

The Most Henpecked Husband In England - King George!

His Wife Says He Mustn't Smoke, Mustn't Drink, Mustn't Bet, Mustn't Have Ladies' Day at His Club, until the Poor Man Looks Like a Small Boy Waiting to Be Spanked

London, Oct. 1. TO those members of high society who are not blinded by reverence for royalty it has become evident that the King of England is the most henpecked husband in his own country.

Physically overshadowed by his large, buxom, rosy-faced wife, King George appears at public ceremonies very much like a small boy who is being taken care of by a police matron. That is, indeed, an accurate symbol of the attitude of Queen Mary toward the King in everything.

Queen Mary says that the King must not play cards, that he must not back his racehorses, that noticeably pretty or fashionably dressed women must not appear in the court circle, that he must not smoke strong cigars, that he must not go up in airplanes, that he must not go out in the night air, and that he must not attend stag supper parties.

The latest revelation of the Queen's dominant personality has occurred in connection with a proposed "Ladies' Day" at the King's favorite club. This is the Marlborough Club, which is adjacent to the grounds of Marlborough House and was founded by King Edward when he was Prince of Wales. It is the only club which the present King ever enters.

Clubs have not prospered lately in London because of the growing popularity of amusements in which both sexes can share. Recently a great innovation was proposed with the idea of putting new life into the Marlborough Club. It was planned to hold a Ladies' Night once a week at which members could bring their women friends to dinner and have a game of cards afterward.

The plan was submitted to King George, like all proposed changes in the club organization, and at first he approved of this change quite enthusiastically.

Later, it seems, he mentioned the subject to the Queen and she immediately put her foot down heavily on the plan.

"You must stop it at once, George," she is reported to have said. "Such promiscuous association of men and women is most demoralizing to all concerned and inevitably leads to unsex the women. I don't see how you could have thought it consistent with the dignity of the King of England to sit about with a lot of forward girls and smoke cigarettes."

King George was then compelled to inform the Marlborough Club that on further consideration he disapproved of their plan. It is a peculiarity of the Queen's methods that she usually makes the King correct himself. This is what she calls "doing things in a modest and womanly manner."

Two members of the governing committee of the Marlborough Club resigned because they were not allowed to carry out the popular project.

Even more interesting is Queen Mary's suppression of the King's platonic friendship for the Countess of Mar and Kellie. The Countess is young and very handsome and a prominent figure in fashionable society. It was observed that King George took evident pleasure in sitting beside the beautiful Countess and talking to her. Consequently, whenever the King accepted an invitation to a private entertainment, the hostess was careful to include the Countess.

Queen Mary noticed the King and the Countess in animated conversation and indicated to him by a well-known and doubtless much-dreaded signal that she wished to speak with him alone. The Countess, however, continued to talk to the King, which she had a right to do, for he had invited her society and in theory no one, not even his wife, may intrude on the King's presence when he is speaking to anybody. The

Queen was compelled to subside and his Majesty greatly enjoyed the little rest which the Countess's boldness assured him.

King George keeps a racing stable in accordance with the traditions of the monarchy, but at the beginning of his reign he did not bet, as his father did. Last Spring it was discovered that he was betting on the races considerably. Then he stopped. Once more Queen Mary's foot had

the costume in which Lady Diana proposed to appear. She glanced at it, and then the King was instructed to say to his hosts:

"Lady Diana must wear a fuller costume than this."

When this information was conveyed to Lady Diana, instead of wearing a fuller costume she executed dances quite in the professional manner. Probably that

of Rutland, who, of course, hold a very high position in British society and enjoy the friendship of the King and Queen. She is as piquantly pretty as her sister, formerly Lady Marjorie Manners.

Like many young women in fashionable society, Lady Diana aims to execute costume dances quite in the professional manner. Probably that



The Charming Countess of Mar and Kellie, for Whom the King Has Developed a Marked Platonic Friendship,

descended heavily on her husband's amusements.

Last Summer the King and Queen paid a visit to the Earl and Countess of Derby at their famous estate, Knowsley, in Lancashire. A regular vaudeville show with half a dozen professional performers, as well as amateurs, was among the features provided for their entertainment.

Among the numbers on the programme at Knowsley was a dance in costume by Lady Diana Manners. Before the performance the Queen, remembering some of the dance costumes she had seen at the music halls, asked to see a photograph of



"The Countess of Mar and Kellie, by boldly standing her ground, saved the King from severe punishment by his wife."



