

THE TIMES DAILY MAGAZINE PAGE

Bargain Seekers Looked Over Stone Price Tags Thousands of Years Ago

Local Art Dealer Has Several Stone Tags in Perfect State of Preservation Dug Up in Mesopotamia.

A STONE price-tag would scarcely add to the joys of shopping today, but in the Babylonian era—somewhere about 2500 B. C.—it was considered quite necessary. Several examples of these in a perfect state of preservation have been acquired recently by a local art dealer as part of a collection of sixty-one pieces. The price-tags look like nothing more or less than an ungainly ring covered with small dents which prove to be price-marks in cuneiform. A string of some sort was originally passed through the ring, but this has been lost. Another price-tag is a smooth, slightly rounded square of clay, with a hole for the string bored at one corner.

Indicate that the inscription was never to be changed. None of the pieces of clay is larger than four inches square, and about three-quarters of an inch thick. The majority of them are much smaller, two inches square or less. A few have pictures written in addition to the cuneiform, which presents the appearance of a number of tiny, wedge-shaped incisions. Several, however, combine the cuneiform inscription with tiny human figures in bas-relief. It has been suggested that these were for the benefit of persons not acquainted with the cuneiform alphabet. All the little tablets have been dug up in recent years in various parts of Mesopotamia, the location of the long-extinct Babylonian empire, particularly near the sites of Erech and Jekka. The discovery of these price-tags is particularly interesting because of the fact that they are found in the same strata as the tablets, since many temple records were kept on clay tablets. The price-tags have been found near the site of Jekka.

War Spinsters Certain to Become Leaders in Social Service

Europe's Women, Celibate Through Necessity, Will Find Family-Free Conditions Open New Lines of Effort, Says Economics Expert.

THOUGH the point has been raised that the numbers of unmarried women in Europe after the war will be one of its disastrous results, it will be proved that these very celibate women are to be leaders of their sex—the flying squadrons of social service.

Effects of War Upon Women

Entrance, frequently under compulsion, into new fields of employment. Increased opportunity for higher education. Reversion to a venerated position much like that in the age of chivalry. Establishment of a large celibate class, to whom will be entrusted leadership of the sex in future.—PROF. EMILY GREEN BALCH, of Wellesley.

Immediate Effects of Great Conflict Becoming Clearer, Declares Wellesley Professor in Discussing Status of Sex.

women are not at all slow in taking advantage of it. Women taking studies classified under "higher education" have increased remarkably in numbers during the past year or so. The present records show 1,150 women studying medicine, as against 74 at the last records, 2,258 studying science, compared with 1,120; 82 studying mathematics compared with 20. That only studies where a decrease is noticeable are pharmacy and theology.

Some "Hardening" Fads May Be Actual Menace To Life of Your Child

By DR. L. K. HIRSHBERG.

THE olden in Shakespeare's "King Lear" sings: "The rain it raineth every day." When applied to the care and dressing of children this phrase is more or less true. Care of infants is like rain that in a pleasant shower drops into the bosom of a flower. The raindrops shower dance and rhythmic beat, like tinkling of innumerable feet, cannot fail to put one in mind of the light fantastic toe that treads around the nursery.

Danger of Dampness. Should it happen that there is a long spell of dreary weather, the house-dweller may be bundled up and held at short intervals from time to time at an open window. Stretches of wet winter weather are always dangerous as far as children are concerned. It is not that the little ones "catch" anything directly from the rain, sleet, and snow, but just as birds, naturally immune to some extent, can be made to fall victims to them by wetting their feet, so babies have their tissues weakened by moisture, and fall ready victims of diphtheria, scarlatina, whooping cough and pneumonia germs which they might otherwise throw off with ease.

What They Say About Us Pertinent Interests of Women As Viewed By Editorial Writers of the Newspapers.

Child Welfare in the Country.

It used to be that the condition of the country child was considered immeasurably superior to that of its city cousin, merely because he lived in the country. Items in the annual report of the Federal Children's Bureau make that ancient faith, frankly admitting that all the facts about the condition of the rural children—three-fifths of the 30,000,000 children in this country—are not known, the report makes an urgent plea for developing standards of rural child welfare. It bases this on the fact shown by the 1910 census that illiteracy in rural communities is twice as prevalent as in cities. Rural child labor and child marriage are still in hand. Moreover, the juvenile delinquency laws of many States are ineffective in great degree because rural probation officers are nonexistent. The net result is that country districts are more lawless than their urban counterparts.

Mrs. Boissevain's Insurgency.

