

EDWARD VII THE PEACEMAKER PASSED AWAY AT MIDNIGHT

DEATH CAME TO SOVEREIGN OF BRITISH EMPIRE AFTER ILLNESS OF THREE DAYS



LATE KING WHEN IN ST. JOHN.



KING EDWARD AT OPENING OF HIS FIRST PARLIAMENT.



THE LATE KING EDWARD VII.

CITY OF THE LOYALISTS MOURNS FOR SOVEREIGN

Heartfelt Expressions of Sorrow Heard Everywhere in St. John Last Evening—Tributes from Lieut. Governor Tweedie, Premier Hazen, Representative Churchmen and Public Officials.

St. John heard of the death of Edward VII, the Peacemaker with profound sorrow. The city of the Loyalists has ever been peopled with a race who held in veneration and affection the privilege of forming part of the glorious British Empire and the demise of the ruler and administrator of that Empire was mourned almost as a personal sorrow.

Many there are in this city who remember King Edward when as a mere stripling he visited St. John in 1860. At that time his great dignity and kindly courtesy were the subject of remark. St. John admired him then as prince, loved him later as king, and will now revere his memory with that of his sainted mother.

The news of his death was received here in a flash bulletin from the Associated Press about 8:30 last evening. It soon spread and the keen interest in His Majesty's condition was manifested by the many inquiries which kept the Standard telephones busy well up to midnight.

The King's death was announced in the Opera House and received with deep silence, which spoke eloquently of the sorrow which had come over the audience. At the Nickel the announcement was followed by the immediate closing up of the house and the dismissal of the audience.

Mark of Respect.

The King's Daughters and Sons were in annual session in the gullery rooms when the sad news was telephoned in and the meeting was instantly adjourned.

The Exhibition executive was also in session but also adjourned. Pioneer Lodge, I. O. O. F. which was in session, also decided to postpone consideration of the business before the meeting to a future occasion. Before the gathering broke up, Past Grand Master Dr. James Christie, Deputy Grand Master Dr. A. D. Smith, C. N. Skilmer and W. Frank Hatheway, delivered addresses, giving expression to their sorrow at the sad news.

The King's death was the sole topic of conversation on the streets, in the hotel offices and other centres where men congregated. At first the report was doubted, but the solemn dirge like tolling of the city church bells indicated the truth of the bulletins and conveyed to all the sad intelligence.

What action the city will take will be decided at a special meeting of the council called by Mayor Prink for this afternoon at 9 o'clock. His Worship will at once issue instructions to have the mayor's office and council chamber draped and at this afternoon's council meeting resolutions will be adopted deploring the inestimable loss to the Empire. In all probability a message of condolence will be cabled through the Governor General and

also the city's tribute of fealty and affection to King George V.

Governor's Message.

Lieut. Governor Tweedie was in the city last night and today J. Howe Dickson, clerk of the executive council with arrive from Fredericton and confer with the Lieut. Governor and Premier Hazen as to the announcement to be made in a special number of the Royal Gazette to be issued at once.

The Standard last night obtained brief expressions of grief from the leaders of church and state. All of these breathed deep sorrow at the loss of the greatest monarch of modern times and unwavering loyalty to his successor. They are as follows:

Lieutenant Governor Tweedie, who was in the city yesterday on his way home from Fredericton on learning of the death of His Majesty sent the following telegram on behalf of his Government, himself, and the people of New Brunswick:

St. John, N. B., May 6, 1910.

To His Excellency the Governor General, Ottawa.

Will Your Excellency please forward the following telegram:

(Signed) L. J. TWEEDIE.

St. John, N. B., May 6th, 1910.

On behalf of my Government, myself and the people of the province, I beg to tender most heartfelt sympathy to the Queen and Royal Family, in their bereavement, and to assure them that in no part of the British Empire will the death of His Majesty be more sincerely deplored.

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End Came Peacefully at 11.45 O'clock Last Evening In Presence of Members of Royal Family—Worry Over Threatening Political Situation Said to Have Hastened The Final Illness—Development of Pneumonia Following Severe Attack of Bronchitis Caused Death.

London, May 7.—King Edward VII, who returned to England from a vacation ten days ago in the best of health, died at 11.45 o'clock tonight in the presence of his family, of an illness of less than a week, which was serious hardly more than three days.

The Prince of Wales succeeded to the Crown, according to the laws of the Kingdom. His first official act was to despatch to the Lord Mayor the announcement of his father's death, in pursuance of custom.

His telegram read:—"I am deeply grieved to inform you that my beloved father, the King, passed away peacefully at 11.45 tonight." (Signed) GEORGE.

The physicians soon afterwards issued their official bulletin, which was as follows:—"11.45 p. m. His Majesty, the King, breathed his last at 11.45 in the presence of Her Majesty, Queen Alexandra, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Princess Royal, the Duchess of Fife, Princess Victoria and Princess Louise, the Duchess of Argyll" (Signed) "LAKING," "REID," "POWELL," "DAWSON."

London, May 7.—Pneumonia following bronchitis, is believed to have been the cause of death, but the doctors thus far have refused to make a statement. Some of the King's friends are convinced that worry over the critical political situation, which confronted him, with sleepless nights, aggravated, if it did not cause the fatal illness.

Besides the nearest relatives in England, the Duke of Fife and the Archbishop of Canterbury were in the death chamber. The King's brother, the Duke of Connaught, with his family, is at Suez, hastening home from Africa. The King's daughter, Queen Maud, of Norway, will start for England tomorrow.

