

RULER OF ROYALTY

Ex-Boston Girl Powerful at Portuguese Court.

KING FERDINAND'S WIDOW

Countess of Edla, Once Elsie Hensler, Opera Singer, Was the First American Woman to Wed a European Ruler.

LISBON, Portugal, March 28.—In these troublous times in Portugal a great deal of quiet but effective work for the monarchy and for peace is being done by a former Boston girl, Elsie Hensler, now the Countess of Edla, the morganatic widow of King Ferdinand, a great uncle of the present King.

She has lived many years in seclusion, but her influence is still tremendous. For Ferdinand had no other wife, and although she never actually occupied the throne with him she was recognized by him and by the people as the actual Queen.

She has kept in touch with political affairs in an unobtrusive way, and her counsel was frequently sought by King Carlos, who would listen to her with a deference due to her age and her long years of faithful devotion to Portugal, as he would not listen to his Ministers or his Queen.

The boy King is credited with being devoted to her since she and the people held her in great reverence since her life in Portugal began. Her wisdom and good sense in the interest of the King and the people as well as her tact and her great weight in the solution of the country's difficulties.

The Countess has not been seen at court since Ferdinand passed away, but she has lived in Lisbon, frequently visited them, and they have been in the habit of going often to her palace near Lisbon and her country place in Cintra.

Laid Out by Ferdinand.

The last was laid out for her by Ferdinand and has not been changed since she received it from his hands, virtually as a bridal gift. Hidden behind great forest trees is a charming villa to which the ends of the earth have furnished lovely and costly draperies, pictures and furniture.

Here Portugal's unworldly Queen reigns supreme and the village people for miles around adore her for her life of virtue and her many deeds of charity.

The place was actually occupied by Ferdinand's lifetime, for here he lived his true home life and here his Ministers had to come often to find him. He deserted the big palace in Lisbon, where he had to be alone, as the Countess would not live there.

Elsie Hensler's life has been more like a fairy tale than real life, but so unobtrusive has it been with all its grandeur that she is often spoken of among the list of American girls who have made great matches in Europe. None, however, has been as exalted as hers, for where is the American girl who has married a King, and a King who refused to elevate any other woman to the throne because he could not get her?

She went, many years ago, to Portugal to sing in grand opera. Her voice and her beauty won the King's heart. It was true marriage, and they lived happily. She is still beautiful, with long, wavy white hair on her thoughtful brow, and dark eyes full of fire. She has a queenly carriage, but her simplicity and gentleness are as famous as her beauty.

Tennessee Claffin an Ex-Neighbor.

A near neighbor in Cintra, in former years, was another American woman whose life and marriage were interesting and romantic. Tennessee Claffin, Lady Cook, whose husband was not only a Baronet in England, but Viscount Monserat in Portugal.

The Portuguese estate of the Cooks is at Monserrat, in Cintra, one of the largest, most beautiful in Portugal, and in possession of Tennessee Claffin's stepson, the present Sir Frederick Cook. He and his stepmother never got along well together, and, therefore, she did not see go often to Portugal. But she has retained her friendship with the Countess Edla, and the two often exchange letters.

Some one asked the Countess recently if she ever visited America. She shook her head, saying she was now an old woman, not in the best of health, and that her life and fortunes were bound up in Portugal.

COMBES IS AMBITIOUS

Hopes to Return to Office When Clemenceau Is Out.

PARIS, March 28.—(Special).—M. Combes is bestirring himself, and is trying to reconstitute the "bloc," with a view to return to office when M. Clemenceau and his Cabinet have had their day. M. Jaures, who has been very active of late, is resuming his alliance with him, and the Temps, at the conclusion of an article on the subject, says: "It is for the Radicals to consider whether they are weary of their independence and would fall again under the horrible yoke under which they all groaned at the end of M. Combes' Ministry, without being able to rid themselves of him."

