

CANDY SALES FALLING OFF.

his feminine craze for being sleek has knocked the bottom out of business," said the man in charge of the downtown branch of a big candy store. "Some men who were good at least \$10 worth of candy each never come inside the door now, when I see them trudging past with a package of fruit I set up my mind their wives and daughters or sweethearts have taken them against candy. One man with a wife and four daughters, who used to be a splendid customer, told me the other day that he'd as soon come home with a viper as with a 5-pound box of candy, although a year ago he would buy two 5-pound boxes each," says the New York Sun. We notice the same difference in small stores to women employed in offices. There's not half the number of calls for half-pound boxes, though our sales of sweet chocolate are always big. Lots of business women nibble it instead of taking a regular luncheon. The continual running in of office girls to execute commissions for the photographers and telephone operators setting to be a thing of the past, lemon drops are about the only sweets these business girls will eat. My mother's daughter seems to be set against gaining an ounce of candy, and until it's fashionable to be fat again I suppose we'll notice a difference in sales."

from Wisconsin has come a wall of dense ignorance concerning geography with which high and pre-tory school graduates come up to university. Recent tests made in the department of geology in first year physiology classes have developed a difference of opinion among freshmen as to whether the highest mountain in Asia or South America, developed an astounding lack of information as to the location of such places as Vienna, Venice, Lisbon and Hongkong, and in trying to tell the whereabouts of the Pyrenees, Caucasus, Himalaya and Sierra Nevada mountains and Mount McKinley, almost half missed two or three out of five, says the Chicago Evening Post. In fact, in the examination, which included only such questions as "fairly informed person should know," only one-sixth of the 103 freshmen tested were recorded as making a satisfactory showing.

The hobbies of the rich collectors sometimes as silly as those of the street boy. A French banker who recently left a collection of 63,000 cigar bands, each differing in some particular from the others. These cost him fifty years of smoking. He had been arranged systematically in a number of specially constructed cabinets. None of his children shared his taste, so it was decided to sell the bands. When put up to auction the collection which had entailed an expenditure of so much time and money realized twenty francs. The children would have preferred fifty dollars of cigars.

Wonders never cease. A woman in Minneapolis is suing for a divorce on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment because her husband persists in kissing her too often and ardently. And others complain because they are never kissed. No wonder poor men have been trying unsuccessfully to strike a happy medium in the world started.

A man in Washington lighted a cigar while holding a bag of gunpowder in his hand. He shared the usual fate of the man who persists in spite of warning and experience in looking for a gas leak with a naked light. When fools prepare the train of events it is generally the expected which happens.

The man who insists on having breakfast every morning will be under suspicion of having a substitute for the automobile in the function of making a display of his enormous wealth.

London has imported an edible monkey from Peru. New York will like to see how London likes it before it imports one, too.

Boston is developing a taste for dark meat. There is some uneasy feeling in Wall street lest the taste spread to Gotham.

An exchange calls attention to the fact that while sermons were being preached on tuberculosis in its ballistics the churches themselves were filled with impure air and other phases of the white plague. There is a trouble that the tuberculosis people will have to fight—crowded, ill-ventilated halls and churches. The trouble is that the means for ventilation are not provided, says the Columbus (O.) State Journal. Opening a window or a door in most cases is objectionable. That creates a draft and starts a cold, which brings discomfort if not disaster. It would be interesting to see the statistics, to know which was the more fatal—drafts or tuberculosis. There are few places for general assemblage that are hygienically ventilated.

A young woman of Brooklyn broke a promise to her father and tried to pass through the New York custom house seven dutiable gowns she had purchased abroad. Her very foolish action cost the father about four times what the gowns were worth and the young woman was lucky to escape severe punishment for her action. Collector Loeb, who has been making a most successful war on smuggling, has served notice on all, men and women alike, that more severe penalties than fines will be imposed for flagrant violations of the law. In spite of this warning women more than men are still taking a chance, and probably will not stop until some of them are compelled to go to prison.

Sixteen battleships of the Atlantic fleet are off for the other side, and will present their visiting cards at a number of ports bordering on the English Channel. As their mission is a peaceful one, they will be welcome wherever they go. The jacksies will enjoy this personally conducted tour of Uncle Sam's, and the navy will profit by the experience of cruising in foreign waters.

A college student in Minnesota, ordered to propose marriage to a number of young women as a condition of his admission into a college club, proposed to twenty-three girls and was rejected by them all. By way of toning down a man's belief in his own attractions this method seems to be even more chastening than hazing.

An American opera singer in denying her reported engagement to a title volunteered the information that she had met a number of dukes, and that, taken individually and collectively, "they are not worth a ding." Her emphasis was almost masculine.

The fact that an aeroplane can ascend to a height of 9,714 feet has been demonstrated. Why should efforts to break this record be made? Who wants to fly more than 9,714 feet high before starting for heaven?

No use trying for any more automobile records. A scorcher in Kansas City knocked down four blind girls at once.

Professional aviators have picked up more than \$700,000 in the last six months. Now watch 'em make the money fly.

The happiest woman we know of is the one who has twenty-one Christmas gifts bought already.

Aviation fever seems infectious.

Three thousand inventors are today engaged in this country in perfecting the aeroplane.

Aviators go high and come high, but we must have them.

Possibly some day science will be able to control even the weather.

The good sense of the American people is attested to by the compliance with which they submit to the will of the majority.

It is claimed that the army's new rifle is too destructive. Er—what is the rifle wanted for, may we ask?

There's money in the air, but you must have an airship to find it.

