

TOPICS OF THE TIMES

Several other things besides college football need reforming.

It begins to look as though before long Dr. Cook can't belong to anything except church.

"Cost of living" may be borne patiently. It is what it costs merely to exist that hurts.

Halley's comet has thus far been overlooked as a cause of high prices. Why this oversight?

The digits of 1910 add up 11. This indicates that the price of ice will advance next spring.

When times change men and women should change with them. Living in the past is a lonesome life.

A century hence it may be possible to pick up a newspaper without finding therein some reference to Rockefeller.

Perhaps that mathematical boy wonder can help some by reducing 999,999 causes for high prices to 57 understandable varieties.

Dr. Cook's own Arctic club has tounded him. It appears to be a repetition of the old story of the serpent's tooth and the thankless child.

New York playwright became crazy after finishing a vaudeville sketch. His case was remarkable chiefly because the insanity developed after.

One of the New York managers says there are too many theaters in this country, but the one-night-stand player will stick to the theory that the theaters are too far apart.

But before Congress can do much about the cost of living most of the Congressmen will have to deliver some impassioned addresses to be read by the folks back home.

Mr. Morse says he is the victim of "the most brutal sentence ever pronounced against a citizen of a civilized country." Mr. Morse, therefore, is a martyr. Kindly heave a sigh for him.

France is far from being the childless country that some writers picture it. The recent census shows no fewer than thirty-five thousand families in that country which rejoice in ten or more children each, and over one and one-fourth million families having at least five children each.

Both Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Fargo will have new gowns at once. The stock shares of the Wells-Fargo company recently rose from 519 to 560 in the market, following the distribution of a dividend which showed a profit of 300 per cent on \$16,000,000 of capital—some of which is actually invested.

The composite character of the American people to-day could hardly be shown in a more striking way than by the fact that a legend in ten different languages has just been authorized by a clothing-makers' union, in order to inform its members of present conditions in the trade and the advantages of organization.

Not even the strenuous attainments of "advanced" and "emancipated" womanhood can smother the blessed instincts of sympathy and pity in the feminine heart. When an athletic Chicago girl caught a burglar in her home the other night, she first overpowered him single-handed, and then, listening to his pitiful plea that he was driven to crime by hunger, gave him a square meal and set him free.

Cleveland school children bid fair to become the champion spellers of the country. They are required to learn only two new words a day, or ten words a week. At the end of every eight weeks they are tested in a spelling bee, and almost every child spells all the words correctly. This system is based on the truth enunciated in the chorus of the song, "Every little bit added to what you've got makes a little bit more."

If Swinburne used a rhyming dictionary and thereby became a great poet, as has been recently alleged, it is a pity that many of the embryo poets of the present day could not be supplied with the same brand of rhyming dictionary. For, whatever the reason may be, there is at the present day a dearth of genuine poetry. There is much rhyming, much bright doggerel, and occasionally ambitious attempts at blank verse, but the results of the latter are usually dreary. Few modern poets, but Walt Whitman, appear to have possessed strength enough to make unrhymed metrical lines a vehicle of expression. The age

needs a great poet. In the past or years the leading nations have developed virtually a new civilization, a new morality, new standards, a new sociology. What a great field lies before a poet with genius enough to be to this age what Homer was to the ancient world; what Virgil was to the Latins; what Dante was to the medieval thought; what Shakespeare was to the Elizabethans, and what Tennyson was to the Victorian age. The poets of the past, with their wonderful psychic powers, anticipated modern development along many lines; but there are ideas evolved from modern inventions and discoveries, from economic and political development, and from sociological changes, that they never could have thought of, and that are groaning to be delivered in adequate poetic expression. There is also a morality higher and finer than anything conceived of in the past, inasmuch as it embraces the whole human brotherhood. There were beautiful theories of liberty in ancient and medieval times, but the body politic rested upon a system of slavery that gave only the favored few leisure for intellectual development. The universality of human rights is a conception whose full poetic meaning could be embodied in immortal verse only by a man of the age that has seen it actually wrought into human institutions.

