

Topics of the Times

"The woman who hesitates is lost." The woman who speculates merely loses.

There is many a hard frost ahead of those prematurely budding presidential booms for 1908.

About the most terrific combination that has developed up to date is an intoxicated chauffeur and an automobile.

Mr. Ware is a poet, but when he gets to talking about the pension office there is more truth than poetry in his observations.

There are so many ways of adulterating milk nowadays that you can't be sure of the genuineness even of the creme de la creme.

A Wisconsin dog, by stepping on the trigger of a gun, shot a boy. Keep the guns away from the dogs as well as from the children.

Alexieff has been promoted again. Perhaps the Czar is raising Alexieff up so that the bump will be good and hard when he hits the bottom.

The women of Finland are demanding suffrage. Doubtless they will be able to get the sympathy of the women of Iowa without much trouble.

Things go wrong in this world without any help, but the things that go right would be appreciated if it were not for the efforts they require.

The Russian brand of patriotism may be judged from the fact that about half the population would leave the country if they could get safely over the border.

Russell Sage's nephew has gone on the stage as a member of the chorus in one of the musical comedies. If he had been Russell's niece he might have begun as a prima donna.

At Farmington, Me., recently a girl 15 years old was married to a man who had ten children. He should be compelled to put a tag on her so that there may be no danger of a mix-up.

Walter Winans, in his new book on the revolver, has a chapter on "Shooting in self defense." The gist of his advice is to hit the other fellow before he hits you, which is quite a simple matter.

The King of Servia wants to borrow \$8,000,000 and is willing to give his kingdom as security. The trouble with the king's scheme is that no prudent person would wish to foreclose in case the interest were not paid.

The Boston Art Museum has recently acquired a love letter thirty-five hundred years old. It is written on a brick and is addressed to an Egyptian lady. In those days it was not always an insult to throw a brick at one's sweetheart, and there was no danger of carrying such a letter forgotten in one's pocket.

When two New Hampshire children, 5 and 7 years old, who got lost and spent the night in the woods with only the family cat for company, were asked the next morning if they were not afraid, the younger one replied, "Why, no! We had kitty with us." Many an older person, alone in the woods save for the companionship of a dog, has felt the same sense of security.

The woman who complained that before marriage her lover brought her flowers, while as husband he substitutes beets and celery, should have been grateful instead of fault-finding. The lover has only to look out for enough ice cream and flowers; the father supplies the rest. After marriage the case is different. More things are to be provided. With meat, flour and the necessities of life as high in price as they are at the present time the wife should be thankful if to a good supply of these the husband adds a few vegetables also. In this world even sentiment has to give place to the necessities of life.

The people of the United States have about two-fifths as much money in savings banks as have the people of all the rest of the world together. The totals, as just published by the government, are \$3,000,000,000 for this country and \$7,000,000,000 for all other countries which gather savings bank statistics. That shows that we are a wealthy people, but it does not show that we are a saving people. Indeed, a closer investigation shows quite the reverse. Take Germany, for instance. There more than one in four of the people of the nation, including men, women and children, have savings bank accounts. The average deposit is \$147.88 for each depositor. That

shows the most widespread economy and heaping up of pennies. In this country, in contrast, less than one in ten of the people have savings bank accounts, but the average deposit is very much greater—\$418.89 for each depositor. That shows what we can do if we want to, but that we don't generally want to. Another way of approaching the figures emphasizes the point. There is actually more money in savings banks in Germany for each inhabitant of the country than there is here. The figure is \$39.98 in Germany and \$37.38 in the United States. Our people have doubtless more ways for investment open outside the savings banks than have the Germans. But, again, they don't feel the pressure that forces the accumulation of funds for the rainy day. They always—except in the periods of bad times—expect that the incomes will keep coming in all right. As the pressure for livelihood gets greater we may expect our savings deposits to grow enormously, and especially so since our resources and average incomes here will permit vastly greater accumulations than in Germany, when our people at last set themselves to the effort.

