The Herald and News

JEWELS

Five Hundred Millions of Diamonds in the United States

[Frank S. A[illegible] in Answers.

"The complete [illegible] jewels as those [illegible] dons is [illegible] ensions [illegible] ropes of diamonds and [illegible] pearls are tossed about in the [illegible] ment of the dance; diamonds and pearls glittering everywhere, at throat, on the buckles of dainty shoes, covering sleeves in a perfect network, tipping the [illegible] and stringed fringe of a scarf which a hundred women wear, not unfrequently, crowns of diamonds that only one European Empress might not envy—$20,000,000 in precious stones brought together on a single evening to make blinding the beauty of these queens of American society.

"You think the amount exaggerated? Mrs. John Jacob Astor, third, frequently wears $250,000 worth of jewels at an ordinary reception, and Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt fully $500,000 at a mere garden party. Pearl necklaces alone worth from $75,000 to $100,000 are not uncommon, one that cost $320,000 being occasionally seen, and more than one woman has $1,000,000 in gems from which to choose. Let me tabulate the value of the jewelry owned by comparatively a small number of New York society women:

Mrs William Astor	$1,500,000
Mrs John Jacob Astor	1,000,000
Mrs Cornelius Vanderbilt, Sr.	1,000,000
Mrs William K. Vanderbilt, Jr	1,000,000
Mrs O. H. P. Belmont	1,000,000
Mrs John W. Mackay	1,000,000
Mrs Bradley-Martin	850,000
Mrs Perry Belmont	800,000
Mrs Hermann Oelrichs	800,000
Mrs Orme Wilson	800,000
Mrs Ogden Goelet	800,000
Mrs Clarence H. Mackay	750,000
Mrs Levi P. Morton	750,000
Mrs Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt	750,000
Mrs James A. Burden	700,000
Mrs William Starr Miller	700,000
Mrs Frederick Vanderbilt	650,000
Mrs George Vanderbilt	600,000
Mrs W. Seward Webb	500,000
Mrs William D. Sloane	500,000
Mrs Elliot F. Shepard	500,000
Mrs Harry Payne Whitney	500,000
Mrs George Jay Gould	500,000
Mrs Charles M. Oelrichs	500,000
Mrs Philip Rhinelander	500,000
Mrs Charles T. Yerkes	500,000
Mrs H. McKay Twombly	500,000
Mrs Stuyvesant Fish	500,000
Mrs Ernesto Fabbri	300,000
Mrs David Hennen Morris	300,000
Mrs Edwin Gould	300,000
Mrs Oliver Harriman, Jr	300,000
Mrs Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr.	250,000
Mrs John D. Rockefeller, Jr.	200,000
	$22,250,000

"Here are the names of only thirty-four women, chosen almost at random, whose precious stones and jewelry are valued at $22,250,000. It can easily be shown that the figures are not unreasonable. The average annual importation of precious stones into the United States has for a long time been about $15,000,000. Thus during only the past ten years we have received $150,000,000 in gems. Mr. Loopid Stern, the diamond importer, informed me that of the remainder fully two thirds have been sold to families and individuals in New York. [illegible] the past [illegible] years New York has [illegible] bought [illegible] wealth of [illegible] [illegible] gems [illegible] New [illegible] [illegible] pearls [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] probably [illegible] we shall again [illegible] dred arrayed [illegible] linen. "Time [illegible] Why the Field of the [illegible] ranged by that people [illegible] First, should be [illegible] from the annals of [illegible] occasions as these [illegible] viewed from the [illegible] solidly armored in [illegible] pearls; others, as [illegible] are clothed with [illegible] gauntlets of [illegible] at a loss for novelty, [illegible] orings of gold coins [illegible] gold wind around [illegible] and twine about [illegible] wrist to shoulder jewelled [illegible] pheasants and peacocks [illegible] geously in many [illegible] are embroidered about [illegible] a dazzling glitter of [illegible] ions stones; giant [illegible] ropes of diamonds and [illegible] pearls are tossed about in the [illegible] ment of the dance; diamonds and pearls glittering everywhere, at throat, on the buckles of dainty shoes, covering sleeves in a perfect network, tipping the [illegible] and stringed fringe of a scarf which a hundred women wear, not unfrequently, crowns of diamonds that only one European Empress might not envy—$20,000,000 in precious stones brought together on a single evening to make blinding the beauty of these queens of American society.

"You think the amount exaggerated? Mrs. John Jacob Astor, third, frequently wears $250,000 worth of jewels at an ordinary reception, and Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt fully $500,000 at a mere garden party. Pearl necklaces alone worth from $75,000 to $100,000 are not uncommon, one that cost $320,000 being occasionally seen, and more than one woman has $1,000,000 in gems from which to choose. Let me tabulate the value of the jewelry owned by comparatively a small number of New York society women:

"Mrs William Astor..... $1,500,000
Mrs John Jacob Astor..... 1,000,000
Mrs Cornelius Vanderbilt, Sr. 1,000,000
Mrs William K. Vanderbilt, Jr 1,000,000
Mrs O. H. P. Belmont..... 1,000,000
Mrs John W. Mackay..... 1,000,000
Mrs Bradley-Martin..... 850,000
Mrs Perry Belmont..... 800,000
Mrs Hermann Oelrichs..... 800,000
Mrs Orme Wilson..... 800,000
Mrs Ogden Goelet..... 800,000
Mrs Clarence H. Mackay..... 750,000
Mrs Levi P. Morton..... 750,000
Mrs Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt 750,000
Mrs James A. Burden..... 700,000
Mrs William Starr Miller..... 700,000
Mrs Frederick Vanderbilt..... 650,000
Mrs George Vanderbilt..... 600,000
Mrs W. Seward Webb..... 500,000
Mrs William D. Sloane..... 500,000
Mrs Elliot F. Shepard..... 500,000
Mrs Harry Payne Whitney..... 500,000
Mrs George Jay Gould..... 500,000
Mrs Charles M. Oelrichs..... 500,000
Mrs Philip Rhinelander..... 500,000
Mrs Charles T. Yerkes..... 500,000
Mrs H. McKay Twombly..... 500,000
Mrs Stuyvesant Fish..... 500,000
Mrs Ernesto Fabbri..... 300,000
Mrs David Hennen Morris..... 300,000
Mrs Edwin Gould..... 300,000
Mrs Oliver Harriman, Jr..... 300,000
Mrs Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr. 250,000
Mrs John D. Rockefeller, Jr. 200,000
$22,250,000

"Here are the names of only thirty-four women, chosen almost at random, whose precious stones and jewelry are valued at $22,250,000. It can easily be shown that the figures are not unreasonable. The average annual importation of precious stones into the United States has for a long time been about $15,000,000. Thus during only the past ten years we have received $150,000,000 in gems. Mr. Loopid Stern, the diamond importer, informed me that of the remainder fully two thirds have

[illegible] thinks he is said finds "tied with pink ribbon and done up in tissue paper." This is somewhat better [illegible] he would prefer being tied up with pink ribbon than to be "a yellow dog that had seen his best days," but still the opinion is [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]