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We guarantee above firm will do as they agree.—Ed

Carpenter's Letter

(Continued from Seventh Page.)

Chinese. He believes he can manufacture here ten times as cheaply as in the United States, and says the high freight is nothing in comparison.

This man is right about the artistic ability of the Chinese in stone cutting. They make magnificent monuments. They cut turtles and memorials of various kinds out of marbles and their work in the Ming tombs and in some of the great bridges near Pekin is as fine as that of any sculptor. It seems odd to think of the Confucian Chinese cutting out tombstones for the Christian cemeteries of the United States, but this is a possibility.

How to Get Mines in China.

The chief money to be made here is in the industrial metals. I am told there are rubies, amethysts, sapphires, diamonds and opals in different localities, but these are nothing in comparison with the value of the copper, coal and iron. If concessions are granted and the country made safe there will be an influx of foreign prospectors as soon as the treaty of peace is settled. There will probably be many Americans, and our government should see that the mining regulations are so fixed by treaty that there can be no dispute as to title and the working of the mines.

At present China has a bureau of mines and railways. It has certain laws as to foreigners who wish to open up such territory, but at present these laws are altogether in favor of the Chinese.

I have before me the concession of the

more than once in two or three days. They only keep one or two kinds on hand, whereas in such stores in the north and east a dozen different kinds will be kept constantly for sale and the demand is steady at all times.

"Where is the best market for chewing gum in the United States?"

"All west and north of St. Louis. Lots of gum is sold throughout Kansas, Nebraska, the Dakotas and Minnesota. Kansas City is a great town for it."

"How about Chicago?"

"Oh, Chicago is one of the greatest chewing gum cities in the country. Chicago has gone ahead of New York in this respect. New York used to be a great town for it and one couldn't go anywhere in the city without seeing girls working their jaws as if their lives depended on it. But the caricaturists and the paragraphists made such fun of the habit that a good many of the girls stopped chewing and the sales fell off very heavily. Boston was a pretty good gum town at one time, but never so good as our western cities."

"As a rule the newer the city the better the chewing gum trade in it. In an old city, like New Orleans, the people don't seem to take to the habit at all. The French are not gum chewers. The Germans don't chew gum either. In some of the places where there are many Germans, as in some of the cities of the northwest, we sell but little chewing gum. The young people like it, but the old people won't let them use it. I have seen many a boy spanked by his German mother for using chewing gum."

"Do you export much of it?"



PICTURESQUE WESTERN NEBRASKA—BLOWOUT WITH CORE, SIOUX COUNTY.

Pekin syndicate, which went into operation two years ago. It provides that the property and all improvements shall revert to the government after sixty years and that the company shall in the meantime pay the government 25 per cent of all its profits, with the exception of 6 per cent on its capital stock and 10 per cent for a sinking fund to repay the capital invested. In other words, the syndicate gets a 6 per cent dividend and a 10 per cent sinking fund before anything else is paid. Of the balance it receives 75 per cent, and this is to go on for sixty years.

The government also receives a tax of 5 per cent on the cost of working the mines and double the usual taxes on the government lands held by the concession. Similar regulations are made as to all companies operating in China.

According to the present law at least three-tenths of the stock of every foreign mining concession must be owned by the Chinese. It is impossible to get a concession where all the capital is foreign. In no case will the government be responsible for losses of any kind.

All grants of such concessions must be sanctioned by the bureau of mines and promoters are required to show proof of having capital before their applications will be considered. The books of all mining companies must be open to government inspection and every such company must establish a school of mines for young Chinese mining engineers.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Chewing-Gum Towns

J. J. Amend, traveling representative of one of the largest chewing gum manufacturing companies in the United States, expressed surprise, in speaking to a reporter of the New Orleans Times, that the establishment of a chewing gum factory at New Orleans is talked of.

"It is true that much of the gum we use comes by way of New Orleans in its raw state from the tropics," he said, "but I can see no other reason for putting up a factory here. I don't believe sugar is any cheaper here than it is in the north and glucose is no cheaper, if as cheap. Then this is a very poor market locally for chewing gum."

"Why is that?"

"I don't know the reason, but it is a fact nevertheless. Why, I know lots of towns in other parts of the country that use ten times as much chewing gum—yes, fifty times as much—as New Orleans and they are not nearly as big as this city, either. I've been around to the drug stores since I have been in the city and I find that their sales are very light. The first-class stores tell me that sometimes they don't have a call for chewing gum

"Only to England and Australia. None of the European nations take kindly to chewing gum. They won't have it at all in Germany and there is absolutely no sale for it in France or, in fact, anywhere on the continent. England uses a great deal, but they don't care much for a variety of brands there."

"Do you think the chewing gum habit grows on one like the cigarette or the opium habit?"

"Not to such an extent as those you mention. Now take it in our factories. When we employ new girls we tell them to go ahead and chew all the gum they want. The first few days their jaws are never at rest, but about the end of the first week they don't chew quite so steadily. At the end of two weeks they chew very moderately and after they have been in the factory a month they don't chew at all. They are cured and you couldn't hire an old hand to chew gum."

One on the Attorney

Attorney (cross-examining)—You are of the Jewish race, Mr. Isaacs, I believe.

Witness—No, sir. Caucasian race, same as you. Jewish religion.

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