The CIA cannot be controlled, because what they do is secret, and you can't control people if you don't know what they are doing.

But can a modern nation do without an intelligence service? The answer is Yes and No.

Specifically, the CIA damages the prospects of democracy in emerging nations. In peacetime secret agents are a positive menace. Third world leaders know the CIA has an "executive action capability", which means a murder squad, and common sense tells us that a frightened head of state is more inclined than a sane one. An example: when Castro got wind of the CIA's Bay of Pigs plan he arrested 100,000 "suspects". A handful of CIA assets were included, but what about all the innocent people who were imprisoned in camps and interrogated? In Cuba the CIA failed; in Chile they succeeded, and as a result ~~hundreds of~~ many people have been unspeakably tortured. There is damage at home, too. Those of the Watergate burglars...

Charlotte (18)

Prince Oblomov (30)

Felix

Andre (a.p.)

Lady Walden (35)

Earl of Walden. (45)

Walden is in charge of Oblomov security.

Lady Walden knows Felix was back?

Ochrana meaning big scheme to get rid of Oblomov.

Oblomov knows the Ochrana is out to get him?

Walden is on The Watch like a something & Oblomov will be in his charge throughout the visit.

Action centres on Walden homes, first in London then in Surrey.

Charlotte was ill last year so her debut is delayed by a year, which makes her 19.

Suppose Hardy Walden is Russian? That's how the know Felix.

If Kell + Steinhauer are left out who is trying for the international consequences? The Ochrana?

Is Oblomov on a semi-secret mission to arrange joint Anglo-Russian action against Germany?

Beginning: daily life of Felix, hypnotic larger-than-life.

daily life of Charlotte, young rebelle.

daily life of Oblomov. Vague Prince.

Set up significance of Oblomov's visit, and problems, with Walden.

Set up contact between Felix and Charlotte.

At some point Felix sees Hardy Walden + remembers. He blackmails Hardy Walden into giving him a gardening job.

Sub-plot: Ochrana keen in informing on Felix, but to no purpose.

# The Russian Prince.

It is 1914. The British Establishment is at its peak. They rule half the world. They don't know it, but they will never have it so good again. The old playboy King Edward VII died in 1910, but this is still the Edwardian era: the wealth, power and prestige amassed during the 63 glorious years of Victoria's reign are being spent with gusto. People eat and drink hugely. Houses are enormous, clothes are gorgeous, entertainment is lavish. The rules of etiquette have attained unparalleled complexity — for example, brown boots may not be worn closer to London than Ascot. Small fortunes are made by the Bond Street and Savile Row outfitters who supply the many differently clothes essential for different social occasions and different times of day. More than a million people, out of a working population of eighteen million, are employed as domestic servants. It is a time of hypocrisy: everyone pays lip-service to Victorian morality, and the homosexual intelligentsia have been driven abroad by the Oscar Wilde trial; but royalty patronize the Paris brothels and syphilis is rampant.

The Earl of Walden is a rich man. Most of his wealth is in London property, so he has received the collapse of agricultural prices which has reduced the fortunes of some of his friends. To look after himself, his wife and his two teenage daughters he employs more than 100 servants at his homes in London, Surrey, Monte Carlo and Scotland. He is fifty, and one of those men for who are in their prime at that age. He is a big, beefy man, and carries his build very well (although in ten years' time it will have begun to collapse). He thoroughly enjoys life. He likes parties, hunting, food and wine, sex, card games, the opera, the stage, orchestral music, all the pleasures there are. He has no real job apart from a more-or-less ceremonial post in the royal household; but he is a friend of several cabinet ministers and is often used as a confidential messenger in high diplomacy. Despite his hearty manner he has a sharp mind.

His wife Lydia is an aristocratic Russian of 38 years, still beautiful. They had a whirlwind romance in St Petersburg twenty years ago and are still in love. She speaks perfect English as well as good French and of course Russian. She is more or less content with the do-nothing life of an English lady, although she sometimes envies and resents her husband's freedom and power. Her past hides a secret. She was not a virgin when she married Walden: she had had a passionate affair with a poor student, who (killed himself) No. She has seen him when she married Walden. recently in London, watching her like a ghost.

