

## GOLDEN WEDDING IS CELEBRATED BY THE ROCKEFELLERS

Wife of Oil King, at Seventy-Five, Realizes Life's Ambition.

### SOME GLIMPSES OF HER LIFE

Points in the Career of a Woman Never Before Given to the Public—Family Was Always Her First Consideration.

New York.—In a secluded corner of the state of New York, a quiet little old woman of seventy-five years enjoyed the realization of her life's ambition on Tuesday, September 8.

On that morning she attained her golden wedding anniversary—the goal of her existence. Surrounded by all the luxuries that belong to the wife of the richest man in the world, she cared only for the pleasures of the thrifty housewife and the bestowing of little charities that might be the pride of a prosperous business man.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, one of the principals in a golden wedding anniversary that is golden in every sense, is the personification of simplicity in dress thought and manner.

There are plenty of 50-year wedding anniversaries in these days. But seldom do the very rich and less often do the very richest dwell together in peace and companionship through half a century of nuptial experience, resisting the onslaught of time and the wear and tear incident to the amass-



John D. Rockefeller.

ing of fortune and all the burdens that money brings until they reach an age sufficiently ripe to plan for golden weddings.

So the Rockefeller anniversary, which fell on September 8, was unique in many ways.

It was in Cleveland, O., on a bright autumn day in 1864 that Laura Celestia Spelman and John D. Rockefeller took their nuptial vows. The bride-groom was twenty-five and the bride was almost the same age; her birthday preceding her wedding day.

Their romance had its foundation in an acquaintanceship when both were in grammar school at Cleveland, and ripened after Miss Spelman had finished her education at a boarding school in Worcester, Mass., and returned in 1859 to Cleveland to teach.

Mr. Rockefeller had been a clerk in a Cleveland commission house, but about this time he entered into the partnership of Clark & Rockefeller in the commission business, and laid the foundation for his fortune in furnishing food supplies to the Union army at the outset of the Civil war. His sweetheart agreed to wait for him until he had firmly established himself, and their wedding was deferred until John, with the fruits of his commission business invested, launched into the oil industry with Andrews, Clark & Co., in 1862.

The story of how Rockefeller rose to fortune subsequently by the formation of the successive concerns of William Rockefeller & Co., and the various Standard Oil companies, culminating in the Standard trust, is familiar to almost every schoolboy. But what of his wife, this little woman of today?

Never a strong girl and of less than average physical size, she was always of the sweetest disposition and most kindly thought. She was the daughter of Harvey Buel Spelman, who emigrated from his native Massachusetts to Akron, O., where he became a successful dry goods merchant. He was an educator and a member of the Ohio legislature, an ardent Congregationalist and abolitionist. He removed to Cleveland when Laura was a child. In Cleveland she attended grammar school, and after a course in the East taught in Cleveland for five years, giving up pedagogy for matrimony. Her mother was an active W. C. T. U. worker, and the daughter followed in her footsteps. She was indefatigable in her work for temperance, for the poor, for those ill. She "went about doing good."

Despite her long residence in New York city and her immense wealth, she never figured in the society of the metropolis. She sought, rather, the hospitals to visit, comfort and give financial help to those ill. And when her children were large enough they made their regular visits to the sick,

carrying flowers. She has taken a deep interest in the welfare of colored girls in the South, in which work her father was interested before her. In fact, Spelman pater established the Spelman seminary at Atlanta, Ga., for negro girls, and since his death this institution has been supported by Mrs. Rockefeller.

Mrs. Rockefeller's chief occupation in life has been the rearing of her four children. Another child died in infancy. Society never claimed her from her children and she never has had any interest that was considered as approaching her family in importance.

Mrs. Rockefeller trained her children in the ways of thrift just as she might have done if she had expected that they would be compelled to make their own way in life. She set them an example in this respect in her manner of dress and in the direction of her household, even when this involved the great home and grounds at Pocantico Hills, Tarrytown, N. Y. Her social circles always included only the old friends of the family—friends made during the early days when nobody suspected that John Rockefeller, commission merchant, ever would be the richest man in the world. Even this limited number of friends often was neglected in order that the mother might devote all of her time to her children.

During recent years when Mrs. Rockefeller appeared in public she always was clad in the same simple style. She wore a black silk gown with white lace trimmings at the throat and cuffs, with a neat black coat to match.

