Topics of the Times

Practical jokes usually come nome to roost.

Men who claim to own the air above their premises will have to fight it out with the comets.

The question is how did the Pope discover that Fairbanks had been Vice President of the United States?

A southern man wants a divorce because his wife threw a glass of jelly at him. Reports do not say she hit bim.

"Let children eat what they want," says one of the medical experts. Perhaps he is interested in the sugar trust.

Members of the Black Hand are in the penitentiary, where they belong. They are no better than defaulting bankers.

Statements as to the size of King Leopold's fortune do not agree. But however large it was he didn't take any of it with him.

When Nordica told a Havana audience that Cuba is God's country, she probably meant that it needed more than merely human help.

"I crave not gold in yellow heaps," says one of the bards. Perhaps he is too busy yearning for a pound or two of bacon to have time for the lust of gold.

Carrie Nation recently received an offer of marriage, but ex-Queen Lil has not been able to find anyone who seems to wish to talk to her privately in the front parlor.

Mrs. Peary has just exchanged two nice Arctic meteorites for \$50,000. They leave a vacant place on the parlor what-not, but \$50,000 will help a lot with the new spring hat to buy.

It is reported that a Pennsylvania clergyman has refused to marry a loving couple because the young man's income is less than \$2,000 a year. Where is the evil of the high cost of living to end?

An advance of 20 per cent in the price of Bibles is announced for March There is, however, no threat of an additional advance of 10 per cent a month after that. Evidently George F. Baer is not behind the Bible busiuess

The czar's brother has caused trouble by marrying a lady who has a string of divorces. His mother refuses to speak to him, and Nicholas is reported to be furious. Well, it was time for a grand duke to do something to dispel the idea that the tribe had gone out of existence.

According to statistics there are 40, 000 more married men in this country than there are married women. But there is no occasion for gossip. The discrepancy is accounted for by the explanation that many married immigrants leave their wives at home when they come to this land of the free.

onal methods and standards change, but boys are always boys.

In these days of domestic disturbance and discomfiture, when house *********************** holds bid fair to stand still for lack

of skilful hands to keep them mov ing, and all sorts of schemes for com munal living are offered as a solution of the problem, one is eager to grasp at the veriest straw of suggestion. Now regulated hours and higher training, or the united larger family scheme, where each one must bear his individual and accepted burden of dally duties, may go far to relieve the tension of material things, if not to save intact the threatened home itself. But a more direct help in this best of works would be a changing point of view, a shifting of one's mental values. Fashion, did the capricious lady so incline, might become the tenth muse, the votive goddess of domestic science. Nor would any of her worshipers be the worse for their devotions. It is harder to swing a broom than a golf stick; and how many timid souls would worry their wits and tire their bodies to gain a doubtful eques trian control if it were "bad form" to ride horseback? It is not as if lotuseating repose, a dolce far niente existence, were a national ideal; we are strenuous, even in our pastimes. One involuntarily thinks of the Chinese philosopher's surprise at seeing white men dance, and his question, "Why don't you let your servants do this for you?" and it becomes a serious temptation to write a companion volume to "The Pleasures of Imagination," and frankly call it "The Imagin-

ation of Pleasure." It is entirely in the point of view. After all, these perplexing, troublesome domestic duties are the real, the permanent things of life, and the skilful guidance of a household is in itself a wonderful accomplishment. If Fashion would but don an apron!

WOULDN'T BE RECOGNIZED.

'Foreign Types" Which Are Utterly

Unlike the Real Thing. "One may wander for months through the streets of foreign cities looking for the types that nightly out over the gunwale to reach for thrill and delight American audiences,' writes a somewhat disgusted theatergoer.

"Only the tourist and residents abroad know the foreigner, his customs and his dress, but the tourist does not have to make the play, nor ing the boat or indulging in like idifill the eye and ear of a people who demand character as a bit of dash or lacking in gray matter to choose such color. Were an Italian of the working class introduced into an American play he would have to be a sly, creeping villain, with a knife concealed and a willingness to be bribed, or the audi- it be necessary for two people to

bright-colored skirt, a loose waist of other and then standing face to face contrasting color, a mantilla and carry a fan or cigarette.

of lingerie, displaying kicks, have a from the water or in helping a swim small waist, plenty of plumes, a de mer it is advisable to use the stern sire for admiration and wines and and not the side. making trouble, particularly in domestic lines

monocle, a dialect and a general appearance of idiocy.

ence demand that he shall be a Pres- will surely sink with you. And speakbyterian crank or a giggling songster ing about this, when you are being and has th ple nty of plaid arfa pipes.