Their elder daughter Charlotte is 19 and this year she will "come out" — that is, she will put up her hair, be presented at court, and go to the endless parties and balls of the London "season" in order to meet a suitable husband. She is pretty, protected, innocent,

cultured, wilful and idealistic. Her education has been narrow and impractical. A year ago she was in pigtails and knee socks; now she is expected to get married. She once asked her governess: "What will I do when I come out?" "Oh, go to parties and balls and picnics and just have a wonderful time until you get married." "And what will I do after I get married?" "My child, you will do nothing." Charlotte is not sure she wants to spend her life doing nothing. There is something else on her mind. She knows that after a woman gets married babies are liable to grow inside her. What Charlotte can't understand is how they come out. She knows where eggs come out of chickens, and she once saw a cow drop a calf; but her own body has no aperture big enough for a baby. There is no-one she dares ask about this. (She has never even considered the question of how a baby is started: she thinks it's something that happens spontaneously around the age of twenty-one, which is why a woman is wise to marry at around nineteen.)

Of these three only Walden is aware of the international tension overhanging Europe as the London season of 1914 begins. The world is divided into two camps. In the centre is Germany and its ally the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Surrounding these central powers are France, Belgium, England, Russia and the Balkans. England and France resent the growing strength of Germany. On the other side Germany is increasingly confident about the prospect of defending her interests by force of arms. However, like the problem facing German military planners is, as always, the danger of war on two fronts: against France in the west and Germany in the east. Conversely, the British would like to make absolutely sure that if Germany did go to war against France the Russians would attack Germany. To this end, Walden will this summer entertain Prince Alekseï Alexandrovich Obolensky, a nephew and favourite of the Czar, and hold unofficial talks about military co-operation.

Obolensky is aged 30, handsome, enormously wealthy, and shy of women. In St Petersburg he is regarded as a young hothead, for he is in favour of large-scale reforms in Russian society: mechanized agriculture, free speech, land reform, industry and democracy. Of course his views are mild by comparison with those of the people who in four years' time will take over Russia; but among the aristocracy he is looked upon as a liberal. He also has enemies in the Okhrana, the secret police, for he wants to abolish them. He is coming to London to talk to Walden, but the mothers of debutantes see him as the most eligible bachelor of the season. (Walden is a particularly good choice of host because Lady Walden is Russian and a distant relation of Obolensky's.) Walden also speaks Russian.)

Have you seen the well to do

Down on Lennox Avenue

On that famous thoroughfare

With their noses in the air

High hats and colored collars

White spats and fifteen dollars

Spending every dime

For a wonderful time

If you're blue and you don't know ~~what to do~~ where to go

At the other end of London, and at the other end of the social scale, life is very different. The slums are no better than they were in Dickens' time. They are characterised by dirt, disease, awful poverty, drunkenness and fierce exploitation. One in three babies dies before its first birthday. When school medical examinations are introduced one child in six is found to be too starved, verminous or sick to benefit from education. In many houses people eat standing up because there are no chairs. In Whitechapel, where the official overcrowding level is 214 inhabitants per acre, there are in fact 6,000 people per acre.

In the East End the poorest of Englishmen mingle with even poorer immigrants from Eastern Europe. Refugee Russians, Poles, Germans, Italians and Letts import far-left political ideas which take root in the richly rotting soil of London poverty. The most powerful political organisation is the Federation of Jewish Anarchist Groups, which publishes its own newspaper, Der Arbeiter Fraint – in Yiddish – and organises a successful strike of sweatshop workers.

Felix Mussolini thrives in this milieu. A Russian anarchist, he has been tortured by the Czarist secret police and so bears a personal hatred of the Russian ruling class to add to his theoretical, political motivation. He is a Rasputin-like character: intense, magnetic, fiery and domineering. He is a complex and driven man. At the age of 11 he discovered that the solid ~~[illegible]~~ bourgeois couple who brought him up were not his natural parents. In fact he is the son of an unidentified young aristocrat and the girl whom he always thought was his sister. He hates the aristocracy for this reason too. He has a wife and child in Russia, and another wife (pregnant) in London.

Feliks was the young student with whom Lydia had a passionate affair. He has not forgotten her although he no longer loves her. He has seen her in London several times (but not spoken with her) and he can tell she remembers him.

There is in London a man who has access to Ochrana files and therefore knows about Feliks, about his anarchism, about his affair with Lydia, and about Oblomov's visit. This man is a manipulator. He meets Feliks in the Jubilee St Anarchist Club and tells him of Oblomov's visit. Feliks decides to kill Oblomov.

Is the manipulator Ochrana or German Intelligence?

Walden

Lydia

Charlotte

Oblomov

Feliks

(Baron)

Feliks gets a jobs with The Waldens.

Seduces Charlotte.