

CHECKERED LOVE STORY OF DUCHESS MELITTA

Married at Last to Her Childhood Lover She and Her Husband Are Forced to Flee from Place to Place Thru Fear of Russian Terrorists.

Special Correspondence of The Journal.

PARIS, May 26.—Grand Duke Cyril of Russia and his beautiful wife Melitta, the divorced grand duchess of Hesse, fled a day or two ago in precipitate haste from the French capital in order to escape from the clutches of the bloodthirsty Russian revolutionists who had undertaken to assassinate them and to bring their scalps, so to speak, to the leaders of the revolutionary party in Russia. The Parisian police for reasons best known to themselves have strenuously endeavored to maintain strict secrecy regarding this sensational conspiracy and exercised all their influence to suppress all reports relating thereto in the French newspapers. The details, however, are well known to a select circle in Paris, and are briefly as follows:

It is well known that numerous members of the Russian imperial family have left Russia to take up their residence abroad since the revolutionary disturbances in their own country made life at home insecure and scarcely worth living. Some of these grand dukes and grand duchesses are living in Paris, some in south Germany, some spend the greater part of their time in the Riviera and others flit about from place to place in search of pleasure and dissipation.

Not long ago the Russian secret service police discovered that the terrorist revolutionary party had resolved to carry out the assassination of all the Russian grand dukes and grand duchesses who have fled from their homes to live permanently in foreign countries. The leaders of the revolutionary party in taking this cruel resolve acted on the theory that the wealthy and influential members of the imperial family have no right to wallow in luxury in the great pleasure centers of Europe while their unhappy countrymen are being crushed under foot by the merciless tyranny of the czar's government.

The revolutionary leaders calculated that the assassination of the Russian grand dukes and grand duchesses who have fled from Russia would create a great and lasting impression on the powers that be in St. Petersburg by convincing them that even flight into the far ends of the world cannot save them from the

all-powerful terrorist organization.

These and other similar considerations induced the Russian revolutionary party to decree the "execution" of the Russian grand dukes and grand duchesses abroad, and it was decided to deal with them in order of their rank. Grand Duke Cyril, who is the eldest son of the czar's oldest uncle, was consequently marked out as the first victim of this propaganda of deed. Grand Duchess Melitta was to share her husband's fate.

It will be remembered that the recent marriage of this royal couple terminated a love romance of many years' duration. Cyril and Melitta were boy and girl lovers at a period when both of them were in their teens. There were unfortunately political objections to their marriage and Melitta was compelled by unrelenting relatives to become the wife of Grand Duke Ernest Louis of Hesse. She obeyed orders and contracted this matrimonial alliance for political reasons of state; but the marriage turned out to be extremely unhappy and ended in divorce.

As soon as the divorce had been announced Grand Duke Cyril, who had carefully avoided the Hessian court after Melitta's marriage, immediately appeared at her maiden home in Coburg and renewed his ardent declarations of love. Melitta hesitated to marry again because this step would have made it impossible for her, under the terms of her divorce, ever to see her only child, the little Princess Elizabeth, to whom she was passionately attached. Princess Elizabeth, however, who lived with her father, was poisoned while visiting the emperor and empress of Russia at Skiernewicze. Her tragic death removed Melitta's scruples regarding remarriage and she consented to become Cyril's wife.

Just as they were completing the preparations for their wedding the Russo-Japanese war broke out and Cyril considered it his duty to rush to the front and take up arms in the cause of the fatherland. Unlike some other grand dukes who disgraced themselves by cowardice and riotous living at the front, Cyril, who was a naval officer, fought with great bravery. He

was on board Admiral Makaroff's flagship Petropavlovsk when that ship was blown up by a Japanese submarine mine. Cyril was one of the few rescued and was invalided home.



GRAND DUKE CYRIL AND DUCHESS MELITTA, Whose Honeymoon Has Been Rendered Miserable by Terrorist Plots.

