

THOUSANDS SEE MOIRA SHEARER'S WEDDING

It was to have been a "quiet wedding." But as ballerina Moira Shearer leaves her Kensington home with her father, it turns out to be a very public occasion. From Melbury Road - where only a few months ago a girl from Vienna set out to marry the Earl of Harewood - Scottish-born Moira Shearer goes out to another Palace wedding - this time at Hampton Court. There, 300 guests are reinforced by thousands of well-wishers, all eager for a glimpse of the queen of the ballet. Top-hatted Sir John Anderson - president of the Covent Garden Trust - is among those present. And, as the bridal car drives into the courtyard, the crowds, who had been waiting all morning, surge towards it to wish their idol well.

As in the Chapel Royal of this historic Palace, the star of the ballet world weds, her colleagues of the Sadlers Wells troupe toast her happiness, 15 miles away, at Covent Garden. A matinee prevents them from being there and, even the ballet must go on, though it may be laced with champagne.

Though her friends are absent on duty, there are more than enough on hand to cheer the couple as they leave for the reception. The bridegroom is Mr. Ludovic Kennedy, a 30-year-old writer.

What Moira Shearer hoped would be a wedding without bother or fuss, turned out to be almost a Royal occasion. And everyone loved it - the radiant bride most of all.