

## The Saturday "News" Special Foreign Service.

### INTERNATIONAL CLUB FOR WOMEN.

Any Amount of Money Back of Extraordinary Project of 23-Year Old Girl.

WILL ORGANIZE BRANCH HERE.

American Newspaper Girl is Coming Over to the United States for That Purpose.

Special Correspondence.  
London, Nov. 4.—There is likely to be a lot of American interest a few weeks hence in a unique club for women which has been organized so quietly in London that this is practically the first word that has been said about it in print. It is evidently going to be a big affair, with international connections, and with money enough already guaranteed to enable it to do things on a large scale from the start.

#### LYCEUM CLUB.

Broadly speaking, the object of the Lyceum club, as it is to be called, is to bring literary women and university women the world over into touch with one another. Not only are such writers as Mrs. Humphrey Ward, John Oliver Hobbes, (Mrs. Craigie), Flora Annie Steel, Lucas Malet, Beatrice Harradine, Mrs. Meynell, Mrs. W. K. Clifford and Miss Rhoda Broughton members of the club committee, but the universities of Newham and Giron at Cambridge, are taking up the scheme. It is understood that 150 women with scientific degrees will come into the new club en masse and the long established "Writers' club" of London, with its 500 members is planning to merge itself in the Lyceum.

#### ROYAL SUPPORT.

Lady Francis Balfour, sister of the Duke of Argyll and hence sister-in-law of Princess Louise, King Edward's sister, has heartily given her support to the Lyceum and will bring with her a large element of radical women. Lady Frances, who does not agree in politics with her brother-in-law, the prime minister of England, is an ardent woman suffragist, but so far as I can discover the club will have nothing to do with politics, or any other cause. Others actively working are Lady Battersea, (of the Rothschild family); Mrs. Paget Toynbee, wife of the famous Dante authority and herself the editor of the forthcoming Clarendon Press edition of the Horace Walpole letters; Miss Elizabeth Marbury, the Countess of Brazzi, formerly Miss Cora Slocum of New Orleans, and Mrs. Alfred Stead, formerly Miss Blaine Hussey of Indianapolis, daughter-in-law of W. T. Stead.

#### HUGE HEADQUARTERS.

These ladies are to purchase a club house in the very heart of London, with as many bed-rooms as a large hotel, to give members in all parts of the world a stopping place in London, and to provide permanent residences for those who live in London and wish to make the club their home.

In addition they propose to keep members in touch with active literary life by means of an information bureau which has been thought out on original lines. A member of the Lyceum who lives, for instance, in California and wants to sell a manuscript in London, will be advised as to the best person to send it to. If she writes a book and wants it translated into French and published in Paris, she will be given the addresses of translator and publisher. Museums and libraries all over the continent will co-operate with the club so that through it, the California member can get research work done, or if she wants to come abroad and do it herself, she will be given the proper introductions to curators of institutions where her study is to be done. This information bureau has been most minutely planned and will include such less learned branches as theaters, concerts, lectures, shops and current matters.

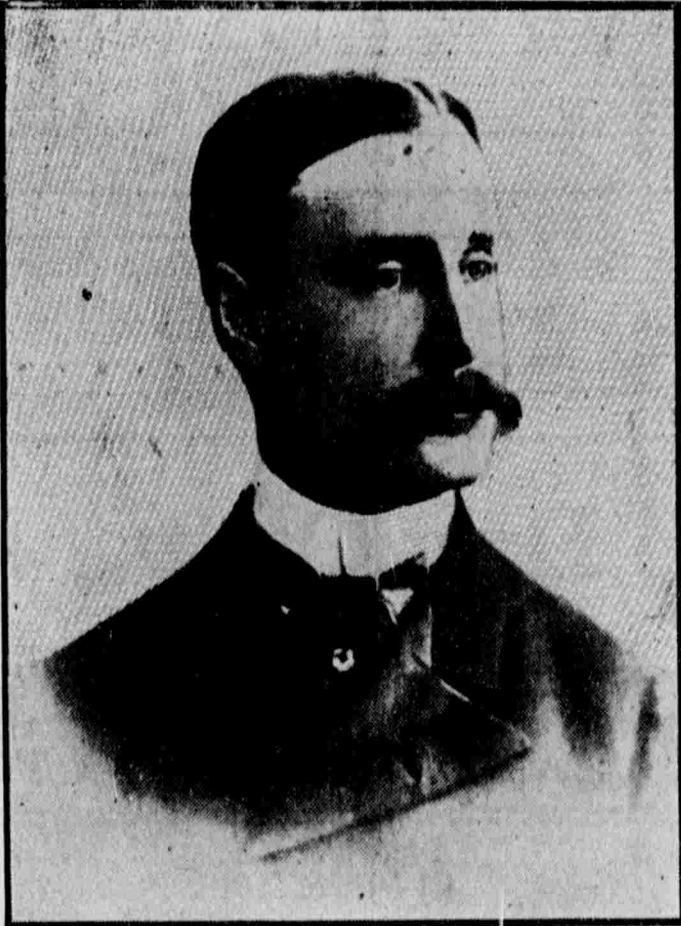
"The Lyceum," like all English women's clubs, has one radical difference from the American club. Its members

