

How to live on \$1,000,000 a year

Millionaires Find This a Much Harder Problem Than Most People Think

THERE is a fairly grounded impression that the man who once becomes a millionaire is no overman with wealth that he has a hard time in separating himself from his money. A book has been written to show the inconveniences to which his hero was put in the enforced task of spending a million in a few months. "What a man I would be and what a life I would see if I had but a million a year," is the old song up to date, which expresses a historic course of wild luxury.

These things must be made all over again to accord with the figures elicited by recent investigations into the expenditure of great wealth. Take the man whose yearly income is just \$1,000,000. It is difficult to believe that this man has a hard time to hold his own in millionairedom, or that, if he has a "society wife" of the first water, they have to worry about it to hold their place in the smartest set.

The truth is that the man with this amount of money is fatally near the tail-end of the procession of millionaires. He belongs to the up to date, luxury-loving class whose fortunes are estimated at from twenty-five to thirty millions, but which is ten millions more and sometimes ten millions less in the least fluctuations of the stock market. He is marked on each side by the men who have from forty to sixty millions. On in front are a few seventy and hundred million men who set the pace. Back of him are a few thousand who have anywhere from ten millions down to two, and back of them again are the unnumbered and fattered throng whose fortunes of three-quarters of a million or so in this company are classed as pitiable. In the eyes of the multimillionaire it is hardly conceivable, although it is true, that those, too, are trying to keep up with the procession.

Need at Least \$2,740 a Day.

Pierre Lotillard once said that a man had to have at least \$100,000 a year before he could expect to attain the unhappy position of seeing what a good time he could have if he only had the money. He also said that "money circumstances" meant a thousand dollars a day and expenses. But that was ten years ago. Today the \$2,740 which is the daily income of the million a year man cannot be called easy circumstances.

To allow any margin upon an income of a million, the man in the swim is obliged to distinguish sharply between luxury and extravagance. He is also obliged to rely on speculation for funds for extraordinary expenditures, such as a new house, a large donation to charity, or a large purchase of pictures or jewels. After he spends unusually large sums on entertaining he frequently resorts to the expedient of shutting up his house and going to Europe simply because it gives him a chance to retrench. Another expedient not infrequently taken advantage of by the "million a year man" is the temporary shutting off of his large charities, which are one of the requisites that good form demands of his wealth. This is a temporary form of going into bankruptcy as far as benevolence is concerned, and one which saves him from the more stringent measures of the less rich, such, for instance, as that which occurred at Newport recently. This was a family who are of the unfortunate but frequent class who try to maintain a social position there on a thousand dollars a day or thereabouts, and who issued a statement through the newspapers to appease the shopkeepers who were their creditors.

Wife Is Chief Extravagance.

Broadly divided, the expenses that most heavily upon the man in the position which has been outlined, both socially and financially, are his yacht, his racing stud, the entertainment that is necessary in keeping up his position, and his wife. Upon the first, second, and third he spends respectively \$75,000, \$100,000, and \$120,000, while his wife's allowance for clothes, fads, small charities, and pin money is near \$150,000, one case in particular being cited in which husband and wife's bills and fancy clothing for her pet dogs, to which she was indulgent, brought up the wife's



Difficult to Make Both Ends Meet When You Are Trying to Hold Your Own Against the Multimillionaires of the East.

by the Vanderbilts—and the caretakers of his other places. These other places are a small house in a fashionable place in North Carolina, and a thousand acres or more, with a comfortable house on it, in the Adirondacks. There is also a little place in the Berkshires—significantly known to be for sale—and an apartment in Paris, where his wife can be sure of comfort when she goes over for shopping. Against the expense of keeping up these places there is an entry of \$50,000.

Costs \$50,000 a Year to Redecorate.

