LUXURY GONE MAD.

A London Banquet Which Rivals the Days of Ancient Rome.

"I think I may say without arrogance," said Mr. Pruger, General Manager of the Savoy Hotel, to a London Chronicle reporter, "that the Kessler gondola-banquet creates an absolute record both as regards its cost, the picturesqueness and beauty of its details, and the speed with which it was designed and produced.

"I don't think, even in America, they have ever done anything like this. Of course, there was Mr. Kessler's famous 'animal banquet,' but it was not beautiful as this was. I fancy you would have to go back to ancient Rome for a parallel.

"So far as the cost per head is concerned, I fear the £2,000 that was mentioned in the papers will hardly meet the case. It will be nearer £3,000. As there were twenty-four people present, you see this brings out the cost as something like £125 a cover.

"Above all, you must remember that we had only twenty-four hours in which to prepare the whole thing. It was only on Thursday night that Mr. Kessler came to me and told me that he wanted to give a Venetian banquet for the following day, regardless of cost. He left all the details to me.

"In that time we had to get Venetian scenery specially painted—Campanile and all. This alone kept twenty scene-painters at work. We had to arrange for all sorts of wonderful lights, including an electric moon. We had to bank up the courtyard with cement—or, rather, what used to be the courtyard of the old hotel—and flood it. We had to build gondolas—the great white gondola for the diners, and little gondolas for the dishes—as well as get gondolier costumes for the waiters.

"And then we covered the whole place with flowers—carnations and roses chiefly. The flowers cost over £400. Altogether, I should reckon that more than a hundred men were employed throughout the day and night preparing for the banquet."

"That does not include the cooking of the banquet itself?" asked our representative.

"Oh, no," said Mr. Pruger; "the cooking would add to the number considerably. The whole banquet of sixteen courses was prepared in a special kitchen, and twenty chefs devoted themselves to it, quite apart from minor helpers—all under the direction of our master chef, the famous Thouraud."

Asked if any of the dishes were special inventions for the occasion, Mr. Pruger replied that at least two of them—the latest masterpieces of Thouraud's fancy—had never before been presented to the palate. These were "Filets de Sole en Caisse a la Venitienne" and "Cherubine de Chapon a la Gondoliere." The former of these proved, it may be mentioned, a most seductive delicacy, the fillets of sole being actually cooked in transparent paper boxes, beautifully decorated, through which electric lights cast a tender glow.

It may be added that the assistance of another famous artist of the Savoy kitchen was requisitioned for the decoration of the Hessler table, this being M. Scrapi. Somewhat appropriately named, M. Scrapi is a sculptor, and is retained by the Savoy on account of his cleverness in chiselling figures out of ice. Only the other day at Claridge's, which is, of course, under the same management as the Savoy, M. Scrapi's ice-eagle, which stood in the centre of the room at the "Pilgrims'" dinner, was generally admired.

For the Kessler banquet M. Scrapi carved three great lions of Venice, all in ice, which were borne in upon the shoulders of gondolier-waiters, and formed a conspicuous feature of the culinary pageant. The lions themselves bore each a tray, upon which were iced peaches.

"As to the other details of the banquet," added Mr. Pruger, "I believe you already know most of them—not least, the wonderful cave, over five feet high, which was brought in upon the back of 'Jumbo Junior,' the baby elephant. Not only was the cake lit up all over by electric lights, but it was set upon a revolving platform, and was indeed a most beautiful sight.

"As to the guests, they included, besides several American and other friends of Mr. Kessler, Mme. Rejane, Mme. Jeanne Grannier, Sir Thomas Dewar, Miss Edna May, Miss Sarah Brooke, and Signor Caruso, who sang afterwards. His fee for singing has, by the way, been incorrectly reported as being £350. It was £450.

"After the banquet, of course, there was great reception, at which about eighty guests were present, and an entertainment, to which Mr. Malcolm Scott, Miss Connie Ediss, Mr. Maurice Farkoa and a whole host of West End favorites contributed.

"Altogether," concluded Mr. Pruger, "I think I am right in saying that there never was such a banquet given within memory. It does not, however, by any means exhaust possibilities. If only, for instance, some other millionaire were of Mr. Kessler's tastes. I see no reason why a balloon banquet should not be arranged. Everything cohld be prepared on—or at any rate taken up to—the top floor, and conveyed to balloons, which could hang over the streets amid all sorts of fairy lights. It would be a novel, not to say pretty, idea, and quite possible.