At Meudon, a theoretic Socialist and Communist, well known about the middle of the last century, M. J. B. Beluze, has just died in poverty and oblivion. There was a time, however, when Beluze had acquired a considerable notoriety as an advocate of Communist colonies in different parts of the world. He was the son-in-law of Cabot, the author of the "Voyage en Italie," who established the first Communist bureau in Paris in 1818, and in 18 years sent some 300 Communist colonies to the Icarian colonies on the Mississippi. Beluze is also said to have been the leading spirit in the attempt to found an Icarian colony at Cheltenham, England, which failed, and afterwards he devoted his whole time to proselytizing in favor of workmen's productive corporations.

Curiously enough, Gambetta and M. Clemenceau were both members of an association which he founded during the Third Empire, and while they both reached success as well as fame, he has died in obscurity.

FEEL DEPRESSION KEENLY

English Shipbuilders Call It Worst in 20 Years.

LONDON, March 28.—(Special).—An English shipbuilder who necessarily complains to keep a pretty sensitive finger on the pulse of trade, says that the current depression is the worst in 20 years. Many causes of this deplorable state of matters could, he admitted, be cited, but in spite

of the arguments that were urged for the majority of them, two most disquieting facts of the situation persisted in worrying him. The average man is inclined to laugh at foreign competition in shipbuilding. This was because the average man did not care about looking facts in the face. The first fact which disquieted this shipbuilder was that in 1907 more ships were built in the United Kingdom for foreign owners than in 1906, and the second was that more ships were built abroad in 1907 than in 1906.

Not only were foreign shipbuilders cutting into England's business to a larger extent, but the British were more and more equipping foreign shipowners whose economic advantage was already numerous with the means of making irish shipbuilding less and less profitable. British shipbuilders were being blamed for this, of course; but people who talked lightly about foreign competition could not be allowed to ignore this reticent effect. Foreign competition was a stern reality. Dutch and German builders were actually quoting better prices for cargo steamers than the English were. Germany was cutting Zealand out for river craft in South America and elsewhere.

Even England's practical monopoly of the construction of torpedo craft was menaced, as the tenders for the Portuguese boats recently went to show. Not only were there German and French concerns in this competition, but Italian and American as well.

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LOSE ALL SINS IN GANGES

HALF-MILLION HINDUS BATHE IN TURBID FLOOD.

Celebrate Festival of Ardhodyog That Seldom Comes Twice in a Lifetime.

CALCUTTA, India, March 28.—Half a million Hindus were cleansed of their sins and of the sins of their ancestors back to the thirty-ninth generation of their haboon ancestors, according to the teaching of the Shastras, by bathing in the yellow waters of the Ganges last Sunday in celebration of the Ardhodyog Yag, or festival of salvation.

The Ardhodyog Yag seldom comes twice in a lifetime, and for months devout Hindus in this part of India had been making preparations for the ceremony. Yag means "combination," and to bring about the festival the stars must be in a certain position on a certain day in a certain month, and even at a fixed hour.

Consequently, when it was announced that everything was propitious for last Sunday, hundreds of thousands flocked to the banks of the Ganges. The chief gathering was in Calcutta, because of the bathing facilities and its famous temple consecrated to the goddess Kall.

The women were dressed in their richest costumes, upon which they had labored for months, and many were heavy with golden rings and necklaces. Dressed in all their finery, they plunged into the river with a look of the deepest religious fervor.

According to the Hindu faith this ceremony is the most sacred of the many prescribed for all occasions. No matter how deeply one may have sinned, a plunge in the Ganges on the Ardhodyog Yag is regarded as equivalent to a through ticket to Nirvana, not only for the bather, but for all his ancestors except the unfortunate thirty million and first, who is left to take his chances of final salvation.

Because of the vast crowd the greatest precautions were taken and special constables were enlisted to preserve order. But the enthusiastic devotees of Kall were too engrossed in their celebration to make much disturbance.

