

for indulgence in the most seductive of modern vices amid luxurious surroundings, admission to the club has been eagerly sought. The scramble to get in it and keep others out of it recalls what one chronicler wrote of the original institution: "One can hardly conceive of the importance which is attached to getting admission to Almack's, the seventh heaven of the fashionable world." Despite much black-balling, which has caused bitter heart-burnings, its membership limit, originally set at 500, has been nearly reached. Its success has been phenomenal in clubdom.

The names of those comprising its managing committee will indicate its social prominence. The list includes the Duchess of Newcastle, the Marchioness of Linton, the Countess of Huntingdon, Lady George Pratt, Lady Rowena Patterson, Lady Noreen Bass, Lady Hene Campbell, the Hon. Mrs. Candy, the Hon. Mrs. Sterling, the Marquis of Linton, the Earl of Huntingdon, Viscount Dunsgraven, Lord George Pratt and several other high degree, high society being equally represented. Among those who have joined are Lady Wilton, Lady Porter, Elizabeth, Countess of Wilton; the Hon. Lady Acland-Hood, the Countess of Yarborough, Lady Lamington, Lady Morris, Lord Aberdare, the Earl of Darlington, Lord Henry Vane-Tempest, Viscountess Galway, Lady Godfrey Clerk, Lord Burnham, Lady Edward Spencer-Churchill, Sir Francis Burdett, Lady Poltimore and Lady Alexandra Page.

There are women a-plenty in London who would gladly risk being "black-balled" for admission to the club. It is not that they are so easily won, but that they are so easily won.

The clubhouse is in Berkeley street, Piccadilly, at the corner of Hay Hill, in the heart of fashionable Mayfair. It is a fine, modern building, the front of the Earl of Ashburham, which was sold by that quixotic peer to provide him with additional means for indulgence in his pet hobby of supplying funds to needy claimants to European thrones. It faces Lansdowne, the famous London road, and is the Duke of Devonshire's stately town residence. The rooms are sumptuously furnished in old-fashioned style to preserve the sentimental connection with the original Almack's, but modern innovations have been introduced of which the famous bucks and beauties of the George III. knew nothing. Among them are electric lights in delicately shaded pink globes which will conceal the pallor of the ladies' cheeks, and electric fans to cool their fevered brows when luck goes against them.

#### A BRIDGE MONTE CARLO.

There are several large cardrooms, containing six tables each, and two smaller ones, where gambling can be indulged in in comparative privacy. The card tables have ash bowls at each end, surrounded with plate glass for depositing cigars and cigarettes, for, unlike the belles who patronized the old Almack's, the fair patrons of this New Almack's can take comfort from the weed divine as freely as the men without subjecting themselves to any suggestion of unladylike conduct. Beside each card table is a dainty refreshment table from which can be obtained solace in the shape of tea or something stronger if the nerves demand it. When members tire of play they can retire to the luxurious drawingroom and stretch themselves on lounges upholstered in striped gold cloth, and at the same time, if it pleases them, they can have refreshments served them on dainty occasional tables of beaten gold and metal mounted on inlaid mahogany. There is a dining room, of course, for the more substantial regalement of the inner man or woman, and the services of a high salaried chef have been obtained to supervise the cooking. And there is another man in attendance who has no official designation, but is equally adept in mixing drinks to suit masculine or feminine palates. Nothing has been left undone to make this min-

#### The Emancipator

Fels-Naptha—turns the hardest half-day in the week into holiday.

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ature Monte Carlo of bridge attraction.

Of course the New Almack's has come in for some severe criticism from those who deplore fashionable society's complete surrender to the gambling craze. This has elicited a specious letter from the secretary in which, with a queer assumption of virtuous indignation, he objects to the popular description of it as a gambling club. He declares that "no purely gambling games are allowed," and that by the rules of the club "stakes at bridge are limited to a modest 10-shillings (\$2.50) per 100 points." The assumption that "purely gambling games" are disallowed is negated by the admission that the club plays the bridge game, which is popularly known as the "Two-to-Two Club."

#### PLAY AS HIGH AS THEY PLEASE.

"The statements as to the rules are entirely correct," said one enthusiastic member to a friend, "but the rules are what might be called vice's concession to virtue—made for outside effect. Obviously we do not play for money points, but no rules can prevent us from having a private understanding among ourselves by which a penny becomes a shilling or a pound if we please, just as in poker you can make a chip stand for anything. Imagine the sort of people who form this club finding any pleasure or excitement in bridge for penny points. The idea is ridiculous. It is not for play of that sort so many of us are staying in town these dog days."