When one reads the story of a man who after pleading guilty to manslaughter is sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and of another who after pleading guilty to the theft of 50 cents is sentenced to three years' penal servitude, the first thought is that such a pair of sentences as that could only be possible in a barbarous land where injustice and malice masqueraded as justice and right. Yet just such sentences in just such cases were given in the criminal courts of London one day a couple of weeks ago. And what is more they exhibited a discriminating and intelligent administration of justice, far in advance of the courts of our forefathers, and in advance, indeed, of most of the courts of to-day. The murder in question was committed in a fit of passion by a man of excellent reputation, who had aimed rather to frighten than to injure the woman whose life he took. The judge felt that the crime had brought its own punishment, and that the criminal would be a better rather than a worse member of society in the future because of the awful lesson he had received. The theft was committed by an able-bodied man who made his living by "short-changing" shopgirls. He had been a swindler and thief from his boyhood, and repeated sentences, including a previous one to three years' hard labor, had not caused him to reform. He was manifestly a beast of prey, and a permanent menace to society. He was put out of harm's way for as long a term as the law would permit. The modern world is learning that it has to deal with such a thing as professional crime, which must be punished in a manner different from other kinds of crime. Its knowledge is the result of a psychological development, an increased insight into human conduct. Future criminal codes are bound to show the effects, and it is perhaps not rash to say that, however flourishing crime as a trade is to-day, the time will come when society will no more tolerate it than it would cannibalism or the burning furnaces of Babel.

Woburn Abbey. The Duchess of Bedford, who died in 1859, was rather weak-minded, and unhappily her education did little to disguise the defects which nature had imposed upon her. Her great dread was to have a visitor at Woburn abbey who would ask her hard questions about the foundation and history of the abbey. So if she had a savant in the party she always asked a man of higher rank to meet him, so that she might not be taken in to dinner by the savant. Once, as bad luck would have it, she got Lord Stanhope, the historian, who, though he had to take her in to dinner, was none the less a savant. As soon as he sat down to dinner he began the dreaded inquiries about the date of the abbey. The poor duchess, much frustrated, said: "I have a very poor head for these historical things, but I will tell you all I know. The founder was a crusader who, finding himself in great danger in battle, vowed that if he got home to Europe safe he would do anything the Pope told him. He got back safe and went to Rome, and the Pope told him to build a Cistercian abbey, and he built Woburn abbey. That's all I know."

Lord Stanhope said, "That is exactly what I wanted, for if you can tell me which Pope it was I can approximately fix the date."

"Oh," said the duchess, "I always understood it was the Pope of Rome!"—*Manchester Guardian.*

Getting at the Cause.

"The great problem of the age appears to be how to prevent divorces."

"No problem at all if you go at it right."

"How would you go at it?"

"By stopping marriages, of course."

—*Illinois State Journal.*

Speaking of old time customs: There is that of getting the winding sheet and mourning ready before breath has left the body. Want that back?

HOW TO BUY A HAIR BRUSH.

Points to Be Considered Before Closing the Transaction.

The first essential of a good hair brush is that the bristles should really be bristles, not imitations, and that they should be of a good kind. Russian bristles are the best; they are obtained from the back of the wild boar.

Russian bristles are very stiff, tapering in shape, about seven inches in length, and either black or white. These are the longest and stiffest of all; only the butt end is used for hair brushes, and the other end, known as the "flag," is employed for making painting and decorating brushes.

The flag tapers very thin, and ends in several sprouts, so that it makes a very soft and flexible brush. The butt end of the Russian bristle may be recognized by its thickness, for no other bristle has so large a diameter.

The next best variety is the Chinese, and is sent from Tientsin; it is a black bristle, about five and a half inches in length, and less stiff than the Russian. It is not so durable as this latter, but in other respects it is not far behind.

German bristles vary in length and quality; they are black, white, and brown, and the length ranges from six inches to a mere stump of an inch or so. The white are regarded as the best of all these German varieties, and consequently fetch the highest price.

American bristles are short, ranging from two and a half to three and a half inches; they are soft and flexible, and for that reason are not so well adapted for the manufacture of hair brushes; however, they are cheap, and are therefore largely used to mix with the stiffer kinds. This, by the way, is one of the points to be noted when buying—see if all the bristles have the same stiffness.

Yet another variety is that obtained from the sea cow; these bristles are hard and durable, and they are black in color.

Imitation bristles in the shape of fibers are often used. To detect the true bristle from the imitation, and also to ascertain the quality of the real article, run your finger down the center of the brush; if the bristles spring back quickly into the straight, upright position, they are genuine, but if they return slowly to the original position, it will be well to examine them more closely, for this lack of resilience, or springiness, is one of the signs by which you will recognize the fiber.

See that the bristles are secured to the back of the brush by wire.—*Pearson's Weekly.*

MOST REMARKABLE LIFE.

Woman Lives 111 Years. Surviving All of Her 44 Descendants.

