

Our News Snapshot Page

MANY CASES LIKE THAT OF MR. TAFT'S DOUBLE



By CHARLES N. LURIE.

If you were one of the great of the earth—yes, even one of the Lord's anointed—and were proud of the high station which had work or inheritance had given to you, wouldn't it be a distinct and painful shock to you to learn that in your own country there was a man who looked so much like yourself that even your closest relatives found difficulty in telling you apart? It would, most decidedly. It would be still more disagreeable to find that your double was taking advantage of his likeness to you physically to dress just as you did when you appeared in public and was calmly appropriating to himself some of the honors which the public was willing and anxious to give to you.

And yet that is just the sort of experience which great men and, less frequently, great women pass through very often. Almost every monarch of Europe has his double, in some cases in his own realm. In America practically every president has had his physical counterpart. Mr. Taft is no exception. One of his doubles is Thomas J. Morley, the Pittsburgh policeman who recently declined a seat at the Pittsburgh baseball game next to the nation's chief executive on the ground that he did not wish to take away any of the attention that rightfully belonged to the president. Very modest man that! Most of us would give part of an ear to be sitting next to the president of the United States when the umpire calls out "Play ball!" in such exalted presence.

Made Himself Up Like the Kaiser. Very few doubles of great men are as modest as quiet Tom Morley of the Pittsburgh police, who resembles Mr. Taft in height, weight and features so

closely that the president himself was amazed by Morley's photograph. Especially in Europe have the doubles of great men been only too willing to parade before the public and trade upon their likenesses to the men of high rank. The double of Kaiser Wilhelm shown in the accompanying picture is a chimney sweep in a little German town who carried his folly to the extent of having made for himself uniforms resembling those worn by his sovereign. It required an official intimation to the effect that such conduct was displeasing to the emperor to make him desist. It is reported that a hint was given to the effect that a prosecution for lese majesty would be instituted against the too presuming wielder of the broom and brush unless he took steps to alter his startlingly close resemblance to the emperor. It is not recorded whether the threat was effective; but, judging from the strictness with which the laws against "majestaetsbeledigning" are enforced in the German empire, it is pretty safe to say that there is now one less double of a great man who plays the part.

The late King Edward was not spared the affliction of having some of his subjects imitate, consciously or not, his personal appearance so closely as to deceive the public. A case of that sort caused a considerable stir in England a short time before Edward's accession to the throne, when he was still Prince of Wales. Alfred de Stern, a member of a prominent London family and brother of Lord Wandsworth, bore naturally a close resemblance to the heir apparent to the throne. Being somewhat weak-minded, he took steps to heighten the resemblance, with great success. Before his mania was suspected he attempted to force his way into Marlborough House, one of the prince's palaces, declaring that

It was his own home. The appearance of a man so closely resembling the prince struggling with policemen attracted a crowd, the members of which were about to resent the supposed ill treatment of their future sovereign, when the matter was cleared up. De Stern is now under close restraint.

Resemblance Led to Insane Asylum. One of the most pathetic cases on record of evil following resemblance to a royal personage is that of the Copenhagen banker Carven, whose close likeness to Alexander III, the late emperor of Russia, father of the present czar, drove him finally into an insane asylum. Flattered in the first place by the comments excited by his amazing resemblance to the Muscovite autocrat, Carven set to work to increase it by every means in his power, copying the cut of the emperor's beard, imitating Alexander's gestures and the full tones of his voice and actually going to the length of having the top of his head shaved in order to ape the czar's baldness.

The banker ended with becoming so thoroughly imbued with the idea that he was not the emperor's double, but the emperor himself, that he grew convinced that he was in danger of assassination by the nihilists and that the latter were plotting to assassinate him. He became hopelessly insane and had to be confined. One double of King Edward is an English commercial traveler who tours the British islands frequently. He threw the authorities of the towns on his itinerary into flusters before they learned that it was not his majesty who had deigned to pay them unexpected visits. This drummer asserts that the likeness has been of considerable service to him in his business, as some of his customers were so much impressed with his resemblance to the head of the state that before they could recover from their astonishment he was able to get very good orders from them. If it is a splendid thing to be the king, it pays to look like the king—sometimes. The advantages to a naturally pushing drummer are counterbalanced by the disadvantages to more modest "doubles" of receiving undesired and unwelcome attentions. There are very few such cases, how-

ever, since men can easily avoid being "doubles" if they wish by altering their facial appearance with beards, or vice versa, according to the fancies of the exalted ones whom they resemble.

Case of the Czar and the Prince. A curious case of "doubles" in the royal families of Europe is that of the czar of Russia and his first cousin, the new king of England. They are related through their mothers, who are daughters of the late King Christian of Denmark. The two men wear their hair and beards very much alike, and it is difficult to tell them apart. They are, of course, cognizant of the likeness, and when they meet they generally pose side by side for group photographs. The pictures are reproduced in the foreign illustrated papers and create much comment. There is not much difference in the ages of these two royalties, the czar being forty-two and the king forty-five. The face of the latter is slightly fuller and his beard is a trifle less pointed than that

of his imperial cousin. It is rather interesting to see on the thrones of two of the world's mightiest empires men who resemble each other so closely. There is said to be considerable correspondence also in the mental characteristics of the two men.

