POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1918

THE CZAR'S COUSIN AS DRESS DESIGNER

Family Fortunes Vanished, Count Michael Torby Embarks on New Career

One of the most astonishing of all the topsy-turvy romances of the war is surfamed up in the fact that Count Michael Torby has become a dress designer in the West End of London.

Count Michael is the only son of the Grand Duke Michael of Russia, second cousin of the Czar, who was recently killed by Russian revolutionaries. He is thus connected with our own Royal family, and just before the war the king and queen dined at Kent Woodthen the Grand Duke's Hampstead house—and after dinner the finest ball of the 1914 season was given to celebrate the coming out of Countess Nada Torby, the second daughter of the Grand Duke and his wife, the Countess Torby.

Count Michael's elder sister—the Countess Zina—is the wife of Major Sir Derrick Wernher, the inheritor of millions left by his father, Sir Julius Wernher, the great South African diamond company director. The count is the youngest of the three children and

lions left by his father, Sir Julius Wernher, the great South African diamond company director. The count is the youngest of the three children, and is twenty years of age.

But for the war, says the London Express, which tells the story, he might possibly have gone some day to Russia, which his father left more than twenty years ago in order to live in England with the wife whom the Tsar of those days refused to recognize because she was not of Royal blood. The late Tsar was on friendly terms with the Grand Duke Michael, and the young count might, perhaps, have gained a position in Russia such as would seem the proper lot of a cousin of the Tsar. He was brought up in luxury in England. He lived with his father and mother at Keele Hall, in Staffordshire, a magnificent country house in the Tudor style, or at Ken Wood, one of the most beautifully situated of the old Hampstead houses, with large gardens and grounds. He seemed assured of a life untroubled by the need of making money.

The came the war and the Russian

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