

## A WONDERFUL EXAMPLE

*Jeannette Altwegg prefers her monthly earnings of 120.— Swiss Frs. to the 100 000.— Frs. offered her for heading the bill in Gala Performances and Shows.*

It sounds like a fairy tale, yet it is a true story. It started in 1948, at the Olympic Games' Artistic Skating Competitions, held at St. Moritz. To everybody's amazement, placed immediately behind the graceful, unforgettable, fairy like Canadian Barbara Ann Scott, appeared a young English girl, aged eighteen, called Jeannette Altwegg who won the bronze Medal.

Under the tuition of the Swiss Gerschwiler, Professor of Artistic skating, Jeannette Altwegg soon reached such peak of perfection, her progress and performance became so dazzling that she compelled recognition and took part regularly in every British Championship. In 1951 she became Amateur Champion for Europe, then she won the World Championship but 1952 saw her reach the crowning glory of her career, when she won the Gold Medal, supreme award, at the Olympic Games at Oslo.

Both her predecessors: Sonja Henie and Barbara Scott, were not long in throwing aside their Amateur Status, in order to become Professionnals, thus making money

rapidly by giving Exhibitions and appearing, as stars, night after night, at Shows and Gala Performances. Glamour and wealth also smiled at Jeannette Altwegg, when wonderful business proposals were made to her by managers and show producers. A contract endorsed by her signature and £ 8000.— (100 000.— Swiss Frs.) would be the Olympic Champion's monthly earnings. Jeannette Altwegg chose otherwise, she wanted to escape from the noise and publicity of the music-halls, she shun this roaming type of existence, moving from town to town. She discarded fame and fortune. She went to Winterthour in Switzerland where she took a course of children welfare and on her 22nd. birthday, she was accepted at the children village of Pestalozzi where she discharges the duty of Assistant to the Headmistress of the kindergarten school of one of the British Homes. At Trogen she is earning 120. — Swiss Frs. per month with her board and lodgings.

Artistic skating is now out of the question for Jeannette Altwegg who has no

intention to defend her title and will not be competing this winter in neither events: the European Championship nor the World competition. The little war orphans who are under her care have promised to make her a fine skating rink by flooding the green lawn where they are playing today with her!

Nowadays Jeannette does not give much

thought to her skates, nor does she dream any more of the exhilarating dull moan of the ice when grazed by the fine steel blades of the skates. She intends to devote herself entirely to these poor little outcasts of fortune who already love her and cannot do without her.

As for Jeannette, the heroine of a fairy tale, all is well that ends well.

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