

The Dominion Times

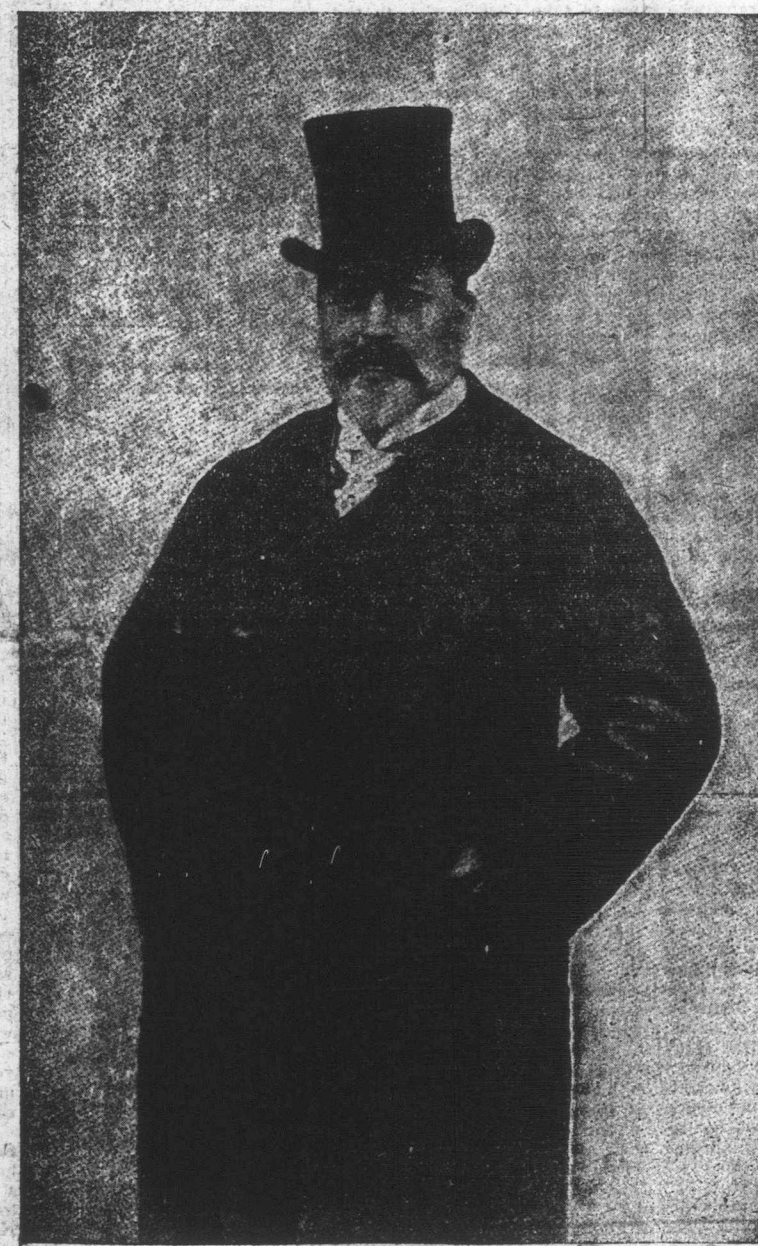
VOL. 33.

VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1902.

NO. 26.

KING EDWARD IS IMPROVING

Latest Bulletins Regarding His Majesty are Favorable--He is Free from Pain and Passed a Comfortable Morning--Thursday a Day of Intercession.



HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII.

ber of foreign representatives actually arrived, but the shortness of their stay was noticed, inquiries were made and soon the news of His Majesty's serious state of health was circulated among the waiting thousands.

At the various palaces and at the Grosvenor, Buckingham, Carleton, Cecil and other hotels, where the foreign representatives are staying, the news created the greatest dismay.

Royal carriages were already drawn up in readiness to take the guests to the reception at the palace, but the moment the tickers announced His Majesty's illness, all the preparations of the day closed.

In the streets the change which came over the crowds was most pronounced. Traffic seemed momentarily paralyzed, and it was long before the effect of the startling intelligence was felt. Large crowds quickly gathered around the Mansion House, where official notices were put up by a police inspector, who first mounted the steps and read out the bulletin, which was received in respectful silence.

The streets, as the day wore on, became more and more congested, and the holiday crowd concentrated into reading and rereading the extras. Most of the people apparently left dazed and scarcely appreciated the full import of what they read.

Work on the stands erected on all sides to enable the people to view the coronation procession was gradually discontinued. The Lord Mayor, who had instructed the workmen to demolish the stands in front of the Mansion House.

