

MACKAY STAYS INDEPENDENT

One Wealthy American Who Does Not Cultivate Royalty

HE HOLDS UNIQUE DISTINCTION

He Lives Up to Best Traditions of Americans Abroad in the West

He Spends His Money Nevertheless

LONDON, Sept. 23.—(Special.)—Clarence Mackay and his wife have acquired a unique distinction among Americans who come over here to make a "pilgrimage."

But though the Mackays differ from most of the English colony folk in their indifference to royalty, they fully up to the best American traditions in the way they spend money.

The wives of American millionaires are usually noted for the magnificence of their jewels. Mrs. Mackay is famous for the originality of her uncommensurate purchases.

Lord Brooke, the son of the late Lord Warwick, who is an exceedingly serious-minded young man, is said to be the prime mover in an attempt to leave all the members of which has pledged themselves to visit music halls or musical comedy pieces.

Maxine Elliott a success. It is difficult to account precisely for the extraordinary social success of Maxine Elliott over here.

Notwithstanding her unostentatious Irish origin, she has attained a position of prominence in the society of the exclusive houses in London and elsewhere.

The English country house visiting season is now in full swing and no one is more noted than the royal and aristocratic than Countess, Duchess of Manchester, who is the star of the season.

For the last two years it has become a fashion for the English aristocracy to get the fashion from Mrs. Winton, who of late spends her winters in London.

INTERIOR OF THE NEW CHURCH OF THE REDEMPTION. Built at a Cost of Over \$100,000 by the Ministry of Tsar Alexander II, Liberator of the

Down the Mississippi River With the Presidential Party

A triumphal march by water, paraded as it may seem, most aptly describes in few words the unique trip just made by President Roosevelt from Keokuk to Memphis.

But Governor Johnson of Minnesota proved to be number thirteen, and not having had the benefit of any Ak-Sar-Ben invitation he felt sick and by the doctor's advice gave up the trip down the river and returned home under the care of Secretary Losh, who was headed for a vacation on his ranch in Montana by way of St. Paul and the northern route.

In all this array Governor Sheldon measured up far above the average and Nebraska's executive received his full share of attention. In physical appearance he towered high with the biggest and the impression he made upon his associates and others with whom he came in contact was most favorable.

By way of contrast the Vedel Prophet ball proved to be far inferior as a spectacle to our Ak-Sar-Ben ball. The St. Louis affair is held in the Merchants' Exchange building on the trading floor, a sky-lighted court hall and the main parade on the side.

The St. Louis electrical parade is very much on the order of that of our own. I watched the floats go by from the vantage point of the balcony of the Planters' hotel at which point it passed twice.

OPENING OF RUSSIAN CHURCH

Sidelights on Consecration of Memorial to Murdered Tsar

EMPEROR NICHOLAS IN A FURY

Stormy Scenes During Which Courtiers Prevalent Upon Him to Risk Life Attending Ceremonies

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 12.—(Special.)—During the magnificent ceremony of the consecration of the Church of the Redeemer the other day, the czar, the czaritz, the queen of Greece and the Russian grand dukes meekly followed the archbishop of St. Petersburg, Anthony, round the walls of the building.

Who is Ratimoff? He is an agent provocateur; he is a man whose name is broken-headed woman had sought for her son, her eldest boy? Surely she did not for reasons of state? It was thought better that the brilliant young officer should die and believed that the sacrifice of his young life would increase the devotion and the affection of the Russian peasantry for their czar.

They have curious ways of promoting loyalty in Russia. Last night a notice was published by the governor of St. Petersburg to inform the police that he had noted that the inhabitants displayed flags which were extremely dirty outside their houses on the birthdays and names' days of members of the imperial family.

Hard Blow to Liberty

The worst blow ever struck to liberty in Russia was undoubtedly the murder of Alexander II. He had freed the serfs and he died on the eve of granting a constitution to his people.



OPENING OF THE NEW CHURCH OF THE REDEMPTION AT ST. PETERSBURG. Czar, Czaritz, Queen of Greece and Russian Grand Duke Marcel in Procession Round the Newly Completed Edifice.



FUNERAL OF A YOUNG OFFICER IN ST. PETERSBURG. The young officer whose death was caused by the czar's assassin is seen in the foreground.

