

Topics of the Times

Heaven will be a sad place for some folk; there will be nothing left to kick about.

Some of these days Dr. Wiley should investigate the pure Vermont maple syrup of commerce.

The Nan Patterson case has been dramatized by Clyde Fitch. Nan seems to have overlooked a bet in not copy-righting herself.

The Mormon Church makes the proceedings of the other secret societies seem as public as the free performance in front of the sideshow.

If, as Dr. Krauskopf says, "religion is an investment" the man who contributes a penny a Sunday has about as much religion as he pays for.

Scientists assert that women think quicker than men. But some men haven't a very high opinion of the quality of thought they turn out.

Secretary Taft says there are many business opportunities for Americans in the Philippines. The undertaking business ought to be good in the Moro country.

The Sultan of Turkey is trying to borrow money from German bankers. He must think the Germans have been too busy to read about Cassie Chadwick.

A Chicago man is supporting his nineteen children and their mother on an income of \$9 a week. When it comes to expert financiering there is something worthy of study.

"How to Make Money," a periodical whose name indicated its purpose, has died for lack of nourishment. Its publishers, of course, failed to tell what they evidently didn't know.

A woman killed her husband and refuses to tell why. This should be a rebuke to the idly curious. A woman should not be pressed for the motive of every little domestic incident.

A California heiress of forty has married a bell boy of twenty-five. Of course it is a great scandal, but if their ages and positions had been reversed it would only have been a happy romance.

Mme. Schumann-Heink has renounced her allegiance to the German emperor and become an American. If William Waldorf Astor hears about it he will think the lady must be unbalanced mentally.

A Minnesota congregation has asked its pastor to resign because he owns a fast horse, while a New York clergyman has had trouble with his flock for riding to church in an automobile. Clerical brother, where do you get off?

A scientist figures that the earthquakes of seven years exerted a force of 75,000,000 horse power. It is strange that no promoter has started an earthquake syndicate in the motor line, capitalized at \$1 per horse power. It would be as substantial as some of the other trusts.

A "seventh son of a seventh son" has been arrested in New York for practicing medicine without a license. Evidently he overlooked the fact that it is necessary even for the seventh son of a seventh son to get incorporated in New Jersey before he can safely snap his finger at the law.

How rapidly the South is growing is interestingly shown by some of the missionary work which Southern railroads are doing in bringing settlers into territory which needs them. The agent of one road lately remarked that he had on hand thirty-five thousand negotiations in a more or less completed state, ranging all the way from the search for a "home acre" to locations for great industrial plants.

Secretary Taft maintains that a million dollars can be spent more profitably in building rifle galleries in the principal cities of the country, for the purpose of making the young men of the country expert marksmen, than in getting the regular army and the militia together in field maneuvers. The military authorities would like to have clubs of marksmen organized throughout the country to use the proposed rifle galleries. This policy is in line with the President's belief that in war the shot that hits is the only one that counts.

Because it is quick the telephone is peculiarly adapted to the needs and temperament of the American people, and though now finding general employment abroad, it has reached its highest development in the country which gave it birth. Long distance conversations ceased years ago to be

a novelty and are now a necessity of everyday business and social life. In a few minutes' talk by 'phone matters can now be arranged which would require hours for settlement by telegraph, and days if the mails had to be employed. The 'phone is perhaps the truest emblem of this swiftly living age.

Gambling at bridge by women goes on extensively in both private houses and public hotels. Dinners are hurried through in order that the party may the sooner engage in gambling, and some of the women are noted as the sharpest and most grasping of gamblers. Gambling made fashionable among women is a rather serious matter. It is bad enough among men, but when the mania extends to women, who are held tighter in its grasp, the moralist has special reason to fear the consequences. Probably there has never been a time when the vogue of gambling among women of fashionable society was wider than it is now, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that it will increase. Luxury falls and new varieties of stimulation are sought. The devil finds mischief still for idle hands to do.