William Jennings Bryan has a "double" in the person of C. K. Wolf of Dallas, Tex., who is frequently taken for the Democratic leader. Mr. Wolf is a member of the Elks and attends the conventions of the big fraternal organization. There his face and figure attract much attention.

They Look Like Roosevelt. Theodore Roosevelt has two or three doubles on this side of the ocean and in Europe. One of them is a business man of Los Angeles, who tells with much gusto of his visit to a town in Arizona where he was mistaken for the ex-colonel of the rough riders and was accorded a most hearty reception by the friends of one of the members of that famous regiment who had his home there. A reception was hastily decided upon, with processions, steering contests and other manifestations of southwestern hospitality, before it was learned that the visitor

was not Roosevelt. The residents of the town were inclined to change the festivities into a lynching, but they finally decided that the Los Angeles was not to blame for looking so much like their beloved Teddy.

Another false Roosevelt in appearance sells picture frames in Naples, Italy. It is related that when the ex-president was in the Italian city during his triumphant tour of Europe he visited the frame shop, and when the proprietor in person asked him what he wanted said he desired to look at some frames, not at a mirror. No guarantee goes with this story. "It is not true," as the Italians themselves say, "it is well found." But at any rate there is no doubt that a Naples tradesman looks very much like the man whom his king delighted to honor a short time ago.

For various reasons there are not many cases on record of famous women's doubles. The much more varied possible in the matters of women's dress and methods of arranging the hair preclude much of the possibility of a woman's deliberately making herself up to look like another woman, save on the stage. Anna Held and Marie Doro, the well known actresses, are said to bear resemblance to each other close enough to cause confusion. Fritzi Scheff and Hattie Waters are also said to be doubles. Alice Roosevelt Longworth is believed to have a double in the person of Miss Mercedes Godoy, daughter of a Mexican diplomat.

"MOTHER" IS COMING INTO HER OWN

National Congress of Mothers Will Meet in Denver June 10-15.

MOTHER is coming into her own. She is stepping out of the crowd of ordinary humanity and assuming on the pedestal the place that is rightfully hers. The crown of glory that is the reward of years of faithful service is beginning to shine before men, proclaiming to the thinker and the thoughtless alike that the world is at last giving full honor to whom it is due—to the mother.

There has been no general "revolt of mothers" such as Mary E. Wilkins graphically and sympathetically described. It is not in the nature of mothers to revolt; they are too accustomed to bear uncomplainingly the burdens of the world. But without conscious, self-seeking effort on their part they are assuming their rightfully important place in the scheme of things in the United States and in other countries.

Part of the credit for this uplifting of the mother's status in this country must be awarded to the National Congress of Mothers, which is soon to meet in annual session in Denver. From June 10 to 15 these organized mothers will meet in the Colorado capital to discuss the problems common to them all, in their individual capacity as mothers and in their organized relations as a body of enlightened, progressive, earnest women. No little stress should be laid on the fact that the work of the mothers' congress is not merely theoretical sociology, barren of practical results. It is genuine, solid work for the advancement of the children of the nation, and its ramifications reach into the homes of the highest and of the humblest.

The work of the organized mothers embraces effort for children in all branches of endeavor. The congress advocates the co-operation of home and school through the organization of "parents' associations," the education of parents in the physical and economic injury brought about by some forms of child labor, prevention of juvenile crime by the providing of playgrounds and "recreation centers," the establishment of juvenile courts to consider the cases of morally defective children, the establishment of separate schools for the blind and the deaf mute, the systematic care of dependent, neglected, erring children, co-operation with other sociological workers in anything which tends toward the giving of a "square deal" and a "fair chance" to the nation's little ones.

The National Congress of Mothers has been in existence since 1897. The "mothers" of the mothers' congress were Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst and the

late Mrs. Theodore W. Birney. The president of the mothers is Mrs. Frederick Schoff of Philadelphia, who said a few years ago in addressing the congress and speaking of the work of Mrs. Birney and Mrs. Hearst: "The inspiration of that meeting will never die. Its results have been felt throughout the world. In thousands of homes little children's lives have been made happier and better because of that congress and its results. Thousands—yes, hundreds of thousands—of parents have been led to a higher conception of their duty to their children. Other organizations have caught the inspiration of work for childhood and have been given not



only sympathy, but active help in bringing about better conditions. States have been aroused to their duty to the children, and even the senate of the United States and the president have listened and heeded the request of the mothers in behalf of their children."

Mrs. Schoff has been president of the National Congress of Mothers since 1902. From 1897 to 1902 she was vice president of the congress. From 1899 to 1902 she held the office of president of the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers. She is a woman of very broad sympathies and is actively interested in several lines of philanthropic endeavor.