It is one of the most significant evidences both of the money mania of the New Almack's and the reason for it that in the hot weather, when all the other clubs are practically deserted, its rooms are still crowded, the women there far outnumbering the men. Its hours are indicative of the present day habits of the smart set. It is open to members at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and closed at 2 in the morning. For this reason it has been nicknamed the "Two-to-Two Club." In the season, going to the theater or opera, and winding up at the New Almack's for bridge at a figurative penny point constitute the most popular method of "making a night of it" among those whose pedigrees and purses have procured them the highly prized privilege of membership.

Bridge has well nigh superseded every other card game in English society. Thousands play it who never before dabbled with the "devil's picture books." Some degree of skill at it is essential to any woman who aspires to a position in the smart set. It is the almost sole diversion at the great country house parties. When anybody suggests the inclusion of a woman among the guests to whom most of them are strangers two questions are invariably asked concerning her. First—"Does she play?" Second—"Does she pay?" If both queries are answered in the affirmative she is assured of a cordial welcome. And she proves both a loser and a payer she will never lack invitations as long as her purse holds out.

Bridge dinners are the most popular of gastronomic entertainments. Consuelo, Duchess of Manchester, recently gave a dinner to the king. The statement that it was a "bridge dinner" followed as a matter of course. It would be regarded as an affront to royalty to attempt the entertainment of his majesty unless bridge was included among the diversions provided for him.

Scenes of women earn a good living teaching bridge to social aspirants. Special systems of memorizing the cards played. Bridge columns are popular features of all the smart fashionable weekly journals. The mushroom-like growth of women's clubs is largely due to the rage for bridge as is also the license that prevails among them with respect to drinking and smoking. As one woman put it: "A lady cannot be expected to stick at bridge for hours at a stretch without an occasional nip to brace her and a cigarette now and again to soothe her."

To a great extent the permanence of the bridge craze is attributable to the fact that it is a gambling game involving skill which the average woman can acquire as well as the average man. It does not demand that lightning of brain nature which constitutes one of the chief fascinations of poker. Attainment of a fair degree of proficiency at it depends chiefly on the memory, which can be readily trained to meet the demands made upon it.

#### ROOM FOR PAWNBROKERS.

The old stock argument for the enlargement of woman's sphere that wherever she participated in man's work or pastime the sweet charm of her personality and superior moral equipment elevated and purified it has broken down utterly with respect to bridge in English society. Women, far more readily than men, fall victims to the gambling spirit to which it appeals, and once enslaved by it they become utterly reckless as to the sacrifices they make to obtain the means of indulgence. Perhaps it is because they have more idle hours on their hands, and the devil—everybody knows the adage.

Here is a story for which the writer can vouch that shows the sort of mischief bridge is playing among the women. There is a man who, up to some years ago, had a hard struggle to keep himself afloat in business. Now he owns a lovely country place, which he is fixing up elaborately. To a friend who inquired the cause of his prosperity, he replied:

"A few years ago things were going very badly with me. In lieu of payment of a debt which I stood no other chance of realizing anything on, I took over some shares in a West End pawnshop establishment and cursed the hard luck that compelled me to accept such an inadequate settlement as it seemed. About that time the bridge craze struck the country. That turned the pawnshop into a bonanza. Dividends on its shares have gone up 300 per cent. Fashionable women flock to the place to pawn their jewelry and other precious knickknacks in order to obtain money to play bridge. Few of them redeem their pledges. When they go broke new feminine recruits in the game take their places. There is no sign of a let-up in it. Those pawnshop shares have made me."

In the fashionable districts, not only in London but in the big provincial cities, pawnbrokers are reaping a rich harvest out of feminine patrons who have been smitten with the bridge craze, and meanwhile fashionable millinery establishments everywhere complain that they never before had such a hard time collecting their bills.

English visitors have popularized the game at continental resorts. At Carlsbad recently an American millionaire was greatly astonished at being aroused from his bed at 2 o'clock in the morning to play bridge. A few of them redeem their pledges. When they go broke new feminine recruits in the game take their places. There is no sign of a let-up in it. Those pawnshop shares have made me."

THE ORIGINAL ALMACK'S. The old Almack's, whose glories the New Almack's is expected to revive, was founded in the early part of George III's reign by a shrewd Scotchman who, in long service as a butler, had learned much of the ways of the world of fashion.

He conceived the idea of building a suite of assembly rooms for the jockeying and amusement of the great in the land. Much put about to select a name for it which should obviate all prejudice and hide his own origin, he finally hit upon the name of the general public, while at the same time containing proof of his connection with it, he hit upon the device of inverting his own patronymic of Macall and called it Almack's.