How to live long and enjoy life is a problem of perennial interest. Many of the alleged solutions are delusive because they ignore one or the other half of the problem. They either aim at longevity at the expense of joy or secure joy at the cost of longevity. Plenty of exercise is generally advised, but there are hardened sinners who will take any risk rather than submit to the accessible forms of exercise. A severe and ascetic regimen is another favorite suggestion which to multitudes seems "a remedy worse than the disease." But Drs. Duke and Hollander, nerve specialists of London, have just advanced—or emphasized—a theory which should command an easy and phenomenal success. Do you wish to preserve youth and at the same time assure yourself the maximum of happiness and the minimum of privation and routine? If so, take an immense amount of mental exercise. The authorities named say that the average agricultural laborer in England is threatened with softening of the brain or mental paralysis at the comparatively early age of 65 or 70, simply because he does not use his mind. Doing little thinking, he gives the blood no chance to circulate through the brain, and mental decay results. On the other hand, judges and statesmen who constantly employ their intellectual faculties live to a great age and do not lose their keen interest in the activities of existence to the very end. We naturally think of men like Humboldt, Gladstone, Spencer and of many aged scientists and public men still living and in harness, and find abundant confirmation of the theory in question. And the best feature of the theory is that the means prescribed are not only within the reach of all, not excepting the worst paid of agricultural laborers, but, in addition, are so agreeable and delightful that they may be resorted to for their own sake. Mental exercise in this day and generation need not involve the least drudgery to the adult. With excellent newspapers, full of discussions of intricate problems of political, economic, religious and social life, with periodicals galore, with cheap editions of immortal masters like Milton, Shakespeare, and scores of other poets, novelists, essayists, dramatists and philosophers, and with free and traveling libraries, need any man forego the stimulation, exhilaration and pleasure of mental activity? Experts who tell us not to worry are indulging in counsel of perfection, but when they tell us to read great books, think of lofty and noble things and exercise our mental faculties they point to the most effectual method of making our troubles seem small and ephemeral and reducing worry to the minimum.

No Place for Modern Legal Lights. Many unkind things are said and printed about members of the legal profession, only a few of which are deserved.

"Billy" Saunders is a natural born wit. He is in his eightieth year, living in New York, and is still working at his trade, painting. On a recent occasion "Billy" and one or two of his mates were beautifying a lawyer's office. The younger partner, thinking to take a "rise" out of "Billy," said: "I say, 'Billy,' did you ever know of a painter going to heaven?"

"Yes," said "Billy," "I knew of one once."

"And do you think he stayed there?"

"Well, I did hear that they tried to put him out."

"And did they succeed?"

"No. According to the latest accounts, they had not succeeded."

"Why, how was that?"

"Well, sonny, it was this way. They couldn't find a lawyer in the place to draw up the papers."

Ethnological Heresy. No ethnological heresy is wider spread among the English-speaking than that the 80,000,000 or so citizens of the United States are Anglo-Saxons.

DOGS ON THE POLICE FORCE.

Philadelphia Has Found St. Bernards Useful as Aids to the Blue Coats.

Dogs on the battlefield, as rescuers of wounded who have crawled into out of the way places to die, are no longer a novelty. Dogs as policemen are decidedly new and novel. It has been proven by the police of Philadelphia that a trained dog is the best adjunct the force can have.

Recently it occurred to one of the patrolmen that it would be a relief during the lonely hours of the morning watch if he took his dog to share the dreary vigil. With the marvelous instinct of the intelligent animal the dog soon got into the habit of following his master to the station house, standing in line when the roll was called, and accompanying him everywhere on his beat. By degrees the actual duties of a policeman seemed to become familiar to the dog. It required only one experience with a tramp, freeing to death in an alleyway on the policeman's beat to show the clever dog what was required of him.

Thereafter Rex, who is a splendid specimen of the St. Bernard, and who has inherited the instinct of rescuing unfortunates who are succumbing to cold, spent most of his time when on "duty" in nosing up alleyways, peering under wagons, searching in doorways, hunting in gutters, and sniffing around dark corners, always on the watch for some wayfarer dead to the world and likely to be dead in actual fact unless speedily restored to consciousness.

Rex adopted his own method of procedure when he found such cases. Running to his master he caught at his coat and dragged him to the spot where the freezing tramp or inebriate lay. Not until the man had been transferred to the ambulance or patrol wagon was Rex ever satisfied to resume his search for other unfortunates. From the search for men who had fallen unconscious by the wayside to the recovery of lost children was a natural and easy transition. Rex grasped the idea quickly that a child crying in



DOG AS POLICE ASSISTANT.

the midst of a group of sympathizers was pretty sure to be lost.

In the daytime, when his master was sleeping, Rex, who seems to be able to get along almost without rest, will wander the streets looking for lost children. Occasionally he makes mistakes and half frightens to death some youngster who is not lost, but merely in tears over one of the numerous vicissitudes of infant life. The number of times, however, that he has brought to the station house, after the fashion of his species in the Alps, some little girl or boy who has been led along with his or her arm around the big dog's neck, proves the usefulness of the animal as a member of the police force.

In addition to his cleverness in rescuing freezing wayfarers and bringing to the station house strays from the family fold, Rex has to his credit the finding of no less than five fires in the smoldering condition that, taken in time, can be quenched with a bucket of water. With his marvelously keen scent Rex smells fire long before the presence of the smoke issuing from some crevice discloses the danger to the watchman. In this way he has saved thousands of dollars' worth of property. It has become the habit with the police of Philadelphia who are on duty at night to take with them a pet dog. While not officially recognized by the police department of the Quaker city, the dog department is unofficially becoming an important branch of the public safety branch of the city government. It is not predicting too much, therefore, to say that the model city of the future will include among its protectors a trained band of St. Bernard dogs.—Philadelphia Press.

