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Live News from All Parts of the World Brought by Special Cable

WIDOWED QUEENS OFF IN AUTOMOBILE

Freed from the Etiquette of Court They Are Flying Through France

SHELTERED BY SHEPHERD

Margherita and the Dowager of Spain Act Like Two Schoolgirls

(By the Marquis de Castellane)

PARIS, Nov. 27.—There is no more emancipated woman in Europe today, than the widow of a king.

Once free and mistress of her actions she plunges headlong into every sport and pleasure heretofore denied her.

It would seem that these Royal ladies were bent upon revenge. One cannot fail to sympathize with them to a great extent when one thinks of their narrowly circumscribed lives of etiquette and pomp and the splendor and misery of their Royal state.

How it all must have palled!

I for one cannot blame them when they tear off the mask of artifice and fling it away with the stuffy gown of velvet to don the loosely fitting automobile coat or the trim tailor gown.

This is just what the charming and well-loved Queen Margherita of Italy, and the Dowager Queen of Spain, have done. These two widowed queens have broken through the rigid etiquette of their respective courts and gone off together automobiling through France like a couple of run-a-way school girls. And what a lark of a time they are having, as they dash along the white roads in an 80 horse power car. Bravo little queens!

These two royal ladies voyage absolutely incognito. No one has the least hint of who they may be. The utmost simplicity marks their equipage. Their chauffeur might be any man hired by the day. Their cloaks are dusty and stained by the sun and rain. They have no attendants—not even a maid.

The other night an accident happenen to the car. It broke down in a remote spot late at night. So they entered a shepherd's hut in quite a democratic manner and asked for shelter. The shepherd offered them each a bundle of clean straw in lieu of a bed which he did not possess. His guests thanked him and tired out with the travel and agitation of the day they slept the sleep of the just upon their lowly beds.

A wedding which has set Parisians wondering is that of General Picquart, minister of war, who was disgraced during the Dreyfus case and sent out to Africa by a loving government in the hope that he might get yellow fever and die. He has married the fascinating Mlle. De Comminges, the divorced wife of the young Count Pillet-Will.

This marriage is likely to exercise a most sinister effect upon General Picquart's public career in the Clemenceau cabinet. Republican France feels it a patriotic duty to make it manifest that she is nothing, if not democratic and can have nothing in common with the genuine old aristocracy. Now, since General Picquart has deliberately married into this aristocracy, may she not at some future time feel that it behooves her to call him to account!

Truly the stars were not in happy aspect when this gallant soldier was born.

KAISER EXHORTED BRIDE OF HIS SON

Looks to Both Bride and Groom as Helpers in His Work

BERLIN, Nov. 27.—By imperial order the full text of the emperor's speech at the wedding supper of his son, August Wilhelm and Princess Alexandra of Schleswig-Holstein, has been made public. The speech was in the nature of an exhortation to the bride and bridegroom on wedded life. Addressing the bride, the kaiser said:

"I congratulate you most heartily, in our name and in the name of our house. My dear Alix, it is not as a stranger that you come to us from your seagirt land, for at various ages you have spent many weeks of your youth among us. The bond which has resulted in today's happy event was formed between you in your earliest days. I welcome you among us with open arms, and may you here forget at least something of your beautiful home.

"You will now establish your household," addressing both the bride and bridegroom, "and begin life together. Life means work, work means achievement, achievement means labor for others, for the fatherland, for our people, labor in our house. To you, too, after the glad hours of the first days and months, will appear the earnestness of life with its duties, those duties which are practised in our house. We look to you both as to helpers in our work.

"You, my son, have done honor to our house with your university degree, which has opened to you a civil career, and you (to Princess Alexandra) as my daughter will stand by my wife's side in the loving work of charity. And not only should we ceaselessly labor in works of love to our brothers, we should also strive in continual effort for the welfare of all and the honor of our house.

"In this spirit we now raise our glasses and drink to the health of his royal highness Prince August Wilhelm and of Princess August Wilhelm of Prussia.

