

Topics of the Times

Chance is one of the most profane words in our language.

It is not always safe to judge the state of our prosperity by the prices put on the new hats for women.

A woman can forgive her husband for being a bear at home if he will only make love to her when they are out in company.

Viceroy Alexieff calls the Japanese a "self-willed, stubborn enemy." The remark throws a flood of light on the origin of the war.

Mr. Carnegie wants war abolished, but the Carnegie mills are going right along making armor plate for all customers that have the price.

Uncle Sam must be something of a farmer when the statistics show that the railroads received more than \$403,000,000 for simply moving his 1904 crop.

Algernon Sartoris, grandson of General Grant, ridicules the establishment of the jury system in the Philippines, where he says the lower natives are too easily corrupted. So? Noticed something of the same sort here.

Already the New York subway is being disfigured with unsightly advertisements. Some people will think it a pity when they get to heaven—if they ever do—that they can't line the streets of the New Jerusalem with billboards.

Woman was woman 2000 B. C. Arthur Evans, the Oxford archaeologist, has found in Crete a subterranean sanctuary containing the statue of a goddess. The goddess has on corsets exactly like those of modern date, and now the splendid physique of Greek women has to be explained on a wholly new theory.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., exhorted on the parable of the leaven before his Bible class, and said: "There is nothing in the dough itself to make it light and wholesome. The dough itself is harmful if taken internally." When it comes to talking about "dough" young Rockefeller speaks with authority, for he should have inherited sufficient information on the subject to entitle him to the entire bakery.

What is doubtless the largest meteorite "in captivity" is now on exhibition in the Museum of Natural History in New York. It weighs about fifty tons. Commander Peary found it in the arctic regions and brought it south a few years ago. Until recently it was stored in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Since alighting on the earth after its wild career through the heavens it has become completely domesticated, and no guard is required nor is an iron cage needed to keep it from breaking loose.

According to official Japanese reports, one regiment which went into one of the most desperate assaults upon the defenses of Port Arthur with more than 2,700 effective men lost 2,500. Only six officers and 200 men came back from one of the most terrible struggles in the history of war. Such fighting as this is disheartening to the most stubborn antagonists which any army can encounter. It reveals a willingness literally to conquer or die, which is appalling to officers commanding opposing forces.

Abyssinia is being "wired." Some 1,000 miles of telephone line have been put up and as much more is being laid. The work is no joke. The rains and the poles fell. The white ants ate up a large collection of wooden poles. Then iron ones were put up, which the simple native liked so well that he took them home to use in his business. The Negus stopped the amusement by proclaiming death to the pole pilferers. But the royal mandate cannot prevent the Bandarlog, the monkey people, from swinging in the wires or—what is much more delightful—the elephant from scratching himself against the poles. The telephone pole is a scratching post for elephants. Thus does civilization provide home comforts for the jungle people.

Nothing is more remarkable in connection with the war in the east than the stolidity of the Chinese people. If they take note of the battles they seem to have no preference as to which side shall be victor. This is largely a fact of ignorance, for even the well-informed natives have only the crudest geographical knowledge and do not grasp the meaning of a map. But the stolidity is not altogether attributable to lack of comprehension of military movements in the area of hostilities, but is largely due to racial characteristics. From every point of view the Chinese are an illustration of arrested development. They

have been beating time so long as a nation that they cannot grasp the inspiration of the word progress. To them it simply means change, and nothing is so repugnant to the race as that.

President Palma was able to congratulate the Cuban congress in his annual message on a notable increase in the foreign trade of the island. He reported that the imports for the fiscal year ending June 30 last were \$74,492,000, an increase of \$11,872,000, and that the exports were \$94,399,000, an increase of \$16,000,000. He did not state the proportion of the increase in the trade with the United States, but our own government statistics show that it is considerable. We sold Cuba in the fiscal year, according to our computation, \$26,008,000 of goods, an increase of \$5,147,000 over the fiscal year 1903, and we bought from Cuba \$76,983,000, an increase of \$14,041,000. As compared with 1902, our sales were almost the same, but our purchases had more than doubled.

Food adulteration, for many years a subject of contention and discussion in scientific quarters, has received its most serious consideration at the hands of the International jury of awards at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. After several months of close scrutiny of many food samples and the most careful scientific investigation the jurors uncovered conditions that are astonishing. According to Paul Pierce, superintendent of food exhibits at the fair, the following is an actual breakfast in a workman's home in Indianapolis: Fried sausage, colored with aniline red and adulterated with about 10 per cent of corn grits; apple butter, colored with aniline red and loaded with glucose; butter, colored with azo dye and adulterated with 10 per cent excess of water; coffee, glazed with a glazing compound of dextrine and starch, and colored with brown aniline dye; bread, cheap, soggy baker's stuff not sufficiently baked and containing glucose and malt extract; potatoes; gravy, made from flour, milk and the drip from colored and adulterated sausage. This breakfast consisted of seven articles, of which only one—potatoes—was normal.