There is also a minimum expense of \$50,000 a year for redecorating and refurnishing, and outfitting in these places, which is entirely outside of the running expenses of keeping them up. For instance, this millionaire not long ago, in order to gratify his wife's taste and liking for change in her surroundings, did over the five rooms in their Fifth avenue house which especially belonged to her at a cost of \$25,000 each. They were lounge rooms in which she lived practically, including a sitting room, bedroom, dressing room, and a special room arranged for keeping her clothes and hats. Both the bedroom and bathroom were gone in their way, the bath particularly being in the largest room and being constructed so as to be practically a huge swimming pool. It was cut from a block of flawless marble sink in the floor, with its edges lined in white for rings, on tropical tree palms. With this went a little surprise, of which, as they have not married many years, there are more than occasional repetitions. It was in this case a toilet set containing numerous brushes, bottles, and combs of solid gold and of a particularly choice pattern which cost the pretty sum of \$5,000. He also followed his plan in adding to her stock of jewels and costly furs, for which her own dress allowance was inadequate, and which he gave to her in the way of presents and surprises.

Forced to Economize in Jewels.

A man of such means as this has to be guarded in gem expenditures, distinguishing closely as to pitting the money where it will do the most good in the matter of prestige, without investing more than is prudent. This man, who was in all ways a connoisseur, lately invested in two tiaras for his wife, one a real work of art, as he explained to me, in a Louis XIV. model. The little thing, which was as light as lace, cost \$8,000, which he pointed out as cheap for its extreme beauty. But this, lovely as it was, was not as good as her dressing table, and he gave another order at the same time for one of emeralds and diamonds, the price of which was to be \$10,500. Although these were really low figures as compared to prices some of the greater rich paid for such things, they were for him part of the output of an especially good year, at which times he sometimes left his account for his wife's jewelry run as high as \$200,000.

Perhaps of all these gradations forced by economy upon the rich, that in pearls is the most difficult one, and affords the most heartaches. Strings costing \$200,000 are not uncommon, and a triple row which a man whose fortune reached nearly to the billion mark purchased for his wife not long ago was valued at \$25,000. Such extravagance is not for the million a year man, whose wife, if he evenly balances his expenditures, will fare well if she achieves some lovely collar or necklace at \$18,000.

Must Hold Down Expenses in Dress.

Even the budget for dress as mentioned does not allow for extravagances as they are considered in this set. A certain woman whose allowance is near to this figure, and who is noted for her charming appearance, manages her buying as follows: She is given, as far as possible, to avoiding paying for the extras, which do not count. She distinguishes most sharply between luxury and extravagance, by which her gowns and furs could easily cost her another

\$15,000 yearly. For instance, Mrs. Astor will wear a gown at the horse show which costs over \$1,500. This woman rarely pays over \$750 for her "special" gowns for extra occasions, while her ball gowns cost her \$400 each, and her dinner gowns \$150. In a year she will have ten of the former and eight of the latter. She buys all of these things abroad, exercising discretion even there, buying her black gowns, for instance, at a London specialist's and her hand painted chiffon gowns in the same way, which brings them within the price of her ordinary evening and dinner gowns. She is an excellent example of the fact that the wife of a man with a million a year does not sit down to dinner every night in the elaborate embroidered with real gems in which she is often described.

It is the same with her furs. This woman has not a sable coat which would cost anywhere from \$25,000 to \$50,000, depending on the length of the coat. She has, however, a sable muff and stole at \$7,500, which was bought in Europe for the sake of greater economy. She wears a cinchilla bolero and muff which is one of the few additions made to her stock of furs, and an ermine coat valued at \$2,000, which her husband has lately added to her evening outfits. She does not pretend to make these purchases from her own money, but sees to it for herself that her furs are kept in order and up to date. Her tea gowns cost her \$1,600 a year, her lingerie \$3,500, her shoes and stockings \$1,250, her corsets \$90, and her hats, for which she does not generally pay over \$75 apiece, about \$2,000 a year. She is noted not only for her good selections, but for her economical methods, in which she is followed by others of her class. It was only a little while ago that a woman persuaded the entertainer, with whom she was dicker, to omit sending her a bill for table decorations on the promise of the tremendous good which she would be able to do him by mentioning among the right people that her things came from his place.

