

For

P. Laszlo

DURRANT'S PRESS CUTTINGS,

St. Andrew's House, 32 to 34 Holborn Viaduct,
and 3 St. Andrew Street Holborn Circus, E.C. 1.

TELEPHONE : CITY 4963.

Sketch

172 Strand, W.C.2.

11 FEB. 1925

Cutting from issue dated.....192

Lady Louis Mountbatten is one of the latest to leave for Switzerland, where she has had her attractive debutante sister with her. By the way, everyone will remember Laszlo's very brilliant portrait of Lady Louis in her wedding dress—such a gay, self-confident, modern young bride she looked—and will be interested to hear that the same distinguished artist has just completed another portrait of her. This time she is shown with her shingled hair. The portrait is only just finished, but no doubt it will soon be exhibited somewhere. Mr. de Laszlo is busy now doing a picture of the retiring American Ambassador, Mr. Kellogg, which is to hang on the walls of the American Embassy in company with those of Mr. Page and Mr. Davis—also by Laszlo.

And, talking of portrait-painters, Sir John Lavery is now at work on yet another picture of Lady Lavery. It depicts her in a wonderful eighteenth-century gown. The dress is actually one of the period, and is of brocade in tones of pale blue and soft pink in a very good state of preservation.

Sir John, by the way, has completed a number of snowscapes as the result of his recent visit to Caux.

De Lazlo
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The People

Milford Lane, Strand, W.C.

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IT was a great honour for de Groot to be chosen as the star performer at the party which the American Ambassador gave for the King and Queen on Friday night. Thirty people dined with their Majesties at Crewe House, once the home of war propaganda in enemy countries. The Primate and his wife, the Premier and his wife, Lady Astor and Mr. and Mrs. Asquith were among the guests; and then, afterwards, a party of about 200 listened for two hours while de Groot and his Piccadilly orchestra played, stationed between two crowded drawing-rooms.

I saw de Groot shortly afterwards, a proud man; for he had played to their Majesties for two hours. "The Meistersingers," "La Boheme" and "Madame Butterfly" were included in what de Groot said must have been 50 items.

The Only De Groot.

The de Groot of the Piccadilly Hotel is a most ingratiating performer. He makes every person who is listening feel that he is playing specially for him or her. His "By Request" list must be the longest of any London musician. He plays like a master; and his manner is that of a friend. There is only one de Groot.

It is more difficult to stand between two drawing-rooms, I suppose, than command an audience in the way de Groot does on his own platform while people are dining. But even this difficulty was got over, and the Queen was most gracious in her thanks to de Groot at the end.

Crewe House is ready for its new occupants, and one of the minor regrets accompanying Mrs. Kellogg's departure is that there will not be time for Philip de Lazlo to finish her portrait which he has been trying to finish for some weeks. But there are lots of old masters in America.