Having done his duty at the front, there was now no further obstacle to his long deferred marriage with his first love, Melitta, except the prohibition of the czar. The czar prohibited the marriage for various reasons. Firstly, Cyril and Melitta are first cousins, and the marriage of relatives of this degree is prohibited by the Russian state church. Secondly, Melitta's first husband, the Grand Duke of Hesse, is the czar's brother, and it would therefore be extremely disagreeable to the czarina if Cyril presented to her as his wife her own brother's divorced consort. Finally there were considerations of state. Cyril stands high in the line of succession to the Russian crown. There is nothing between him and the imperial crown of Russia but four insecure lives, none of which are worth much from the point of view of a life insurance company. These are the czar, the czar's weakly infant son, the czar's consanguine unmarried brother and Cyril's own father, who is an old man.

Consequently Cyril may easily become emperor of Russia and it was considered undesirable that he should contract a marriage prohibited by the church, or to unite himself to a lady about whom scandalous things had been said in connection with her divorce.

Cyril ignored all these obstacles and married Melitta at Munich. The czar retaliated by expelling him from the Russian army and navy and by ordering him never again to appear at the Russian court.

Cyril and Melitta were indifferent to the czar's displeasure. So far from being hurt, they rejoiced in being able to live a free, untrammelled life according to their own desires. It seemed to them that they had reached the end of their troubles and vicissitudes and that like hero and heroine in some fairy tale they would live happily ever afterwards.

They were rudely disillusioned by the information that they had been marked out as the first victims of the Russian revolutionary conspiracy of assassination. They were staying at this time in a fashionable Paris hotel and the Parisian police warned them most solemnly to quit the city and seek security elsewhere. Cyril and Melitta laughed these warnings to scorn and

continued to pursue their gay Parisian career of pleasure. They were shaken in their feelings of security by the discovery that a dish set before them and of which they would, but for a lucky chance, have partaken, contained sufficient poison to kill a whole battalion.

On the following day an intruder was seized in their suite of apartments armed with dagger and revolver and provided with a couple of small bombs. On another occasion two bombs were found in their apartments set with time fuses to explode at an hour when Cyril and Melitta would certainly be seeking repose.

When two other attempts to "execute" them had been frustrated Cyril and Melitta found that their nerves were somewhat shaken and decided to take flight from Paris. They proceeded to Biarritz, where they found that their lives were equally in danger. From Biarritz they went to Aix-les-Bains, thence to Geneva and from Geneva to Munich. The emissaries of the Russian revolutionary party pursued them round Europe and manifested their dangerous vicinity by a variety of alarming indications.

Cyril and Melitta have now taken refuge at their estate in the vicinity of Coburg, where their palatial residence stands in a park of many hundred acres. This park has now been enclosed with a high barbed wire fencing and no strangers are admitted within its boundaries. A perfect army of private detectives is on duty day and night to prevent the invasion of suspicious strangers and to guard over the life of the grand duke and grand duchess.

Things have come to a pretty pass when two such royal personages as Cyril and Melitta must conceal themselves as hunted fugitives from the bloodhounds of the Russian terrorist organization. They belong to the two reigning families of the world's mightiest empires. Cyril is one of the members of the dynasty of the mighty Russian empire and stands an excellent chance of being one day czar of all the Russias, while Melitta is a niece of King Edward of England.

—Louis Mortimer.

SUMMER TRAVEL LUXURIES

Later Day Conveniences Make Life Pleasant While En Tour.

From being a hardship to go from place to place, travel has become one of the luxuries of life. The modern traveler, with him all the appliances necessary to comfort fitted into the smallest possible compass.

The heavy dress suit case and bag of leather has given place to several kinds of rattan, wicker and woven straw cases that are light as the proverbial feather, neat and attractive to look at, and of varying prices, so that the poorest traveler may have something as light and comfortable as the rich one, if less ornate in finish.

The expensive straw cases are finished off with leather and brass or silver. Some are covered with waterproof cloth, and all are made both with locks, straps or bands around the bags that pass through handles at the top. Small dressing bags are made in the same manner and are fitted up with every accessory to the toilette, mounted in silver, ebony or less expensive materials, and made in sizes smaller than those employed in articles for the dressing table.

The woman's tiny folding apparatus for curling her hair may be tucked into a small case in the wicker bag, with a little flask of alcohol, if one is going to a place where alcohol is not easily procurable. A narrow box covered with brocaded silk contains a moustache set, fitted into a wonderfully small compass and quite as convenient as the in the more elaborate receptacles used at home. Into pockets that are sewed to the silken lining of a well-fitted case are tucked a flat "housewife," with all the implements for sewing; a silk-covered rubber hot water bag; an air cushion, also covered with flowered silk; a small rubber-lined bag containing a washbasin or sponge; one that fits over a brush and another that slips over the nail and tooth brushes. These little rubber-lined bags are made of embroidered silk or linen, as one would make an envelop, with a loop and button to fasten the flaps down.

A clever girl has devised a bag especially for her "marcel wavers." Every girl knows how these tangle up into the rubber bands which form part of them? The curler bag consists of two strips of wide ribbon, the upper one sewed to the lower one in a series of pockets large enough to admit of the introduction of one's finger. The two ribbons are sewed together on the lower edge and the ends are finished off with an overlapping flap with a button and rosette of narrow ribbon. Into each narrow pocket is slipped the curler as it is taken from the hair and the case may be laid flat in the dressing case or rolled up and fastened in a small bright roll. An additional pocket with extra rubber bands in it is a source of comfort, since these are so easily broken. The entire sides of the case are taken up with silk pockets into which are tucked away slippers, a case containing a fountain pen and pencil, with postal cards, stationery and stamps and a set of flat leaves of colored flannel tied between silken flaps, which hold different sizes of safety and other pins, with bodkin and card of baby ribbon attached to the top in a small ribbon pocket. The center of the bag is comparatively free for garments, since the side pockets are so compactly fitted up that no space is wasted.

Not the least of a traveler's comfort are the little straw cushions for a party of effects, which can be had for a few cents and which make such cool head-rests and cushions for porch and camp.

DAINTINESS IN SCARFS

Long, wide scarfs to throw lightly over the shoulders promise to be the distinguishing feature of light-colored toileds this spring. Few fashions, says the London Express, offer such possibilities or are so universally becoming; and in combinations of color, in originality of design and material, a large choice is afforded for individual tastes, of which women are sure to take full advantage as the season advances. Among the most seductive novelties which the early spring has up till now produced are charming daintiness in all manner of colors and varieties. Mounted on a foundation of mousseline de soie or fine crepe de chine, these scarfs are fashioned of flowers in silk gauze, the petals sewn lightly together so as to form a solid floral network.

Large-petaled flowers, such as full-blown roses of all kinds, anemones, clematis and lilies, are most in favor, but clusters of hydrangeas, daisies and even forget-me-nots are effectively introduced against a background of chiffon. A lovely scarf which was intended to be worn with a costume of pale pink silk muslin, was carried out in pink chiffon, covered with wild dog-roses, each petal delicately powdered with gold-dust, the stems of the flowers being fashioned of tiny gold beads, while the long ends of the scarf were finished with a fringe of pink rosebuds tipped with gold.

Another long scarf of white mousseline de soie was embroidered with a lattice work of tarnished silver tinsel covered with sprays of large white lilies, a fall of silver embroidered lace supplying an attractive finish, while a simple scarf of anemones—the petals shading from mauve to purple—represented a charming harmony in color.

PROBLEMS OF THE AMATEUR DRESSMAKER

Elizabeth Lee Answers Questions Propounded by Those Who Are Working Out for Themselves the Intricacies of Dress—Good Ideas Bearing on the Problems of Economy, Style and Taste in Combinations.

A Net Gown.

MY DEAR MISS LEE: Reading your advice to others, I wonder if you might have time for me.

I enclose a sample of net of which I have twelve yards. I wish to make it up separate, that I may wear it over different colored slips. Will you please tell me how to make it? I have two very nice black satin skirts, old style, cut seven gored, one plain, the other circular dounce demi-train. Could these skirts be made into a slip for net dress? Are the waists and skirts to these foundation slips made separate or together?

Do you think the sample of silk I enclose would be suitable for me or could you suggest something better? I am 48, brown hair, reddish tinge when sun shines on it, no gray hair, hazel eyes, clear complexion, height 5 feet 8 inches, weigh about 140 pounds, bust 35, waist 25, hips 41.

