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Mr. Roderick Buchanan as "The Pied Piper" of the Ball, Who Exchanged His "Carmen" for Mr. Blodgett's "Clownette."



Alden S. Blodgett and Miss Rosalie Smith, the Engaged "Clown" and "Clownette" of the Wyatt Ball, Where They Changed Partners With "The Pied Piper" and "Carmen."

"Change Partners for the Wedding Ring!"

The Interesting Social Re-adjustments Following a Fancy Dress Ball Where



Miss Lilla Gilbert, as "Carmen," Who Liked the "Clown" Better.

are the same, but their positions have changed. Miss Smith, the pretty clownette, is to marry Roddy Buchanan, the handsome Pied Piper, and Miss Gilbert, the fascinating cigarette girl, is to marry Alden Blodgett, the one-time clown.

And what has caused this most curious state of affairs? Each one of the four principals places all the blame on the Wyatt dance.

"Lo! When those lights went up again, Two maids had changed their choice of men!"

the Lights Went Out at 3 A.M.!

ONLY just now is it realized how society was disrupted—shaken up from its foundations—by that amazing fancy dress ball given by Mr. Merritt Wyatt eight months ago in the New York studio of Mr. Nelson Burrill.

You remember the sensational feature—how all the lights went out at 3 a. m., because the studio's owner thought the festivities were due to end then and there. At 11 p. m., when the lights went up again, rather unexpectedly, there was evidence of social affinities previously unsuspected.

Well, while the ball itself was amazing, the consequences have proved even more so. Several guests who had painstakingly climbed several rungs of the social ladder are again at the bottom. There have been several marriages, several engagements, numerous near engagements. But the most astounding consequence has been the change about face of four of the guests!

When the ball was given Miss Rosalie Smith, the very pretty daughter of Mrs. Dutilh Smith, formerly of Philadelphia, but now of New York, was engaged to Alden Blodgett, one of the crack riders of Squadron A, and a nephew of Mrs. Daniel Blodgett of Madison avenue. Their engagement was a secret, but was known to their closest friends.

Miss Smith and Mr. Blodgett showed their devotion to each other by dressing as companion pieces! The former was as pretty as any picture in real clown clothes from fool's cap to pointed toes. As a clownette she was a huge success. Was it any wonder that the handsome Mr. Blodgett looked happy?

As a real clown, Alden was just too handsome for anything! The girls were all crazy over his get-up and he was deluged with attentions, but nothing seemingly could swerve him from his allegiance to the pretty clownette.

Enter Miss Lilla Gilbert, daughter of the late Bramhall Gilbert, granddaughter of Isaac Brokaw and heiress to several millions.

Miss Gilbert, as a fascinating cigarette girl, came with Mr. Roderick Buchanan, as the Pied Piper. For several months these two were looked upon as engaged. Mr. Buchanan is a well-known man about town and a brother of Miss Adelaide Taylor Buchanan. He has taken parts in all the fashionable amateur theatricals during the last two years. He and Miss Gilbert have often taken part in the same plays.

During the course of the evening Miss Smith and Mr. Blodgett had their pictures taken together. Another proof of a bona-fide engagement. Miss Gilbert and Mr. Buchanan posed together but the plate was curiously broken!

Now here was a perfectly natural state of affairs. Two pretty girls engaged to two good looking well-brought-up young men. One could hear the wedding bells chiming in the near future.

To-day, eight short months after that dance, the dramatis personae

When the Smiths formerly announced Rosalie's engagement, society shrugged its shoulders and said: "Well, its better to make the change before the wedding." But even society had the surprise of the year. And now every one is recalling the incidents of the ball, and wondering just what caused the change of partners.

The dance was given in the studio owned by Mr. Nelson Burrill. It was to have been an all-night affair, but, unhappily, Mr. and Mrs. Burrill insisted that 3 o'clock was late enough for any party.

There was argument over this



point, and at its height, all the lights went out.

Was that the decisive moment in the change of partners for the wedding rings?

At any rate: Lo! When those lights went up again, Two maids had changed their choice of men!

Before the break-up there were grizzly bear dances, turkey trot dances, Russian ballet dances and Paris cafe dances. When the party broke up, even the clown and the Pied Piper had forgotten whether they were engaged, and if so, to whom.

