

# Valentines She Will Get on Tuesday

**T**HE newest valentine for this year takes the form of a much enlarged postage stamp, with a cupid in the middle and the inscription "Loveland Postage" overhead. It is expressive of the idea of a love message sent by mail—the usual mode of conveying such expressions of regard on the holiday dedicated to the patron saint of all true lovers.

There is, indeed, a large increase in the amount of mail matter handled by the postoffice department at the period claimed by the good St. Valentine, and during the last three or four years the number of valentines exchanged has been far greater than ever before. The pretty custom has become fashionable, and not only young men and women but the older folks as well send these pretty tokens to each other and to their friends in much the same way as they distribute cards at Christmas and Easter. To a certain extent, in fact, the valentine has come to resemble the Easter or Christmas card in character, though distinguished from the latter by the love idea.

One of the most amusing of the new valentines is ornamented with a miniature dustpan of brass, just like a real one, beneath which are the lines:

"If you can furnish the dust for me,  
You and I might married be.  
You get the dust, I've got a pan;  
I'll spend what you earn as fast as I can."

### New Comic Valentines Not Harsh.

Now, this is the wholly harmless kind of fun that pervades the spirit of all the up-to-date comic valentines. Long ago the old style comical, which sell for a cent apiece, degenerated into the abusive and disgusting, being designed apparently to furnish a ready means for gratifying the petty malice of the senders. But the new ones, some of which are not less elaborate because of their humorous character, are pure and innocent nonsense.

As for the pretty ones, which compose the great majority, they are in many instances beautiful and costly. In respect of taste they are vastly superior to the old-fashioned sentimental valentines, with their crude designs and elaborate paper lace. The paper lace specimens have not entirely gone out, however, for the apparent reason that, for association's sake, they gratify the eye and special demand of older folks, recalling memories of tender and joyous youth.

One of the novelties this year is a really up-to-date cupid on skis—these snowshoes like contrivances used for sport on the snow in Canada. As might be expected, the little fellow with wings carries a large letter addressed "To My Valentine."

Utterly sentimental and decidedly cunning is a basket trimmed with blue forget-me-nots and labeled on the outside, "A Basketful of Love for My Valentine." The address attached is "100 Kissing Avenue." When the basket is opened three Cupids emerge, with a whole shower of hearts.

### Cupid Appears as Chauffeur.

That cupid should ride in a motor car like every one else in these days goes without saying. He appears as a chauffeur in many of this year's valentines—usually propelling a flower-ornamented vehicle with a young lady of agreeable aspect inside. On the front of one of these automobiles is inscribed the lines:

"Love shall ever be our guide,  
With you, dearest, by my side."

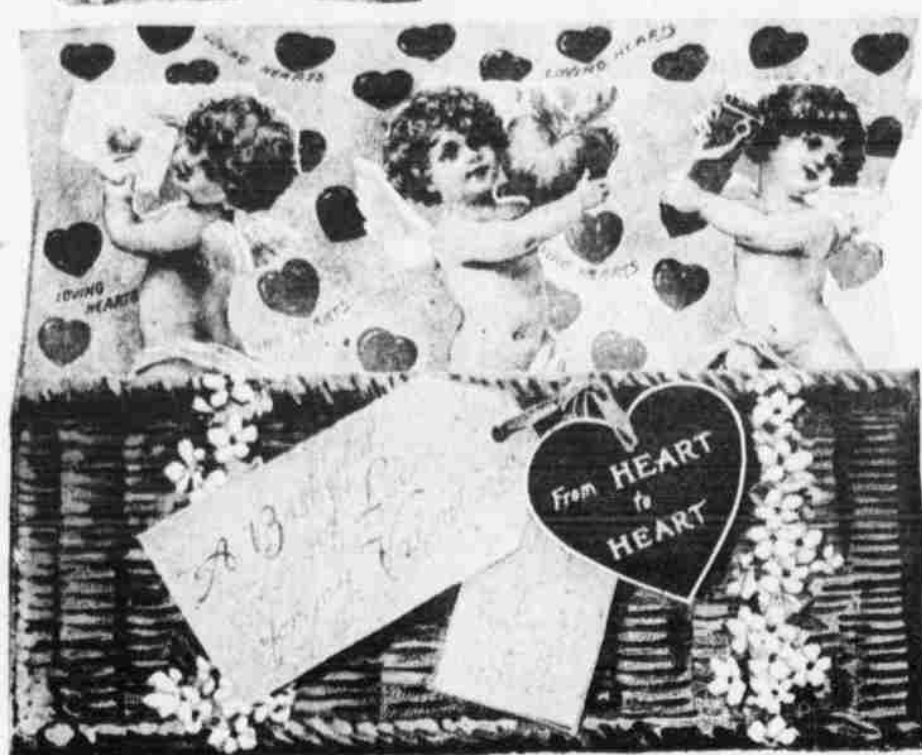
Another pretty design for a valentine is a fan made of



Cupid drives a motor car



Cupid on skis



A valentine postage stamp



She has his heart



My valentine I am heart whole and fancy free



A basketful of love



This side up

Other side up



A serenade for your valentine



Valentine jinglejack



A valentine fan



Valentines in black face



Cat and dog valentines



## Nearly Twice as Many Divorced Women as Divorced Men.

**I**N the thirty-seven cities of the United States which in 1900 had populations exceeding 100,000 there were 8,017 more divorced women than divorced men, while Indianapolis, Ind., led the whole list in divorced women and came within one place of first in the number of its divorced men.

