

wood. But nobody pays much attention to them, least of all the women. As for rules forbidding bobbed hair, one supposed that nowhere in the vicinity of New York could there be found a firm that would employ only long-haired clerks and stenographers.

That such an office exists appears in the report of a controversy now going on in New London. The general superintendent's secretary clocked along for nearly five years with her tresses done in a knot. One morning she appeared with a haircut. A few days later she was fired by the general manager.

He said that he considered bobbed hair undignified and that "anyhow she had violated an edict of the company." But the girl and her partisans have had a few remarks to make, too. The "edict" was not a formal rule, only a rumor. Dignity and bobbed hair are not mutually exclusive, and "anyhow, the girls in the Middletown office bob their hair."

Too many women now hold important positions in business to make it possible to ignore their preferences. They have an enormous amount of sympathy with the younger girls' point of view. One well-known business woman said recently that bobbed hair and a well-made-up face increase both the happiness and efficiency of stenographers.

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

Great Men and Great Issues.

Great spirits still on earth are sojourning. As is natural, the Middle West has more than its share.

Calumny has whispered that Mr. WILLIAM HALE THOMPSON, the Chicago reformer, was faltering in his love for Colonel SMITH, primary reformer and Republican candidate for Senator. Colonel SMITH's aversion to "coming out" for modification of the Volstead act was distressing his friend. No, says Mr. THOMPSON. He is sure that Colonel SMITH will hear and obey the voice of the people of Illinois, for "he is a great American."

Postmaster General NEW, on his way to the convention of postmasters, utters the final word of Republican achievement, the most inspiring prophecy of Republican success. The country enjoys prosperity. Prosperity was "brought about by a Republican Executive and a Republican Administration." This is definite and positive. Mr. NEW has a knowledge of wonder-working that would have made him illustrious in any community.

Our last number is Senator WILLIS of Ohio. He is pouring forth floods of words about debt cancellation, as if his Democratic rival, Mr. POMERENE, who agrees with his views, were former Governor COX or former Secretary BAKER. By their clutch of realities, by the sincerity of their exposition, we recognize and salute these great men.

Now Coats of Many Colors.

There is authority and finality in the degrees of fashion when directed at women. Paris has

said this or that and been obeyed so long that the ladies respond as automatically as an instantaneous water-heater. But turning styles for men off and on has not been done. It is sometimes attempted, but there seems to be an individuality in fashions for men that defies the regularizing hand. In the evolution of apparel men's clothes have been shaped by events and not by dictators.

It seems unlikely that the order coming from the convention of retail clothiers now in session will be generally obeyed. It is said that Spring suits will be red, blue, green, bright tan or lavender. But will staid business men, used to being clothed in sorrow's dark array, wear them? When men wore satins and laces and ruffles, being handsome was not the minor accomplishment that it is today. Except for movie heroes and matinee idols, men nowadays scorn deliberate struggle for beauty.

Not until men burst out spontaneously in rainbow tints can the association of tailors be sure that its bright array will appear anywhere except in shop windows.

Jane Darwin Tries Again.

LORNA MARRIOTT, whose swimming name is "Jane Darwin," failed yesterday in her third at-

tempt to cross the Channel. She is 20 years old and a science student. As she was only two miles off Dover when she had to give up in the cold waters of late September, she is evidently of the type that will conquer in the end.

"Jane Darwin" seems to be the only "intellectual" to try conclusions with the Channel. She is perhaps inspired by her study of the "Origin of Species" and the "Descent of Man," and perhaps finds recreation in reading "The Voyage of the Beagle."

Darwin in an expedition ashore, when on the voyage of the Beagle, showed more vitality than his companions in struggling on to find water on a desert island. In more ways than one the great scientist seems to have been a pattern for the Barnstable student who took his name. It is hard to conceive of this persistent young lady failing always.

Is Dignity Shorn With a Haircut?

Occasional sighs for long-haired girls are by such old-fashioned people as

the judges of the Atlantic City beauty contests and Mr. JAMES OLIVER CUR-