

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN WOMEN

Wife of Ambassador from United States Honorary President.

LARGER QUARTERS FOR CLUB

Christenings Are Becoming Smartest Functions in England—King as First Assistant to Cupid.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—(Special.)—Mrs. Wiltshire Reid has become honorary president of the Society of American Women in London, a fact that gives a good deal of satisfaction to the members, for during the Choate regime there was more or less ill feeling between the society and the wife of the American ambassador. All that has been changed, however, since the Heids came. The society has given up its rather inaccessible rooms in Pall Mall and has just made a deal with the Arts club for joint use of that club's handsome rooms over Rumpelshayer's in St. James street, which is lined with fashionable and exclusive clubs. I hear some of the members didn't much like the idea of this Arts club scheme, as it meant putting up some more money. But, on the other hand, some influential new members have come in, including Mrs. John Morgan Richards, and it is thought that the society has entered on a new era of prosperity.

Smart Christenings. Quite the smartest functions which have taken place lately have been christenings. In their own way they have been quite as interesting as weddings. The gowns and jewels worn by the women have been gorgeous in the extreme, while the floral decorations in the church and in the house where the guests always return to lunch have, in some cases, arrived the same morning from the south of France.

One of the first young Americans to realize the social possibilities of the smart christening was Mrs. Walter Burns, who had quite a memorable show when her little girl was received into the church. But it is difficult to explain the beauty and picturesqueness of the christening of the heir of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Harcourt. The important little boy wore a lace robe which was valued at \$5,000. On the occasion Mrs. Louis Harcourt's own sables, which she wore for the first time and which were a "christening gift," were said to have cost her husband \$7,500.

After the service the guests all assembled at a reception luncheon, cards for which were purported to have been issued by the small hero of the occasion. They were tiny things of cream parchment with silver lettering inscribed with the words, "Come and see me christened and afterwards look in and lunch with me."

His Majesty's Gift. The house was a mass of gorgeous white blooms. Floral bells by a clever arrangement of a fashionable florist were made to ring out a peal after the manner of joy bells. His Majesty's gift, the everlasting silver-gilt porringer which he buys for the dozen for such purposes, was in a conspicuous place on the table near the immense and very beautiful christening cake. A great deal of comment was occasioned by the fact that "William" and not "Edward" was the first name given to the little heir. This is totally unusual when the King is godfather, the child being always given the name of Edward as a principal one.

The duchess of Marlborough was quite the smartest woman present at the christening of Lady Wolverton's small daughter, the other day. She came up especially from Kent, where she is staying with her boys, to be godmother. Lady Wolverton is a daughter of Georgina, Lady Dudley, and she is one of those who have ever been staunch to the duchess since the separation between the Marlboroughs. Like all the extra smart christenings this one took place at the Chapel Royal. It is essential to have the King's permission before any ceremony can be performed at this church.

Men, save the immediate relatives of the family, do not generally put in an appearance at such ceremonies, but they are always to be found in numbers at the luncheon and wear the buttonholes which are presented in honor of the occasion—usually white gardenias.

Edward a "Darling King." There is known to be a strong dash of sentiment in the composition of King Edward. When the course of true love has not run smooth he has times out of number thrown oil in the shape of kind words and suggestions to the parents of the pair, on the tempestuous waters. Some time ago I mentioned the fact that Lady Paget's young son was in love with Miss James, the youthful debutante daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie James, but that the parents of the boy and girl objected to the marriage for a few reasons best known to themselves and suggested that "the children" should wait for some time. It now appears that this enthusiastic Romeo and Juliet have gone straight to King Edward and asked him to try to intercede for them with their parents with a view to a hasty

REVOLT IN GERMANY GROWS

Emperor William is Now Faced by DIVINE RIGHT IS NEAR ITS END

Opening of a Momentous Struggle Marked by the Recent Outburst of Public Opinion in the German Empire.

Important Yankees Absent. Although this is what is termed "the little season," which in years gone by used to be so popular with rich Americans, as I write the important Yankees here could almost be counted on the fingers of one hand. They are everywhere but in London. Hyde Park house, the town residence of Lady Naylor-Leyland, is shut up and will not be opened until the late spring. Mr. Astor's mansion in Carlton House Terrace also has the blinds drawn, he being in Kent. The Drexels' new house in Grosvenor square is not to be ready for their accommodation until the spring. Mrs. Anthony Drexel and her daughter made a visit there the other day, to see how it was progressing, and the former explained that there was "no hurry" with the mansion, as she proposed to spend the holidays and a good part of January in the United States. Mrs. John Mackay is not expected in Carlton House Terrace until May and Mrs. Harshbarger, one of the favorite hostesses of King Edward, and one of the prettiest Americans in Europe, is trying to let her house in Knightsbridge, Lady Curzon means to spend the next three months at Nevill Holt and Lady Bateman will be at Shobden until well on in the new year. Mrs. Ronalds, whose Sunday afternoon musical parties used to be such a goldmine, has been with her daughter, Mrs. Hiltzke, ever so long in America, though she is expected here before Christmas. Mrs. George Cornwallis West is at her place near St. Albans, and has not the slightest intention of coming to London permanently until the late spring.

