

In the Realm of Women---Some Interesting Features

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LOVE and MARRIED LIFE by the noted author Idah McGione Gibson

John's Friends.

I suppose I should have been big enough to have risen above the feeling that, because I was not dressed suitably and was travel stained and worn, I was out of place in this gay party. Instead of being able to make my first appearance among John's friends after a visit to the beauty parlor and the selection of my prettiest frock, I was painfully aware of the fact that I never looked worse in all my life.

After the first say inquiries and answers were over, I lapsed into silence with the painful consciousness that I was being judged not only plain, ill dressed, awkward, but stupid as well.

John had made a place for himself beside Elizabeth. Morning with the words: "By Jove, Boss, you are the best looking girl I have seen in a month of Sundays!"

Of course he didn't realize just exactly what these words told and neither did he think she was the best looking girl he had seen in a month of Sundays. He just was trying to tell her that she was looking well in her exquisite, if somewhat bizarre, peacock-blue, spangled gown and her wonderful emeralds and sapphires which shone in her ears, about her neck, on her fingers and in her blue hair. I had never seen these stones set together before, without diamonds to brighten them, but Miss Moreland's gems were so gorgeous and the settings were so unique, that they were indeed stunning. Every other woman's jewels in the room looked conventional and ordinary by comparison.

I saw her surreptitiously call John's attention to a magnificent diamond ring with a large central sapphire surrounded by emeralds and set in platinum. She seemed almost to draw it from her finger. John shook his head, putting up his hand in negation. He looked across at me quickly as though fearful I had seen the episode, but I pretended to be engrossed in the gay foolishness of Karlton Shepherd.

"Are you sure," he said, "that Jack has never told you about me? We have been inseparable all our lives—had the same room at college, are members of the same fraternity, and now are deadly enemies in business. I belong to a rival advertising concern."

John's ears must have been acutely turned in our direction, for he said: "Well, I've put one over on you this time!"

"Oh, I didn't mean getting married, you inflexible bachelor," said John. "I got the Dunham account this morning."

"Good! More power to you," answered his friend, magnanimously. "Meantime I could not throw off the feeling of being 'out' of it. I wondered if all the days of my married life were going to be as long as this one had been. Never again, I said to myself, will that old joke about married people living longer than single ones, and the cynic's suggestion that they don't live longer, it only seems longer, be anything but tragic."

"Why, John, you were only married yesterday!" Alice exclaimed. "Well, you see what luck Kate brought me, don't you?" And John gave me one of those rare smiles that started in his eyes and slowly reached his mouth. Such was his fascination for me that all that tabular of beautiful women were as naught. John had told them sincerely that I had brought him luck and my heart sang with joy. It was as though he had said:

"Yes, here she is. I have selected her from the entire world of women that I have known. She may not meet your approbation but her appeal to me is supreme."

I felt myself glowing under his wholesome praise. "Do you know that you look as though you had been using your puff and rouge stick?" whispered Karl Shepherd to me audaciously.

I answered: "Happiness is the greatest cosmetic a woman knows." "Then she is a fool not to snatch happiness when it comes her way, isn't she?" was his somewhat cryptic question.

"I did," I answered with the desire to ignore any flirtation interpretation that I might put upon his question.

"Do you know," he said, in a low voice, "I admire you more than any woman I have ever seen."

I looked my surprise, and he continued: "I think you carried off that horribly awkward position in which Jack put you with the greatest bravery and aplomb I've ever seen. You knew as well as I did, that you were being weighed in the balance."

"And found wanting!" I interrupted. "Well I have had a rather trying day. It has included a hot, tiresome railroad journey, meeting of John's mother, and then being brought here unexpectedly to meet his friends in all their festive array while I am at-tired almost shabbily as you can see. It is a rather impossible position. Don't you think so?"

"John should not have put you in that position, but he always was thoughtless. However, he is true blue just the same," Karl said loyally.

(To Be Continued.)

FLIMSY STOCKINGS OR NONE?

Opinion of French Leaders of Fashion Seems to Be Divided on the Subject.

There is at present waging a very interesting controversy in the minds of those who deal in footgear for American women. It is all about the new fashion in Paris of wearing laced slippers, which sometimes are no more than heeled sandals—with or without stockings.

