

Topics of the Times

When trouble goes to sleep don't set the alarm clock.

These days a small appetite is better than great riches.

Nat Goodwin is taking an interest in aeronautics. Mr. Goodwin always was a high flier.

The things that come to those who wait are generally the things that no one else wants.

Money makes the mare go. And Mr. Rockefeller hopes it will have the same effect on the laxy bug.

And now our busy press will have to pick new husbands and wives for all the recent divorcees in New York.

It is claimed there is a lobster shortage, this year, but no one but a painstaking investigator would ever suspect it.

Some one suggests that a monument ought to be built to the man who invented ice cream. Let the women subscribe.

The automobile makers are to turn out 135,000 cars for 1910, all of them sold in advance and guaranteed to run like gas meters!

Another honest man. A Kansas City merchant whose store was burned refused to accept all the money offered by the insurance company.

Explorer Amundsen will drift toward the north pole, with seven years' food in his trunk and a firm purpose to get Cook's brass tubing.

A grandson of Ralph Waldo Emerson is now governor of the Philippines. Those Filipinos don't appreciate what we are doing for them.

Why not let it dissolve, Mr. Rockefeller? According to the popular understanding you have a tidy little sum saved up for a rainy day, anyhow.

A number of shaky thrones are in such a dilapidated condition that there are doubts as to whether or not they can be patched up for the present occupants.

Senator Aldrich says credit is as good as cash. There are some people who always prefer to pay their bills by checks because in doing that they do not feel that they are giving up money.

A California judge has placed a chauffeur under sentence for manslaughter on probation, conditioned on his paying \$25 a month to the support of his victim's family. Lots of men would like to keep out of a ten-year sentence on such conditions.

This whole business of exploration has got to be regulated by law. There is still one pole to discover, and there are several highest mountains to be climbed. Perhaps an international bureau of exploration might be created which would preserve some portions of our too small planet for the enjoyment of future explorers, and which would enforce such regulations of exploration that the controversies now raging over one pole and two mountains shall not be repeated.

To the girl who has been rightly trained, whose essential charm is enhanced by innocent reserve, unaffected candor, ardent enthusiasm for things that are beautiful and good, a manner unflinchingly courteous and an enunciation musically sweet—to any maiden who unites these not incompatible qualities, the doors of social and personal opportunity are thrown wide open, and she is received with pleasure anywhere, as likely to impart more "sweetness and light" than she receives.

This story was told the editor, recently, by a friend: "A brother of mine died a few years ago, leaving a young son. My brother was a good fellow, but was never able to accumulate any estate. He frequently borrowed money of me, which I was glad to lend him. He paid it as he could, but always was in debt to me. When he died he owed me between \$300 and \$400. Of course, I never expected to get back my money. But I reckoned without the boy, my nephew. He has grown to be a young man. The other day I had a letter from him asking me to name the precise amount his father owed me at the time of the latter's death. He said he intended to pay every cent of it. His salary was but \$45 per month, but he would be able to save enough to pay me in the course of a few years." Said my friend: "The letter brought tears to

my eyes. I did not care for the money. It was the boy's high sense of honor and duty that touched me. I wish I could make the sum smaller than that owed me, but the boy knows approximately the amount, and I dare not rob him of the satisfaction of paying the whole debt." That boy is made of the real stuff. He is of the stuff of which heroes are made. No law forces the brave young fellow to pay the obligations of the dead save the law of moral duty. He is not impelled by any hope of gain save that of conscience and by no fear of loss save the loss of honor. But he is a man—every inch of him, every pound of him. One would rather be the father of such a youth than to be father to a common millionaire. Because the boy has got soul fiber.

Money cannot easily be borrowed in small communities, and when it is found, the rate of interest is usually high. A law has lately been passed in Massachusetts intended to relieve this condition by permitting the establishment of small co-operative banks. They are to be based on substantially the same principle as that on which are founded the Raiffeisen banks in Germany and Italy. The Raiffeisen bank is really a group of neighbors living in the same community and familiar with one another's affairs, formed for the purpose of uniting their credit in borrowing money for such of them as need it. Every member of the group must be industrious and of good moral character. When he wishes to borrow money he must explain what he plans to do with it. If the lending committee approves his purpose, the money will be advanced to him at a low rate of interest, usually 5 per cent. Then a general supervision is kept over him to see that he spends the money in accordance with his announced purpose, and so conducts himself as to be able to pay it back when it falls due. It is said that this system has not only relieved the German farmers from the oppressions of the usurers, but has also improved the moral tone of the country. As loans are made only to members, and as all the members are jointly liable for the payment of loans, they all watch one another to see that there is no waste of money in drunkenness or in other loose living. There is room in rural America for such institutions. The experience of Mentone, Italy, with a local bank of a slightly different plan, illustrates what might happen there. A little more than twenty-five years ago some small capitalists formed a bank in the town to take the place of another institution that had failed. The prevailing rate of interest for farmers was then 12 per cent. In eight years this little co-operative bank had succeeded in reducing the rate to 4 per cent, and the small farmers had no difficulty in borrowing. The district is now prosperous, and the farmers have been relieved from the pressing burden of debt.