Man's Personal Expenses \$150,000.

A man in this set knows to a sherry what his wear will cost. Five thousand dollars will fill his wardrobe royally and \$15,000 a year will keep it complete. He may put down club dues at \$20,000 yearly, while the \$100,000 which is told off for his racing stables does not cover his betting losses. His yacht, though a fine one, will be far removed from such magnificent and palatial affairs as Mr. Morgan's "Corsair" and Mr. Astor's "Nourmahal." In connection with these yachts and different country homes often arises a makeshift of the rich which is known as "concentration," an expression which has come to have a technical meaning in the vernacular. For instance, the F.'s have only a small house in town, but have a palace at Newport and have a yacht upon which they give fêtes which run up into the thousands.

This is what is known as concentrating, which is done in a variety of ways. The expense of entertaining is the largest item which is to be considered, and an estimate has to be made for bridge, which every man and woman in society now has to indulge in to a certain extent. Even a moderate equipment of automobiles which does not in any way try to emulate the seventies or eighties, which Mr. Astor keeps, will cost \$25,000 a year for chauffeurs, garage, and repairs. Traveling expenses are moderate at \$10,000 a year. A surfer, even without ostentation or extravagance, with its extra staff of servants, may be counted upon as rapidly lowering the margin, and affording an opportunity for another form of the concentration upon its particular feature which has been referred to as a necessary expedient of the man whose income only reaches to the million.



FROM NEAR and FAR.

<p>FROM THE QUARRIES.</p> <p>Stone is brought into Paris from the neighboring quarries by wagons which are drawn by men in Normandy. Five or seven of these are harnessed together, tandem style. Naturally, traffic is impeded on the streets where this heavy cavalcade passes in long and slow procession.</p>	<p>MENDER OF DISHES.</p> <p>A French housewife does not throw away her broken dishes, unless their condition is hopeless. She saves them until a mender of faience and porcelain comes to her door for work, and he repairs them.</p>	<p>LONDON STREET HYDRANT.</p> <p>This is the way they fill a sprinkling cart in London.</p>	<p>HAD BIG FEET.</p> <p>Bertha, the sister of Charlemagne, and the wife of Pepin the Short, is designated in history as "Bertha of the Big Feet," she having feet of extraordinary size.</p>	<p>PICK OUT THE SISTERS.</p> <p>It is an easy matter to pick out sisters in a group of children on the continent, for girls of the same family are dressed just alike. In the Breton provinces, where the gala dress is quaint, the effect is fantastic on fête days.</p>	
<p>LONDON MILKMAN.</p> <p>The London milkman covers his route on foot, pushing a hand cart with three wheels, which carries his cans of milk and his different measures.</p>	<p>PET OF AMERICAN JACKIES.</p> <p>Pets on board ship are familiar sights in the American navy. On one American ship there is a big brown bear which gives great amusement to the crew by wrestling with the men.</p>	<p>LACED LOCKS.</p> <p>A portrait of Queen Blanche, mother of Clovis, the first Christian king of France, shows that ladies of the sixth century wore their long, heavy tresses in two great locks, which were artistically laced with ribbons.</p>	<p>WHEELBARROWS WITH SAILS.</p> <p>They are used by the ingenious Chinese.</p>	<p>NEST IN COAL TRUCK.</p> <p>Some water-wagtails decided that they would like to travel while they were raising their young ones, so they built their nest in a coal truck. They traveled around with the nest and took exceptionally good care of it.</p>	<p>TONSORIAL PALACE.</p> <p>London boasts a genuine tonsororial palace. The old York palace in Whitehall, once the residence of Cardinal Wolsey, and later of Henry VIII, is now occupied by a wigmaker named Carter.</p>