

# Old World News Flashed by Cable to The Times-Dispatch

## LONDON PREPARES FOR CORONATION

With Elections Over, Society Takes Long Breath of Relief.

## RESTS ON AMERICANS

Without Their Aid Much of Brilliance of Affair Would Be Lacking.

BY CHESTER D. OVERTON. [Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, December 17.—Now the battle of the election is practically over, society is taking a long breath of relief and another long breath of preparation for the stress of the coronation season.

In this connection two facts are written largely. First, no matter what the political contingency may be, nothing will rest with the American and Anglo-American entertainers.

A Radiant Flock of Girls. It is also learned that a radiant flock of American girls is expected to fly over here for the coronation and to spend a month at least in London.

Foremost, in the matter of romantic interest, is Mrs. George Gould's second daughter, Miss Vivien Gould, about whose engagement to Lord Decemery one, of course, is talking.

Mrs. John R. Drexel is also to bring her pretty daughter, Miss Alice G., their present intention being to first visit Paris, where Mrs. Drexel is perhaps better known than she is in London.

Mrs. Charles Alexander is to bring her daughter, Miss Janette, for the coronation, and Miss Mary Harriman

is also expected. Needless to say that charming debutante will be feted from end to end of London town.

With all these and very many other young people to look after, it goes almost without saying that American hostesses are looking forward to strenuous hospitality.

Among the hostesses, Mrs. William B. Leeds, who has taken Mrs. George Keppel's house, 16 Grosvenor Street, for the season, is determined to outshine every one by the sheer force of riches.

The Astor family is congratulating itself on successfully returning two members—young Waldorf Astor and Captain Spender-Clay, who married Mrs. Pauline Astor. The Astors made great efforts in every legal direction to insure against defeat.

After American women, who, however, did not see her husband returned to the House of Commons, was Lady Harrington, daughter of the late Senator McMillan, whose husband, Sir John Harrington, faced a tough proposition when he sought to oust John Burns from his beloved Battersea.

The Duchess of Marlborough wound up her entertaining in London until next spring, when she will return from Balescure. During her stay on the Riviera, the duchess will do much motorizing with her two boys and her aunt, Mrs. Tiffany. The duchess hopes that plenty of warm Southern air will benefit Lord Iver Churchill, who is very delicate.

The duchess will also indulge in her recently acquired taste for golf. The Hon. Mrs. Henry L. Coventry, formerly Mrs. Richard McCreery, has been entertaining lavishly at Stoner Park, where the rich game preserves have been shot over by moor and the nobles of society. Mrs. Coventry has had a long succession of smart house parties, and plans another big one for Christmas.

A Disappointed Earl. A vacancy in the Order of the Garter, caused by the death of Earl Spencer, was filled on Thursday, when the King conferred knighthood on Lord Minto, who has just returned to England after five years as Viceroy of India.

It had been whispered in court circles that Earl Beauchamp was to receive this decoration, and the King's action caused considerable surprise, especially as Lord Beauchamp acted as lord steward of the household of the late King and is a great favorite of King George and Queen Mary.

The Countess De Matuska, an interesting and handsome American, who has been long absent from her native shores, will visit America early in the new year. The countess, who is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walker, of Detroit, accompanied by her husband, will sail from Hamburg for New York on January 5. They will stay in America about a month, the greatest

part of which will be spent in Detroit. During the past weeks the countess has been entertaining a series of brilliant shooting parties, at the Schloss Bechan, in upper Silesia. The countess is immensely wealthy and vastly popular in German and Austrian aristocracy.



MISS GERTRUDE MILLER, whose quaint little quack garb, which she wears in the new play, "The Quack Girl," now appearing at the Adelphi Theatre, has become the rage of fashionable Paris and London.

## PHIPPS AGAIN IS IN ENTANGLEMENT

His Domestic Troubles and Disturbances are Boding on Tragic.

## HAS TWO FAMILIES

His Daughter Is Rescued From Lonely House in Normandy.

BY VANCE THOMPSON. [Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Paris, December 17.—Dr. John L. Phipps, the millionaire physician and land owner, whose family disturbances and sorrows have bordered on the tragic for months, is stopping here at the Grand Hotel, trying to straighten out a new entanglement.

Dr. Phipps, who helped to build up the terraced city of Seattle, not only has two families, but it is characteristic of the man's affairs that while his first wife, from whom he was divorced sixteen years ago, is living in Chicago, his family by his first wife resides in Paris.

One of his daughters, Carrie Phipps, married Pierre Berton, the son of the man who wrote "Zaza" and she was the heroine of the famous Berton poisoning case, in which she accused her mother-in-law of poisoning her, of which many curious things have been told.

Carrie Phipps Berton, however, has been rescued by her father from the lonely house in Normandy, where she was kept sequestered and has brought her to Paris, but young Berton, her husband, had a writ served notifying her that she cannot remain in France. He proposes that she exile herself to the Island of Jersey. The reason he assigns for exiling his young American wife to the Channel Islands is because she charged her mother-in-law, Madame Berton, with an attempt to poison her, and although the evidence of the chemist, physician and domestic was overwhelming she withdrew the charge.

