

TIMELY TOPICS

In helping your fellowmen don't waste kind words where kicks would be of more benefit.

The Kaiser boasts six boys and one girl, while the Czar has four girls. Why not shuffle and draw even?

Some people are so pious on Sunday that they seem to feel entitled to be a little tricky through the rest of the week.

Most men would be better and nobler if they could only have a chance to live up to the inscriptions on their tombstones.

If the widows of the country continue to make goo-goo eyes in the direction of Mr. Dewey his only recourse will be to wear blinders.

It's one thing to present Albert Edward with a suit of antique mail, but quite a different thing to persuade the portly British king to "put it on."

Columbia University having made Justice Peckham, of the United States Supreme Court, an LL. D., nobody is likely to rise to complain that the honor is misplaced.

More and more kerosene is being insisted on as a cure for the mosquito nuisance. But is it certain that an alleged remedy these midge birds may not make light of it?

The French doctors who represent that the infernal anatomy of man is not arranged on correct proportions evidently believe that the creature may be greater than the Creator and can improve on his work.

New York's Central Park ostrich died from eating a grain of corn. He should have known enough to limit himself to stove lids and horseshoes. Any animal in captivity runs a risk by experimenting with his diet.

Mrs. Carrie Rand-Herron has been interviewed, and her chief argument is that when a woman wants a man she has a right to get him by any method. She may change her mind if some other woman decides she wants George.

A 9-year-old boy took a 10,000 volt current of electricity for rather more than a minute the other day, and except for a badly burned hand is none the worse. A man undergoing the same experience would have been killed, of course. The invulnerability of the small boy is a mystery that deserves more attention than it has received from scientists.

The Maoris, the aboriginal inhabitants of New Zealand, have actually increased in number during the last decade, and great wonderment is expressed in European publications over the fact that a "subject race" should survive and grow. Here is opportunity for somebody to suggest that the fate of such a race depends a good deal upon the natives to which it is "subject."

We have learned a whole lot more about rheumatism. Here is an old-fashioned Texas remedy, with a title guarantee attached: Find a yellow jacket's nest, strip off your upper garments and attack it. Wasps are good, too, and some say that hornets and tarantulas are better. This cure is suggested by the "Cherokee Philosopher," who adds that a bee sting is as good for inoculation as vaccine virus and is a preventive of rheumatism.

A splendid South is upon the horizon of the new century. The development of its magnificent capacities, conjoined with its typical courtesy and warm hospitality, assures us that the dream of dominion once entertained by the projectors of a Confederate empire shall yet be realized, only in a far truer and better sense. There have been deserts in Dixie, but the genial influences that affect its sunny soil, aided by the numerous providences of our great union, will cause them in the near future to rejoice and blossom as the rose.

Working girls in cities, who have to swelter through the summer in one stuffy room, would be fortunate indeed if rich women generally adopted a plan which a Boston woman is preparing to put into practice for the second time. She has a beautiful home, and when she went to her country house last year she offered five girls the use of the city place, together with board and the services of her cook, for four dollars a week each. Imagine the delight with which they exchanged hall bedrooms and cheap restaurants for a large, airy house and a perfectly appointed table! "I think," said one of the girls at the end of the three months, "that this is the very first summer in my whole life that I have fully enjoyed myself." These were girls who would have re-

sented any kind of help that savored of "charity," but the gracious deed that so carefully guarded their independence and their self-respect will be a happy, helpful memory all their lives long.

The young Czar Nicholas regards himself as overblessed with female offspring. Wishing for a male heir, the Czarina has presented him with four girls in something like rapid succession. The Imperial Russian line has not always been confined to male descent. Catharine II. was one of the greatest monarchs of Europe and under her virile administration Russia advanced to the very front rank in greatness and power. She regarded her son, afterward Paul II., as an imbecile, kept him in prison and left him without education. When he ascended the throne after her death, as an act of revenge for his wrongs against all the sex of his mother, he decreed that the succession in the future should remain in the male line only. The application of the Salic law to the Russian royal family has no other authority than Czar Paul's decree on the subject. In Russia law is the mere expression of the imperial will. A sort of parliamentary body exists which, with the Czar's board of counselors, gives a ukase the form of law. If Czar Nicholas should have no male heir there does not seem to be any reason why he should leave the crown to his unacceptable brothers or nephews. He can follow the example of his predecessor and restore his daughters to eligibility for the throne. The difficulty now presented to him does not seem to be insurmountable.

