

## TOPICS OF THE TIMES

The defective flue is more dangerous in an airship than in any other form of construction.

"Give Mr. Rockefeller credit," urges a Southern newspaper. He doesn't need it; he can pay cash.

A Southern newspaper wants lying eliminated from the game. But wouldn't that spoil the game?

And many a cigar manufacturer is now thankful that he was in no hurry to put a Doc Cook cigar on the market.

If people are to be judged by their fruits, the man who invented the Ben Davis apple has something coming to him.

Zelaya seems to have fully understood the folly of being a dictator when nobody was willing to continue to be dictated to.

New York is old-fashioned in some respects. The city still maintains horse cars, and one of her women is the mother of twenty children.

As soon as they were caught the Arbuckles settled with the government. Nothing like establishing a reputation for prompt paying.

If stovaine, the new anesthetic, is as pleasant to take as they say it is, having an arm or a leg amputated ought to add to the joy of living.

Looking at the subject calmly, the woman doctor who declares that marriage is responsible for the divorce evil appears to have struck it about right.

There were fewer lynchings in this country in 1909 than in 1908. Still, it will be very easy to establish a better record for 1910. Now is the time to begin to quit lynching.

In old testament times the query "Have you seen Smith?" was superfluous. According to the First Book of Samuel, "there was no Smith throughout the land of Israel."

It is explained that Dr. Cook fled because he was afraid somebody would kill him. With the money he got for lecturing he ought to have been able to hire a husky bodyguard.

"The smallest man may do his part," says Dr. Elliot. He may; but the trouble with him is that he generally wants to do a big man's part, and makes disagreeable noises because he can't.

A Philadelphia girl is alleged to have spurned an offer of marriage from Prince Christopher of Greece. If the report is true it may safely be assumed that she did her spurning in a coaxing tone.

Professor Milton Whitney declares that the increased cost of living is due simply to the fact that Americans are eating more than they formerly did. A good cure for the over-eating habit would seem to be to eat up the surplus food.

It is not because the beggar fails to make money that he finally lands in the potters' field. "Any good, industrious beggar," says Mr. Forbes, "can and does make a great deal more money than the average workingman." But the trend of the beggar is downward, and in the end he is pretty sure to become a hopeless wreck and a derelict.

Who is better qualified to judge of the needs of the poor than those who virtually live with them and who thus become fully cognizant of what is best calculated to relieve their distress? Certainly the best philanthropy is that which gives the kind of aid most needed, which elevates the object of charity to a plane on which charity no longer is necessary; that, in short, which helps the poor to help themselves.

A Good Cheer Society which is national in scope and will eventually be national, and perhaps international, in membership, has recently been established through the efforts of a young woman from Seattle. The purpose is to carry good cheer everywhere, but especially to convalescents in and from the hospitals; not the dispensing of charity, but the exhibition of interests, friendly feeling and sympathy, is the aim. The society has been incorporated in New York, and lodges already exist in New York, Boston, Chicago and Seattle. The membership is composed wholly of women, and is unlimited.

So the Princess "Pat" is to marry King Manuel and be the Queen of Por-

tugal! Thus all hope of a princess of the blood royal breaking the precedent and marrying for love is for this generation vanished. For Princess Patricia of Connaught, the beauty of the British court, was also the willful one, who stood out for an ordinary woman's privilege of marrying according to her heart and not according to the traditions of her rank and the policy of the state. She refused King Alfonso of Spain, it is said, and also the Count of Turin, and for years has been determined to marry a mere commoner, younger son of a mere noble. The boy king of Portugal is five or six years her junior, but is quite good-looking in contrast to her former suitor of Spain. Perhaps Patricia has yielded to persuasions of duty, for it is important dynastically to consummate the political alliance of Portugal and Britain. Portugal not only has harbors of use to the British fleet, but she has vast possessions in Africa which the German covets. Nevertheless, what a sacrifice this marriage is, if it is to be a marriage. This one beautiful daughter of Britain's royal house, granddaughter of Victoria and also of the Red Prince of Prussia, the genius of the 18th war, goes to the throne of a decrepit country, abjures her religion, may be blown up by bombs or murdered with the knife, at least have her nerves broken as are those of her cousin, the Queen of Spain. One cannot help being sorry for Victoria Patricia of Connaught.