In Paris these slippers are quite the expected thing. Everybody wears them. That is, everybody wears a slipper that is laced over the instep and about the ankle. Some of the French women, of course, wear sandals, and most of them wear stockings. It is perfectly true that stockings are sometimes dispensed with and very elaborate jeweled sandals are fashioned to wear with bare feet. But for the most part stockings are worn, albeit they are of the flimsiest texture and are often flesh-colored, so that their presence is not noticeable. They are then but a slight barrier interposed between the world and the bare, bare skin.

All sorts of things are done to keep those new, flimsy stockings from oblivion.

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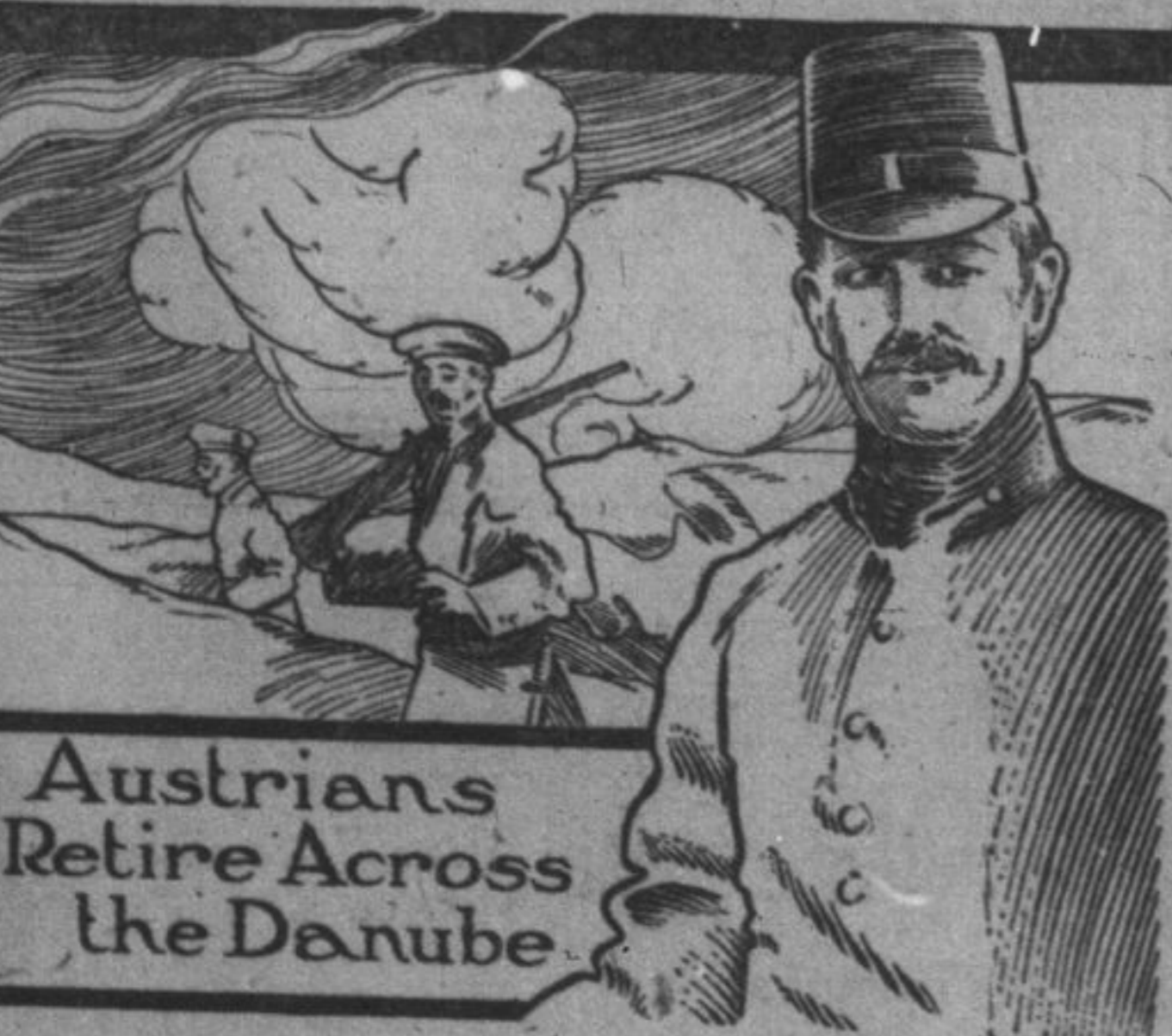
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TODAY IN HISTORY