Autumn Season Fiasco. The truth is, it was the king who in the past induced American hostesses to open their houses and help to make things "go" before Christmas. Before he ascended the throne autumn seasons were unheard of in London, the smart world never thinking of putting in an appearance before February or March at all. The king is a cockney in his love for London, and is never happy for long out of it. Hence the autumn season which is proving such a fiasco this year.

Mrs. Kate Moore is regarded on the continent as one of the most chic Americans of the hour. It was her great friend, Lady Saville, who first introduced her to King Edward, who immediately pronounced her to be one of the most interesting women he had met. Mrs. Moore has just been "staggering" London with her wonderful frocks, mostly of the empire and directoire persuasion. Everyone knows how deadly does not succeed, there would be a conflict and the life of the directed male brought to a standstill—such conflicts become questions of strength. He whose hands are strong enough succeeds in enforcing his views." So it is today. If the Reichstag challenge the kaiser on his responsibility to it for the conduct of German policy it is traveling outside the constitution and its only justification would be the possession of enough national strength to enforce its will.

All parties to the struggle realize that the existing constitution, drafted forty years ago, was made by Bismarck specifically for the needs of his own time and policy. He had to cope with the altruistic liberalism which had remained strong on the continent of Europe since the uprisings of 1848 and he had to ward against separatist sentiment in the non-Prussian states. Thus he devised a Reichstag to consist of one chamber elected by all Germany by universal suffrage. So far he satisfied national unity and democracy, but he effectively gagged the latter by formally depriving the Reichstag of all power of initiative. He meant to confine governing by the army and the permanent officials under the will of the sovereign, and as he did not weaken either of these instruments, he conferred no independent power on the elected assembly.

Sovereign to Executive. The executive power belongs exclusively to the sovereign," declared Bismarck, and he provided that the sovereign should "represent the entire empire in its relation to foreign states." The Federal Council, it is true, had to give consent to a declaration of war, but in his quality of king of Prussia the emperor remained master of the council. All the confederated states send delegates to the council—fifty-eight members for twenty-five states. Prussia has seventeen votes and with the small states that are appendages to its territory controls the majority. The imperial chancellor presides over the Federal Council, one of whose chief rights is to advise the dissolution of the Reichstag, under the approval of the emperor.

Powers of the Reichstag. The Reichstag is elected bodily for three years. It was at first arranged that there should be one member for each 100,000 of population, but although the German empire has now 60,000,000 inhabitants the Reichstag has only 37 members. Nominally the Reichstag is entitled to propose, ratify, amend and criticize legislation, railways, civil and criminal legislation, army and navy expenditure. The constitution states that "every law of the empire requires a decision by the Reichstag."

But article v adds: "According to the Reichstag and the federal council is necessary for a law. In case of a disagreement within the federal council, a bill relating to the army, navy or to taxation the president may decide that existing arrangements should be continued." Moreover, the Reichstag may not modify the constitution or military or fiscal arrangements without the consent of the king of Prussia, German emperor.

The Reichstag may ask reports from the imperial authorities and has the right of petition and interpellation; but here again its rights are whittled down. The government is not bound to furnish reports; the opinion of the Reichstag on these reports does not bind the government; the decision of the Reichstag to petition the government does not oblige any authority to take heed of its petition.

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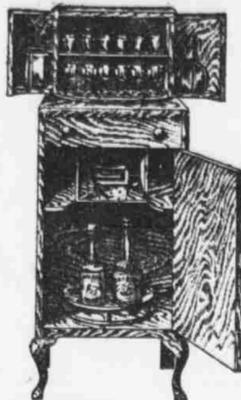
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Ladies' Desk Chair, like illustration, with box frame and solid wood seat, made of select quarter-sawed oak; at price \$4.75

Large line of Desk Chairs, in all the fancy woods; at from \$12.00 down to \$4.50

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the government, the fate of ministers or the administration of affairs.

