

The Saturday "News" Special Foreign Service.

ALL "TAKE AFTER" "MOTHER MAYER."

Rothschild Women Are Simple in Dress and Remarkably Vigorous in Character.

MUCH DEVOTED TO CHARITIES.

Masterful Proprietress of Waddesdon Manor, and Her Daily Pilgrimage. With a Trowel.

Special Correspondence.

London, Sept. 1.—Ever since the name of Rothschild became famous in the world of finance, the three branches of the family in Germany, France and England have had an important distinction in common. The Rothschild women have been, and are, and generations ago, good to look at, kindly of disposition, simple of speech and big of brain. Guldah Schnaffer Mayer, mother of the first rich Rothschild, started this fashion in the family. She was a good old lady and lived in a back street in the Frankfurt ghetto long after her husband was striding on toward fortune. Back of her house still preserved is the little shop where her husband commenced the business that formed a foundation for her son's first enterprises.

Frau Guldah could never be induced to leave her home among the Jews of Frankfurt, and she held a tradition unto her death that if she waxed proud and ambitious and her sons waxed rich, their luck would turn and the money leave the family. So she made herself comfortable, and lived on alone in the house where her children were born. But she made them accept her as she was, or not at all. Her fashionable daughters-in-law came to their carriages to the ghetto and the old lady, worthy mother of so valiant a house, let them in herself and let them out again. Frau Guldah was known among the chosen people for years after her death as one of the particular mothers in Israel. The name so generally applied to her during her lifetime, Mother Mayer, clung to her memory.

Mother Mayer, who never knew the gentler title "Rothschild" (Red shield) adapted as it was by her successful son from the sign that hung above his first business house, has bequeathed many of her fine qualities to the ladies Rothschild of today. These born Rothschilds are women of much the same type as she. The present baron's wife was his cousin, and there is no more zealous worker for poor Jews in London than she. By a curious coincidence the women who have become Rothschilds by marriage have numerous

traits of character in common with those of the Rothschild blood.

ALL SIX OF PUBLICITY.

It is a common saying that there never was a mean-tempered woman in the entire Rothschild family. This is strikingly true of the English branch. For amiability and royal tact, England knows no superior to Lady Rothschild. Mrs. Leopold Rothschild is a close second to her sister-in-law, the baron's wife. Lady Battersea, Lord Rothschild's cousin, and a daughter of the late Sir Anthony de Rothschild—who was president of the National Union of Women Workers—displays charity enough for the entire Rothschild connection and both she and her lovely sister, Mrs. Elliot York, are ardent workers in the cause of temperance. Miss Alice de Rothschild, who is cousin of Lord Rothschild, is a spinster of the family and a person of what is known as a thoroughly good nature. She is famous for neither the "Leo" nor for the public philanthropy of Lady Battersea and Mrs. Elliot York. Of the younger generation of Rothschilds, Lady Crewe and Lady Sy-

bil Grant, the daughters of Lord Rosebery, are the leading lights. The mother of these ladies was Hannah Rothschild, who was tremendously rich; and, furthermore there is a general supposition that Miss Alice Rothschild who inherited her vast wealth from the king's friend, "Perdy," Rothschild, will leave it to "the Rosebery girls." Neither Lady Crewe nor Lady Sybil Grant is beautiful, but they are clever, good-natured women, who, like Lady Rothschild, have a genuine repugnance to publicity of any kind.

Then there is pretty Mrs. Clive Behrens is her mother's partner in all the connected with the synagogue. Her wedding at a few years ago is said to have collected more royalties and rich folk than any similar function ever held in London.

