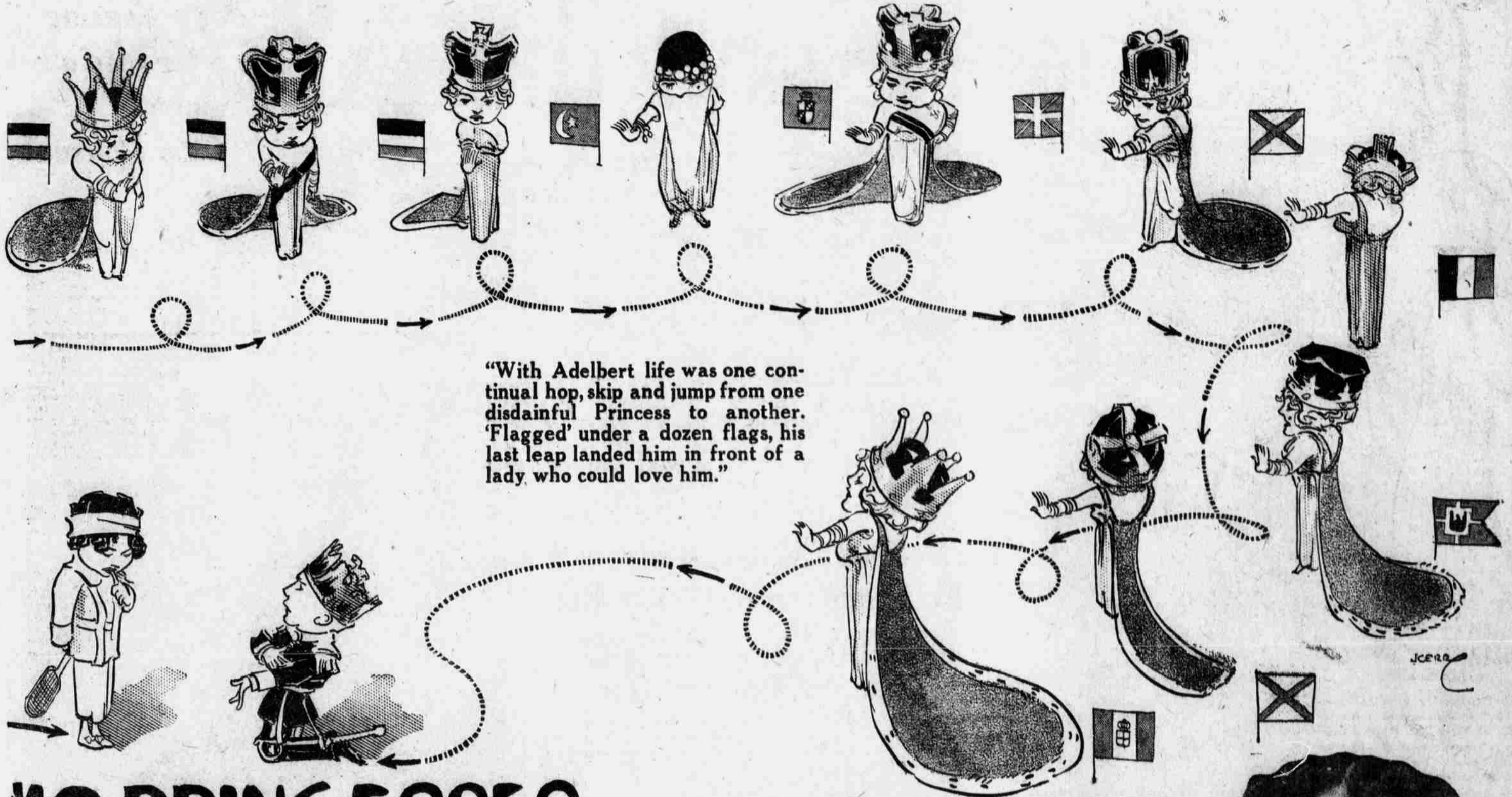


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"With Adelbert life was one continual hop, skip and jump from one disdainful Princess to another. 'Flagged' under a dozen flags, his last leap landed him in front of a lady who could love him."

'10 PRINCESSES SCORNE ME — NOW LET ME LOVE'

The Unusual Dilemma of the Kaiser's Son Adelbert, Who, Spurned Under a Dozen Flags, Found at Last a Tennis-Playing Countess to Adore Him

PRINCE ADELBERT, third son of the Kaiser, certainly appears to be the most unfortunate royal youth in Europe. Ever since he was old enough to go a-wooing, Imperial command has kept him hurrying from one court to another—whenever there was an eligible Princess—only to be "turned down" by one after another, until the supply was exhausted.

Yet, no matter how often he had "got the mitten," he obediently set off again on the royal love chase whenever the Kaiser discovered a fresh, fair eligible to a Hohenzollern title.

Kingdom. So, Adelbert, once you marry with the left hand, thenceforth you will be no longer Prince but plain Herr Hohenzollern!"

