

"Most Talked About Girl In World" May Soon Step Out Of Gilded Cage

By ALAN HARVEY.

Canadian Press Staff Writer
LONDON Two years ago a London columnist wrote:

"Why not open the golden gates and let the pretty little figure out?"

Today it looks as though just that may be about to happen. Princess Margaret, most talked-about young woman in the kingdom, is reported thinking of marrying Peter Townsend, a commoner who has been a close friend all her adult life.

If the royal wedding bells do ring—and most people seem to think they will though there is no official confirmation—the Queen's 21-year-old sister will step out of the gilded cage forever.

As Townsend's wife she would renounce her rights as third in succession to the throne, give up her £6,000 yearly allowance, and be free for the first time of the suffocating round of royal duties.

LITTLE PRIVACY

It would be a big change for the violet-eyed, pug-nosed princess, who has been conspicuously in the public eye—and has apparently enjoyed it—since her first public dance at the age of 14.

In that time, she has known privacy only with her family and a small circle of trusted friends. Though gay and carefree by

nature, she has always felt the dangers of a chafing remark, the worries of a long-range camera catching her in an undignified pose.

But when Margaret was asked whether she ever yearned to be the anonymous girl in the crowd she replied decisively:

"No, I cannot imagine anything more wonderful than being who I am."

Millions of words have been written about the princess and her personality. Despite that, little is known of her real character. One London newspaper, repelled by "nauseous publicity," said stories about her constituted probably "the least accurate branch of contemporary journalism."

TYPIICAL ANECDOTE

Typical of the perhaps apocryphal anecdotes about the princess is one that appeared in a Paris magazine. This reported that when the Queen reproached Margaret for wearing something too gay, the younger girl replied:

"Look after your old empire and let me look after my dresses."

Probably nearer the truth is the popular picture of the princess as a pleasure-loving, witty and talented person who likes dancing into the dawn, plays the piano with passing skill and enjoys a practical joke on occasion.

Mary Crawford, governess to Elizabeth and Margaret for 17 years, has told of her fondness for pranks—such as stuffing acorns in the shoes of court attendants—and another reasonably well-authenticated story has it that she once painted Charlie Chaplin mustaches on statuary in Windsor Castle.

Certainly the princess seems to have a gayer and more spontaneous nature than her older sister, who is more serious and occasionally carries out public duties with an appearance of constraint.

But Margaret, Prime Minister Menzies of Australia described her as a woman of "great intelligence, high spirits, immense charm"—has also shown seriousness of purpose and occasionally an inflexible determination.

CLOISTERED CHILDHOOD

Her life was fallen into four main phases. Born Aug. 21, 1930, at Glamis, where mother's ancestors had a castle home in Scotland, she had a happy, cloistered childhood in a gentle family atmosphere at

a town house on Piccadilly and later, in wartime, at Windsor Castle.

Soon her puerile sense of mischief, budding attractiveness and love of a good time gave Britain's "little princess" a place of her own in royal stories. She was billed as the fun-loving fashion plate whose main ambition was to dress like "Aunt Mariana," the Duchess of Kent, memorize hit songs from shows, such as "South Pacific" and run through a dazzling list of escorts.

She favored late parties and low-cut dresses, danced the can-can with ambassador's daughter Marjorie Douglas, stole the show from seasoned actresses at premières and gala first nights. It was a grief to her that she was small, just a shade over five feet, she hid it under a mask of gaiety.

She was quick with a quip—after Prince Charles was born she said she's probably known as "Charles' Aunt"—and made friends laugh with her talent for mimicry.

LIFE STOOD STILL

Danny Kaye, a favorite comedian, said she was good enough to get by on the stage. When the late King George VI was alive, she delighted in making him fall for one of her tricks. After a visitor left the King, Margaret would reopen the door and keep herself hidden, pretend she was the visitor returning for some forgotten document.

Her father died Feb. 6, 1951, and "life seemed to stand still" for the play-girl princess. The deeply religious side of her nature came to the front and there was even a report she would enter a religious order. At the time a Buckingham Palace spokesman told this writer it would not surprise him if, the report proved true.

More recently the princess has seemed to revert to her old care-free self. Some might say this is because Margaret, four times a bride-to-be, sees the time approaching when she will be a bride. Her old girl friends, such as the Marchioness of Blandford and the Countess of Dalkeith, now are married and have children, and Margaret may feel out of things when she visits them.