Another agency that is calling the attention of the nation to the honor that is due to its mothers is "Mother's day," the second Sunday in May, the

observance of which is spreading throughout the country. Its insignia is the white carnation, and those who wish to honor their own mothers and others are asked to wear the flower as a token of remembrance. "While any flower may be worn, the white carnation is the Mother's day special flower," says the circular of the Mother's Day Federation. "Its whiteness stands for purity; its form, beauty; its fragrance, love; its wide field of growth, charity; its lasting qualities, faithfulness; 'carnation' mother suffering of the flesh—all a true mother's attributes."

The founder of "Mother's day" is Miss Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia, whose own mother died five years ago. Her poignant grief awakened in her a realization of all that "mother" had meant to her and subsequently the

HATS OFF TO THE GAEKWAR OF BARODA!

His Highness, Minus the Elephants and Jewels, Is Coming to Visit Us.

HE is coming to visit us, but the \$40,000,000—or is it \$40,000,000?—worth of diamonds and rubies and sapphires and the elephants with cloth of gold howdahs and the ropes of pearls and the gold cannon will stay home. Whereat we grieve, for they would have made a rare show in America.

Who is coming? The gaeckwar of Baroda, of course. Who else in all this wide world has so many millions of dollars' worth of jewels? The last time he was here he was asked whether his jewels were really worth as much as \$40,000,000. "I really cannot say," answered the gaeckwar. "I have not seen them recently. But, anyway, they are not for sale." The reporter managed to reply when he got over the shock that he wasn't thinking of buying them.

The gaeckwar did not speak Barodan to the reporter, because it was not necessary. He speaks English as well as you or I, or perhaps better, for he is the most enlightened of all the native princes of India as well as one of the richest. Since his twelfth year he has been gaeckwar, or maharajah, of Baroda, one of the great semi-independent states of India, with an area of 8,000 square miles and a population of about 2,000,000. So far as the internal government of Baroda is concerned the gaeckwar is supreme, with power of life and death over his people and with the right of judgment over them whenever he chooses to enter the courts.

When the gaeckwar lands at Vancouver on his way to the eastern sections of this country the gaeckwar's (if that is the correct term for a female gaeckwar) will be with him. Her proper title is the maharani, and with her will be the chota maharani, her daughter, with their suits. His highness is coming from Yokohama across the Pacific to Vancouver, where he will land on June 5, traveling through Canada to Niagara Falls and thence to New York. This is not his first visit to the United States. He was here in 1906, when he came to inspect our schools and colleges and governmental institutions. Several times he had seen what there was to be seen in Great Britain and other European countries, and he thought we could show him a thing or two.

The gaeckwar is much of a man. It should be written, making up in brains and ability what he lacks in stature and, if it must be confessed, in looks. His manners, too, are charming, according to the persons who met him socially last time. He is a close, keen observer and able to draw his own deductions from what he sees. He is not

at all an Indian ruler of the old school, semibarbaric, without the power or the inclination to assimilate modern ideas. Indeed, it is due to this lack on the part of the predecessor of the present gaeckwar that the latter owes his throne. The preceding gaeckwar was a gentleman with medieval ideas

resident became violently ill. Whereupon the hand of the British government in India descended heavily on the gaeckwar, and he went permanently out of the business of ruling over Baroda.

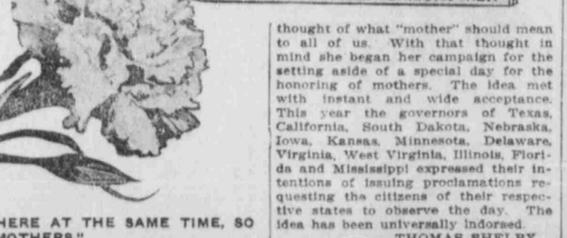
That was away back in 1875. According to native custom, the choice of a new gaeckwar rested with the wife of the deposed ruler, who, by the way, had taken refuge with the British officials from her husband's intolerable



THE GAEKWAR OF BARODA.

about his relations to the world in general and the British rule of India in particular. Several times he rubbed the wrong way against her majesty's representative in Baroda, and finally he decided that there wasn't room enough in Baroda for both himself and the resident. So the old gaeckwar managed to have poison introduced into the resident's bill of fare, and the

WHISTLER'S PORTRAIT OF HIS MOTHER



thought of what "mother" should mean to all of us. With that thought in mind she began her campaign for the setting aside of a special day for the honoring of mothers. The idea met with instant and wide acceptance. This year the governors of Texas, California, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Illinois, Florida and Mississippi expressed their intentions of issuing proclamations requesting the citizens of their respective states to observe the day. The idea has been universally endorsed.

THOMAS SHELBY.

"GOD COULD NOT BE EVERYWHERE AT THE SAME TIME, SO HE MADE MOTHERS."