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When Norman William and his steel-clad myrmidons had defeated and almost exterminated Harold's Saxons at Senlac, or as the school books have it, Hastings, the Conqueror promptly had himself crowned in London as King of England. In his day the coronation of a king had a vastly different significance from that which it has to-day. Then it meant the anointing of a despot. The king was an absolute monarch, the exact amount of his power being in inverse ratio to the strength of the barons, the only other power then existing in the land. But in process of time all this changed. The king and the barons fought. The barons quarreled among themselves, and 4 times made war upon one another, while each quarrel among the powers that were added its quota to the strength of the people. Under Stephen it was the king who, seeking the support of the common people against his rebellious barons, gave to them some measure of power. Under John it was the barons, seeking the same support against the king and his mercenaries, who gained for the English people the Magna Charta. Simon de Montfort in his struggle against King Henry III summoned to the parliament at Westminster knights from every shire and burghers from every town. Four hundred years later, when Charles I. was king, the Commons of England, grown fat and lusty, beheaded their sovereign for infringing what they were pleased to call their rights. The Tudors ignored their parliaments; the Georges were ruled by theirs. And so, now the crown, now the parliament holding the greater power the English constitution has grown, till, in the words of a great constitutional historian England has become a "crowned republic."

On Thursday next King George the Fifth will be crowned with very much the same ceremonies that have been used for the past eight centuries. The significance of the ceremony is in its essence the same as when William the Conqueror ascended the throne, yet in a marked degree it is different. In the eleventh century the crowning of the king gave to the government of England an official head who was absolute master in all things so far as his men-at-arms could roam. In the twentieth century the same ceremony gives us an official head whose mission is to preserve a just balance between the various elements in the Empire, exert a wise influence over his parliament when such shall be necessary, and, finally, to act as Britain's leading diplomat. And when all is said and done this is in this the twentieth century possibility the one most important function of government.

It is perhaps worthy of note that he whom we knew as Edward VII., the Peace Maker, was in reality the tenth of the name to occupy the throne of England. It has been the habit of historians to ignore the kings of England before the Conquest when numbering the monarchs. And in this they have followed the Norman lawyers of the middle ages, who in their pride of race, refused to take into consideration those Saxon kings who had reigned over all England. Possibly, by so doing they did these men a service, for now they are known by the titles of honour which they bore in Saxon times. However this may be, the only change in the numbers that would be required would be a revision of the list of Edwards. With the exception of the seven Edwards who have sat upon the throne since the Conquest, none of the monarchs of England has borne a Saxon or a Celtic name. Henry, Richard, William, John, Mary, these are Norman names. George is German in origin. But Edward, changed somewhat in spelling, 'tis true, is purely Saxon. In 901 Eadward the Elder, son of Alfred the Great, ascended the throne of Wessex, and ipso facto, of all England. The other two Edwards were Eadward the Martyr (975-979) and Eadward the Confessor (1042-1066). Of the others each name as Egberht, Cedric, Aethelwulf, are a thought archaic for modern use, but what is the matter with Harold, Eadmund, and the like, names as common to-day as in the days when Harold the Dane and Harold Godwinson reigned, and fought in England. This is but a reflection, but it is curious that these time-honoured names

have fallen into a state of desuetude among Britain's sovereigns.

The annual camp of instruction for the troops in Militia District No. 13 opened on Thursday, and the officers and N. C. O.'s are endeavouring to train their corps as best they may in the utterly insufficient time at their disposal. The extension of the period of camp training has at various times been considered by the powers that be, but the result has usually been much smoke and little fire. However, there is still hope. There are weighty arguments for and against the extension of the period of training, and it is not necessary here

it should be serviceable and comfortable. Then it should be neat. The present issues are neither. The officers are in no wise responsible. The entire responsibility rests with the Department at Ottawa.

Our Premier, Hon. A. L. Sifton, is away—far away from the Province. What is happening? The money borrowed for A. & G. W. Railway is tied up and is likely to be for a long time to come. Meanwhile we are paying heavy interest on idle capital, a potent figure of itself—no earnings from capital, yet full interest thereon to be paid. The interest

Farm figured largely in the last Gelichen bye-election. Where is the Farm? These Farms may be found in the constituencies of the Ministers—there is but one in the south.

On Wednesday the Provincial elections in Nova Scotia were held, and the results are not satisfactory—to the Liberals. In the last Legislature there were but three Conservative members; in the new one there are eleven straight Conservatives. There are Cabinet Ministers have been defeated, which is probably the most enlightening

didates. In Lunenburg A. K. McLean, the Provincial Attorney General, who, it is rumoured is to succeed Mr. Murray as Premier, the latter going into the Dominion Railway Commission, barely saved his seat. In fact for the county which he represents, always till now represented by two Liberals, one Liberal and one Conservative will sit in the new legislature. For the first time in history a Conservative now sits for Yarmouth. Colchester has now two Conservative members, and this is the first time since 1883 that a Conservative has represented this constituency. The Hon. Mr. Pearson, owner and manager of the Halifax Chronicle, the Liberal paper of Nova Scotia, who was minister without portfolio, stood at the foot of the poll.