Nevertheless, Adelbert—with no more royal Princesses and Duchesses left to be unconquered—is standing upon his rights as a male human being; he is basking in the smiles of his Marienbad charmer—who is said to be some sort of second-rate Countess and a famous tennis player, though her name and precise rank is withheld by even the boldest German editors. On the tennis court Prince Adelbert calls her "Marie, love."

The very latest news of the affair is that Adelbert has a champion in his Imperial mamma, and that, as soon as the Kaiserin has sufficiently recovered from her present indisposition, she will go to Marienbad, make the little Countess' acquaintance, and see whether it is not possible to let poor Adelbert be happy.

And, indeed, oughtn't Prince Adelbert to have his happy reward after having so dutifully courted and been turned down by the following:

of loving and marrying a very pretty aristocrat who returned his love, instead of turning upon him a chilled steel shoulder. Alas! Even in this situation Prince Adelbert is unfortunate. "Nein!" stormed the Kaiser. "None of that morganatic stuff in my family. Look at your cousin George of England. Nobody ever expected he would come to the throne any more than anybody expects you will. Yet it happened—and all on account of that foolish Seymour affair, which can't be hushed up. George is a target for every Socialist in the United

Princess Patricia of England, Grand Duchess Olga of Russia, Princess Sophia Charlotte (now wife of his brother, Prince Eitel Fritz), Princess Adelheid of Schleswig, Princess Tyra of Denmark, Princess Dagmar of Denmark, Grand Duchess Marie of Luxembourg, Princess Irene Alexandrovna of Russia, Princess Marie of Roumania and Princess Zuilka, daughter of the deposed Sultan of Turkey all perfectly good princesses and grand duchesses, without a blemish on them.

Princess Irene, No. 8 in the list, is the Czar's seventeen-year-old niece. She smiled upon Prince Adelbert and helped heal the bruises caused by the jilting of Marie of Luxembourg. He was grateful, then he took notice, then he made violent love to her—just as though he did not bear the scars of seven jiltings—and only to be jilted once more. For the fair princess said, in sincere, or well simulated surprise:

"Why, don't you know that I am as good as engaged to our cousin of Connaught?"

Here Are Three of the Princesses Who Wouldn't Have Adelbert. First, the Princess Patricia of England, Then the Little Grand Duchess Olga of Russia, Third, the Beautiful Young Duchess of Luxembourg.



Prince Adelbert, Whom No Princess in Europe Would Have, Seems Like a Nice, Clean Cut Sort of Youth.

Countess "Marie," the Tennis Playing Beauty Who Fell in Love with Adelbert After All the Haughty Princesses Had Rejected Him.

Little princess Marie, of Roumania, who is not yet sixteen, told Adelbert flatfootedly that the Kaiser looked upon her as a last resort—and that was where he was fooled! The courting of Princess Zuelka, daughter of the deposed Sultan of Turkey, was by proxy—at the time when the Kaiser was seriously considering such a rebuke to the young Turkish party that Abdul Hamid would have been able to hang on to his throne. The young Turks, however, would not be stopped by the rebuke of the Kaiser; and so Princess Zuelka was never in much danger of becoming a Hohenzollern.

The boy's non-success made the Kaiser furious, for he had allowed Adelbert considerable extra money to press his suit. When His Majesty learned that Princess Pat was going to Stockholm to visit her sister, Margaret, Crown Princess of Sweden, he wrote to his cousin, the Queen, asking her to invite Adelbert and bring about a marriage between him and the English Princess. Her Swedish Majesty went out of her way to oblige William—all to no purpose. Princess Pat would have neither the Kaiser for father-in-law nor Adelbert for husband—"so there!"

By this time Adelbert had earned "mittens" enough for himself in all the courts, west, south and north of Berlin. He must needs try the east now for an eligible bride-to-be.

His first choice was Princess Irene, the young and lovely daughter of the Grand Duke Alexander. Irene's negative answer makes this Prince the most jilted royal youth in Europe. But Adelbert was not to be swerved from his purpose of securing a rich princess while there was a single one living that had not positively refused him.

After all the preliminaries for the recent interview between the Kaiser and the Czar at a Baltic port were settled, William wired Nicholas for permission to bring along his third, unmarried son—a request that could not be refused. Nor was it.

But just before starting for Finland the Kaiser announced the betrothal of his eldest daughter, Olga, whose hand in marriage Adelbert came to ask, to her cousin, Duke Dimitri, eldest son and heir of Grand Duke Paul.

Olga is sixteen, Dimitri nineteen years of age. No one doubts that this betrothal of the young couple was hastened in order to forestall Adelbert's suit.

The Czar has two more daughters, but these are too young to be matrimonially considered, and other eligible princesses—aside from the mitten-bestowers mentioned—there are none.

Doesn't it really seem as if Adelbert had earned his right to be happy with the girl he really loves—and probably the only one who ever had the chance to turn him down and didn't?



Photo by Underwood & Unsewood, N.Y.