

# The Dreadful Divorce Mix-up of the Goulds

How an Angry Husband Had Mrs. Gould Arrested with a Dashing Mexican, and Why Mrs. Gould, Denying the Right of a French Divorce, is Coming to America to Accuse Frank J. of Serious Unfaithfulness.

By Betty Van

PARIS, Sept. 2.

ARE Frank J. Gould's marital troubles going to be the foundation upon which he is to build a successful business career and take up the work of his father? Persons close to him say that it has already had that tendency and that his home-coming to New York will take him from a somewhat gay life in palaces and with the



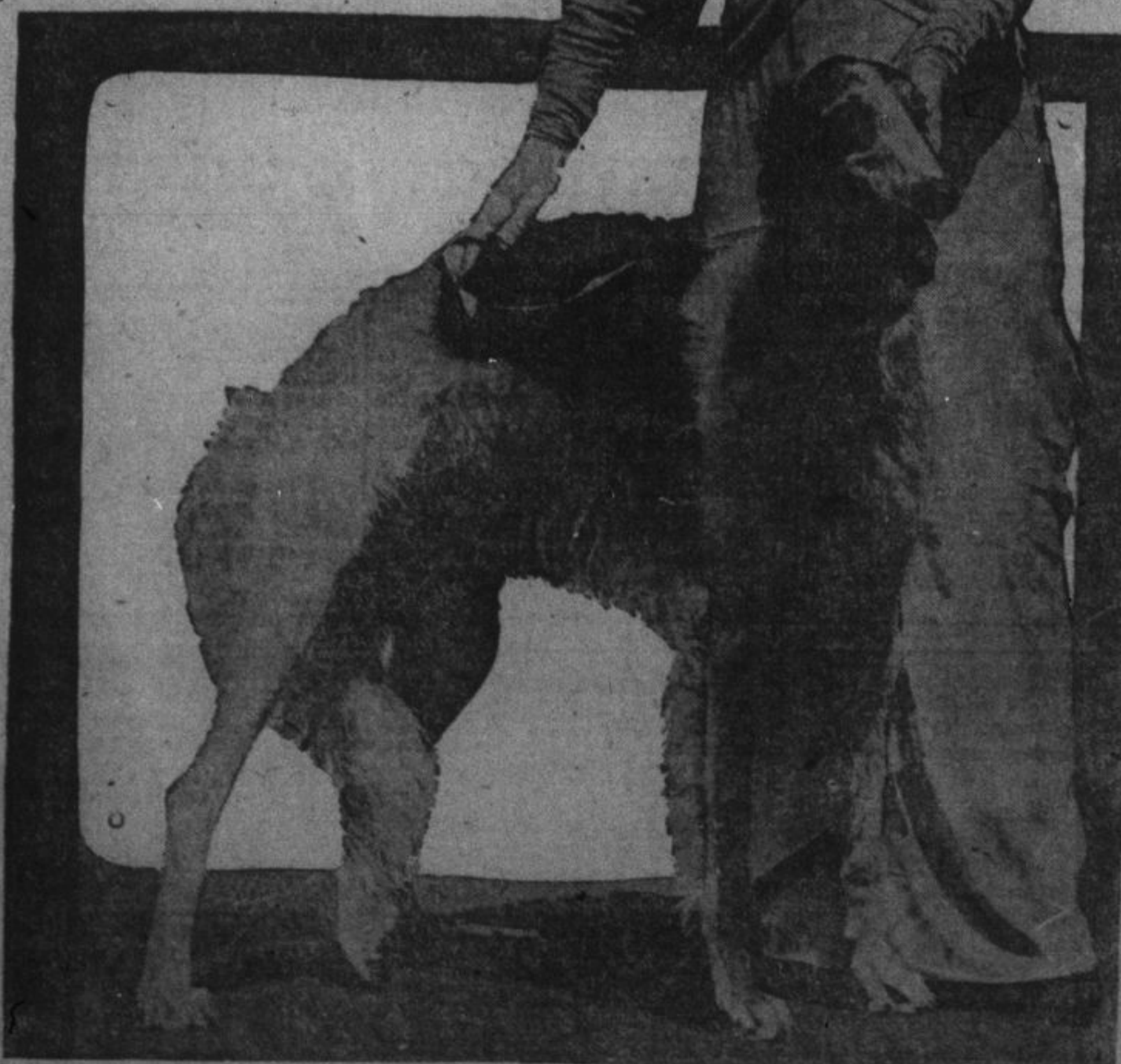
Mlle. Florence Lacaze, Whom Mrs. Gould Says She Will Name in an American Suit Against Her Husband.



Mrs. Frank J. Gould, Who Was Arrested and Fined in Paris on the Complaint of Her Husband.



Above, Frank J. Gould. On the Right, Mrs. R. H. Thomas, the Former Mrs. Gould.



most dazzling society of the world, to a foundation of the big things that must be done if big fortunes are to endure and substance is not to fade into the shadow.

He is bent upon coming home and assuming the reins. He had a like notion some years ago when he walked each day from his home in Fifth avenue to his office and surrounded himself with business men for a good part of the day. But he was not then, and is not now on good terms with the managerial part of the family, and he soon found himself keeping away from the lower Broadway office and eventually he was back in Europe living the life of ease that had been opened to him.

Very few of the kings or emperors of any time had any such place as he has set up near Paris. It has fittings and furnishings that Europe as a whole never did possess, and probably will never fully understand. Nero had no such playground for his court favorites, and the walks given by Caesar to the Roman public in his will were but cow paths in comparison with the beautifully laid out grounds of this millionaire's palace of palaces.