In Antigonish the Hon. Mr. Chisholm, Minister of Mines, was lowest man when the ballots were counted. At the beginning of the campaign the Liberals made Reciprocity their battle cry. But they found it unpopular. Just before dissolution the House passed a resolution endorsing the reciprocity measure. Just after they dropped the cry altogether, and yet the Liberal press calls the return to power of the Murray administration an endorsement of the Reciprocity pact; yet Yarmouth and practically every Conservative gain is from a constituency that would reap immense benefit from reciprocity were Fielding's arguments good—the judgment was against, not for.

And here comes in one of the inconsistencies of the Liberal press. For some time now they have charged the Conservatives with desiring to force on a general election before the redistribution which must follow the census. But in Nova Scotia the Liberals have been for years denying just representation to the people of Cape Breton. This island has a population of 80,000, to represent which it has two members. The population is greater than the combined populations of Victoria, Richmond and Shelburne, for which in all six Liberals sit. Fair! is it not?

From Ottawa comes the rumour that the Hon. Frank Oliver is to leave the Cabinet. Unfortunately the rumour lacks confirmation. The rumoured changes say that the Hon. J. A. Calder, Minister of Education for Saskatchewan, is to succeed him, and that Dr. Clark, of Red Deer, is to assume the new portfolio of Forests and Water Powers. All this makes very interesting reading, if true, but as before stated, lacks confirmation. It is time that Hon. Frank withdrew from the political arena. The charges against him are not proven, 'tis true, but they require full investigation when made against a minister of the Crown. The Hon. gentleman has, in effect, informed the people of Canada that it is none of their business whether these charges of misappropriation of public funds are well founded or no. Such a man is certainly unfit to be trusted with any functions of government. He is too secretive. He refuses to allow those for whom he is working to have an account of his stewardship. What can this mean? But one thing on the face of it; he is afraid to allow an investigation that is anything but a farce. Verily it is time that he got himself from among the servants of the Crown.

But this aside, the very existence of the rumour shows that the Liberal party is at last waking up to the fact that at least a make-believe house-cleaning is necessary to their safety. The public will no longer permit the loose ways of transacting public business that have come into vogue in the Canadian cabinet. The Laurier government has been pursuing a public-be-damned policy now these many years, and the time has come when it will, it must, stop. There is but one way to insure this stoppage. The country must rid itself entirely of this gang of grafters. A mere shuffle of Ministers will not suffice.

It is a great service to create an honest smile as we meet one another in this heavy-laden world.—Rev. Dinsdale T. Young.

Truth, like cork, will be uppermost one time or another, though kept down in the water.—Isaac Taylor.

Women's work is the greatest and most lasting when it is most womanly.—Mrs. J. R. M. Stephens.



to enter into a discussion of them. A matter of more serious import at the present moment is the kind and quality of the uniforms with which the volunteers are afflicted. Faulty workmanship and poor dying are the worst features, but the designs! No pen can adequately describe them. Imagine if you can a white helmet, which never by any chance fits the wearer, a black serge, fatuously supposed to be blue, a pair of khaki "longs" much too baggy, the whole finished off by a badly made pair of black leggings. This is a combination that offends against a canon of good taste, and good policy. A uniform should fulfil two requirements. First,

on this one item, if we mistake not, exceeds all revenue we receive from the Dominion Government. It is to be observed in this connection that ordinary expenditure, which covers this disbursement, is being met by borrowing at a high rate of interest. There must be an aftermath, and unless nipped in the bud the present system of edaling out the money of the people of this Province must in the near future end in a debt which even at its commencement will run into many millions of dollars—a mortgage on our birthright.

Gelichen now knows what it is to trust to the promises of the Minister of Agriculture and his heels. The Government

feature of the election. Another significant feature is that the old Conservative leader, C. E. Tanner, who was defeated in a bye-election in 1906, was returned for his old constituency with an increased majority.

In Cape Breton there are now two Conservative members. The Liberals carried these two seats in 1902 with a plurality of 27,000; and in these two constituencies the Conservatives had to fight the Dominion Steel Co., the Dominion Coal Co., the local Legislature and the Dominion Government. The Premier of Nova Scotia, and Messrs. E. M. Macdonald, M. P. for Pictou, and Kyte, M. P. for Richmond, all took part in the election in the interests of the Liberal can-