"I have also thought of an almost opposite kind of banquet—one that should realize Jules Verne's notion in 'Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea.' I would have an aquarium dexterously arranged all around, with actual fish swimming there, so that the guests could really imagine that they were at the bottom of the sea. The food would, of course, be let down from above, whence waiters would also arrive, dressed as divers.

"Still, for the present I agree with you. The Kessler banquet is quite startling enough for one season."

WHY QUEGEC OPPOSED BORDEN.

A Sherbrooke Conservative Writer Says it Was Not by Priestly Domination.

Toronto, Ont., July 16.—The Toronto News publishes the following significant letter from Mr. L. S. Channell, of Sherbrooke, (editor and proprietor of the Sherbrooke Record), protesting against the attitude of the News in the Autonomy Bills school question. After regretting the News' "wrong idea of existing conditions," Mr. Channell proceeds:

"I have lived here in the Eastern Townships for over thirty years, a community about evenly divided between Roman Catholics and Protestants. I speak as a Protestant and one who has always supported the Conservative candidate. I have studied the conditions in this Province seriously, and by travel and investigation, compared our conditions with that of Ontario and Western Canada, as well as many of the leading States to the South. I do not say that we have perfection, but as a whole

OUR SYSTRM OF SCHOOLS COMPARES FAVORABLY.

all things considered. Our rights as an English and Protestant minority in Provincial affairs are always respected, and we have perfect confidence that this condition of affairs will continue.

"The Conservative member for this county, Dr. Worthington, supported the Government in the vote on the Autonomy Bills. He did not do so out of fear of losing his next election for the county as a whole is Protestant, but because the people generally considered nothing was being granted to the Catholics that they were not entitled to. As a fact, I have not heard a single man condemn Dr. Worthington for his vote on this question, and I am in a position to know of any complaints, if they are abroad.

A QUESTION OF FAIR PLAY.

"The Protestants of this Province fought hard for the protection of their rights at the time of Confederation, and Sir Alexander Galt refused to consent to Confederation until these rights had been established against any future misunderstanding. Our instinct of 'British fair play' demands our support for our French compatriots of like rights. Those asked for in the Autonomy Bills do no injure the future progress of the new provinces, and will not have any bad effect on the schools of that country.

"As an English Protestant I have perfect confidence in my independence for the future, as Canada must always be an English and Protestant country, and if the minority of this province should at any time have a grievance, I know there is the power behind to protect these rights. This very reason places the minority here in an unpleasant position to have the Protestants of Ontario work up such uncalled for feeling over something in which they have not been asked for help, or even requested to advice by the sections more directly concerned. I was in hopes that the

ATTACKS ON THE ROMAN CATHOLIC RELIGION

would stop and a more sane method be adopted by the News and other Ontario papers as soon as the vote was over, but I regret some very unfair cartoons are still used. If our Roman Catholic friends should attack Protestants in the same manner we would have a civil war on our hands in no time.

"I hope you will use your influence to bring about a better feeling, and help our Ontario brothers to learn that the Catholics of this Province are not overbearing or aggressive against Protestants in the way of curtailing any of our rights. If this can be said of them in a Province where they are so overwhelmingly in the majority, what have we to fear in any province where they must always be in the minority through the natural course of events."

EVERY PHYSICIAN KNOWS

About the great merit of Dr. Hamilton's Pills of Mandrake and Butternut which cleanse the system, cure constipation and piles. Use only Dr. Hamilton's Pills. Price 25c.

HOUSE PARTIES.

An Easy Way to Get Back to Nature.

To make a house party is simple. You take some house (furnished), a little land, some water, if procurable, food, drink, a few horses, motor cars and sailboats, according to taste or income, add from six to a dozen young persons of assorted genders, stir with a thermometer, and go and sit in a cool place. The house party does all the rest; plays tennis or golf, drives, motors, goes swimming has picnics, sleeps, is regular at meals and animated in discourse. At least, it should be animated in discourse. If it isn't you've made a mistake somewhere. But almost always it is, and in return for your work in keeping the machinery running, you have wonderful opportunities for improving and rejuvenating observation. You hear also some of the newest terms of skeech and some of the new songs. And you get back to nature in one of its most edifying phases, for have we not the testimony of ancient philosophers that there is nothing in nature more interesting than the way of a man with a maid unless it is the way of a maid with a man.