The most remarkable existence of a human being—one whose surviving parent died at her birth, who lived 111 years, and who has recently died in Sharon, Minn., leaving not a single descendant—is that of Mrs. Wakeley. By her death the oldest woman of Minnesota has been removed from the scene of her remarkable life. Mrs. Wakeley was 111 years of age. Despite the fact that she was married three times and became the mother of fourteen children, who all lived to the age of 20 years or more, and many of whom married and became fathers and mothers, yet all of Mrs. Wakeley's husband's relatives died before she did, and at her death she left not a relative to survive her.

Three months before her birth, on July 3, 1793, her father, one of the imperial guards of the person of the Dauphin of France, was killed by the Jacobin shoemaker, Antoine Simon, to whom the young prince was given in charge by the revolutionists. Her mother, who was English by birth, died in giving birth to her only child, and a distant English relative named her Wakeley. Her father's name was Isadore Dumoreiz.

At the age of sixteen Pureheart Dumoreiz was married to a captain in the English army, who, two years later, was killed at the battle of Waterloo. The young widow, shortly after her bereavement, came to the United States with a party of emigrants, and four years later married a man named Edward Gray, who enlisted in the army and was the first American soldier killed by the Mexicans, Aug. 19, 1847, in the first attack on the City of Mexico.

She then went to California with a party of gold seekers in 1850, and there, in 1860, married Oscar Wakeley, a successful miner. Two years later the Wakeleys removed from California to Johnstown, Pa., where their numerous descendants lived, and where forty-three members of the family, all of them except Mrs. Wakeley and one son, were drowned in the flood of May, 1889.

With this son Mrs. Wakeley went to Minnesota and bought a large farm near Luverne. Six years later she and her son rented the farm and moved to Galveston, Tex., where the son lost his life in the tidal wave that overwhelmed that city. Mrs. Wakeley escaped and went back to the Minnesota farm, where she resided until her death.

QUEER STORIES

Throughout the world about 3 per cent of people gain their living directly from the sea.

Paris has one acre of park for every fifteen persons; Liverpool, one for every one thousand.

Rome has a water supply of 200,000,000 gallons a day; London only 100,000,000, and Paris 90,000,000.

The children of the poor in Japan are nearly always labeled, in case they should stray away from their homes while their mothers are engaged on domestic duties.

Mrs. Alexander Hamilton had the first ice cream in the city of Washington. She used to tell with amusement of the delight with which President Andrew Jackson first tasted it.

Dealers in charcoal in Havana are said never to have yellow fever, while in lay circles it is advised always to have it about during its prevalence, because of its absorbing properties, it is presumed.

Near the famous Stony Cave, in the Catskills, there is a smaller cave in which ice exists all the year round. This locality is locally known as the Notch, and is walled in on all sides by steep mountains, some of which are more than three thousand feet high.

In Denmark there are companies which insure women who have a fear of becoming old maids. They pay stated sums every year, and should they marry before they are 40, what they have paid in goes to the less fortunate. After they are 40, they receive pensions for life.

Havana's bread carts are usually two legged; that is, bread is carried about the streets in large, shallow baskets, borne on top of men's heads. It is served in sticks as long as a baseball bat, or in small loaves or pones, one of which is supposed to serve for the morning meal of an ordinary citizen.

The most crooked railway in the world is one from Boswell to Friedens, Pa., the air-line distance being five miles. The road doubles on itself four times, and at one point, after making a loop of about five miles, the road comes back to within three hundred feet of itself on a grade fifty feet lower.

In 1839 Harriet Martineau visited the United States, and reported seven occupations only open to women—teaching, needlework, keeping boarders, working in the factories, typesetting, bookkeeping and household service. Now there are about four hundred occupations in which women are employed.

Professor Mohn of Christiania having discovered that at the Lofoten islands cod are invariably to be found in waters whose temperature is always between four and five degrees above the freezing point, Norwegian fishermen now make use of the thermometer as a recognized means of detecting the presence of the fish.

A scientist once put an automatic music-box on the lawn and spent many hours watching the robins, blue tits and other birds gathering about it. A looking-glass put up where the birds can see themselves in it is also very attractive, while a combination of a musical box and a looking-glass please the birds more than anything else one could put out for their amusement.

Physicists have concluded that the earth in its motion does not drag the ether along with it, and thus each body on the earth's surface, in virtue of its motion with the earth, is traversed by a stream of ether. The question thus arises: Does light travel through such a body with the same speed along the stream of ether as it does against it or across it? The experiments of Michelson and Morley in America lead to an affirmative answer for air. Lord Rayleigh, in England, has obtained the same answer as to liquids, and is now engaged on a research in respect to the phenomena relating to solids.