For the mirrored bath, large enough for 100 to swim in at a time, the old Roman would have given more of his empire than he burned, and fiddling would have gone out of fashion in his own castle.

#### Mrs. Gould's New Turn

Things have reached a pass with Mr. Gould where the divorce courts offer as much trouble as business ventures. Mrs. Gould, from whom he got a divorce after charging her with sustaining a friendship with a Mexican youth, born to the cactus purple, has suddenly taken a new turn with her case, and where she allowed an undefended action to result in divorce, she now pleads that the French court had no jurisdiction to hear the case because she is an American citizen by virtue of her marriage to Gould.

That, strangely, was the very same contention made by Mr. Gould's counsel when she sought relief in France. But his reason was a different one. Under the French law a woman may plead the community of property interests and acquire one-half of the husband's estate. In New York she could only get so much alimony as the court in its wisdom thought proper, or the husband, in a private settlement, saw fit to make.

Now the case takes the aspect of being in the lap of the divorce court, with either an acknowledgment that no jurisdiction obtains, or a sustaining of the right to grant the decree. If the court refuses to uphold its jurisdiction, Mr. Gould is going to New York to institute a new suit in that state. He will transfer the whole play that held Paris by the ears to New York city and give society and the common people one of the most interesting and complicated actions that they have ever known.

If he does not, Mrs. Gould is coming over to make her fight for a share of the Gould estate on the ground of her citizenship, and she is to be accompanied by the man named as correspondent in the case, under whose protection, or the protec-

tion of whose family, she has lived since the divorce was granted. She promised many sensations from her side of the case and it seems that in any event the American chapter of the Gould divorce will transcend the first one in this city.

Mrs. Gould claims that she has been held as virtually a prisoner for many months; that given automobiles, she was forbidden to use them; given clothing, she might not wear it. But, given jewels, she managed to conceal them so well that even the final court action—in so far as it is final—found her still possessing the rare gems.

I am told by counsel for Mr. Gould that it will take three or four months for the divorce decree to become final, even if the court assumes jurisdiction in the face of her pleading. He says that she herself acknowledged the jurisdiction of the court by making a number of appeals, and that her new turn is entirely a reversal of form from her side of the case. Early in July Mr. Gould asked for an American passport. He will probably find some delay and then will wish to wait and see the outcome in France.

On the other hand, the difficulties attending the coming of Mrs. Gould to America have been many. Her Mexican friend, strong in his relationships in Spain, declared that he will arrange for the necessary papers through that country. He says that he is coming to America and will stand by Mrs. Gould to a finish.

In the meantime Mr. Gould finds the society of the woman who was named by his wife, former wife of a San Francisco architect, charming and appears to find in the Paris association an added reason for not rushing his start to the home town.

But they are asking in Paris if his new troubles will be the making of a business career, and he is answering the question with an affirmative that may mean much.

#### An Astonishing Case

At any rate, it is sure that Frank Gould is going to make a new start, but whether it is to be business or matrimony, quies sabbat?

The Gould case is, indeed, astonishing. It was in October, 1918, that Gould had his wife and her Mexican friend, Mario Casassus, arrested and they were fined fifty francs each by the Correctional Court in Paris, on a charge that they had improper relations.

Gould followed the arrest incident with a suit for divorce and was granted a decree April 15, 1919, in Versailles. Mrs. Gould was given 3000 francs a month by the court.

Mario Casassus, who was named as correspondent, is one of seven children of Senor Don Joaquin de Casassus, twice Mexican Ambassador to the United States. He was a student at Princeton and later was a member of the American

Ambulance Corps. His family is one of the wealthiest and most influential in Mexico.

Then came Mrs. Gould's declaration that she is going to return to New York, file a counter suit, and obtain a divorce from Gould, naming Mlle. Florence Lacaze, a former Parisian beauty and former wife of Henry Chittenden Heynemann, a son of a well known manufacturer of San Francisco. Heynemann married Florence Lacaze Oct. 27, 1914, in Madrid, Spain. A year later, Mrs. Heynemann brought suit for divorce in San Francisco and won her action. Mlle. Lacaze returned to the stage in Paris and at the time she is said to have become acquainted with Gould was playing in the Theatre Folies Bergere.

#### The Marital Tangle

Frank J. Gould first married Helen Margaret Kelly, daughter of the late Edward Kelly of New York. The late Bishop Greer performed the ceremony. The couple lived together for six years during which time two daughters were born, Helen Margaret and Dorothy Gould. In 1909 Mrs. Gould sued for divorce and the decree was handed down by the then Justice James W. Gerard of the Supreme Court, later American Ambassador to Berlin. The papers in the suit were sealed.

Oct. 27, 1909, Gould married Edith Maud Kelly, a show girl appearing in "Havana." The Goulds were married in Edinburgh, Scotland.

In an interview given in June of this year in Paris, Mrs. Gould said: "I never dreamed that I would be sending out warnings to young girls to avoid the idle rich, but I most heartily do. Money and position are not the only things in life, and a man with a million or two of dollars can be lacking in as many generous qualities and impulses and be twice as cruel as the whole amount of his fortune."

"The young girl of today had better marry a coal heaver who loved her and willingly shared his life and income with her."

Gould is said to have an income of about two millions a year.

#### A Very Ingenious Painting

THERE is in one of the Continental picture galleries a painting called "Cloudland." It hangs at the end of a long gallery. At first sight it is said to look like a huge, repulsive daub of confused color, without form or consistency. As you walk toward it the picture begins to take shape; it proves to be a mass of exquisite little cherub faces like those at the head of the canvas in Raphael's "Madonna San Sisto." If you go close to the picture you see only an innumerable company of little angels and cherubim.