A New York Supreme Court Justice wails that "the age of patriotism has yielded to the age of commercialism," and that "uppermost in the human mind to-day is not the Stars and Stripes, but the dollar mark." We don't believe it. The distinguished jurist must have eaten too much dinner. The baseless superstition that commerce is a selfish thing and trade utterly without bowels of sentiment is a survival from the feudalism that despised any pursuit save murder and every profit save privilege. The truth is that all national patriotisms to-day rest upon the need of commerce and industry for organized order, law and security, and those countries whose national power and good are upheld by the commercial and industrial classes, are exactly the ones whose citizens exhibit most national patriotism. Napoleon called England a nation of shopkeepers, but the patriotism of the shopkeepers in the course of thirteen years of war wore the Corsican down. The South despised the Yankees as devoted to the almighty dollar, but the South was conquered by the sacrifices of blood and treasure the Yankees made. Feudalism, chivalry, and that sort of things kept Germany disrupted and Japan a collection of warring tribes. National patriotism is a quality of modern Germany and modern Japan. Right here in America at this present hour is more sense of civic responsibility, of patriotic devotion, of public idealism than ever animated the rank and file of any numerous people. We need them all, in order to deal with the evils that afflict us, but we are not corrupt to the core or blind worshippers of Mammon—not by a great deal.

### That's All He Forgot.

The cab containing the absentminded man and his family drew up in front of the Broad street station. There emerged the absentminded man, his wife and three children, a birdcage, a dog on a leash and innumerable bundles and parcels. The absentminded man paid the driver, gathered up the bundles, dropped them and pressed his hand dramatically to his fevered brow.

"There," he exclaimed, "I just knew I had forgotten something."

His wife carefully counted the three children, saw that the dog and the birdcage were intact and took an inventory of the bundles.

"We seem to be all here," she remarked. "I am sure we have everything. What do you think it is you have forgotten?"

"Why, bless my soul," cried the absentminded man. "Now that we are here I've forgotten where we intended going!"—Philadelphia Ledger.

### Tongue Caught Ermine.

"This stole is of tongue caught ermine, hence its high price," the salesman said.

"Tongue caught ermine, eh?"

"Yes, madam. You see, the ermine's coat is extremely delicate. A trap tears it horribly. So the trapper catches it by the tongue."

"The ermine is fond of ice. The trapper smears heavy knives with grease and lays them here and there on the snow. The snow white ermine, lithe and quick, rushes up in the zero weather, licks what he takes for a silver of ice, and, lo, is doomed, for the steel of the heavy knife has frozen fast to his tongue."

Tell a man a secret, and he tells it to his wife, and when she in turn repeats it, he has a great deal to say about a woman not being able to keep a secret.

Low shoes and high hats may be fashionable extremes

# PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

## DOES THE DECALOGUE NEED ENLARGING?

By Austin Bierbower.



Those who most wrong us are the men who wreck railroads and banks, thereby wiping out the fortunes of thousands; great corporations which monopolize the necessities of life, raising prices and making it harder for the poor to live; politicians who levy extravagant taxes and squander them without public benefit; diplomats who plunge nations into war without due cause, etc. These evils were unknown when the decalogue was framed and ancient morality fixed. The people had not then gone to governing themselves, to voting franchises and undertaking great public works. Immorality was private, as also morality. Only rulers could be immoral on a large scale, and they were few and thought to be incapable of wrong, so that immorality was practiced and confined to the common people.

Morality is a larger subject than hitherto. Hence, I say, the new morality cannot be formulated in the old precepts and prohibitions. As men have new forms of business and conduct them with injury to their fellows, they must work out new ways of avoiding this injury. Morality is as varied as the vices operate, and the ways of doing good as countless as the ways of causing injury. In learning a new method of achievement we should learn what new vice is involved in it.

## WHY OUR PAST LIVES ARE FORGOTTEN.

By Annie Besant.