As for the grown people who try to get the flavor of summer, not by proxy, but at first hand, they do various things. A lot of them go to Europe. What they do there I do not know, nor has it ever been satisfactorily expounded to me. It has ceased to be good form for Americans to dwell on the details of their experiences in Europe. When I was there it was fall and not much doing. Yet it was pleasant. I dare say it is pleasant in summer, else folks would not straggle over there in such droves as they do, making American house parties at all the hotels.

Some grown-up people live on yachts in summer. The sea is a part of nature and undoubtedly worth getting back to, though there is force in Conrad's criticism of yachting as being only an amusement of life, whereas the merchant service, he says, is life itself. The strong bond of the sea, the fellowship of the craft, does not exist, he says, between yachtsmen as it does between men who seriously follow the sea for a living.

Still, yachting is delightful when the market has gone your way, and if you can get back to nature in a motor car you can in a yacht.

Yachts, though, are not for the many. You get a great deal more of nature for your money in a garden. It needn't be a great garden either, but it had better be the same one every summer. You make gardens grow by sticking to them and poking things into the ground in successive years. Next to a child or a young person a garden is the most helpful summer property and folks of thrift in ordinary circumstances ought to have both.

Many people see more in gardens that is worth seeing than most people see on yachts. I have known cases where gardens ministered more effectually to some people's civilization than Europe did to others. The things about civilization that people can spend a summer in Europe without finding out would fill books.

About a century ago there was a year here-abouts that was known as the year without a summer. In that year snow fell in every month. The people didn't like it.

Summer is popular, deservedly, I think, though reviled at times when it is too hot.

PALE AND ANXIOUS.

Your Countenance Indicates the Body's Awful Struggle for Health.

Impossible to think or work clearly when there is no reserve of vigor, no nourishment in the blood, no supply of nerve energy.

The life of the half sick man is pitiful, in fact, almost criminal, when bounding strength is so quickly derived from Ferrozone.

This nutritive tonic is guaranteed to strengthen all men, women and children. Weak organs get new force vital energy is generated. Muscle and fat are added, healthy color is restored, and the blood fairly tingles with new found life.

Read the evidence of Jno. Carter, of 424 King Street, East, Toronto, who says:

"After a severe attack of grippe my health was almost shattered. I suffered constantly from nervouness, and dyspepsia. At night I would wake up with terrible palpitation and heart pains. Work became a geeat effort. At ten in the morning I was so tired and weak that I could hardly work another minute.

"Then came a bad attack of rheumatism, which laid me up in bed. I could scarcely lift the weight of a pound, and to stoop or bend was impossible. My druggist recommended Ferrozone, and he knew what he was talking about, for it rebuilt my strength, gave me abundant appetite, better blood and new nerve energy. The rheumatism has disappeared. I weigh more, fell refreshed and vigorous, and am able to work ten hours a day. Ferrozone did it all."

You will be steadied, toned and strengthened for all time to come with Ferrozone. Get the genuine in 50 cent boxes, or six boxes for $2.50, at all dealers, or N. C. Polson, & Co., Hartford, Conn., U. S. A., or Kingston, Ont.

CHARLES MURPHY'S SOCIAL PROGRESS.

Charles F. Murphy, head of the Tamany Hall, is now as great a nabob as his predecessor, Richard Croker. He moved to his new country place on Long Island a few days ago, carrying with him all the accessories of social greatness—a string of horses, two automobiles, a yacht, a troop of servants and many other things regarding which he did not even dream twenty years ago, when he was conductor on a horse car.

Said one who has known him for many years: "He does not need a knife when he eats his pie nowadays, and it is said that he can make a salad dressing all by himself. Croker never made such progress of time."

BAD FEATURES OF FAST TRAINS.

There is an aspect of the high speed train that deserves the high speed train that deserves a word of notice here, and that is the effect of example. The New York Central and Pennsylvania set the pace and a good many other railway companies are likely to attempt to follow it to the extent of speeding their crack trains to a faster schedule. We have no commendation for this latest time reduction on these trunk line roads, but they are better equipped to run trains safely at seventy miles an hour than some other roads at fifty miles an hour.

The great defect of American railroading today is not low speeds. It is too frequent accidents. Most American railway trains are run at quite high speed as the existing track rolling stock and signal system justify. If money is to be spent for improved service, let it be for making travel safer.

So far as increased speed is concerned the travelling public as a whole, will gain much more by greater promptness and regularity of train movement and close adherence to time tables than it will by spectacular feats of fast running by special trains.

TOO MANY DOCTORS.

A physician has just returned from China heavily laden with stories of Chinese medicine.