BEGGAR'S BAIT PROBLEM.

Is It Wise for Mendicant to Leave Few or Many Pennies in Hat?

"One thing that I've never been able to settle in my mind to my own satisfaction," said a street beggar whose specialty is sitting on a step and holding out his hat to passersby, according to the Charleston (S. C.) News and Observer, "is the question of how many pennies it is wise to have in the hat for people to see as they go by. Of course, you understand, there are two theories in this; working on one, you leave there only a few, just three or four pennies scattered around irregularly but pretty far apart, and on the other you leave in the hat a lot of pennies.

"Of course the idea of the first plan is to make people when they see how little you've got want to chip in and help, and the idea of the other plan is to stir people up to generosity by showing them how generous others have been, and there's a heap to be said for that. There's lots of people that give because other people have, because they like to go with the crowd.

"I've tried both plans and had good days with a lean bait and had days with a full bait in the hat, and then I've had good days with a full bait and had days with a lean bait. All you can do is if one plan doesn't work well, try the other; you never can tell."

Had a Chance to Save Money.

"That man made a million dollars while he was in jail!" said a New York financier.

"Yes, but his case was one of the kind that does not require the expense of alienist testimony."—Washington Star.

So He Does.

"Do you believe that tough beef is as good for a person as tender beef?" "Better. The man who gets tough beef gets both nourishment and exercise."

There are all sorts of people: a man has actually turned up who says sermons are not long enough.

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

REFORMATION AS A CRIME CURE.

By Casmo G. Romilly.



It is now an uncontested truth that our methods for dealing with crime have been sadly defective. We have regarded punishment only from the deterrent and retributive standpoints, and have paid no attention whatever to the reformatory. There is a movement to try to help and reform criminals, and so by reclamation to cure crime by going to the root of the evil, and by studying criminology as a science. This movement is growing day by day, flowing in like an enormous wave that is beyond the power of man to check. The abolition of capital punishment is only a small part of this great movement, but a part of no mean importance. One hundred years ago death was the penalty in England for an enormous number of offenses, and among others for counterfeiting stamps for the sale of perfumery, and also of certificates for hair powder. We have made some progress at least! We are altogether more humane now than we were then.

Let us remember that two wrongs do not make a right, and that the state does not annul the murder by putting the murderer to death, but, instead, makes it a double tragedy. Some countries have abolished capital punishment, but it still remains a "blot to honor and religion." That same spirit which has abolished the punishments of drawing and quartering in the past will abolish the punishment of death in the future.

INDUSTRIAL BETTERMENT ESSENTIAL TO CITY.

By G. Edward Fuller.



Strange that we have learned to regard industrialism with pride but shy at reference to "work" and "trade." Art and culture we conjure with, like fakirs in front of a sideshow, although we draw our food and clothes from work and trade; while past history indicates no future prospect of the solid furnishing forth of a worthy national life with lack of broad and wholesome respect for the wage-earners. The course of the nations is strewn with wrecks of culture, and no dominating art exists to-day—nothing but fragments. There never will be enduring art and culture until the people of a nation grow up to them as a whole, and through adequate vocational pride and skill, perhaps, but certainly not through parasitism or partial views.

Japan has shown us, Germany is teaching us, and our disjointed national educational system is in sore need of proper articulation with a growing, a vitalizing industrialism based upon meliorism in the factory, the warehouse and the store, but detached from tricky and sordid forms of mere commercialism.

It is the hope of scientific meliorism that mankind has reached an epoch of betterment by a controlling, conscious evolution acting with natural evolution, and it

is believed that only through enlightened industrialism shall we "find that state of things in which it should be impossible for anyone to be deprived or poor."

There is no altruism in trade building, and mere optimism is not immune, but scientific meliorism stands the wear and tear, while a healthy industrialism offers the safest and sanest means, in the workshop, laboratory and marts of trade, in wearing away the barriers between the races and between the classes.

NEED OF INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

By Edwin G. Cooley.