Mrs. Inez Mitholland Boissevain has flung the bomb of unpleasant and wholesome truth into the already disquieted ranks of the advocates of the unopposed pace exhibition. Her definition is neat and concise; the propaganda are in embryo a confused mass of amicably intended persons of various thinking, but all with one aim. They have not been lacking in the disposition to make themselves heard, however, and there have been a number of opinions as to how to give transportation tickets. At any rate, by their wrangles and jangles the exhibition has become a more or less chaotic affair. It is a pity that the reformers in their speeches, who have been so full of indignation against the exhibition, have not been more consistent in their own conduct.

Three Military Ases.

There have been three military ases—the so-called "age of chivalry," the age of standing armies and professional soldiers, and the present age of universal conscription and competitive armaments. "During the age of chivalry there was a decided tendency to elevate the status of women. The worship of the motherhood of the fact that the unmarried were at the mercy of the armed; the veneration of peace and quiet for their lives, and the power acquired by the manhood of the castle for long periods while the head of the house was fighting at the wars. The result was to raise the position of the women at the time. Added to this was the code of noble behavior for men. This code failed to reach beyond the inner circle of society, and the man whose chivalry would not allow him to see a lady bend to such a lowly position as a woman scrubbing the floor on her knees.

New Wage Standard.

The whole wage standard will have to be reorganized when the men return from the war, if any of their work is to be done. The fact that their work is being done by women with much longer hours and less pay. This governmental and semi-governmental sweeping of industries where women are employed is common in both England and Germany. "The woman is becoming more necessary in the world, as she acts as substitute for husband and father. In Germany some of the women are doing the work of men. In London and Berlin and Paris women are serving as clerks, grocers, shoe-shiners, farm hands, post girls, club servants, ticket sellers, automobile agents, and porters. The women are overworked and underpaid, there is no doubt.

Realize Strength.

War has swept away the chief agent against the admission of women to professional existence. Wise leaders will be necessary, however, to speak for their sex when the franchise is actually given them. The family-free women of Europe will be able to do this more extensively than those who are tied to a school, tied down by the demands of the home. Women are at last realizing their strength as influencing political decisions. They know that they can mobilize an immense spiritual influence if they wish. It is difficult, you know, to reduce the chaotic social conditions of today to terse phrases. We are too eager to force complex facts into simple interpretations. The woman who remains that, though war should, by all past evidence, lower the importance and social position of women, the present European war has shown women's importance in ways never before imagined in history."

SEEN IN THE SHOPS

PLUMY fans of ostrich feathers on clear nickel stands are \$5 at one E street store. When properly managed, there is nothing more potent than a fan to accent the beauty of a perfect gown or its wearer. A little practice before a mirror at home will do wonders. Little little daggers and tomahawks Spanish in the latest necessities for the coiffure. The queer, wavy lines of the dagger help to hold it in position. These are priced from 50 cents up into the golden dollars. Other ornaments include the Chin-Chin pin, which looks to the uninitiated like a glorified paper-cut.

Silver cloth slippers are a necessity for the girl or woman whose social duties are many. Silver is trimmed with silver lace. Silver is, too, a bit less girlish than gold. A mite of a long, thin, and becoming, if such a word could be used with footwear—to the slender foot, is \$5 at one shoe store. It was just about time for a new sort of tie to reduce the ball and tassel effects we have draped about our necks for some twelve months. And here it is—a long, narrow tie of crepe de chine ending in a fluffy, accordion-plated tassel of chiffon to resemble the tassel of a scarf. The prettiest, is of fresh color, as delicate as the palest peach-blond tint. The price is 50 cents.

Hits From Sharp Wits

It is bad to work hateringly; it is worse to loiter instead of beginning to work at all. The normal school turns out professors of philosophy; only the school of life produces philosophers. True courage is not incompatible with nervousness, and heroism does not mean the absence of fear, but the conquest of it. We must know ourselves, and, if that does not serve to discover truth, at least serve to regulate our lives, and there is nothing more just. The most dangerous people of the world are the people who are sincerely wrong. Conscience is like a compass, and needs continued readjustment. There is no such thing as utter failure to one who has done his best. Were this truth more often emphasized, there would be more courage and energy infused into sad and desponding hearts. The compensation may seem shadowy and afar off, but it is conscientious, painstaking, and resolute, and will never desert him whatever may be the fate of his exertions in other respects. Be consistent in your economy. Don't try to save on the necessities of life. Live in a false economy. Buy your necessities on these things you do not actually need—the luxuries of life.