#### MISS CONSTANCE SMEDLEY.



The Young Girl Who Has Founded the Lyceum Club.

### LORD LONDONDERRY.



The above is a new photo of Lord Londonderry, who has been appointed, by letters patent under the great seal, lord president of the privy council of the British empire. This is the third great office of the state, the first cabinet officer being the first lord of the treasury and the second the lord high chancellor.

will not meet! They will not discuss—that is as a body in congregation assembled. They will merely have a comfortable place to live in and practical help with such intellectual practical work as they are engaged in.

#### MISS CONSTANCE SMEDLEY.

The founder of this club which, in the opinion of its distinguished members is destined to be an important influence in the literary world, is a 23-year-old girl, Miss Constance Smedley, author of "An April Princess," and "The Boudoir Critic," and of several plays purchased by Mrs. Patrick Campbell. Miss Smedley was moved with sympathy for the innumerable women writers of London who had no really comfortable homes. It seemed to Miss Smedley that the whole status of writing women would be raised if they could be given a club as beautiful and complete as the most fashionable club in London. A little while later, some of this young lady's rich friends came forward and provided her with almost limitless capital for the forwarding of her scheme. The members take no financial risks whatever. It is Miss Smedley's determination to make the club rich enough for the richest women who may wish to live there, and yet by obtaining a large membership, to make rates cheap enough for the most modest journalist. She intends having a large reference library and other practical features.

As representative of the English committee, Miss Jessie Trimble, will sail for America soon to organize the club in the United States, as secretary pro-tem. The leading literary and educational women of America have already been approached and a committee of which they will be members is shortly to be announced.

#### MISS TRIMBLE.

Miss Trimble has done newspaper work in London for two years and a half, and before coming abroad was connected with Chattanooga and Cincinnati papers, and immediately preceding her connection with the London Daily Express, was on the Chicago Record. It was that paper which sent her to Paris to write of whatever was of interest to women in the Exposition of 1900. She then got her first experience with European work, an experience which led her again to cross the ocean, after being back in Chicago six months, to begin writing in London.

Miss Trimble leaves newspaper work temporarily in order to accept this mission for the Lyceum club. She will be engaged throughout the winter, presenting its objects to the more important of the innumerable women's clubs in America.

#### SEVERAL SITES.

Several London sites are under consideration for the club. One is a series of buildings in the historic Temple; a second is Clement's Inn, a huge apartment house overlooking the law courts in the Strand; a third is the building now in process of erection adjoining the Savoy hotel on the Victoria embankment; a fourth is the old-fashioned Convent Garden hotel. Which ever building is finally decided upon, it will be remodeled into the most com-

fortable of club houses, with drawing-rooms, working rooms, reception rooms, lounges, library, reading room, dining room, (one for members only, another for members and guests) meals table d'hôte and a la carte, with varying rates of tariff according to choice of menu, private sitting rooms, bedrooms, dressing rooms, massages, hair dressers, manicurists, sewing rooms and all the rest of it.

"The Lyceum" will give members occasional opportunities of meeting the most distinguished literary people in London and those who come to England as visitors. Frequent receptions will be held and membership in the club will constitute invitation. The first 500 American members are to be admitted without entrance fee. The permanent American subscription will be \$5.

Miss Alys Hallard, the English writer, is in Paris arranging for the opening of club rooms there in connection with the London "Lyceum." French members are already coming in and there has been a hearty response from Germany and Scandinavia. The club plans to send some one to Greece and Italy a little later in the season.

