

Topics of the Times

The spice of married life consists in guessing what will happen next.

By the way, was it not asked many years ago: "Who reads a Usanian book?"

Bertha Krupp's income is \$2,400,000 a year. And she doesn't seem to be anxious to purchase a title.

By the way, couldn't that circus trust be induced to save money by doing away with the callopes?

Mrs. Chadwick's husband is said to be "an unassuming" person. She has assumed enough for the family.

The comic papers are right sometimes. A New York man had to summon the police to help him discharge the cook the other day.

King Peter of Serbia announces that he is in favor of arbitration. Almost anybody would, in Peter's place, be an enthusiast on the subject.

There is a loud call for teachers in the Philippines. One trouble with the Philippines is the scarcity of marriageable white men over there.

If Chicago has any ambition to get to the front and outdo the St. Louis exposition record, Chicago is very successful in concealing the fact.

No doubt the government officers who are to investigate the tobacco trust suspected there was some fire where there was so much smoke.

A Japanese young man has been advertising in the Washington papers for a situation. He can probably get one, without much trouble, by going home.

The Ohio farmer who hid his savings in an old stocking instead of depositing them with a banker friend of Mrs. Chadwick is now having his laugh.

Therman who can draw checks and have them honored can always draw a circle of friends who will partake of his hospitality and tell him what a jolly good fellow he is.

A Chicago man has sued for an injunction to restrain his wife from talking. Some people are inclined to talk altogether too much faith in the possibilities of government by injunction.

The birth rate in Germany is falling off. Let the Kaiser offer the same encouragement to parents of twins and triplets that President Roosevelt has and see how quickly all this will change.

Experiments carried on at the California Medical College show that the healthy human stomach is electrical in its action. Perhaps the time is coming when people may throw away their pills and simply put in new batteries.

Great Britain is about to add twenty-six war ships to her navy. The fact that the people of England are able to bear up under the increasing weight of naval taxation is a most wonderful evidence of the staying powers of the tight little island and its people.

All indications favor a heavy movement of home-seekers next spring from the older States east and south into the sparsely settled districts of Minnesota and the Dakotas. One of the surest signs of this is to be found in the plans of the large land agencies, which are preparing to grasp the opportunity and direct the newcomers to suitable homes.

A Chicago physician who on the witness stand told a lawyer that he was a "bulldozer" was promptly fined \$50 by the presiding judge for contempt of court. It is morally certain, nevertheless, that many lawyers make a practice of "bulldozing" both witnesses and courts. If judges would be more particular in the matter of restraining them they would have less occasion to complain of contempt either actual or constructive.

It is often said that only the rich take care of the pennies, the poor are too busy dreaming of the \$1,000 bills. That is one of the reasons why some people are always poor. The substantial fortunes of the United States have been made from pennies. A fraction of a cent on a pound of sugar, a cent or two on every gallon of petroleum, a penny more a pound for nails, grow into the aggregate millions of profits which are the base for the billions of stock capitalization. A cent a pound is more than most extreme fluctuation in the wholesale price of iron and steel, more than the difference between riches and bankruptcy in a great industry. These savings are as possible to the average man as to the trust magnates.

Rev. W. H. Head complains that "as men grow wealthy their sympathies decrease; that in proportion to their wealth they tend to withdraw themselves from personal work and substitute for it some endowed institution or hired missionary. In other words, Mr. Head complains that the rich man applies good business methods to his philanthropies." The clergyman does not see how impossible it would be for a man having immense business

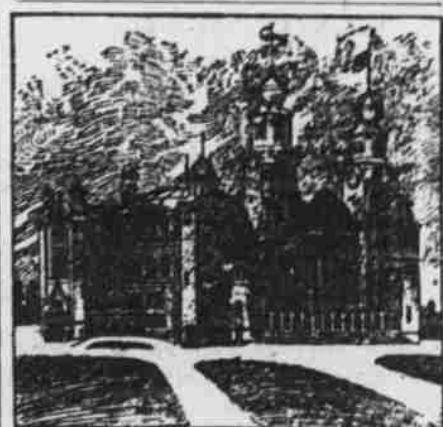
interests to attend to his affairs and at the same time give ear to the thousand and one demands made on his purse, look into individual cases and balance the comparative merits of each. He surely passes them over to one in whose judgment and ability he has entire confidence. This does not mean that his sympathies are lessened or his heart hardened. It means that he does not scatter his energy, but knows how to direct it in a way that will give the best results.