Within recent years there has sprung up a widespread demand for industrial education. It comes from the manufacturer, professional man, mechanic, farmer and educator. Industrial education has probably a different meaning for each of these types of individuals. Yet all agree upon one thing, and that is that it is something not found in adequate form in our present educational system. Practically nothing has been done in this country for the development of industrial education outside the college or university. Thousands of pupils now leave school at an early age with no training whatever directly fitting them for the activities of life in the industrial world, where most of them will find their work. In the larger cities trade schools and continuation schools of various types must be organized. The scope and character of their work will be varied and must be adapted to local conditions. In rural communities secondary schools in which the study of agriculture and related lines of work is the dominant purpose must be organized. But when these different types of schools come into existence, even in considerable number, throughout the country the solution of the problem has just begun. For the great mass of those needing industrial education the existing public schools must furnish the facilities.

DON'T SELECT THE CHILD'S OCCUPATION.

By Rev. Madison C. Peters.



Many an ambitious parent forces a boy to become a preacher, doctor or lawyer when measuring dry goods would have been the fittest thing for him to do, while, on the contrary, we find parents taking boys out of school at 14 to sell dry goods whose skill in hair splitting, whose adroitness at parry and thrust and whose fertility of resource in every exigency show that nature designed them for the pulpit or the bar. Parents might as well try to turn back the waters of the Niagara as to decide what profession or business their sons should adopt. God gives to every man a particular work he can do and in the performance of which he can be happy, but the place which a man can fill with satisfaction to himself and others is that for which nature designed him.

OUTPOSTS OF THE "WIRELESS"



A dozen men in the wilderness up beyond the gateway of the St. Lawrence where the shreds of civilization fray out against the barrier of the great North link up the world with the wilderness of the Atlantic and the wilds of the Arctic regions. They do it with a wireless key and the messages they receive and send pass over barren wastes where no man lives and land wires have never been strung.

A dozen there are who serve as operators; others of the repairing crew and the supplying department come and go, but these dozen men are year after year held practically prisoners on the bald cliffs of Labrador and Newfoundland before the key of the wireless. They send through the air the tales of ships that come and go, reports that may interest St. John's or Montreal shipping exchanges; relay from the one to the other the meagre commercial messages that must pass from dealer to fisherman; send down to the land telegraphs the occasional news of shipwrecks and sea sufferings that find a way into the papers. At Battle Harbor Gordon Sprackling, a young Nova Scotian, is the Marconi operator, and Leonard Stephenson his engineer. Compared with some of their fellows Sprackling and Stephenson are fortunate in the environment of a metropolis.

But the wireless men are far from the maddening crowd even at that. To reach the wireless station requires a nice training in alpine climbing, a sure foot and an undisturbed sense of balance. Here, in a cleft below the summit of the cliff is the wireless hut and in this hut less than two months ago events occurred which need recording. They should be recorded because they measure the stamina of the men who work the wireless in this cheerless country.

The polar ship Roosevelt worked her way into the narrow harbor one sunny morning, and while the town seethed with excitement Commander

Peary climbed the crag to the wireless station to interview Sprackling. He told the operator that he wanted to send to the world below his account of the discovery of the north pole. He believed that he could put it on the land wire at Chateau Bay down the coast, but the wireless man at Indian Harbor had told him that the Dominion government had abandoned that land wire since last he had come down from the North and he must use the wireless. Could the wireless do it?

Sprackling said that it could. Then he called the man at Belle Isle over the strait a hundred miles away, and told him to pass the word along the line that there was big work ahead. The word was passed down to the office of the management in Ottawa. Sprackling worked twenty hours out of every twenty-four for five days alone and unaided save for the relief his engineer gave him while he was eating his meals. Sprackling and all the others pounded the key during those five days, not knowing at what minute the spark would fall because of the strain put upon the apparatus.

Sprackling would send two, three or four thousand words, then stop. Each succeeding station below would receive, then forward this amount, and not until it had all been put upon the cables at Cape Ray would the next installment be launched.

Here is how Peary's story was zig-zagged down the coast through the air to the cable end. From Battle Harbor it went southward across the Straits of Belle Isle to the station situated on the northern tip of the island of that name. Belle Isle relayed to Point Amour, back to the westward and on the southern tip of Labrador.

Point Amour sent the message to the east and south again to Point Richie, on the west coast of Newfoundland north of Bay of Islands. From Point Richie the spark jumped westward once more and across the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Heath Point on the island of Anticosti. The final jump was back again to the Newfoundland coast, where at Cape Ray the message was put on the cable.

Not for many years will the men who sit on the tops of crags in Newfoundland and Labrador and send through the air to the world below the news of ships and of men have such a task to perform.

THIS WINTER'S DINNERS.

Courses Will Be Fewer, but Will Include All the Luxuries.

In a way dinners are to be simpler this winter than before. They are not to be composed of less rich or luxurious materials (indeed, the use of luxuries in food will be of greater vogue than ever), but according to the picture, the simplicity will be present in the form of fewer courses and less elaborate dishes.

