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DESERET EVENING NEWS.

If You Are Just "Waking Up" To the Fact of Want Advertising—or its Possibilities for YOU—Why, "Better Late Than Never!"

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

PART TWO.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1906. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

FIFTY-SIXTH YEAR.

The Saturday "News" Special Foreign Service.

MONEY MADNESS RUINS PRINCESS

Archduchess Clothilda Loses \$4,000,000 in Wildcat Schemes.

WAS DECEIVED BY OFFICIAL.

Knew Nothing of Business She Trusted Blindly to Man Whose Mistakes Cost Great Fortune.

BUDA-PESTH, April 4.—Much excitement, coupled with much regret, has been aroused here by the news that Hungary's most popular and beloved princess, the Archduchess Clothilda, is in financial difficulties. Twenty million kronen, or \$4,000,000, is said to be the total of her debts and liabilities.

The story is a painful one of an imperial princess utterly ignorant of finance and commerce being led into all kinds of rash speculations by those who ought to have been the very ones to safeguard her against such undertakings. The emperor, who was recently informed of the whole affair, is exceedingly displeased. His majesty has in his long life witnessed many scandals among the members of his imperial household, but the spectacle of an archduchess becoming involved in building speculations, theatrical ventures, limos and chemical trusts and combines and all sorts of the wildest schemes is a thing which he has hitherto been spared.

WIDOW IS THREE SCORE.

Archduchess Clothilda, is 60 years of age, and a widow, her husband, the Archduke Joseph, Palatine of Hungary, having died nearly a year ago. She was born in a Princess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and her brothers are Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, and Prince Philip of Saxe-Coburg, whose matrimonial and divorce affairs with the empress, Princess Louise of Belgium, have recently been so much before the public. The archduchess's eldest son, Archduke Joseph, succeeded his father, and is now a Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and his daughters are married respectively to the well known Duke of Orleans and Prince Thurn and Taxis.

GOES BACK TEN YEARS.

The story of the archduchess's money troubles goes back less than 10 years. Fifty years of her life passed quietly and uneventfully, undisturbed by monetary cares. She had a dowry of two million kronen (\$400,000), which was carefully invested, and during her long married life, the principal had considerably increased. In fact, it is said to have trebled itself.

In 1896, through the influence of Count Szev, Unterreiner, the archduchess was persuaded to embark in extensive building speculations in the central part of Buda Pesth. Two magnificent palaces known as the Clothildapalais, and an immense apartment house were erected at a cost of considerably over five million kronen (\$1,000,000).

The archduchess had unbounded confidence in Unterreiner, who seems to have had entire charge of her money, and made numerous speculative investments with it without her knowledge. This first building speculation proved a disastrous failure. The reputable value of the properties turned out to be much less than had been anticipated in view of the heavy expenditure upon them.

STILL MORE DISASTROUS.

But the next speculations were even more disastrous. The court secretary had been brought into connection with a very prominent business man, who was interested in the manufacture of lime, bone manures and other chemical products. Unterreiner, who gradually became deeply involved in the chemical industry, and his associates then started to form a combine of all the lime and chemical manufacturers in Austria-Hungary and Germany. The plan for a general union of these miscellaneous, but subsidiary companies or combines were formed to operate chemical works in Berlin and



PERSONS AND PLACE THAT FIGURE IN GREAT ITALIAN MONEY AND PARENTAGE MYSTERY.

Hopes Money Will Solve Her Life Mystery.

Widow of the Duke La Masa Left Twenty Million Lire to be Battled for Between Charities, and Such of Heirs as Could Establish Their Kinship—Began as Peasant Girl and Became Queen of Society.

ROME, April 2.—When a rich person dies anywhere there is pretty sure to be a squabble over his money. But apparently the Duchess Bevalacqua La Masa was not content to take the ordinary chances of having her money kept alive by litigation. She died recently, leaving a fortune of 22,000,000 lire—in American money \$2,500,000—a prodigious sum for Italy, where a lire goes as far as a dollar will in the United States. To insure a big fight for it, she left a most singular will. She left her money to charity—or to her heirs, if they could prove they were her heirs.

LITTLE AVAILABLE CASH. Matters at length reached such a stage that it was almost impossible to ascertain what the archduchess's financial position really was. At first it was thought that 10,000,000 kronen (\$2,000,000) would cover her losses, but it was speedily found that this sum was far too small, and today it seems certain that her liabilities amount to at least twice the first estimate.

There is very little ready money available, as it is all tied up in different speculations as to where all the money has gone, and many unwelcome rumors are in circulation in this regard. One individual in Buda Pesth is credited with having made no less than 3,000,000 kronen (\$600,000) out of the unfortunate archduchess.