In the ultimate matter of the imperial budget it cannot effectively stop supplies. By its vote, according to article 116 of the constitution, is not equivalent to an authorization of expenditure, but to a recognition of the necessity and accuracy of the accounts. The budget is thus an administrative act passed in form of law.

Public Opinion is Powerful. While all these barren negatives have enclosed the legislative authority of the Reichstag public opinion has grown up vigorously outside. A member of the Reichstag has no voice in the making of ministers or in procuring local appointments, but to avoid chronic public discontent between the legislature and the executive the practice of lobby bargaining has grown up.

Trouble have been got, even to vote measures that their members had opposed on condition that the government would let them have their way in matters on which they were separately interested. The conservative-liberal bloc that supported Prince Bismarck from the last election until this crisis was welded together in the do do of a presidential fashion. Public opinion has never been proud of these lobby bargainers, and members who wish to break with the custom ascribe the futility of their efforts to the essentially subordinate role that the Reichstag plays in the constitution. It is another ground for the extension of its rights.

There is only one master in this country; he will not suffer another by his side." So spoke Emperor Wilhelm at Dusseldorf, when he had been five years on the throne. Yet he, himself, aided by the excesses of his favorites, by his speeches and by the inconsistency of his policy, has created "another master"—German public opinion.

It asks for guarantees against him and raises the gravest constitutional question that the country has known since the empire was founded. The chancellor is to remain responsible, but he is to be primarily responsible to the emperor, the personal policy will continue. If the emperor's ministers are to be primarily responsible to the Reichstag, where is his passionate statement to himself as a divinely appointed?

Emperor's Position is Strong. Yet there are circumstances in the situation which render Emperor William's position very strong. Nothing can be done without him except by a revolution, which is an utterly improbable contingency. By choosing that way Germany might find ruin and it knows it. The present Reichstag is not of the temper to seek a revolution. It wants simply a constitution; what the German empire has been looking for ever since it saw the light. Heinrich Heine said that the soul of Germany is wandering in search of a body. Its present history explains his saying.

In some parishes the clergy admit confidentially that they are "being killed with kindness," but they would not grumble for the world, being fearful of dampening the zeal of their parishioners. It is nevertheless an open secret in more cases than one that the genuine scruples women have had to be called in by stealth and locked in the sacred edifices "to clean up" as one professional scrubwoman expressed it, "after the ladies had finished messing about."

In outlying districts, where there are no "society" dames, the would-be smart ladies of the parish take for their example the conduct of their aristocratic sisters and masquerade like them. This has admirable financial results, the clergy in many instances being able to lay aside church expenses for parish debts.

His Price. Keir Hardie, the English labor leader, during his American visit referred to a New York banquet to political corruption. "You are sweeping your house of politics clean here in the states," he said, "and the buying and selling of votes will soon be a thing of the past."

"Traffic in votes is death to a republic. I wish that this vile traffic could always be shown up as it was the other day in a western law court."

"In this court the judge said severely to a prisoner: 'My man, did you ever earn a dollar in your life?'"

"Yes," the prisoner answered in a loud voice. "I voted for your honor, once."—Philadelphia Record.

CHURCHES IN BEST OF HANDS

Society Women of England Have Penchant for Using for Honors of Worship.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—(Special.)—English society women are seldom if ever happy unless they are doing something out of the ordinary. Any number of crazes have had their days, run their courses and retired into oblivion. "Bismarck" has been overdone and passed on to the upper middle

MILKING MEN WITH MONEY

American Millionaires Pay High Prices in England.

SMART SOCIETY AFTER CASH

Fascinating Hostesses Enlarge Their Dress Accounts by Engineering Deals on Susceptible Ones from This Side.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—(Special.)—At this, the country house season, American millionaires are in particular request. This is the time when over the wine and the walnuts "deals" as big as any which take place on the stock exchange or in city offices are negotiated. The intimacy and the friendliness of the association within the ancestral home accomplish in a week-end what could not be arrived at for months elsewhere. Besides, the guest, being himself under an obligation, as it were, cannot very well decline what he would without hesitation refuse to do were he approached in the ordinary business way.

The chateleine of the aristocratic home spends many hours sorting out the right type of American people to invite to the board. She gushes over them and begs them, with her innocent blue eyes, to come and see her aviary or her miniature zoo or the dairy or the fowl, and never dreaming that the fair one is a sort of human spider, inveigling her prey to her parlour, they accept the invitation, delighted at the prospect of meeting a royal highness. And she shrewd as the usual Yankee millionaire is, not even when he has deposited thousands in the flotation of the company in which his hostess' husband is interested or has purchased the masterpiece or the antique leather chair, does he tumble to the fact that he has been invited for no other purpose than to spend his dollars.