Now comes a Chicago doctor with a discovery which he believes will give him millions and a place in the Hall of Fame. The dope he has concocted is to be spread on the lips as a slayer of germs that are supposed to be transferred during the act of kissing. He doesn't say whether the stuff is to be applied before or after, and it doesn't make any difference. An institution that seems to have become popular at about the time of creation does not need any patent appliances or scientific study. It was as good in the beginning as it is now, and gives no indication of becoming either unfashionable or undesirable. But this is not a matter for logic. Kissing is a custom, a pleasure, a habit. It is a barometer of human affections. Find a man or woman who does not believe in kissing and you will find a human being with heart enclosed in a shell. As balm for a wounded heart, as an accompaniment of lovers' sighs and protestations, as a mark of respect as well as affection, the kiss is here to stay. And it is the language that is as well understood in Russia as in Colorado; in Germany just the same as in Ohio. And the people want it plain, tender, true, with no applications of any foreign substance to make it sanitary. Let's have one institution untouched by human ambition.

The paradoxical definition of vice, that it is virtue carried to excess, is true at least thus far: that any excess is vicious. Men may work themselves to death; they may drink themselves into nervous wrecks, using nothing worse than tea or coffee; they may lose all they possess by "gambling" through taking too great chances in business. A man may exercise himself into uselessness. So much has been said in recent years of the importance of exercise that every one admits it, save now and then a wag. Like Senator Evans of New York, who once said that he owed his long life and good health to the fact that he never took any exercise. Many a youth, in taking the exercise that pleases him, discovers that he has great skill at tennis or base-ball, bicycle racing or foot racing, hurdle jumping or hand springs, and the temptation is strong to neglect other matters for the development of the particular physical facility with which he may be endowed. When he yields, he usually degenerates into a professional athlete. Physical development becomes the end of his endeavor, when it should be merely a help in fitting him to do his work in the world. The professional athlete, that is, the one who makes a business of athletics, is not usually allowed to engage in college or other amateur contests, where athletics are regarded as a means rather than as an end. This is right. It is desirable that in all education its object should not be obscured by the allurements of any of the methods used in bringing about the final result of a well-developed man or woman.

PROPOSED DOWIE TEMPLE.

Great Shiloh Tabernacle Under Contemplation at Zion City. The picture shows the exterior of the great Shiloh tabernacle which John Alexander Dowie intends to build at his famous Zion City. He has had the project in mind for several years, but his recent pecuniary embarrassment



PROPOSED DOWIE TABERNACLE.

delayed its commencement. Now, however, he expects to begin the construction of what he terms the "most magnificent temple of worship in the country." It will be of oriental style and will cost about \$500,000. The interior will be in horseshoe form and will seat 16,000 persons. It is to be constructed of limestone blocks supported by steel frames.

To Be Really Realistic.

"This, said the dramatist, who was elaborating the scenario of his new play to the manager, 'is to be a realistic society drama. The heroine makes a thrilling entrance in an auto.' 'What does she do then?' asked the manager.

"Why, of course she meets the hero and the villain and the subterfuge and the rest, and the play goes on to the usual happy ending."

"Well, you start realistically enough, but you weaken on your finish."

"How's that?" asked the puzzled playwright.

"If she's going to come in on an auto she and a few of the rest ought to make their exit in an ambulance."—Judge.

Lots of men use their last dollar bucking the tiger instead of using it to keep the wolf from the door.

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

The City Man in the Country.

BACK to the farm is now the talk and dream of thousands of people who begin to realize that the city does not hold all of life that is worth having. Ten or fifteen years ago all the talk and tendency was of and to the city. Every city boy was determined to stay in the city, and every country boy of energy and ability had made up his mind to go to the city in search of fortune.

Now city boys plan to live in the country, and thousands and thousands of men and women, grown weary of the narrowness city life means to the less fortunate, are hoping and planning for the day when they may leave the smoke and grime and imprisoning walls of the city behind and seek the country, with its open spaces, its pure air and its freedom. Of course, the city will always draw from the country. It must if it is to succeed. But it is essential that there shall be something in the country for it to draw from, which there will not be if the current is always to set in one direction. It would be well for the nation if every generation could spend its youth or a large part of it in the country.

