

BIG CHANGE NOTED TO ASSIST CUPID

Life in Country Today Compared to Twenty Years Ago.

Custom of Sleeping Outdoors, for Instance, Is Growing—What the "Movies" and "Canned Music" Have Accomplished.

Twenty years ago the inhabitants of entire villages, up in New York state at least, seemed to fear fresh air o' nights and slept with their windows closed. Night air was not healthful, they said—and a lot of them lived to be ninety-seven even on that theory. The window sashes were nailed down and stuffed with rags at the first sign of snow and we slept under those conditions.

In those days if anyone had practiced sleeping outdoors, even in summer weather, it would have caused a sensation. "Cracked, I swan!" the old farmers would have said.

The change came gradually, presumably because the sons and daughters of the old residents went to work in the large centers where opened windows were, if not the rule, surely not the exception, remarks a writer in the New York Evening Sun. Now the complete change hits one fairly in the face when he returns to the once airless districts of early youth.

Night and day now the windows are wide open and sometimes even doors are never closed; no one thinks of living without screens and mosquito netting, even the poor in hollows and by-lanes. The families frequently eat outdoors under the old apple tree, on red and white table covers or oilcloth or a bare scrubbed board. Like the omnipresent fly that carries the clerk and his family to picnics along the roadside, the outdoor-eating habit has done wonders for the health and happiness of all, particularly the country folk.

Out-of-doors sleeping is now well nigh a habit. Hardly a porch in that country nowadays is complete without a khaki swing couch, a made-up cot or one of the old time hard, haircloth "sofas" with pillows and a patchwork quilt or two, ready for the sleeper. Most of these were hung with mosquito net curtains, looped back by day.

Nowadays on these outdoor couches are seen reclining in daytime the old man of the family, lying at full length with his bare feet toasting in the sun. Twenty years ago he would have slept in the darkened parlor behind closed shutters; or, if very foolhardy, he might have been caught by watchful eyes of his family napping under the old apple tree.

Yes, the country has come on! But outdoor sleeping by rural children has not yet arrived. Here the farmer's wife draws the line. It may be all right for grandpa and herself and husband, but she is not yet sure about the night air for little luns. So children's cots are not seen upon the porches. They still sleep within four walls and a ceiling.

The city and large towns have come to this airy regime through years of propaganda in newspapers, in churches and in social centers. The country absorbed it through newspapers and magazines. But if there has been a notable change in the attitude of farm and village folk toward fresh air there has been an even greater change in their social life. The small town of twenty years ago is not the small town of today. Then they had church societies. They may still have them, but I do not know where. There used to be buggy rides and prayer meetings, and the greatest dissipation of the younger villagers was "going walking," with a possible "sody" at the corner drug store. Booth Tarkington depicts these rural scenes truthfully, but his pointed view is now out of date.

The movies and "canned" music have recreated village life. Even in those families where there is no automobile life is a far pleasanter thing than it was twenty years ago. The movies entertain the whole family. And in the evenings, when the movies fail, the average soda fountain draws not with ice-cream cones and candy alone but with a rollicking, jazzing mechanical player. The drug store has become largely a refreshment parlor; it is now a social center. Young and old meet there and strolling and loafing have gone into the discard.

The closing of saloons may have helped, but even before prohibition the flitting notes of music boxes in ice cream parlors began to woo the villagers.

Twenty years ago never was there such joyousness in country life, such clothes worn by the young girls, such sang-froid among the boys, such naive sophistication upon all. There spoke the screen in Mary Pickford curls, in styles of an extremity, in a youth's cane, in a girl's vampish slouch. And all the joy life. That is the secret of the change that has come over village habits of living. The cheap cost of the photoplay and the graphophone has taught the public in out-of-the-way places to get into the game; to live joyously.

Wood Strong, Though Light.

Tests of balsa wood by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology showed a strength fully one-half as great as spruce. Yet this Equadorian wood weighs only 7.3 pounds per cubic foot, while cork weighs 13.7 pounds. The wood is stated to be practically pure cellulose, with no lignification, the strength being due to its structure of large barrel-shaped cells.