Nobody will know for sure until formal announcement is made. The story goes that when the present queen was being courted by Lieut. Philip Mountbatten, Margaret was horrified at the way the romance became public property. She believed she would keep her own affairs of the heart secretly private.

EASILY RECOGNIZED

LONDON — Telephones in the Fleet street area, heart of Britain's newspaper industry, have for many years carried the exchange name "Central." Starting in July all these numbers will be switched to a new exchange "Fleet street."

6

Prince Rupert Daily News
Monday, March 14, 1955



THE EARLY KINGS of Portugal are honored in nine new stamps just issued by the Portuguese government. The monarchs pictured are: left to right—top: Afonso Henriques, 1111-1185; Sancho I, 1154-1211; Afonso II, 1186-1223; (centre) Sancho II, 1209-1248; Afonso III, 1210-1270; Diniz, 1201-1324; and Fernando, 1345-1383. The stamps, in colors of emerald green, turquoise, green bronze and magenta, come in values of 10, 20, 50 and 90 centavos.

District Scout Officials To Gather In Vancouver

District Boy Scouts officials and leaders from all parts of B.C. and the Yukon will gather in Vancouver on March 18-19 for the annual meeting of the Provincial Council of The Boy Scouts Association.

No Scout leaders from Prince Rupert are planning to attend.

Prestidigitor over the two-day sessions will be Provincial Council president E. E. Gregg of Vancouver and Quesnel. At the annual dinner March 18 the Lieut.-Governor Clarence Wallace, CBE, will invest Scouts and volunteer Scouting with the awards for gallantry and service to the Scout movement that were announced by His Excellency Governor General Vincent Massey on February 22 in his capacity as Chief Scout for Canada.

Guest speaker at the dinner will be Rhys Sale, president of the Canadian General Council of the Boy Scouts Association.

On Saturday, March 19, district and provincial Scout officials will attend a conference at the Stanley Park sports pavilion. Plans will also be laid for the sending of B.C.'s contingent of several hundred Scouts and Scouting to the Eighth World Scout Jamboree at Ningara-on-the-Lake in August. The Jamboree, to be held in Canada for the first time, is expected to attract 10,000 Boy Scouts and leaders from all nations of the free world.

Gladstone High Trims Trapp Tech

VANCOUVER — Gladstone High of Vancouver defeated Trapp Tech of New Westminster 43-39 here Saturday night to win the senior boys' inter-high school indoor basketball championship.

The win earns Gladstone the top seed spot in the B.C. school tournament opening here Wednesday. "Trapp Tech and Vancouver college are needed second and third, respectively."

SAFETY MAPS

LONDON — Tourists to England will be given maps showing the safest routes through London's west end districts. All traffic signals and pedestrian crossings are clearly marked.

Rickshaw Puller Charged With Attempted Murder

NAGPUR, India — A 32-

year-old rickshaw puller charged with attempting to murder sons convicted or attempted

Prime Minister Nehru was re-

ported under observation today

in a mental hospital.

Baba Rao Laxman Kochale leaped on Nehru's automobile here Saturday with a six-inch knife. The 65-year-old prime minister pushed him away and police arrested him at once.

He was arraigned before a Nagpur magistrate Sunday on a charge of attempted murder and ordered held for further hearing within two weeks. Officials said further action would be decided after they receive the report on the mental examination.

One newspaper reports Baba Rao had told police his action was "the only way" to draw attention to his own personal difficulties. The account did not say what he meant by this.

SEEK ASSOCIATES

Policemen were reported seeking past associates of Baba Rao. He is a native of western India's Maharashtra region. A man from the same region was hanged for having a part in the assassination of Mohandas K. Gandhi in 1948.

BLACKWOOD on BRIDGE

By EASLEY BLACKWOOD

Muzzy's 'Brilliant' Error Puts Opponents Down One

If you have a Mr. Muzzy in your bridge crowd, you will know that he doesn't get the worst of it in spite of the way he plays. Actually, his errors in bidding and play often confuse and confound the "experts" in the game.

Mr. Champion's call and mere logic usually enables him to visualize his opponents' holding through their bids and plays. But basing such inferences on what Mr. Muzzy does is like building a house on quicksand.

