

AT A MANOR IN ENGLAND

An American Woman Tells of Her Visit to the Country Home of Earl, Countess of Sandwich

(By Robert Mountsler)

To most travellers in Great Britain life in England's historical country homes is a closed book. To readers of various English novels, it is supposedly a very open one, with dukes and duchesses, earls and countesses, flitting through their pages in a mixture of love and tragedy, house parties and high life.

But Corene Cowdery Davison, New York artist and writer, who recently visited England, going over on the American Farmer and returning on the American Trader, found a very natural simplicity of living with a guest for ten days at Hinchingsbrooke the country seat of the Earl of Sandwich and his American-born wife, the Countess of Sandwich, who was Alberta Sturges of Chicago and New York. Readers of these travel articles in The Sun may recall that when the daughter of the Earl and Countess, Lady Faith Montagu, was interviewed here she told of enjoying most of all in her travels the quiet seaside town of Sitges in Spain and the rugged country inland from it.

"When I visited at Hinchingsbrooke Mrs. Davison said, 'Lady Faith met me at the station with her car, one of those small English ones upholstered with colored leather—this was soft peacock blue—and members of the family were waiting to greet me on the lawn, where tea had been served at 5. Here was a group needing a Sir Joshua Reynolds to do it justice

for I could imagine no lovelier picture than this English family assembled about a tea table, their wicker chairs covered in Dresden blue slip covers and set about the wide green lawn, extending from the terrace of the enormous stone house out to the woods and the fields, where two farmers were quietly tossing hay.

"Lady Sandwich was perfectly beautiful in her old rose and gold brocade coat and black lace hat with tiny roses at the side against her fair hair, as the shadows of a huge cedar of Lebanon played across her face. Lord Sandwich, a tall, distinguished looking man, was faithfully attended by two dogs, a large black Labrador retriever and a little white Highland terrier. It is a Hinchingsbrooke tradition always to have a black dog and a white one.

"So large is the house that for the first days I was constantly getting lost, but after a time I learned my way past many doors, down the panelled staircase and around the great hall, which was formerly an open courtyard, and to the long dining room in another wing.

"The dining room is panelled in oak and down the centre runs a long refectory table, found in the cellars at the time the present Lord and Lady Sandwich came into the property. It had been the dining table of the nuns when the house was a priory, before Henry VIII dissolved all religious orders and gave it to a member of the

Cromwell family. The table gleams with the polish of many years' daily rubbing and reflects the lights of the silver-gilt Charles II candelabra, which stand at either end.

"The first night I was in Hinchingsbrooke they dined en famille. No servant appeared at all during the meal. The dishes stood over alcohol flames on a long serving table by the wall, where everything had been made ready in the fashion we know as 'buffet supper.' Breakfast was always served this way, the bacon in an old Sheffield dish standing on a silver platform, under which alcohol lamp was burning, side by side with eggs and fish. Coffee and hot milk were in silver pots on another hot plate, and the toast was carefully cooled in silver toast racks which stood on the dining table next to the dish of marmalade. Breakfast was served from three rooms, so to speak. Bacon and eggs from the kitchen, formerly the nunnery; tea and coffee from the still room, under the old priory; butter and jam from the buttery which under the kitchen, is used both as a cool room and as a pantry. A part of the nuns' kitchen and a section of the dining hall of the abbesses went to make up the present dining room.

"The bedrooms are absolutely fascinating, each in a different period, and many with old four-poster beds. The room next to the one I had was the state bedroom, occupied by James I when he visited the Cromwells.

Each morning after a maid had brought a cup of tea to my bed and placed on the washstand a can of hot water carefully wrapped in a linen towel which bore the five pointed coronet embroidered in a corner, I stepped to the window and enjoyed a lovely view—of the huge carved stone gateway and the tall, thick

trees beyond."

This ancestral seat of the ninth Earl of Sandwich contains numerous paintings, not only of members of every generation back to the first Earl of Sandwich, but of a fine collection of modern French paintings, which the present Earl of Sandwich, who is a director of the Tate Museum has acquired.

"This collection," said Mrs. Davison "includes a fine early Van Gogh, a gray evening landscape which has all the sensitiveness of the young painter; a large Modigliani, of a boy's head; two small but lush Renoirs, and a number of interesting Matisse drawings. These hang in the Earl's personal study, with its numerous books on art.

"Of particular interest to me also were the portraits of first Countess of Sandwich, resplendent in a turquoise blue satin gown, and of Elizabeth, Countess of Sandwich painted in 1757 and looking so much like her descendant and my friend, Lady Faith, as to be almost uncanny, and diaries and notes, in the library of Edward Montagu, High Admiral of the British fleet, who conspired to restore Charles II to the monarchy and for his services was made the first Earl of Sandwich and Baron, Viscount Hinchingsbrooke.

"Readers of Pepys' Diary are quite familiar with this Earl of Sandwich, so vividly presented to his famous secretary. Pepys' house is still standing on the estate, and John Drinkwater lived there when writing his life of Cromwell.

"The priory from which the present Hinchingsbrooke developed was supposedly founded in the time of William the Conqueror. Norman stones have been found in its walls, but the earliest date recorded in stone is 1431 on the east cornice. Henry VIII bestowed this property on Richard Williams, nephew of Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex. Made Lord High Chamberlain of England following the fall of Cardinal Wolsey, he took the name of his illustrious uncle. Of his descendants, Sir Henry Cromwell the uncle of Oliver Cromwell, entertained King James I on his way to take possession of the throne of England. Years later when Oliver Cromwell had come to power as the 'Protector' his uncle sold the estate of Hinchingsbrooke to a member of the Montagu family.

