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SOCIAL LIFE

Toronto society was very glad to welcome Mrs. Jack Osler to its midst on Monday afternoon, when she held her first reception since her return to Canada as a bride at Craigleigh. Mrs. Osler came up from Ottawa for a few days to welcome the young couple who are soon to take up their abode at Kingston. The bride wore a frock of dark blue louisine made with many gaugings in the skirt. Mr. Jack Osler was also present and the recipient of many congratulations. Mrs. Wilmot Matthews and Miss Julia Cayley poured out the tea from a table decorated with daffodils and placed across the corner of the picture gallery. A most lovely view of the conservatory was obtained thru the bay at the end—such a riot of color and fragrance as we do not often see during the reign of ice and snow. Psychologists all agree that there is no better way of uplifting the soul than thru the medium of good music, and that is why the orchestral concerts stand for such a paramount factor. An immense audience greeted the National Chorus and Victor Herbert Orchestra on Tuesday night; the rhapsody of Irish airs provoked a very torrent of applause. Franz von Vecsey will be the next musical sensation promised for the coming week. He is barely twelve now, hard to realize as it is after the immense success he has already met with abroad and in the States.

* * *

A very gay scene was enacted at Chudleigh last week, when that genial and hospitable M.F.H., Mr. George Beardmore, gave a dance. Mrs. Fiske, who is staying there at present, and Miss Beardmore received the guests, among whom were Miss Campbell (England), Miss Evelyn Mackenzie (Montreal), Miss Leslie Smith (St. John, New Brunswick), Mrs. Galt (Winnipeg), Mrs. Lawson (New York), Mr. Fred Beardmore (Montreal), Miss White (Ottawa), Miss Alice Shaughnessy (Montreal), Colonel Smith (London) and the Misses Hendrie (Hamilton). Dancing was carried on in the drawing rooms, gay with flowers from the hot houses, and supper was served at small tables in the dining room, billiard room and conservatory; the Misses Creighton (Brantford) were other guests from out of town, who found this dance no exception to the rule that those given in private houses are by far the most enjoyable.

* * *

A new triumph has been scored over the conservative instincts of scientific men by the admission of women to the fellowship of the Linnaean Society, and it was quickly followed by the request to Queen Alexandra to become an honorary member, to which she most graciously consented. The question of the moment in London is the cause of the intense enthusiasm produced by the American evangelists, Torrey and Alexander; all classes of people seem to come under their sway, and one can only suppose it is the emotion of an educated imagination to which they appeal, the ego being pretty strong in most of us.

* * *

Frocks and frills seem to be of a most ornate character for this spring, most skirts being built in tiers. These with shirrings and broken lines are becoming to the slender young woman, but to the woman of short stature and inclined to embon point there is nothing so becoming as long straight lines. She should also avoid the very wide hats which promise to be much worn. The German Empress recently wore a magnificent gown at a state ball, it was of cerise silk brocade further enriched by roses of silver thread. Sable borderings and rich lace completed this sumptuous robe.

* * *

The exhibition just over at the Woman's Art Association rooms provoked a great deal of enthusiasm, and was certainly most creditable to the energetic president, Mrs. Dignam, and all the members whose work was exhibited, the loan collection of lace being most fascinating. Financially there was much to be desired. The postponement of the visit of their excellencies was a keen disappointment as the Countess Grey had kindly consented to be the hon. president of the association, and would have opened the exhibition.

* * *

Mrs. Arthur Anglin invited a number of her friends to tea on Wednesday afternoon, the hostess had a pretty gown of champaign color with a good deal of lace and a hint of blue velvet showing here and there. The decorations were all of spring flowers, the colors of which blend so well and shed such delicious fragrance. Among the guests were noted Lady Mulock, Mrs. Kirkpatrick, Mrs. G. R. R. Cockburn, Mrs. Horsey, Mrs. F. P. Gibson, Mrs. G. Thompson, Mrs. A. Wright, Mrs. Mulock, Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. I. Moss, the Misses Mackellar, Miss Melvin Jones, Mrs. E. F. B. Johnston, Mrs. W. Houston, Miss Fraser, Mrs. Moss, Mrs. Enoch Thompson, Mrs. Falconbridge, Mrs. H. Gamble, Mrs. Aylesworth, Mrs. and Miss McDonald, Mrs. McClung and Miss Stephens.

* * *

Mrs. Frank Webb of Colborne and daughter, Miss Jean Webb, were in town during the week.