TO AVOID DROWNING.

That to Do If You Fall in Water and Cannot Swim.

There are chronicled every summer a long list of fatal drowning accidents which plunge thousands into mourn ing, and the pity of it is that a little knowledge of watermanship and ordinary care might have prevented most of them. To ignorance or carelessness in entering and leaving a boat or while in it; to venturing in open water unprepared, and to neglect of the rudimentary principles of watermanship can be traced half the recorded fatalities.

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No one should ever take out rowing persons who do not know how to swim without first ascertaining that the boat is safe and seaworthy and provided with the necessary paraphernalia for eventualities. It is when one least expects it that accidents occur, writes L. de B. Handley in the special vacation number of Recreation, and the only way to avoid them is to be prepared at all times. A stout bowenough life preservers to go line. around, an anchor, something to bale with and an extra pair of oars should be carried on principle. You may not need them ninety-nine times out of a hundred, but on that hundredth time they may mean life or death.

In getting into a boat one should try to step right into the bottom over the keel, or if this is too great a reach, on to the middle of the seat and then down. Stepping on the gunwale has been responsible for number less capsizings and it is a good idea when inexperienced people are em barking to take hold of the boat and steady it. Enter if possible where you intend to sit and in such a manner that you will not have to turn after wards.

The weight should be distributed as evenly as possible, in a small boat, with slight preference to the stern. If the bow is buried the least head-swell will flood the boat and if the stern is too deep a following sea may swamp it. In making a landing one should approach at an angle, shipping the inward oar a few yards away and rounding up by backing with the outward one. It is dangerous to stretch float or pier. In landing the person in the bow should be first, taking the bow-line with him and steadying the boat for the others.

I will not insult the intelligence of the reader by advising against rockotic skylarking. One must be decidedly pastimes. There are certain rules about one's behavior in a small craft. however, which should be kept con stantly in mind. For instance, should ence would not accept him as Italian. change places they should keep well "If a Spanish girl she must wear a over the keel until ready to pass each move to either side simultaneously that the boat may not lose its balance. "If a French girl, she must be full Also, whether in picking up anything

When a boat is capsized do not try to climb into it again. It will sustain "If an Englishman, he must have a you easily if you just lean on it, as will any fair-sized piece of wreckage like an oar, a spar, or a board, but "And last, if a Scotchman, the audi- attempt to climb over them and they helped or towed do not hang onto your rescuer or boat with bent arms, as old friends and neighbors from Lemthis draws the body up and offers liners were to land the passengers of great resistance. Outstretched arms other nations in the orchestra seats of will increase your chances of getting



and heart-burning.

Boston Herald.

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THE NATION'S FARMS.

THE farm actually the corner stone of the country, or is that merely the wind of the stump orator? Let us glance at Secretary Wilson's annual report and see. The gain in the value of farm products in a single year is \$869,000,000. The total

value of these products for 1909 is \$8,760, 000,000, which is just double what that value was eleven years ago. The eye observes these stupendous figures, but the dazed mind utterly refuses to take them in. Corn is king, without a rival or pretender. The value of this one crop for 1909 is no less than \$1,720,000,000. Secretary Wilson editorializes to the extent of translating this figure into intelligible terms. The 1909 corn crop is nearly as valuable as the clothing and personal adornments of 76,000,000 people (census of 1900). To pay for it would require all the gold and silver in the country. You could exchange it for Dreadnaughts at the rate of two ships a day. It surpasses the average of the last five years by nearly one-third. But other crops have been doing very nicely, thank you. Cotton stands at \$850,000,000, wheat at \$725,000,000, hay at \$665,000,000, and so on, and so on .- Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch.

ECCLESIASTICAL DEMAGOGUES.

EAN MATTHEWS has been stirring up things in a series of addresses at Chautauqua, N. Y. Among other subjects that have received his attention has been that of ministerial demagogues.

The ministry should be the last place in the world in which to find demagogism. It is detestable enough anywhere, but especially so in the church, and the strictures of the scholarly dean are none too severe upon those ecclesiastical mounte banks who for the sake of personal gain will be disloyal to the best that is in the advance movements of the church to-day. Happily the number of such clerical shysters is relatively small.