According to Census Bulletin 65 nearly half of the population of the United States in 1900 lived in incorporated towns. These places number 10,002 and contained 35,849,516 inhabitants—that is to say, 47.1 per cent of the total, as against 26,079,828, or 41.4 in 1890. The figures for the census divisions, which are interesting and instructive, are as follows:

Division	Population 1900	Per cent of total population 1900	Per cent of total population 1890
N. Atlantic	14,334,878	68.1	59.5
S. Atlantic	2,970,776	28.4	25.0
N. Central	13,367,053	50.8	44.2
S. Central	3,066,696	21.8	19.0
Western	2,070,207	50.6	46.6
Hawaii	39,306	25.5	25.5
Total	35,849,516	47.1	41.4

It is a noteworthy fact that the drift to cities and incorporated places is greatest in the North Atlantic division and least in South Central division. Excluding the District of Columbia from consideration New York has the largest percentage of its population living in incorporated places—the percentage being 77.8, closely followed by New Jersey with a percentage of 76.2. Illinois leads the Western States with a percentage of 66.5 living in towns, Ohio coming second with 57.1 per cent. Almost exactly half of the population of Michigan, or 50.1 per cent, lives in incorporated places. Wisconsin has 46.9 per cent, Minnesota 49.1 and Iowa 43.6. St. Louis succeeds in bringing the percentage of Missouri up to 46.2. Mississippi has the honor of having the smallest percentage of its population, or 14.7, "cribbed, confined and confined" within corporate limits. New Mexico is a close second with 15.2 per cent. A further analysis of the figures shows that 19,757,618 of the population reside in the 161 cities of 25,000 or over. This is 25.9 of the total population, against 22.2 per cent in 1890. The probability is that by 1910 one-half of the population of the United States will be living in incorporated towns.

A Remarkable Family.
John Chandler, who resides in Allen County, is the father of twenty-nine children, twenty-one of whom are living and have families. These twenty-one children have an average of five children to each family, thus making Mr. Chandler the grandfather of 105 persons. But this is not the full extent of his offspring, for he has thirty-five great-grandchildren, so it will be seen that Mr. Chandler stands pater familias of 163—an achievement rarely equaled. It is certainly not paralleled when the fact is considered that the members of this large family are all living.

Mr. Chandler is a remarkable man in several other respects. Although 75 years of age and residing in the hills of Allen County, he reads current literature and keeps himself informed on the leading topics of the day. His eyesight is perfect, and he reads the finest print without the aid of glasses. He is an expert rifle shot, and spends a great deal of his time squirrel hunting. He cast his first ballot for a Presidential candidate in 1848 for Taylor, the Whig nominee, but for the past fifty years has voted the Democratic ticket. His wife, who is three years older than he, is hale and hearty.—Bowling Green Times.

Nutmegs.
A nutmeg tree of the largest size will produce no more than five pounds of nutmegs.

Like cats, some voters are on the political fence ready to jump either way.

AUTOMOBILES FOR STREET CAR SERVICE.



Street cars without tracks, cable, trolley, or horses and, most of all, without franchises, soon will be running regularly on the streets of Chicago. The first one of the omnibus automobiles has started on its regular route between Jackson boulevard and Lincoln Park. It is the first automobile in Chicago to carry forty or more people. The passenger on the "Imperial" may take his choice between two decks. No matter where he goes, the promoters of the omnibus line declare, he will be provided with a seat. The omnibus is thirty feet long. It is equipped with four driving wheels with motor hubs, the tires being of solid rubber. From a beginning with one vehicle and one route the company promises to extend its service to carry passengers on a number of routes into the heart of the city. From the moment every seat in an omnibus is taken the vehicle will become an "express car," say the promoters, and will make no stop on the route until the first passenger reaches his destination. The cars are to be lighted and heated by electricity and electric push buttons are provided at every seat. The strength of the driving wheels is expected to enable each omnibus to carry a trailer. Each wheel is a driving unit, the two front wheels being steering wheels as well. The storage battery system will be used and the vehicles will be charged at the end of each run, which will not average more than four or five miles. The Hub Motor Transit Company is incorporated for \$1,000,000.

STORY-TELLING PROPENSITY.

Gave a Dinner to His Friends and Got Even.