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Lady Rothschild shares one taste in common with the King of England. His favorite flower, and Lord Rothschild's as well, is the Malmalson carnation. This carnation is frequently used in decorating the king's private dinner table. On one occasion when the king and queen attended a ball given at the Rothschild's town residence, Lady Rothschild used her ingenuity and contrived decorations which the then Prince of Wales said were as beautiful as anything he had ever seen in a London house. Blooming peach-trees were "planted" throughout the mansion, and both the color and scent of the blossoms were so accurately reproduced that it seemed as if one were in a peach orchard. Lady Rothschild is famous as a friend of the newspapers. Although she never on any occasion permits the publication of her photograph, she goes out of her way to give desired information. In her unwillingness to have her picture go the rounds, Lady Rothschild is like all the ladies of the Rothschild family. Lady Sybil Grant was not photographed in any newspaper until just previous to her marriage, when she yielded to the pressure brought to bear on the family.

Lady Rothschild is a devout attendant at a modest house of worship in Bayswater and when recently some of the brethren selected the Jewish hymns written in late years they dedicated the volume to Lady Rothschild. Her ladyship is fond of walking about London and often "take the tube" down town

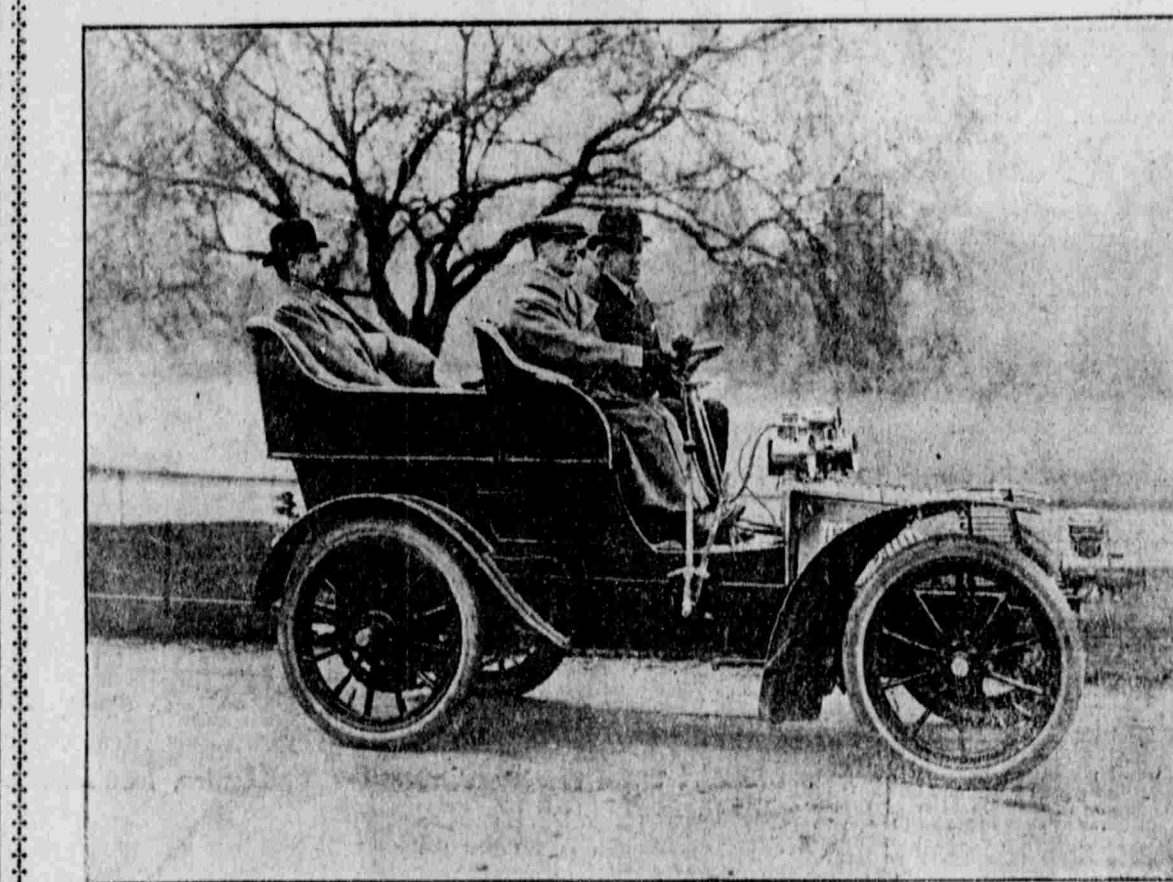
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Tring Park is one of a circle of Rothschild residences running along the boundary line between Hertfordshire and Buckingham. The family preserves its classiness phenomenally. Five of their palatial country residences are within a few miles of each other.

