

Topics of the Times

Lots of men would rather hold a political job than make a living.

If you would be light-hearted, quit looking on the dark side of everything.

Poor Mrs. Sage! The "burden of riches" in her case will be found to be severe.

People could always dodge an automobile successfully if the tax assessor was the chauffeur.

The French grocer whose bride ran away with the best man at the wedding found sand in his sugar.

Nothing makes a man feel more important than his ability to answer the questions of a small boy.

Parisians are getting wise to the poison in the local food supply. It is no longer a case of Paris green.

There is no telling but that the King and the Kaiser put a bug in each other's ear during their kissing bee.

The Worcester Telegram has adopted the reformed spelling. This will necessitate a new Worcester's dictionary.

A scientist has discovered over 200,000 germs on a \$10 bill, yet there are rash people who are willing to take the risk.

A twelve-story apartment is to be built for New York bachelors. Won't somebody please do something for the grass widowers?

Mrs. Link is suing for divorce on the ground of desertion, and the court can now prepare to hear a few things about the missing Link.

At the age of 17 a Kentucky girl has been married three times and twice divorced. If she started after the record, her chance looks good.

Mexican residents of Arizona are in favor of Joint Statehood, which partly accounts for the circumstance that American residents are not.

The whooping cough germ has been found. It took science a long while to locate a microbe which has never ceased to call vociferous attention to its whereabouts.

Another sign that the cause of universal peace is making progress may be found in the fact that several thousand additional men have been put to work at the Krupp gun works.

A man who has a mania for pinching women has been arrested in New York. Why keep the poor fellow in jail? It would doubtless be safe to put him in a strait-jacket and set him free.

China is to have a constitution, but the Empress Dowager recommends that it be adopted gradually. The Emperor himself probably thinks a constitution is some kind of an arrangement for fastening up the queue.

The German Emperor is quoted as saying that any youth of twenty without knowledge or education could go to any newspaper office in the world, and, taking a position on its staff, write articles which would create sensations. The same youth would probably create a sensation as an emperor.

There were fewer commercial failures in the United States in July of this year than in any month of July in fourteen years—only 738 in the whole country. Business casualties are at their minimum. Great sinners some of our money makers have been, but the public conscience is sound and the Lord seems to be with us yet. On with the harvest and the dance, with shouting and the sound of trumpets!

From Lake Winnipeg southeasterly to the ocean by water is among the possibilities of the future. A route for a canal to connect the lake with Lake Huron has already been surveyed, and the owner of an extensive system of western roads says that the canal will soon be dug. What a magnificent trip for a man in a motor boat that would make, to say nothing of a cargo of wheat to the Gulf of St. Lawrence from the heart of the Canadian Northwest!

It is a maxim of some sea captains that it is better for sailors not to know how to swim. They will take fewer chances if they know that they will be helpless in the water. The authorities of Amherst college have a different belief as to the desirability of knowing how to swim. They have made swimming one of the compulsory studies at Amherst. This college was the first to establish compulsory gymnasium work, and all other colleges in this country now require that. Will swimming also become the rule in the colleges? The theory that men will avoid danger of drowning if they do not know how to swim does not seem to be supported by the facts. Only a small proportion of 800 deaths from drowning the past summer were due to foolhardiness of swimmers. Waders and bathers getting beyond their depth, people who rocked the boat or were caught in storms, fishermen who fell in, all together make up a long roll of persons who might have saved their lives by a knowledge of swimming. The advantages of swimming as an exercise are well known.

The sport in moderation is one of the best of all methods of securing a symmetrical development of the whole body with the loss of superfluous adipose tissue. The attraction of the water is so strongly felt by most people that it is one of the arguments advanced by certain scientists for the belief that the original home of all forms of life, including the human race, was in the sea. When a man is reveling in the sensation of being rocked by the waves he is satisfying an instinct inherited from ancestors who a few million years ago lived in warm, shallow seas. However, it is not necessary to go back so far as that. There are reasons enough for liking the water in summer time without seeking an explanation in atavistic tendencies.

Prof. L. H. Bailey, of the Agricultural College of Cornell University, has asked a hundred and fifty students who were bred on the farm and do not intend to return why they seek occupation elsewhere. He has also asked seventy town-bred students who intend to be farmers, and two hundred farm-bred students who intend to return, why they choose farm life. The investigation is not intended to show anything about the total migration from town to country and from country to town. The conclusion which can safely be drawn is that the argument in conviction, weight and nobility of ideals is with those who are going to be farmers. The replies of the students, some of which Prof. Bailey quotes in the Century Magazine, are marked by a fine sense of what is worth while in life—closeness to nature, independence and healthful physical labor. The alleged social advantages desired by young men seeking the city are seen, by these other young men who have tried them, to be perhaps less helpful in the development of character than the simple relations of the farmer with his few neighbors. Very few of the young men who plan to be farmers say much about making money, whereas 40 per cent of those who seek the city give the money consideration as a principal reason. Those who like the farm maintain that there is a competence for the good farmer, but they seek other things than large incomes. "I am impressed in these replies," says Prof. Bailey, "with the recurrence of such ideals as love of the work that one is doing, education, study, personal influence, happiness, service, home. With these young men their business is to be an affair of the heart. We hear much about the greed of money and power and the great dangers that threaten our runaway society; but I wonder whether in the end the countryman will not still have hold of at least one of the reins."



Dizziness, or vertigo—scientific writers sometimes try to distinguish in sense between these two words, but practically, in popular usage, they mean the same thing—is a disturbance of relation to the outside world, a loss of the sense of equilibrium. There is more or less inability to walk straight, or even to stand still, and often there is nausea followed by vomiting.

Vertigo is due to a disturbance, either actual or reflex, of the nervous "center of equilibrium" in the back part of the brain, or in the semi-circular canals in the ear, in which the terminations of the nerves coming from the center of equilibrium are distributed. For the most part, vertigo is a reflex trouble due to some impression which gets shunted off its own route, as it were, through nerve fibers connecting with the equilibrium center, and acts upon the semi-circular canals of the ear. Thus it is that dizziness is a comparatively trivial affection, as a rule—disagreeable enough, but brief and of no great significance except as a symptom of trouble elsewhere in the body.

Persistently recurring, transient dizziness is often due to eye strain, that is to say, to errors in the formation of the eye not corrected by proper glasses. Wearers of spectacles can frequently tell when a change in the eyes has occurred, necessitating a corresponding change in the glasses, by the coming back of these attacks of giddiness, especially when the gaze is suddenly moved from a near object to a remote one or the reverse.

Vertigo is a common symptom of disorders of digestion seated either in the stomach or the intestine. The treatment for this form is, of course, to treat the indigestion or constipation.

Another more serious variety of dizziness depends upon disease of the heart or of the blood vessels, especially those of the brain.

Any disease of the ear is apt to be associated with more or less vertigo. The same is true of tumor or other disease of the brain, especially of the cerebellum—that part of the brain in which the center of equilibrium is situated.

The dizziness of seasickness, as well as that of swinging or of rapidly turning about, is thought to be caused by an irritation of the nerves in the semi-circular canals by the striking against them of the fluid in these canals.—Youth's Companion.

To a good Christian, dying should be fun.

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