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#### LONG LIVE THE KING!

The Coronation of King George and of his consort Queen Mary will have taken place in a few days. From all parts of the Empire British citizens have flocked to London to see the imposing pageant. From Canada alone, hundreds of official representatives and many private persons are now eagerly awaiting the day in London. But not in London will all loyalty be concentrated. Throughout Canada, as throughout all the Imperial domains, there is evident the warm throb of an Empire's devotion.

To Canadians the event is fraught with deep significance. The fates have ordained that of all Great Britain's self-governing children Canada should now be the strongest and most assertive. We have thrown off the swaddling clothes of infancy and are becoming conscious, perhaps too conscious, of waxing strength and growing bulk. But no diminution is apparent in the whole-heartedness with which we acclaim the accession of our titular head to the Imperial throne. Not even does the proposed readjustment of international trade relations dim the lustre of the occasion. But the fact that Canada has so large a voice in the Imperial Conference and the fact that weighty matters affecting the whole Empire are now under discussion at a time when the eyes of all civilized nations are turned towards London, make the present momentous.

It is not to be doubted that our cautious and astute Premier will refuse to commit his country to any fantastic antipodean scheme. Commerce and sentiment rule the world. Sentiment is apt to hold the reins when excitement runs high. Hence the danger at such a time as this.

But there is also the danger of failing to read the real meaning of a nation's existence. Commerce is not everything. We are perhaps quite as much swayed by considerations that have nothing to do with worldly gain, as by those that have. And, first and foremost, we neither wish nor intend to beg commercial or other favours of any nation on the face of the earth. A nation young, vigorous, and neither morbidly modest nor vauntingly vain, we desire above all to retain our identity, to work out our own destiny, and to live in harmony with our neighbours.

Yet, like the unassuming porcupine, an animal that goes its own way without molestation, we must prepare ourselves for self-defence. On the Atlantic and on the Pacific we possess vast coal resources. What the capture of these by a hostile power would mean may be left to the imagination. In this and other respects we are a standing temptation to any probable rival of Great Britain. Hence the tremendous import of the deliberations in London.