the course of a generation, sold \$5,550,000 worth of trees, and by means of judicious replanting has provided for a similar income every thirty or forty years. There are no taxes. Railways and telephones are free, and so are the schoolhouses, teaching and many other things.

The French government has purchased two bronze busts exhibited in this year's salon by Andrew O'Connor, of Massachusetts. One is a portrait of Robert Newman, and the other the head of an exquisite Italian girl. Mr. O'Connor last year obtained the medal of the second class by the salon judges.

According to Edwin Warfield, lately Governor of Maryland, there's a difference between ex-Governors and former Governors. An ex-Governor is he who went after the office again and didn't get it. A former Governor is he who didn't seek re-election and returned to everyday life. "And I am a former Governor," added Mr. Warfield, in a recent interview in Milwaukee.

The English and American mile is 1,760 yards, or 5,280 feet. In France, Holland and Belgium it is 1,000 meters, or 1,094 yards. In Spain it is 1,522 yards; in Russia, 1,167 yards; in China, 609 yards; in Norway and Sweden, 11,690 yards; in Germany it equals three English miles; in Italy, 2,025 yards; in Portugal, 2,250 yards; in Austria, 8,267 yards, and in Denmark, 8,238 yards.

### The Frugal Japanese.

A college professor who had spent four years at Yale and two in Berlin acquiring his foreign education, lives with his wife at Kyoto, a city, in a rented house, having a little garden, at a total cost of 405 yen a year, or about \$233. This is divided as follows: Rent, \$120; house tax, \$5; servant's wages, \$15; fuel, \$13; light, \$5; clothes, \$25, and food, \$50. His salary is \$400, and he is applying \$100 a year to the debt he incurred to obtain his education. A people who can conquer domestic problems as do the Japanese find no terrors in the economic burden of a war debt.—Boston Globe.

### Time Saved.

"Does your husband spend as much time as formerly at the racetrack?" "Not nearly as much," answered young Mrs. Torkins. "He has a new system and nearly always goes broke on the first or second race."—Washington Star.

Bolt down almost any man's prayers in five words, and you will find them to be: "Reward me. Punish my enemy."

A girl enjoys picking her way daintily over a muddy crossing just as much as her brother enjoys splashing through.