"Medical consultations are carried to their extreme limit in China," he said. "There, when any one becomes seriously ill, a consultation of fifteen or twenty doctors is held. The doctors fill the house with their arguments. They make as much noise as a political convention. But such a consultation as that would be considered small and futile if a great man—a mandarin say, of the third class—were to be ill. To consult on his case at least a hundred doctors would gather together.

"A member of the royal family was taken sick while I was in China and my Chinese host told me with a good deal of pride that the largest consultation known to history had been held over the sick man. No less than 316 physicians, he said, had come from every part of the kingdom, to study and discuss the case.

"The royal patient, I heard afterward, died. This mammoth consultation had been in vain."

THE HEIGHT OF THE ALPS.

The discovery has been made by the Swiss Topographical Department that the accepted altitudes of all the mountains in Switzerland are incorrect by ten feetmmmmmmmmmmm rect by about ten feet. These altitudes were, we learn from Country Life, officially calculated from the level of the block of stone in the Lake of Geneva, believed to have been used in Roman times as an altar, and known as the Pierre a Niton, on which, in 1820, a bronze tablet was placed recording what was believed to be its exact height above the sea, to serve as the standard for all national surveys.

Now it has been discovered that, owing to an error in calculation, the height of the stone above sea-level was made 3.26 metres too much, and the officially registered altitude of every point in the country is thrown out accordingly.

HUMOR OF THE HOUR.

McCarthy lost his oxidized silver-handled umbrella at the previous meeting of his lodge and when he got the floor at the present meeting he said:

"Wurthy Shamrock and bruthers,—At the last meeting of the lodge I lost an umbrella with an oxidized silver handle. Be bruther in deeds as well as in wurruds. The bruther who doesn:t return it to me is a horse thief, he steals money from the collection box on Sunday and licks his wife and I'm prepared to prove everything I say."

Next morning thirty-five umbrellas were sent around to McCarthy's house by special delivery.

WANT THE G. T. P.

Brandon, Man., July 25.—At a meeting of citizens called by the Mayor, to hear the report of the delegates sent to Montreal and Ottawa, to interview the officials of the Grand Trunk Pacific, and Hon. Clifford Sifton, as to the possibilities of getting the railway to bring its main line through the city, resolutions were carried unanmiously, declaring it to be advisable to make the Grand Trunk Pacific a grant of land, and asking Hon. Mr. Sifton to use his influence in getting the Grand Trunk Pacific to come to Brandon.

Lifebuoy soap—disinfectant—is strongly recommended by the medical profession as a safeguard against infectious diseases.

Cupid has been on earth a long time but he never seems to grow any older—or wiser.

Riches are not essential to happiness but poverty-stricken love is mighty unsatisfactory.

Nervous children should never be scolded unless it is absolutely necessary.

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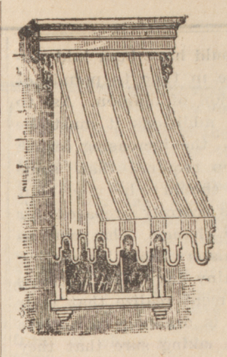
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.



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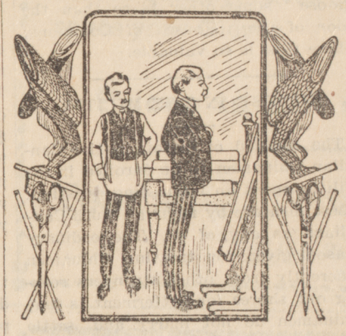

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The kind that keeps you cool these warm days.

We would like to talk this matter over with you at once, and can quote you prices that will astonish you.

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LUCY & CO.

Have since May last given away fifteen dozen Watches. No other firm in the province has dealt so generously with their customers. This is why the corner is the busiest place in the city.

They have lately received of those celebrated

Cushion Soled Boots

SOVEREIGN BRAND

Which for real comfort and durability are away ahead of anything in the market A careful examination of these Boots will convince you that the Cushion Sole is all we claim for it.

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Lindsay's Restaurant is located on King Street, and is the largest and best in the city. Anything you can't get at LINDSAY'S in the eatable line must be out of season.

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Boston Baked Beans and Brown Bread always on hand.

Hot dinners served daily at eleven o'clock, a. m. Lunches at all hours day and night.

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All kinds of Fruit in season. Parties forgetting to secure their groceries or meats from the regular dealer can always buy them at Lindsay's. Lindsay serves breakfast at six o'clock every morning.

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