LOST WHOLE SUM.

Besides her building and lime trust enterprises, the archduchess was the lessee of the Volkstheater in Buda Pesth, and also the founder and proprietor of the Inner City Credit bank. All Buda Pesth knew it as her bank, only the archduchess herself knew nothing about it. One day the archduchess' bank lent the archduchess' theater 200,000 kronen (\$40,000), and the theater lost the whole sum in a year. The court secretary was compelled to make a report of this to the archduchess, who for the first time gained some inkling of her financial situation. But it was too late, as her son-in-law, the Duke of Orleans, and Prince Thurn and Taxis, who ordered an investigation of her affairs, speedily found out. The greater part of her fortune was already entirely lost. Shortly afterwards Count Secretary Unterreiner was pensioned.

A GOOD DEAL CONCERNED.

When the emperor first heard of the archduchess' trouble, he was a good deal concerned as to how far they affected the financial position of the present Archduke Joseph. For his father had also been somewhat unfortunate in his financial affairs. He had lost large sums over the establishment of a new health resort, Bad Orkvenica, and had also spent heaps of money upon improvements in the Margareteninsel.

(Continued on page 5)

been disclosed to show that her story is a most romantic one.

HER EARLY LIFE.

The investigation has shown that from 1818 to 1840 a girl known as Felicità Zaranonello Bevalacqua lived at Valdagno in the house of a lawyer, Bettino Bevalacqua, as a member of his family. She was exceptionally beautiful, amiable and good, but the rest of the household showed the strongest aversion to her. Why? In the answer to that question probably lies the solution of the mystery of her own parentage. Why should they have disliked one who was admired and made much of by all the rest of the village? It renders plausible the explanation which has been advanced to account for it—that she was linked with a discreditable chapter in the life of Bevalacqua—that her existence was proof that he had not always been a eminently respectable man as he appeared to be—and on this account his wife and other children resented her presence among them. No record has been found of her birth. Who was her mother has never been satisfactorily proved.

LEFT HOUSE IN TEARS.

Whatever may have been the cause of the beautiful Felicità's unpopularity with the rest of the household, curious neighbors saw her leave the house one day weeping bitterly, and enter a waiting carriage. The spectacle caused a sensation. There was not a young man in Valdagno who would not gladly have jumped at the chance to avenge the slight or wrong done to the belle of the village. Some of them gathered about the vehicle, intent on learning the cause of her distress and hoping that they might obtain a commission before they could put any questions to her. The driver whipped up his steed and Felicità was driven rapidly away. At the house it was said that she had not been greeted by friends in Rome, and that she might never return.

The village heard, some six months later, that the penniless Felicità had found a fortune in her face and had extracted a brilliant marriage. A year later, as the Duchess La Masa, she paid a visit to the village, and dazzled all beholders by her equipage, her magnificent apparel and her superb beauty. The admirers of her obscure days scarcely dared to lift their eyes to her. She flashed before them like a radiant vision and was gone, and Valdagno saw her no more, but her beauty is still one of the most cherished traditions of the village.

LIVED HAPPILY LONG.

For many years she lived happily as the wife of the Duke La Masa, the well known Garibaldian general, and took her place among the leaders of society as one of the manner beauties. After his death she inherited his fortune, and having no children to share it, devoted herself to works of charity. During her lifetime, so far as is known, she made no efforts to discover any of her relations. At the time of her death no suspicion existed in the circles in which she had so long been a conspicuous figure that she was of humble origin or had been born out of wedlock. But for her strange will no such suggestions would have come to light.

The investigations which have led to the discovery that her marriage to the Duke La Masa is enveloped in mystery. No official record of it has been found. No one knows just where or when it took place. The only proof that such a ceremony was performed in a note which was sent from the municipality of Trabia to the mayor of Valdagno "on the marriage of General Giuseppe La Masa to Felicità Bevalacqua." But there it ends, with no hint of when or where it occurred. As matters now stand there is no legal evidence that she ever was the wife of the duke. It is even denied that it has been conclusively established that she was Felicità Bevalacqua, the girl who lived with the Valdagno attorney as a member of his family. All this further complicates the case, much to the delight of the counsel engaged upon it, for it means more rich pickings for them.

Many of the claimants are descendants of Bettino Bevalacqua. They assert that Felicità was an illegitimate daughter of Bevalacqua, but they maintain that she was legitimized before her marriage to Gen. La Masa. They have furnished no proof, however, that the bar sinister was thus effaced, and in the absence of any such proof they

enact the story of the duchess, giving a most vivid representation of her death, in which she suddenly sits up in bed, and in a most tragic voice exclaims: "I have left an infamous will. I therefore now declare that my husband's money should go to his own people, to Gemma and Giovanni, who will bequeath it to me. This always brings down the house, or, rather, the countryside."

