

A FLOCK OF 20TH CENTURY MILLIONNAIRE BABIES DEDICATED TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT



MRS. CORNELIA VANDERBILT
PHOTO BY DRADLEY



MRS. A.G. VANDERBILT
PHOTO BY TABER



MRS. E. PARMELEE PRENTICE
PHOTO BY DAVIS & SANFORD



MRS. JOHN JACOB ASTOR



MRS. GEORGE GOULD
PHOTO BY ALICE DUPONT



MRS. CLARENCE H. MACKAY



MRS. PAYNE WHITNEY
PHOTO BY J.P. GILBERT

"Be fruitful and multiply," is the watchword which has been heard by humanity through centuries. The wise precept, sometimes uttered in the ringing tones of command, sometimes whispered gently like a benediction to the accompaniment of showering rice, has sounded its way into the inmost recesses of the human heart, so that race propagation has become a subject of grave importance as well as one of extreme pride. The countless millions of beings descended from those two who first walked arm and arm in the Garden of Eden are like the links of an endless chain, whose forging is sanctioned, nay, commanded by the highest laws. Each sixth of an hour ticked off by time sees a new link added to its ever increasing length.

Long ago the head of a house, faithful to the command laid upon him, found that his family circle widened until its circumference inclosed a small colony. But as century succeeded century and time brought many changes the family circle seems to have gradually lessened in size. Of late this shrinkage has been rapid enough to have caused considerable alarm among us for the future of the race.

Mr. Charles A. Elliot, president of Harvard, after examining a table of statistics of six classes twenty-five years after college, made a statement which has caused widespread comment. He said: "The table suggests that the highly educated part of the American people does not increase the population at all, but, on the contrary, falls to reproduce itself." Coming as this startling announcement does upon the very heels of a similar one made by President Roosevelt deploring the existing conditions of life, which are not conducive to the rearing of large families, but which, on the contrary, tend to race suicide, complete or partial, the world has been made to pause long enough in its busy whirl to investigate the subject of race propagation. Every man and woman has taken a new interest in the families about them and is paying special attention to newborn babes. All infants inspire more or less interest, though that of the general public to-

ward them frequently finds its source in rather sordid soil. But the offspring of wealthy parents, themselves in the public eye, naturally claim attention where children of the poor and moderately well off are permitted to begin life's battle in comparative obscurity.

Not, therefore, in refutation of the statement made by Professor Elliot, nor in an attempt to allay the fears expressed by President Roosevelt, but as a matter of natural and national pride, do we point to the twentieth century babies whose mothers are among the financially and socially great of the land and are, for that reason, more or less known to the general public.

It might be interesting to note that Mr. and Mrs. George Gould, who have been married seventeen years, have six children; Mr. and Mrs. John Jacob Astor, who were married in 1881, have two children; Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt Jr., whose wedding occurred in 1884, have a little family of two; Mr. and Mrs. Parmelee Prentice were married in 1891 and have one child; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Mackay, who were married in 1898, have one child; Mr. and Mrs. Percy A. Rockefeller, whose marriage was celebrated in 1891, have one child; Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt have had one child in the two years of their married life.

Because the parents of these dozen or more children are ranked among the wealthiest in the country the little ones themselves are looked upon with more interest than other children. Their careers are watched with the utmost concern. Mothered as these little ones are by countless millions, they revel in all sorts of luxuries. Their little rosy limbs are rocked in golden cradles.

Not since the splendors of King Solomon's court and the halcyon days of Babylon has there been anything to equal the magnificence that belongs by right of inheritance to these infants of the wealthy.

Silver spoons forsooth! These youngsters come into the world equipped with all that stands for the pomp and pleasures of power. Their little spoons are of rarest beaten gold wrought with dazzling gems. Their soft rosy limbs are swaddled in the finest and costliest of laces, their golden cradles are piled high with the downiest of coverlets.

It is conceded that the best way to learn a language is to lisp it when an infant. In this fashion are these little children of millionaires learning to lisp the language of prosperity, luxury and splendor which characterizes the age in which their lines are cast.