The rapidity of development in this age is such as to cause many to lose sight of the fact that some of our chief industries are of comparatively modern origin. Cotton spinning has come to be one of the foremost of manufactures in this and other countries, says the Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin. But in the present form it has been in existence less than a hundred years, the first cotton-spinning mill in the United States having been started in 1811 at Fall River, Mass. That city is preparing to observe the centenary of the business, and next year will have an imposing celebration. It may be of interest to know that when cotton manufacturing was started there Fall River was known as Troy, a name which was retained until 1834. Cotton goods of various kinds are made in Troy, N. Y., and vicinity, and the anniversary of the origin of cotton spinning will enlist attention.

The publicity agent of the opera this season will be able to hear the music at each performance in his office by means of an acoustiphone, which will bring down to him even the most delicate sounds from the stage upstairs. How long will it be before the development of this invention will enable us to sit happily at home and enjoy the music of the opera or the eloquence of campaign spellbinders?

The conquest of the air is not to be left in the sole possession of record-breaking laurels. One of the great steamships is to make the round trip to Europe and back in eleven days, including time for loading and unloading of freight. Imagination is taxed to foretell what wonders the next generation will accept as ordinary daily facts of life.

The difference of 33,000 between the first count of Tacoma's population and the second is a measure of the mistake of too much enthusiasm in padding census returns. Had Tacoma been satisfied with a modest ten or fifteen thousand inflation it might have succeeded, but this overdoing of things is generally disastrous.

Even the hobble skirt has its value. A "lady" accused of kicking another "lady" in New York proved that she was wearing a hobble skirt at the time. Although the magistrate was no Solomon he immediately discharged the defendant.

A progressive physician claims that drunkenness can be cured by a surgical operation. Undoubtedly it can be. An amputation about the region of the throat will cure the patient from drinking in perpetuity.

If the promised penny postage will reduce the number of picture post cards that flow in on one every time a friend leaves town, then let us have it and at once.

The arrest of a man one hundred and seven years old shows how carefully we are protected from menaces to our community.

If you want to tell the difference between vinegar and gasoline use your automobile. If you haven't one, try a match.

The man who eloped with the daughter, but married the mother, probably got the best cook, at that.

In this age of man birds automobiles are fast becoming archaic.

Is a trust of aviators the next big monopoly?

A thief who stole a gold spike used to fasten the first rail of a new railroad in Pennsylvania found it was only gold plated. Such base deception as this, resulting in painful mortification and disappointment to a man acting in good faith, is plainly reprehensible and comes under the same category as selling a goldbrick.

A Virginia school board has established a rule that its school teachers of the softer sex must not attend dances. The board should explain whether this action is taken because the teachers are not good enough to appear at dances or because they are too good.



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A traveler in the west a decade ago was much amused at the vehicles he saw. They were all kinds of "contraptions." Buggies, "dearborns"—any old thing to ride in. The people out there were living close, faring hard and—saving money, says the Philadelphia Press. That's why the per capita savings bank account of Kansas excels that of all other states. It is astonishingly different today. At the Leavenworth county fair some days ago dozens of farmers came to the grounds in motor cars. They had paid for them, too. They had raised the wheat and corn to do it. The mere sensation of gliding swiftly over the roads where a year or so back they had condemned the "buzz" wagons which frightened their horses, gave them confidence and a new satisfaction. This is what the automobile has achieved in our country districts. It has made a modest toiler a man of new resources. It has put a machine in his hands and said, "Use it." And he is using it. He feels himself on a par with any millionaire who can afford to buy a new model every year.

The departure of the United States battleships which are to visit French and English ports is a reminder of the famous cruise around the world. When the fleet is assembled at sea it will consist of sixteen vessels, the same number that made the earlier trip. There can be no doubt of the welcome that awaits the visitors. The one regret in connection with the proceedings is that this showing of superb American warships will accentuate the lack of an American mercantile marine.

Another proof that the American girl is equal on every occasion. The young ladies who attend Wellesley college have organized a fire brigade, with fourteen captains, all of whom live in dormitories and assume charge whenever fire is discovered. The brigade will be drilled for efficient service, and there is no doubt that when necessity arises these fire-fighters of the gentler sex will be "on the job."

As a result of the census Chicago is making a virtuous pose because 900,000 of the population are set down as "regular" church attendants. That looks pretty good unless attention is directed to the 1,300,000 of irregulars. And what some of those irregulars do when the regulars are at church, is a caution.

The meanest man we have heard about this fall is the Ohio fellow who lures his hens to their nests by the use of a phonograph. But any hen ought to know that it is not too late to refuse to lay even after the nest is reached.

Even persons on moderate salaries will have to be on guard against the counterfeit \$10 bills found in Philadelphia. The report of a counterfeit representative of \$100 a few days ago worried only the plutocrats.

There's no good excuse for staying up late at night, says a physical culturist. So we've all found out. That's why we have to use the poor ones.

Are we returning to barbarism? English women have taken to wearing anklets.

When a man is his own janitor he wastes little time pounding on the pipes.

The sheer waste in this country is appalling. Our working men get less comfort and enjoyment out of a given expenditure than the workmen of France; the same is true of our middle classes as a whole; our local authorities muddle away money; our imperial concerns are extravagantly managed; our manufacturers throw money into the sewers or into the atmosphere and destroy more money in the process. It is not the comparative luxury among us so much as the comparative waste that strikes people who intelligently observe the ways of other nations. A very good defense may be set up for those refinements of life which collectively are termed luxury, says the London Times. But for waste there is absolutely no defense possible, and the real indictment against us as a nation is that we stupidly fail to obtain the luxury and the pleasure which our expenditure might procure.