KNOWS HER OWN MIND.

Miss Alice de Rothschild, who inherited her vast wealth from her brother,



OLIVER STANTON, THE KING'S AMERICAN MOTOR EXPERT.

(The Man Without an Overcoat.)

the late Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, is perhaps the cleverest of the Rothschild women. She is a wit and an after dinner speaker of no small reputation. Good-natured though she is to a degree, Miss Alice has a tongue that spares not. Since her brother's death, she superintends the running of her vast estates with a sharp hand that keeps the place and the servants in strict order. Miss de Rothschild takes a walk about the grounds of Waddesdon manor every morning, when she sees an offending weed, on the instant digs it up. Her dress is always simple. She is a plain elderly lady and clothes concern her little. With the exception of the least ornamental of evening gowns, Miss de Rothschild's wardrobe consists principally of straight "neak" coats and short skirts.

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Then there is the beautiful Mrs. "Leo" Rothschild. She is of Italian birth, but she has taken to English life enthusiastically. She is more strictly a society woman than Lady Rothschild. She was the chaperone of Lady Sybil Grant when she made her debut as Lady Sybil Primrose, and now that her sons are grown fine young men, she is seen about with them a great deal. She dresses in what is termed a "pearl unobtrusive style." Mrs. Leo's skill as a rider is proverbial and as a patron of the opera she has no superior in enthusiasm. Many American women who, during the English meeting of the International Council of Women were entertained at the Tring Park garden party by Lady Rothschild, will remember that Mrs. Leo, the personification of dignity and figure, stood by Lady Rothschild all afternoon and shook hands with all the guests.

Lady Battersea is better known as a philanthropist than any of her Rothschild kinswomen. This is largely because of her association with the National Council of Women Workers, an organization which brings her into touch with all kinds and conditions of educational and philanthropic enterprises. Her work is a trifle less directly Jewish than is that of Lady Rothschild, whose racial instincts are notably strong.

HIS MAJESTY'S "MOTOR EXPERT."

His Name Stanton and He is an American Who Knows His Business Thoroughly.

RIDES OFTEN WITH THE KING.

Was Arrested the Other Day for Driving the Car Faster Than the Law Allows—King Not Along.

Special Correspondence.

London, Sept. 1.—Probably there is no one of the men who come into close touch with King Edward who could, if he would, tell more interesting things about the sovereign than his majesty's American motor expert, Oliver Stanton, being "motor-expert" to the king

horse—little Danny Mater, and probably if Stanton should get a nasty spill from a motor car, as Maher did not long ago, Edward VII probably would be as solicitous concerning him as he proved in the case of the jockey.

The king was not only in hourly communication by wire with the hospital authorities while Maher lay there, but he actually sent special messengers from London to inquire about him and when it was announced that the jockey was out of danger he sent a personal letter of thanks to the surgeon who had charge of the case. Parcels of grapes from the royal gardens at Windsor reached Maher daily and the bonds at Buckingham palace supplied him with delicacies in the way of fish. The word where he lay looked more like a flower garden than a sick room and the nurses felt regret when they had to part with their patient. All this is especially remarkable when it is known that the king has not first call on Maher's services. His friend Sir James Miller is practically Maher's employer but his services are not refused when the king demands them. The famous jockey has not yet been "commanded" to visit Buckingham palace, but he has more than once been with his majesty surveying the royal stables giving his opinion of the beautiful animals which are only seen on state occasions. The queen as everyone knows, is not a horse lady, yet she too exhibited the greatest solicitude for Maher's convalescence. She was responsible for the beautiful flowers that lent so much charm to the ward in which he was confined. By the way, Maher's treatment at the hands of royalty has helped to aggravate the

jealous attitude which English jockeys have exhibited toward the American since Tod Sloan made his appearance so successfully on the English race course.