As Almack's it flourished and grew famous. It became the favorite haunt of all the wits and titled gossip, the dandies and the aristocratic rakes of a scandal loving period. Here might have been heard the laughter of beautiful Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire—exquisite dancer and reckless gambler—or the envious comments of her rival, the polished gallantry of the great Sir Joshua, the weighty utterances of Horace Walpole and the pointed wit of Sheridan.

There was no pretense of playing for penny points in those days. Fortunes were won and lost in a single night, and none of the habitués cared a button what censorious moralists might say of them. But fashion ruled supreme there. On one occasion the great Lord Duke himself was compelled to run back from the ballroom because his legs were clad in trousers instead of knee breeches.

#### Given up to Die.

R. Spiegel, 1204 N. Virginia St. Evansville, Ind., writes: "For over five years I was troubled with kidney and bladder affections which caused me much pain and worry. I lost flesh and was all run down, and a year ago had to abandon my work entirely. I had three of the best physicians who did me no good and I was practically given up to die. Foley's Kidney Cure was recommended and the first bottle gave me great relief, and after taking the second bottle I was entirely cured." For sale by F. J. Hill Drug Co.

## LAIRD OF SKIBO LIKES THEM BOTH

(Continued from page 9.)

ated the "comrades" abroad that his majesty's advisers deemed it advisable to undertake methods of protection which had not hitherto been adopted during any of the king's continental trips. The resignation of ex-Supt. Melville as the head of the department of the police service is recognized as a misfortune by the king's advisers because that officer's knowledge of the ways of the continental anarchist was unique. His successor, Mr. Quin, is an officer of wide experience of the same kind of criminals, but he has not been able to strike so much terror into the hearts of the "comrades" as Melville. Hence it is that extra precautions are now necessary. The protecting guard on the present occasion is doubled and it is noted as somewhat remarkable that from the chief downward the majority of the detectives in waiting on his majesty are Irishmen. With the assistance of a number of men supplied locally, all roads and railway stations leading to Maribad are carefully patrolled, while Chief Supt. Quin keeps his eye on his royal charge constantly during the day, and at night two detectives well armed stand outside his majesty's bedroom. Until recently King Edward discouraged these elaborate precautionary measures and even now he makes no attempt to conceal the feeling that they are a mixed blessing to him. The late Queen Victoria knew that she was one of the most popular sovereigns in Europe, but that feeling never prevented her from making the most elaborate demands upon Scotland Yard for her personal safety and protection. All the smartest men had to be at her beck and call, and it was not to the advantage of the chief if any of his men were guilty of the slightest dereliction of duty. Although it is considered a mark

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It will be gratifying to Asthmatic readers to learn that an absolute cure has at last been discovered by Dr. Schiffmann. That the remedy is an effectual one cannot be doubted after perusal of such testimony as that of C. W. Van Antwerp, Fulton, N. Y., who says: "Your remedy (Schiffmann's Asthma Cure) is the best I ever used. I bought a package of your drug and tried it and one box entirely cured me of Asthma, and I have not had it since. I can now go to bed and sleep all night with perfect comfort, which I have not done before for 35 years and I thank you for the health that I now enjoy. I hope that you will publish this letter so others may learn of your wonderful virtues." Sold by all druggists at 50c and \$1.00. Send 2 stamps to Dr. R. Schiffmann, Box 891, St. Paul, Minn., for a free sample package.

of honor to be recommended for the duty of protecting the sovereign, it was distinction not altogether relished by the men who watched over Queen Victoria.

#### WITH THE ENGLISH HUSBAND.

The countess of Orford, formerly Louise Corbin of New York, has gone with her husband, the earl, to fish in Norway, and society is hoping that she will return cured of the illness from which she has suffered recently. This malady of the countess' has been the cause of no small social embarrassment. She has seemed unable to get much sleep—often dozing through the whole day as well as the night. On one occasion recently when she and the earl were to give a dinner party—one of the smartest affairs for which they have been noted—the guests were kept waiting until, at a quarter past 8, the earl had to come to the door to inform his wife that she was still sleeping, and that he did not like to rouse her. But the awkwardness did not finish then as the earl went on to ask if they would all mind waiting at least until a quarter to 9, as no one but his wife knew how many guests had been invited or at what time they were expected to come to dinner. None of the servants had the slightest inkling as to the number expected and had laid for twenty. Sixteen people, however, turned up, and after a trying delay the guests and host proceeded to the dining room, there to enjoy the dinner party without the presence of their hostess.

