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STRAY TOPICS
FROM STAID OLD NEW YORK

Guard Special Service.

New York, Sept. 5.—It is a glad smile that spreads over the faces of the proprietors of the fashionable cafes and restaurants along the Great White Way with the advent of September and the gradual return of New Yorkers to the city, and thousands of them who have been surviving on the fare of a small summer resort hotel do not delay a moment on their return to the city to drive to their favorite restaurant and get what they call a "civilized meal."

To be sure the meal generally consists of some of the most expensive and indigestible things on the bill of fare, and for those who have been summering in a prohibition town there is of course a little rare old wine ordered by way of celebration. Although many of the fashionable folk will not return to the city until after Thanksgiving still there are some already in town who are taking in the new shows that are opening all along the Rialto.

It is just as easy to be a millionaire as rolling off a log if you only have a thousand dollars. At least this is the alluring advertisement of one Wall street concern that has set many a man to thinking, who at present does not see a new fall suit of clothes on the horizon. It is really no bother to be a man of millions if you will only take a few minutes of some day and run down town to a little office and leave a thousand dollars with philanthropic Mr. Todd. Of course, if you don't want to have several millions just leave a hundred and be satisfied with a cool million for your pains. It is all so effortlessly worked out. Is this scheme to beat the Wall street game, and if only takes five years to do the trick. At last accounts Mr. Todd was still waiting for his first customer.

One of the popular ways for New Yorkers with comparatively small means to spend their summer vacations is to tent out for the summer on the south shore of Long Island. There are regular colonies of tents there during the summer months and this form of camp life is increasing every year. But the camper has his troubles, for all his city friends want to spend their week ends with them. They figure that living in a tent is cheap, so that they do not hesitate to invite themselves for a few days' outing. But at last one man has come to the rescue and shown a scheme to his long-suffering brother campers that bids fair to cause until they are invited. The plan is cruel but effective. When the self-invited guests arrive they are served a luncheon of salt beef, salt fish and hard tack. They eat little. At night the same dishes are set before them and they eat less. But the host by no means starves, for he eats a good square meal on the sly. At night he assures them that he is living close to nature, and shows them a bed on the sand. The same meals and the same bed are most hospitably offered them the next day, but they generally find an excuse for returning to

the city shortly after breakfast. It has always been a problem with bachelors to care for their winter clothes in the summer and keep them free from moths. But at one of the clever young bachelors explained his solution of the problem in this way: "Early in June I take my winter clothes to a pawn broker and raise a small sum on them, but warn him to take good care of them, as I shall want to redeem them in the fall. I generally find an opportunity to tip one of the clerks a quarter and tell him to see that the clothes are packed away with moth balls during the summer. I have done this for several years now and find that the scheme works admirably."

Skyscraping is the latest in New York, and had it not been discovered so late in the summer it would probably be taken up by more people. It bids fair, however, to be a popular form of outdoor life next year. It consists simply of camping out on the roof of one of the big downtown skyscrapers, but for real novelty it carries off the palm. Three young ladies were the first to venture on this new form of out-door life, and they chose the top of a twenty-five story building overlooking the harbor. They did all their cooking on a chafin dish, but pitched a tent and had all the other appurtenances of a regular camp.

If an affable stranger engages you in conversation and draws from his pocket a jeweled cigarette case and offers you a smoke it has been the custom in Gotham heretofore to accept this innocent form of friendliness. But now the word has gone forth that the "doped cigarette" has been invented which has the same effect when smoked as the knockout drops that the thief drops into your drink when your back is turned. This new knockout idea was successfully administered the other day in Madison square, but the impatient stranger tried to rob his victim before the dope had really got its hold upon him. In the struggle that ensued there was so much noise that the thief took to his heels.

There will be some disappointment among the cops in Gotham if one of their number doesn't draw a Carnegie medal for a deed of heroism that blocked the Broadway traffic for fully fifteen minutes. A woman was crossing Broadway from the Hoffman House to Fifth avenue the other day when her green parasol caught in the trolley slot. Bewildered nervously by the approaching cars she got to the curb and stumped to the curb. To her amazement the parasol slid slowly and gracefully into the slot until it was completely out of sight. A cop who was standing nearby grasped the situation in an instant and telephoned for an inspector. The latter arrived and after a careful examination informed the lady that the parasol was plainly to be seen standing upright as it had fallen. A laborer was called for who was sent down into one of the manholes and in a few minutes appeared, bringing the green parasol unhurt. Then life began to whizz by as usual. Thus within twenty minutes the parasol was lost and recovered at one of the busiest corners of the busiest city in the world. "Would you have rescued the parasol," Casey, the cop, was asked, "if it had been any other color but green?" "I'm color-blind," replied the heroic Casey who have sweltered in the subway during the summer months are hailing with joy the announcement that at last the big tube

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is to be cooler. If the present plan is carried out the piston ventilation system will be installed, which means that walls are to be built between the express tracks. With the new arrangement the air in the subway will be changed six times an hour, the hot air going out ahead and the cool air coming in after. During the last two months the only tolerable place to ride has been on the front end of the first car, where there is always a good breeze. Owing to the oppressive air in the subway thousands who live uptown have been obliged during the hot weather to go back and forth on either the surface or elevated lines.

A Paying Investment
 Mr. John White, of 38 Highland avenue, Houlton, Me., says: "Have been troubled with a cough every winter and spring. Last winter I tried many advertised remedies, but the cough continued until I bought a 50-cent bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery. Before that was half gone the cough was all gone. This winter the same happy result has followed; a few doses once more banished the annual cough. I am now convinced that Dr. King's New Discovery is the best of all cough and lung remedies." Sold under guarantee at W. A. Kendall's drug store, 50c and \$1. Trial bottle free.

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