

food was found to have eaten practically all his clothing.

"Many people," continued Dr. Fenwick, "possess an extraordinary relish for common salt. This often has the curious effect of increasing a person's weight. One young lady who devoured immense quantities of salt would increase as much as ten pounds in twenty-four hours. If you can persuade these people not to take salt so much they get well; if not, they die of dropsy. Many girls will devour slate pencils, chalk and vinegar because nearly all these have at some time or other beautifying properties."

Through eating meat on which flies or other insects had laid their eggs, or, similarly, green stuff which might contain insects, people often harbor larvæ in their stomachs. A wire screen was no real protection for meat, as flies dropped their eggs through it. Early examples were recorded in which strange insects and animals had been eaten and lived afterward. These included beetles, frogs, snakes, salamanders, leeches and the common garden slug.

Young children often acquire abnormal tastes, and one of the most common of these is paper eating. Hair eating is confined to girls, and a number of instances are on record in which death resulted from the formation of a great ball of hair in the stomach. Balls of thread, flock, tow or matting fibre were sometimes found in the stomachs of those who worked with these materials.

Substances, too, which were often taken, in the first instance, for amusement by frequent repetition led to insatiable desire. Thus sword swallows, knife eaters, glass chewers and the like not only continue their practice for years, but actually got to relish them. The speaker mentioned the case of a seaman who could not resist the temptation to chew up and swallow a tumbler after he had drunk its contents; and those of two boys, one of whom ate sand when he could get it, while the other begged, borrowed or stole watches in order to swallow them.

How Germany Grows.

The industrial development of Germany during the last quarter of a century has been the wonder and envy of all other Eur-

opean nations. The primary reason for its growth lies in the fact that since the establishment of the empire its population has increased nearly 25,000,000 — from 41,000,000 in 1871 to 65,000,000 by last year's census.

Another important factor is the improved health and increased longevity of the Germans, owing to improved health conditions in general. Better health means more time and ability to conceive and carry out business plans.

From the Emperor down, the authorities of Germany have labored for years to stay the flow of emigration to the American continent. As a result the last few years show a marked decrease in emigration to other places than German colonies.

But, while Germany has succeeded quite well in keeping her young men from going to other countries, she has not been able to keep them from leaving the farms for the cities and towns. In 1882 19,200,000 people, or 42.5 per cent. of the total population, were engaged in agricultural pursuits. After a quarter of a century she had only 17,700,000 people, or 28.7 per cent. of the population, on the farms.

The industrial increase in Germany has kept pace with the increase in population. While the "country population" has decreased 1,500,000 since 1882, there has been a great increase in the number of persons engaged in industrial pursuits in the towns and cities. So great has been the removal from the farms that only 43 per cent. of the town population is indigenous, the emigrants from the country forming 57 per cent. of the population.

In striking contrast with the statistics showing the decrease in the number engaged in agricultural pursuits are these: In 1882 some 16,100,000 persons were occupied "in trade," or 35 per cent. of the population of the empire. In 1907 those "in trade" numbered 26,400,000, or 42.7 per cent. of the population.

Ten per cent. of the people, or 4,500,000, were engaged in "commerce and traffic" in 1882. In 1907 the percentage had increased to 13.4, or 8,300,000 people.

In the order of their commercial importance, the leading branches of trade in Germany are mining, the stone and earth industries, machinery, soaps, oil, chemicals