As to the waterways convention, the proceedings were strictly according to program and consisted chiefly of set speeches by the president, the governors and a few other public men. Only when the resolutions came up for adoption was there any general discussion.

CABINET MAKER FOR QUEEN

Blind Man Acts as Instructor for Sightless at Bucharest

SKILL RESULT OF SELF-TEACHING

Carmen Sylva is Establishing Colony for People Whose Sight is Lacking—Description of Queen

LONDON, Oct. 12.—(Special.)—At the express invitation of the queen of Rumania, J. W. Lawson, a blind man, 30 years old, living in Leeds, is going to Bucharest to act as instructor in cabinet-making in the settlement for the blind, which the good queen is establishing there.

"Oh, how I feel for the blind," she wrote, "I cannot tell you. But I hope to make many of them happier. Herr Mouska and I are already arranging your future home here—a little house and a nice workshop; and there are two men who know a little English already. Those you will begin with."

"Every master has his own workshop and his own people. In less than a year we hope to begin the colony with a large kitchen, dining-room and music hall and the latest cottages. The dining-room with low windows, for reading and playing games after dinner, and the music hall with chapeau all around for the different services. We have already got six religions and nine languages in our luminous hall, and in the evening they make music and sing together, and the people stop in the streets to hear the beautiful sounds come out of the windows. The wives work together with their husbands, so that they may be always together, and they seem as happy as possible under that dreadful trial. We shall be so happy to have you. Just time to prepare your little home and workshop, and then make your journey with your baggage in the beginning of spring. You shall be ready for you. So welcome to our bright home as soon as you are ready to come. ELIZABETH."

Not a Hoisting Suffragist. A queen who writes like that must be a charming woman, and one well calculated to inspire affection among those brought into association with her. In her letter to the ladies, Lawson is headed by the title "She is a real woman," she wrote among other things, "not a hoisting suffragist, but a helping angel, a saint, too, in character. No pride, no stiff, cold airs, so you need have no fear of her. She is a queen, every inch of her, but not one of the common herd of queens who wear crowns of gold on naturally heads, she has a noble mind and yet no vanity. She does things naturally and unostentatiously."

Some of the "common herd of queens" might be disposed to resent the allusion to their "brainless heads," but that does not concern Lawson. He is satisfied that he will find a good mistress and a billet that will suit him. Lawson describes his good fortune. He has had a hard struggle and his marvelous skill at cabinet making and other work has been entirely the result of self-teaching. He was 14 years old when he lost his eyesight. He went home from school one day, feeling unwell, and went to bed. When he woke up in the night he thought it was the blackest he had ever seen. It was black because he had gone stone blind, but that dreadful fact was not revealed to him until next day.

Skill at an Early Age. He had a strong natural bent for mechanics which, before fate dealt him such a terrible blow, had often led him to play the truant at school that he might prowl round workshops and learn the work. When he was 12 he made himself a bench and a turning lathe, but lack of money prevented him from pursuing his hobby, and he took to the frequent resort of the blind—piano tuning—as a means of making a precarious livelihood.

It was through what might be called an accident that he came to take up cabinet making. Two young women who were attending the Leeds university, in desperation at being unable to find a bookcase as they had been commissioned to purchase, suggested to Lawson that he should make one. At first he scoffed at the idea, but at last consented, stipulating that if it did not prove satisfactory he should get nothing for it. He did the work as well as he was given. It was more for it than the price agreed upon. The bookcase now stands in the library of Leeds university, where also is a reading desk and a letter rack which he was subsequently commissioned to make.

Numerous Inventions. After that he made tables, chairs, wardrobes, over-mantels, and, in fact, nearly every variety of furniture. His work being marked by exquisite workmanship and finish. He has invented a fog signal which only lack of means has prevented him from perfecting. In the course of time the queen of Rumania expects to establish a small city for the blind on a tract of land on the outskirts of Bucharest which has been given her by a wealthy sympathizer with her work. Provision has been made by which the afflicted may move in from their village homes to occupy the cottages which are to be erected for them. They will receive instruction in the trades and arts which are particularly adapted to the sightless.

Mineral Waters

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J. W. LAWSON, THE BLIND CABINET MAKER. He is going to Bucharest on the invitation of the Queen of Rumania, to Act as Instructor in the Colony for the Blind, which she is establishing.