PRIZES FOR AVIATORS

Competitions Which Will Stimulate Sport Which is Becoming Popular

PARIS, Nov. 27.—Tempting prizes are now being offered aviators on all sides, the latest one of these being one of $20,000, proposed by the Aero Club de France for 1909.

The amount of the prize was settled at a recent meeting, but the conditions have not yet been decided. It has been proposed to establish a circuit between three towns in a suitable district like Champagne, and to provide that the aeroplanes shall fly from one town to another, taking one day for each performance so that the competition would extent over three days.

The race is to be called the grand prix des aeroplanes and to be a sort of imitation of the grand prix automobile race.

There is no doubt that a number of towns will at once send delegations to the Areo club to ask to be chosen for the contest which would attract thousands of visitors and be a windfall to restaurant and hotel keepers.

SHALL THE WIFE OBEY HUSBAND

Six Prominent Members Introduce Bill in Chambers to Amend Law

PARIS, Nov. 27.—No longer will the French wife have to obey her husband if a bill introduced in the chambers by six prominent members, becomes law as there is every reason to believe it will.

In the present civil code there is a paragraph which reads: "The husband must protect his wife and the wife must obey her husband," and at all marriages in France the mayor reads out this article to the couples about to be married. The promoters of the bill assert that this "old fashioned and out-of-date article in the code constitutes a real injustice to women" and is "a barbaric conception which does not coincide with the present equality of the sexes."

It is quite characteristic that the six promoters of the bill are all married. Members who are prepared to oppose the bill argue that it is really not necessary to make any change in the law as it stands, for in France the wife is really head of the family in at least half the married population and that something should rather be done towards protecting henpecked husbands. The proposal to suppress the phrase as to the wife's obedience to her husband is by no means a new one for as far back as 1848 a French Feminist club presented a petition to the Revolutionary government, then sitting at the Paris city hall demanding that the article in the code be abolished. Not long ago M. Paul Hervieu the distinguished member of the French academy, wanted to change another article which read: "Married couples owe to each other mutual fidelity, succor and assistance." M. Herview, who is first of all an idealist, wanted to add "love" but his proposal was much ridiculed. M. Cammille Pelletau, the exminister, who is much more practical, says it is of no use whatever to try to regulate marital relations by law and that it is always a question of character. If the husband is a man of strong character the wife will always be ready to follow him, but if the woman is the stronger, even the most blatant husband will be but the reflection of his wife.

SHIPBUILDERS ROBBED OF TWO MILLION DOLLAR JOB

Germany Considers it Better Policy to Keep its Unemployed Busy Rather Than Give Charity

LONDON, Nov. 27.—By a mean trick a Grangemouth shipbuilding firm says the German government has robbed them of an order to build five steamers for the Russian volunteer fleet at a cost of $1,800,000. The firm announced some time ago to its employes that it had secured the order and the news was hailed with great satisfaction as likely to provide much needed work for shipyard hands.

It is true that the price including more than $10,000 for extras for each vessel, was very low and that the acceptance of the contract certainly meant no profit to the builders but it would help to tide things over and the larger part of the amount which would have enabled hundreds of families to keep the wolf from the door this winter. It is now announced that after all the order is to go to a German firm not because their bid was lower, but because they agreed to ask no payment whatever until the end of 1910 and to require no interest on the deferred payments. It is stated that the money is being provided by the German government free of interest in order to enable a German firm to build the vessels and to keep the order from going to England.