No question is more often heard when reincarnation is spoken of than: "If I were here before, why do I not remember it?" Many people cannot remember learning to read; yet the fact that they can read proves the learning. Incidents of childhood and youth have faded from our memory, yet they have left traces on our character. Fever patients have been known to use in delirium a language known in childhood and forgotten in maturity. Much of our subconsciousness consists of these submerged experiences, memories thrown into the background but recoverable.

When a philosophy or a science is quickly grasped and applied, when an art is mastered without study, memory is there in power, though past facts of learning are forgotten; as Plato said, it is reminiscence. When we feel intimate with a stranger on first meeting, memory is there, the spirit's recognition of a friend of ages past; when we shrink back with strong repulsion from another stranger, memory is there, the spirit's recognition of an ancient foe.

Not until pleasure and pain, however, have been seen in the light of eternity can the crowding memories of the past be safely confronted; when they have thus been seen, then those memories calm the emotions of the present, and that which would otherwise have crushed becomes a support and consolation. Goethe rejoiced that on his return to earth life he would be washed

## BARBERS WHO BECAME FAMOUS.

High Rank Attained by Many Wielders of Strop and Razor.

Perhaps the best known of all barbers who have attained fame were Arkwright, the improver of the spinning jenny, who was said to have turned to mechanics when the wig-making trade fell off, and Jeremy Taylor, who was brought up in his father's shaving shop at Cambridge, says London Tit-Bits. Edward Sugden, afterward made Baron St. Leonard, was the son of a hair cutter in a shop in Lincoln's Inn, London. Once when Sugden was addressing a crowd in the interest of his candidacy for parliament a man called out to know what soap cost and how lather was made. "I am particularly obliged to that gentleman," Sir Edward is reported to have said, "for reminding me of my lowly origin. It is true that I am a barber's son and that I myself was once a barber. If the gentleman who so politely reminded me of these facts had been a barber he would have continued to remain one till the end of his life." Charles Abbott, Baron Tenterden, was also a barber's son, and it is related how, when he was made a peer of England, he took his own son to a little Westminister shop and bade him remember it was there that his grandfather had been accustomed to shave others for a penny. William Falconer, the poet, was a poor barber in Edinburgh until his poem, "The Shipwreck," brought him renown and incidentally a commission in the royal navy. Craggs, associated with the South sea bubble, was a barber turned promoter. He became enormously wealthy, but when the South sea crash came his fortune dwindled and in despair he committed suicide. Giovanni Belzoni of Padua was a barber with a varied and interesting history. Belzoni set up a shop in England, but soon found more profit in posing at Sadler's Wells as the "Patagonian Samson." Being of thrifty temperament, Belzoni accumulated quite a fortune. He achieved lasting fame as the discoverer of interesting relics in the tombs of Egypt and as a traveler.

## Where the Poems Go.

"John, I must have a new gown."  
"But that old gown of yours is a poem."  
"It may be a poem, but it's about ready for the wastebasket now."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

clean of his memories, and lesser men may be content with the wisdom which starts each new life on its way, enriched with the results but unburdened with the recollections of its past.

## DREAMER ALONE UNDERSTANDS LIFE.

By Ada May Kracker.



It is said by travelers that the inert, brutish folk of parts uncivilized chant their work songs in order to dissipate their lethargy. They find it almost as hard to begin to work as it is for us to cease. Yet even at this early point in their industrial evolution they evidently are possessed by the same notion of the desirability of labor that burdens us and eggs us on to toilsome and marvelous achievement. It is hard to furnish evidence for things unseen to our crass minds. And if anyone can do it, these lotus eaters can. For them work is a joke and dreaming a fine art. The only things they take seriously are "Arabian Nights" and castles in the air.

We insist upon being alert, energetic, wide awake to opportunity, which, we declare grimly, knocks but once at our door and then leaves us to that sorriest of fates, indigent obscurity. And we forget the happy family where blissfully dreams the ragged slumberer. We say the Lord helps those who help themselves. But the waiter on Providence knows how the manna falls from heaven on those that are without bread. All the heart that is dried out of our gilded mechanisms of existence the slumberer and lotus eater keeps breathing and pure. While we are gaining the whole world he knows that somehow he is saving his soul.

## GIRLS' EXTRAVAGANCE HINDERS MARRIAGE.

By Rev. Dr. Madison C. Peters.