Movement for "Mixed Clubs" in City of London.

Method Has Been Suggested to Check Decline in Marriage Rate, Which Is Viewed With Considerable Alarm.

Social reformers, bishops, clergymen and physicians are continually reminding us that in England we need "more marriage and earlier marriage." The postponement of the age of marriage among men until thirty or the beginning of middle age is not a healthy social sign.

In the middle class this deferment of wedlock is attributed chiefly to the increased difficulty in earning a sufficient income to support the family. The same factor comes into play among the skilled craftsmen who wish to attain a fair financial position before they undertake the responsibilities of parenthood. We find, therefore, that early marriage is the custom chiefly of the unskilled workers, casual laborers and the very poor.

The economic question is not the only barrier to early marriage and more marriage in the great middle class. Strange as it may appear, a vast number of men and women who wish to marry cannot find mates. Even in these days there are a multitude of men who have very few women acquaintances, and a still larger host of women who rarely enjoy the society of men. We are apt to forget that a large proportion of the inhabitants of the big cities are practically "strangers in the gates." Their "homes" are a bedroom in the suburbs, a boarding house or a little lock-up flat. They are country immigrants to the large towns, and in many instances they have not a single acquaintance in the place.

If we are really in earnest about the decline of the marriage rate and the deferment of matrimony, we should set about facilitating social intercourse between the sexes. The first practical step is the provision of "mixed clubs" under municipal control. Clubs, as they exist now, are simply internment camps for men or women, and there is no doubt that they tend to a further segregation of the sexes.

It is true that there are clubs in London where men and women can meet. But we require a very much larger number in the metropolis and in all parts of the provinces.

My own experience of mixed clubs is that they undoubtedly promote matrimony. They are a pleasant meeting place for young men and women after the day's work. It is appalling that thousands of youths and maidens should have nowhere to foregather in the evenings and no choice between the lonely lodging and the streets.

I would suggest also that every municipality should establish a marriage bureau and provide candidates for wedlock with introductions.—From Continental Edition of London Mail.

Where Soft Drinks Originated.

A Philadelphia writer says that there is no more inspiration for poetry in soda water.

Let it be remembered that another "first" to be credited to Philadelphia is for the manufacture of soda water—that is to say, the commonly accepted beverage with fruit slurps.

It was made by Eugene Roussel, who conducted a perfumery establishment here about a century ago. Moreover, the Philadelphia centennial finally confirmed the important place of the industry and the popularity of the beverage in the United States. Robert M. Green began to build soda fountains in '74, showed one at the centennial, and at the Franklin Institute exposition, held not long thereafter, dispensed his new invention, "ice cream soda," to an increasing throng that presently was paying \$200 a day over the counter for the seductive new "soft drinks."

With the present soda water and soda fountain business approximating one billion dollars a year, this Philadelphia born industry is still in its infancy. But what a prodigious infant it is!—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Nickel Coins Again.

An innovation in currency has been made by the Indian government, which has coined and issued nickel 8-anna and 4-anna pieces. Two-anna and 1-anna pieces have been in circulation in India for many years, but hitherto no nickel coins of a value equal to the new issue have been in use in any country—in fact, the 8-anna piece is credited with being the highest-valued coin struck in base metal in the world, its recent sterling exchange value being 1 shilling 2 pence, or 28 cents, at normal values. The Indian government was influenced in its decision to issue the new coins by the high price of silver, and it is probable that one result of the innovation will be to cause the 8-anna silver coins to disappear.—Brooklyn Eagle.

New Smokeless Fuel.

Coalite, a new British smokeless fuel, is claimed to be a natural briquet generating as much heat per unit as coal. By a process of low temperature carbonization, a ton of bituminous coal is made to yield 14 hundredweight of smokeless fuel, 7,000 cubic feet of gas, 16 gallons of oil similar to crude petroleum, 3 gallons of refined motor spirit and 20 pounds of sulphate of ammonia for fertilizer. Besides making fuel smokeless, this process supplies by-products of enormous importance.

