



Almost a year has passed since Farah's marriage to the Shah. Today she wears her crown easily, successful in her many roles: queen, wife, and mother-to-be.

Allah, the father takes the Holy Book and, without looking, slides his finger along the edge of the book to open a page which he feels contains one of the pieces of paper. The name revealed in the open page is the choice."

Almost certainly one of the names given to a son will be "Riza," after the Shah's father, the founder of the Pahlavi dynasty.

THE BIRTH of a son and heir to the Iranian throne would be the biggest event in the reign of the Shah. With an heir officially proclaimed, the coronation which has been constantly postponed since the Shah's accession in 1941 will then take place.

"What if it is a girl?" I asked. "We would be blissfully happy then, too," the young Queen said, and added, "There is no reason why I cannot have more than one child."

Either way, Farah has no need to worry about her future, as did the Shah's two former wives, whom he divorced for their inability to give him an heir. For the Shah has told Farah:

"If it is not God's will, then I am powerless. We can hope and pray for a son, but be it so or not, this will be my last marriage."

As the birth gets closer, the

Queen has canceled more and more official engagements in order to get the maximum amount of rest. Her Court Master, Fazlollah Nabil, former ambassador to Sweden, told me on my arrival in Teheran, "Her Majesty is having a bad time, especially now."

But the Queen told me, "I shall carry on as long as possible with my duties. There is so much for me to do."

Her average day starts at 8:30, when she has breakfast with the Shah. "We have made a point of always having breakfast together," Farah said. She then spends the morning in her office, which she calls "my favorite room."

HERE SHE organizes her household chores. "We have a staff of 56 domestics in the private palace. They consult me on any special questions to do with the running of the house."

"The menus are brought to me for approval, and sometimes I make suggestions myself, especially for Persian food."

Each morning at her office, the Queen receives six or more callers, mostly women in charge of various welfare organizations, to discuss their work.

Promptly at noon, the last caller
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