Baby Millionaires.
Not so many years ago it was considered a most unusual thing for a child to possess millions, but in these days of enormous personal fortunes it is by no means uncommon to hear of infants scarce able to creep who actually have in their own names bank accounts and investments amounting to several millions. When boys are born to millionaire parents their names are put on the waiting lists of exclusive clubs, sometimes before the infants are a week old. It is the only way for them to gain admission. There are several of these fortunate little creatures, who appear to have every-

thing in the world they want. They ought to grow up into perfect specimens of manhood and womanhood. They are children to be proud of, who will probably make their mark in the world, though there are persons who croakingly remind us that great oaks do not grow in hot-houses.

There have been over a dozen babies born since the beginning of the twentieth century whose fortunes range from one to one hundred millions. Suppose a million were put away in a bank at compound interest for each child until it became of age, the sum at the end of twenty-one years would be more than doubled—each one would have about \$2,278,768 to his or her account.

Think of it! To start life with a million and then, without the slightest effort, to find the amount more than doubled when the real struggle is beginning. And so wealthy and prosperous is the age in which we live that millionaire, multi-millionaire babies are by no means a novelty.

Little Miss Mackay.
One of the most fortunate of the children of this century is Katherine Duer Mackay, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay. With the prospects of one day possessing \$50,000,000 or more, little Miss Mackay has started out in life like a veritable princess. She was born three years ago on the 5th of February and no royal infant could have handsomer or costlier frocks and frills than this baby girl possesses. Her christening robe of fine lace was valued at \$1500, and gold and rare gems were literally heaped upon her tiny head. On each of her birthdays she will receive a beautiful pear-shaped pearl, costing not less than \$15,000, so that when she is twenty-one she will have a marvellously beautiful necklace worth \$15,000.

Katherine Duer Mackay resembles her mother very strongly, and now that she has progressed beyond the period of swaddling clothes she looks like a genuine bit of Dresden, so exquisite is her coloring, so delicate are her features and so dainty are her little frocks.

An entire suite of rooms is set aside for this child, and she has, both in the town house of her parents and in the more spacious one at Roslyn, L. I. Her rooms are bright and airy, she has trained nurses to care for her, a French maid and a nursery matron. Her dainty frocks and bonnets are done up by her own special laundress. In fact, this infant of millions reigns like a little queen.

Even greater than this child's fortune is, perhaps, that of William Henry Vanderbilt, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt. Though this baby is scarcely more than one year old, it has been said to be heir to a fortune of \$100,000,000. This, of course, means that the child will, in all probability, inherit such an amount, if, after the custom of the Vanderbilt family, he should, as the eldest child, receive the bulk of the Vanderbilt millions.

It is a delicate subject to discuss, this one of the Vanderbilt millions, without touching upon the will of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt, which has served to deprive the children of his eldest son of the wealth which would otherwise have eventually fallen to them. As it is, the fortune of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt Jr.'s youngest child, who was born just at the close of the year 1899, will be a small one compared with the fortunes of many infants, yet it is quite large enough to place her among the list of millionaire babies.

Ava Alice Muriel is the name of Mr. and Mrs. John Jacob Astor's youngest child, born July 7, 1902, at their New York home. Little Miss Astor, with her alliterative name, has lived an extremely quiet life so far, spending part of her babyhood at the country home of her parents, at Ferncliffe.

She was named Ava for her mother and Alice for her maternal grandmother, Mrs. Willing. This little Astor heiress has one brother, William Vincent, who is about eleven years old, and, even should this boy receive the lion's share of the Astor millions, there would be upward of \$5,000,000 left for his sister.

Two Rockefeller babes have come into the world to claim their share of the wealth of the Standard Oil magnate. About the middle of last December a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Parmelee Prentice. Mrs. Prentice was Alta Rockefeller, daughter of John D. Rockefeller.

