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**King Solves Problem
Of Presentation**

Among the many functions that have been suspended during the war is that of presentation at Court, socially as essential in England as a booted shawl and a toothpick in the United States. In the Old Country one cannot claim to be really a member of Society unless he or she has had the privilege of being "received" by their Majesties. Special courts were held for this bestowing of the accolade upon the young debutantes, who advanced into the great hall where the King and Queen and the various Court officials were stationed, made a profound curtsy and then backed skilfully out. Sometimes several arduous days were spent in practicing this deep bow and the billowy recovery. It was a most trying but indispensable ordeal. The war put an end to it for the time being, with the result that in the past five years some 11,000 debutantes have accumulated as well as about 2,000 young matrons, all entitled to the presentation, and they naturally have been greatly excited as to the disposition to be made of them. Their anxieties have been set at rest by an announcement in the Official Gazette that in the course of the summer a series of garden parties will be given in Buckingham Palace grounds to which the debutantes will be "commanded," these entertainments taking the place of the old-fashioned presentation at Court.

Presentation by Wholesale.

The point is that as only 300 or 400 could be presented at an ordinary court the King could not receive all who are entitled to the honor, even if he got up a couple of hours earlier in the morning and devoted himself exclusively to the business. But at Buckingham Palace grounds as many as 3,000 could easily be invited, and perhaps almost twice as many in case of emergency. Of course, it will not be possible for the King and Queen to bestow upon each garden party debutante a special smile. They will pass down the walks between the rows of debutantes, who will curtsy as royalty passes, while the men will bow. This sort of wholesale recognition may not be as greatly valued as were the more specialized receptions at court, but it is a practical way out of a social difficulty, and after all it will not matter for each debutante will realize that the King looked at her with especial interest, while every man will know well enough that the Queen had eyes for him and him alone. In half a dozen of these garden parties all social arrears will be overtaken, and the social chariot will roll along as grandly as before the war.

Of Diplomatic Importance.

The importance of court presentation is explained to the somewhat incredulous low-brow readers of the New York Sun by Mr. Cunliffe-Owen. It is no perfunctory ceremony, nor a social honor handed out as carelessly as a knighthood. To be a knight is not to be entitled to presentation at court. Actor knights as well as actresses are barred until they have retired, on what grounds we do not know. Reception is an act of royal grace, and a majority in Parliament could not compel it. Nobody can be presented at court except by another person who has already been presented. No foreigner can be presented except by the Ambassador representing his country, who thus takes official responsibility for the correct conduct of the person presented. Similarly if a British subject is travelling he cannot request his Ambassador to present him at a foreign court unless he has previously been presented at Buckingham Palace. But if he has thus been presented he can demand presentation abroad. Thus it will be seen that a court presentation is a matter of some importance, apart from its strictly social aspect, and it is on this account that the names of those desiring presentation are so closely scrutinized by the Lord Chamberlain.

Presentation Cancelled.

Subsequent conduct sometimes results in a presentation at court being cancelled. A record is kept of every presentee, and if he or she should be guilty of notorious conduct the Gazette is likely to contain a brief announcement that the person's name has been removed from the list of those presented. This announcement is sent to every consul and ambassador abroad, and thus becomes socially an international death sentence. In the opinion of Mr. Cunliffe-Owen this penalty is a powerful deterrent upon a certain class of people, who might defy public opinion but shrink from reading their doom in the Gazette. One interesting case of a presentation being cancelled is recalled by the writer. It was that of the wife of an Earl, who wrote a malicious paragraph in the London World impugning the reputation of a married peer of sporting renown and the daughter of a brother peer. The paper was sued for libel, but the editor and proprietor, the late Edmund

Yates, who was abroad when the item appeared, and had no moral responsibility for it, declined to divulge the name of the author. In consequence he spent a year in jail. But the name was no secret to many people, including the Lord Chancellor, and it was forthwith quietly removed from the list of court presentations.

A Nervy Peer

There was another Countess who, in the course of a divorce trial, was shown to have revenged herself upon a former lover who had proved unfaithful by informing the husband of her successor in his affections, thus precipitating a most painful domestic tragedy. The name of the Countess was not mentioned, but the Lord Chancellor found it out, and she, too, was crossed off the list. An Earl who had been banned for numerous indiscretions was once dining with a lady on an evening when a great entertainment was taking place in St. James' Square. Edward VII. and his consort, then Prince and Princess of Wales, were present, and the scandalous peer invited his companion to attend the party with him. He entered the house all right, but his presence was soon noticed, and his involuntary host told him that if he did not leave immediately he would be thrown out. He left immediately, greatly to the mortification of the host. The cancellations mentioned were effected quietly, but there are cases on record when the facts were publicized in the Gazette. In these cases the names of the misbehaving persons had previously been announced publicly as in divorce suits or criminal prosecutions.

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RUMOR OF LEAGUE

PARIS, June 12.—The movement to admit Germany to the League of Nations is due mainly to the desire to avoid the possibility of the formation of another group composed of rival powers, which would embrace Germany, Russia and the old Teutonic group. Evidence has reached the conference leaders of late that influences are at work in Germany and Russia to establish relations as a basis for a combination of powers not in the League. While not regarded as imminent, it was felt that the danger of such combination would be always present while Germany was outside the league, and the admission of Germany therefore was recommended as a means of subject-

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ing her to the same obligations as the allies under the League of Nations. Must Accept Restrictions. The league covenant also made it conditional of Germany's entrance that she accept the league restrictions of military and naval armaments. It was proposed to define this by specific abolition of compulsory military service. M. Clemenceau objected, however, on the ground that such specification might bring up the whole question of compulsory service. It was omitted from the recommendations presented to the Council of Four. The council spent the day in examining this and others commission reports. Indications were that the reply to the Germans would not be ready before the end of the week, probably Friday, when five days will be given for Germany's final answer, with respect to signing.

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