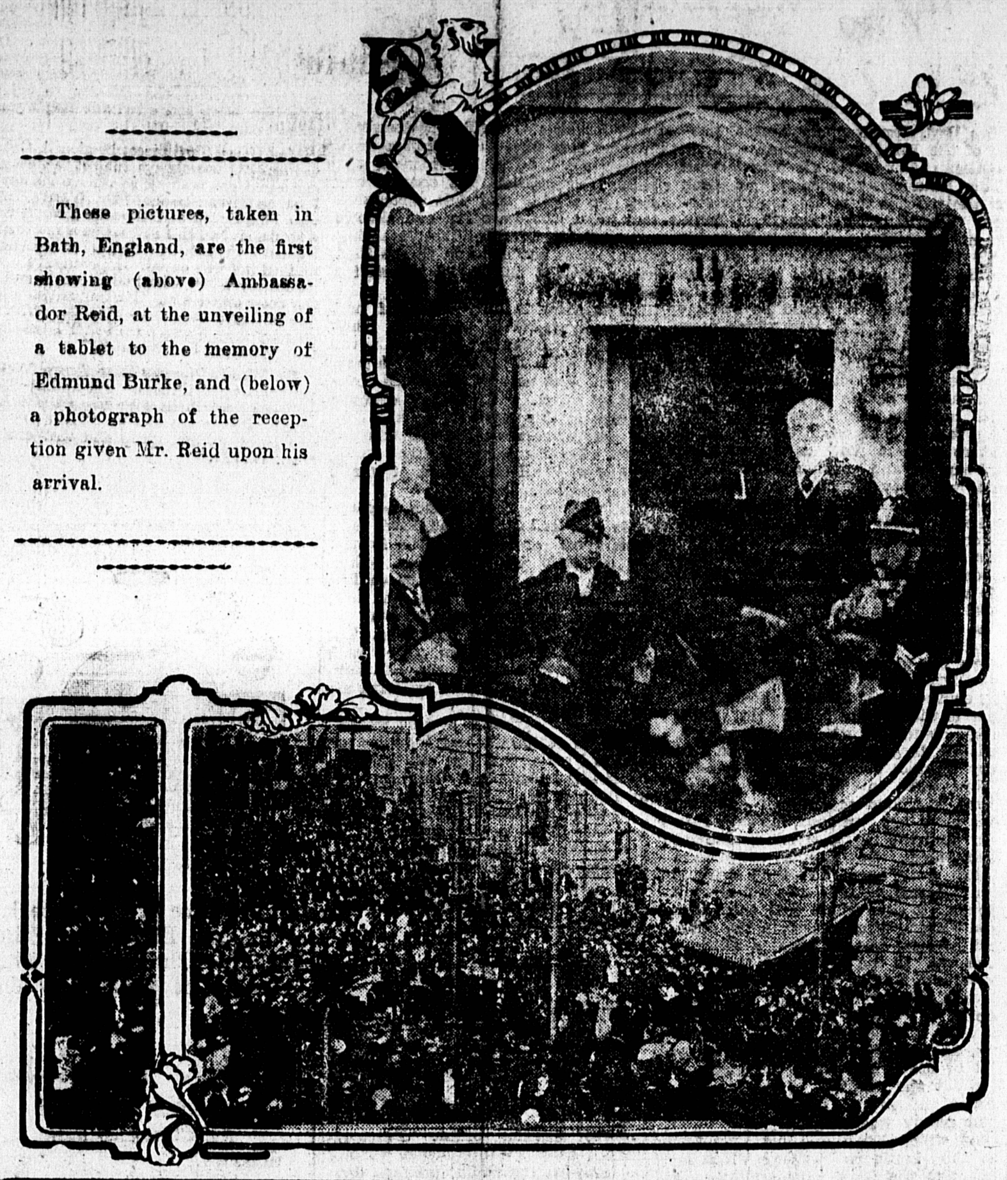
"The German government," says a London paper commenting on the matter, "evidently considers it better policy to assist German firms to secure orders in this way than to pay out large amounts to make work for the unemployed as the British government does.

"It is believed that no British shipbuilders could afford to give such terms as the Germans have done—that is actually to build the ships out of their own capital, deliver them and allow the Russians to run them for more than a year and then only receive their contract price without interest whatever."

Miss Walsh to Wed American

LONDON, Nov. 27.—A marriage has been arranged, and will take place in the spring, between Alexander H. Wheeler, third son of the late Charles Wheeler, of Philadelphia, U.S.A., and Gladys Mary, only daughter of Colonel H. A. Walsh, C.B., A.A.G., late Somerset Light Infantry, and of Mrs. Walsh.