#### PUT OFF HER WEDDING.

Servant Problem Conquered Chicago Girl After Tears Failed.

Special Correspondence.  
London, Nov. 4.—Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Taylor of Chicago, who with their daughter Bessie, have been in London since the beginning of June, have returned home leaving their daughter in London in the care of an aunt who has a house in the suburbs. The original plan of the couple was to spend only three months in Europe, two months in London and one in Switzerland, were upset by their daughter who became engaged to be married some six weeks after their arrival in England, to a nice young actor named Boyd, who has a small independent income.

Although having every reason to be satisfied with the character and future son-in-law the parents thought it wiser that their daughter, who is still in her teens, should return with them to America, and that the wedding should not take place until she was twenty-one. To such an arrangement as this, however, the daughter was quite unwilling to agree, and despite all appeals from relatives and friends she maintained her determination to remain in London and be married before Christmas.

After some weeks of useless endeavors to persuade their daughter to change her mind, the parents sailed back home alone. Immediately upon their departure, freed from all restraint beyond that of the aunt with whom she is living, Miss Taylor set about to make arrangements for her future home in London. Having spent innumerable days going from one place to another in search of a suitable flat or house, the engaged couple decided upon a place that was satisfactory except for the fact that one had to climb stairs to get to it. The choice of the servant was, of course, left to Miss Taylor alone. She had not before come up against this London domestic problem, the stumbling block of all small English households. What her mother's tears and father's commands could not accomplish, the servant did, for after the second interview with the domestic of her choice Miss Taylor promptly sent out and sent a cable to her parents in Chicago announcing that she would start for home at once, postponing her wedding as her parents requested.

"That servant was nearly 40 and rather fat," said Miss Taylor, "but I thought that would be better than having a young flighty girl, and everything seemed pretty sure till I remembered she had said she was married to a sailor."

"But how about your husband?" I asked the woman. When he comes back will you want to go home?" "Oh, no, Miss," she answered, "I won't ever come back, I married the wrong man!"

"I took this to mean they were separated, and so didn't pursue the subject. She seemed really anxious to come to me."

### THE FLIGHT OF A ROYAL BRIDE.

Why Heir to Holland Throne Had To Recapture Wife in Switzerland.

SHE WANTED NEW FURNITURE.

Young Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar Left Husband After Three Months Of Married Life.

(Copyright, 1903, by Curtis Brown.)

Berlin, Nov. 5.—There has been serious trouble in the domestic affairs of one of the minor German courts, about which there have been many sensational rumors in circulation. The central fact of the stories spread abroad—that the young Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar left her husband after three months of married life and ran away to Switzerland—has been officially admitted and it is only in regard to the causes of this flight that the various reports are widely different. One version is that she had a violent dispute with her husband and ran away to play him out, while another account printed in German newspapers stated that a clique of old female courtiers were responsible for the scandal. I have made careful inquiries into the truth of all the reports in circulation and am enabled to give an authentic account of what proves to have been an extraordinary affair.

Grand Duke William Ernest of Saxe-Weimar is 27 years old and rules over one of the petty German states, his grand duchy being 1,400 square miles in area—only a shade larger than the state of Rhode Island—and containing 400,000 inhabitants. He is one of the richest men in the world, and as he is the heir to the throne of Holland in the event of Queen Wilhelmina's marriage remaining childless, he was a catch for any unmarried princess in Europe, for really eligible husbands are scarce in these circles.

Many matchmakers were at work on his behalf and many alliances were proposed to him, but he rejected them all. He was genuinely in love with Princess Caroline of Reuss and was determined to marry her and none other. Princess Caroline is an uncommonly brilliant and talented woman, but she was considered an undesirable wife for William Ernest because the Reuss family has been tainted with insanity for many generations and Princess Caroline's eldest brother is a madman under confinement.

The German emperor, who was interested in the welfare of one of the federal states in his empire, talked plainly to William Ernest about the dangers of hereditary insanity and King Edward of England, who was interested in the succession to the throne of Holland, did his utmost to dissuade his distant kinsman from the marriage. The duke's deputation of statesmen and influential politicians journeyed secretly from Holland to Weimar, the grand duke's capital, to petition him, in view of the probability of his accession to the Dutch crown not to present the country with a dynasty tainted with the curse of insanity.