It is said that Mrs. Carrie Phipps first met her precious husband while accompanying her sister, now buried here in the Chaise Cemetery, to take lessons in acting from the teacher and playwright, Berton, Senior.

Dr. Phipps' first business on the present visit to this side of the water was to rush off to Berlin in search for a lost grandchild. This is the child of a daughter, Anis Phipps, who married Dr. Hammerstein, the naval constructor. After the death of Dr. Hammerstein, the child was hidden in the neighborhood of Berlin, and no trace of it has yet been found. It is believed that the child's name has been changed.

It is said that the child was consigned to a nursery first, and the first Mrs. Phipps, now in Chicago, who it is said, is not likely to help the doctor in his search, for she resents having been supplanted by the present Mrs. Phipps, whom she declares was her maid.

Mrs. Revers's Adventure. As the previous cables have briefly noted, a young Frenchman, Emile Lamure, was recently condemned to four years imprisonment at Havre for an attempt to rob and murder a wealthy American woman on board the steamer Le Provence.

The woman on whom the murderous attack was made was Mrs. Laura Revers, who was a Miss Cottrell. Mrs. Revers was on her way to France, expecting to make her home permanently at Neuilly, a fashionable suburb of Paris. The attack was made at 11 in the morning, just as the big transatlantic liner was reaching the dock at Havre. Mrs. Revers was in room No. 653, on the upper deck, one of the most gorgeous suites on the steamer.

Lamure is a native of Havre, and was employed as room steward on La Provence; hence his presence in and out of Mrs. Revers's stateroom did not attract any attention. Taking advantage of the noise and confusion connected with the ship's departure, as well as the loneliness of that part of the ship, Lamure pushed his way into Mrs. Revers's stateroom and began the sinister work by dealing out severe blows on her head, cutting open her left eye, and striking her violently on the left side near the heart.

He then seized her by the throat, put his knee on her chest, and attempted to strangle her. Mrs. Revers, who is a strong and well-built woman of fifty, made a desperate struggle for her life against the murderous Frenchman. She also shouted for help.

Fortunately Mrs. Revers's American steerman, Theodore W. Stemmler, of New York, and a wiry Parisian, Mons Nauquet, heard the cries. Rushing into the stateroom, they found the aggressor in the act of drawing a knife to finish his deadly work. He put up a fierce fight, but the cry came running up managed to put the steward in irons while awaiting the arrival of the police, who marched him to prison.

At the trial just closed it was disclosed that the stateroom next to that of Mrs. Revers was not occupied. Lamure had the key to this and hid himself there awaiting a favorable moment for the attack on his victim.



EX-KING MANUEL OF PORTUGAL AND HIS MOTHER. The boy ruler believes that he will ultimately regain his throne.

armed with a clasp knife and cord. He admitted that his object was robbery, but swore that he had no intention of murder. He succeeded, however, in inflicting such wounds on Mrs. Revers that she was obliged to remain several weeks in the Continental Hotel, of Havre, before being able to resume her journey.

Probably because of his youth—Lamure is seventeen—the judge was lenient, giving him only four years' imprisonment. The trial was only just taken place, though the murderous assault was made on October 15.

French society gathered in force this week to hear Miss Catharine Groth, who is a bachelor of letters of the University of Paris and a licentiate of letters of Columbia, New York. The lecture was on "The American Girl" and the young Duchess de Rohan led the applause.

Miss Groth, who is young and charming, is the first American woman to take a baccalaureate degree in the learned and venerable Sorbonne. Her lecture was given under the auspices of "La Française," a club of Frenchwomen founded by the Duchess de Rohan. Among those present were the Countess de Groffulhe, Countess Mathieu de Noailles, Countess de Plouze, Countess Jean de Castellans and Madame Judith Gauthier.

The lecturer described the education and social and intellectual environment of the American girl. She refuted the theories of Marcel Prevost, of the French Academy, who declares that there is danger in the open intercourse of young American men and women.

Miss Groth lectured in flawless French. At the close of the lecture Countess de Bellefont warmly congratulated the young lecturer as "defender of American ideals." Then Miss Margery Pearson, of Denver, sang some cowboy songs.

## LATEST CRAZE OF SOCIETY WOMEN

Now They Want Portraits Painted While They Are Asleep.

## AN ARTIST IS TO BLAME

Method Saves Time, Besides It Is the Very Latest Fad.

BY COUNT VON ELPHBERG. [Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Berlin, December 17.—The latest craze of Berlin society women is to have their portraits painted while asleep. The Countess Czizew, an Austrian, originated the idea, she having commissioned an eminent artist to paint her portrait. The painter kept her waiting for the sitting, and the countess at last fell asleep in an anteroom.

Meantime, the artist arrived, and seeing the "Sleeping Beauty" made a hasty sketch of her. When the countess awoke, he showed her how she looked asleep. The drawing was so attractive that the sitter insisted on having a real portrait in oils painted, while she pretended to sleep.

Now the idea has spread among German society women, who have the painters make their pictures while they lie in drowsy attitudes; some really taking a beauty sleep. This method saves time, besides it is the latest fad.