Blodgett, good looking, jolly, and pride of Squadron A, now says that he fell in love with Miss Smith, the cigarette girl, while she was posing for the picture shown here. Miss Gilbert refuses to commit herself as to when she felt her heart go out to Blodgett.

Buchanan, tall, handsome, and a well-known amateur actor, says that he fell in love with Miss Smith, the very moment he saw her in her clownette costume. And Miss Smith, on her part, keeps silent when questioned. She has admitted, however, that when the Piper piped his pipes



Miss Katharine Force, Who, Maybe, Met Her Fate at the Same Ball.

she felt her heart crack, and every one knows that she forgot to save three promised dances for Alden.

She left the clown, her companion-piece, in the lurch, and gave these dances to the Piper.

On the other hand, the clown wasted no time lamenting. He had

Then, evidently, Carmen and the clownette took matters in their own hands. "It is all very well," they said, "to fool around now, but let us think of the future. Before it is too late, let us change partners for the wedding rings!"

And so, thanks to that now famous dance, the change was made and to-day it looks as though the dramatis personae of this curious tale would marry and live happily for all time.

But, there is still more of a history to this ball. There has been much marrying and giving in marriage among the jolly guests. Madeline Force, who went as Folly, has since married Colonel Jack Astor. Mr. Astor was to have been a guest. He had his costume, that of Henry VIII., all ready, but was detained on his yacht.

Florence Rand, dressed as a French peasant girl, fell in love with Stuart Adams, who made a perfect Rough Rider. They were married a few weeks ago.

Adelaide Pendergast, piquant and mischievous as a French fairy, met Lawrence Durant, who was admirably disguised as a Buster Brown. They were married the latter part of November.

Alice Andreae, a cousin of the Marquise de Charette, and a debutante of last year, wore a stunning costume of a lady of the French court. Her engagement to Billy Seamans, who danced about dressed as an Egyptian slave, has just been announced. And so it goes.

Interest now centres mainly on Mrs. Jack Astor's pretty sister, Katherine Force. She was present that night as Folly, duplicating her sister's costume. As Folly, Miss Force met and danced much with Nils Florman, a Swedish soldier of fortune. At this time Mr. Florman was engaged to Miss Helen Stallo. Six weeks ago Miss Stallo broke the engagement.

For several months Mr. Florman has been on intimate terms with Colonel Astor. And why? Well, society is sure that he is very much in love with Miss Force, that Miss Stallo broke her engagement because of Miss Force.

And now there is but one question: Will Miss Force marry Mr. Florman?

With this tale of the masked ball told, it seems logical to ask with the small boy: Can you beat it?

looked into Carmen's blue eyes, and from that moment he was doomed! Miss Gilbert's eyes made him forget his companion-piece, the too tickle clownette. And so we find Mr. Buchanan dancing madly with the pretty clownette and Mr. Blodgett dancing happily with Carmen, the fascinating cigarette girl. That was a glorious evening!

Between dances things were much the same. The piper and the clownette sought a secluded spot on the balcony overlooking the main floor, when the clown and Carmen turned the other way, and occupied a tiny corner behind some armor.

After the ball, there was no doubt about the readjustment. Mr. Blodgett appearing once more in everyday clothes and a prosaic English hat, hesitated between two minds. Mr. Buchanan, minus his pipes and mercury wings, also hesitated.

The Value of Potash in Agriculture

THE possession by Germany of the only existing deposits of potash salts places that country in a very remarkable and decidedly enviable position. It enables her, under present conditions, to control in a manner the agriculture of the entire world, and this situation will continue until means are found for extracting the stuff economically from rocks.

The deposits in question are in the neighborhood of Magdeburg and appear to extend over—or one should rather say under—an area somewhat more than twelve miles in length and shaped like a saddle. They consist mainly of ordinary rock salt, for which they were worked by the

government over a century ago by boring. But in 1856 the miners, in the course of their regular operations, came across a new kind of salt which proved to be an unknown mineral of queer color and bitter taste. Being deemed worthless, it was thrown away. Before long, however, scientific investigators found that it contained potash and magnesium, and this discovery brought into being an important chemical industry.

Germany exports about \$35,000,000 worth of potash per annum. It is mined in a rather peculiar way, the beds being attacked not from above, but from beneath, by blasting, to loosen the material.