Peculiarly, along nearly the whole length of which workmen were completing the decorations, and the roadway was blocked with signposts, newboys were yelling the announcements of the postponement of the coronation, but the workmen in that part of London stolidly continued to finish the work which they will only have to take down tomorrow.

At about 1 o'clock in the afternoon three copies of the signed medical bulletin were posted on different parts of the railing surrounding the front of Buckingham Palace. The crowd, which had been numerous during the earlier part of the day, had by that time dwindled to a few hundreds, but a constantly increasing number of fashionable occupants of passing carriages descended to read the bulletins.

In the course of the early afternoon, the bulletin from Buckingham Palace announcing that the operation had been successful, that a large abscess had been evacuated, and that the King's condition was satisfactory, was issued and posted at the various points where people congregated, and shortly afterwards a court official informed a representative of the Associated Press that His Majesty was recovering satisfactorily from the effects of the anesthetic.

The King treated the idea of the operation very lightly, his great concern being for the disappointment of the people. It is understood that the operation was performed by Sir Frederick Treves, who correctly diagnosed the complaint and is a specialist in abdominal operations.

Many of the foreign representatives called at Buckingham Palace this afternoon to make inquiries about the King's condition. The Prince of Wales has been at the palace all day long, and the Duke of Connaught has been there most of the time to-day.

Immediately after recovering from the operation the King asked for the Prince of Wales, and it was announced that a bulletin would be issued at 6:30 p.m. and a final one at 11 p.m. The fixing of these times was regarded as a good sign. Lord Salisbury, the premier, and other members of the cabinet, called at the palace during the day. The cabinet has been summoned to meet at 6 o'clock this evening.

The work for demolishing the stands and all the paraphernalia prepared for the coronation pageant was in full swing during the latter part of the afternoon. Hundreds of workmen with their tools were engaged in putting finishing touches on the various jobs which were being completed. The barriers in the streets were being removed, and the barricades merchants had constructed to safeguard their shop windows were rapidly disappearing. Vans filled with bunting and multi-colored bunting stripped off masts and house fronts lined the streets and London promises soon to resume its usual appearance.

At 6 o'clock this evening Queen Alexandra is terribly upset and nervous. The Royal grandchildren were driven to the Palace from York House shortly after 1 o'clock. The Prince and Princess of Wales remained at Buckingham Palace throughout the afternoon, and received the visiting members of the Royal families, who drove up in Royal carriages to the inner courtyard. Princess Henry of Battenburg arrived late, and entered the

to the King; was surgeon extraordinary to the late Queen Victoria.

Operation This Afternoon.

London, June 24, 1:06 p.m.—The operation on the King occurs at 2 p.m. It is privately admitted that His Majesty's condition is more serious than represented by the medical bulletin.

Postponement of Coronation.

London, June 24.—The first news of the renewed illness of the King came from the House of Commons, where various court officials gave an intimation that the arrangements for Thursday would be suspended for some time. The coronation would be postponed indefinitely on account of the indisposition of His Majesty.

Operation Successful.

London, June 24, 2 p.m.—The operation on King Edward was successfully performed at 2 o'clock. The King is now asleep.

London, June 24, 2:36 p.m.—The following bulletin has been posted at Buckingham Palace:

"The operation has been successfully performed. A large abscess has been evacuated. The King has become unconscious and is in a satisfactory condition."

Progressing Satisfactorily.

London, June 24.—At 2:30 p. m. the King was progressing very satisfactorily.

Progressing Satisfactorily.

London, June 24.—Sir Francis Knollys informed a representative of the Associated Press at 4:30 p.m. that there had been practically no change since the operation. "His Majesty," he said, "continues to sleep well and is progressing satisfactorily. There is no question, however, that the King's condition is extremely critical."

This Evening's Bulletin.

London, June 24.—The following bulletin was posted at Buckingham Palace at 6 o'clock this evening:

"His Majesty continues to make satisfactory progress, and has been much relieved by the operation."

(Signed) Lister, Treves, Smith, Laking and Barlow.

Peacefully Sleeping.

London, June 24.—The Lord Mayor, Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale, visited the Duke of Fife, son-in-law of the King, late this afternoon. The Duke said His Majesty was peacefully sleeping, and that his pulse and temperature were satisfactory.

No Complications.

London, June 24.—The Lancet says the operation was performed by Sir Frederick Treves, that the anesthetic was administered by Dr. Frederick William Hewitt, anaesthetist to His Majesty, and that the treatment was borne well. His Majesty recovered consciousness without any ill effects. No complications attend the operations. A large abscess was found and evacuated.

