

SATURDAY

The Star

SUPPLEMENT.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1907.

SOME THING OF THE MEN WHO LEAD THE FASHIONS

Short Sketches of the Famous Paris Artists Who Supply the Fashionable World With Costumes.

PARIS, June 15.—Anything which concerns the kings of fashion interests the Parisian public and one might almost say the entire world. If the world is not governed by the Rue de la Paix it is, at least, led by it. The Paquins, the Worths, the Doucets, the Beers, the Grunwaldts, the Davids, the Lafonts, and the others, these are the names which are not without their influence upon the world. Paris has had many kings of fashion and arbiters of taste from Phrygia, who imposed his mantle; Worth who abolished the crinoline and Madame Roger who held her ground against all rivals in the days of the Third Empire and finally Van Donge against the Baron de Reinhold, the patriarch among the high priests of the temple of fashion who has grown grey in the handling of chiffons. M. Doucet is as discreet as the third Napoleon and has been as successful as the first. There is, of course, no St. Helena awaiting him and he will probably to his dying day remain in possession of his native haunt at the top of the Rue de la Paix. He refuses, moreover, to be made the subject of publicity outside the circle of his faithful clients, and when asked about the history of his house put it all in one sentence: "Say that it was founded in 1815 and that it is standing still."

PARIS 2 I do not know, but the son and grandson of the celebrated old Worth who was the first in fact to achieve fame the world over by his specialty, are also objects to much publicity. The Worths never advertise and never sell their models or designs. They are in this respect the more conservative of the French couturiers. The house is nevertheless prosperous, so much so that they, like Paquin, feel the need of more room. They are seriously considering a plan just now for adding three more stories to the building they now occupy at 5 and 7 Rue de la Paix, and where their father and grandfather established themselves just forty-eight years ago. They would like very much to move into the Champs-Elysees quarter, but how they are going to induce their supply agents and merchants of silk to follow them without advertising is a question. They really depend upon hundreds of providers of this description who are centered around the Rue de la Paix. The Worth establishment, as is well known, has been inherited by Messrs. Philip and Gaston Worth, the sons of the famous couturier, with whom the grandsons, M. John and M. Jacques, the sons of Mr. Gaston Worth are also associated. Mr. Charles F. Worth, by the way, was the son of a solicitor. He came to Paris without money in his pocket and had had merely a small experience in a London draper's shop to rely upon. Yet strangely enough and in a very short time he was to become the dictator of fashion not only in Paris but the world over. He died comparatively speaking at a not advanced age in 1892, and his sons and grandsons have maintained the credit of the house. To this day it is difficult for all rivals to match them, much less out them from the vantage which they possess. They employ any number of premises, that is, boot fitters, skirt fitters, waist makers, tailors, lingerie ladies, and a host of needle-workers. Their object

WALTER WEILLMAN'S BALLOON HAS BEEN ENTIRELY REBUILT FOR THE VOYAGE.

The Chicago Would-be Arctic Explorer Tells of What Has Been Done During the Spring in His Preparations for Reaching the Pole.

CHRISTIANIA, June 15.—The greatest interest is being taken throughout Norway in the airship experiments of Walter Weillman, the American, who is contemplating an airship dash to the North Pole, a la Jules Verne. According to the latest plans of Mr. Weillman, during the first week of July there will be trials of the airship until it is demonstrated that the latter is ready for the voyage. The start for the Pole will be made on the first favorable opportunity afterwards, probably between July 20 and August 10, but if necessary Mr. Weillman is prepared to start as late as August 25. The members of the expedition are: Walter Weillman, Major Hearsey, (executive officer and scientific observer) who has been sent over by the United States government, Chief Engineer Vanerman, Dr. Fowler (surgeon) and M. Gaston Hervieu, the aeronautical engineer, and the only Frenchman on the staff. About thirty men constitute the expedition, namely, the crew, the mechanics, the sailors and the mechanics and have nothing to do with the expedition besides aiding and handling the balloon, car, gear, etc., at Tromsø and at Spitzbergen.

Discussing his plans the American explorer said:

"There was no question at last year's expedition having been a failure. An enormous amount of work had to be done at Spitzbergen—work which was found to be too much for one man. This year on arriving at Spitzbergen there is little work to be done in the matter of erecting of buildings. We have constructed an entirely new airship with which we hope to accomplish the journey from Spitzbergen to the Pole and back. One of the most important changes we have made is the enlargement of the balloon. This has been made 18 feet longer and 18 inches in diameter, giving it a total lifting force of 19,000 pounds. The balloon is 184 feet long and 18 feet in diameter. This cubic volume being 265,000 feet. With the single exception of Count Zeppelin's airship, this is the largest ever built. The next important change in our last year's equipment is, that we have built an entirely new car and mechanical equipment, all of that used having been discarded. The new motor consists of a 1,200 gallon oil tank, 115 feet long and 10 feet high and 8 feet broad. This is suspended close to the balloon at a distance of about 10 feet. The car is made of steel and can be easily reached by the balloon. The car, or basket, as it is called, consists of a steel tank 18 inches in diameter and 115 feet in length with a capacity of holding 1,200 gallons of petrol. The top of this tank will be really the deck of our ship. By this disposition we made the weight of the car which is about one thousand pounds do double duty, for it is not only a safe reservoir for our petrol but it also serves as a platform for the structure of the ship. This tank is divided into four compartments to prevent the danger of explosion and the petrol can be pumped from any section of this tank so as to trim the ship. The car is made of steel and is tightly stretched silk, the two sides forming a horizontal plane, all constructed of a light material and is intended for giving stability to the ship in the air. At the stern of the vessel is a rudder and a steering wheel, the form of a bicycle wheel, which despite its size is only about 10 feet in diameter. On the contrary they were often willing to pawn their jewels to keep him from want. The baron is now in jail."

THE HUDSON BAY FLEET STARTS ON ITS LONG TRIP

Little Schooners Engaged in the Fur Carrying Trade, Having Spent the Winter in Britain, Are Now on the Voyage to Canada's Inland Sea.

LONDON, June 15.—Leaving the British coast this week is a little fleet of which the like is to be found in no other part of the world. It is composed of the ships of the Hudson's Bay Company which, according to custom, has hibernated in London. But now that the warm and pleasant weather is here this little fleet of sailors is off on the annual summer cruise. One by one the ships have dropped down the Thames laden with stores. Later in the year they will come back, some of them with furs, the spoil of the trappers of the far North West.

Very gradually do these ships wake up from their winter torpor in the docks of London. Only a few weeks ago a stranger copying the Pelican, the Discovery and the Stork might have asked, "What ancient craft are these?" To all appearances the boats had passed the sphere of usefulness. But went forth that the ships must get ready for yet another campaign. The Stork and the Pelican were towed away for examination and hull-painting in dry dock and shortly afterwards the Discovery followed suit. Then the three were hauled back to their berths and a general overhaul begun.

Unbroken isolation is the fate of voyagers by these Hudson Bay traders. Now that they are leaving the British coast it is probable that nothing more will be heard of them until the autumn when they return laden with stores. They may by chance speak a ship on the Atlantic but their course is too far to the north for to afford much of an opportunity for that sort of a thing. There is no reporting their arrival at the chief trading station, Charlton Island in Hudson's Bay. They will quietly proceed to unload their miscellaneous outward cargo and then take on the far more valuable freight which they bring home. The story of the Stork in the winter of 1904-1905 is of itself typical of what may happen in those lonely seas. Captain Ford, who is now commanding the Discovery, left Charlton Island in the Stork in September, 1904, for London, having on board many thousands of dollars worth of furs. By Christmas nothing had been heard of the vessel and it was recognized that the only hope of her safety lay in the possibility that she might have been blown up. This actually proved to be the case, but it was not until the end of February, 1905, that a message was got through to Winnipeg whence a cable was sent to London which at once dispelled the alarm of newspapers.

Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Finstein, of New York, who are at the Ritz have just finished a two months motoring tour through France and Italy. Under the influence of Mr. George Starr, the well known American sportsman and specialist who has been appointed manager, the Crystal Palace is entering a new era.

"I am not going to exactly Americanize the place," said Mr. Starr in an interview. "But I am going to introduce the novelties and attractions from America. Paris and Berlin. There is no place in the world that lends itself to sensational displays like the Palace and I intend to make such attractions pay and play a big part. I guess I've got a real thriller up my sleeve which will create a genuine sensation. We have no such place in America as the Crystal Palace. Festivals and high class concerts will be ever foremost in the programme and the 'Elijah' concert will shortly be held when 3,000 voices will take part. Nothing like that has ever been produced in America."

SCHOOL GIRLS AGREED TO DIE TOGETHER

One Had Been Punished for Reading Prohibited Books—They Jumped Out of the Window.

ST. PETERSBURG, June 15.—A painful sensation has been caused by an extraordinary case of suicide at the Smolny Convent School, an aristocratic institution under the direct patronage of the Dowager Empress.

It is stated that the victim, a girl of fourteen had been punished for reading a social-economic pamphlet and that the punishment was a very severe one. She accordingly announced to her companions her intention to commit suicide, whereupon another school-girl of the same age volunteered to share her fate. The two girls proceeded to their dormitory and watched by their fellow-pupils as they prepared, after which they wrapped sheets about their heads and leaped out of the window. Both were terribly injured. By the fall and one died after twelve hours of agony. The other, however, is expected to recover.

TO IMPROVE FACILITIES AT DELAGO BAY

African Concerns Form a Syndicate to Make the Port Thoroughly Up-to-Date.