At a signal given by their priests they plunged headlong into the river amid a awful din of beating gongs and conch shells and beating of tam-tams. But as soon as the ceremony was finished they quietly dispersed.

A few days before the Ardhodyog Yag, the Basania, or festival of the goddess of learning, was celebrated on the occasion of the new moon. Every Hindu on that day pays devotion to the goddess, who is usually represented as a white figure poised on a lotus flower, with a flute in her hand.

The bidding of the mango fruit, and red powdered mica are offered on her shrines, the worshiper painting his forehead as well with mica. Students of Hindu learning and scholars of the day devoted to the goddess and shopkeepers are forbidden to use their account books, making the memorandums of their transactions in red ink on loose sheets of paper.

The flying of kites is a great feature of the day in all parts of India.

SEEK PHANTOM FORTUNES

Thousands Besiege English Law Courts for Unclaimed Funds.

LONDON, March 28.—(Special).—A tide of eager visitors flowed in and out of the law courts the other day. Each had the same desire—to inspect the list of 3,000 accounts which make up a total of \$5,000,000 lying as unclaimed funds under the control of the high court. A constable directed the stream of treasure seekers to a couple of tables whereon lay three copies of the list. At noon each was being scanned with deep attention, while many people stood by impatiently waiting their turn to run their eyes over the list.

In the high court pay office the officials anticipate a great influx of those who possess a "claim" must first write to the office, briefly stating his case. The officials will not consider that there is sufficient ground for investigation in a mere coincidence of names. Each applicant must be able to suggest a definite connection with the case in which he thinks he has a financial interest. Of the accounts which are contained in the list, some have lain unclaimed for over a hundred years; and in more than one case of this kind the expense which would be incurred in proving a legal right to the money would be altogether out of proportion to the amount ultimately recoverable.

"But a subtle fascination lies in such dormant funds," remarked an official. "People with but the remotest claims are willing to waste hours in running the list, and writing curious letters to this office about them. More often than not we find that they have no possible connection with the matter."

PARISIAN JUDGE MATCHES WIT WITH FAMOUS DANCER'S.

PARIS, March 28.—(Special).—"La Belle Otero," the well-known dancer, was shown over the Paris Law Courts this week by M. Benoit, presiding Judge of the Court of Appeals. She was greatly interested, but did not consider that there was sufficient ground for investigation in a mere coincidence of names. Each applicant must be able to suggest a definite connection with the case in which he thinks he has a financial interest. Of the accounts which are contained in the list, some have lain unclaimed for over a hundred years; and in more than one case of this kind the expense which would be incurred in proving a legal right to the money would be altogether out of proportion to the amount ultimately recoverable.

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HEILIG THEATER

4 NIGHTS BEGINNING TONIGHT SPECIAL PRICE MATINEE WEDNESDAY.

Wm. P. Culican's Sumptuous Presentation of Pixley and Luder's Musical Comedy Success.

BURGOMASTER

GUS WEINBURG as THE BURGOMASTER RUTH WHITE as "WILLIE"

FAMOUS TUNEFUL CHORUS OF KANGAROO GIRLS

SEATS ARE NOW SELLING AT THE THEATER

HEILIG THEATER

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By Arrangement with Jas. K. Hackett, North American Amusement Co., Props., Announce

MARY MANNERING

AND SUPERIOR COMPANY IN THE SUCCESSFUL AMERICAN PLAY

"GLORIOUS BETSY"

By Rida Johnson Young, Author of "Brown of Harvard"

It tells a strong love story and scintillates with bright, crisp lines. BEAUTIFULLY GOWNED AND COSTUMED.

SEAT SALE OPENS NEXT TUESDAY AT THE THEATER

REPLACE ENGLISH SEAMEN

CHINESE INVADE BRITISH MERCHANT MARINE.

Shipowners Are Charged With Escaping Liabilities Under Workmen's Compensation Act.