These pictures, taken in Bath, England, are the first showing (above) Ambassador Reid, at the unveiling of a tablet to the memory of Edmund Burke, and (below) a photograph of the reception given Mr. Reid upon his arrival.



COUNT IS HERO OF MOUNTAIN ROMANCE

Pretty Highland Waitress Engages His Attentions—Footman First Choice

LONDON, Nov. 27.—Count Jacques Albert Meurik de Beaufort, of the Ducky of Luxembourg, who is visiting England to satisfy his passion for hunting is the hero of a Highland romance which has already been the means of causing a civil and criminal action in a Scotch court. The count has been staying at Starthpeffer in Rosshire and, being rather a democratic sort of a fellow, a few days ago attended a servants' ball. Here he met a pretty Highland waitress, Miss Margaret Maclennon, with whom he had "two most agreeable dances."

Then, as he related in the Dingwall sheriff's court, he said to her: "Margaret, shall I see you home?" Miss Maclennan replied that somebody else had already promised to perform this pleasant duty, and drawing herself away she sought the company of a footman, named Cherry. The count, however, followed her and tried to engage her in conversation, but the footman objected and requested the count to leave them alone.

Instead of doing this the nobleman followed them at a distance of ten yards and said nothing, but he had an electric pocket lamp which he flashed on the backs of the couple, until the footman made a dash for him and knocked out his lamp. There was a struggle and for a few seconds the rivals fought until the footman was thrown into a plateglass window, while the count struck a dramatic attitude and exclaimed, "You will remember Count de Beaufort, sir."

The count carried a dog whip in court and said he intended to give the footman a thrashing, but he thought better of it and did not. He was acquitted as there was no proof that he had struck the first blow.

Joke on the Army

PARIS, Nov. 27.—A young man from the south has just had a good laugh at the army. He was willing to serve, but wished to have a trial first and succeeded. He wrote to the commanding officer at Saint Germain and was accepted, but when it came to signing the contract he succeeded in avoiding it and handed it back unsigned.

The trick was not discovered, and after a week the young man, having had trial enough, decided that he preferred not to continue. He told the sergeant that he had made up his mind to leave the barracks and was about to do so when he was stopped and threatened with the usual penalties. He had no difficulty in proving that he was under no obligation and the authorities were perforce obliged to let him go free after he had had his try.

Merry Widow Hat Barred

PARIS, Nov. 27.—Two male visitors to a leading theatre who objected to having their view of the stage obstructed by a ten-foot hat, and got into a fight with the wearer's escort, were acquitted of all blame by the magistrate sitting on the case on the ground that woman with her hat had no standing in court and no business in a public playhouse.

RATS TO GIVE WORK FOR LONDON'S ARMY OF UNEMPLOYED MEN

Society For Destruction of Vermin Has Discovered New Use for Skins of the Pests

LONDON, Nov. 28.—A use for the rat has been discovered by the Society for the Destruction of Vermin, which is working hard to exterminate the hordes of rats which are responsible for an incalculable destruction of property and for the spread of disease. About $1,125,000 is spent annually in England on the destruction of rats, and it is proposed to recover at least a portion of this expenditure by turning slaughtering rats to commercial account.

The society recently offered a big money prise for the best suggestion for utilising rat skins, and have now adopted a scheme for using the pelts.

Arrangements have now been completed for starting the new industry, which will give employment to a large number of England's workless men. The society invites tenders for the supply of brown rats in lots of one hundred up to ten thousand.