Yet Prof. Matthews, we apprehend, will not find all the ministerial demagogues in the ranks of the professedly ultra-conservatives. In fact, there is quite as great a temptation to pose as a progressive liberal and a discoverer of new truth which is not truth at all. The spirit in both cases is the same selfish masquerading in order to win cheap applause and passing fame .-- Milwaukee Sentinel.

YOUTHFUL SNOBBISHNESS.

ARENTS and others interested in the welfare of the public schools will find interest in the article on "High School Fraternities" in Everybody's Magazine. It calls attention in a way that is none the less pointed for being so humorous to a serious menace to the public school system. When,

a few years ago, imitation of the Greek-letter society of the colleges was introduced by the high schools, it was feared by experienced observers that mischief might

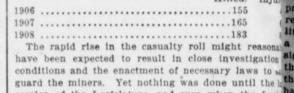
as sharp a rap as her wooden darning. world. More than that, this net the A CASE OF INCOMPATIBILITY vereneere

The former resident of Bushby had

"As Homer says, if that isn't incom- lumber in building." patibility, what is? "They agreed to be good friends-

and there to separate.

A STATE EGG BUSINESS UPO



session of the Legislature, and even when the Legis ture had acted, Gov. Deneen was so little interested Sin protecting coal miners that he delayed almost f months before appointing the authorized commission Extensive use of concrete and better regulation

result. The extent to which these societies have for

ished has been amazing. Wherever they have sp

they have introduced a petty social rivalry, snobbish-

Into what has long been regarded as one of the c

bulwarks of democracy they have introduced a kind

aristocratic exclusiveness. The distorted, misinterpr

than rebellion against authority, is largely respon

Parents as well as pupils resent what they call the

terference" of school authorities in the personal and

clal life. And often the effect of these societies i

menace is real, although the aping is often ridiculou

PROTECT THE COAL MINER.

HE coal report of the Illinois Bureat

Labor Statistics for 1908 contains mud

especial interest in view of the disa

at Cherry. The appalling fact that h

1898 to 1907 the fatalities among the

miners of the United States and Can

totaled 18,138 is almost beyond be

Killed. Injur

The increase in accidents in Illinois with each put

ceeding year demonstrates the need of stricter

Here is the roll for three years back:

nurture further rebellion against school discipline.

"spirit of freedom," which in reality is nothing m

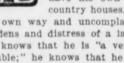
drilling, charging and firing will go a long way town reducing future casualty lists. Steps to that end sho be taken forthwith .-- Chicago Journal.

DOCTORS AND THEIR DUES.

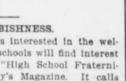


EW communities ever realize how m they owe the doctors-and few people that do realize how much they owe ever lan up. If every doctor could collect his ind fee for all the work he does each con have his own automobile and town i country houses. But the doctor goes al pos

his own way and uncomplainingly bears the sorromia burdens and distress of a large part of the populating He knows that he is "a very present help in time well trouble;" he knows that he is performing a very try, and practical service to humanity, and that is one ous the greatest rewards of a profession that receives m honor and appreciation than it does material comprade sation .- Baltimore Sun.



egg hit Homer-and they agreed then of construction will ultimately "kno



One of the most wholesome effects of the present discussion of the high cost of living will be the consideration of the advantages of economy and the conservation of the family resources. Many American families remain poor because they waste more than would maintain a thrifty French family in comfort.

Caught in the swirl of political economy, brayed between the upper millstone of supply and demand's nether stone, necessaries have become arrogant luxuries and the former luxuries have become specimens to be treasured in museums. We have learned to do without; we have been accumulating stores of merit by controlling appetite; a moral exercise.

There is no class of people so apt to do foolish and imprudent things as the girls who have nothing to occupy their minds. The girl that has to work for a living is really safer than the one who is under no such compul-Where a girl has no serious insion. terests her future is largely dependent upon the discretion and discernment of her parents or guardians. The Philadelphia girl that ran away with a hotel waiter, according to reports, has been forgiven. From what is known to the public concerning this case, she should have been. But has she forgiven her guardians? She is not as much to blame as those who neglected to take care of her. If her life had been normal she would not have been selzed by the notions that have drawn a cloud over her.