Appleton, Minn.

My idea would be to make up the sample of heavy black net in princess style, gathered to fit the figure at the waist line from a narrow plain front panel, altho it will be necessary to put just a few pleats exactly at the waist line, possibly, in order to get this panel to set right, still above and below the waist line the panel will be perfectly plain. Trim the bottom of the skirt, except panel, with groups of tucks alternating with black ribbon, or with a couple of little ruffles edged with ribbon, just as you prefer. Gather the top of the gown to a round yoke of the net laid on perfectly plain, and trimmed round and round with narrow black ribbon in rows, the gathers coming under the green and mauve. The sample of green will become gathered into hand cuffs matching the yoke. The cuffs and the yoke may be lined with white taffeta, white mousseline de soie serving as an interlining. The other part of the gown will not require lining, because the two satin skirts will make up into a very nice slip in princess style. This must be exceedingly well fitting, be well boned and end at the top at the outer edge of the yoke, the bottom being trimmed according to fancy, with a number of little frills, or one deep one, as found practicable. Make sleeves in medium puffs, and your gown will be a beauty. Owing to the open mesh of the net, I fancy it will be necessary to veil the satin with a cheap black mousseline. Just connect it to the satin slip at bust and waist line, then allow to fall free to hem separately.

Were you thinking of using the pale green taffeta for a second slip? Personally, I should not care for it so employed, but should prefer a striped silk in colors which are considered very smart under nets and grandines or else a pretty flowered organzine, in green and mauve. The sample of green will become you as regards shade. And, if you have the silk on hand there could be no objection to its being used for the purpose. Again, if the sample enclosed were quite new, the purchase would not be a wise investment. There seems to have been something the matter with the dye, I fancy, just try to tear a small piece and see how easily it falls to pieces when pulled a certain way. This should not happen with new silk.

For a Silk Sample.

Dear Miss Lee: I have fifteen yards of 19-inch silk like sample for a dress. I would like your opinion as to the way that would be best to make and trim it, suitable for a best dress? I have also ordered a navy blue hat with a few deep red roses in back, probably you might suggest a change in these flowers to carry out the effect that you would suggest, if so I will have them changed. I am almost 6 feet, my hair is light brown, light hazel eyes, no color in cheeks or lips, I usually thin them slightly, complexion sallow. Now what are my successful colors? I wear browns and blues. My measurements are: Bust 36, waist 23, hips 37, length of skirt 43, age 17. What other color in a nice street suit could I wear with this hat and would a ready-made princess suit look stylish on me? I thought I would like to use this same hat for both suits. Ought I to wear a bustle? I am very flat, but stand erect. I am flat chested also.

Grand Forks.

The sample of fancy blue silk is a little old looking for one so youthful as you are. A pretty checked voile or taffeta would have been more appropriate, altho you will find the color becoming to you if relieved near the face. However, possibly a girlish model will set matters all right.

Make a triple skirt, each one hemmed and tucked on its lower edge and gathered on the top, sewing them together under the respective hems, and taking the

last one into the waist with gathers. Have a yoke of ecru all over lace or batiste embroidery lined with ivory white satin, outlining with a bertha made from alternate bias folds of the silk and tiny frills of plain blue taffeta or ribbon, according as you can match the shade. Add a fairly full lower portion of waist, and bring into shirred corsege belt of the silk, the upper edge trimmed with the blue frilling, which will



Pale green rajah silk with bands of dark green velvet edged with ruffles of narrow ecru lace. Velvet buttons are used and the blouse is of ecru lace.

be carried down the closing, seen a little to the left side, and also form little button rosettes concealing the actual closing of hooks and eyes. Have very full sleeves brought in three-quarter length to flaring hand cuffs matching the bertha, these to reveal small hand cuffs of the yoke material. Following these suggestions, the result will, I feel sure, be entirely satisfactory.

In regard to the hat there is no change to be suggested as an improvement. It will accord perfectly with the gown.

The princess gowns will become you, but I should select a check or a plaid as being more girlish looking than a plain material, unless you choose something like a cream voile. The blue hat could be worn with a blue and white check, with white linen or with cream woollens. I think you will find a little padding in the back below the waist line an improvement.