BOGUS PRINCE IS LANDED IN TOILS

Selected Diamonds Worth Thousands of Dollars and Put Up in Regal Style

PARIS, Nov. 27.—A Polish doctor, who had studied medicine in America, and who posed here as an illegitimate son of Sultan Abdul Hamid of Turkey, has just been arrested by the Paris police for having swindled several hotelkeepers and attempting to relieve a jeweler of diamonds valued at $112,500. At the beginning of the week he arrived at a hotel in the Gaillon quarter and took possession of the whole first floor of the hotel, which had been ordered for "his imperial highness, the Prince of Mingrelia of Constantinople." He paid $250 a day for his rooms and informed the hotelkeeper he was waiting for the princess, his son and his aide de camp. Pending the arrival of his family, his "imperial highness" called on a jeweler in Rue de la Paix, and selected diamonds valued at $112,500.

The jeweler, who was asked to deliver the gems at his customer's hotel, became suspicious. He did not like the looks of his "imperial highness," and thought it wiser to make a few inquries.

He called at the "prince's" hotel and learned that all the baggage the latter possessed was one small trunk. It now occurred to him that the police commissary should be informed. Investigations were made and it was found that the "prince" had previously stayed at one hotel as the "Count de Chantenay" and at another as the "Marquis de Sanvage," and had left both without paying his bill.

When, after ordering the jewelry, his "imperial highness" arrived at the hotel, he was welcomed by two detectives who took him to the lock-up.

CHURCH THIEF'S CAREER ENDED

Betrayed to the Police By Scorned Woman—Other Charges Against Him

PARIS, Nov. 27.—A scorned woman's fury has helped the police to put their hands on a man, Van Turnhout, who has robbed more than two hundred churches in all parts of France.

Born in Paris, his parents being Belgian, Van Turnhout began his career of crime at the age of thirteen. He robbed a chapel near Hazenbronck. Three years later he was sent to prison, from which he escaped but was captured, and detained until he reached his majority. After he left prison he joined the Belgian army and six months later became a corporal. Then he deserted and went on a tour through Switserland, Germany and Italy. Returning to Belgium, he appeared before the court-martial, was sentenced to three years imprisonment and afterwards drafted in to a regiment of chasseurs at Tournai, but he deserted on the day of his incorporation and enlisted in the foreign legion. Liberated in 1903 he returned to Lille. For a year his conduct was exemplary. Then he fell in love and eloped with a young lady.

This was at the time of the Courrieries mine disaster. He had not a cent in his pocket and there was nothing to steal. He went to Amiens and for some time was employed at the exhibition there, but he grew tired of the work and disguising himself as a miner paraded the street singing a song of his own composing, "Martyre of Toil," the woman whom he abducted from Lille accompaning him on the guitar. One evening finding that his receipts were unusually good he left the lady with the guitar and went to Paris, where he made the acquaintance of Clara Tulgat, the woman who later gave him to the police. The couple attended a cinematographic show at Lille, where the exploits of church thieves, the brothers Thomas', were depicted. The show gave him an idea—he too would be a church robber. So, accompanied by his frfiend, he traveled through France, living on the proceeds of church thefts.

When Clara Tylgat, of whom he had grown tired, denounced him he retaliated by telling the police things which led to her arrest.

Besides the church robberies he is accused of having robbed a cattle dealer of Le Mans and of having murdered and robbed a gardener named Dupont, strangling him and throwing his body into the river, but these crimes he denies, while he is quite proud of his church thefts.

RACING CARS BARRED

Management Heard King Edward Doesn't Like Speeders

LONDON, Nov. 27. — The London Automobile show this month will contain no racing cars. Many had been entered, but they have been withdrawn. The management got a "straight tip" from King Edward that he would not visit the show if any racing cars were exhibited.

The King, who has become an enthusiastic automobilist, doesn't like automobile racing and condemns it whenever opportunity offers. The King thinks automobile racing ought to be suppressed and racing cars driven from the public roads.

FASHION BUTTERFLIES BACK IN PARIS WITH NEW STYLES

LEFT TWO SONS AT DEATH

Younger Boy Recently Became Monk of Carmelite Order

LONDON, Nov. 27.—It is not generally known that the late Oscar Wilde left two sons. The elder is an officer in the English army, while the younger, although he has retired from the world, is perhaps destined to become famous in literature.