ADVICE TO GIRLS

My dear Miss Annie Laurie: I am a young woman and have two sweethearts. One thinks a great deal of me and is always begging me to do as much as he can to help me. I think the world and all of the other men. He is always begging me to do as much as he can to help me. I think the world and all of the other men. He is always begging me to do as much as he can to help me.

By ANNIE LAURIE

ask, for such a woman is worthy all the defense you can give her, ask if it wouldn't be possible for the two of you to share her son. Tell her you are always taking him away, that he will always be with you, and that you aren't going to try to win him from his mother. I am sure that you will always be a little corporation of Mother and Daughter-in-law, Limited, all this fear of a home broken up will melt away quite naturally. The other man, being an "other man," needs no discussion.

By ANNIE LAURIE

Dear Miss Laurie—I am sixteen years old and have been keeping company with a young man for a year now. I like him very much and am sure he likes me. I am going away to California and he wants me to be with him. He got my parents' consent. What would you advise me to do? M. VIOLET MAY.

An Early Protest.

In the '90's the professed advocates of woman suffrage could count on being numbered on the fingers of two hands. Nevertheless, when a Tennessee anti-published a statement on woman suffrage or representative Tennessee woman, she could discover only 10 women sufficiently enthusiastic in opposition to let their names appear. Mrs. Lida Meriwether, one of the suffragists to answer this statement, obtained in two weeks 57 signatures to her "protest," and was urged to extend the time and "double the number."

Women Protecting Women.

Women lawyers of Chicago have banded together to save girls who have been found guilty of a first offense from being sent to jail. The organization will be known as the "Public Defender's League for Girls," and there are at present thirty women lawyers who are members. They will prosecute all girls who are sent to jail in punishment for a first offense, and will endeavor to become the prey of professional bondsmen. It is announced that members of the league will ask Chief Justice Olson, of the municipal court, to create a special judge. The women attorneys have agreed to give one day a month to the proposed special court, defending offenders free of charge.

Onions—Tearful and Abused

WHY this prejudice against onions? Not really because of the odor, but because of the snobbishness and the other side of the coin. But it can also be sliced very thin and served as a salad. Or it can be cooked, and preferably scalloped; that is, it can be plain boiled until soft but not shapeless. The inside can be scooped out, mixed with crumbs and seasoning and replaced to brown for a few minutes in the oven. Such a dish makes a most acceptable vegetable for the evening, and costs cents or less for a family of six. The inside can also be stuffed with meat, thus making the main dish of the meal. Just now the small "paper-skin" onions generally used in pickling are in the stalls. They can easily be put up in vinegar or brine and make a tasty relish for winter meats. The white onions are generally more expensive than the red or other colored plant. But it can also be used in paying more for the white onion, as there is no difference in the quality of flavor, and for household use the red or yellow are equally good. (Copyright, 1915, by Mrs. Christine Frederick.)

Using the Paint Brush

By ANN MARIE LLOYD.

There are few housewives who have not, at one time or another, wielded a paint brush. Here are a few of the "odd jobs" of painting that any woman can do if she follows these directions: The paint of the window sills becomes cracked and worn long before the frames begin to show any sign of losing their freshness. Instead of hiring a professional painter, you can do the work yourself. First take some very heavy sandpaper and rub the sills until you have a smooth surface. It is not necessary to remove every particle of the paint, but smooth away the rough spots.

Three Minute Journeys

By TEMPLE MANNING.

ERJAPS the most historic little forest on the face of the globe is the Cedars of Lebanon. Famed for their size, beauty, and their connection with the Scriptures, these trees are visited by pilgrims from all over the earth. They are located in Syria, and because of their size and beauty, they are the most famous trees in the world. The Cedars of Lebanon are the most famous trees in the world. They are located in Syria, and because of their size and beauty, they are the most famous trees in the world.

Not for the Consulate.

THE thomastar wanted to know whether the boys had any understanding of the functions of a consulate. "Supposing," he began, framing his question in the likeliest way to arouse the interest of his hearers, "suppose someone took you up in an aeroplane and after a long, exciting flight dropped you down thousands of miles from home in a country quite foreign, what place would you seek out first of all?" "Well, I think what I should do is to go to the consulate," said the boy.

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Medals for A B C Diplomats

MISS Janet Souder, one of the woman sculptors of this country, will design the three gold medals which are to be presented by the United States Ambassador Naon of Argentina, Da Gama of Brazil and Suarez of Chili, commonly known as the "A B C" medallions. Secretary Lansing awarded the designing to Miss Souder. The medals will bear an inscription stating that they are presented to the ambassadors "for their generous services as mediators in the controversy between the Government of the United States and the leaders of the warring parties of the Republic of Mexico."

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