The last scene shows Gemma and Giovanni surrounded by servants who can scarcely take orders for the succession of "Signora Duchessa" and "Signor Duca" which fall from their lips. One day disaster befell the show, as one of the other claimants attended the performance, and not having the repose of the Vere de Vere, let his tongue loose, and the better of him. He threw stones at the theater from a safe distance and damaged it badly.

Among the numerous other claimants are three children, whose guardian claims the La Masa fortune for them on the ground that Felicità's mother was always vaguely supposed to have been a certain Angela Rossi and that his wards are the children of this Angela's sister. "Besides," the guardian added pathetically one day, "they ought to have the money, because if they do not they will have to go into one of the charitable institutions supported by the late duchess." The children are aged 12, 10 and 7 respectively, and at present think much more of games and a good dinner than of mysterious millions. Their guardian is a queer old Jew, said to be their uncle, but he claims no relationship at present. However, if they get the millions it is unsafe to predict what might happen.

Naturally the charities interested are making a most vigorous fight for the millions left by the duchess, demolishing as best they can each claimant as he appears. One and all, when they fall to bring any kind of convincing proof, and by saying how poor they are and what need they have of the money, so that the executors of the will of the duchess are tired out giving explanations which fall on deaf ears. If the truth were told it would be found that they have very uncomplimentary feelings toward the duchess, one of them having been heard to say that "only a woman would have thought of such a way of keeping her memory green!"

NO MONEY TO FIGHT WITH.

They, of course, had no money to press claims, as the profession of beggar in normal times does not bring in more than enough to feed two healthy people, so they cast about for means to increase their income, and have really succeeded. They have rigged up a kind of small theater on wheels, and in this, with marionettes, they

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WEDDING GIFT FOR ASTOR'S SON

Expatriated American Will Give Thames Residence to His Heir.

WILL MARRY AMERICAN GIRL.

That Fact is Great Disappointment to British Matrons With Marriageable Daughters.

LONDON, April 4.—William Waldorf Astor's new house near Tunbridge Wells will soon be finished and the gardens and grounds are also nearing completion. The strictest secrecy has been maintained throughout regarding this establishment and even the very workmen had strict orders to give no information in connection with the plan. Why all this ado people have been wondering, but then they knew nothing of the burning desire of Astor to avoid any word of publicity. I have learned, however, that directly his residence in Kent is ready for occupation, Mr. Astor will take up his abode there and make it his headquarters for the rest of his days as he means to hand over Cliveden, his famous residence on the Thames, to his son as a marriage gift.

SUPERBLY BEAUTIFUL. This princely place was purchased some years ago by Mr. Astor from the late Duke of Westminster. Cliveden woods are among the most beautiful in England and one of the sights of the Thames. Mr. Astor's beautiful electric launch is a familiar object every Sunday during the river season. It invariably carries a freight of smart women in the loveliest gowns who repose among fantastic cushions in every color under the sun. Mr. Astor's sons are most enthusiastic warmers and especially good at rowing. The Lord of Cliveden is, however, rarely on the river, though in May when scarcely a boat is to be seen he may be found alone taking a quiet row. For all his wealth he always strikes one as being the loneliest of men. The friends who know him best say that he is always thinking of his dead wife to whom he was so passionately devoted.

MANY WOMEN WAIT.

It is not to be wondered at that there is great waiting and gnashing of teeth in Mayfair and Belgrave over the loss of so important a suitor as young Mr. Astor for whom society matrons and their fair offspring had been angling long before he attained his majority. Although the Astors cannot be said to be popular in British society, Mr. Astor, senior, being such a very proud and reserved man, abnormally sensitive and without a vestige of anything like social polish, nevertheless had his son made an effort he might have married almost anyone in English society. Last season it was said that the future queen of Spain "liked" him. He certainly had the privilege of dancing three times in one night with her serene highness at a party given by Mrs. Adair. But then he is one of the best dancers in society and a perfect adept in leading a coquette. Accompanied by her mother's lady-in-waiting, Miss Minnie Cochrane, Princess Ena has motored a few times with young Astor.

IS A BUSINESS MAN.

People who know him say he has more business capacity than any member of his family. He occasionally



The Twin Palaces

As a speculation

THE WOMAN WHO LOST A FOR TUNE—WHERE SOME OF IT WENT.