Man or Mountain.

Clifford B. Hildreth is the proprietor of a hotel at York Beach, Me., a few miles from a promontory known as Baldhead Cliff. The place is wild and picturesque, and is the mecca of many summer visitors.

Hildreth is called "Cliff" by all who know him. His head has pushed through his hair, and he has little use for a comb. A few weeks ago a party of tourists stopped in front of his hotel, and, seeing Mrs. Hildreth on the veranda, one of the men called out: "Can you tell me where Baldhead Cliff is?"

"He must be around the house somewhere," said Mrs. Hildreth. "I saw him just a few minutes ago." She was not disconcerted by the slangy title that she believed the tourist had bestowed on her husband.

Those women who go on the theory that a few minutes' waiting for meals makes no difference to their husbands, have another guess coming.

Farmers are so prosperous now that farmers' wives usually bring chickens to town in the family carriage.

Eruptions

The only way to get rid of pimples and other eruptions is to cleanse the blood, improve the digestion, stimulate the kidneys, liver and skin. The medicine to take is **Hood's Sarsaparilla** Which has cured thousands.

Nothing Too Good.

In the remote fastnesses of the Southern mountains there are many cabins in which sugar, even of the unrefined variety, is unknown. Most things go unsweetened, but for special occasions there is reserved a jug of molasses or corn syrup, known familiarly as "long sweetening."

It was in such a cabin that an itinerant preacher was called upon to pass the night. The mountaineers were delighted at the honor of entertaining such distinguished company. When supper time came, the usual repast of biscuits and frizzled pork was increased by the addition of boiled potatoes. But when it came to pouring the coffee, the hostess was in her glory. She produced a demijohn of "long sweetening," and filled the minister's cup more than half full of it.

The minister viewed this proceeding with alarm.

"There, there, my good woman," he protested, vehemently, "that will do, that will do! No more, I beg of you!"

But "my good woman" mistook the cause of his protest.

"Lawdy me!" she exclaimed. "Don't be worried, parson. Why, all 'larses ain't too good for the minister."

FITS Permanently Cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for Free 62 trial bottle and treatise. Dr. R. H. Kline, Ltd., 931 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

As Abbreviated.

Said a young physician named Proctor, "I thought I was my grocer's Dr. But according to his statement by letter, it seems that I am only his Dr."

Why Should He.

Casey—Did ye take a vacation this year, Mike?
Corrigan—O! did not. O! was out on strike from May to October.—Puck.

Of the thirty-eight Sultans who have ruled the Ottoman empire since the conquest of Constantinople by the Turks, thirty-four have died violent deaths.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

The city of Sheffield charges \$10.50 for cremating in the city crematory the bodies of residents and \$21 for the bodies of non-residents.

In a recent case in a Paris court it was stated that the defendant, a young officer of cavalry, had spent \$400,000 in five months.

The increase of Canada's export trade in 1903 with Great Britain over the United States was \$42,000,000; in 1903, \$57,000,000.

BOILS AND ERUPTIONS

Have been suffering from Impure Blood for many years, having Boils and other Eruptions. Having heard of S. S. S. I decided to try it, and am glad to say that it has done me a great deal of good. I intend to continue to use it, as I believe it to be the best Blood Medicine on the market. Cleveland, Tenn. W. K. DITERS.

For over fifteen years I have suffered more or less from Impure Blood. About a year ago I had a boil appear on my leg below the knee, which was followed by three more on my neck. I saw S. S. S. advertised and decided to try it. After taking three bottles all Boils disappeared and I have not been troubled any since. GEO. G. FERTIG, 114 W. Jefferson St., Louisville, Ky.

Newark, Ohio, May 23, 1903. From childhood I had been bothered with bad blood, skin eruptions and boils. I had boils ranging from five to twenty in number each season. The burning accompanying the eruption was terrible. S. S. S. seemed to be just the medicine needed in my case. It drove out all impurities and bad blood, giving me permanent relief from the skin eruption and boils. This has been ten years ago, and I have never had a return of the disease. Mrs. J. D. ATHERTON.

Write for our book on blood and skin diseases. Medical advice or any special information about your case will cost you nothing. The Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Ga.

SSS Write for our book on blood and skin diseases. Medical advice or any special information about your case will cost you nothing. The Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Ga.

PISO'S CURE FOR CURE FOR ALL BILE FAILS Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists. CONSUMPTION