The younger Wilde has recently become a monk in a Carmelite monastery, where his real identity is known only to the prior. The brothers were educated under assumed names, and as soon as he left school the younger Wilde resolved to adopt the religious life. He is at work on a religious treatise, which is said to show remarkable literary ability.

QUEEN SEEKS HELP FOR THE BLIND

City for the Blind Which Is Doing Good Work Needs Help—Earn Their Own Living

From the Queen of Roumania, known all over the world as Carmen Sylva, a letter has been received which has been sent to all the newspaper editors in European capitals.

The letter, which is signed by the queen's secretary, and which will undoubtedly also interest Canadian readers:

Dear Sir,—Her majesty, the Queen of Roumania, so widely known as Carmen Sylva, has requested me to ask you to be kind enough to bring her City for the Blind—Vatra Luminosa, near Bukharest to the attention of your readers, the more so as it is open to the blind of all nationalities.

After ten years of arduous efforts this undertaking was finally started by the queen two years ago as a home for the blind on a large scale.

Today 150 blind earn their own living there; fourteen trades are taught, thirteen different languages are spoken, Esperanto being most useful among so many nationalities, and seven different religious services are held.

The children of the blind who have their sight are welcomed here and participate in all the educational advantages of the institution. Groups of families have their own kitchen their workrooms and a music room to themselves.

The new galleries now being erected will have galleries connected with the workrooms so as to enable their inmates to go to their work in all weathers. When the budget was made out for the current year, $2,600 was put down as the probable earnings of the blind, whereas $20,000 has been realized.

A sum of $125 a year admits a patient. If married and coming with children, no extra payment is required as woman and children above a certain age are enabled to earn their own living.

Application and contributions can be sent to Director Moneke.

VATRA LUMINOSA, Bukharest.

AIRSHIP STATION SOON TO BE READY

Top of Six Story Building Will Be Equipped as an Aerial Landing Station

PARIS, Nov. 27.—Aeroplanes and dirigible balloons will soon have a properly equipped depot, or landing stage, in Paris. It is the roof of a big six-story building which has just been erected on the Boulevard Bonne Nouvelle, at the corner of the Rue de la Lune.

The owner of the building, who is an architect, has designed the building expressly for use as an aeroplane station. In the lease, which his tenants have to sign, there is a clause providing that the tenant more or less near future, the terrace will form a station for aerial vehicles."

When the aeroplane station is wanted for actual use, a shed will be erected on the roof, and the structure has been made extra strong to support the aerial station.

Ballooning as a curative agency is being discussed by Parisian savants doctors. The name given to the new science is "Aerostatotherapie."

Patients suffering from neurasthenia, anaemia and kindred maladies are to be sent up in balloons to get the benefit of the upper atmosphere. Thus, instead of ordering a patient to a health resort, a doctor may prescribe so many hours a day at a certain altitude—according to the nature of the case.

Makes New Eye Disease

DRESDEN, Nov. 27.—"Electric opthalmia" is the new disease which two specialists here say threatens all users of electric light. The ultra violet rays of the electric light damage the eye tissues to such an extent that cataract may be caused.

The same scientists have discovered a simple preventive of the disease in the shape of yellow-green spectacles which they prophecy will become universal as electricity comes more and more into use.

New Marriage Law in Sweden

STOCKHOLM, Nov. 27.—The Swedish consistory, which is the highest clerical authority in the kingdom, after holding out against civil marriage for years, has finally accepted the new law making civil and church marriages equally binding.

Arrangement of the Corsage Makes Decided Change Over Those Worn Last Season

(By Countess Carlo de Carli)

PARIS, Nov. 27.—They have returned at last, those charming and beautiful butterflies known as the "elegantes de Paris." One meets them while driving in the Bois de Boulogne, or when taking tea at the fashionable rendezvous at the Palace de Glace, and in the evening at the theatres.