* * *

Everyone is delighted to hear that her excellency, the Countess Grey and the Ladies Sybil and Evelyn Grey are again able to get out. Their visit to Toronto during Easter week will probably be made during better weather than we have had lately, when lowering skies and muddy streets have been our portion. Their excellencies will be the guests of the Hon. W. Mortimer Clark, Lieut.-Gov. of Ontario, and Mrs. Mortimer Clark. They are expected to arrive on Monday, April 24, and his excellency will be the guest of the Toronto Club at dinner. On Tuesday the postponed ball of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club will take place at the King Edward. On Wednesday afternoon the horse show will be formally opened by his excellency. Paderewski will charm Toronto's guests on Wednesday evening. On Thursday the state dinner at Government House will be the chief event, and Friday is also reserved for hospitalities at Government House.

* * *

Thursday as a day of many teas, Mrs. Maun received a large number of her friends in a very pretty gown of white net with beautiful satin embroidery. Her assistants in the tea room were Mrs. Bristol, Miss Bertha Mackenzie, Miss Yvonne Nordheimer, and Miss Gladys Burton. The decorations of roses, palms and ferns in the drawing room were beautiful and violet and pink tulips made a very pretty tea table.

* * *

Mrs. E. F. B. Johnston had a tea for Miss Hope Morgan, only a few people being asked. The house was scented by the hyacinths and violets which were everywhere about.

* * *

Mrs. W. Percival Eby and Mrs. Boucher Clarke were joint hostesses in Beverley-street, also on Thursday afternoon. Daffodils and violets were the predominating flowers used in decoration of the rooms.

* * *

Mrs. Patrick Hughes with her two daughters, the Misses Ethelfrida and Lois, left Toronto during the week for a trip in the Southern States. They are going direct to New Orleans to witness the mardi-gras festivities. In their way home they will spend a few weeks with Mr. Frank Hughes in Hammond, Indiana.

* * *

Mrs. Gard McLean, East George-st., will not receive on the 1st and 2nd Mondays in March.

* * *

Mrs. George Hope, Spruce-avenue, Balmy Beach, gave a luncheon last Tuesday in honor of Mrs. B. Frank Davis, who is leaving for Los Angeles, California. The house was beautifully decorated with smilax, roses and carnations.

* * *

A very pleasant evening was spent at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Ferrier, 233 College-street, on Friday, Feb. 24, the occasion being a euchre party and dance given by his sister, Miss Margaret. Among the invited guests were Misses M. Irwin, M. Hill, G. Banks, I. Watson, D. Wright, N. Swane, H. Putman, A. Banks, M. Petch, J. Smith; Messrs. Gray, I. Peacock, E. Gillis, N. Purvis, H. Hood, C. Wilson, B. Meen, A. Bradley, J. Cook, S. Cambell.

* * *

A pretty tea was given Tuesday by Mrs. John Waldie Milne, Robert-street. The hostess was ably assisted in receiving her guests by her mother, Mrs. F. N. Nudel, and Mrs. A. Milne. The tea room was in charge of Miss Milne, Miss Coulter and Miss Paton, the table being daintily decorated with a beautiful basket of pink carnations on a centre of pale pink satin draped with tulle. Glionna's orchestra added much to the pleasure of the afternoon.

* * *

Mrs. Arthur Jackson, 2 Elgin-avenue, gave a delightful "at home" between 4.30 and 6 on Saturday afternoon, the rush of fashionably attired guests between those hours abundantly testifying to the popularity of the charming young hostess.

* * *

Sleighing parties as a rule are considered cold pleasure, but when it is an ideal night and everyone in the best of spirits no one could wish anything better. Such was the case on Friday when a merry party of young people after a drive thru the city repaired to McConkey's, where an enjoyable evening was spent. Among those present were: Mrs. Leach, Miss Olive Watts, Miss Lillian Little, Miss Muriel Toogood, Miss Olive Hughes, Miss Aldine Strachan, Mr. Clem Pardoe, Mr. Hugh Quick, Mr. Harry McKee, Mr. Toot Hunter, Mr. Sid Struthers.

* * *

Miss Clara Prattis gave her first recital in St. George's Hall to an audience of very encouraging size on Tuesday evening. She was assisted by Mrs. Gertrude Black Edmunds, Miss Edna Staines, F. J. Perrin, J. D. Richardson, Master Benedick Clarke, and Miss Lillian Landell as accompanist. Miss Prattis, who is a pupil of Miss Mabel Dalby, showed great versatility in her program, which included humorous and dramatic readings from Hood, Re Henry and Jerome K. Jerome. During the evening several beautiful bouquets were presented.