Fifty-two divorced women in every 1,000 of its population is the unique record of the Indiana capital, followed at some distance by Kansas City, Mo., with its 40.9 grass widows in the 1,000, while Jersey City, N. J., trails in at the extreme foot of the list with only 3.8 divorced women on the same population basis.

St. Joseph, Mo., leads with a record breaking 34.5 grass widows in the 1,000, and, as if this were not enough, it shows that more men than women are divorced and living there against all the ratios and traditions of the United States census bureau.

If a city of 100,000 population and more has to exceed 15.5 divorced women and 8.5 divorced men to each 1,000 inhabitants it is outdoing itself. In the thirty-seven cities considered in this article there are totals of 18,908 grass widows and 10,891 grass widowers out of the population of 13,929,739 of all ages and conditions.

### Where Are the Divorced Men?

Looking over the tabulations of legal widowhood as shown by the census the reader is struck by the apparent inconsistency of the figures showing the divorced women and the numbers of divorced men. The proportion for the population total for the thirty-seven cities is 135 divorced women to 85 divorced men in every 10,000 people, a difference of more than one-third in favor of the men. At a glance one is disposed to remark that there should be a grass widower for every grass widow suggested by the census reports. But there are at least two good reasons for the condition.

Abandonment is the one chief cause of divorce in the United States. It is such a real cause that out of its reality it has come to be a sham cause as well until judges on the bench have uttered protest against the ease at which collusion between a husband and wife results in divorce. An absence of two years on the part of the husband is proved and the complaining wife gets her decree.

To abandon a wife after collusion at divorce, the husband needs to leave his home in order that successful proof may be brought to court. Naturally a man is less inclined to admit grass widowhood in a strange city than his wife may be to admit it in her own home, where she is known perhaps even to the census taker.

Then, too, most divorced men who are conniving parties to the divorce decree are quick to marry again, and with the

marriage the necessity for contributing to the divorce statistics of his native land is gone glimmering. Not infrequently the man in arranging for divorce from one wife has the other wife singled out before the court decree can be written up. Under any circumstances it will be unchallenged that the divorced man has better opportunities for a second marriage than has the divorced woman, and there are indications that he is availing himself of his opportunities in that line.

It is in this possibility of remarriage that the grass widower in Louisville, Ky., comes out into the limelight with a celebrity not equaled anywhere when contrasted with the 33.4 women in every 1,000 population. By the time the official canvasser had counted the 33.4 women on the Louisville list and turned her attention to the grass widowers of the town all but 3.5 of them had remarried or disappeared somewhere.

Disappearance is not easily accounted for in the list, for the reason that only St. Joseph, Mo., has more widowers than widows of the grass variety, and it has by no means enough more of these to account for any sort of a migration to cities of the 100,000 class. With 332 grass widowers and 327 grass widows in St. Joseph the unaccounted 5,000 and more widowers for the group of thirty-seven cities under observation are overwhelmingly in favor of the remarriage speculation.

### Sympathy Is With Grass Widower.

There have been speculations as to whether or not the man who has gone through the divorce mills has not an added interest for a wide circle of femininity. Notwithstanding the position of many married women upon the question of equal suffrage and women's rights, the sympathy of most women is distinctly with the grass widower in the divorce proceedings. Even if he has whipped the wife occasionally the opinion frequently is that she has deserved it. A widower of the sad variety under nearly all circumstances has a handicap when it comes to a new edition of love's young dream. With even a third edition of a court decree, without alimony, the widower of the grass variety suggests even piquancy to a fourth romance.

Just why Jersey City has such a small proportion of divorced men and women is open to question, with the leaning probability that the juxtaposition of New York and the ferry boat accommodations are responsible. At the same time New York's own figures for either sex are so far below the general averages as to have no meaning.

### Chicago Far in Lead of New York.

Compared with the Chicago figures from the divorce mills the figures for greater New York appear to have been unappreciated to a startling extent. The figures for the eastern

metropolis are 60 divorced women and 32 divorced men in every 10,000 population, while the figures for the western metropolis are 140 grass widows and 110 grass widowers. Yet, considering the amount of matter that has been printed at the expense of Chicago as a divorce resort, the city has a long list of neighbors who are a good deal more so.