They Do Not Smoke.

"It's a queer thing," said an old-timer, "that although I meet hundreds of letter carriers daily, yet I never saw one smoking a cigar, or a pipe, or even a cigarette while they are either delivering or collecting mail."

"Now you would imagine that they would take comfort in a smoke traveling around as they do. I am sure they get scores of cigars as tokens of appreciation in the course of a year, yet you never see them smoke while on duty. I wonder why?"

When a man marries a second time, and his children do not object, it means that he is in failing health, and they don't want the job of nurse.

When St. Jacobs Oil Hurts, Sprains, Bruises

The old monk cure, strong, straight, sure, tackles

The muscles flex, the kinks untwist, the soreness dies out. Price 25c. and 50c.

A Chief of Bolivia.



A COMMON STREET SCENE.

In Bolivia a chief, who is an inveterate gossip, is enabled to see and hear everything that goes on. His stove is portable, being made of a great stone hollowed out, with two openings, one at the side for fuel, the other at the top for the earthen saucepan; and he sets it up in the street, outside the door.

Methods of High Finance.

"How is it that the company declared a 10 per cent dividend last year and had a 10 per cent deficit this year with the same amount of business?" "They had to have the deficit to balance the dividend."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

The "Sleepy" Woodchuck.

If there is any one of our native animals that looks slow, clumsy, "lazy" and generally unfit to survive in the struggle for existence it is the woodchuck. After he has built, or, rather, excavated, his home—which, to tell the truth, he does in a rapid and businesslike way—he does nothing but eat and sleep. Yet anyone who sizes him up as an incompetent is likely to get fooled, for he is a source of continual surprises.

When your garden is not far from the woods you may be awakened in the middle of the night by a series of most alarming yells and howls, occasioned by some hungry woodchuck that has come out for a nocturnal visit to the cabbage patch and met with a warm reception from our two dogs. The woodchuck usually gets away apparently unharmed, while the dogs are left to nurse their scratched noses and sore paws. The woodchuck, in fact, has plenty of courage, and will always fight in preference to running away.

Throughout the summer this little "wood pig" spends most of his time in the vicinity of his burrow, coming out early in the morning to take his breakfast, returning to his nest for a morning nap, appearing again at noon and late in the afternoon for his dinner and supper, only to return for another snooze. Occasionally he makes a visit to some neighboring orchard or garden. By October 1, when he is fat, he retires into his subterranean home for a long sleep, until, we are led to believe, the proverbial "ground-hog" day.—Country Life in America.

Ambition.—Have a purpose. Aimless people never get anywhere. Having lost ambition through disappointment of the smothering, dwarfing power of sin, they wander heedlessly from land to land. Others move home or boarding place regularly. Such folks can do many odd jobs, but master no great task.—Rev. C. F. Reiser, Methodist, Denver, Col.

Endurance.—Patience is the calm endurance of those changes and sufferings that may come to us. Sailors say it is but lying to and riding out the gale. Paul says our God is a God of patience. His great patience is shown in the patience and perfection of creation, awaiting and abiding its proper time and order.—Rev. C. O. Jones, Episcopalian, Atlanta, Ga.

About Time.

Father (of large family)—My dear, isn't it about time you were thinking of getting married? Daughter—Land sakes! I haven't thought of anything else for years.

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES. Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Your druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure you in 6 to 14 days. 50c.

A gutta-percha and rubber manufacturing company of Toronto has made a belt for the grain elevator of the Intercolonial Railway at St. John which is one of the largest ever produced. It is of rubber, and measures 3,259 feet. Its weight is nine tons.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

Hours the Same.

Miss Budd—When a man's engaged to a girl his idea of "good hours" is to stay from 8 o'clock until any time after midnight.

Miss Oldun—Yes, and even after marriage the hours are the same.

Miss Budd—Indeed!

Mrs. Oldun—Yes; the only difference is that in one case they're hours "with her," and in the other "away from her."—Catholic Standard.

For coughs and colds there is no better medicine than Piso's Cure for Consumption. Price 25 cents.

Making a Close Distinction.

Benevolent Party—Young man, I'm sorry to see you thus idling away the golden hours of youth. Every time I look out of my parlor window I see you sitting on this fire hydrant.

The Young Man—What's th' matter with you? What are you givin' me? I ain't idle when I'm doin' nothing. I'm a sewer inspector.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

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

Paying for Information.

"Say, me good man," exclaimed the city youth, who was undecided whether to buy shrimp or minnows, "what do you catch fish with around here?" "Give me a quarter and I'll tell you," grunted the ruralite with the new-cut pole.

"Here it is. Now, what do you catch them with?"

"Hooks!"—Philadelphia Record.

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