The immense amount of money given during the last ten years for widely different objects finds no parallel in history. It is true large sums of money in times past have been given to the church, and during the middle ages what was given to the church included education, libraries and charities as well as religion, but there was nothing like the lavish outpouring of money there has been of late, especially in America. Libraries and universities have come in for so large a share of these gifts that the most remote hamlet is likely to be provided with all the reading one can desire, while university privileges reach out to all who are willing to seize them. What turn will this fad for giving take next? The good impulse is evidently destined to continue and to find new channels. Education is all right, but even the capacity to learn has its limits, and there are other needs in life besides brain culture. Scientific investigation ought to come in for a large share of benefit in the future. Each new discovery and invention opens the way for a demand for others. Much as has been accomplished of late by way of scientific research, the field is endless and at present demands large sums of money. There can be no greater boon to humanity than further success in the fields opened by Koch, Flinsen, Ramsay, Becquerel, the Curries and others, but these interests cannot be pursued by scientists to any great extent unless means are generously provided. It is not the part of a republican government to foster experiments or provide means for other than immediate demands, but it is the privilege of those gifted with the facility for money-making or on whom fortune has bestowed her favors to advance these interests by generous donations. It is something to find and conquer new worlds in science, but to be the patron of these discoverers, to be the one to enable them to accomplish the deed is scarcely less honor than is his who has the genius for doing it. While the fad for giving is on let the scientists have their share of the funds.

A Second Offense.
The tramp arrested for vagrancy rarely displays any humor, but the New York Tribune mentions one whose mild waggishness enlivened his own trial.

After the judge had looked the man over, he said, musingly, "I seem to know your face."
"Yes," the tramp agreed, pleasantly, "we were boys together."
"Nonsense!" said the judge, frowning.
"But we were," the tramp said, with mild insistence. "We're about the same age. We must a' been boys together."

Women go into boarding houses with the excuse that they can't find help. How about the men who don't close up their places of business because of the same problem?



Oyster Pates.
Chop three-quarters of a pound of cold, firm butter into a pound of flour. When you have a coarse powder, add a small teaspoonful of cold water and with a spoon work into a soft mass. Turn upon a floured pastry board and roll into a thick sheet. Fold this up as you would a sheet of music and roll out again, then fold up once more and once more roll out. Set on the top for an hour or two, then roll into a sheet a half inch thick and cut into rounds like biscuits. Lay these in piles of three layers and with a smaller cutter press half way through each pile. Put into a very hot oven and bake quickly to a golden brown. Take from the oven, lift off the little central round from each pate, and with a spoon scoop out the soft inside dough, leaving a cavity. Into this put a creamed oyster mixture. Set in the oven until very hot and serve.

Stuffed Pepper Mangoes.
Cut the tops from green peppers, and with a sharp knife remove the seeds and tough white membrane. Fill with salt and lay in cold water for forty-eight hours. Drain, lay in cold water for a day and drain again. Make a filling of two tablespoonfuls each of minced cabbage and grated horseradish, a teaspoonful of minced onion, a half teaspoonful each of powdered mace, nutmeg and ginger, a teaspoonful each of celery seed, pepper-corns and ground mustard, a teaspoonful of sugar and a tablespoonful of salad oil. Stuff the peppers with this, tie on the tops with soft twine, pack in a crock and fill the crock with boiling vinegar. Repeat the scalding a week later. Cover and stand for several months before using.

Measures of Capacity.
Four heaping tablespoonfuls make one gill.
Eight heaping tablespoonfuls make one cupful.
Four cupfuls of flour make one quart or pound.
Two cupfuls solid butter make one pound.
Two cupfuls of granulated sugar make one pound.
Two and one-half cupfuls of powdered sugar make one pound.
One pint of milk or water equals a pound.
One dozen eggs should weigh a pound and a half.
Skim milk is a trifle heavier than whole milk, cream is lighter than either, and pure milk is 3 per cent heavier than water.