But for the burglary recently committed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Prentice, which brought them before the public, this little scion of millions might have passed the teething and creeping stage without the world, except their own intimate friends, being aware of his existence. Now that there is known to be a youngster, who it is believed will be christened John D., speculation has already begun to weave a romance about his future inheritance.

It would be difficult to form even a rough estimate of the number of millions which is gradually piling up against the rainy days which may come into the life of this little one. It is enough to say that the figure in the hundred million space will be something greater than one.

In the Rockefeller Family.
William Rockefeller, the brother of John D. Rockefeller, is also a proud and happy grandfather. Isabella Rockefeller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Avery Rockefeller, is not many months old, and besides being heir to her paternal grandfather's wealth, she will no doubt inherit a tidy little sum from her mother's father, who is James Stillman, president of the largest bank in America.

Mr. and Mrs. George Gould's youngest child will receive her share of a fortune which, estimated now at anywhere between \$5,000,000 and twice that amount, may be doubled or even trebled when this small one becomes of age. Mrs. Gould has one of the largest families among the well known social set, and for this reason she might be pointed to as a shining example of one who appreciates the responsibilities and duties toward future generations.

William A. Clark, third grandson of Senator William A. Clark, claimed a million dollars with his first breath just because he was a boy instead of a girl. This little infant was born December 1 in Butte, Mont. The world is already familiar with the account of Senator Clark's hurried return from Paris to the cradle of his baby heir, of the illness of the little one's mother and of her sad death only a few weeks after the birth of her son. Though the fortune already at the right of baby Clark reaches an enviable figure, it will never compensate

for the great loss it feels even in its baby hours. Quite as romantic, though in a different way, is the fortune which is just beyond the reach of Edward Rayne Herzog. Because this baby's mother married against her father's wishes she may lose an inheritance reaching the twenty-million mark. The will is to be vigorously contested, and already the baby born last December has been summoned to appear in court.

Wealth of John Nicholas Brown.
John Nicholas Brown of Providence, R. I., a baby scarcely 3 years old, has the distinction of having in his name the largest amount of money any infant can claim. Seven million dollars is a conservative estimate of this wee man's wealth. John Nicholas Brown inherited the wealth of his father, John Nicholas Brown, and ten days after he fell heir to these paternal millions his uncle, Harold Brown, died and left the bulk of his property to this gold-burdened mite. John Nicholas Brown has millions actually invested in his own name and in this respect he might be called the richest baby in the world.

Though his home is in Providence, where his mother, Mrs. Natalie Bayard Brown, has a beautiful house, the baby spends a great part of his time in New York at the Waldorf, where this tiny multi-millionaire has a suite of rooms at his disposal. He lives in the greatest luxury, surrounded with everything that a dainty baby would care for and with nurses and maids to minister to his every whim. Another little habitue of this hotel is the little son of Colonel William C. Greene, a copper mine owner of Bisbee, Arizona. The Greene infant is the first boy to have been born in the Waldorf, though his sister first looked upon the world from the same place just one year ago.

Because of the circumstance of his birth it has been suggested that the child be called Waldorf Astoria Greene, but it is believed that he will be christened with his father's name. Some of the presents sent to Baby Greene were unique, being fine buffalo and mountain lion skins. The rich copper mines discovered by this baby's father in the State of Sonora, Mexico, have been valued at \$20,000,000 or more, so that little Mr. Greene will not have to worry very much as to his future prospects.

The latest infant to have its name inscribed among those fortunate ones of the earth is the three-weeks-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Payne Whitney. Her maternal grandfather is Secretary John Hay, and, as the grandchild of Mr. Whitney, this little one is classed among the richest quartet in the world. Each of Mr. Whitney's grandchildren will in all probability inherit a fortune of at least \$5,000,000.

JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN \$15,000,000.	WILLIAM A. CLARK III \$1,000,000.	MRS. ISABELLE ROCKEFELLER \$25,000,000.	EDWARD RAYNE HERZOG 40,000,000.	WILLIAM A. CLARK III \$20,000,000.	KENNETH ASTOR SHAW \$10,000,000.
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