Although at first sight the difference in what is worn this year from that of last appears to be but small, the change is really a most decided one. The corsages remain practically the same shape this season as last, but there is a multitude of different arrangements, that is, guimpe and long sleeves of tulle or lace and a draped bodice and upper short sleeves or a bolero effect.

It is the skirts which have undergone most change. They are made in all styles imaginable and we see long and short skirts; skirts with a raised tunic and an underskirt reaching to the knee; skirts tucked back or knotted at the back like the corners of a handkerchief; skirts which are wound round the body like a cloth; skirts which form a simple round pleat at the back and front, others which have this pleat doubled or even trebled.

* * *

In spite of all this diversion in style they have one point in common—their narrowness. I have seen skirts at Paquin's Redfern's and Doucet's whose width did not exceed two yards and a half and some do not even reach that narrow limit.

We have two quite new innovations, the "robe annrogyne" and the "robe aumoniere."

* * *

The first is very daring in cut and on its first appearance created quite a small sensation. But the first surprise over it was decided that it was, after all, not so very shocking, and it has now many followers. It is usually made in some heavy but supple material, such as velvet or soft cloth. When in repose it resembles any other plain skirt, but at the slightest movement it opens at the front and reveals the line of the lower limbs closely draped in the material.

At the races I saw one of our prettiest society women clad in one of those dresses, which rather unpleasantly reminded me of trousers when its wearer was seated.

* * *

The other style, the "aumoniere," is much more graceful. It rather reminds one of the prim little dresses worn in the middle ages. Made in a sort of Princess style, it is slightly loose and draped at the waist. It is fastened at the side by a row of large buttons, and a row of these buttons is placed the whole length of the long tight-fitting sleeve. At the side opposite to the fastening hangs a small bag attached to an antique chain studded with precious stones at intervals.

The simple and elegant silhouette obtained by this dress is very charming and is one of the most becoming slender young people could adopt.

* * *

Another style of dress which is very beautiful was launched by Redfern but a few days ago. It is an evening dress of rose satin charmeuse, draped over one shoulder, where it is outlined with a band of gold and the faintest suspicion of black, and brought to the back where it is knotted and falls in graceful folds in the shape of a tunic over an underskirt of the same lovely rose tinted satin.

This dress, which does not reveal in any way how it is attached, clings to the figure like the skin of an animal. The top of the bodice and the tight-fitting sleeves are of rebrode gold lace the sleeves being laced into the armhole by black chenille.

Very beautiful also are the bead fringes which are being used over satin dresses. These fringes are usually hung like a drapery from the waist to the knees and with every movement scintillate like raindrops. The beads are made in the same color as the dress, but marvelous effects can be obtained by using colors which, instead of harmonising, contrast with the general shade of the toilette.

* * *

I cannot close without noting the grotesque headgear which is making its appearance on all sides. I do not know what to call the newest thing in toques. It has been called the "bonnet de moujik." It is very large and full, and when placed on the head almost falls over the forehead and ears and quite hides the beauty of the hair and leaves an ugly gap at the nape of the neck. It is usually composed of fur draped around a shape in heavy folds and is adorned at the side of the front by a bird or a "chou" of ribbon, but I have seen others made in marabout, which fluff out and increase the size of the head to an incredible degree.

Then we have the reversed flower pot shape of hat, and the Diana Vernon, with its dashing plumes, which cannot claim to be graceful. Another style, and this at least has the advantage of not hiding the hair, is the bird toque, made to resemble a bird perched upon the head.

Earls to Sell Coole Abbey

LONDON, Nov. 27.—The Earl of Donoughmore, who married the daughter of Michael P. Grace, of New York, has given instructions for the sale of Coole Abbey, near Clonmel, County Tipperary.

American Buys British Home

LONDON, Nov. 27.—Alexander Cochrane, a well known and wealthy American bachelor, has bought Hamilton lodge from Lord Hamilton, of Dalzell. Mr. Cochrane is a keen sportsman, and has long desired a Leicestershire residence. He will hunt from Melton Mowbray all this winter.