

THE HERALD

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The King Is Dead.

The people of this city and Province, in conjunction with all loyal subjects throughout the whole British Empire, learned with deepest sorrow the startling intelligence of the death of King Edward, the Peacemaker. The sad event was appalling in its suddenness, and awakened feelings of profound regret from end to end of the Empire. Death came, after three days illness of bronchitis and pneumonia, at 11.45 o'clock last Friday night. Our time here is four hours later than that of London, so that the sad news was received here before 10 o'clock the same evening. The people of Charlottetown were advised of the sad intelligence by the tolling of the fire bell, followed by the bells of all the churches. The king had returned from a vacation trip to the continent but ten days previously, apparently in the best of health, and had attended to official and social functions almost up to the very last. One of the last utterances attributed to the dying monarch was:—"Well, it is all over, but I think I have done my duty."

Edward VII was born on Nov. 9th 1841, the son of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg and Gotha. He was educated by private tutors on a plan outlined by his father, and later at the universities of Edinburgh, Oxford and Cambridge. Subsequently he travelled extensively, embracing in his itinerary all parts of the Empire. There are many who remember his visit to this city, when Prince of Wales, in 1860. He was married on March 10th, 1863, to Princess Alexandra, eldest daughter of the Danish Prince, who shortly afterwards became King Christian IX of Denmark. Six children were born to this union, two of whom, the Duke of Clarence and Prince Alexander died. The surviving children are: George Fredrick, now King; Princess Louise, married to the Duke of Fife; Princess Victoria Alexandra, and Princess Maud Charlotte, married to King Haakon VII, of Norway. King Edward ascended the throne on the death of Queen Victoria on January 22, 1901, so that he was King less than ten years. His coronation, originally set for June 26, 1902, was postponed in consequence of illness, until August 9th. No words that he could use convey a better estimate of King Edward's character and worth than the following from our esteemed contemporary, the St. John Standard:—"This Empire of four hundred million souls has been suddenly and almost without warning plunged into mourning for the wisest and most beloved of sovereigns. The British people grieve no less for the loss of a great and good man in the highest place, than for the just and sagacious ruler. In the immediate presence of this unlooked for visitation the bereaved dominions, which owed and paid willing allegiance to King Edward, will not be able to measure the extent of their loss, or to realize how complete has been their confidence in his sagacity, their trust in his supreme devotion to the nation, and their affection for his person. In the hour of national grief, the sympathy of millions will go out to the widow and the sons and

daughters, whose sorrow is one that most men and women have known and can understand.

"Nine years is not long in the history of an Empire, yet the reign now ended will have a large place in the Imperial record, and in the chronicles of Europe. It is the fate of constitutional sovereigns that their public biography is merged in the history of the nation. They are at once the most conspicuous and the least noted among the statesmen who are working out the destinies of their states. While all have believed that Queen Victoria and King Edward exerted a substantial influence upon the destinies of the nation, few have known, and none are free to tell in what way and to what extent this influence was used. Though all recognize that King Edward has been, in a remarkable degree a force for peace and international friendship in Europe and the world, there are no public records to provide it. But these are matters in which the nation and the world cannot be mistaken.

"When Queen Victoria was alive, it was said in other countries that the popularity of the Crown among the British people was due to her personal character, and that it was partly chivalrous devotion to a lady. