

Prince Eui Wha, The Korean Adonis

WIDE AWAKE ORIENTALIST WHO MAY BE CROWNED
EMPEROR OF THE HERMIT KINGDOM.

Lively Career of a Youth Who Was an American College
Student With Eighty-seven Suits of Yankee Clothes and
a Beflowered Vest For Each—Hero of Three Ro-
mances With American Maidens—How Coney
Island Took Him For a Good Thing.
His Prophetic Words.

By ROBERTUS LOVE.

UNLESS Japan shall determine to gobble up Korea and gulp her down by annexation it is probable that a young man who until two years ago was an American college student will be crowned emperor of the ancient Land of the Morning Calm.

This interesting personage, well known in the United States, is Prince Eui Wha. He is the son of the Emperor Yi Hsiung, who has just abdicated, and Lady Om, the old emperor's chief concubine. The son of Yi Hsiung and the murdered Empress Min, who as crown prince has ascended the throne from which his father stepped down, is said to be a weakling, incapable of ruling intelligently. On the other hand, young Eui Wha, despite certain escapades while in the United States, has shown that he possesses a mind capable of looking at matters almost from the western viewpoint. Conditions in Korea are so chaotic that one has no warrant for predicting what may happen, but it is generally understood that if the Japanese should desire Prince Eui Wha to reign it will be just as easy to get the new

graduate of the Ohio Wesleyan university at Delaware, O., who is entitled to sneer and remark: "Huh! I licked that chap, and I can do it again!"

Soaked in Western Civilization.

For verily the career of Prince Eui Wha in the land of Uncle Sam was as the going up of a skyrocket on a Fourth of July night and even as the coming down thereof.

Eui Wha came over to this country an innocent, uninitiated, unsophisticated oriental. He matriculated in the mighty school of occidental experience. When he returned to his native peninsula, he was soaked in western civilization from tip to toe. He could talk both English and United States. He had eighty-seven suits of American clothes, with a beflowered vest for every suit, and he had experienced love suits and one considerable lawsuit. His imperial highness left his divided heart in three American maidens' keeping. At Coney Island he left a blaze of high flying glory that still scintillates between the towers of Luna park and the minarets of Dreamland.

to the arena a hard fisted farmer youth who objected to the attentions which this oriental personage was bestowing upon the fair co-eds. Perhaps the prince was making eyes at the farm lad's girl. At any rate, there was a mixup, the young American knocked the young imperial highness down and out, and the result was an international complication. The Korean diplomats at Washington requested an investigation. Our state department asked the governor of Ohio how it happened. There was an apologetic explanation, but the prince was taken away from Wesleyan and placed in Roanoke college at Salem, Va.

But Eui Wha remained at Wesleyan long enough to fall in love with a fair co-ed, Miss Angie Graham of Wheeling, W. Va. The prince made several visits to the home of Miss Graham, whose father is a clergyman. Rumors of the couple's engagement were published from time to time, but never verified.

Romance No. 2.

Still another Cupid case occurred during the prince's Ohio college days. There came to the town of Delaware a beautiful girl who obtained employment in a millinery store. She tried on hats and looked lovely in them. Every hat was becoming to Miss Clara Bull, because she was pretty enough to make the ugliest bonnet a dream. So thought the prince, who passed by the store one day and saw Miss Bull. An introduction was arranged, and Eui Wha saw his Clara every day. Presently, it is said, a diamond ring blossomed on one of the fair one's fingers. There were flowers and candies and theater parties for her delectation.

Miss Bull at last returned to her home in Cincinnati. The prince gave orders to his secretary: "Prepare for my departure at once. I am going to Cincinnati."

Arriving there the prince sent his secretary to the Bull residence. The secretary bowed a low Korean bow, or salaam, and said:

"His imperial highness desires to know if you will do him the goodness of according him the supreme pleasure of an interview."

"Why doesn't he come himself?" merrily asked Miss Bull.

When John Alden went to Priscilla Mullins as an emissary from Miles Standish, something very similar happened, only reversed. "Why don't you speak for yourself, John?" So Prince Eui Wha himself went and pressed his suit. But Miss Bull preferred Ohio to Korea. So faded romance No. 2.

After Eui Wha went to the Virginia college romance No. 3 came to soothe his wounded affections. In fact, it appeared that this Korean imperial heart was supplied in triplicate. Mountain Lake park is a pretty resort in western Maryland. It is in such a quiet place that the prince's watchful guardians felt no harm could come to him there. Thither went he for an outing. He had both outing and in-ning—the third inning. The dark blue eyes and light brown hair of Miss Mary Buttles bewitched the Korean Adonis. She was an Ohio girl, from Columbus, and just seventeen. Eui Wha beheld her in the hotel dining room and was dazzled.

"Arrange an introduction," he commanded of his secretary.

Miss Buttles was agreeable. What girl wouldn't be willing to meet a possible emperor if the imperial possibility were young, good looking, well dressed, well behaved and fancy free, even though not exactly heart whole? But Miss Buttles treated Eui Wha just as she would treat a young American. She was not dazzled by the imperial glamour.

"I'm going to climb the mountain," she remarked.

"Oh, I hate walking!" exclaimed the prince. In Korea all great personages are carried everywhere in sedan chairs.

"Very well," replied the athletic maiden; "you can stay at the hotel."

Got Sore Feet; Never Cold Ones.

Up the mountain she went, the prince trudging after. He declared that she was the first woman who ever forced him to do a thing he hated, but it made him like her better. There were many mountain climbs during the outing, the prince always attendant upon the princess. Eui Wha got sore feet, but never got cold feet. He gave an elaborate dinner in honor of Miss Buttles just before she departed for home. Then he visited her at Columbus, but No. 3 was not inclined to risk the perils of the life that falls to a Korean emperor.

It was while Eui Wha was a student in Virginia that he made his memorable visit to New York. His imperial father made him an allowance of \$4,000 a year during his stay in America. That was enough for Ohio or Virginia, but scarcely a suggestion of sufficiency for New York. The prince and his secretary arrived in the metropolis unannounced. New York quickly discovered that an imperial possibility was present. Prices for everything soared sky high.

The prince went to Coney Island while going through the "seeing New York" process. He spent days and days there; also nights. Coney looked upon him as a good thing. The barkers, the grafters, the card sharks, even the peanut vendors, took unwarranted toll of the imperial purse. Then there was of course an unlimited supply of the prince's chief delight—the unveiled American woman. Blondined beauties, chorus girls in tights, beach sprites in bathing suits, all attracted the prince's attention and subtracted his coin. He gave suppers to bevy of blonds and bunches of brunettes. Champagne went down, but the price of it went up. As a consequence the prince had to borrow. He gave his notes. At the end of the outing he had spent his allowance for ten years in advance. One firm in New York sued him for



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PRINCE EUI WHA AND HIS ADVENTURES IN AMERICA—MISS CLARA BULL.

emperor off the throne as to brush a fly from a man's nose.

Banded About Like a Football.

Korea has been called "the cockpit of the nations." Russia, China and Japan have banded her about like a football. Japan has kicked a goal, and Korea is hers. Since the victory of Japan over Russia two years ago the grip which the island empire fastened upon Korea at the conclusion of the war with China has been tightened from day to day. Korea is now little more than a Japanese dependency. Yi Hsiung, who became king in 1864 and emperor in 1897, when he declared Korea an empire, has given up the throne because Japan really rules the land. The emperor had the audacity to send delegates to the peace conference at The Hague, with instructions to inquire into the why and wherefore of Japan's activities in the peninsular empire. In fear and trembling the emperor—in name only—stepped down.

Now, in the event of Eui Wha's elevation to the throne of this very ancient if not highly honorable nation, there are many in the United States who will open their eyes to the ultimate width and ejaculate:

"Well, I knew that fellow!"

There are at least three pretty American girls who may confess before their mirrors, each and severally: "And I might have been the empress of Korea!"

There is a husky young farmer, a

Prince Eui Wha first came to the United States in 1897, when he was a youth of seventeen. He was under the wing of a missionary. He is supposed to have gone to Japan for a few years after that, studying in the schools of that country. Then about six years ago he returned, again in missionary tow, to acquire an American education. First he became a student at the Ohio Wesleyan university. That is a coeducational school. This fact might please his highness. In Korea the co-ed is not. Boys do not associate with girls in school or elsewhere. Women do most of their visiting at night, and they go closely veiled. They are kept in seclusion most of the time.

So it happened that when this son of royalty looked upon the fresh and fair faces of the American college girls at Delaware he was enamored; he was transported into the seventeenth century of delight. Truly was the new world a new world for him. Cupid was king. Straightway the prince fell in love. What else could be expected? Beauty was not veiled from his vision. Soft eyes looked love. Besides, the girls welcomed the prince as a novelty. He was something new to them. A truly live prince who might some day become a real emperor was not to be ignored.

Knocked Out in a Mixup.

The American princesses flocked around the Korean prince. He was gallant and winning. Then came in-