LONDON, March 28.—(Special).—The question of the increasing employment of Chinese labor on English trading ships, to which Mr. Fenwick drew attention in the House of Commons last week, is one of vital importance. It is urged that shipowners are evading the law and escaping their liabilities under such measures as the Workmen's Compensation act. Mr. H. De R. Walker moved the second reading of an education bill, and was proceeding very satisfactorily with his maiden speech, when, without any warning, he concluded and sank into his seat, evidently suffering from extreme nervousness. The appalling sensation to the unaccustomed speaker of hearing his own voice has produced at times some curiously incoherent and wandering deliveries, but Mr. Walker was going ahead admirably when he suddenly looked around and collapsed.

All quarters of the House murmured sympathetic "hear, hears," and Sir Edwin Cornwall hastily procured a glass of water.

RAISULI EVADES CAPTURE

London Vaudeville Manager Fails to Sign Bandit for Show.

LONDON, March 28.—Fred Trussell, manager of an amusement enterprise, has returned to England after an unsuccessful attempt to capture the notorious Raisuli, whom he had hoped to engage to appear at his show.

MAIDEN SPEECH IS RUINED

Member of House of Commons Attacked by Stage-Fright.

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PANTAGES

4TH AND STARK STS. THE LEADING VAUDEVILLE HOUSE WEEK OF MARCH 28. J. A. JOHNSON, Resident Manager.

Bill Ending Sunday: The Marvelous Diericks; W. A. Spera and Troupe in "Jockey Jones"; Lambert and Pierce; Miss Loretta Boyd; Buford and Bennett; the Regal Trio; Murphy, Andrews and Miss Parker; Jean Wilson, the Biograph.

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A Bright Operetta with Fourteen Voices, Brilliant Settings, etc. This is one of the biggest acts ever signed by a Western Vaudeville House.

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Electrical Novelty Musicians—a new act from Europe, and a good one.

DALY AND O'BRIEN Tanglefoot Dancers. MONOHAN The Great Skater. CRAWFORD AND MEEKER Singing, Dancing and Talking Comedians. THE 'BIOGRAPH Brand-New Pictures. JEAN WILSON Illustrated Song. PANTAGES ORCHESTRA Direction H. K. Evenson.

Matinees every afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Nights at 7:30 and 9. Prices the same: Upstairs, 15c; downstairs, 25c; boxes, 50c. Take any seat at weekday Matinees, 50c.

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RAFFLES

The Amateur Crackman—Adapted from the stories of E. W. Hornung—One of the most original of modern successes—Baffling, puzzling and replete with fascinating and interesting scenes—Original production complete—Under the stage direction of William Dills.

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MONDAY, APRIL 6 "THE SECOND MRS. TANQUERAY" TUESDAY, APRIL 7 "THE NOTORIOUS MRS. EUBANKS"

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Matinees Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 2:30 P. M.; Prices 10c and 20c. Every Evening at 8:15; Prices 15c, 25c and 35c.

SEATS MAY BE RESERVED BY EITHER TELEPHONE

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A Comic Love Story. Moral: Never Take a Music Lesson on Skates.

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Special Added Attractions. Mr. F. G. Bauer, Portland's Favorite Balladist; Miss Pullman, Favorite Broadway Sourette.

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Presenting the Nautical Playlet, CINDEREL by Edward Loche.

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SAM BROOKS & JEANETTE In "Fluffy Ruffles and Spoon Sam on the Main Street."

O'Neil's College Boys Singers and Dancers of Reputation.

Original Young Buffalo America's Sensational Marksman, assisted by Mile. Vera, and his wonderful trained dog, Frank.

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Three shows daily—2:30, 7:30 and 9:15 P. M. Prices, matinees, 15c to 50c part of the house, except boxes. Evening prices—Entire lower floor, 25c; entire balcony and gallery, 15c. Sunday and Holiday Matinees same prices as evening performances.