William Ernest, however, being in love remained deaf to all warnings, reproaches and entreaties, and the pair were married at Buckeburg, the residence of the bride's uncle, the Prince of Schaumburg, on April 30 last. The Kaiser and Queen Wilhelmina of Holland were present, and after the ceremony the young grand duke couple spent their honeymoon in Austria.

#### THEY OVERRODE THE BRIDE.

Early in June Grand Duke William Ernest and his young wife, just 19 years old, made a magnificent state entry into their capital, Weimar, and took up their residence at the historic palace there.

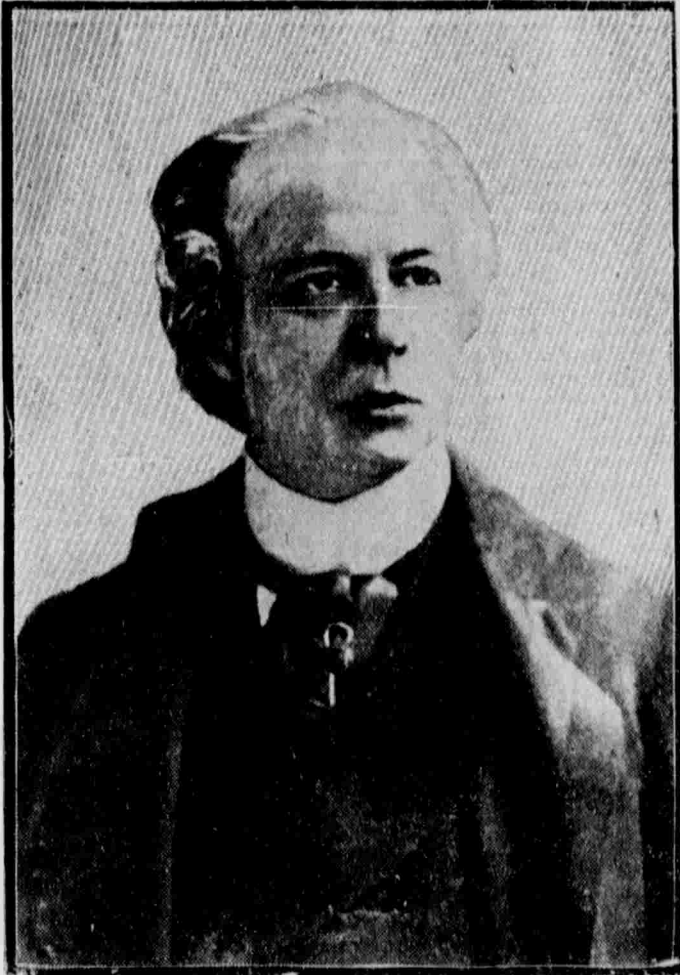
Now the Weimar palace is an old-fashioned edifice, furnished in the style of the early eighteenth century and possessing many old-time discomforts. Grand Duchess Caroline is a modern young woman of energy, having a strong will of her own, and she determined to introduce alterations which would render her new home more habitable. She gave orders for the furniture of her own set of apartments to be cleared out and to be replaced by up-to-date tables and chairs, giving a light and airy appearance to the rooms. Herein, however, she was opposed by three or four elderly aristocratic ladies attached to the court in various capacities, who were convinced that the young grand duchess was unwisely in need of their protection and superior wisdom. They pointed out to her that it would be a sacrilege to remove furniture which had stood in its place for centuries, and declined to carry out her orders till the grand duke's assent had been given. An appeal was made to the grand duke, and he shared the view of the elderly female courtiers that it would be unsuitable to remove historic articles of furniture to make room for twentieth century fabrications.

The grand duchess strenuously resented her husband's defection in the little contest with the old women of the court, and this trifling incident was the beginning of a series of disagreements in regard to insignificant domestic matters. The imperious Caroline was unconvinced in many ways, and constantly came into collision with the elderly aristocratic ladies who had worsted her in the first encounter. On one occasion she desired to add modern French novels to the palace library, which had hitherto consisted solely of classic works, and the female courtiers raised objections again. Again an appeal was made to the grand duke, and this time, too, without actually siding against his wife, he gave her clearly to understand that he regarded her conduct inadvisable and that of the elderly female courtiers unimpeachable.

#### COULDN'T EVEN ORDER DINNER.

The next time Grand Duchess Caroline wanted to select the menu for dinner every day and give her own orders to the chief cook, but the elderly female courtiers assured her that this would be contrary to the established etiquette of the grand ducal court, and placed obstacles in her way. Once more the grand duchess was called in to decide the question, and once more his decision was given against his wife. He agreed with the experienced courtiers that it would be undignified for the reigning grand duchess to take any direct interest in the affairs of the kitchen.

