

458
BALLOON RACE.

What the racing car is to the horse, the modern high speed plane is to the balloon. That is why there is almost an atmosphere of lavender and lace at the start of the balloon race at Tours. In the naughty nineties the balloonists went up in goggles and came down in somebody's back garden, ~~and there is still that delighted uncertainty about the race today.~~ But one of the entrants ^{today} is a lady --- that proves it is 1938. Professor Piccard wished her bon voyage as she left for the open sky. All the spectators with upturned faces watched her go, and she replied with true feminine coyness by pouring sand on ~~themselves~~ them.