

AT HIS MAJESTY'S COURT

HOW THE PRESENTATIONS ARE CONDUCTED.

Sight of Splendor and Magnificence Unsurpassed at Any Other Court of Europe.

The average person probably finds it difficult to understand why there should be such a keen desire on the part of society people to be presented at Court. To the uninitiated, the mere honor or pleasure—however you may like to regard it—of making a curtsy to the King and Queen in the ballroom of Buckingham Palace scarcely compensates one for the expense and trouble involved.

As a matter of fact, a presentation at Court means a great deal to those who move in upper circles. Without it a woman has no recognized social position; she is never invited to Royal entertainments, and when visiting a foreign country cannot be presented to its Sovereign. In the old days, when a lady had been once presented, she could not attend Courts, uninvited and unchallenged, until the end of her life. But time has changed that privilege.

However, it is obvious that there are still great inducements to secure the precious card of invitation from the Lord Chamberlain which entitles one to attend the Court.

Everybody who is anybody is to be seen at a Court presentation—princes, lords, and dukes, grey-haired ambassadors, generals, politicians, and diplomats, down to young attaches, all attired in

FULL UNIFORM OR COURT DRESS,

the men's attire, in many cases, being no less brilliant and gorgeous than the dazzling confections worn by young debutantes who nervously await their turn for presentation.

Those who by right of birth are entitled to attend at Court are members of the aristocracy and of the leading county families, the wives and daughters of officers in the Army and Navy, of clergymen and barristers, of important financiers, and of men engaged in large commercial enterprises. But the line is rigidly drawn at those occupied in retail trade, no matter how refined or well connected they may be. Nowadays several titled women, members of old families, keep shops of their own, and this fact entirely prevents their appearance at Court. This rule is absolute, and has no exceptions.

The general company drive into the courtyard of Buckingham Palace under the portico at the State entrance. There is also another entrance, known as the Palmico door, through which members of the Diplomatic Corps and what is known as the Entree company are allowed to pass. By entering with the general company, however, one obtains a splendid view of some of the beauties of Buckingham Palace.

After alighting at the Doric portico, the debutante enters the large but somewhat low-ceilinged entrance-hall, with its marble floor and staircase, and its double row of pillars in

PURE WHITE CARRARA MARBLE.

From the hall access can be obtained to the so-called Bay Window Room, which is one of the finest on the garden floor of Buckingham Palace. The Bow Library is used as a cloak-room, where wraps and cloaks are left and numbered tickets received in exchange. The staircase is a model of splendor. Every step is a solid piece of white marble, and the gold and cream ceiling shows some marvellous decoration. Stationed on the staircase and everywhere about are Yeomen of the Guard dressed in red and gold, with neck ruffles, buckled shoes, and the flat hats that have become known by their name.

Attentive gentlemen ushers pass the guests on in batches of about thirty through the ante-rooms which lead to the last halling-place, the Tapestry Corridor. The ballroom, where the Court is held, is a superb saloon, with walls panelled in crimson and a floor of satinwood and mahogany. At one end is a fine organ and the gallery for His Majesty's musicians.

The King and Queen enter the ballroom about ten o'clock. They are preceded by the White Staves and followed by the most important officers of the State, who, together with other members of the Royal Family, take up their position in a semi-circle round their Majesties in order of precedence. Then the business of the evening commences. Trains are let down and spread upon the floor, cards are passed from hand to hand, and

A GREAT SILENCE PREVAILS,

broken to a nervous debutante's ear only by the sound of her own tread on the polished floor and by the announcement of her name in a tone of official authority. When the two deep curtises have been duly made, the lady has to retire from the Royal presence with all the grace at her command.

Formerly a debutante was obliged to undergo the nerve-trying ordeal of kissing the Queen's hand, and, if a peeress, of being saluted on both cheeks, while, in addition, she was obliged to walk backwards from the Royal presence. But King Edward has altered all that. Their Majesties remain seated, and a curtsy is all that is required.

Between one and two hours are thus taken up with the business of presentation, after which the King and Queen retire from the ballroom to partake of supper with a few favored guests. Supper is also provided for the general company, with this difference—that while the Royal party sit down to a formal meal, the others refresh themselves at the buffets, for the most part standing up.

It may interest some readers to learn

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fits better

by the way, that strict regulations govern the dress of both men and women who attend at Court. Men who do not belong to the Services must appear in the regulation velvet tail-coats and steel buttons, knee breeches, black silk stockings, buckled shoes, and white gloves, with cocked hat under the arm and small sword at the side.