### MAY FREE CANADA.



Sir Wilfrid Lawson is quoted as having determined, in case the imperial authorities persist in the refusal which they gave some time ago for the publication of the correspondence between the Canadian and British governments relative to the consent of the Dominion to the recent arbitration, "to leave it to the electorate of Canada whether they shall govern themselves in future or be ruled from Downing street."

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A few days later Grand Duchess Caroline, who, in her own household at Greiz, a little town of 29,000 inhabitants, had been accustomed to live unceremoniously, wanted to walk out alone to do some shopping, and was irritated when her pitiless mentors exclaimed with every appearance of being horror-stricken that such a thing had never been heard of at the grand ducal court of Saxe-Weimar.

This friction occurred several times daily in regard to the style of dress the grand duchess wore, in regard to the newspapers and books she read, in regard to her pastimes, which the old ladies considered shocking, and in respect to her personal manners, for it was thought that she was too free and easy with all sorts and conditions of people. When it had been going on for a few weeks the grand duchess began to think of rebellion against the discipline to which she was so unaccustomed. She found that she was gradually becoming a slave to her own house, that she had no power in her own household and that she was being subjected to a tyranny intolerable to a woman of character and independence. The hardest part of it all to bear was the lack of her husband's support.

#### FLIGHT.

Suddenly after an eight weeks' losing fight the grand duchess ordered her maid to pack her things quickly, and drove to the station to catch the express to Switzerland. Her flight was hurried, but her intelligence was undoubtedly in time to take steps to prevent it. The frightened domestics who knew that the grand duchess had fled, rushed into the grand duke's apartments and hurried out their intelligence. The reserve generally practiced in conversation with his royal highness, the grand duke maintained his composure, ordered his things to be packed, too, and tore to the station just in time to jump into the same train, though into a different car.

It was a corridor train, and soon the grand duke and wife were on their way. The grand duchess engaged a suite of rooms on the first floor and the grand duke promptly took the adjacent suite. Still the grand duchess continued inexorable and would not admit her husband to her rooms or hold any kind of communication with him. This lasted for three days, and at last she relented sufficiently to grant him an interview, but only to rate him more soundly than he had ever been rated before in his life. She reproached him with being afraid to say boo to his own courtiers and with being a slave to antiquated conceptions of propriety. She accused him of disloyalty to her in siding with her tormentors, and ridiculed the idea that a husband who acted as he had done could really be in love with his wife. So fierce was the onslaught of the grand duchess that she ended by exhausting all her stores of wrath and forgiving her husband.

#### VICTORIOUS AT LAST.

The reconciliation, however, was only partial, for Grand Duchess Caroline stubbornly refused to return to Weimar unless the elderly female courtiers who had caused all the trouble were dis-

### ARRANGEMENTS FOR CZAR'S SAFETY.

Extraordinary Precautions that Are Taken Whenever Russian Ruler Travels.

THE POLICE SEARCH BUILDINGS.

Go Through Every House Within Twenty Yards of Railway Over Which Royal Train Passes.

Special Correspondence.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 1.—Whether M. Lopaukhin, director of the Russian police, really found in Rome the evidences of an unpopular reception for his imperial master as everyone supposes, the director's visit to the Italian capital and its result are none the less significant, for they show clearly that instead of relaxing any of the tireless vigilance which has surrounded Russian rulers for so long, the government is depending even more upon its secret police for the sovereign's safety. Probably the authorities of no other nation would have sent 50 special police agents to Rome six weeks ahead of their ruler to feel the public pulse, and it is doubtful whether any other monarch would surround himself with such hosts of guards as has accompanied the czar during his recent trip to Darmstadt.

With the hosts of enemies, however, which Nicholas II is supposed to have, much of this precaution can be accounted for, but people who are accustomed to stand within reaching distance of their chief executive when he travels about may be astonished at the arrangements which surround the czar during his recent trip to Darmstadt.

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DUKE WOOS HER.

In case Miss Gladys Deacon decides to accept the hand of the premier duke of England, she will assume first rank after the royal princess. The duke is the head of the English Catholics, is middle aged, and a devoted admirer of the talented American beauty.