OVERSTRAINED YOUTH.

Germany's Commercial Rise Has Been at Cost of Degeneracy.

Special Correspondence.

Berlin, Sept. 1.—Prussian military authorities are becoming alarmed at what they term the degeneration of the German youth. In countries like Germany where a term of military service is required of every able man the examinations for army service are held at a time when the young men are in the prime of their life, and when if out of every 1,000 applicants only 100 are accepted. It is no wonder that the authorities decide there is something wrong.

Between the years 1881 and 1886 the annual average of persons with heart trouble was low, only 1.5 per thousand, and high water mark was reached in 1896 when the average was found to be 11.4.

Perhaps the best opinion of the cause of this state of affairs is that offered by Dr. Stricker, the army surgeon who has given the matter careful study. He declares that overwork, irregular exercise, and immoderate and too early use of tobacco and intoxicants is responsible for much of the trouble. Another point to which the doctor calls attention is the practice of putting children to work too early. As they often are required to toil beyond their strength, the strain with irregular hours of rest results in premature breakdown which, the doctor is positive, have much to do with the general standard of health.

WINDSOR TO BE CATLESS.

King Edward Shares Andrew Carnegie's Dislike for the Animals.

Special Correspondence.

London, Sept. 1.—Windsor Castle has been cleared of cats by order of the king. For years his majesty has shown a dislike amounting almost to a superstition for the presence of the feline species, but he tolerated them at Windsor because his mother always had two favorite cats about her. The crisis came when "Jack," his favorite dog, was poisoned at Dublin on his recent tour in Ireland. It appears that the poison which ended "Jack's" distinguished career was put down for the purpose of ridding the land lieutenant's residence of an army of cats that had infested it. "Jack," like his royal master, disliked cats, and it was in an effort to exterminate them that he came to his sad end. His majesty gave instructions that in future no cat must be seen about any of the royal apartments, and if they are to be tolerated at all they must confine themselves to more modest quarters.

Andrew Carnegie suffers from a similar superstition. In the intervals of his absence from Skibo Castle, cats accumulate, but as soon as it becomes known that he is about to put in an appearance the servants take steps to clear them out, and the steward takes drastic measures to remove them. On one occasion while staying at his

favorite hotel in London he espied a cat reclining at his feet at the breakfast table, and before there was time to put the beast out Carnegie left the remainder of his meal, and quitted the hotel, and he has never stayed there since.

So strong is his superstition in this direction that on another occasion recently he refused to enter Skibo Castle because a cat had crossed the lawn while he was approaching. He turned back and put up at a local inn for the night. This story, by the way, is not mere hearsay. It was told to the writer by a person who witnessed the incident.

OF AMERICAN INTEREST.

Mrs. Higgins's Activities—The Chateaux and Carlton House Terrace.

Special Correspondence.

London, Sept. 1.—Mrs. Harry Higgins, formerly Mrs. Breese of New York, and Miss Parsons of Columbus, O., has been doing some smart entertaining at her pretty town house near Portman Square. She has now, however, gone with her family to their place in the country near London, and will have a number of house parties. Mrs. Higgins' eldest daughter, Miss Eloise Breese, is making quite a stir since her recent debut. She is an excellent talker and an extraordinary good horse-woman. The younger Miss Breese will be out soon and Mrs. Higgins' boy, who comes between the sisters, is now of age. Mrs. Higgins, as strictly "in it" as any American woman in London, is an intimate friend of Lady de Grey, Lady Charles Beresford and others of "the good set." Only her marriage with Mr. Higgins, five years ago, has been a widow by then, renewed the suit and won her the admiration of all beholders. Mrs. Higgins is sister-in-law to that clever lady, Miss Polly Higgins, whose dinner-table talk is the admiration of all who hear it. Miss Polly has long since passed matrimony up for good. She delights in being a mother-in-law. She lives alone in a tiny little house on the borderland of Chelsea. But the tiny little house is the scene of numerous gay gatherings. Miss Polly Higgins cares nothing for dress. But she has great friends, notably Lord Rosebery and his daughters.