Ladies, too, must dress to order, in evening toilette, with train from three and a half to four yards long, white gloves, and with ostrich feathers. For mourning black trimmings are permissible with the black toilette, but a special permit must be obtained if a lady wishes to attend Court in a high-necked gown and long sleeves. A doctor's certificate is generally necessary in order to obtain this permission.—London Tit-Bits.

MOTOR ENDS ROMANCE.

French Father Captures His Eloping Daughter and Takes Her Home.

The romance of a French heiress and her penniless lover, their elopement, and a few weeks of wedded bliss, have been followed by the abduction of the bride in the paternal motor-car.

Some months have passed since Mile. Piedallu met Victor Dehaulon near her millionaire father's chateau at Isle-Adam, France. A friendship sprang up and ripened into love. A few weeks ago the elopement was planned and carried out. Mile. Piedallu and her governess went shopping in Paris. The girl gave her chaperon the slip and joined her lover, who was waiting in a cab. So deep was the father's anger that he swore to leave the neighborhood. The contents of his chateau are to be sold by auction before the place is shut up.

The lovers drove to a railway station and traveled to Ostend. There they took cheap rooms, and Dehaulon obtained work at a well-known hotel. His wife carried his dinner in a bundle through the streets each day.

Neither knew that the millionaire who was searching for them was one of the chief shareholders in the company which owns the hotel where Dehaulon was employed. Discovery came owing to this fact.

The heiress was carrying her husband's dinner through the streets of Ostend when three men suddenly seized her and placed her in a motor-car waiting by the kerb. Instantly the vehicle, in which the millionaire was sitting, started off and quickly got clear of the town. Dehaulon, alarmed by his wife's non-appearance, ran to their rooms, found them vacant, and learned what had happened a few days later. Since then he has been searching in vain for his wife.

MAN WHO FEEDS MANY.

Joseph Lyons of London Has Most Colossal Eating Concern in World.

Joseph Lyons runs in London what is by long odds the most colossal catering concern in the world. There is no aggregation of restaurants under one management in America that comes any way near feeding such a vast multitude daily. He makes it pay, too, handsomely. His company has declared a dividend of 32 1/2 per cent., besides adding \$200,000 to its reserve fund. There are few companies in the land of millions which can show such profits as that. From the rank of a small public provider at provincial exhibitions, Jos. Lyons has risen in twenty years to the forefront of the restaurant and catering world, and to-day the ramifications of his business extend throughout the whole of Great Britain.

ENGLAND'S BAD WEATHER.

Sleet in July, This Year Was the Crowning Indignity.

A woman who announces that she has just "looked out of the window and beheld flakes of sleet drifting past on this July morning," writes to the Queen to recall a rhyme which celebrated another season quite as dripping as the one which has afflicted England this year.

Dirty days have September,
April, June and November;
All the rest have thirty-one.
Without a blessed gleam of sun,
If any of 'em had two-and-thirty,
They'd be just as wet and twice as dirty.

Mrs. Money Bags—"I hear you have spent a great deal of your time in Italy?"
Mrs. Parvenue—"Oh, yes, my dear; we're quite Italianized."

A reputation for wisdom may be acquired by applauding the opinions of your neighbors.

ES ATE SHOE PEGS

TOR TAYLOR KEPT THE STABLE DARK.

Shoe Factory—Horses Got Off Their Feed—A Great Scheme.

In the southern part of the New Hampshire, at a railway where the farmers for miles used to come to take the train on, a certain man had a house-g stable, and in the long rows they kept their horses during until they returned from their to "the nub." Then they would and drive home. Everybody himself in these democratic ties, so they were in the habit ching their own horses, hang-harness on the pegs at the foot all and giving each animal a of oats from a big bin over in of stable was kept very.



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Summer Excursions, \$35, by the new Twin Is. S.S. "Bermudian," 5,600 tons. Sailing 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd September, and fortnightly thereafter for Pictou, N.S., calling at Quebec, St. Mal Bay, Perce, Cape Cove, Grand River, Miramichi, P.E.I., and Charlottetown, P.E.I.

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ARTHUR AHERN, Secretary, Quebec.
A. F. OUTERBRIDGE & CO., Agents,
Broadway, New York.

NOT A STICKER FOR POLISH.
A good many people," said Mrs. Peaslee, "have been inclined recently to think that our minister for the little