Nobody ever discovered that Mrs. Rockefeller was greatly interested in the wealth that her husband spent his life in amassing. She suffered much because of it. She suffered when her husband faced numerous attacks in newspapers and magazines that had to do with his methods of making money and she suffered when he was the defendant in several government prosecutions that were brought on for the same reason.

But that practically was the only interest she had in the money credited to her husband's account at the bank—or his numerous banks, to be exact. Any business man with an income of \$5,000 a year could have provided his wife with the same luxuries that Mrs. Rockefeller enjoyed.

Most of the charities of the Rockefeller family were left to the husband or his aids to handle. Mrs. Rockefeller, however, enjoyed bestowing funds in certain directions herself.

A needy distant relative was incapacitated. A home was built and given to him free of all cost by Mrs. Rockefeller.

The church interests of this richest wife have always been important in her eyes. She was originally a Congregationalist, but upon her marriage transferred her allegiance to the Baptist denomination of her husband, and is now a member of the Euclid Avenue Baptist church in Cleveland. As long as her health permitted, she was never absent from her pew on Sunday.

But it is in her home that she shows to her best advantage. To her guests she is a hostess royal. Always she talks of those subjects which are closest to the hearts of those she entertains—the rare secret of a successful hostess. She makes all feel at ease at once. There is nothing of the snob in her. Lovable and companionable at all times, she is a woman to whom wealth has brought no change of character save to emphasize its highest qualities.

In recent years she has been in very infirm health. But for the tender and persistent care which she has received at the hands of her husband she would probably not have lived until now. The best of everything has been given her.

She never sought to buy titles for her children, though she might easily have done so. And she never aspires to the title of "oil queen" or any other queen, though she has some excuse, for the blood of royalty actually flows in the veins of her "oil king" husband.

Such is the fact, for though not many know of it, John D. Rockefeller is a direct descendant of the reigning house of England, a lineal heir of Edward Ironsides, once king, and of all the succeeding rulers down to Edward III. Through the third Edward's son, the earl of Leicester, he traces

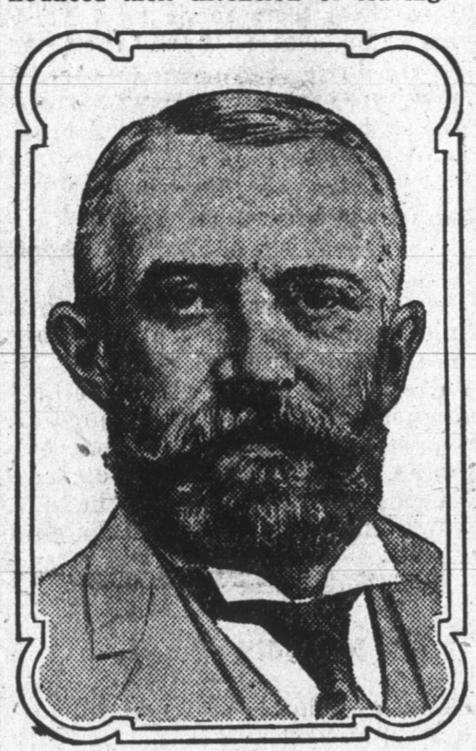
his ancestry to the daughter of the third earl of Lincoln, who married John Humphrey, early magistrate of Massachusetts Bay colony, and whose granddaughter, Susanna Falmes, wed Samuel Avery, progenitor of Lucy Avery, who married Godfrey Rockefeller, the grandsons of John D.

### FRICK'S FRENCH CHEF TO WAR

Millionaire's Noted Cook Causes Dismay By Going Home to Fight for Country.

Boston.—Inspired by patriotism of so high an order that he will give up his highly paid position, the famous French chef employed by Henry Clay Frick at his North Shore summer home resigned his place and announced his intention of returning to France to fight.

The consternation in the Frick family at this unexpected move, however, was duplicated in several other homes, where nearly all the men servants have either gone or have announced their intention of leaving.



Henry C. Frick.

The Frick chef is the highest salaried servant of the lot, receiving a salary that is said to rival that of some bank presidents and many business men who are considered in comfortable circumstances. Many of those, however, who are going back to Europe are well paid, and in addition live in quarters that will make life in the army seem especially miserable.