* * *

Mrs. Fred Smith, 15 Rose-avenue, will receive on the first and second Mondays in March and not again this season.

* * *

Mrs. Michie, 42 Wellington-place, had a large number of her friends to tea on Friday afternoon, when her pleasant rooms were well filled; the table was placed in the second drawing room, where the very popular daughters of the house waited upon their guests. The decoration was very charming. An oblong plateau of mirror, surrounded with a wreath of asparagus fern and bouquets of violets; in the centre of the mirror was a quantity of pale pink tulips in a cut-glass stand, and the candles shaded with pink, gave a rosy glow, becoming alike to people and flowers. Miss Mortimer Clark and Miss Elsie Mortimer Clark, with their guest, Miss Leslie Smith, were present, and among many others were: Mrs. Herbert Cowan, Miss Falconbridge, Mrs. Colville Jones (Buenos Ayres), Mrs. Geo. Dickson, Mrs. George Evans, Mrs. Burritt, Mrs. Allen Macdougall Jones, Mrs. Acton Burrows.

* * *

Mrs. Fraser Macdonald had a luncheon partly lately in honor of the three young gentlewomen who are at present staying in town—Miss Evelyn Mackenzie (Montreal), Miss White (Ottawa), and Miss May Worsley (Halifax). Asked to meet them were: Miss Bertha Mackenzie, Mrs. Crowdy, Miss Athol Boulton, Miss Yvonne Nordheimer, Mrs. Gwyn Francis, Mrs. V. Duncan Macdonald.

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Col. Denison is the guest of Col. and Mrs. Vidal in Ottawa.

* * *

Mr. Arthur Colville, Campbellford, is in town.

* * *

Miss Fuller is with Miss Amy Hiam in Montreal.

* * *

Mrs. Keble Merritt is staying with Mrs. Frank Arnoldi.

* * *

On Sunday, March 12, and on the succeeding Sundays in Lent, a most interesting musical service has been arranged by the talented organist of St. George's Church. They will begin at 4.30 and last until 4.50, the leading singers of Toronto taking part in quartets, trios, duets and soli. Mrs. Stewart Houston, Mrs. Russell Duncan (soprano); Mrs. Angus Gordon and Miss Cowan, contralti; Herr August Wilhelmj and Mr. Blight, baritones, and Mrs. Sherlock, tenor. The services are a new departure in Toronto, but have proved most popular in other places, drawing large congregations.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Price, Erindale, gave a very much enjoyed at-home at their residence on Thursday night. A special train was most generously provided for the happy group of guests, who assembled in response to the invitations issued by Mr. and Mrs. Price on behalf of their daughter, Miss Annie. At the end of the trip of 18 miles sleighs awaited the guests to convey them to the house, which was beautifully decorated for the occasion. Dancing, cards and billiards whiled away the time until supper, soon after which good-nights were said, and the guests were once more en route for the Union Station.

* * *

On Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Tomlin, Bathurst-street, were at home to about 50 guests. Mrs. Tomlin wore a handsome gown of black, relieved with touches of crimson, and crimson roses were in her hair. Her daughter, Miss Ethel Tomlin, was in white. Cards were played until supper, after which the younger people present had a dance. The decorations of palms and carnations were very well done.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bryce and Miss Bryce have left for Atlantic City. Mrs. and Miss Bryce will not receive again this season.

* * *

Mrs. W. G. Brown of Roxborough-street will not receive during March, as she is leaving shortly to visit her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Travers, The Lodge, of Paris, Ont.

* * *

Mrs. G. W. Watts will be at home the second Monday and Tuesday of this month, instead of the first Monday and Tuesday.

* * *

Mrs. Thomas Alison entertained some of her friends with progressive euchre on Tuesday last. Thirteen tables were used for the players. The ladies who were fortunate in winning were Mrs. Akers and Mrs. Mills, two first prizes; Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Moore, two seconds; Mrs. Langley and Mrs. Smith, lone hands; Mrs. Gourley and Mrs. Mason, consolation. The hostess was ably assisted by Mrs. Young, gowned in champagne, all-over lace, on pink taffeta, and Mrs. E. R. Alison in royal blue voile over blue taffeta.