For years the Kansas City grass widow has had a distinct place in the small talk of the Amalgamated Order of Marriage License Clerks of America, as well as having her own illustrated corner in some of the comic papers. She is second only to the Indianapolis variety in numbers as compiled for the bureau of public printing at Washington, D. C. Four hundred and nine of them in every 10,000 residents of the city by the Kaw is a striking piece of statistics, approached only by Los Angeles with its even 400 in the same grouping.

A good many years ago a Kansas City litterateur spent some time, some gray matter, and considerable wit and humor in the consideration of the Kansas City grass widow as an especial attraction for the average Loveland Kansas City youth. He painted the lady as she never dared paint herself for the delectation of her youthful admirer. She was pictured as having the experience, tact, vim, ardor, directness, and all the other qualifications which a bashful man probably lacks, even in Kansas City, and it was figured that out of her experience and in the happy circumstance of catching her second choice exceedingly young she ought to be able to mold him to her liking beyond the possibility of her first venture in matrimony.

### Indianapolis Leads Them All.

But according to the official figures for the cities of the 100,000 classification, the Kansas City grass widow has yielded place to the grass widow of Indianapolis. The Indianapolis grass widow still has to identify herself in fact, humor, and fiction, but now that the fact has been pointed that she leads the new world in numbers the Indiana litterateur may be anticipated as rising quickly to the opportunity which she offers to Indiana letters. Only a few weeks ago an Indianapolis paper attempted to steer the local literary talent away from the vital fact in the following summary of local conditions:

"Indiana vital statistics for the last three years show that deaths have kept pace with the increase in population, while the marriages and births have fallen behind, indicating that there is a tendency to celibacy and race suicide."

But all this is beside the mark. The startling feature of all Indianapolis life is the Indianapolis grass widow, 620 strong in every 10,000 population, 53 of them in every 1,000, and 5.2 of them in every 100 of city residents. The Indianapolis grass widow has become a national issue, and a reproach upon the time "When Knighthood Was in Flower." As a social problem she is "up" to the Indiana literati.

	Divorced Women.	Divorced Men.	Total Population.	Divorces to 1,000 Population.	Women.	Men.
Allegheny, Pa.	143	84	129,896	11.0	6.5	
Baltimore, Md.	632	356	508,957	12.4	7.0	
Boston, Mass.	781	425	560,892	14.0	7.6	
Buffalo, N. Y.	298	197	332,387	8.5	5.6	
Chicago, Ill.	2,468	1,873	1,698,575	14.0	11.0	
Cincinnati, O.	551	289	325,902	17.0	8.1	
Cleveland, O.	670	388	351,768	17.5	10.1	
Columbus, O.	245	243	125,560	27.2	19.4	
Denver, Colo.	418	237	132,858	31.2	18.0	
Detroit, Mich.	968	264	255,704	12.7	9.2	
Fall River, Mass.	71	39	104,863	6.7	3.7	
Indianapolis, Ind.	679	512	169,164	52.0	30.3	
Jersey City, N. J.	78	43	206,433	3.8	2.0	
Kansas City, Mo.	672	432	163,752	40.9	26.3	
Los Angeles, Cal.	406	269	102,479	40.0	26.3	
Louisville, Ky.	668	113	204,731	33.4	5.5	
Memphis, Tenn.	296	123	102,320	29.0	12.0	
Milwaukee, Wis.	564	293	285,315	19.8	10.0	
Minneapolis, Minn.	463	312	202,718	22.5	15.3	
Newark, N. J.	165	116	246,070	6.7	4.7	
New Haven, Conn.	189	78	108,027	13.8	7.2	
New Orleans, La.	530	279	287,104	18.5	9.7	
New York, N. Y.	2,061	1,190	3,437,202	6.0	3.2	
Omaha, Neb.	236	249	102,555	23.1	24.4	
Paterson, N. J.	83	38	105,171	7.9	3.6	
Philadelphia, Pa.	1,027	745	1,293,697	8.0	5.7	
Pittsburg, Pa.	237	144	321,616	7.4	4.4	
Providence, R. I.	569	286	175,597	32.5	16.3	
Rochester, N. Y.	168	92	162,608	10.4	5.7	
St. Joseph, Mo.	327	352	102,979	32.0	34.5	
St. Louis, Mo.	995	601	575,238	17.3	10.4	
St. Paul, Minn.	181	162	163,065	11.1	9.9	
San Francisco, Cal.	1,011	749	342,782	29.5	21.8	
Sarantoga, Pa.	84	46	102,026	8.2	4.5	
Syracuse, N. Y.	114	90	108,374	10.5	8.3	
Toledo, O.	272	159	131,822	20.6	12.0	
Worcester, Mass.	143	84	116,421	12.1	7.1	
	18,908	10,891	13,929,739	13.6	8.5	