

KING EDWARD, THE PEACEMAKER, DIED LAST EVENING; WHOLE EMPIRE PLUNGED IN GRIEF

End Came Peacefully to Beloved Monarch at 11.45 Greenwich Time, Pneumonia Having Followed Bronchitis--Loved Ones at Bedside--World-wide Sorrow Over End of Illustrious Ruler--His Career and His Visit to St. John--Expressions of Regret by Prominent People--The New King.

GEORGE V. WILL BE TITLE OF NEW KING

Will Be Sworn In at Meeting of Council This Afternoon.

London, May 7--The official bulletin announcing the king's death is as follows:

"May 6, 11.50 p. m.--His Majesty the King breathed his last at 11.45 tonight, in the presence of Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Duchess of Fife, Princess Victoria and Princess Louise, the Duchess of Argyle.

[Signed] LAKIN. REID. POWELL. DAWSON."

(Associated Press.)

London, May 7--King Edward VII died at 11.45 o'clock last night. The Prince of Wales is King, assuming the title of George V, and will take the oath before the privy council at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

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 illness of less than a week, which was serious hardly more than three days.

The Prince of Wales succeeds to the throne, according to the laws of the kingdom. His first official act was a despatch to the Lord Mayor of 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:

"11.50 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 Argyle.

[Signed] "LAKING, REID, POWELL, DAWSON."

Pneumonia the Cause of Death.

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 the death news without excitement, but sadly, for the king was unquestionably one of the most popular rulers in the world. They regarded him as one of the strongest forces making for the stability and 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 dispersed. The streets were deserted by 1 o'clock.

Within a few minutes after the death of the King, the home office telegraphed the intelligence to the heads of other governments and British diplomats and colonial officials throughout the world.

Subject to Heart Trouble.

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.

"I Think I Have Done My Duty."

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 comatose condition, but he rallied slightly between nine and ten appearing to recognize his family. Then he lapsed into unconsciousness, which ended in his passing away.

Experts were held irresolutely to administer an anesthetic, but there was a fear that the weakness of the king might result in a fatal issue, and an operation was not made 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 Knollys' office is entirely darkened. It was half an hour after the king breathed his last when Lord Knollys walked into the office and said to the waiting reporters:

"His majesty is dead."

The people outside the palace learned the news only when boys appeared with papers. In the meantime the Prince and Princess of Wales had taken leave of the other members of the royal family at the main entrance, soon after midnight. They drove direct to Marlborough House, Princess Victoria, who is her mother's constant companion, remained with the queen. The others of the family followed the Prince and Princess of Wales.

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HIS LATE MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII.

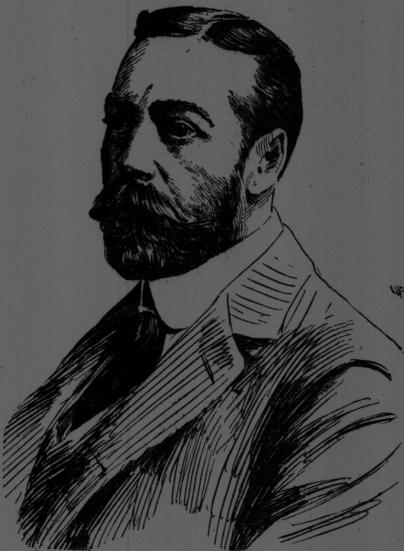
CANADIAN STATESMEN'S APPRECIATION OF LATE KING

Hon. Messrs. Pugsley, Fielding, Graham, Lemieux, King, and R. L. Borden, View His Death as a Calamity

Ottawa, May 6--Word that King Edward had died reached Ottawa shortly after 7 o'clock and within half an hour bells were tolling the announcement

to the citizens of Canada's capital, and expressions of genuine grief were general on all hands. The official notice did not reach the governor-general, Earl Grey, until some hours later and

arrangements were at once made for the issuing of an official gazette announcing the death of Edward VII and the accession of George V. (Continued on page 9)



KING GEORGE V. WHO SUCCEEDS HIS ROYAL FATHER ON ENGLAND'S THRONE

ST. JOHN RECEIVED NEWS WITH PROFOUND SORROW

Bells of Churches and Fire Department Told to Announce the King's Death

Sad Tidings Quickly Spread Over the City, and Many Amusement Places Were Closed--Expressions of Sorrow from Prominent Men--Special Meeting of Common Council Called for This Afternoon at 3 O'Clock.

