

TOPICS OF THE TIMES

It is unfortunate that the Ohio River has no Salton Sink to spill over into about once a year.

Everybody knows how to be good, but a large number of people are unable to see that it pays.

Is the boy of 19 who thinks he knows more than his father ever can hope to know a victim of adolescent insanity?

When a woman will travel 10,000 or 15,000 miles to marry or to fight a divorce the matrimonial institution is far from desuetude.

A hen pecked a Manitoba man in the face, and he is dying of blood poisoning. Most henpecked men get it in the neck and survive.

The late Stanford White's signature, which has been reproduced recently, looks like a gooseberry bush that has been struck by lightning.

One of the queerest things about a woman is the way she thinks you couldn't help liking certain things she cooks if you really loved her.

A Western undertaker advertises cut rates in coffins and concludes with the cheerful advice: "Now is the time to die." Isn't this humor just killing?

If those scientific persons can't agree what kind of fruit was Eve gave Adam, would they consider a suggestion that it might have been a Ben Davis apple?

The Bishop of London says married men are braver than bachelors. Of course they are. There wouldn't be any bachelors if every man had a proper amount of grit.

A New Haven (Conn.) robber has stolen the original manuscripts of sixty of the most famous operas and songs. Some one must be preparing to write a new musical comedy.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts is said to have been the greatest philanthropist the world has ever known. Wait, however, till Hilly Green gets ready to give away money. Then we shall see some record breaking.

Emperor William rode in an automobile through the streets of Berlin, the other day, permitting people to rush up from all sides and shake his hand. The Czar will regard this as an exaggerated case of reckless driving.

Sir Oliver Lodge says the human race is still in its infancy. He must then regard the digging of the Panama Canal, the settlement of the Chicago traction question and the merging of the railroads under the control of Mr. Harriman as mere child's play.

An English critic takes Longfellow to task for advising us to leave footprints on the sands of time. "Sands of time," says the critic, "are there in an hour glass, and it would not be reasonable to expect us to leave our footprints there." Perhaps Longfellow was thinking of them before they were gathered up and put in the glass. A poet has the right to see his sands first.

Not long ago in one of our medical societies a distinguished bacteriologist gave a learned dissertation on the simple and homely topic—dust. He maintained that the ordinary housewife did not understand how to dust her rooms properly. She merely scattered it with the feather duster, but did not remove it. It was simply stirred for the time being only, in due time to settle in another place. In some of our larger hospitals this difficulty is obviated by dampened cloths and brooms, which take up the dust directly and prevent it being scattered. It may be well to bear in mind that in one of the test wards where the dampened process was thoroughly tried the patients never suffered from "colds" and were free from all other catarrhal affections, even in the most inclement seasons.

An illustration of the broad-minded view which scientific men take of their duties toward the public is afforded by the action of Dr. M. Dorset of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture. Dr. Dorset has obtained a patent for a process of protecting swine from hog cholera; but instead of trying to make money from the patent, he has given it to the United States government. The money value of hogs which die annually from cholera is estimated at fifteen million dollars. Any cure, therefore, is of great importance. The method used heretofore has been the injection of the cholera virus, but about twenty per cent of the treated animals have died. The new method is the injection of serum from the blood of an immune hog which has been made immune by treatment with the serum of hogs afflicted with the disease. It is a preventive rather than a curative measure. The invention may be used by any citizen of the United States without payment of royalty. The reason for patenting it is that in that way it becomes possible to prevent greedy individuals or firms from exacting a price for the use of it.

A change has come over country life and over the attitude toward rural education. State school superintendents consider it their duty to minister to the

welfare and progress of rural schools, state legislatures are providing special normal schools for country teachers, old normal schools are offering courses in country life subjects; state agricultural colleges are adding normal schools by short courses for teachers and experts are preparing text-books, bulletins and reading matter on nature study and agriculture; teachers' associations and farmers' organizations discuss these matters and school journals and agricultural papers are almost unanimous in support of the movement for better rural schools and more instruction related to their environment. Secretary Wilson is enthusiastic over a solution of how to keep the boy on the farm. His proposal is to give better training in agriculture, which brings with it love of country life. He proposes the agricultural high school as a preliminary to the agricultural college. Economic forces are already encouraging life on the farm. Its product sells at good figures and isolation is giving way under the rural free delivery of mail, the rural telephone and better roads, while large areas have been brought into touch with the world by the trolley. Increasing interest of the city people, absorbing as they have the abandoned farms, is having a wholesome effect upon residents of the rural districts.

Thomas Jefferson never spoke a truer word than that the art of government consists in being honest. If one gives a little thought to the subject he will be surprised to discover that nearly all failures in government can be traced to dishonesty of one kind or another. Either the politicians seeking office have not been honest with the people in appealing for votes, or the men in office have sought their personal profit rather than the general good. The recent indictments of public officers in different parts of the country have called renewed attention to the evils that follow betrayal of trust. Men have used their official influence for their private gain. They have regarded the power put in their hands not as a trust to be administered for the good of all, but as an opportunity to enrich themselves, or to advance their political fortunes at the expense of the public. This sort of conduct is what John C. Calhoun once called an attack on the "very essence of a free government." One of the gravest evils of the present time lies in the general glorification of financial success. There are many who admire the "smart" man who carries through what he undertakes, and they do not care whether his methods are honorable or not. The man who enters upon office poor and leaves it rich is envied by these persons. They applaud his ability, and forget the moral shipwreck that he has made of his life. They forget that in the long run a man reaps what he sows; that unfaithfulness in early life means contempt in old age. What more pathetic and moving sight is there than a gray head, once honored, bowed in disgrace over the disclosure of a life of indifference to the finer moral standards? The great mass of the people are honest; they abhor fraud and deceit; but they have great patience with the vagaries of any public servant in whose honesty of purpose they have confidence. The unfaithful servant may prosper for a while, but the day of reckoning surely comes.

LEADS AS A PAPER MAKER.
This Country the Greatest Producer, with Germany Following.
Consul William C. Teichmann, of Elbenstock, advises that the Revue Scientifique recently discussed the consumption of paper by the principal nations of the world as reflecting modern progress of civilization because of its extensive use for printing purposes. It places the United States in the front rank as the greatest paper-producing country of the world, with an annual output of 639,734 tons (avoidpols). Germany follows with a production of 393,683 tons; England, 240,051; France, 190,042; Austria, 147,706; Italy, 123,026.

One American corporation is declared to be the greatest paper manufacturing enterprise in the world, possessing thirty-one factories, with ninety-six continuously running machines, the company using almost as many machines are operated in Italy and the Netherlands together, and its annual production exceeds that of all the paper factories in Austria-Hungary and almost equals that of all the British ones. Its capital amounts to more than \$110,000,000.

While America leads in production, Germany has become the largest exporter of this article, with 51,000 tons annually, England following with 49,210, the United States 16,880 and France 13,000. The United States' export goes principally to South America, but also to Canada and Australia. Notwithstanding its large production, England remains a good buyer, having imported 147,706 tons last year.

Regarding the direct consumption of paper, it is an interesting fact that the United States leads with an annual figure of 38.6 pounds per capita, England coming next with 24.3; Germany, 20.98; France, 20.5; Austria, 19; Italy, 15.4; Serbia showing the lowest European figure, 1.1; India shows only 0.22 and China 1.1 per capita. Nearly half of the paper manufactured in the world is used for printing purposes. Twenty per cent is absorbed in the trades and industries. Almost an equal proportion is applied for official and school purposes. The remaining 10 per cent serves the demand for private use.

When a dog meets a lady of his kind, ever notice how he tries to look and act his best?

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