Cherry Cream Pie.
Any left-over fruit juice may be used. Bake an open crust, as for lemon pie. Add one-half cupful sugar to one pint of juice left over from canned cherries if not sufficiently sweet; add two large tablespoonfuls of corn-starch rubbed smooth in a little juice and cook till thick. Add butter size of a walnut. Pour in crust, and when very cold cover with a cupful of whipped cream, sweetened with two tablespoonfuls of sugar and flavored with a few drops of almond extract. If cream is not at hand, use the beaten whites of two eggs sweetened and flavored. Brown slightly in oven.

Pumpkin Butter.
Pare and scrape the slices of pumpkin, cut them into cubes and cook slowly, in but little water, for four or five hours; then mash thoroughly and add a scant cupful of sugar to each quart of pumpkin. Cook one hour longer, then add plenty of ground cinnamon. Some prefer to add one quart of sorghum to each quart of stewed pumpkin and cook one hour, then spoon to taste before putting away.

Stewed Tripe.
Cover the tripe, after cutting it into inch squares, with cold water and set at the side of the range, where it will simmer slowly. At the end of four hours, drain off all the water except a half cup, and to this add a half pint of seasoned and stewed tomatoes and thicken with a white roux. Season to taste, stir until the sauce is smooth and thick, and serve.

A Hint in Egg-Bolling.
Though it is not generally known, it is nevertheless a fact, as any medical man will inform you, that eggs covered with boiling water and allowed to stand for five minutes are more nourishing and much more easily digested than eggs which have been placed in boiling water and allowed to boil furiously for three or three and a half minutes.

To Prevent Flatirons Sticking.
When ironing starched clothes, rub a little soap on the hot iron; it will prevent the iron sticking and give a beautiful gloss to the clothes.

THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME Are Never Without Pe-ru-na in the Home for Catarrhal Diseases.



Under date of January 10, 1897, Dr. Hartman received the following letter: "My wife has been a sufferer from a complication of diseases for the past 25 years. Her case has baffled the skill of some of the most noted physicians. One of her worst troubles was chronic constipation of several years' standing. She was also passing through that most critical period in the life of a woman—change of life."

"In June, 1895, I wrote to you about her case. You advised a course of Pe-ru-na and Manalin, which we at once commenced, and have to say it completely cured her."

"About the same time I wrote you about my own case of catarrh, which had been of 25 years' standing. At times I was almost past going."

"I commenced to use Pe-ru-na according to your instructions and continued its use for about a year and it has completely cured me. Your remedies do all that you claim for them and even more."—John O. Atkinson.

In a letter dated January 1, 1900, Mr. Atkinson says, after five years' experience with Pe-ru-na:

"I will ever continue to speak a good word for Pe-ru-na. I am still cured of catarrh."—John O. Atkinson, Independence, Mo., Box 272.

Mrs. Alla Schwanndt, Sanborn, Minn., writes:

"I have been troubled with rheumatism and catarrh for twenty-five years. Could not sleep day or night. After having used Pe-ru-na I can sleep and nothing bothers me now. If I ever am affected with any kind of sickness Pe-ru-na will be the medicine I shall use. My son was cured of catarrh of the larynx by Pe-ru-na."

Mrs. Alla Schwanndt.

Why Old People Are Especially Liable to Systemic Catarrh.

When old age comes on, catarrhal diseases come also. Systemic catarrh is almost universal in old people.

This explains why Pe-ru-na has become so indispensable to old people. Pe-ru-na is their safeguard. Pe-ru-na is the only remedy yet devised that entirely meets these cases. Nothing but an effective systemic remedy can cure them.

A reward of \$10,000 has been deposited in the Market Exchange bank, Columbus, Ohio, as a guarantee that the above testimonials are genuine; that we hold in our possession authentic letters certifying to the same. During many years' advertising we have never used, in part or in whole, a single spurious testimonial. Every one of our testimonials are genuine and in the words of the one whose name is appended.

Real Powers.

"Say, Winston, how would you like to witness a conflict between the powers?"

"Witnessed one the other day."

"Between the powers?"

"Sure! My wife, the cook and the teamman began a three-cornered squabble in the yard."

About one pineapple in 20,000 has seeds in it, and it is from these seeds that new varieties are produced.

The population of the earth doubles in 200 years.

Longest Fence in the World.

The longest fence in the world is probably that which has been erected by a well-known American cattle company along the Mexican border. It is seventy-five miles in length, and separates exactly for its entire distance the two republics of North America. The fence was built to keep the cattle from running across the border and falling an easy prey to the Mexican cow punchers. Although it cost a great deal of money, it is estimated that cattle enough will be saved in one year to more than pay for it.

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