"There is a world of truth in the statement that we can never outlive our doings on this earth," remarked the story-teller to a New Orleans Times-Democrat man, "and this applies with double force to the man who makes a practice of telling stories. I travel a great deal, and necessarily see and hear a great many funny things. I always remember the funny side of what happens, and have the reputation of being able to return from a funeral with a joke. But there is much discomfiture, after all, in the life of a story-teller. I frequently have men tell me my own stories. 'By the way, George,' said a friend of mine yesterday, 'I have a rich thing to tell you about something that happened to me out in Denver recently,' and he told me the story, and I laughed heartily over it. The thing had happened to me in Kansas City. I was conversing with another friend an hour later, and he broke into the conversation with the heartiest laugh I ever heard. 'That reminds me, George,' he said, 'of a thing that happened to me in St. Louis,' and he proceeded to tell me the story of the thing that had happened to my other friend in Denver and to myself in Kansas City. I never gave the snap away, because I was getting something on the side all the while, but I was promising myself all the time to make a good, strong play for even. I was stopping at a hotel where all the men had registered, and I asked three men who had told me about a funny thing that had happened to them to take supper with me. I got them grouped around the table, and things went along smoothly enough for awhile, but no stories had been told. Finally I started the business. 'I want to tell you gentlemen about a funny thing that happened to me,' I said, laughingly, but without looking at them, because I was really tickled over a very dry joke. As I proceeded I noticed that my friends became unusually quiet, and when I had laughed my way up to the climax of the story I glanced at them, and they had the dullest case of grins I ever saw. I had told them the Denver story, the same story they had told me; but after it was all over they appreciated the joke and promised to give due credit hereafter."

EDITORS WHO DON'T WORK.

Jacob Riis' Experience in Seeking a Place as a Reporter.

Things enough happened to take down my self esteem a good many pegs, says Jacob A. Riis in the Outlook. My father had edited our local newspaper and such little help as I had been of to him had given me a taste for the business. Being of that mind, I went to the Courier office one morning, and asked for the editor. He was not in. Apparently nobody was. I wandered through room after room, all empty, till at last I came to one in which sat a man with a paste pot and a pair of long shears. This must be the editor. He had the implements of his trade. I told him my errand while he clipped away.

"What is it you want?" he asked, when I had ceased speaking and waited for an answer.

"Work," I said.

"Work!" said he, waving me haughtily away with the shears. "We don't work here. This is a newspaper office."

I went, abashed. I tried the Express next. This time I had the editor pointed out to me. He was just coming through the business office. At the door I stopped him and preferred my request. He looked me over, a lad fresh from the shipyard, with horny hands and a rough coat, and asked:

"What are you?"

"A carpenter," I said.

The man turned upon his heel with a loud, rasping laugh, and shut the door in my face. For a moment I stood there stunned. His ascending steps on the stairs brought back my senses. I ran to the door and flung it open. "You laugh!" I shouted, shaking my fist at him, standing half way up the stairs. "You laugh now, but wait—" And then I got the grip of my temper and slammed the door in my turn. All the same, in that hour it was settled that I was to be a reporter. I knew it as I went out into the street.

Prudence.
"What made you jump into the midst of the fight?" inquired the friend. "You had nothing to do with the feud those men were trying to settle."

"That's perfectly true," answered Colonel Stilwell. "But I had to take sides one way or the other. I couldn't take chances on being an innocent bystander."—Washington Star.

When a boy is not invited to a party he hangs around the outside to see how things are going.

'GENE FIELD'S DAUGHTER.

She is Soon to Marry a Chicago Man Named Enabler.

When Eugene Field, the poet, died half a dozen years ago he left a daughter just budding into womanhood. She was a brunette, with large eyes, a clear complexion and a fine figure. "Trottie" was the pet name her father applied to her. Following her father's death the young lady, to help support the family, studied elocution and went on the platform to give readings from her father's works. Her intellectual gifts captivat-



MARY FRENCH FIELD.

ed her audiences. One young man who heard her became enamored of her. They met and friendship became love. Soon they are to be married and Mary French Field will be Mrs. W. C. Engler, of Chicago. She is now 25.

REV. G. CAMPBELL MORGAN.

British Preacher Who Comes to Carry on Mooty's Work.

Rev. Dr. G. Campbell Morgan, of London, who is now in America to take the place of the late Dwight L. Moody, in the American field of evangelism, was until lately the pastor of the New Court Congregational Church, one of the most successful churches in all the United Kingdom. Dr. Morgan is thirty-eight years old.

His father was a Baptist minister of Gloucestershire and his mother the daughter of a Baptist deacon. The son thus came naturally into the ministry.

He began to speak in religious meetings when he was thirteen years old. In all, he has been preaching twenty-five years. His first pastorate was in Hull, and he served in various pulpits until in 1898 he was called to Birmingham to take charge of the Westminster Congregational Church in that city. Here he met Dwight L. Moody, who induced him to pay a visit to the Moody schools at Northfield, Mass. Dr. Morgan was deeply impressed at that time with the work being done by the famous American and he never forgot the lesson he then learned. In 1896 he went to the New Court Church in London, where he has been very successful as pastor. He is very conservative in his views of the Bible and is more orthodox than otherwise is his theology.

A MEN WITH A RECORD.