Lady Constance Mackenzie, whose recent visit to the United States has won her the admiration of all beholders, has reached India in the course of travels. Lady Constance expects to return to England in the winter, and then go to America again. She is said to have adopted the United States. Its freedom appeals to her more than any England's conservatism. Lady Constance is believed to her sister, the Hon. Baroness Cromartie, who holds her title in her own right, and who is a literary lady. Lady Constance evidently intends to imitate her sister in that particular. She is going to write the history of her travels. Both these girls, who have led rather untrammelled lives as wards of the Dukes of Sutherland and Argyll, and those gentlemen have trembled frequently at the escapes of Lady Constance. She has a ways hidden astride and in the most masculine of attitudes. At deer stalking she is adept and her hunting tours into the wilds of India are even now exciting the young lady's friends. She is still in the early twenties. Of schooling and chaperone Lady Constance has had little. The Duke of Sutherland and the Duke of Argyll have given up their attempts at force conventional education upon Lady Constance, that has made his herds of cattle the most

"SQUIRE WETTIN" IS "EDWARD VII."

Under the Former Name England's King Makes Good Money as A Real Farmer.

IT PAYS \$220,000 A YEAR.

His Majesty is a Good Judge of Live Stock and Gets High Prices for All of His Products.

Special Correspondence.

London, Sept. 1.—It is a fact that there is one man in England who can be estimated at a year's end for cash and cups as prizes in the last two and a half years. He would have done better yet except for an accident of birth which has made it necessary for him to give part of his time to reigning over England, using the name of Edward VII for that purpose. As it is he is declared to be the most successful breeder and exhibitor of stock in the world.

Of course, when royal highnesses do anything as well as an ordinary mortal might have done it, loyal subjects are wont to regard it as well-nigh superhuman; but in this case the facts, which speak for themselves, indicate that if the king had not been born to the purple and had grown up under his family name as Squire Wettin of Sandringham he would have been a famous farmer. Aside from the fact that he usually gets better prices for his stock, comparatively little about her beasts, but just because it comes from the royal farm, he has no particular advantage over his neighbors through being an imperial majesty. He was a born stock-breeder, and I venture to say that he is more genuinely and personally interested in his horses and cows and sheep than he is in politics.

ENGLAND'S BEST JUDGE OF PIGS.

And he has the reputation of being the best judge of pigs and one of the best judges of poultry in all England. In her way Queen Victoria was his greatest prize winner in the country for cattle, but in the early part of her reign there used to be a good deal of grumbling on the part of her competitors because she used to buy her prize stock instead of breeding it on her own farms. She changed her policy in her later years, but she knew and cared comparatively little about her beasts, had no idea how great her possessions were, and interested herself chiefly in accumulating prizes for their own sake, gathering in a total of nearly 200 cups. King Edward, however, delights in keeping a record of his herds at Sandringham, Sandringham and Balmoral, and his frequent visits to the various farms, watching the progress of his

It is show animals that are the object of his special attention, and if he discovers that they are not developed to the points he looked for they are cast out among the common herd and sold to the first purchaser at current prices. It is this rigorous selection that has made his herds of cattle the most



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English home secretary, whose new policy in connection with the treatment of criminals has attracted wide attention.

Mrs. Choate have no intention of giving up the house they have so long occupied in Carlton House Terrace. Instead of buying a big country place and moving into it this season, they are still in town and with the exception of week-ends will remain at home for the present. Recent visits to the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, and to Lady Battersea at Overstrand, near Cromer, were "week-ends."

Mr. and Mrs. Henry White are at Carlebach for Mrs. White's health. Mrs. White's friends in London are all sorry she is not quite well. Her social career has been one series of triumphs. Her daughter, Miss Muriel White, inherits her mother's social facilities, and is the intimate friend of several of the royal ladies.

Mr. J. Ridgely Carter, second secretary of the embassy, is still in town on duty. Mrs. Carter has gone to Paris and will not be in London much until the end of the month.

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