"One evening at dinner when we were talking of pride and the frailty of human nature, the Earl of Sandwich remarked that it was interesting to speculate how different might have been the history of England had James I taken notice of young Oliver Cromwell while playing about the gardens at Hinchingsbrooke."

They Take Their Dog Friends With Them

"Love me, love my dog," seems to be the philosophy of most people.

The other day a lad of about ten was observed just entering the department store. He seemed to be having considerable difficulty with his jacket—could not button it to his liking, seemingly, for it bulged.

Upon closer observation the reason for the bulging became apparent. The boy was trying to conceal a small pup inside the jacket. But the pup was of an exploring nature and would not stay put.

The boy supported the inclosed pup with one arm while he used the other hand to keep the dog inside the buttoned jacket.

A little later the same day another dog companion was observed on the surface car. This time it was a young man who held a canvas satchel on his lap. The satchel had a zipper closing in the top, but it was not entirely closed.

From one end the head of a Boston bulldog protruded. The dog kept very quiet, hardly moving his head, but rolling his eyes about. He seemed to realize that he was in forbidden territory and must make himself as

WHEN FRENCH GOVERNMENT UNCOVERED ROYALIST PLOT



Sensations have been following fast upon one another in France since the discovery of a royalist or dictatorship conspiracy and the finding of dozens of arms caches throughout the country. The Government claims to have the situation well in hand. Our pictures, first to reach Canada, show Paris police carrying arms from secret munitions depots, exploring manholes leading to cellars and sewers, and investigating secret doors in deep cellars.

PAPERS ENDORSE M'NAIR'S STAND ON THE MINTO STRIKE MATTER

Papers of all Shades of Political Opinion Across Canada Commend Words of Acting Minister of Labor

Two of the latest papers to endorse the stand taken in connection with the Minto strike are the Campbellton Tribune and the Hartland Observer (Opposition). Their utterances are as follows:

Attorney General J. B. McNair, who with other members of the provincial government, has been striving earnestly to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Minto coal strike, evidently believes the time for plain talk has arrived, and he certainly hit out straight from the shoulder in a recent published statement. The government would certainly be remiss in its duty were it to stand idly by and allow the C.I.O. to get a foothold in this province to the detriment of industry. Hon. Mr. McNair made it clear that there would be no legislation at Fredericton to compel the mine owners to recognize the union, Hartland Observer.

"The result of the balloting by the striking coal-miners of the Minto district Thursday night, favoring continuation of the strike by an overwhelming majority, has been followed by a plain statement by Hon. J. B. McNair, K.C., Attorney General and Acting Minister of Labor for New Brunswick, which is given to the public today. The Acting Minister states that the definite challenge will be no longer ignored and the matter has placed itself in a position in which this Province is to be governed by constituted authority or by the C.I.O. The action of outside labor leaders in influencing the strikers in the Minto area to continue the strike and to reject the advice to return to work and give the Fair Wage Board opportunity to function is given condemnation in unmistakable terms.

In the most unfortunate situation since as possible.

Soon the young man arose to leave the car. He stepped to the street, carrying the satchelled dog with its comical head protruding.

On reaching the sidewalk the young man set the bag down and drew the zipper to the other end. The dog jumped out of the bag and expressed his delight at his freedom by capering about his master, his tongue lolling and with a wide and foolish but loving grin.—New York Sun.

ting outside interference must strike a responsive chord in the hearts of all

The Acting Minister forecasts an effort on the part of those interested in the promotion and continuation of this labor dispute to secure legislation in this province under which they can compel employers to recognize and deal with them. Along the same line is the statement that the same people are quoted as saying that they will ask Ottawa to appoint a Commission or Board to deal with the question of Union recognition. The purpose of this, in the words of the Acting Minister, is to force the mine owners to acknowledge the exclusive right of the C.I.O. to handle labor questions and establish a compulsory collection of Union dues out of wages of the employees fifty per cent of which will go to Washington and another thirty per cent to Nova Scotia.

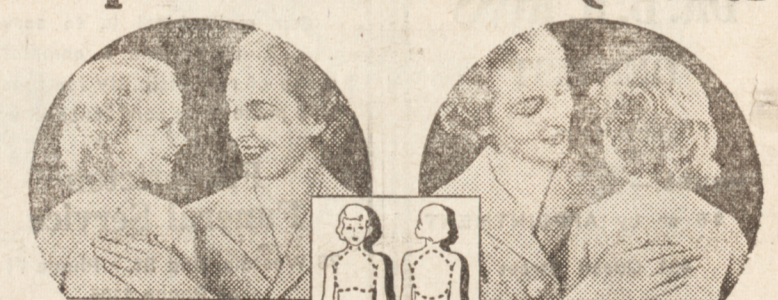
"Definitely within Provincial jurisdiction," is the statement of the Acting Minister. "So far as I am concerned Ottawa will stay out." Public opinion certainly will support Hon. Mr. McNair in his decision to have this New Brunswick question settled here. Ontario had its contest with the very organization which is endeavoring to have its way here. The C.I.O. in that province came out second best and to Premier Hepburn in his attitude was given the support of the citizens of Ontario. In Quebec Premier Duplessis has taken like action against the same organization with corresponding response on the part of the people. Working conditions in the Minto field have received little consideration, union recognition being emphasized. If the welfare of the miners had been considered by the Union those conditions would have come first.—Campbellton Tribune.

C.N.R. REVENUES SHOW INCREASE FOR PERIOD

(Special to The Daily Mail)

MONTREAL, Quebec, Dec. 3.—The gross revenues of the all inclusive Canadian National Railways System for the 9 day period ending November 30, 1937 were \$5,092,639, as compared with \$4,633,071 for the corresponding period of 1936, an increase of \$459,568.

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