

Legal Authorities Continue To Debate Identity of Woman Claiming Royal Title

Editor's note: Following is the final dispatch in a series dealing with the mystery of Anastasia's royalty or peasant.

By ROBERT MUSEL
Hamburg, Germany — (UPI) — The woman who calls herself Grand Duchess Anastasia of Russia is either one of the world's most tragic figures or one of the world's great imposters.

The civil court here has been engaged for more than two years in trying to determine which, and a decision may not come down for another year or more.

When it does, both sides hope it will bring to an end 27 years of intermittent litigation and finally solve the mystery of the girl who tried to commit suicide in the Landwehr Canal in Berlin 40 years ago this month.



MERLIN ESTEP
On Republican Ticket
Attorney General Candidacy Filed

Salem — Merlin Estep, 48-year-old Salem attorney, has announced his candidacy for Attorney General on the Republican ticket in the May primary elections.

He was born on a ranch in Montana and, after being forced to quit school at the age of 13, was self-educated until he entered Willamette University in Salem, where he earned his law degree. He has engaged in the general practice of law here since 1950, being well-known for his work in the field of constitutional law.

Estep said that he believes the Attorney General should take a leading part "in bringing about modernization and clarification of Oregon's complicated and confused law pertaining to criminal practice and procedure in our courts."

To neutrals she is known as "Mrs. Anna Anderson." She claimed, while a patient in an institution after the attempted suicide, to be the only child of Czar Nicholas II to survive the massacre of the entire immediate Romanov family by Bolsheviks in a house at Ekaterinburg in 1918.

Over the years her opponents — including most of the blood relatives of the Czar and Czarina — and her supporters have divided violently over her claims.

"A fantastic hoax," said Prince Vasilii Romanov, a cousin who was a childhood playmate of the real Anastasia.

Anastasia's tutor, Pierre Gilliard, wrote a book about Mrs. Anderson titled "The False Anastasia." His wife, who was Anastasia's governess, rejected the hospital patient.

But in this most singular of mysteries there always seems to be an affidavit to counter an affidavit, like a legal game of chess. Tatiana Botkin Melnik, daughter of the physician to the Czar, swore under oath that Mrs. Anderson was the Anastasia she played with for ten years.

According to Dr. Kurt Vermeiren, the attorney for Mrs. Anderson, so did Princess Xenia of Russia, a cousin who married an American.

And so it has gone for nearly 40 years. One thing is certain — the interest in Mrs. Anderson was heightened when she further claimed that her father confided to his four daughters that he had deposited five million rubles for each of them in the Bank of England before the 1914 war.

At the current rate of exchange 20 million gold rubles would be worth about \$16,800,000.

Cordy Returns from Studies in Florida

Clifford B. Cordy, county horticultural agent, returned last week from Florida where he had been attending the University of Florida at Gainesville.

Cordy, who left Medford last September, has completed requirements for his doctor's degree which will become effective June, 1961. His dissertation was on "The Effects of Kind of Rootstock and Kind, Length and Location of Interstock on Pear Tree Performance and Fruit Quality."

Cordy received his master of science degree from Michigan State college.

Thus began what many insist is only the legend of "Romanov gold." It is implicit in Mrs. Anderson's case that a fortune exists. She blames it in part for the refusal of "my relatives" to acknowledge her. But the Romanovs and Hesses have made exhaustive inquiries in the British banks and have failed to find any trace of this money.

Witnesses on two continents have been interviewed in the present action filed by Mrs. Anderson to have herself declared the Czar's heir in place of Barbara, Duchess of Mecklenburg.

There have been five scientific comparisons, involving anthropometry or body measurements between Mrs. Anderson and the Grand Duchess Anastasia. Four held Mrs. Anderson was not Anastasia, one decided she was.

Prof. Otto Reche, dean of German anthropologists, was directed by the court to make an overriding judgment.

After examining 200 pictures and other mementoes of Grand Duchess Anastasia and visiting Mrs. Anderson, he filed a 62-page report in which he said that Mrs. Anderson is the Grand Duchess Anastasia.



Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

Here's Why Fish Are Slippery

"Ask a silly question and you'll get a silly answer."

The truth of this became apparent when I asked, "What makes a fish slippery?"

Many said, "A fish gets slimy from being in the water." Then they would go on to explain, "anything in water whether it be a fish or a clothes pin, gets slimy. That's one reason why a boat has to be 'lifted' frequently to have the hull scraped. Once they get slimy it's not long before they get so encrusted with barnacles and everything else, they might even sink."

Another man told me, "When a fish gets about so slimy it will rub itself against piling or rocks to get rid of it. Otherwise the fish would become so loaded down with marine growth it couldn't swim." And so on, reasons that seemed obvious but were far afield.