Austrians Retire Across the Danube

One year ago today, November 3, 1918, the Austrians, retired across the Danube, and Belgrade, the Serbian capital, was reoccupied by the Serbians. Find another soldier. Answer to Saturday's puzzle: Upper left corner down, nose at shoulder of man to right.

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NECKWEAR IN GREAT VARIETY

All Kinds of Frills and Laces in Vogue, Many of Them Extremely Expensive.

Dame fashion fairly runs riot in frills and laces this year, after her stern self-denial during war time; and she has concentrated her fancy for frilly and lacy things upon neckwear. Never have neckwear counters been so irresistible as now. You approach one with the intention of buying a new necktie for 50 cents or so—and come away with several enchanting collar and cuff sets, a simply not-to-be-resisted waistcoat and ten yards of fluffy ruffling in various widths for the beautifying of summer frocks. Beware of the neckwear counter, this season, if you have sternly determined not to spend an extra cent for fripperies.

Of course, neckwear is a frippery—any woman will admit that, but no other frippery in dress counts for so much in smartness and daintiness. Considerable style may be given to the simplest little dress, as every woman well knows, by a very good looking collar-and-cuff set, and very often the accessories cost more than the whole frock.

For neckwear is by no means cheap this season. Indeed some of it—the very prettiest and most tempting things—are appallingly expensive. One must pay for dainty little real lace edgings and insertions, and hand-embroid-

eries on filmy fabric, and finely run shirtings in net. These things are bound to be more expensive than pique or cotton gaberdine collar and cuff sets finished with a simple row of machine stitching. But how much lovelier are the filmy, frilly neck-fixings! No woman cannot resist them! There is one joy about it—many of these enticing things can be manufactured at home if one has patience and exquisite skill with the needle. It will take time to fashion a fichu, all tiny hand-tucks and rows of shirred puffing and narrow lace, and when you have finished your labor you will understand why these pretty trifles cost such discouraging sums at the neckwear counter. It is not the material involved, it is labor. Yet the material has something to do with it too. Women are much more fastidious about fineness of materials than they used to be. The woman who used to be quite well satisfied with a 50-cent collar and cuff set of white lawn trimmed with imitation Val lace, now picks out a set of filmy handkerchief linen garnished with hand-made fillet or Irish crochet—and is willing to pay the price for it.

PLAIN LINEN SUITS POPULAR

Generally Seen in Combination With Coats That Are Plainly Tailored and Rather Short.

Plain linen suits, with coats a trifle longer than the regulation three-quarter length and skirts plainly tailored and rather short, are quite the vogue, with all white in the lead. The long lapels, with one large pearl button at the end, are the only fastenings and only trimming.

Black patent leather and black satin slippers, pump style, equaling white kid pumps in popularity, are worn with these suits. Many wear the stiff-brim, regulation sailor hat, a few the black ribbon hats, to go with these suits.

Some of the sweaters that are knitted loosely have the full ruffle that begins at the waist and extends below the hips, and these ruffles resemble the rainbow, the colors are so varied. This is quite a new idea noted recently. These loosely knitted sweaters are well liked now, and the pastel shades are the leading colors, with all white. Usually narrow picot-ed ribbon is used around the waist, and occasionally a narrow white kid belt is worn.

Sport sleeveless jackets are made in various materials. Baronette satin, georgette crepe, fan-tail, panne velvet and pongee are being much worn lately. These usually are without any trimming, and are cut severely plain, only the velvet ones having braid as a finish. They are all about the same length of the regulation sweaters.

He Wished. "Did you follow up the old superstition and make a wish when you saw that load of hay?" "I sure did," said Farmer Cornstock, "I wished I owned it."

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