COMES OF ANCIENT FAMILY

Danish Minister to Iceland Traces Origin to First White Man Born in America.

Information has been received from Copenhagen that the Danish consul-general in London, J. E. Boegild, has been appointed Danish minister to Iceland. Mr. Boegild is widely known in America, having been Danish consul in San Francisco and Chicago, consul-general in New York and commercial adviser to the Danish legation in Washington.

Mr. Boegild seems especially fitted for this post, as he has Icelandic blood in his veins. On the maternal side he is descended from the Tullinius family of Iceland, which traces its origin back to Thorfinn Karlsefni, one of the famous Norsemen who discovered America nearly one thousand years ago.

Karlsefni, of whom a statue was recently erected in Philadelphia, was the first white man to settle in America, spending two years in "Wineland," where his wife, Gudrid, gave birth to a boy, who was called Snorri. From Snorri descended a numerous and distinguished lineage, among whom is numbered the Tullinius family, and the new minister to Iceland can thus lay claim of being descended from the first white man born in America.—Detroit News.

Cook With Oil on Warship.

The Hood, the monster mystery battleship, launched from the Clyde the other day, is fitted out with a large oil-fuel cooking galley. For several years past the use of oil fuel has been common in the British navy for propulsion purposes, but its employment for cooking is quite an innovation. The galley referred to is capable of cooking for 1,200 men. The heat is obtained by means of special burners, which consume the oil under pressure, compressed air being used to atomize the fuel. The result is a white flame of extraordinary heat and cleanliness, which leaves no residue whatever and is easily controlled. There is an entire absence of smell—a usual disadvantage in cooking by means of oil—and there is no chance of the food being contaminated.

From Friday's Daily

Mrs. C. A. Platou was up from Litchville yesterday and is spending the day in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Jensen, of Lisbon, N. D., are here today looking after matters of business in the city.

Miss Alice Fisher, a former teacher at the Normal school, will arrive in the city today for a short visit with Mr. and Mrs. Frank White.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Sheldon, of Washburn, N. D., are Valley City visitors today arriving here last night.

President C. E. Allen, of the State Normal school, is to deliver the commencement address for the graduating class at Luverne, N. D., today.

Mrs. M. J. Crose recently returned from California and will spend the summer with her daughter, Mrs. C. R. Simpson.

E. H. Light, of the Minneapolis Paper Company, was here yesterday looking after the trade and was a caller on the Times-Record.

Supt. Arthur Deamer, of the Fargo public schools, was a Valley City visitor last night and left this morning over the Soo line.

Jesse Sargent and her mother leave today on No. 2 for Prescott, Wis., where they will spend the next two months visiting friends and relatives.

President C. E. Allen went to Luverne today to deliver a commencement address. He will return to Valley City Saturday to resume school duties.

Everybody is coming to hear ex-President Wm. Howard Taft at the Chautauqua auditorium next Tuesday evening. Mr. Taft will have something good to say to you.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Minnie J. Nielson is in the city today. Miss Nielson will go to Cooperstown tomorrow to confer with school officials there.

Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Aurenhaugen, of Litchville, N. D., are spending the day in the city. Mr. Aurenhaugen is one of the pioneer farmers of the Litchville country as well as one of the solid business men of that town.

Secretary Moe says the tents and camp sites are going like hot cakes and if you want a site or tent now is the time to get busy before it is too late. Procrastination is the thief of time.

Mrs. Will Wright of Woodworth, has been a guest at the T. B. Swart-out residence for the past few days, and left last evening over the Soo for Enderlin where she will visit for a few days with her mother.

Gilman Mudgett arrived home Wednesday from West Point and is spending his vacation at home. Gilman is progressing very nicely at the big military academy and it has been two years since he left home, so that we expect he will enjoy his visit home.