Modern school and college ute is different in many respects from that which the boys of antiquity knew, but in other respects there is a remarkable similarity. A writer who has made a thorough study of the universities of ancient Greece tells us that the "freshy" was put through "stunte" which have changed but little in twenty centuries. He was pulled this way and that by various groups and by the partisans of certain teachers, just as he is now "rushed" by fraternities. The Grecian student decked himself out in crimson, purple and other "loud" hues. He had nicknames for his teachers, indulged in college politics, occasionally precipitated a small riot on the street or in the theater, got wildly excited over athletic contests, and not infre | please-but do they?

"I venture to say that if the ocean the American theaters the last charac- ashore. ter they would recognize would be the interpolated one representing their own race.

"I cannot believe that all Russians are either butchers or slaves. That all Jews are either rich or oppressed-that all Swiss gentlemen are clock makers -all French women queens of debauch -all Italians, murderous villains-all Englishmen, idiotic snobs-all Scotchmen half-dressed and dancing like a face at me for? Harry-Please, marionettes, and all Spanish women ma'am, because I didn't know you eternally putting jealousy from their cigarettes.

"Yet managers know that to send an audience home contented these characteristics must appear.

"The question is, if we are woven into the foreign play over there, has any one, as yet, recognized us as Americans?"

Could Not Afford the Extras.

Those who object, like the negro in the following story, to the high fees of most choked at the dinner table. a good physician, do not always real- got a piece of bread head first down ize what they are paying for. doctor in question, says a writer in Tit-Bits, was called out to attend an unknown patient. When he arrived he found that a decrepit negro wanted his walk? Small Sammie-We learn that in her first sound nap when Homer got attention.

The negro first asked, "How much yo' charge, doctar?

Two dollars a visit," said the other. and when the negro gasped his surand the medicine."

"A poor old nigger like me don't tient. "Jist gib me ten cents' wo'th o' yo' cough med'cine, and dat's enough fo' me.

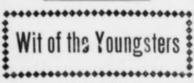
Convenient Fish Hole. "I have fished here for the last

twenty years." "Ever caught anything?"

"No." "Then why do you fish here?" "Well, it's so near my house!"-Fliegende Blatter.

The man who ate thirty eggs in thirty minutes probably couldn't do it now; the fool rarely prospers.

Some people say they do as they



Teacher-Harry, what did you make were lookin'.

Helen-Tommy, why doesn't the sea run over if all the big rivers flow into it? Tommy-'Cause the sea is full of sponges, that's why.

Sunday School Superintendent-Elsie, can you tell me anything about the epistles? Little Elslo-i guess they were the wives of the apostles.

"Why, Ethel, what's the matter?" asked her mother, as the little one al-The my cough pipe," explained Ethel.

Sunday School Teacher-What do we learn from the story of the man who was told to take up his bed and they had folding beds in ancient up, and scarcely ever waked. times.

New Spring at Carlsbad.

Another hot spring was recently adprise, he continued, "That includes, ded to the nineteen which Carlsbad you know, my time, experience, advice had for years enjoyed. Workmen who were engaged in clearing out the channels of the "Muhlbrunn" suddenly need all dem extras," remarked his pa- broke into a new spring of hot mineral water twenty-two feet below the surface of the ground.

His Dilemma.

"I'm in a difficulty over my girl." "What's wrong?"

"Twe been saying such nice things to her that she's getting conceited. If I stop she'll think I don't care for her any longer, and if I go on she'll think she's too good for me."-London Matl.

Canine Fashion Note.

Spaniel-Going to have your hair cut to look like a lion this summer? Newfoundland-Not much. Some of these Teddy imitators might take me

for easy game -Kansas City Times.

apartbeen gathering facts in regard to his uel Howe. "What's this I hear about Maria Hixon's marrying Homer Rawles?" he inquired. "Somebody told n.e they were married six months, and then separated on account of incompatibility. I always thought Maria was the gentlest creature in the

"So she was, and is," said Mr. Howe, "but she had a habit that had ought to have warned her not to marry a man in Homer's line o' business. You know he was night watchman at the mills." The old resident nodded, but did not speak to break the narrative.

world."

"Well, sir, Maria had always had the habit of changing round the furniture every few days. Living alone as the did, 'twas kind of company for L. Benson in Munsey's.

her. The women folks had always noticed it, but us men hadn't taken any thought about it.

"Of course, when she was married she kept right on at home, having a good house, and Homer having always bached it in the boarding house.