You can wear navy blue, but not pale or sky blue, pale rose and blush pink should become you and so should rich warm reds, in fact deep red is your best color. Golden brown and golden tan may be worn, but not fawn or green, silvery gray; cream and ivory will also suit you.

Colors and Styles.

Dear Miss Lee: Will you please help me as to what colors and style are suitable for me to wear? I am 31 years old, bust 34, waist 23, hip 38 and height 5 feet 4 inches; very long waist for one of my height; black hair, brownish gray eyes and usually good complexion, just now an amand. Will the enclosed sample of gray suit me made up in princess skirt and short jacket and what shall I trim it with? I have a black silk peau de soie shirtwaist suit, white suit like enclosed sample and auto coat of black and red wool

goods, too good to throw away. Please tell me what to do with them? And what kind of a skirt shall I get to wear with odd waists? How shall I dress my hair? I have very long hair so can dress it most any way, my face is not thin and still is not fat, and what kind of hats shall I get? I would like to make a Battenberg hat to wear during the hot weather, as I dress mostly in white, or would something else look better.

Pleasant Lake, Neb.

The soft gray beige will make up most becomingly in princess skirt and Eton or bolero model. I should have it made with two box pleats down both back and front and fitting smoothly over the hips, trimming the bottom either with self folds or braid just a shade darker, the ends losing themselves under the pleats.

The little coat may be very fancy, pleated back and front, suggesting a double box pleat, and not brought into a band, but, first edging with the braid, press well and catch down, the not to fit the figure, but to give the impression that the coat falls free and to give the impression of the Monte Carlo style. Have loose somewhat after the style of the coat, but with braid and little taffeta knife pleatings, and short sleeves, ending in cuffs to match. A vest of almond green cloth touched up with silver braid and tiny enamelled buttons will be an effective finish, if any is desired, or a severer style is suggested by turning back the front edges, reverse fashion, their widest part being at the bottom of the coat, to display a double-breasted waistcoat of white or printed pique, after the heavy waisting order.

In regard to the other two gowns and the coat, there does not seem to be any reason for discarding them. All materials are up-to-date, and, if you do not care to remodel the black silk shirtwaist suit, why not use the skirt for wear with separate waists, preserving the waist for lining or for cutting up as pipings or bands. I can hardly suggest remodeling, as I do not know its present style and the same may be said of the white, which is so pretty and dainty that it could never look passe.

If the auto coat is long how would you like to remodel to a three-quarter length in empire effect, cutting it off at short yoke depth, then taking the necessary quantity off the top of the coat and joining to the yoke with pleats in order to make it fit there? The seam could be covered with any desired trimming, which may be continued down the front edges or not, as preferred. Then full sleeves cut three-quarter length gathered into cuffs will give an up-to-date air, and the whole thing should result in a most useful garment. From your measurements, I fancy your face is oval rather than round, and if I am right, then puff your hair slightly at the sides and draw it low in the back, if your nose is good, and not too prominent coil carelessly in Greek style just about on a line with the ears, at the back of the head, of course. The lingerie hats are charming for summer wear, and, if you can do the Battenberg work I should certainly make a hat with it. Rows of overlapping frills covering the outside of the brim and a tan crown, the latter of allover batiste embroidery, is especially dainty and not too difficult of construction for the home milliner. Roses nestling around the crown or soft wide ribbon passed around, and tied in a bow on the left side front is the only necessary trimming.

BRAIDS WITH LACE EFFECTS

Braid in its relation to the modern gown represents what a soft pencil does to the picture, for on this fashionable trimming the dressmaker relies for the light and shade, which do more than anything else to redeem her creations from mediocrity. In the latest braids some entirely new features may be observed, those exhibiting "lace" effects forming one of the novelties of the moment. These, according to the London Express, are skillfully copied from old lace, some of the ancient patterns of Genoese and Venetian point being repositioned as the basis of the design. White and cream braid of this description—the pattern much raised and the intervening spaces filled in with stitches—will be more and more in evidence as the season advances, and combined with costumes of fine-faced cloth, voile, and silk materials, these braids will, to a certain extent, supersede the use of lace, their enduring qualities being much in their favor.