The fashionable residents of the North shore are in quandary as to what to do without their servants. The maids are left, but in few instances do these know how to cook, and more than one society woman, it is rumored, is making experimental trips into the kitchen.

The French predominate among the North shore servants, but some are German and a few Italian and English. The war has been responsible for no little wrangling among them.

### Miners Sentenced to Jail.

Fort Smith, Ark.—Seven miners, including Peter R. Stewart, former president of the Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas district of the U. M. W. of A., were found guilty of contempt of court at Fort Smith and sentenced to serve from thirty days to four months in jail. The men were charged with being implicated in riots in the coal fields several months ago, after the operators had obtained an injunction to prevent their interference with the operation of the mines.

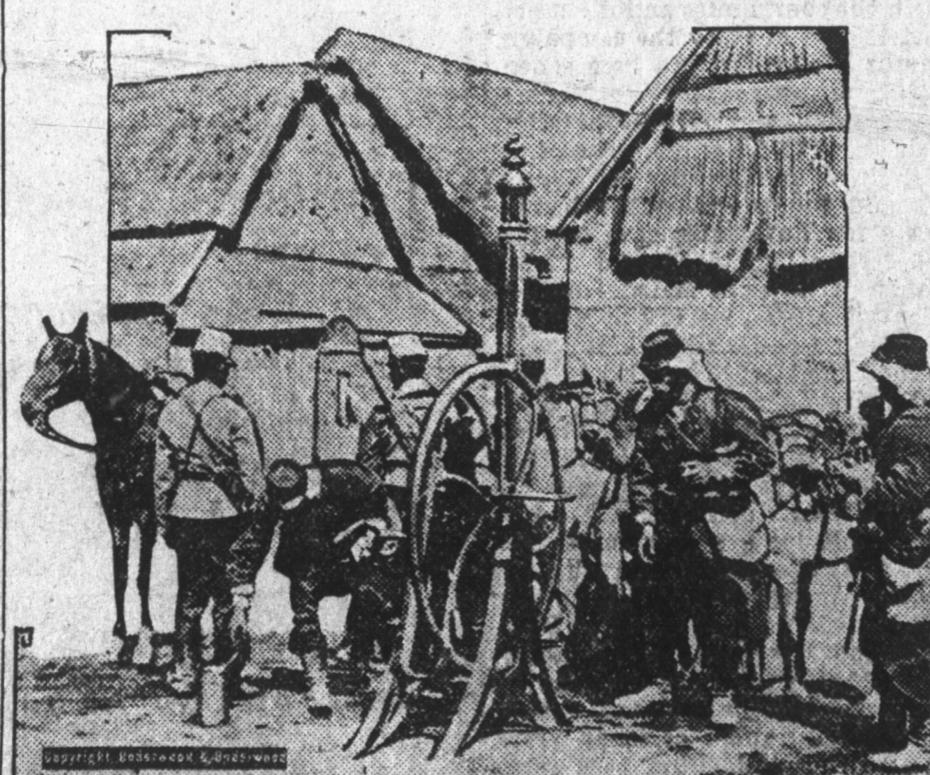
### Shot Bull to Save Children.

Logtown, Ark.—Mrs. J. L. Roberts of Logtown saved her two sons, four and six years old, from death by shooting a large bull that had attacked them. The animal knocked down the oldest boy and was viciously pawing him when the younger child bravely ran to his assistance. Then Mrs. Roberts appeared and shot the bull to death.