Statements in Parliament.

London, June 24.—The House of Commons was crowded to-day by members and others who were anxious to hear the expected statement from the leader, A. J. Balfour, on the King's illness. After reading the early bulletin referring to His Majesty's illness, Mr. Balfour said he had intense gratification in saying that a successful operation had been performed on the King, and that His Majesty was progressing as well as possible.

"That announcement," proceeded Mr. Balfour, "removes a great load of anxiety from our minds. My first inclination on hearing the melancholy news this morning was to suggest that the House mark its sense of disaster which has befallen the whole community by adjourning. But on more careful reflection, I have come to the conclusion that such a course is ill-advised. The anxiety we all feel must be great, and that anxiety is necessarily augmented by the circumstances

under which the disaster has befallen the Royal family and the whole country. I have come to the conclusion that if the House was to take the exceptional course to which I have alluded, that which is now anxiety in the public mind might become a panic and a wholly exaggerated idea of the present state of the King might go abroad. The state of things is undoubtedly grave, but we ought not to use stronger epithets in regard to it than those I have used, and I am convinced that if we were to consider the King's condition to be such that it would be improper to carry on the business of the country, we should produce a wholly false impression. In these circumstances we do not propose to suggest any exceptional course, and I am only thankful to have to be able to inform the House that so far as we know at present everything is going on as well as can possibly be expected."

The Liberal leader, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, expressed his entire approval of the course taken by Mr. Balfour, and the House resumed its ordinary business.

Lord Salisbury in the House of Lords said: "All we can do at present is to hope and pray for the best, and console ourselves with the knowledge that surgeons entertain a most satisfactory view in regard to the progress of the distinguished patient. More definite language than this is impossible. An operation of singular severity has been performed, and leaves behind it every hope of a prosperous issue. Some weeks will elapse before His Majesty is restored to his usual health. No action can be taken by the House while matters are in a state of transition, but I think we have every ground to hope that the issue will be a favorable one and that we shall be able to return to our ordinary avocations at a nearby period. Disappointment has been suffered extensively by the abandonment of the naval review and the other great celebrations of the reign of the King, but a much greater satisfaction will be derived from the progress of His Majesty's recovery, and it is accompanied by the sympathy and sincere affection of his subjects."

We know that for three or more days at least there might be uncertainty, but there is consolation that matters could hardly have gone better."

News at Washington.

Washington, June 24.—Secretary Hay this morning received a cablegram from Ambassador Choate notifying him of King Edward's illness. The secretary took the message to the White House, where President Roosevelt laid it before the cabinet, which is now in session.

Montreal's Decision.

Montreal, June 24.—The coronation celebration here has been indefinitely postponed as result of news from London.

Perilyphilitis.

New York, June 24.—Dr. Cyrus Edson explained the King's illness and the operation to-day as follows:

"Perilyphilitis is inflammation, including the formation of an abscess of the tissues around the vermiform appendix, and hence perilyphilitis is hard to distinguish at once from appendicitis. Usually an operation is necessary to ascertain whether the abscess of the surrounding tissue is diseased. In the King's case there is probably an abscess at the head of the large intestine where the appendix begins and the operation would be an immediate necessity because the abscess had to be got at and emptied of its contents or pus. Under ordinary circumstances he ought to recover in three or four weeks, but after recovery it would perhaps be four weeks more before he would be able to perform his part in the coronation ceremony. The King's trouble is in his right side, low down."

Ottawa, June 24.—The programme for Coronation Day was knocked on the head here to-day when news was received of the illness of King Edward.

Hon. R. W. Scott, secretary of state, acting premier, has given orders that the following proclamation be issued at once: "The coronation ceremony on Thursday as a statutory holiday."

"And whereas, owing to deeply to be regretted illness of His Majesty, the coronation has indefinitely been postponed."

"Now, therefore, know ye that we have thought fit, by and with the advice of our privy council for Canada, to withdraw the said proclamation and to revoke and cancel the same."

"Of all which our loving subjects and all others whom these presents may concern, are hereby required to take notice and to govern themselves accordingly."

