

knowledge which enables her to say with authority that such a thing is or is not done as it should be.

It is chiefly with men of moderate incomes that I have to deal here—those who expect the homely qualifications. To those I put this question, justified by observation: If you really want a girl who can cook, manage a house, use her needle, and be generally helpful, why do you pass her by?

Kisses That Led to Death.

A fatal kiss was that given by a young Spanish sailor to his fiancée nine years ago, for it brought about the decimation of a town. A Spanish vessel put into the little seaport of Candelo, on the coast of Florida, flying the yellow flag, and was accordingly ordered to remain in quarantine, for more than one member of the crew exhibited symptoms of bilious plague. But a sailor disobeyed orders and put off in a boat for the shore one evening, where he sought out his fiancée, and embraced her. The girl succumbed to the plague, which spread through the town so rapidly that over 200 persons died out of a total population of 1500.

A negro kissed a white waitress at a restaurant at Granger, near Salt Lake City, some two years ago. Witnesses of the episode were so enraged by the assault that they commenced a five days' campaign against all the negroes in the city, who, of course, took the part of their coloured comrade. Thirty-six white men were either killed or wounded, to say nothing of eighty negroes, and at the end of that time the waitress astonished everybody by marrying her coloured lover. This by no means settled matters, for the negroes thereupon joined forces with the white men, and the couple barely escaped from the city with their lives.

Kisses cost the lives of many brave soldiers once in the history of the British army, if a popular story be true. The beautiful Duchess of Gordon in 1794 raised the famous Gordon Highlanders by, it is said, giving a thousand recruits a kiss and a golden guinea apiece. The regiment was raised to its full strength in a few days. The men were then sent out against the French, and in the first battle in which they took part more than 250 fell either killed or wounded. It can be truthfully said that they paid for the Duchess' kiss with their lives, for many who had plenty of guineas enlisted, showed by their kiss of patriotism.

Previous to this, in 1718, a war was brought about by a thoughtless kiss on the part of a young Bavarian Prince of somewhat reckless character, named Ferdinand. During a visit to a neighbouring state he inadvertently kissed a beautiful member of the royal household, Princess Thyra, reckless of the fact that she already was affianced. High words ensued, followed by blows, and a duel was arranged, which led to diplomatic relations between the two nations being discontinued. A war broke out ultimately and resulted in the death of many men before there was a declaration of peace.

Guarding the American Jewellers' Safes.

The way of the transgressor who is in any way connected with a jewellery theft is extremely hard. No other class of thieves are followed so persistently, or run so great a risk of being caught sooner or later. Most jewellery thefts, even small ones, are followed up, often for years, until every man involved is successfully run down. It is common for ten or even twenty times the value of the articles stolen to be expended in their recovery. As might be expected, most thieves have come to regard the jewellery business as one of the most dangerous temptations of their profession.

Fewer attempts are made to rob jewellery dealers than ever before. This very gratifying state of affairs is due to the surveillance of the various protective associations of jewellers. The names of these associations, the Jewellers' Protective Union and the Jewellers' Security Alliance, are, perhaps, familiar, but little is known of the remarkable work they are carrying on. The annual reports of these associations contain enough material to fill unlimited novels.

A thief knows that a safe bearing the emblem is in all likelihood not even watched, thus permitting him to work undisturbed; but the certainty that a swarm of detectives will be set upon him if he tampers with it is a very effective though silent threat. There is not an experienced burglar in the country who does not know and, in his own way, respect these signs. The only trouble members of the associations have is from novices

at burglary, who have not been warned by their elders.

One of the associations, the Jewellers' Security Alliance, guards the safes of 2,030 jewellers throughout America. The Jewellers' Protective Union insures the safety of jewels in transit. The detective work is done by a famous agency. If necessary hundreds of men can be set to work hundreds of miles distant within a few minutes after the alarm is sounded.

The records of the associations show scores of remarkable captures. A few years ago, W. G. Pollack, salesman for a Maiden lane firm, chanced to be travelling with fifty thousand dollars' worth of unset diamonds in his pocket. While near Sioux City, Iowa, a man sitting beside him quietly rose, and, thrusting a revolver before Pollack's face, demanded the gems. Pollack produced the diamonds. The robber next pulled the bell rope and, still covering the passengers with his revolver, waited till the car stopped and jumped off.

Pollack's firm were members of the union. He wired his office in New York, the detective machinery was put in operation, and within a few hours several trained sleuths were on the scent. It was two years before the thief was arrested. He is now serving a seventeen years' sentence.

Charley Dhei, known as "Little Fritz," once escaped with fifteen thousand dollars' worth of jewellery belonging to a firm holding membership in the union. He went to South America, but was brought back after a year's absence. He served a term of two years and is now a free man, but he will be kept under surveillance by the union's detectives for the remainder of his life.

The detectives employed by the union also watch the important

"fences" where stolen goods are likely to find their way, and keep in touch in every possible way with the "under world." It has happened several times that the detectives have notified jewellers of thefts from their stock which they had not discovered themselves. Several important plots have also been discovered in advance in the same way and the proposed victims placed upon their guard.

Making Thin People Plump.

The latest fattening fad is the banana diet. A lady who was recently so ill of nervous dyspepsia as to be in bed, and so thin that she gave up all hopes of ever getting fat, tried a new doctor, who induced her to undergo an experiment in diet.

He placed her upon a strict regime of bananas, and nothing else. The result was marvellous. She grew to really like them, when prepared by baking and served with sugar and cream, or cold, in the form of delicate jelly. She also had banana fritters and biscuits made of banana flour. Daily she grew more plump and rosy, and now she is well, and expects to remain so.

Bananas contain starch in its most easily assimilated form. Homoeopathic doctors have for some years called this tropical food unwholesome, but it is only indigestible when unripe. When bananas arrive here in a green state, cooking is necessary to develop their valuable nutritive qualities.

The cheapness of the banana cure is one of its great points, for almost all treatment for weak nerves and poor nutrition is very expensive.

The happy woman on whom the experiment was tried is telling all her thin friends about it, and assuring them that it is really wonderful.

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