### Dapper Private Was a Girl.

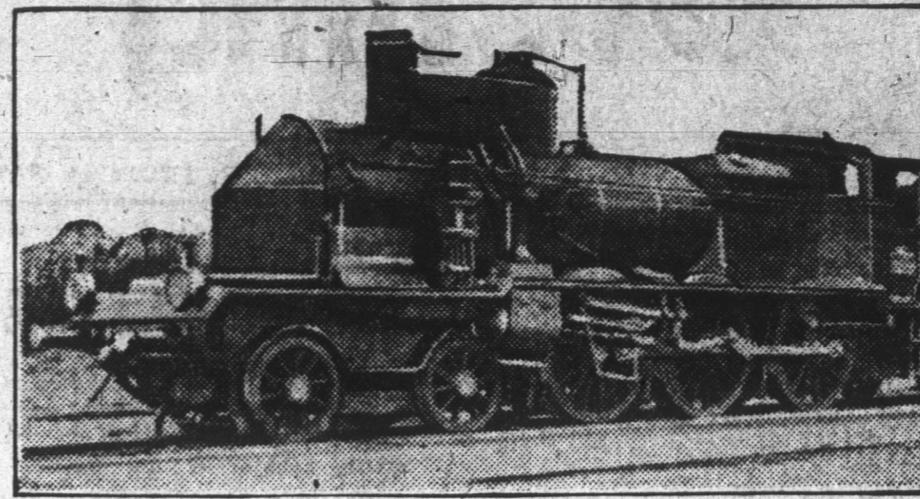
Quebec, Canada.—Determined to go to war with the Canadian troops, a young woman was discovered in the full uniform of a private in the Valcartier camp, near Quebec. A sentry became suspicious of the dapper looking private and challenged him. The suspect was taken to headquarters and later placed on a train for Quebec.

## FRENCH IN A FRONTIER TOWN



Cavalrymen partaking of refreshments while watering their mounts at the village pump in a frontier town.

## BUILT TO DEFY THE SAND STORM



ENGINE BUILT TO CUT THROUGH SAND STORMS ON SAHARA DESERT LINE.

For use on the Sahara desert line of one of the French railroads, a peculiar type of engine, designed for cutting through the terrific sand and wind-storms characteristic of the region, has been built. The farther railroads have been pushed into the desert the greater has been the difficulty encountered from storms, these being at times sufficiently strong to bring heavy trains to a complete standstill.

To facilitate driving into head-on blasts a locomotive with a sharp V-shaped hood has been constructed. All its surface lines are made so as to offer the least possible resistance to the wind, while the wheels are built as nearly open as is practical, furnishing a minimum surface for the wind-driven sand to wear upon. This pattern of wheel is also to be adopted for use on the cars, as solid wheels under incessant sand blasts have been found to wear so thin within a year's time as to be unsafe for further use.—Popular Mechanics.

healthy children since. For female troubles I always take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and it works like a charm. I do all my own work.—Mrs. A. F. KRAMER, 1574 Electric Avenue, Lackawanna, N. Y.



Lackawanna, N. Y.—"After my first child was born I felt very miserable and could not stand on my feet. My sister-in-law wished me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and my nerves became firm, appetite good, step elastic, and I lost that weak, tired feeling. That was six years ago and I have had three fine

children since. For female troubles I always take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and it works like a charm. I do all my own work.—Mrs. A. F. KRAMER, 1574 Electric Avenue, Lackawanna, N. Y.

The success of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, is unparalleled. It may be used with perfect confidence by women who suffer from displacements, inflammation, ulceration, tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, bearing-down feeling, flatulence, indigestion, dizziness, or nervous prostration. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is the standard remedy for female ills.

Women who suffer from those distressing ills peculiar to their sex should be convinced of the ability of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to restore their health by the many genuine and truthful testimonials we are constantly publishing in the newspapers.

If you want special advice write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman and held in strict confidence.

Nothing to Fear.

Ethel—Oh, Jack, be careful tonight. Papa's brought home a bulldog.

Jack—That's all right. The dog used to belong to me and I got the dealer to sell him to your father.

Important to Mothers.

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Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets regulate and invigorate stomach, liver and bowels. Sugar-coated, tiny granules, easy to take. Do not gripe. Adv.

Paper was made from rags in Arabia and more than ten centuries ago, the art being brought to Europe in the thirteenth century.

## One Way to Lengthen Life

Late in life, when the organs begin to weaken, the hard-working kidneys often tire out first.

Falling eyesight, stiff, achy joints, rheumatic pains, lame back and distressing urination are often due only to weak kidneys.

Prevention is the best cure and at middle age any sign of kidney weakness should have prompt attention.

Doan's Kidney Pills have made life more comfortable for thousands of old folks. It is the best recommended special kidney remedy.

### An Illinois Case

T. A. Knight, 440 N. Eighth St., E. St. Louis, Ill., says: "Kidney trouble is a bad way and the doctor had to give me opiates for relief. I had a mind and for three months I couldn't leave the house. As soon as I used Doan's Kidney Pills, the gravel and gradually the pains went away. I was restored to good health and I put on weight, too."

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