



FAMILY IN ATTENDANCE waits for Margaret. Queen Mother and Queen Elizabeth are sober-faced.

At left, beside Prince Charles, is Denmark's Queen Ingrid, the only reigning foreign royalty present.

# A NATION IS HAPPY WITH ITS DARLING

From babyhood she had been the darling of a nation, so adored and clucked over that it could fairly be said 50 million Britons looked upon Margaret Rose as a daughter. Her joys and her occasional sadnesses were the people's as well. So intensely familiar was their interest that they felt free to offer advice to her on the inclination of her heart. Four years ago they grieved when the laws of the Church of England, backed by the stiff traditions of the Crown, forced her to forswear Group Captain Peter Townsend because he had been divorced. Lately, like a caucus of fidgety parents, they had openly fretted because their princess was approaching 30 and spinsterhood.

Now, after a well-concealed courtship and a brief engagement, Queen Elizabeth's only sister was getting married. The dotting millions were electrified and delighted—and more than a little concerned. For in many ways this was a wildly unconventional union.

Princess Margaret had elected to marry a commoner, the first such choice by British

royalty in 450 years. Furthermore, Antony Armstrong-Jones was a working man, a professional photographer. And he had led a life sufficiently exuberant to be called "bohemian." His father had been divorced twice.

The U.K. reeled a bit. But it decided to be happy with the princess. The rigid "Establishment" saw its way clear to make startling concessions. Tony's father and all three wives were invited to sit in Westminster Abbey, as were his charwoman and theatrical friends.

Last week the great day came. Britons by the hundreds of thousands crammed the procession route, decked with flowers, between Buckingham Palace and the Abbey. Queen Elizabeth, seeming uncommonly abstracted, came to sit in the Abbey's forefront along with the Queen Mother. Tony, admittedly jittery, arrived with his best man and fidgeted in a seat beside the altar. For a few still seconds they all waited. But at last a fanfare of trumpets proclaimed that the nation's beloved princess had arrived, to be given in marriage



# LIFE

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