H. C. Aamoth and family were Valley City visitors yesterday, and returned to Fargo last evening. Mr. and Mrs. Aamoth have purchased a fine home in Fargo and will make their home there permanently from now on. Mr. Aamoth was recently promoted to president of the National Security of Fargo.

Oswal O. Wagley, of Milwaukee, Wis., was an arrival in the city last night and is looking after business interests here and visiting friends. Mr. Wagley is an old Valley City boy and still owns business property in the city. Friends of Mr. Wagley are pleased to see him.

Parties who were up to the baseball game at Jamestown yesterday say that they received the biggest surprise of their lives. They knew that the Langer sentiment is slowly but surely gaining headway, but they say that they saw about 10 Langer banners on automobiles to every one for Frazier. These were not business men's cars either. They were farmers who were taking in the fair at that place.

Tom Bonhus, knows Attorney General Langer's brother very well. He was a member of Co. F, 362nd infantry regiment of the 91st division. Tom saw him many times in France and says that he was right up in the front lines and any talk of his being a slacker by the nonpartisan press is untrue. He was in the same regiment as Mr. Bonhus and we guess this ought to be authentic.

Father Stanton, who is to preach the sermons at the Catholic church during the Forty Hours Devotion, next Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, accepted the delivering of an address at some other place on Saturday, and so will arrive at Valley City Saturday night at 8:30 on the Soo. He will hear confessions upon his arrival and on Sunday morning beginning at 7 a. m. until 8:30. In order to give to as many as possible the opportunity of seeing him the first mass will be at 8:30. There will be no mass here tomorrow morning.

The Valley City baseball team went down to defeat for the first time in several days yesterday, when they were taken on by the Jamestown team and beaten by the score of 2 to 1. Only seven innings of the game were played, on account of darkness falling so early. This is the first game this season that Valley City has lost to Jamestown. Two or three of Valley City's best players quit yesterday just before the team left for Jamestown, greatly crippling the efficiency of the team.

N. P. Langemo, candidate for the legislature from the thirty-eighth district, was up from Fargo yesterday. He has been out campaigning in his district and while he does not say that he has easy sailing like his competitor, he does say that he is meeting with much encouragement at the hands of the voters of the district. Mr. Langemo is by far the best man of the two to elect to that office, because he will be influenced in his work by the need of the people instead of by the wishes of the big boss. Mr. Langemo left for Fargo today to look after some business matters and on his return will again go forth among the people to put forth his claims for election.

The baseball players that quit yesterday were Gessner and McGovern. Gessner has been playing second base while McGovern has been holding down the center outfield. The two went from here to Park River, N. D., where they will play with that team for the rest of the season. Their quitting crippled the team considerably yesterday and might be offered as an excuse for losing the game yesterday at Jamestown. The management expects to have new men in their places by next Sunday, when Pingree will play here. There are no more games scheduled at present until next Sunday.

The league picnic at Tolstad's grove day before yesterday was attended by a large crowd, but it was not attended by any amount of enthusiasm for the league side. In fact most of the crowd present was against the league. Townley did not show up at all and the speakers present failed to rouse any interest in the multitude but rather bored them. The only speaker who did raise any stir at all was our friend Prof. Selden, who succeeded in spilling the beans as to his usual custom and in raising the ire of the crowd. The band was unfortunate in having its tuba player taken sick and M. O. Grangaard, candidate for state legislature for this district, being the good fellow that he is, volunteered his services to pump wind into that tuba and helped out in fine shape, then this great apostle of the doctrines of state socialism and free love arose in all his majesty and glory and started a roast on Mr. Grangaard. It was uncalled for, very foolish and shows what a man will do who is trying to land something from the bunch he has so suddenly adopted as the outlet to furnish him a meal ticket. If Mr. Selden wants to advocate the league program that is all right, but just why he wants to hop onto everybody each time he does some talking we cannot understand. It is safe to say that he made a lot of friends for Mr. Grangaard.

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