Chenille embroideries form an effective addition to plain plaited silk braids these frequently taking the form of large raised "spiders" formed of eight cross bars of thick chenille while the ubiquitous Greek key pattern is carried out by means of a combination of tinsel thread and chenille on a foundation of silk braid.

THE SHOPPER'S EXPERIENCE

The Conversation Necessary to the Purchase of a Woman's Hat.

She Enters the Millinery Department.

HATS, please. I am just looking—oh, you are busy, too? Dear me! I've asked three persons to show hats and they are all busy.

"Floorman, I want to be waited upon at once. Thank you—but not that cross-looking girl. Yes, that one will do. You see, I want someone who is willing to show me everything whether I buy or not, and who understands my style. She must give me her undivided attention, as it is so hard to try to shop when a clerk is talking to her friends about her leaux or—something."

(To saleswoman)—"Please show me something dressy—but not too much so. Well, you know I want it for evenings—and other occasions, too. I suppose they are all marked down at this time of the year. The paper said they were cut in two—I mean the prices, not the hats; that it wouldn't hurt some of them. I remember a big hat I had once, and one windy day—"

"I suppose you are busy. Yes; I'll try them on. I like to see the different effects on me, even if I don't buy."

"Now would you advise a large or a small hat? I think I will look at both kinds. No, not a white one; it would be too trying to my complexion. Not a black one—it's too sober. Not that one—it's old enough for my mother. I should think you could tell me what I want. You don't seem to understand, what is becoming to me. You must make a study of my face. Yes, I suppose you are too busy to know every one, but, you see, I buy all my things here, and you ought to know a regular customer."

"Certainly," must be imported. American hats always have a home-made look. My husband likes to have me get the best. He says it is the cheapest in the end, for if I don't like a thing I talk so much—that is, I am apt to mention it, and he can't work unless it is quiet.

"That won't do. The crown is too high, and I would look taller than my husband. Of course I can't expect you to know his height, but I thought I could mention that he is a trifle shorter than I. I always wear French heels, but I have to have my hats low. Let me see that violet hat. I had a beautiful one just that color the year I was married, and my husband thought it was stunning. Thirty-five dollars! I thought you said they were marked down. I never am sure when clerks are telling the truth—that is, I suppose you don't always know. I try to be nice to persons who wait upon me, for I can get so much more attention. Yes; I'll look at that one. But, after all, I guess I don't want any today."—Chicago News.

TWO POTATO RECIPES

The many insist there is just one way to cook a potato, and that is to bake it, there are others who like potato variations. Potato ribbons certainly sounds picturesque, the they are fried, which many consider deadly.

Potato Ribbons—Wash and peel thin half a dozen large potatoes, dropping into cold water as fast as peeled. Now cut into ribbons round and round like an apple, keeping the strips as near one width as possible. Do not try to get them too thin, or they will break in the cooking. Have ready a kettle of boiling fat, lay the spirals in a wire basket and fry until lightly browned. Drain, shaking the basket over the kettle, dust with pepper and salt and serve on a hot dish.

Potato au Gratin—Wash, put in a saucepan with the skins on and boil. Peel and mash, seasoning with salt and pepper and butter. Spread a layer of the potato in the buttered pudding dish, sprinkle with grated Parmesan cheese, then another layer of potato and more cheese, with cheese and butter at the top. Brown and serve very hot.

EMPIRE GOWN AT THE DANCE

From the ballroom comes the complaint that if the young man has a difficulty in finding his partner's waist in these days of empire gowns, he does not always know how to hold it when he has found it.

A London debutante lamenting that the way she was held either forced her to poke her chin most unbecomingly, or, still more unbecomingly, in another sense, to rest it on her partner's shoulder, asked her chaperon whether it was not possible to ask him to hold her differently. Her chaperon referred the difficult point of etiquette to other chaperons; there was much consultation, and finally the decision arrived at was that it was quite impossible to mention such a thing—not so much from the point of view of propriety as because "nothing made a man so furious as to suggest that he did not know how to hold his partner."

That debutante, still suffering, still unable to dance her best, would like to know if there is no way out of the difficulty.