

The Cat-and-Dog Trick That Bagged the Beautiful Russian Spy

And Caused the Arrest of 100 Prominent Persons in Bucharest



G. Methae, P. Solomon.
By a Staff Correspondent.

BUCHAREST.

WHEN doubtful how to catch a notorious spy, stage a cat-and-dog fight.

That, at least, is the advice of a Roumanian detective, who, baffled at every turn, finally bagged his prey by this ingenious ruse. Incidentally, in so doing, the sleuth was able to put behind prison bars, at least temporarily, a beautiful Russian girl, who had been spreading trouble throughout this city on behalf of the Soviet powers.

Thus was the most sensational espionage intrigue since the World War brought to a close. Arrests by the wholesale nabbed more than one hundred suspects, and these included army officers, high government and police officials and society folk of the most exalted station. All were charged with being members of a far-flung organization with tentacles stretching all over Europe.

Because of its adjacency to Russia, Roumania was regarded as being a particularly significant quarter for activities. The most trusted and astute secret agents in Petrograd were, therefore, dispatched to Bucharest. One of their number, and perhaps the cleverest, was a young woman calling herself variously Cilly Ausslaender, "doctor of chemistry," Frau Deutsch, and Mrs. Grieg, supposedly English.

Cilly, to use her simplest cognomen, spoke English, German, French and

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY
"How could the detective circumvent the dog? Suddenly he was inspired. Gently taking the kitten by the scruff of its neck, he dropped it into the motor car. A furious hissing and barking broke out. While his feminine confederate stood guard, Operator B—snatched up the brief case and made off with it."

Italian fluently and idiomatically. A year and a half ago she came here. Of arresting good looks, dark and a bit mysterious, she established herself in a villa in the most aristocratic section of the city. She had her own motor car of expensive manufacture and presented perfectly authentic letters of introduction to members of the smart set.

Cilly's beauty made her conquest of many men with whom she came in contact easy. Nor did she scruple to exploit it in the cause to which her crafty talents were sworn. The versatility of the woman was amazing. To one group of her new friends she would pose as English; to another as German. Constantly she was seen with one gallant or another at the races, at fashionable dances, at the play.

It was later shown, at the climax of the Soviet-spy investigation, that she had drawn into her organization many Roumanians of illustrious standing. There was Major Varzaro, of the Government Technical Corps; G. Methae, a civil engineer, charged with being a leader; the attorney, Grozea, and a young engineer named Solomon. It was through the activities of the last-named man that full details of the monstrous plot were unearthed, and he played a prominent role in the little drama that was responsible for Cilly's unmasking.

A member of the local detective force had been assigned to keep a wary eye on Solomon, whose friendship with Cilly and other persons capable of overt acts had aroused suspicion. The sleuth, aided by a feminine confederate, shadowed the suspect day and night, but was never able to get anything on the engineer, because of the latter's extraordinary cunningness. But one afternoon Operator B—followed Solomon's motor car, which drew up at a house, where the motorist

INSCRUTABLE EYES
Cilly Ausslaender, the Brunette Beauty, Whose Pro-Soviet Activities Were Laid Bare Through the Cat-and-Dog Trick Staged by a Roumanian Detective. This Photo Gives a Remarkably Good Idea of Her Facial Loveliness That Bewitched Many Men.

alighted. He entered the dwelling, having, to the watcher's extreme joy, left behind on the seat of the automobile a thickly stuffed brief case. "That's what I want," the detective murmured to his companion, and made for the vehicle swiftly.

His sense of elation was short-lived. There, beside the brief case, a huge police dog sat on guard. At the stranger's approach, the animal bristled and growled, crouching protectively over the treasured brief case. He had obviously been trained for just such emergencies as this.

The detective was in despair. Here was the golden opportunity of a lifetime frustrated by this wretched beast! How could he circumvent the hostile dog? Suddenly he was inspired. In a nearby ground-floor window basked a kitten, purring happily. Gently taking it by the scruff of its neck, he dropped it into the motor car. A furious hissing and barking broke out. Operator

B—was quick to take advantage of the melee between the two animals.

While his feminine confederate stood guard he snatched up the coveted prize and made off with it.

Thus Cilly Ausslaender's eagerness to protect Soviet interests proved her undoing. Ample evidence to incriminate both herself and Solomon was found in the brief case. Especially informative was a list of names of persons concerned in the plot. This led to a wholesale round-up which netted many notables not hitherto suspected. Letters in Cilly's handwriting pointed to her as the instigator and organizer of the entire scheme, and she, with fellow culprits, was lodged in jail to await

SOUGHT DEATH BECAUSE
Mlle. Claude Franco, Famous Paris Actress, Who Committed Suicide at the Peak of Her Artistic Career. She Was a Victim of Melancholia, Induced by the Suspicion That She Had Betrayed Mata Hari into the Hands of the French Anti-Espionage Service, During the World War.

World War through her machinations. Cilly has also been compared to Frau Helene Meyer, who during wartime was known as "Mlle. Docteur." She was proved to have been the motive power behind the German espionage system, and her achievements were certainly notable. She directed her operations from headquarters in Berlin, and the French were hard put to it even to glean a personal description of her.