Of course, there are bound to be many disappointments for those who leave the city for the farm. Some of them have a sentimental liking for the country, but are not able to adapt themselves to the conditions of life and business in the country. They wish to be in but not of the country. Others carry their city notions of money-making to the farm and expect to get rich quick. These are generally disappointed early in the game. An agricultural paper tells of a city man who buried \$30,000 on a 250-acre farm in fifteen years trying to breed fancy stock. Another city man, who could easily earn \$2,400 a year in an office, lost \$10,000 in Kentucky experimenting with a bee farm. A traveling man who has been making \$5,000 a year tried Angora goat farming in Missouri and lost \$7,000 in three years.

Yet the editor who narrates these hard luck stories does not discourage the city man who would turn to the farm; he only advises him to begin humbly, learn well and proceed cautiously. Instead of going into specialties at first, the beginner would better try diversified farming. "It is the small farm," the editor says, "some poultry, a few hogs, two or three cows, some fruits, berries and a few acres of common crops that most satisfy the man who makes the abrupt change from city to country."—Minneapolis Journal.

The Physical Basis of Character.

HOW much of character is constitutional? That is a question often in the mind of every man who desires to judge justly of himself and his neighbors. For ourselves, we are inclined to reply that it is but a non-essential part which can be so considered. All the same, certain admirable and important qualities appear to have a close connection with the physique; for instance, courage, energy and good temper. Many forms of illness sap the courage of the most courageous. Low health reduces energy, and hunger or indigestion tries the sweetest temper. On the other hand, such qualities as sincerity, sympathy and honesty have apparently no relation to the physical constitution which can be traced. No one is insincere because he feels "seedy," or cruel because he has a cold in his head, or a swindler because his temperature is above or below normal. The truth we believe to be this: that only the secondary virtues—those virtues, we mean, which can be replaced by a judicious blend of other qualities—are dependent upon the physical constitution, while the real essential of character, the primary colors of virtue as we may call them, have no physical connection whatever. But, it may be said, surely courage is a primary virtue? In one sense no doubt it is, but not in the sense that red is a primary color. Many men without natural courage have been able to make something else do as well; indeed, they have been able to produce in themselves a quality which to all intents and purposes is courage. The sense of duty and the habit of self-discipline have carried men with honor through dangers as terrible as ever were met by the natural gift of pluck. * * * Of course, we do not mean that good intentions will make a hero of every man. That would be an absurd contention. Many

FRIDAY NOT UNLUCKY.

On the Contrary, Statistics Show that It is a Day of Good Fortune.

Friday, it has been discovered by a painstaking and laborious statistician, is not the unluckiest but actually the luckiest day of the week.

Taking all the great calamities which befall humanity, the painstaking gatherer of facts has discovered that the general average gives the title of "luckiest day" to Friday, and that of unluckiest to Monday.

The moral is plain. Beware of Monday.

In one line alone it has been found that Friday deserves its present title. In railroad accidents Friday heads the list. So it is wise, if you be superstitious, to avoid beginning a journey on Friday.

The "thirteen superstition" was knocked in the head long ago, and it was to be supposed that an iconoclastic age would "take a punch" at the Friday dread before long.

Sir William Churchill was one of the first to discard the superstition. "Friday is my lucky day," he wrote. "I was born, christened, married, and knighted on that day, and all my best accidents have befallen me on a Friday."

It has not been necessary for a person to admit being superstitious to acknowledge a preference for beginning certain things on any other day than Friday. This feeling is inborn in nearly all nationalities except the Scandinavians.

Sir William Churchill's experiences might not be accepted as disproving the general rule against Friday undertakings, but the conclusions of the statistician may have more weight.

First he takes the record of assassinations. In these he discovers that Sunday is pre-eminently the conspicuous day. Wednesday comes next, counting attempts which did not succeed as well as attempts which did. Saturday is third, and Monday fourth. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday are equal.