Dinners will begin with one of the hundred canapés, with caviare or with oysters. The grapefruit as an opening course for dinner is quite out of it. It comes first to the luncheon table frequently, but when it figures in the dinner it is as a salad. And salads of any sort must be removed as far as possible from the ornamental variety. Above all, they must not be messy or messy.

Yet this appearance is not to be avoided if several kinds of vegetables, for instance, are collected in the salad bowl. Three vegetables make the very limit of those that may be employed, and included in the three is the lettuce that is the background.

The French vegetable salad, to be sure, consists of several kinds. But it should not make its appearance in a formal dinner of courses. It is for a luncheon or for a dainty home dinner, which consists of but a soup, a chop with a vegetable, a salad and a light dessert with crackers and cheese.

Wines, it goes without saying, must be of the choicest variety to form a harmonious note with the simple dinner composed of luxuries—paradoxical as that may seem. And the pleasant custom of serving an hour or so after dinner an imported mineral water will be more popular the coming season than ever. A short time after dinner a dryness of the throat is often experienced, and this mineral water is a refreshment at such a time to be appreciated. It is also to be regarded as an excellent digestive.

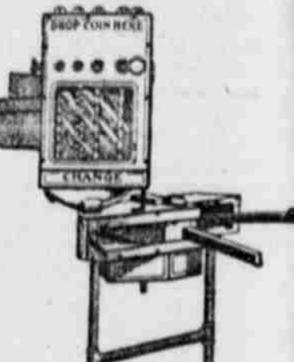
It is easier to keep up than it is to get behind, and then hurry to catch up.

A boy's idea of hardship is to have to wash his neck and ears every day.

AUTOMATIC FARE REGISTER.

Device for Street Cars Makes Change and Rings Up Nickels.

A company in New York is manufacturing an automatic fare register which also makes change for the passengers. It is designed for pay-as-you-enter street cars, and works as follows: At the top of the machine is a series of five slots, in which a passenger may deposit a 5-cent, 10-cent, 20-cent or 25-cent coin. The falling coin registers a fare and also operates the change-making mechanism, so that if more than 5 cents is deposited the proper amount of change falls into a change cup located under the machine. At the same time the lock of the turnstile is automatically released, leaving it free to revolve so that the passenger can pass through. To permit passengers with transfers to pass through the turnstile the ma-



REGISTER FOR STREET CARS.

chine is fitted with a lever at the bottom of the turnstile case by which the conductor can allow transfer passengers and other non-cash fares to pass through the stile and register them. If a coin is deposited in the wrong slot it is ejected from the case and falls into the change cup to be replaced by the passenger in the proper slot. If any person tenders paper money the conductor supplies him with change so that he can deposit his fare in the fare box.—Popular Mechanics.

A FRENCHMAN'S POINT OF VIEW.

Writer Says the American Single Woman Is of a Special Type.

The American woman who does not marry—in plain old-fashioned English, the old maid—is a source of keenest interest to Europeans in general. Her independence, good looks and what is not always associated with the woman who has evaded matrimony—good nature are a never failing source of wonder and in some cases envy, among her sisters in foreign lands. Here is what a French writer who has studied the single American woman has to say about her in a Parisian publication:

"She is of a special type. She is not the resigned woman who has failed to please, nor the sentimental one who has remained faithful to some bygone memory. Americans would consider it ridiculous to ruin their lives on account of a luckless love affair. The American old maid has, without question, had several opportunities to marry; in the United States, every nice girl must have had at least one proposal. American men desire to have a wife to 'represent' them in society while they who are single remain so voluntarily, through their need of independence. Young girls who are poor marry for money. Those who are rich are at liberty to live alone if they so desire.

"Such women travel a great deal; they dress always with great care, less through a desire to please than for their own personal satisfaction. Having neither family nor home, they dispose of their time as they will.

"They become passionately interested in politics, in social questions, in abstract and absorbing matters. They are very intelligent, very intellectual, fond of change and pleasure. Their minds are highly developed, open, free from prejudice. They are kind to their married friends, for whom they feel no envy, since they themselves have declined to marry."

Ready to Exchange.

"I was reading to-day about the cat exchange they have in Paris."

"I wish we had one here. I've got a cat at home that I'd exchange for a bogus check on a busted bank and throw in the car fare to boot."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Paradoxical History.

"Can you give an instance of where an uplifting process was also a downward movement?"

"Oh, yes. When they razed the Bastille."—Baltimore American.

What has become of the old-fashioned man who used to say of the conceited man: "He should be taken down a peg."

When a man expresses his real sentiments on any subject he does not wish to be quoted.