The intelligence that the end of King Edward's reign had come was not a surprise at the last. The people had been expecting to hear it at any hour since the evening's bulletin was posted at Buckingham Palace and flashed throughout the Kingdom. The capital received without excitement, but sadly, for the King with his own people was unquestionably one of the most popular rulers in the world. They regarded him as one of the strongest forces making for the stability of the peace of the Empire.

The fashionable restaurants were just emptying, and a few groups of late theatre-goers were making their way homeward through the rain, while a small crowd still hung about the palace, when the streets were filled suddenly with newsboys shrilly crying: "Death of the King."

The papers were quickly sold, and the people discussed the momentous event, and soon after dispersed. The streets were deserted by one o'clock. Within a few minutes after the death of the King, the Home Office telegraphed the intelligence to the heads of other departments and British diplomats and Colonial officials throughout the world.

All who knew the King anticipated that his death would be sudden, and it would not have occasioned great surprise if it had occurred without warning at some social function, as a result of heart trouble. Almost to the end he refused to take to his bed, and was sitting up yesterday in a large chair, so the palace stories go, corroborating the description of him as an unruly patient.

One of the last utterances attributed to King Edward was:—"Well, it is all over, but I think I have done my duty."

The Queen and others of the royal family and four doctors had been constantly in the sick room throughout the day. Several hours before death the King was in a serious condition, but he rallied slightly between nine and ten o'clock, and appeared to recognize his family. Then he lapsed into unconsciousness, which ended in his passing away.

Experts were held in readiness to administer an anaesthetic, but there was fear that the weakness of the King might result in a fatal issue, and an operation was set aside as a last resort.

The body lies in the King's chamber in the northwest wing of the Buckingham Palace, which is brilliantly lighted, while the rest of the great gloomy building, except Lord Knolly's office, is entirely darkened. It was half an hour after the King breathed his last, when Lord Knolly walked into the office and said to the waiting reporters:—"His Majesty is dead."

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CANADA AND ALL COLONIES LOSE FRIEND AND RULER

Sudden Death of King Received With Universal Sorrow Throughout Country—Great Affection of Sovereign for Overseas Dominions Expressed in Message Soon After Accession.

Windsor Castle, February 4th, 1901. To My People Beyond the Seas:

The countless messages of loyal sympathy which I have received from every part of my dominions over the seas testify to the universal grief in which the whole Empire now mourns the loss of my beloved mother.

In the welfare and prosperity of her subjects throughout Greater Britain the Queen ever evinced a heartfelt interest.

She saw with thankfulness the steady progress which under a wide extension of self-government they had made during her reign. She warmly appreciated their unflinching loyalty to her throne and person and was proud to think of those who had so nobly fought and died for the Empire's cause in South Africa.

I have already declared that it will be my constant endeavor to follow the great example which has been bequeathed to me.

In these endeavors I shall have a confident trust in the devotion and sympathy of the people and of their several representative assemblies throughout my vast colonial dominions.

With such loyal support I will, with God's blessing, solemnly work for the promotion of the common welfare and security of the great Empire over which I have now been called to reign.

From the time the above proclamation was issued until the day of his death Edward VII. continued to treat colonialists with respect and deference and in his short reign the bonds of the Empire have been welded together as never before. Despatches from the leading cities of the Dominion and province serve to show the respect in which the late King was held.

Unprepared At Ottawa.

Ottawa, Ont., May 6.—The death of King Edward came in five hours' notice. The despatches in the morning papers failed to convey the serious nature of His Majesty's illness, and the public did not grasp the fact that his life was in danger until the evening papers came out at 3 o'clock. Word came of his demise before 8 o'clock. Neither the official world nor the general public was prepared for the news.

The tolling of the bells, the cries of the news boys, practically brought the social life of the capital to an abrupt pause. The horse show which was about to commence the third of its four nights, was closed at once. The parade of the Governor-General's Foot Guards, which was in progress, was

dismissed. The state ball, which was to have taken place on Tuesday next, will be cancelled. A period of official mourning will at once be inaugurated. In official circles the principal effect will be that it will be necessary for all persons holding office to swear allegiance to the new monarch. A proclamation continuing them in office is practically the first act of the new reign. In earlier times the demise of the crown had serious political results so the death of the sovereign, by the ministry and the dissolution of parliament, thus necessitating a re-appointment of the cabinet and a general election.

This, however, now is discontinued and the death of Queen Victoria was the first occasion when these political occurrences did not accompany the death of the sovereign. A day of mourning is proclaimed, which is marked by special services in the churches. A minor incident is the use of mourning stationery by the public offices.

Expressions of sorrow were deep and general and many of the men prominent in politics who are in town, gave expression to their respect. Sir Wilfrid Laurier preferred not to make public any statement, but other public men did so.

MR. R. L. BORDEN when interviewed, paid the following tribute: "The tidings of sorrow which have just been flashed across the ocean come to the people of Canada with startling suddenness. Words of foreboding had hardly reached us before the last message came. God's finger touched him, and he slept." To the people of the overseas dominions the Crown personifies the dignity and majesty of the whole Empire, and through the throne each great dominion is linked to the other and to the Motherland. The Sovereign's death must always thrill the Empire; but today's untimely tidings bring to the people of Canada the sense of a still deeper and more personal bereavement. They gloried in their King's title of 'Peacemaker' and they believed him the greatest living force for the right within the Empire. In him died the greatest statesman and diplomat of Europe. There never was a time when his wise and careful guidance seemed of more vital importance to all who own allegiance to the flag and especially to those of the Motherland. The words uttered in his latest moments of consciousness came to us with a peculiar pathos but also as an inspiration for the daily life of the humblest. It is all over, but I think I have done my duty. He who can solemnly and truthfully say this in his last moments, need not and will not fear death, be he king or peasant."

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