There is a possibility that the person having in mind such an attack

of us who know in our hearts that we are decent people, who have no sense whatever of what old-fashioned divines called our own depravity, can, alas! never bring ourselves to doubt that if Destiny should drag us up to one of the great tests—as nowadays she seldom drags the average man—we should fail. But that is as much because we are lacking in will-power as because we are lacking in courage, duty or idealism, with sufficient motive force from the will, would carry us through. * * * All the virtues which depend upon temperament are of immense use to their possessors. They are labor-saving and happiness-producing endowments, but they are not necessary to the charm or worth of character. Substitutes for them all can be forged by a man whose will-power is high enough.—London Spectator.

Future Railway Development.

THE next great railway development following that of the railway development of Mexico and the concurrent development of the railway systems of Canada, will be the development of a railway system in South America. A number of influences are now at work pointing to this result. Among them are the opening of the Panama Canal, the necessity for an additional outlet for the peasantry of Europe, and the needs of Europe for the products of South American countries, to say nothing of the gradual expansion of population and the trend of the world's progress. South America has been a neglected region and yet it possesses numerous elements of development which railway construction can bring about. That country is far removed from lines of ordinary travel. The dominant civilization is Latin as against Saxon in North America. No broad policies are pursued though they are conceived of, and feeble efforts are occasionally made to launch out and realize the ambitions of some of the leading men.

South America possesses mineral wealth in abundance. It is a matter of common knowledge that there are many great rivers in South America, but it is not so well understood that there are hundreds, perhaps even thousands of other streams not marked on the maps and not now used for purposes of navigating by canoes, that are larger and longer than many navigated North American rivers. These rivers of the South pour out of mountains and drain large districts of uninhabited, almost unexplored country. Still other rivers flow from more populated regions, but are as yet little known, the more interior courses as they are reached, becoming swift and winding, and flowing in numerous channels over many cataracts and rapids.—International Railway Journal.

Marriage for Ten Years.

It is not the first time that George Meredith tried to make a painful situation worse. Both in Richard Feveril and in Rhoda Fleming he brought his characters to the point where it seemed that they could not suffer more, and then, with infernal ingenuity, gave the thumb-screw a last, apparently impossible, turn, and left both characters and readers insensible with horror.

Now he proposes to deprive marriage of its greatest alleviation. When a thing is known to be permanent it is accepted. A man and a woman marry, and, if they have been properly instructed, look forward to nothing but marriage ahead of them all the way to the grave. Marriage therefore enters into all their calculations. It is like the weather. It may bring storms and, worse than storms, dull days. But it is there and what people know they can't avoid they don't think of trying to escape from.

But let people once fall into the habit of marrying for ten years. A marriage for ten years would last about three. There would be a termination in sight, and the prospect of termination means the possibility of anticipation. People do the things that they think about.

The centuries have been right about it. The way to make a man and a woman happy together is to convince them that they can never get apart. If they know that they are shut up for good they will take to amusing themselves as best they may within the inclosure.

Schemes like Meredith's for making marriage worse than it is ought to be quarantined.—Chicago Tribune.

The Same Old World.

If I were a millionaire
And lived in a mansion and drove a pair
And you were the common herd
And lived in a hovel or back suite,
—third—
And I had money
And you had none
And you had trouble
And I had fun—

If I were as rich as Sage,
Or Morgan, or Drexel, and you were poor—
If you were all bent with age
And I were young, at my fair prime's door—

If I were happy
And you were sad—
If I had dollars
For cents you had—

If I were loaded
With yellow wealth,
Got, mayhap, boldly,
Or won by stealth—

And you had a paltry gift
Of getting along (if you had a lift)—
Why, I'd be a millionaire
And live in a mansion and drive a pair,
And you'd be the common herd
And live in a hovel or back suite, third!

L'ENVOI.

This world moves along
In its settled way—
It's the same world to-morrow
As yesterday.
—Baltimore News.

Something Wrong.

"You say you don't understand what 'cold cash' is."
"No, I don't."
"Why, man, any sort of money is cold cash."
"Well, if that's so, how is it that it always burns a hole in my pocket?"—Philadelphia Press.

A Ruthless Critic.

"Mr. Dobbins says he is wedded to his art."
"Yes," said Miss Cayenne, "wedded but with ample ground for divorce."—Washington Star.

No man can do anything against the grain. Woman can do it, but man can't.

WORTH HER WEIGHT IN GOLD.