The news of the death of His Majesty King Edward VII, struck St. John like a blow.

The Loyalist city, which had been troubled by the day's bulletins and which waited in dread anxiety, fearing that worse tidings were to come, received the evil news at a few minutes past eight o'clock.

It seemed that the message spread almost instantly throughout the city, and everywhere there were enquiries in hushed, expectant voices, from hundreds, anxious to know if it were really true.

The telegraph wires brought the confirmation all too soon, and then the bells of the dark city tolled out solemn proclamation that the Peacemaker had indeed been gathered to his fathers.

The fall news affected the city of St. John as with a sense of deep personal bereavement, for not only is St. John a Loyalist community, but many citizens still living had vivid recollections of the visit of the late King, when he was Prince of Wales, and recalled with pride the magnificent impression everywhere made by him on the occasion of that memorable tour of his mother's dominions.

Whatever public enjoyment had been going on in the city, instantly ceased. As the bells kept tolling, and the message struck home to the hearts of the people, the theatres dispersed their audiences, and the crowds, who but a moment before had been gay and thoughtless, turned sadly home, whispering together that death had stricken down the great central figure of the British Empire.

The Telegraph presents herewith some expressions of sorrow from the leading men of the nation, the city and the province, together with facts concerning the late King's visit to St. John, the leading events of his career and some illustrations which seem in place at this time.

OFFICIAL MESSAGE OF REGRET

Lieutenant-Governor Tweedie, who was at the Royal, upon hearing with profound sorrow of the death of His Majesty, sent the following: 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 6, 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.

(Signed) L. J. TWEEDIE, Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick.

Lieutenant-Governor Tweedie, when he heard the deplorable news, expressed the deepest sorrow at the untimely death of His Majesty who, he said, "was one of the most illustrious kings that ever ruled over the British Empire."

"No monarch," the Lieutenant Governor continued, "in the world commanded the respect and love of the people as he did."

"It required a ruler of remarkable qualities, of tact and good judgment, to so successfully succeed his illustrious mother, Queen Victoria."

"The world has lost its greatest peacemaker, and one whose influence was always exerted for the benefit and uplifting of mankind."

"In view of what is transpiring in the British Empire at the present time, his death is more especially to be deplored, as there has been no time in the history of the Empire when his influence could have been more beneficially felt."

"All Canada mourns for Edward the Seventh, whose memory will ever be cherished by the loyal subjects of the Crown."

"With the example of Queen Victoria and his noble father to inspire him there can be no doubt that the present King will be true to the traditions of the Empire, and, supported by the intense loyalty of the people, will prove himself a worthy successor to the King for whom today all the Empire is sorrowing."

Premier Hazen.

Premier Hazen said: "I regard the sudden demise of King Edward VII. as a calamity, not only to the British Empire, but to the world at large."

"Even under ordinary circumstances the death of the sovereign of a great nation cannot be regarded by his subjects otherwise than with feelings of emotion, but under the existing conditions of British politics and the relation of the European nations to one another, the removal of a wise, prudent, experienced and public monarch, is an event that may be attended with consequences of most serious import to the nation and the world."

"King Edward's reign was a comparatively short one, but the verdict of history will undoubtedly be that he was one of the wisest and greatest rulers that ever sat upon a throne."

"He took a most keen and active interest on all his country's institutions, endeavoring at all times to promote the well-being of his subjects, and his appreciation of the British dominions beyond the seas was shown, when soon after his accession, he sent his son, the heir to the crown, upon a mission to Canada and other parts of the empire."

"This was one of his first acts after ascending the throne, and the loyal greeting which the Prince everywhere received in Canada demonstrated how warmly by the people of the dominions appreciated His Majesty's thoughtful and tactful action. His popularity was unbounded, and he enjoyed to a greater extent than any British sovereign, with the exception of his sainted mother, the confidence and esteem of his people."

"That his son, who succeeds him upon the throne with the universal approval of the loyal people of the British Empire, has inherited the wisdom, patriotism, and other qualifications of Edward VII. and Queen Victoria in a marked degree, will be the heart-felt prayer of every loyal Britisher, and of everyone who desires well for the welfare and prosperity of the world at large."

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