How a fish gets slippery is more complicated than the above explanations would indicate. The obvious reasons are not the real reasons. Many serious scientists have asked and wondered about this same problem.

From Fish

It was noticed, early in the investigations, that some fish are more slippery than others. Some even become more slimy after they are caught. It was apparent that the so-called "slime" was not the result of the water action in which the creature lives, but that the material was exuded from the body of the

fish itself. How the "oil" or slime got through the scales was a puzzler for awhile but the microscope and careful observation finally paid off.

It was found that certain scales, arranged on either side of the fish's body, were perforated with tiny holes or pores through which oozes the slimy matter. This mucous issues forth as needed and spreads over the exterior of the fish. This lubricates it and causes it to be slippery.

The idea is much the same as the grease that is rubbed on the body of a swimmer who is going to be in cold water for a long interval of time. The grease does two things—it protects the swimmer from the cold, and allows the body to slide through the water with less resistance.

Does Same

The slime on the fish's body does the same—makes its passage through the water easier, and to some extent it protects the body against injury, preventing the growth of fungus. Once a section of a fish's body loses the slime, fungus finds a suitable place to start.

Whether we call this material, mucous, slime or just plain slipperiness, it's all the same. It is lubricating oil to a fish whose "crankcase" has to be filled all the time, for once the "poor fish" leaves his ability to secrete the slippery material, he loses all interest in world and earthly things.

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Back Stairs: Ike Eyeing Departure

By MERRIMAN SMITH
UPI White House Reporter
Washington—(UPI)—Back stairs at the White House:

President Eisenhower is looking forward with a great deal of zeal to his departure from the White House next January. Friends say he is talking about it increasingly.

Particularly, he seems to look toward the time when his travels attract little or no public interest. This is a symptom not uncommon in outgoing chief executives, as they yearn for the day when they can move about as "free men." Roughly translated, this means without Secret Service agents, reporters and photographers.

Eisenhower's new conference remarks last week about what he intends to do about a year from now lose a lot in the reporting. He said he would be loafing on a sunny desert, shooting gail in Georgia or perhaps just sitting in a rocking chair.

It is most difficult, however, to convey by written word that bursting joy with which he spoke of the future. His smile was from ear to ear and a sudden, inner sunshine lighted up his face like a powerful spotlight.

Reporter after reporter remarked about it leaving the conference. "Man, did you see

him light up on that question about what he would be doing a year from now?" was the comment heard up and down the halls of the old State Department Building where the conferences are held.

Those who know him well say that if Eisenhower's health holds up, he will not be content with a steady diet of desert, Georgia or rocking chair when he leaves office. Naturally, he'll take frequent holidays as he does now. But he won't turn his back entirely on the affairs of state.

His friends, even his closest ones, are miles apart in their forecasts of how he'll occupy himself after the White House.

In fact, the President, himself, gives varying indications with changes in his mood. Within the year he has confided to friends that he has

Police Battle Farmers Over De Gaulle Policy

Ambiens, France—(UPI)—Police Thursday battled 15,000 farmers who rioted over President Charles de Gaulle's farm price policy.

Santiago, Chile—(UPI)—A violent earth tremor shook Santiago and other cities of central Chile Thursday.

no intention of settling down forever in Gettysburg; and with equal vehemence, but on another occasion he could not wait until he got to the farm and called it quits.

One man who worked with Eisenhower on his book, "Crusade in Europe," says he is making no personal plans for the future until he learns whether the President will need him again for a writing chore.

Another close friend of Eisenhower's says he'd bet his top and bottom dollars that Eisenhower does no more writing.

Maybe Eisenhower will do a lot of painting. About the most valuable gift he can bestow on a friend is an oil portrait of the friend signed "DE." A surprising number of his friends have such portraits. The President paints them from photographs.

One man prizes the portrait of himself done by Eisenhower so much that he displays a copy and keeps the original in secure, locked quarters.

Among the recent White House mail, this entreaty from a junior high school student: "Please send me all the information you have about Presidents. I have a theme due in two weeks."

Salem—(UPI)—Arthur H. Bone, Salem, has filed as a candidate from the first congressional district as delegate to the Democratic convention. He is a supporter of Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) for president.

Portland—(UPI)—Portland State College observes its fifth anniversary as a full-fledged institution today.

Edwards AFB, Calif.—(UPI)—An experimental X15 manned rocket plane climbed to 80,000 feet above the desert Thursday in a four-minute powered flight.

The American Federation of Labor was organized in 1886. Originally it was known as the Knights of Labor.

John Quincy Adams was elected President by one vote in the electoral college.



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