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Monday,
Jan. 23rd.

ACCESSION OF KING EDWARD THE SEVENTH; LORDS AND COMMONERS SWEAR ALLEGIANCE

The Correct Title of His Majesty is "King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and Emperor of India."

THE ACCESSION SPEECH.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—The following is the full text of the accession speech of King Edward VII:

"YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESSES:
"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN:

"This is the most painful occasion on which I shall ever be called upon to address you. My first and melancholy duty is to announce to you the death of my beloved mother, the Queen; and I know how deeply you and the whole nation and, I think I may say, the whole world, sympathize with me in the irreparable loss we have all sustained.

"I need hardly say that my constant endeavor will be always to walk in her footsteps.

"In undertaking the heavy load which now devolves upon me, I am fully determined to be a constitutional sovereign in the strictest sense of the word, and so long as there is breath in my body, to work for the good and amelioration of my people.

"I have resolved to be known by the name of Edward, which has been borne by six of my ancestors. In doing so I do not undervalue the name of Albert, which I inherit from my ever-to-be-lamented, great and wise father, who, by universal consent, is, I think deservedly, known by the nation as 'Albert the good, and I desire that his name should stand alone.

"In conclusion, I trust to Parliament and the nation to support me in the arduous duties which now devolve upon me by inheritance, and to which I am determined to devote my whole strength during the remainder of my life."

PASSING AWAY OF THE QUEEN AND ACCESSION OF THE KING FORMALLY ANNOUNCED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY ISSUE OF THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE—THE OATH ADMINISTERED TO HIS MAJESTY AND ALLEGIANCE SWORN BY LORDS, COMMONERS AND OFFICIALS.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—An extraordinary issue of the Gazette this morning, which appears with black borders, announces the death of Queen Victoria, and the accession of King Edward VII. The event has caused one of the most poignant scenes in the history of the British monarchy, and the death of the Queen is mourned by the people of all nations.

The coronation of King Edward VII. will be held at Westminster Abbey on the 9th of June. The ceremony will be performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and will be attended by the King, the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Royal.

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BUSINESS CENTRE OF MONTREAL WIPED OUT BY A TERRIFIC FIRE

Conservative Estimate of the Loss is Three Millions—The Magnificent Board of Trade Building and Many Large Wholesale Houses in Ashes—Flames Raged for Hours.

Montreal, Jan. 23.—(Special)—Three million dollars will probably be a conservative estimate of the loss by the greatest conflagration that has taken place in Montreal for years. In fact it is doubtful if ever the business section of the commercial metropolis received such a scorching as it did to-night between 7 o'clock and midnight.

Started at Seven.
The alarm sounded shortly after 7 o'clock, and for five hours the entire city fire brigade stubbornly fought the devastating elements in a section extending from St. Jacques to Commissioners streets, and from St. Nicholas street west to McGill.

The fire broke out in M. Saxe & Son's, extended across to St. Peter's, to H. A. Nelson's warehouse, and thence to the magnificent Board of Trade building, bounded by St. Nicholas, St. Peter's and St. Jacques streets.

At present only the walls of this splendid structure, valued at \$400,000, remain. The leading warehouses burned on St. Peter's were: Laporte, Martin & Co., M. Nelson, of \$500,000, the first named being covered by insurance to the extent of \$200,000.

On St. Paul's street such well-known houses as Corstius, Silverman & Boer, Hirsch, J. Cohen & Co., Burnside & White, H. Levy, Hirsch, Johnson, Bell Simpson & Co., The Davidson Mfg. Co., H. W. Decourney, Seybold, Son & Co., British American Overall Co., Gilmour Bros., B.

Levin & Co., and a few smaller firms. It looks as though as if the fire would reach along St. Paul's street to the westward as far as McGill street, and this wide street will probably stop the fire here.

Two-Hundred Offices.
There were about 200 offices in the Board of Trade Building, but only a few were saved. The loss will be \$200,000 insurance on the building, but this will not be received before to-morrow.

Will Reach Four Millions.
At 12:30 a.m. a prominent insurance man, who has just completed a trip around the board district, assures your correspondent that the loss will probably reach \$4,000,000. Fortunately the wind was not blowing hard at any period of the fire and this has saved other large buildings facing the Board of Trade.

Some of the Losses.
The following are some of the losses: Corstius, \$200,000; Silverman & Boer, \$300,000; Seybold, Son & Co., \$80,000; H. A. Nelson, \$100,000; Corstius Silk Company, \$400,000; Levin & Co., \$100,000. The Board of Trade Building was insured for \$350,000, and a later statement gives the cost of the structure at half a million. Altogether there may narrow escape, a loss of \$100,000.

A SILENT AND RESPECTFUL VOTE PROCLAIMED TORONTO'S SORROW

Impressive Proceedings in Council Yesterday, When a Formal Expression of the Grief of the Citizens on the Demise of the Sovereign Was Recorded.

At the special meeting of Council called yesterday to pass a formal resolution of sorrow upon the death of her late Majesty Queen Victoria, all members were in their places in the following order:

Mayor: Ald. Sheppard, Ald. Lamb, Ald. Hurlburt, Ald. Woods, Ald. Leighton, Ald. Bell, Ald. Laidlaw, Ald. Oliver, Ald. Hodgson.

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