The earl and countess have taken with them to Norway their little daughter, the Hon. Dorothy Walpole, and the child owes her parents to become devoted to the rod, for the latter are great disciples of Isaac Walton. As a matter of fact, this sport holds for them a far more romantic interest than it does for its general devotees, as it was whilst fishing in Scotland that they first met.

#### DAUGHTER OF RAILROADER.

The former Miss Louise Corbin was, of course, the daughter of the American railway magnate, and when she first knew her husband, he had not succeeded to the earldom of Orford and was only known as the Hon. Robert Horace Walpole. It was in 1885 that Miss Corbin became the Countess of Orford, and soon after her marriage she and her husband went off to Florida tarpon fishing off the coast, and it was during this trip that Lord Orford got one of the biggest tarpon ever taken. It weighed one hundred and eighty-three pounds. Lady Orford was almost as successful as her husband, for she returned having broken the ladies' record in tarpon fishing.

#### A SQUARE GAMBLER.

The announcement that an action for libel, involving an exposure of a gambling scandal in aristocratic circles, will be tried in the autumn, has aroused keen expectation in swelldom. A young married man, highly connected and a member of several of the best clubs, is bringing the action. With other members of the fast set who were guests of a Scottish peer, he played baccarat one evening. The play ran high and he won a big pot of money. One of the heaviest losers subsequently made a statement to the managing committee of a club of which they are both members, practically accusing him of cheating. Wherefore he seeks compensation for slander and a vindication of his character as a square gambler. In some respects the affair recalls the notorious Tranby Croft case, but it does not involve royalty.

#### LADY MARY.

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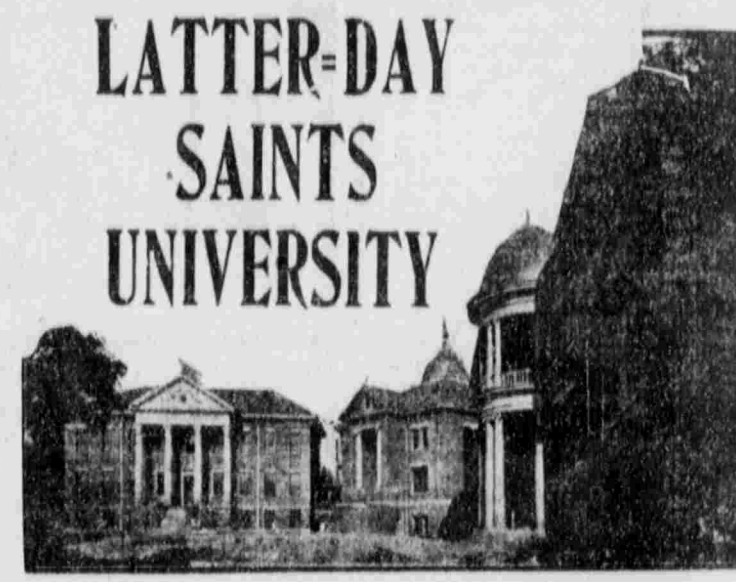
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JOSEPH S. WELLS, Secretary.

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WE ARE determined to have the crowds keep coming to our store, and as a special inducement, we have arranged to have a grand drawing and give away ten excellent prizes. With every \$5.00 purchase, whether cash or credit, you are entitled to one chance. The drawing will take place in our store December 23rd, 1904. The lucky numbers, or prize winners, will be advertised in the Deseret News and Evening Telegram on December 24th, and in the Tribune on December 25th, and we will deliver, upon the return to us of the winning numbers, any of the prizes that are drawn with same, free of charge.

Following is the list of the prizes and the value of each:

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| 1st PRIZE—One Fully Guaranteed National Steel Range | \$60.00 |
| 2nd PRIZE—One New Royal Sewing Machine              | 50.00   |
| 3rd PRIZE—One Mahogany Dressing Table               | 40.00   |
| 4th PRIZE—One Baby Carriage                         | 30.00   |
| 5th PRIZE—One Brussell Carpet Rug                   | 20.00   |
| 6th PRIZE—One Brass Trimmed Iron Bed                | 10.00   |
| 7th PRIZE—One Fancy Parlor Lamp                     | 8.00    |
| 8th PRIZE—One 50-piece Dinner Set                   | 6.00    |
| 9th PRIZE—One Fine Landscape Picture                | 4.00    |
| 10th PRIZE—One Pair Lace Curtains                   | 2.00    |

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