Makes Money for Dress. The wife of a well known Hampshire

magnate boasts to her intimates that for five years past she has made between \$10,000 and \$12,000 for her dress through American millionaires to whom she sells in the privacy of her home objects of art. She is a connoisseur of some distinction and it is to be admitted that what she does sell is genuine of its kind, but she gets phenomenal prices—in some cases as much as five times the worth of the article.

"How you had the conscience," said a well known statesman to her the other day. "To ask \$1,200 for that seal and watch fob? You ought to be ashamed of yourself." "You forget altogether, my right honorable friend, that the American young man who paid it to me was introduced to my friends—to you, for instance. Business is business," she answered.

The biggest tub scheme that has yet been put before Parliament will be presented early next year. It was arranged during one week-end at a well known house in Yorkshire, much of the money being guaranteed by Americans who had met for the first time the promulgator of the enterprise at that gathering. The originator is a pensioner who never ceases of a distinguished Irish peer and he expects to net out of the job something like \$1,500,000.

Dog Fanciers in Demand.

American dog fanciers stand a good chance of being invited to the smartest houses if they have the reputation of being willing to pay "fancy prices" for pedigree animals. The greater number of country hostesses add to their dress allowances by selling pedigree dogs, cats or fowls. It surely cannot be infra dig to do so when Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, the King's niece has for years sold cats to any "common or garden" individual who wrote to her either at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor or Schomberg House, London, enclosing a check for a pussy cat.

It must always be taken into consideration that the more exalted the saleswoman the higher the price she can demand. Princess Victoria, nevertheless, is the one exception which proves the rule and when some time ago an ambitious social climber forwarded her a gushing letter and a check for \$500 for a blue Persian kitten a few weeks old she deducted the \$50, the actual price of the cat, and returned the rest.

If Under the Weather Get Into Good Condition

You are more exposed to infectious and contagious diseases than you would be if healthy and strong. You have less power of resistance.

Probably no other medicine ever produced has accomplished so much in restoring health and strength as Hood's Sarsaparilla.

This great medicine purifies and enriches the blood.

It makes the blood normal in red and white corpuscles and other constituents—in other words, makes it of the right quality and quantity.

In doing this, it builds up the whole system and increases the power of resistance to disease.

And it also acts directly—as well as through the blood—on the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels.

and makes its good effects on all these organs felt at once.

It will make you feel better, look better, eat and sleep better.

It will cure you of scrofula, eczema, eruptions, catarrh, rheumatism, anemia, nervousness, tired, languid feelings, dyspepsia, loss of appetite, general debility.

And it will give you the best possible protection against typhoid fever, malaria, ague, grip, spotted fever, smallpox, tuberculosis and all other germ diseases.

Don't delay, but begin taking Hood's Sarsaparilla at once and take it faithfully.

"My mother and I have been entirely cured of impure blood and that tired feeling by Hood's Sarsaparilla. Two bottles did the work perfectly and permanently. We think it is the greatest medicine in the world. We are sure we can rely on it, for it has never failed to do what we expected of it." FRANK HAMILTON, 2718 S. 7th St., St. Louis, Mo.

Hood's Sarsaparilla effects its wonderful cures, not simply because it contains sarsaparilla, but because it combines the utmost remedial values of more than 20 different ingredients, each greatly strengthened and enriched by this peculiar combination. There is no real substitute for it. If urged to buy any preparation said to be "just as good," you may be sure it is inferior, costs less to make, and yields the dealer a larger profit.

Begin taking Hood's Sarsaparilla today. Get it in the usual liquid form or in chocolate tablets known as Sarsatabs. 100 Doses One Dollar.

THE NATIONAL CORN SHOW Have arranged for a Grand Factory Display of the famous STRICH & ZEIDLER PIANOS of New York. This matchless exhibit will be held on the Main Stage of the Auditorium. Here will be given away the \$500.00 GRAND PRIZE Strich & Zeidler Piano. Twenty-five years striving for the Ideal has made the Strich & Zeidler Piano The MARVEL of the Piano Age. Wherever known best the Strich & Zeidler Piano is called the Piano for Particular People. W. E. Richards, Western Sales Manager for Strich & Zeidler, with offices on the 3d floor Old Boston Store Bldg., Omaha, Neb., announces that not one of the carload of specially selected Sample Pianos will remain unsold. This means A RARE OPPORTUNITY for Piano Dealers and Intending Purchasers to secure the best that America affords at especially low prices.