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SHAH OF PERSIA'S WEDDING

Persia, romantic land of fairy tales, sees a fairy tale come to life in the wedding of her King. Once before the preparations were made, but ill-health stayed the day. But now in a car of gold the King's sister, the Princess Chams, comes to fetch his bride to the ceremony.

And now, in a dress lovelier than any fairy Princess wore, comes the bride, honey-haired Seraya Isfandiari.

Slowly up the Palace steps she proceeds, weighed down by six thousand diamonds, sequins by the million, and the silver lace of her dress, whose train four bridesmaids could scarcely carry. And in an inner room where only the family might go, they were wed. Then, in the great Hall, the Shah-in-Shah and his radiant Empress receive the congratulations of their guests. The Shah, who is 31, was formerly married to King Fareuk's sister. His new bride is Persian, descendant of a great tribal chief formerly antagonistic to the throne.

In the group are the Shah's sister Princess Fatima who married an American and his twin-sister Princess Ashraf.

The Aga Khan, a Persian Prince and leader of a great sect of mohammedans witnessed the wedding. At night, in the fabulous pink-marble Golestan Palace, where stands the jewel-encrusted Peacock Throne (brought from Delhi by the first Shah of Persia) 3,000 guests await the Royal couple - among them the Shah's mother. It's a scene of glittering brilliance; the splendour of uniform, the gay loveliness of the women's dresses - the sparkle of crystal and gold, as the romance which started with a snapshot comes to a fairy tale climax.

Lovely and regal in a scene of regal splendour, too, is the Begum Aga Khan. Five hundred years ago and more long Britons found their arduous way to Persia (then as now gateway to the riches of the East) and fabulous tales they brought back of the splendour they had seen. Today the newsreel camera has shown you what the pen of man could scarcely have brought to life.