TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

"How can snoring be cured?" asks a contemporary. Laudanum.

A man's ingenuity doesn't get him out of half the trouble it gets him into.

If we would see ourselves as others see us all oculists would have to work overtime.

It is said that the czar is afflicted with the blues; perhaps through fear of the Reds.

The bank at Monte Carlo serves to show that a fool continues to be born every minute.

Even in the international perspective the slouch hat has become greater than the crowned head.

The success of a book agent proves that the truth isn't so mighty and doesn't always prevail.

All the foreign nations are cuddling up to us. That is all right. We are friendly with all but not too thick with

The average woman's husband seldom comes up to her ideal; the ideal in most cases has to come down to the busband.

Doctor Nichol's list shows in several places that if one can't buy his way into the "real smart set" he may still marry into it.

Now we know why the Sultan of Turkey is behind in his running expenses. He has been investing in a diamond-studded automobile.

Cuba starts into self-government with the comforting knowledge that there is a soft place to fall if the experiment proves unsatisfactory.

Mrs. Astor is generally looked upon as the supreme leader in American society. But she isn't happy. She's a grandmother, and all the world knows

Bachelors need not point with pride

to one of their number who died at

the age of 102. He might have lived a year longer had he been a married man. It is announced now that the Kaiser would like to come to the United States.

and that he can't come now, and that he may come later. Welcome, any time, Great men often boast of the time

when they worked for 20 cents a day and their board, but no woman who is up ever refers to the time when she was

The Chicago Daily News says there are 130,000 people on the earth who do not know what soap is. There are hundreds of small boys on whom the knowledge has to be forced.

The young man's life was saved by a package of love letters which he carried in his pocket. The bullet which was intended for him struck the letters, melted, and dropped harmlessly into his left shoe.

A French 'nventor has produced a new voting machine which is said to secure secrecy and accuracy. It may be that in time enough safeguards can be thrown around the ballot to keep human nature absolutely honest. But it is doubtful.

The gifts made during 1901 to about one hundred and fifty institutions of learning in this country aggregated more than eighty-one million dollars. It is a vast, impressive sum-less, to be sure, than the value of our corn or wheat or cotton production, but likely to raise an even more valuable crop.

Although the neck of land which connects North and South America is far from being a desirable place of residence, politically it is one of the most important morsels of territory on the globe. Next to being the first to climb the North Pole, Uncle Samuel craves no greater boon than to build and manage an isthmian canal, be it called Panama or Nicaragua.

Judge Taft's recent report will go a long way toward settling the question as to whether or not the climate of the Philippines is healthy. He says that for a tropical climate it is. The presence of lepers, the appearance of bubonic plague in Manila and some other places, and the fact that smallpox prevails in some of the provinces he admits; but careful medical inspection and stringent sanitary measures are reducing all these dangers. The large number of cases of insanity among American soldiers, which has been reported in the papers, Judge Taft says frankly is in no way the fault of the climate, but is due solely to the drinking of vino, a native liquor which often contains as much as seventeen per cent of fusil oil. The use of this drink has now been prohibited.

Municipal mismanagement seems to reach a climax when political considerations dictate appointments to offices requiring technical skill, those of city engineers and electricians, for instance. A change in political control in a certain large city recently brought about the removal of an expert from the position he had long and efficiently held. So far the spoilsmen had their will; but at last accounts the new boss had | Floating Island.

not been able to find in his own faction a man who dared to take the place. If such an incident ended by leaving an important bureau without a head, the situation would be bad enough; but there is always the greater danger that an incompetent person will be appointed, and that the technical service of the city will become merely one of the cogs REST BRANDS OF WINES in the political machine. Yet surely it AND LIQUORS..... in the political machine. Yet surely it ought to be clear to the most hardened partisan that there is "no politics in science," and that ability should be the only test for appointment to and continuance in positions that call for special training.

What the "rules of the game" are to sports and pastimes, the "rules of pro-cedure," or of parliamentary practice, cedure," or of parliamentary practice, are to the deliberations of a legislative body. In any kind of contest strength and zeal may go down in defeat before superior skill in taking advantage of the rules. It often happens in the fierce political encounters in Congress, A deliberative body must have rules, even though in operation they sometimes seem to defeat the ends of legislation. The study always is to formulate such codes of parliamentary law as will be most nearly perfect in their application. The House of Representatives at the beginning of a new Congress frequently has a vigorous discussion of the rules. This year there was an attempt in the caucus of Republican members to secure certain modifications of the old code, which was defeated. Then the Democrats tried on the floor to accomplish the same result, but without success. The old code stands. Upon the rules of any deliberative body depends the power of the minority party, and especially the opportunity of the individual member of either majority or minority. In the House the membership is so large that little power of initiative is left to the individual member; the leaders of the majority party, whichever it happens to be, hold the conduct of affairs in a firm grasp. The Senate, being a smaller body, allows unlimited debate; minority members are thus able sometimes to accomplish by indirection what they could not do on a square vote. Both elements are needed in lawmakingthe firm hand of the majority, and deference to individual rights. Inasmuch as every measure must pass both houses of Congress, a fair balance usually results.

the people of this great nation, it is well to look at other statistics and realize what a momentous problem confronts this country. Suicide is increas ing. A total of 7,245 persons killed themselves in the year recently closed. The figures are as near official as it is possible to make them. Of this total 5,850 were males and 1,395 females. The causes are well worth studying. Despondency leads the list with 2,980 victims. Despondency, in many cases, is the penalty of ambition, and is a pecies of insanity. It is clated with the growing business of commercial nation. It touches the lives of the men who would be rich and powerful and live at a rate of a mile a minute. They neither eat, work nor sleep properly. They burn the candle at both ends. Every year they want to do more than they did last year. Many can stand the pace for a considerable length of time. Others can't, They worry, they brood, and then they join the "despondency list." Because of domestic infelicity there were 541 sulcides. Liquor drove 439 to self-inflicted deaths; business losses, 67; disappointed love, 283; ill health, 618; insanity, 674; unknown, 1,643. Mob law is always bad law, and mob law is increasing. In 1901 there were 118 legal exe cutions, 135 lynchings and 7,852 murders in the United States. Those are bad figures. They show how much of barbarism there is in mankind. The excuse of the average mob for murdering a murderer is that it desires to make justice speedy and sure. It refuses to trust to the courts, with their technicalities and delays. It acts while passion is hot and tumultuous, while the desire for revenge still fills human hearts. The remedies are education and courts that, by their conduct, are a guarantee of integrity. When the people know that justice is sure and certain, surely the infliction of the death penalty will be left to the law. Selfrestraint and slowness to anger should be taught in every school in the land. It is a doctrine that should be instilled in childish minds. If the feeling that makes men stain their hands with blood is to be educated out of human beings, it will have to start with the children, and be so thoroughly im-

A Test.

a part of their lives.

pressed upon them that it will become

"Yes," said the grizzled bachelor, "he is married. I don't remember her name, and it doesn't matter much, but she's got such a temper that when he comes home a little later than common he softly opens the door and flings his hat inside. If it doesn't come flying out in three minutes he goes in; if it does, he slips off downtown and stays all night. It costs him something extra for hats, but saves considerable wear and tear of his feelings. Oh, yes. he is married!"-Philadelphia North American.

Turkish Language.

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