Value of Young Woman of 100 Pounds Would Be \$28,647.

"The weight of money is very deceptive," says an employee of the sub-treasury to a writer in the New York Mail and Express. "For instance, a young man came in here one day with a young woman. I was showing them through the department, and happened to ask him jokingly if he thought the girl was worth her weight in gold. He assured me that he certainly did think so, and after learning that her weight was 100 pounds we figured that she would be worth in gold coin \$28,647. The young man was fond enough of her to think that was rather cheap."

"Another thing that deceives many people," he continued, "is the weight of paper money. Now, how many \$1 bills do you think it would take to weigh as much as a \$5 gold piece?"

On a guess the writer said fifty, and the clerk laughed.

"I have heard guesses on that," he said, "all the way from fifty to 500, and from men who have handled money for years. The fact of the matter is that with a \$5 gold piece on one scale you would have to put only six and one-half bills in the other to balance it."

The question afterward was put to several friends of the writer and elicited answers ranging all the way from twenty to 1,000, the majority guessing from 200 to 500.

Taking the weights of gold coins and bills given at the sub-treasury, it was figured that a \$5 gold piece weighs .296 of an ounce of avoirdupois. The employee of the treasury who handled the paper money said that 100 bills weigh four and a half ounces. That would make one bill weigh .045 of an ounce, and between six and seven bills would balance the gold piece.

On the proposition of how much money one can lift, figures were obtained at the sub-treasury, where certain numbers of coins were placed in bags and weighed as standards. For example, the standard amount for gold coin is \$5,000, which weighs eighteen and a half pounds. Five hundred silver dollars weigh thirty-five and a half pounds, while \$200 in halves, or 400 coins, weigh eleven pounds.

Two hundred pounds of coin money of various kinds is made up as follows: Silver dollars, \$2,617; half dollars, \$3,636; quarter dollars, \$3,057; dimes, \$3,615.50; nickels, \$917; pennies, \$295.61.

In \$1 bills the same weight would amount to \$71,111.

SHE DIDN'T CHEW TOBACCO.

Girl Who Couldn't Become a Fisherman in All Things.

At one of the Long Island resorts there is an old man who is something of a character. He spends a large portion of his time fishing from the dock, and it is noticed by everyone that he hardly ever fails to catch something, even though everyone else in the vicinity is having bad luck. Recently a young woman approached this man and said in a coaxing way:

"Mr. F., won't you show me how you bait your hooks, so I can do mine that way, and then perhaps I can catch something?"

The old man paused in his fishing long enough to explain exactly how he placed the bait on the hook. The girl went away and fished and fished, occasionally rebaiting her hooks in the manner shown. But she didn't catch anything. So again she went to the old man.

"Oh, Mr. F.," she said, "there must be some other reason why the fish won't bite on my bait. I wish you'd tell me what it is."

The old man looked up.

"Maybe," he said, in a drawing tone, "you didn't spit on your bait."

The girl looked a little bit disgusted. "Is that what you do?" she asked.

"Sure," answered the old fisherman. "The girl went away and the old man had ten minutes' peace. Then she came back again."

"Now, Mr. F.," she remonstrated, "do tell me why I don't catch any fish. I've baited my hooks just the way you bait yours. I even spat on my bait, and I've fished faithfully, just the way you do. And I haven't caught anything. Will you tell me just how it is I don't?"

The old man looked at her reflectively.

"I don't know, miss, I'm sure," he observed, after considering the question for a few minutes. "If you bait your hooks just so, and if you spit on your bait, I don't know why you don't catch fish, lessens it's cause you don't chew tobacco."

And then the girl gave it up.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Same Old Stories.

When Adam courted Eve, they say
With certain jests they whiled the hours
Of blissful idleness away
Amid the zephyrs and the flowers.

And Noah would those stories tell
Unto his sons when it grew dark,
The gloomy tedium to dispel
Which sometimes settled o'er the ark.

And 'round full many a campfire bright
Those yarns have sent a merry thrill;
They were recited with delight
At Troy and likewise Bunker Hill.

And now the Congressman comes out
And coos them o'er with guileless glee,
And scatters them around about
And all is blithe as blithe can be.
—Washington Star.

There is a mistaken impression that every time an old maid is introduced to an unmarried man, she sees Hope Ahead.