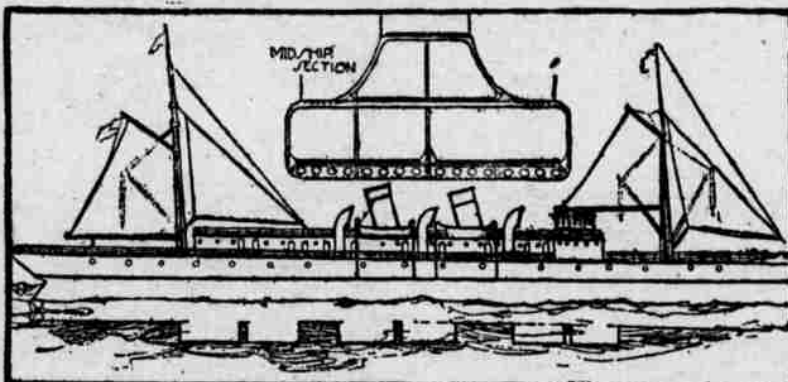


The men who made this country—80 per cent of them—began their married life without a dollar. They began in a humble way, worked together, saved, reached up and grew up, and if the four millions of women in America who are now bread-winners became bread-makers, and married for love of worthy men, and began their married life as our fathers and mothers began, there would be few bachelors, and fewer women compelled to work outside of their own homes.

Our young women "won't do housework." The majority of men on salaries paid them cannot keep a servant; besides, there are not servants enough to meet the demand, and the result is that we are rapidly becoming a nation of boarding houses and hotels, crowded with people who ought to be in modest homes of their own, and, like our parents, realize the dreams of their youth by working and rising together.

What we need now is several million sensible women who realize that the mightiest institution on earth is the home, and who, instead of aping the vulgar rich and the silly poor, will revive the old-fashioned virtues of thrift and domestic economy.

## INVENTS A NOVEL CRAFT.



A vessel designed to operate both on the high seas and on inland rivers has been invented and is just now being brought to perfection by John F. Cahill, a well-known St. Louisan, and plans for the construction of a pioneer boat after Mr. Cahill's models are expected to mature at an early date. Extraordinary light draft, combined with large tonnage, seaworthiness, safety and speed, are claimed for the new boat by its inventor, and that it possesses these qualities is vouched for by some notable authorities on shipping construction.

Coming, as it does, at a time when inland waterways traffic is a subject attracting national attention, the invention is one of exceptional interest. With such a vessel placed in commission, Mr. Cahill promises freight and passenger traffic from St. Louis, or other inland cities of the larger streams, to interior points on the great rivers of South America, or elsewhere, without the necessity of a transfer of cargo or passengers at deep-water ports. For more than twenty years Mr. Cahill has devoted himself to the perfection of this type of vessel, and during that time has spent a small fortune in experimenting, improving and perfecting his idea.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

## MACHINE SMOKES CIGARS.



The curious apparatus here illustrated is a cigar-smoking device used at the Department of Agriculture at Washington to test the burning qualities of cigars. The smoking is accomplished by allowing the water in the glass vessel at the left to escape gradually through tubes. This movement of water creates a vacuum.—Popular Mechanics.

## London.

The Romans built London about the year 50 A. D., but London wall was not built until 306 A. D.

## What Canada Buys from U. S.

In the ten years 1900 to 1909 inclusive, Canada's purchases of the United States grew from \$109,208,000 to \$182,690,000, an increase of \$73,482,000. The increase was chiefly in metals and minerals, fruits, furs, fibres, gutta percha goods, hats and caps, boots and shoes, oils, paper and paper goods, provisions, seeds, settler's effects, tobacco and its manufactures, and wood and its manufactures. In the same ten years Canadian exports to the United States grew from \$60,000,000 to \$91,000,000, a gain of \$31,000,000. Of the gain \$23,000,000 was in metals and minerals and wood and its manufactures.

## Trying to Save Time.

Bacon—Is that hen of yours industrious?  
Egbert—Well, rather. She tried to do two days' work in one, to-day.  
"How so?"  
"She laid a double-yolked egg."—Yonkers Statesman