PHOTO BY L. VAYNTER, LONDON

"You must stop that at once, George," said the Queen, when she learned that he had approved of the introduction of a Ladies' Day at his favorite club, the Marlborough



is the way they wish to make a living when the era of Socialism comes. Lady Diana appeared recently at an entertainment in Albert Hall dressed as a regular ballerina.

Now, to decline to attend a royal party which invited is something like high treason. If the King and Queen are not to be supreme autocrats in social matters, the little power they have hitherto retained will have gone. Lady Diana's action has therefore created quite a painful situation in court circles. It emphasizes the fact that the gayest element of fashionable society is now distinct from Court life with which it was identified in King Edward's time.

When he was quite young King George was fond of smoking. During the years he spent in the navy there was nothing he liked better than to pull on an old black briar-root pipe. After his accession to the throne he began to smoke large black cigars after dinner. The Queen told him that he had better stop the practice, because it was bad for his health.

Now he seldom smokes anything stronger than a cigarette, and he does that with a timid and furtive look, like a little boy who is afraid he will be caught. It is a significant fact that Queen Mary explains to society that the odor of tobacco is very disagreeable to her.

It seems to be more than a coincidence that a series of exceptionally good-looking young women have been snubbed or otherwise discouraged by the Queen. Recently the Countess of Shaftesbury was relieved of the important Court office of lady-in-waiting to the Queen. The Countess occupies a very high position in society, not only on account of her husband's rank, but because she is

a sister of the Duke of Westminster. It was suggested that the Countess lost her position at Court because she had shown sympathy with the suffragist movement, but in the light of other occurrences it seems probable that her striking beauty had something to do with it.

The explanation is made that Her Majesty has no objection to womanly beauty, but it must be associated with a solid, healthy physique in order to meet with her approval. Winsome, wistful little sylphs are not welcomed at Court.

Her Majesty's censorship over feminine looks has extended far below Court circles. When the young Prince of Wales was spending his year in Paris the Queen discharged his Parisian laundress because she was too conspicuously pretty.

The great international horse show held in London this Summer counted largely on the patronage of the King and Queen. An intimation was conveyed to the managers that their Majesties could not witness the exhibition of horses with women riding astride. The principal person affected by this decree was Miss Ruth Boyd, a graceful American girl, who rides astride in a most accomplished manner.

The late Colonel Cody, the American employed by the British army as a flying-machine expert, was recently giving an exhibition to the King at Aldershot.

"Can I not take Your Majesty for a ride in this machine?" asked Cody. "There is nothing I should like better," replied the King, "but I am afraid the Queen would not like me to."

In this case the Queen had good reason for exercising her authority.

Photograph of King George and Queen at a Military Review. "Physically overshadowed by the Queen, he looks as if he feared to be punished for doing something naughty."

Why Toads Should Be Kept in the City Home

OUR native birds do not frequent the city as they do the rural sections, and when the many insect pests that feed upon vegetation get a start in the city flower or vegetable garden, they must be killed by the use of poisonous sprays or devoured by toads, or they will completely devour the plant life of the home, even if it is only a small flower garden in the back yard or a bed on the lawn.

Poisons are dangerous, no matter how carefully used, and the safer plan is to keep toads and protect them. These creatures are not very attractive, but they are very valuable, and anything of real value these days becomes more or less attractive in most of our eyes.

Toads devour more insects in a given period than most birds. Insects work on vegetation more under cover of darkness than in daytime, and the toads know this, and go forth at night and

snag up the unsuspecting enemies of flowers and vegetables by the thousand. They dart their tongues out and take one or more insects every time. They are not at all particular as to the particular kind of bug they feed upon, but they catch many kinds, among which are flies and all sorts of beetles which sap the life out of plants.

Toads are supposed to give persons warts who happen to touch them, but this is a mistaken idea. It is nothing less than a superstition, and it is folly to touch such a thing, unless it be to keep children from handling them.

A board or box or two in the flower garden raised up two or three inches to permit the toads taking shelter beneath them, will afford protection. When the plants become of considerable size the leaves will provide shelter for the toads.

Florists and gardeners purchase toads, and boys search the country for them. In time they breed and the numbers are increased.