London, June 24.—With dramatic suddenness the King has been stricken down upon the eve of his coronation. To-night he lies in a critical condition. Indescribable consternation prevails throughout the country, and this consternation is reflected in the cablegrams received from all the centres of the universe. If to-night's progress be maintaining, the monarch was in the balance, was one of those grotesque contradictions which exasperated and finally griped the nerves of the House. But as the clock ticked steadily on in a muffled voice, the House began at last to interrupt him with discordant, and even indecorous cries, and while the House was thus descending into chaotic and undignified disorder, the ministers were still absent

anxiety as to the outcome. The King's doctors believe that His Majesty would have been dead before now except for the operation. His condition became so alarming last night that at one time it was feared death might ensue before the surgeon's knife could afford him relief. Intense swelling of the extremities, accompanied by alarming symptoms of moribundity constituted the emergency which demanded an immediate operation.

To the last the King tried to avoid this, and he was willing to be carried to the Abbey for the coronation ceremonies in order that it should occur as arranged. The influence of Queen Alexandra was enlisted, however, and at an early hour this morning the royal patient was prepared for the operation, which even in the skillful hands of England's best surgeons was fraught with grave danger.

At 2 p.m. to-day he was removed from his coach to the operating table and the anesthetic was administered. Sir Frederick Treves made the incision near the patient's groin and carried it upwards with an outward slant, for nearly four inches. The obstruction was removed and a tubing was placed in the affected intestines.

King Edward's first words, when he returned to consciousness were to ask for "George," and the Prince of Wales, who was sitting in the next room, was immediately admitted to his father's presence.

Before the end of the afternoon over two thousand callers, who included all the foreign representatives in London and members of the House of Lords and the House of Commons, had inscribed their names on the visitors' book at Buckingham Palace. All the royal princes called personally on the Prince of Wales and bade him goodbye. The majority of them will leave London tomorrow morning for their respective countries.

In striking contrast to the happy anticipation with which the day opened is an order issued to-night by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev. Frederick Temple, and the Archbishop of York, Most Rev. William D. McLaren, appointing special forms for the intercession service to be held next Thursday.

The congregations," say the archbishops in their joint order, "would be thankful to join at this juncture in prayer to the Almighty for blessing on His Majesty the King for his speedy recovery. The first two prayers in those services may be as follows:

"O Lord, who art the God of mercy and compassion, we beseech thee to grant that His Majesty the King may recover his health and be able to perform his duty to his people and his country."

The Archbishop of Canterbury also asks for:

"Thy public and private prayers of all in behalf of the King in his serious illness."

A large congregation in St. Paul's cathedral listened in the afternoon to the Bishop of Stepney, who is one of King Edward's intimate friends. The Bishop referred to the King's recent presence in the cathedral at the peace thanksgiving as a sad contrast to to-day's circumstances, and asked his congregation to pray for him, and to hope. Then followed a solemn pause, while the vast congregation knelt reverently in silent prayer. A short service of intercession followed. Many Americans were present at St. Paul's. A similar service to this was held in St. George's chapel by the Dean of Windsor.

A brief notice has been published in the Gazette, as a result of which the ordinary state, social and business arrangements throughout the country are paralyzed. The order is dated from the Earl Marshall's office, and reads: "I have to announce that the solemnity of the coronation of Their Majesties King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra is postponed from the 26th to a date hereafter to be determined."

Just before the adjournment of the House of Commons, Mr. Balfour, the government leader, announced that the condition of King Edward had not changed, and that His Majesty was progressing satisfactorily.

The cabinet council, which lasted an hour, was held this evening at Mr. Balfour's room in the House of Commons. It is understood that it was arranged to carry on, so far as possible, public business requiring the King's approval and signature without reference to His Majesty, in order to insure absolute mental and physical rest and quietude throughout what the ministers hope will be the period of convalescence.

In House of Commons.

London, June 24.—Of the scene in the House of Commons when the announcement of the illness of the King was made, T. F. O'Connor, Irish Nationalist member of parliament, and President of the United Irish League, has written the following for the Associated Press:

"The work-day world goes on in its usual way whatever tragedy be in the air, and this is especially true of the House of Commons, which is even yet bound down with the iron rules that no high destiny or national crisis can unbind. And thus it was to-day when the whole of London was shaken by the announcement of the postponement of the coronation and the serious illness of the King; for while everybody was waiting to see the ministers enter, and to hear some news, one way or the other, a clerk at a table read out the words of a petition from a provincial town council in reference to the pending Education Bill. The Education Bill is important, but to have this petition with its dreary autology read, when the fate of the monarch was in the balance, was one of those grotesque contradictions which exasperated and finally griped the nerves of the House. But as the clock ticked steadily on in a muffled voice, the House began at last to interrupt him with discordant, and even indecorous cries, and while the House was thus descending into chaotic and undignified disorder, the ministers were still absent