Leopold II., who died recently at the age of 74 years, was the second king of the Belgians. Belgium became independent in 1831, when it separated itself from the Netherlands and elected the prince of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Leopold's father, as its first king. Since that time the kingdom has grown and prospered. With one-quarter the area of the state of New York, it contains about the same population. There is an average of one person for every inhabitable acre in the whole country. The growing density of population early attracted the attention of Leopold, and he began to look abroad for an opportunity for colonial expansion. After Stanley had failed to interest Gladstone, and through him England, in the development of the Congo basin, Leopold sent for the great explorer and gave him \$250,000 toward the expenses of his expedition of commercial investigation in the Congo region. The Congo Free State was formed as a result of the report which Stanley made, and Leopold became its protector and practical owner. In 1908 he turned over to Belgium his rights in the state, and it is hereafter to be governed by the Belgian parliament. Great abuses marked Leopold's administration of the Congo State, and his reign will be notorious for them; but the fact remains that he was the only European monarch willing to assume responsibility for the attempt to civilize that part of Africa. At home the king was a constitutional ruler in the most democratic kingdom in Europe. He was active, in co-operation with Belgian capitalists, in developing the foreign and domestic trade of the country, and was long regarded as a type of the modern man of affairs in public life. In his private life the dead king seemed to be devoid of moral sense, and outraged all the decencies. He is succeeded by his nephew, Albert, who is loved by the Belgians because he possesses those moral qualities which his uncle lacked.

Owne Your Own Mind.

Have you ever considered the possibility of doing this? Remember that living in a rented mind, furnished with opinions bought on the installment plan, never offers any inducement with it for the future. Not only this, but you are not saving up anything.

The advantages of owning your own mind will be apparent at a moment's thought.

In the first place, you come to take a personal interest, which you do not feel when it is owned by some one else. Then again the natural increase in value redounds to your own profit. You have no one to dictate to you as to the inside furnishings and decorations. Besides, it makes you more particular with regard to what you put into it. If you live in a rented mind you don't care much. You will drive nails in the walls and get generally careless about it. But when you own your own mind you are constantly going about picking it up. You take real pride in it.

Be it ever so humble, there is no place like a mind that you own yourself.—Life.

Appropriate Tendancy.

"How does Jobbins expect to do this year?"

"His business outlook is a grave one."

"Why? Is he in trouble?"

"No; he's an undertaker."—Baltimore American.

One trouble with the men and children is that they are always saying to any one who comes in, "Are you going to stay to supper?"

The man who gives his business proper attention has but little time for side issues

DOING AWAY WITH STAINS

In the Case of Colored Fabrics It is Best to Leave It to Professionals.

While there are simple home remedies for stains that are apt to be successful it is the wisest and most economical plan in the end to take the soiled garment at once to a professional. In some cases the experimenting at home results in the ruin of the entire garment. This is especially true in regard to colored fabrics. White goods may be safely treated at home, but in the case of colored materials one has not only to consider the nature of the stain, but also the color of the goods. The stain may be obliterated by certain applications, but frequently the color comes away also or changes to another tone. The original color may be restored by an application of a solution of one part of ammonia in twenty parts of water. Should this fail try ether or chloroform, keeping away from the fire during the process. If the stain refuses to respond there is nothing to do but to consult a professional, but he will charge more than he would had the fresh stain been brought to him.

NEW IDEA IN BAKING BREAD

May Be Better Than the Old Methods, and Anyway Is Well Worth Trying.

Boile two cubes of compressed yeast in a cupful of blood-warm water, with two teaspoonfuls of granulated sugar. Let it stand about fifteen minutes. Now stir a bowl full of flour, about two quarts, make a hollow in center, into which place one tablespoonful of salt, one-quarter cupful of sugar, and a tablespoonful of lard. Mix the lard if you like. Now two cupfuls of milk and one of water, heat milk to water until blood warm, and if you use less milk just add more warm water; place this in the bowl with the yeast added and mix gradually with the flour (I use a wood paddle for this. A paint paddle which comes with a fresh can of paint with holes in it is excellent for this and costs nothing, as you can get one for the asking at any department store) until it can be handled. Place back in the bowl, cover with the bread board, and let it stand 15 minutes. This is necessary, as this does the work of kneading. Now butter raising bowl, place dough in and turn over to butter top; let raise again and bake. This recipe makes four medium-sized loaves.—Chicago Tribune.

Apple Kuchen.