In the catalogue of famous female spies mention must be made of the Baroness Carla Jensen. In her autobiography the Baroness discloses some astounding secrets of her trade. This clever Dane calmly admits that while in the employ of "a great European power" she gave poisoned kisses to an Oriental potentate! She also disguised herself as a chambermaid in a Paris hotel to steal the wallet of a "dangerous agitator" snared a London drug trafficker; fought for her life in an underground cavern in France, and "turned up" a group of South African diamond thieves by appearing as a ghost.

Yet another adroit woman spy was Marthe Moreuil, who, as "Mlle. Fox-trot," succeeded in convicting three Englishmen of espionage.

She was an artist's model and parachute jumper, and gained her nickname through her grace and skill on the dance floor, where she charmed the men she suspected.

Other ladies adept at the practices of this profession include the Baroness Lilika d'Audreve Sevilya, who was employed by the Central Powers during the war, but who was accused of having executed a double cross in behalf of Russia—a statement made by Kriminal Kommissar Steinhauer, the "Kaiser's master spy."

In this particular case, it was the man who brought about his feminine opponent's downfall. But generally speaking the odds are all in favor of the woman, for obvious reasons. Had it not been for the cat-and-dog fight, beautiful Cilly might be walking the streets of Bucharest today, scheming but unsuspected.

How Uncle Sam Spent 70 Million Dollars This Year to Say "Merry Christmas"



Mrs. Lucille Webster Gleason, Comedienne, with Her Screen Made of Greeting Cards.

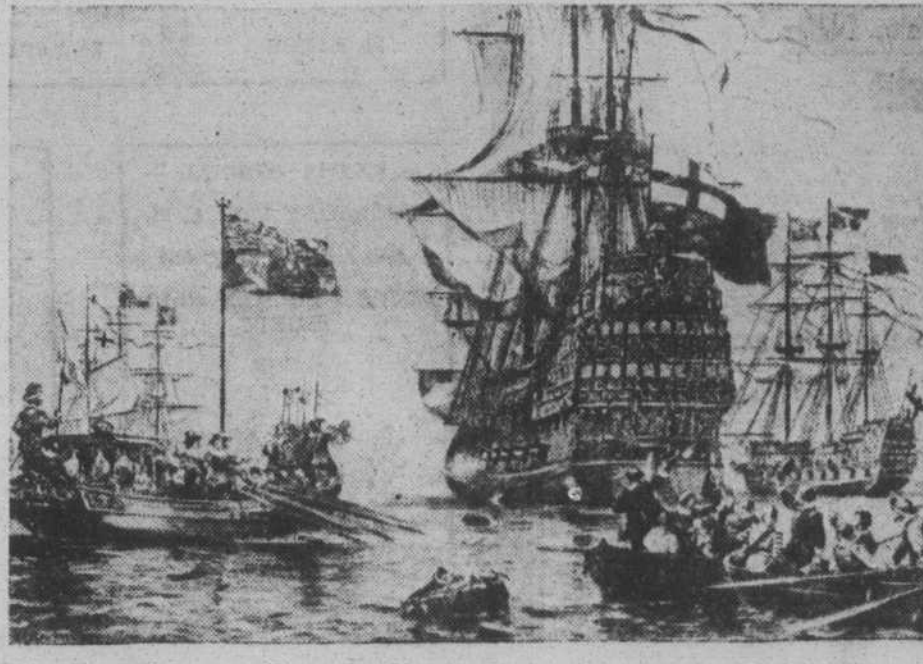
STARTLING statistics have just been compiled about the amount of money spent yearly by citizens of the United States for Christmas cards. This year it is estimated that the total bill has reached, if not surpassed, \$70,000,000!

Authority for this statement is a member of the Greeting Card Association, whose personnel is drawn from the ranks of the manufacturers of these hugely popular bits of pasteboard. More than fifty firms and 18,000 shops figure on the list of retailers.

In the past seventeen years there has been a terrific jump in the greeting-card industry. The volume of retail sales, in 1913, was a mere \$10,000,000. By 1920 it had reached almost \$34,000,000, while in 1921 the \$40,000,000 mark had been attained. The next two years each saw a \$5,000,000 jump. In 1924 sales reached \$70,000,000. Last year the \$100,000,000 goal was passed.

The sums mentioned represent greeting cards of all sorts—Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter, Mother's Day and birthday felicitations. An interesting fact is that while the United States produces and uses more of these gaily colored rectangles than any other country, the custom originated in England in 1846, having been the inspiration of a nobleman.

Three examples of individual taste



Courtesy, Raphael Tuck & Sons, Ltd. The Prince of Wales's Xmas Card: "The Sovereign of the Seas."

in Christmas cards are illustrated herewith. It is amusing to contrast the austere preference of Queen Mary of Great Britain with the more martial and stirring inclination of her eldest son, the Prince of Wales. Equally different is the flair of Mrs. Lucille Webster Gleason, famed comedienne. She



Courtesy, Raphael Tuck & Sons, Ltd. Card of Queen Mary of England: "Girlhood of Mary, Queen of Scots," by Howard Davis.