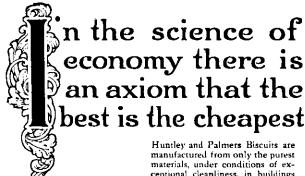
first competition in gum-chewing. After four hours of chewing at the specified rate, at least once every two seconds, the first faint-hearted for weak-jawed competitor would try no more; eight hours disposed of the next; and at the end of fourteen hours the appalling toothache of the third could no longer be beguiled, even though "inspiring airs were played on the plano," and Number

Four, as grimly indefatigable as Mr Fletcher, was declared the "Champion Gum-Chewer of the World."

"When I returned from my poker party last night my wife just looked at me; not a word was spoken." "My wife looked at me, too, and 1

don't believe a word was unspoken,'

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