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Pretty, Unknown Girl Who Made French the Fashion in London Society

Mlle. Marie D'Orliac, Who Founded the Now Famous French Institute in London, of Which the Most Influential Women in the Smart World Are Members

(Times Special Correspondence.) London, May 21—Imagine a twenty-year-old French girl, "on her own" in London, wholly unknown and practically penniless, but with big ambitions to make the tongue and the literature of her native land better known and more widely appreciated in the land of her adoption, calmly deciding, one day, to found a French Institute in the metropolis of the world!

Then consider this institute "in being" and, after four years of always progressive history not only an institute but an institution and of such international importance as to be visited, as a matter of course, by the president of the French republic when he is on even the briefest of visits to London. It has a subsidy from the French government, enjoys affiliation with one of the greatest of French universities, has a princess of

PROMINENT UNIONIST HAS CANADIAN WIFE



L. S. Amery, Unionist member for South Birmingham, is one of the able speakers of the British House of Commons. He is a brother-in-law of Dr. Harnar Greenwood, having married in 1910 Miss Florence Greenwood of Whitby, Ontario. Mr. Amery is 41 years old, a newspaper man, barrister and author.

that overlooks Hyde Park at the corner of Bayswater and the Edgware Roads, and that, despite the fact that it is considerably more extensive than most London residences, has become all too limited in space for the ever-growing institution which it houses.

Temple of Culture

To the grand monde of the metropolis, Marble Arch House is a temple of French culture, while to both the English student of French, and the humble French "commercial" in London, it represents scarcely less than an alma mater, but probably few out of the hundreds of thousands of Londoners who pass by in motor cars, carriages, omnibuses, taxis or on foot have a notion of how real a "cain de France" is this now too small mansion of many rooms which is the property of one of the best known and most respected of British judges.

Here daily lectures are given by experts on various branches of French literature and thought and are attended by a host of society grandes dames, and here daily lessons in French are given to small numbers of young Frenchmen and women who have crossed the channel to enter the commercial life of London, and for whom homes are found here if they so desire.

More important still, the institute at regular intervals invites men and women of world-wide fame to lecture to its members, among those who have done so already being M. Jean Richepin, a poet and dramatist; M. Bergson, an eminent philosopher; Rene Binet and Marcel Tinayre, the novelists.

Theatrical performances, too, of the first rank are regularly arranged by the institute. A representative one being the recent appearance of the company from the Theatre du Vieux Colymbier at His Majesty's theatre, which has been a success and similar entertainments in aid of the institute's funds are frequently organized and participated in loyally by the many famous women whose titles are adherents of the establishment.

Among these may be mentioned the Duchess of Devonshire, at Somerset, the first named of whom was one of the earliest friends of the institute and has proved one of its best, while others whose names are generally counted upon, include Lady Askwith, Lady Swaythling, Lady Feodorowna Berke, Viscountess Ringley, Lady Emmott, Lady Sumner and other leaders of society whose names are literally too numerous to mention.

Her Life

Madeleine was born in Hivers, a famous town of Provence, and lived there until she was three, after which she went to live at Clermont Ferrand, where her father was a professor of mathematics, and where she remained until she was fifteen, and then to Paris to study, eventually taking her degree at the Sorbonne in French and English literature. Thus we find her a terrifically energetic girl of eighteen, with an apparently natural hankering toward England, crossing the channel and, after studies at both Oxford and Cambridge, first assistant lecturer at the Bedford College for Women and later at the South Hampstead High School.

"From the very first," said Mlle D'Orliac "two things struck me in England, the chief of them being the indifference with which French is taught in this country. Can this be wondered at, however, when it is a fact that first class professors almost never come here? And why should they? In France they are well paid, and their social position is equal to that of army officers. In England the customary pay for the teaching of French is poor and what, generally speaking, is the social standing? Madeleine shrugged her shoulders. "So, until now it is for the most part only the second rate men who have crossed the channel. The result, before we started, was easy to see. When such men as Richepin came over here to lecture there was almost nobody to listen to them. Comparatively few people even knew who they were. I was actually asked by the dramatic critic of a London newspaper who M. Richepin was and what he had done!"

"So," said Madeleine, "I wondered if one might not succeed in founding an institution in London where the French tongue should be taught and French science and literature expounded as they

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Royalty and Canada

Forgotten Facts Recalled By The Death of The Duke of Argyll

(Times Special Correspondence.) London, May 20—The death of the Duke of Argyll recalls the fact that the appointment of the Duke of Connaught, a brother of Princess Louise, as governor-general, three years later is its latest and most striking endorsement of all parties.

At the time, however, it was looked upon as an essentially Disraelian stroke, now, as Disraeli probably foresaw, royalty seems to be more and more becoming the sole link between the dominions overseas and the mother land.

From the Duke's Diary

It is difficult at first glance to believe that only thirty-six years separated the date of the Duke of Argyll's Canadian appointment and his death. A glance at the Canadian diary strikingly reveals how immense has been the growth of the dominion. Yet in some important respects the position of Canada as regards the home government is very much the same. For instance in 1879 we find this entry in his diary: "I have been corresponding directly with Lord Salisbury about the position to be given in England to Canadian representatives. English ministers do not seem to understand what is wanted, but they offer the title of 'Commissioner,' and if they will really give the Canadian equal chances with their diplomats of knowing what is going on, and will enforce and urge his demands on foreign powers with the same zeal they employ in furthering the interests of the British Isles, essentials will have been conceded."

Equally interesting in reference to the present discussion is this note written when he was in Canada: "Several of the dominion's former statesmen and orators have been Irishmen. Men of Irish name and blood are found in numbers in every city, town and village and rural community throughout the country. These men are heartily loyal to the empire and, seeing a large amount of autonomy existing in each separate province, they jump with characteristic Celtic ardor to the conclusion that if Ireland could only imitate Canada her lot would be equally happy."

It will be remembered that in 1881 both houses of the Canadian legislature passed resolutions recommending that Ireland should enjoy some system of self-government analogous to that existing in the Canadian dominion.

"Canada had a perfect right to express her opinion," he comments. "The last public appearance of the Duke of Argyll was at the funeral of Lord Strathmore. He never missed an opportunity of showing his interest in Canadian affairs and, though the period of his governor-generalship is rarely recalled in the same enthusiastic terms as that of the Marquis of Dufferin, still,

scribed Olly as a female child named Olive. Olly's mother, who confesses that she is "no scholar" and did not notice the mistakes in the certificate, hastened to the registrar of births, deaths and marriages at St. Pancras, and the rest of the puzzle was elucidated. It seems that Olly was born at Christmas time and his mother explains that she wanted to give him a "seasonable" name, "so" she says, "I thought I'd call 'im Olly, and the registrar must have thought I meant 'Holive'."

So the Registrar-General rectified the mistake, and the masculinity of Olly Baker was fully established. Olly, legally Olive and by intention Holly, but Olly still to family and friends, can now begin the honest career of toil.

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