

One of the grandest parties of this party season is the one given by the Lord Mayor of London at the Mansion House. And as it's a fancy dress affair you can be all serious, or play for laughs, according to how you feel.

You can go as your favourite character in fact or fiction — or you can go as something too good to be true.

But naturally it was ~~the story of Dick~~ Dick

Whittington's cat that had a special interest for the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress. ^ And what do they all want to be when they grew up? The answer is: a guest at the Lord Mayor's Banquet.

And now we have to go over to Italy to find that the Beauty Contest business, has spread to the nursery. This was a competition in Naples, to ~~win~~ select Master and Miss 1956. The two winners were named Franco and Maria ; but the occasion was too much for little Maria's nerves.

The crowning ceremony was performed by the Good Fairy ~~but~~ but there's no doubt that, lurking in the background there must have been a Wicked Witch.

Poor Maria! ^ Even Prince Charming's kisses tasted of onion.