DUBLIN, June 15.—A syndicate representing a number of powerful Johannesburg firms is said to have been organized for the purpose of improving the port of Delagoa Bay and making it the permanent seaport for the Rand.

During the first nine months of 1905 Delagoa Bay absorbed 54 per cent. of the total seaborne trade of the Transvaal, being the shortest and cheapest route thereto. The liveliest competition has existed between Delagoa Bay and British ports for the Rand traffic, but under the modus vivendi the Portuguese port enjoys a substantial advantage as regards reduced railway rates.

The greatest secrecy is maintained regarding the syndicate which is now considering the best methods of improving the port.

DINNER IN SEVEN STYLES.

Cosmopolitan Feeding Settles a Curious Wager in London.

LONDON, June 14.—A rather curious bet between an Englishman and an American has just been made public. It was won last week by the former. The Englishman made a wager that he would give in London seven dinners typical of seven different countries on as many nights.

The continuous feed began with a real English meal, with turtle soup, meat roasted before a fire and good English cheese. On the next night a French dinner in true Parisian style was given, and this was followed by a German repast, with kalbsbraten and Kaiser-schmorren.

Then an Italian dinner was given, with minestrone, fritto misto and macaroni. A Russian dinner preceded by a zakuska and followed by sturgeon, took place on the next night, and then a real old fashioned American dinner of omelet, corn, Maryland chicken, stuffed peppers and sweet corn. Finally as a grand finale of the week of "fine confused feeding," an Indian dinner was partaken of, with shirazi, several curries and mutton.

Both men survived the ordeal, and the American gladly paid up for what he called an "experience."

A PAIR OF SWINDLERS

Arrested in England They Had Carried on a Sensational Traffic in Infants.

LONDON, June 15.—Further information has been gleaned at Liverpool regarding the allegations against Herbert Smith, alias Leo Selwyn and Lottie Roberts, who are at present in custody under remand at the Walton Jail at Liverpool on charges in connection with what promises to be one of the most sensational infant trafficking trials of recent years.

Exhaustive inquiries conducted by Detective Sergeant Moore of the Liverpool Detective Force have led to the acquisition of much important information from all over the country concerning the wholesale man in which the man and woman, giving various names and addresses, had been able to have been obtaining money by false pretences to look after children. It is reported that the prisoners have been carrying on their nefarious trade from town to town and carried on this business. After having obtained a great many problems they crossed to Belfast where they were also very successful.

BRITAIN TO SHARE TRADE ADVANTAGES

United States Unwilling to Make Discrimination.

British Foreign Secretary Announces That Negotiations Are Now Going On.

LONDON, June 14.—Foreign Secretary informed the House of Commons today that the United States had officially assured his Majesty's Government that she did not wish to make the administration provisions of the German commercial agreement the basis for discrimination against any other State, and was willing to apply the same to Great Britain, if she so desired.

The secretary added that he was communicating with the Board of Trade with the view of making the necessary arrangements.

Sir Edward Grey later announced that negotiations with the United States, the nature of which he was unable to disclose, were proceeding under the direction of how the Dingy Act.

Replying to questions on the subject, the secretary said he hoped to secure for Great Britain the same advantages as Germany had derived.

Their arrest was due to Mrs. Kitchen of Great Grimsby, who came forward and complained of having been swindled out of \$55 in connection with the fourteen days old son of her daughter. At the Liverpool Police Headquarters it was found that Smith was Leo Selwyn, who has performed at several vaudeville halls and obtained some notoriety as a "gentleman handkerchief prince and jailbreaker." He boasted that he would be free in a couple of hours but he did not succeed in liberating himself nor has he yet escaped from Walton. The great plausibility which the swindlers have been able to carry on this business is said to account for its success. They are suspected of having gone the length of returning infants to their mothers in all manner of ways while in many cases youngsters have been handed over to foster parents, placed in workhouses, or left about the streets in a most cruel fashion.

NAN PATTERSON LEADS HER OLD LIFE AGAIN

Former Floradora Actress, Thrice Tried for Murder, Has Gay Time in Pittsburg.

PITTSBURG, June 14.—Nan Patterson, former Floradora actress, thrice tried for the murder of Caesar Young, the New York bookmaker, is again in the limelight here, even though it was announced that she was going to California to join her husband, Leon G. Martin, formerly a clerk at the Duquesne Hotel. She again is being the Tombs and her ultimate release by District Attorney Jerome on her own recognizance until such a time as the county of New York may see fit again to call her for trial—a present improbability.

She arrived in Pittsburg late last week, ostensibly on her way to her husband. She was driven to a downtown hotel, where she registered under an assumed name. Since that time she has been conspicuous in restaurants and cafes, where the lights are the brightest at night, and she seldom leaves her apartments during the day.

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