Mr. and Mrs. Absalom Burnett, of Peru, Ind., are the possessors of a Plymouth Rock hen, who has a record as an egg producer. "Peggy" is now just



PEGGY AND TOM THE FIGHTER.

past year, with a record for this time of 196 eggs. From the period when she first began laying she ran the record up to 56 eggs in as many consecutive days. After a four-day lay-off she continued the record up to 78 eggs, and at no time in the period mentioned has more than five days elapsed without production. "Tom," the rooster, is a terror, and with fighting propensities far out of the ordinary. He never hesitates to attack man, woman or child, and is without doubt one of the homeliest, most ungainly and sorriest specimens of his kind on record.

Boers Wrecked Train.

London, Aug. 5.—A letter from a soldier in South Africa dated Nylstroom, Transvaal colony, July 6, says the Boers wrecked a train near Naboomspruit, July 4. One hundred and fifty Boers attacked the train guard and 28 Gordon Highlanders were killed, 18 wounded and 10 captured.

It has been discovered that the Rothschilds are the holders of the missing ticket for the prize of 100,000 francs in M. Coquelin's lottery in behalf of the Dramatic Artists' association at Paris. They have given the money to the society.

WHY NEW YORK LEADS TRADE.

Her Route to the West Has the Least Resistance Against Gravity.

The completion of the Erie canal revolutionized the trade of the United States. Before its opening Philadelphia was the commercial metropolis of the country, and nearly all the foreign commerce, except that landing at Boston, passed over its docks. At that time, moreover, many if not most of the vessels discharging at the ports of the United States returned in ballast. With the completion of the canal there was an open door between the East and the West, and thereafter every vessel discharging at New York was certain of a return cargo. Under such circumstances it is strange that the foreign commerce should concentrate itself at the latter port?

There was another item, too; wheat, which was \$1.50 a bushel at New York, brought just one-third of that sum at Buffalo; the difference in price represented the cost of transportation. With the completion of the canal the latter was reduced to 40 cents and the farmer got the other 60. Is it surprising that with such tremendous gains New York should have become the Empire State? And yet it was all in the selection of the natural trade route—the line of least resistance—the minimum lift against gravity.

And even to this day the same trade route is making history as rapidly as it did in the early decades of the century. From Buffalo to New York City a magnificent railway system, with its six tracks, parallels the canal and the Hudson estuary. From Buffalo to tide water the millions of tons of freight are lifted in the aggregate about 500 feet; from Chicago along the shores of the two lakes it is not far from 1,100 feet.

In the case of the trans-Appalachian roads the aggregate of upgrades varies from 3,000 to 5,000 feet. This is the entire lift against gravity. And that lift means hundreds of extra locomotives and train crews. It means, moreover, that in the first cost of transportation between the East and the West must be reckoned on the basis of the Mohawk gap route; and, whatever may be the economic history of the United States in the future, its development will be inseparably connected with this great line of least resistance.

The Bachelor's Soliloquy.

To wed or not to wed? That is the question. Whether 'tis wiser in the mind to suffer the hash and tough steak of the boarding-house, Or to make love to a maiden, and, marrying her, End all my tribulations. Eat ancient prunes No more; and in a minute to say we end The stomach-ache, and the thousand awful pains Boarders are heir to; 'tis a consummation Devoutly to be wished. To wed, to marry: To wed, perchance to scrap; aye, there's the rub! For in my nightly rest what curtain lectures When I have shuffled off this bachelor's coil Must give me pause? There's the respect That makes calamity of married life; For who could bear each night her awful tirade. The kid's shrill yells, the walking up and down And the blamed inevitable tuck; The frequent visits of the mother-in-law. Who makes the home to you a very inferno. When he himself might live in blissful peace As a bachelor? Who could put up with this To grunt and sweat under such dreadful tortures, But that the thought her popper might go off To the undiscovered country, from whose bourne No traveler returns, resolves the mind. And makes him soon forget the ill he'll have And enter in the sea of matrimony? Thus conscience must be deadened, laid aside. And thus the native line of resolution Is smothered o'er with a gay cast of thought. And enterprise of great profit and moment With this regard, their currents flow dead sure, And gain for us the dough. Soft you now! The dinner bell! God grant there may not be Too many flies in the soup. —St. Louis Star.

Lemons for the Toilet.
Few women nowadays but know the value of lemons and the fruit is so cheap that the toilet table should not be without this "little yellow doctor," as some call it. Lemon juice is whitening either for the hands, neck or face. A piece of lemon rubbed on the teeth removes discoloration, but the teeth must be brushed afterward or the acid will injure them. A piece of lemon tossed in the wash water is refreshing and likewise softens the water.

Commodore of His Soldiers.

The Haitian government is very considerate of the comfort of soldiers. Every picket is supplied with a chair.