LEADS ACE

In today's hand Mr. Muzzy led the ace of spades and continued with the nine. Mrs. Keen won the second trick with the king and led back the 10. Here Mr. Champion went into a long study. He was trying to figure

South dealer...North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

Mr. Abel

▲ 7 0 3 2

▼ 5 4

♦ K Q 0 5

◆ 8 7 5

WEST

Mr. Muzzy

▲ K 10 8 3 4

▼ J 8 3

♦ 6 0 7 4 3 2

◆ 10 8

▲ 4 3

EAST

Mrs. Keen

▲ Q J

▼ A K Q 10 9 7

♦ A

◆ A K 9 2

SOUTH

Mr. Champion

▲ Q J

▼ A K Q 10 9 7

♦ A

◆ A K 9 2

The bidding:

South West North East

2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass

3 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass

4 ♠ All Pass

out some way to use dummy's king and queen of diamonds.

Finally he ruffed with the queen of hearts.

Mr. Muzzy had expected the play of a low heart on his right. He wasn't paying too much attention and he under-ruffed with the Jack of hearts.

Mrs. Keen closed her eyes and bowed her head in quiet resignation. If Mr. Muzzy had two other hearts with his Jack, he had just thrown away a trick.

Laughing at this "error," Mr. Champion pulled the rest of the outstanding trumps, tried for a break in the club suit, didn't get it, and went down one.

ROAR OF RAGE

He was lost in thought for a minute, then he emitted a roar of rage. "I could have made this

...to chair sessions.

...in a mental hospital.

Nehru was unرفled by the occurrence, which he termed of "no significance." He flew back to New Delhi Sunday in high spirits.

Indian law sets a maximum of 10 years' imprisonment for persons convicted or attempted

murder.

Nehru was unرفled by the

occurrence, which he termed of

"no significance." He flew back

to New Delhi Sunday in high

spirits.

...in a mental hospital.

Baba Rao Laxman Kochale leaped on Nehru's automobile here Saturday with a six-inch knife. The 65-year-old prime minister pushed him away and police arrested him at once.

He was arraigned before a Nagpur magistrate Sunday on a charge of attempted murder and ordered held for further hearing within two weeks. Officials said further action would be decided after they receive the report on the mental examination.

One newspaper reports Baba Rao had told police his action was "the only way" to draw attention to his own personal difficulties. The account did not say what he meant by this.

SEEK ASSOCIATES

Policemen were reported seeking past associates of Baba Rao. He is a native of western India's Maharashtra region. A man from the same region was hanged for having a part in the assassination of Mohandas K. Gandhi in 1948.

He was arraigned before a Nagpur magistrate Sunday on a charge of attempted murder and ordered held for further hearing within two weeks. Officials said further action would be decided after they receive the report on the mental examination.

One newspaper reports Baba Rao had told police his action was "the only way" to draw attention to his own personal difficulties. The account did not say what he meant by this.

SEEK ASSOCIATES

Policemen were reported seeking past associates of Baba Rao. He is a native of western India's Maharashtra region. A man from the same region was hanged for having a part in the assassination of Mohandas K. Gandhi in 1948.

He was arraigned before a Nagpur magistrate Sunday on a charge of attempted murder and ordered held for further hearing within two weeks. Officials said further action would be decided after they receive the report on the mental examination.

One newspaper reports Baba Rao had told police his action was "the only way" to draw attention to his own personal difficulties. The account did not say what he meant by this.

SEEK ASSOCIATES

Policemen were reported seeking past associates of Baba Rao. He is a native of western India's Maharashtra region. A man from the same region was hanged for having a part in the assassination of Mohandas K. Gandhi in 1948.

He was arraigned before a Nagpur magistrate Sunday on a charge of attempted murder and ordered held for further hearing within two weeks. Officials said further action would be decided after they receive the report on the mental examination.

One newspaper reports Baba Rao had told police his action was "the only way" to draw attention to his own personal difficulties. The account did not say what he meant by this.

SEEK ASSOCIATES

Policemen were reported seeking past associates of Baba Rao. He is a native of western India's Maharashtra region. A man from the same region was hanged for having a part in the assassination of Mohandas K. Gandhi in 1948.

He was arraigned before a Nagpur magistrate Sunday on a charge of attempted murder and ordered held for further hearing