* * *

Mrs. A. M. S. Stewart, 41 Brunswick-avenue, gave a progressive euchre party Friday. Mrs. Stewart wore a pale grey voile over yellow, with lace yoke and yellow girdle. Her mother, Mrs Reford, was in black silk, with white lace waistcoat; Mrs. T. B. McCarthy, her sister, had on a black sequin gown. Among the guests were: Mrs. George Watson, Mrs. Fred Weir, Mrs. Douglas, Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Norrie, Mrs. H. B. Howson, Miss Percival, Mrs. Dunning, Mrs. W. A. Brown, Mrs. J. Boyd, Mrs. Wilson, Miss Wilson, Mrs. Ferris, Miss Adams, Mrs. William Fahey, Mrs. H. G. Buckland, Miss Smith, Miss Via Smith, Mrs. Sharp, the Misses Tuttle, Miss Helen Putman, Mrs. Whitsel, Mrs. Wylie, Mrs. Neil Wilson, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Marks, Mrs. Allen Baggs, Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. Hall, Miss Hall and others.

* * *

Mrs. Charles Lugsdin, Mrs. W. G. Brown and Miss Marjorie Brown have gone to Paris, Ont., to be at the coming-out of their cousin, Miss Lillian Travers. Mrs. Lugsdin will not receive the first Monday in March.

* * *

A number of small card parties and little dinners have been given by Mrs. Gordon's friends for her niece, Miss Alice McKenzie of Carolina, during the last week.

* * *

Miss Annie Thornton, 108 Ann-street, gave a progressive euchre party to about 30 of her friends on Thursday night. Miss McHenry and Daniel Meader succeeded in winning the lady's and gentleman's first prizes respectively. After refreshments had been served, dancing was indulged in, until an early hour Friday morning. Among the guests present were: Miss Annie Harris, Mr. and Mrs. McCann, Edward Harris, Miss Kenney, John Sheridan, Miss Susie Gallvan, Miss Maud Kenney, Miss Madden, Joseph Sheridan, Miss McHenry, D. Meader, Miss Geldes, Miss Lizzie Harford, J. Meader, D. Hughes, Miss Annie Harford, Mr. Argue, Mr. Adams, Mr. Hancock, Miss Harford, Miss M. Fitzsimmons, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Miller.

* * *

Wednesday evening last Simpson's Hall Yonge-street, was the scene of a select little dance, under the auspices of the "Sedatt Eight," a club composed of the following ladies and gentlemen: Miss Margaret Keane, Miss A. Ferguson, Miss L. Snowden, Miss Marie Keane, L. G. Waller, R. Turpin, H. C. Odell, E. F. Coulson. Excellent music, a perfect floor and a dainty dejeuner aided to the enjoyment of those fortunate enough to be favored with an invitation, among whom were: Mrs. L. Horsey, Mr. and Mrs. J. McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. J. McCausland, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Holloway, Mr. and Mrs. Charlton, Mr. and Mrs. T. Payne, Misses B. Craig, E. Gibbens, Clarise Weichert, L. Waller, Elsie Waller, M. Wickett, Miss Tracy, Miss O'Flaretty, Miss Melsaacs, Miss O'Toole, Eva Allen, Miss Conlan, C. McDonell, N. McDonell, Misses Elliott, Middleton, Dowler, Pollard, Messrs. E. J. Harwood, A. Schweltzer, J. M. Marks, F. Kingsnorth, Allin, G. A. McDonald, Milne, Wood, Bryans, D. Bell, L. Bowerman, Milligan, H. Madden, Porter, W. Coutts, J. MacDonald, T. McDonnell, Drs. Cerswell and Noble.

* * *

W. J. Wilkinson, news editor of The Mail and Empire, accompanied by Mrs. Wilkinson and Miss Marjorie, are at present in Los Angeles, enjoying the balmy breezes of Southern California. They will not return for a couple of months.

Sir Charles in Italy.

London, March 4.—The C. A. P. understands Sir Charles Tupper, at present traveling in Italy, has intimated his willingness to address certain meetings on inter-imperial and preferential trade.

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The Mendelssohn Choir.

The Buffalo Express of last Sunday said: "Since the concert on Thursday evening, the singing of the Mendelssohn Choir has been the subject of great interest among the musicians. That nothing approaching it has ever been heard is conceded by all. It comes nearer one's ideal of the celestial choir than anything hitherto known here. It was easy to imagine oneself carried out of the body and listening to strains not meant for mortal ears to hear. Such work as this proves what is possible in a city where the musical atmosphere is what it should be; where good voices are not only discovered, but properly developed, and where sufficient inducements are held out to retain a conductor of the great ability and talent of Mr. Vogt. Buffalo offers the tribute of sincerest admiration to her sister city of the Dominion for her musical achievements."