One quart of bread flour, 1 cup of sugar, 1 teaspoon salt; sift into a large bowl and rub in ¼ cup of butter; add ½ cup raisins washed and cut in halves, grated rind and half the juice of 1 lemon; beat 3 eggs and add to a cup of warm milk and 1 yeast cake dissolved in warm water; mix all together and cover and raise overnight; in the morning turn out onto floured board and divide into 5 pieces, shape each piece and roll out with rolling pin to fit either an oblong or round tin; brush the tops with melted butter and cover with sliced apples, with cinnamon and sugar sprinkled on top; let rise light and bake a nice brown; when done sprinkle top with powdered sugar.

Peas in Cases.

The peas are first reheated, after which enough of the liquor is removed to about half fill an ordinary cup. To this is added a tablespoonful of flour and two tablespoonfuls of butter, already rubbed to a paste, and when this has been added to the peas the mixture is allowed to cook slowly for a few minutes, after which it is seasoned to taste with salt and pepper; the beaten yolk of one egg and three tablespoonfuls of cream are added, and the result, when hot, is served in small china or paper cases, appropriately garnished with parsley, or, in the proper season, with small sprigs of mint.

White Floating Soap.

Four quarts of fat, any kind will do; two ten cent cans of lye, and ten quarts of water. Put water in an old boiler, next the fat, then the lye. Let this come to a boil and boil three hours, slowly. When the soap becomes flaky and the liquid looks clear and boils over the soap, it is ready to skim. Line a wooden box with a piece of wet muslin, skim out soap and put in the box to drain about twelve hours, and cut in bars. This will make twelve large bars of hard, white soap.

Baked Cauliflower Caper Sauce.

After boiling the cauliflower until tender in salted water, drain well and mash into a smooth paste. Add one cup of thick white sauce, five eggs well beaten, salt, pepper and nutmeg. Mix well and pour into a well buttered baking dish, and bake ten minutes. Just before serving take out of the oven and let stand a few minutes before turning out on a platter, when it should be covered with a thick white sauce to which capers have been added, and sprinkle with paprika.

Feathers in Style



HERE is a growing sentiment against wearing the plumage of birds, in varieties where cruelty must be practiced to secure it. Women are learning to discriminate in this matter and to forego the wearing of plumage that promises to bring about the extinction of a species of beautiful wild birds or to inflict torture. A proud crest of dainty feathers torn from the back of a mother bird and the death of a nest full of fledglings by slow starvation, are not pleasant suggestions to flaunt with the group of sweeping aligrettes upon the head of beauty. For the wearer must be either uninformed, or indifferent or unmindful of cruelty. None of the excuses will pass muster with intelligent people.

Aside from a very few sorts, the feathers we have worn recently and those we will wear, are made from the plumage of domestic or other edible birds. No cruelty is practiced in securing them and thousands of people make a living by manufacturing the millinery trimmings made of them. Feather bands, sewed wings, pompons, breasts and mounted sprays—

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

MAKES A DAINTY COSTUME PLEA FOR THE GROWING GIRL



Problem of Maternal Management That is Worth Some Serious Consideration.

So many older women seem to think that because a girl of from fourteen to twenty or so is likely to be callow and sometimes forward and rather ridiculous in her pretensions of age and dignity she must be continually snubbed and "put down." They keep calling her "child" and laughing at her opinions and criticisms, and leaving her out of discussion and conversation, until some day they awake with a start to realize that the child is a woman, and a pert and embittered woman at that.

Of course, American girls are notorious for their unpleasant presumption, and there are many, many things which a girl in her teens is not competent to decide for herself, let alone for others; but there is no reason why a girl who really is growing up should be made to feel that she is always in the way and must be patronized when she is noticed at all. Give her at least a chance to feel that she is one of the family and that she is a step above the children in the nursery, whom she is likely so to despise.

Here, as elsewhere, "you will go most safely in the middle," and this rather delicate problem of maternal management will settle itself if consideration and common sense are learned on one side and taught on the other.—Exchange.

Garters for Short Socks.

Garters for short socks for the kiddies are being made of hat rubber instead of the wider and more conspicuous garter rubber or the untidy nothing at all. Usually it is white, though for pink or blue socks it can easily be painted the color desired.

Easy Way to Clean Lace Yokes.

If instead of taking lace yokes and cuffs out of dresses to wash when soiled they are rubbed with dry starch, then brushed thoroughly, the lace will look like new.