"His hours as watchman were from 10 at night to 7 in the morning, so he used to go to bed along about 2:30 or 3 in the afternoon to get his sleep; and Maria'd set a nice lunch out for him and go to bed at the natural bedtime, 'long about 9. So she was always

something unexpected when he was Wall streets in New York, in the crawling round quiet as he could. He'd building in which are now the offices just get a map o' the house in his of J. P. Morgan & Co. The directors mind when Maria'd change things all were some of the most prominent men round. You know yourself that bumps in New York. There was just one man are hard to bear, and that bureau on the board besides myself who edges and table corners and chair rock- thought there was anything to the

got mad, and finally he said he'd get tion. All the others said the trolley him a pocket lantern and keep it on was a dream, and they rejected my

and then it struck Maria one afternoon ing, more money out of electric railhow pretty the light stand would look roads to-day than any other one man in the jog by the nantelpiece-an' she in the country. moved it, lantern an' all, never think-

the lantern, missed it, reached farther, have heard that story before, but and struck Maria's work basket and never paid any attention to it, and I a big vase of daisies, and they all shall not pay any attention to it now,

"I don't know's there was much said, of the year, and, by next spring othbut I guess what was said hit Maria ers will be pouring houses ait over the Uriah Heep."

-and no talk about it. Homer's bruises are healed, and Maria's bought a new tip-leaf table, and she's trying it all over the house. Homer goes there for Sunday dinners and some odd meals, and they both are taking on flesh."

EDISON'S EARLY DREAM.

Trolley "Vision" Came to Inventor Much Less than 42 Years Ago. Some of the big builders, the kind who erect New York skyscrapers, told me they didn't believe a cement house could be poured. Impracticable! A dream!

I told Edison what some of the New York builders had said, but the news didn't seem to irritate him, says Allen

"Those fellows couldn't be expected to understand how I am doing this,' he replied. "They have no imagination. They make me think of the fellows who told me there was nothing in the electric trolley. After I had worked on the trolley for some time, spent \$42,000 on my experiments, and got the idea where I thought it could be made commercially successful, I went before the Edison Electric Light Company, of which I was a large stock-

holder, and made this proposition: " Reimburse me for the money I have spent and I will turn over all my

trolley patents to the company."

"But from time to time he'd hit on was held at the corner of Broad and "Homer, he talked and argued, and was in favor of accepting my proposioffer. Spencer Trask, by the way, was "All went well for a few nights, one of the men, and I guess he is mak-

"So, you see, it doesn't bother me much to have men say that something That night Homer reached out for I an, trying to do can't be done. I'll pour a house about the beginning Co-operative System in Southir Australia.

toward doing away with the

Eggs warranted fresh are no ing furnished to the househol southern Australia by the gono ment. For this purpose egg collemni circles are formed, each of fifteet,ur sons. They are supplied with binth rubber stamps and cardboard was Each egg has its brand, so thigan origin can be traced. In actual was tion the egg-carrying cases anga by road or rail from distances car 300 miles contain so small a pekin age of cracked or broken egg-11 the loss is negligible. The test the receiving depots is by e light. A bad egg is discovered aly diately after it arrives and is lowed to pass on to the con while the sender is promptly w

Each egg goes through the ha the grader, who weeds out all satis two ounces in weight. These weight eggs go to make egg pulpgeth few cracked ones, of course, af ing tested for quality, are sold confectioners. The system is athi co-operative lines. The consume to pay something more for g teed grade eggs-the increase in does not exceed a penny a d and the surplus is handed back! egg producers on a proportional one

Mexican Houses of Gold the

For hundreds of years the footed and empty-stomached pomorn Guanajirato, Mexico, have been ret in houses of gold, says Success Int zine. They were not Fifth ajur mansions copied from Florence and Sienna, but just plain windowless made out of adobe or the mud chron Guanajirato gold district. A hureath of these huts had to be torn do Darri permit the construction of a raivaitin and some man got the idea of a ing the debris. The houses have nto yielded \$50,000 in gold to the Phree sors, and many a poor Guanajinto who last year did not know who next cigarette was coming fromils revels in the prospect of some and pulque and hot tamales for New houses are being put up, bu are not mansions of gold. The building material in Guanajin plain, unsterilized common or gdid

We suppose it is said of all tion by some one; "He reminds

mud.

ing