

Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford (Mus.+5c+c.14+(73))

"Middle Class Society Tea."

Written and Composed by LESLIE HARRIS.

1st. Verse.

Whenever you go out to tea In middle class Society It's an unwritten law that you must'nt go late, Or else your poor hostess gets into a state Of frenzy, for fear that the tea must wait, And the light-cakes all be spoiled. Then when you arrive, the tea's such a treat, For you mix up blanc-mange with shrimps and cold meat, Then comes sponge-cake and jelly that's made from calves' feet, Concluding with eggs hard-boiled.

(Chorus) Oh! the Middle Class Society Tea

Is a pleasure to some, but it is'nt to me. It's a sort of a "drink-a-lot, eat-a-lot, talk-a-lot, Smile-a-lot, very hot ceremonee. Oh! the Middle Class Society Tea May be fun for some, but it is'nt for me. You meet such a very mixed Companee At a Middle Class Society Tea.

2nd. Verse.

Then your hostess is certain to let you know All the family news, from her daughter's new beau, To "Bob's had the measles, the dog's had a pup, And Miss Smithors next door's been obliged to sell up" And "You've surely not finished? Have just one more cup? I'm afraid you've not had a good tea." Then the youngest son Tommy (a rude little beast) Spills his tea o'er your pants in the course of the feast, And you smilingly say "You don't mind in the least!" But you privately swear a big D.

(Chorus) Oh! the Middle Class Society Tea

Is a pleasure to some, but it is'nt to me It's a sort of a "drink-a-lot, eat-a-lot, talk-a-lot, Swear-a-lot (Spoken: - "Beg pardon! of course I mean Smile-a-lot") very hot ceremonee. Oh! the Middle Class Society Tea May be fun for some, but it is'nt for me You meet such a very mixed Companee At a Middle Class Society Tea.

3rd. Verse.

Then at last, when according to regular plan, The guests have all eaten as much as they can, They say "What a treat it has been to be sure," "We never enjoyed ourselves so much before." But at home say "We'll never go there any more" "Twas a shockingly dull affair." And the host, though he'll talk and he'll laugh and he'll jest And make himself pleasant to every guest, When they've gone, will remark to his wife"Well, I'm blest!"

"What a fatheaded crowd they were!"

(Chorus) Oh! the Middle Class Society Tea &c. &c.

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"Middle Class Society Tea."

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Humorous Song.



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