The Imperial Councillor Zache, who is accompanying the German Crown Prince on his Far Eastern tour, writes that aboard the steamship which is carrying the imperial party there was witnessed an anti-American demonstration, aimed at the American passengers aboard.

It seems that when it became known the prince was traveling by that ship there was a great rush for passage and a number of Americans succeeding in obtaining for high prices accommodations on the same boat. At a costume ball given aboard, one of the sailors dressed up as Uncle Sam, and during the festival he mocked the Americans by demonstrating his hopelessly bad manners.

He pushed his way through the group, elbowed those in his way and generally made himself obnoxious. He even molested the Crown Prince, who smilingly got out of his way. This was intended to draw attention to the alleged mobbing of the prince by the Americans aboard.

A prominent member of the German Socialist party, Dr. Carl Liebknecht, a son of the great Socialist leader who died nearly a decade ago, has returned from a visit to the United States completely disillusioned regarding the liberty of the transatlantic republic.

He says that he found there such appalling oppression of the wage-earners by organized capitalism that he has become more reconciled to imperial Germany since he has returned. He regards the plutocratic tyranny of the American trust magnates as more terrible for the people than the political autocracy of the Kaiser.

Meeting of Amherst Teachers. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Amherst, Va., December 17.—The Amherst County Teachers' Association held a meeting here yesterday in the High School building. There was a fairly good attendance of teachers from different sections of the county. In the morning a meeting of the associations for each district was held, and in the afternoon the county institute was in session. At noon lunch was served.

## BRITISH PARTIES ARE UNCHANGED

Elections Practically Over, and Liberals Return With Power Undiminished.

## HAVE CARTE BLANCHE

Administration Leaders May Work Their Will on the Veto Bill.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.]

BY WILLIAM T. STEAD. London, December 17.—The general elections are practically over, and it is now evident that the state of the parties remains unchanged. One of the two sides will remain to be polled, but it seems quite certain that the Liberal coalition majority will not be less than 120 or more than 130. The Liberal administration will therefore return with a carte blanche from the country to enforce its will on the veto bill.

There is not the slightest doubt as to what will be the result. The peers will pass the bill. The King will act upon the advice of his constitutional advisers, and if the peers be so adamant as to oppose the will of the Commons, the emphatically affirmed and approved by the country, the King will, if necessary, create as many new peers as it is necessary to overcome the resistance of the Lords.

This contingency need not seriously be discussed. It is quite evident from the speeches of Mr. Balfour that the opposition will confine itself to protesting against the bill, reserving to themselves the right to repeal it whenever the country places them in power. This is a barren threat.

The present election has been to all intents and purposes a referendum on the subject of that matter, and the people have declared their will. Public interest is now turning to the question of home rule. There is no longer any fight over the veto question. We may regard that matter as ended. It is thoroughly characteristic of the English method of settling the question. The House of Lords remains intact in all its prerogatives and authority unimpaired, with one exception. If the Commons send up the same bill at three successive sessions the Lords must pass it.

An Irish National Convention. Up to the last twenty years the Lords have always passed every Liberal bill sent up to them whenever the Liberals could show either that the matter had been submitted to a vote of the Commons or was demanded by a sufficient number of people to make it a semi-revolutionary agitation. The Lords have always yielded to the threat of force; in the future they will yield to the third presentation of a bill.

There is no possibility of a home rule bill being introduced at the next session. A home rule resolution will be passed and the framing of the home rule bill will be adjourned until after the coronation. If prudent counsels prevail the passage of the home rule resolution will be followed by summoning of an Irish national convention at Dublin for the purpose of enabling Great Britain to understand what kind of bill it is that would satisfy the Irish. The proposal is one which, although it will be unpopular with Redmond, who would prefer to throw the whole responsibility of framing the bill upon the Liberal government, it will be difficult for him to maintain an attitude of opposition to frame her own home rule bill as an act of deference to the Irish people.

A Curiosity of the Election. Very few contests of the election just over excited much interest. An exception is that which Lord Rosebery's son, the Hon. Neil Primrose, contested at Wisbech against Lord Robert Cecil, son of the late Prime Minister, the Marquis of Salisbury.

It was a curious and tangled up fight, because Primrose stood as a candidate for the party which his father had been denouncing up hill and down dale all over the country, and Cecil, although a strong Conservative, no less vehemently opposed the tariff reform which Balfour declared to be the first plank of the Conservative program.

Shelving tariff reform by the referendum enabled the Tories to gain six seats in Lancashire, but the majority of the Lancashire representatives remain true to the Liberal cause. The ministers only lost one subordinate member at Plymouth. All the other ministers have been returned, although Lloyd-George is the only Cabinet minister who has increased his majority.

Now that the election is over, fierce rearmament is beginning to break out in the opposition camp. The Morning Post has taken the lead in denouncing the tactics which Balfour adopted under the compulsion of the writer Garvin. That redoubtable hero of the election is still breathing forth threats and slanders, but the disasters which have followed the adoption of his advice in the last two elections will be fatal to his ambition to rule as dictator of the party to which he belongs.

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OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN, who is in London directing the building of his new Opera House.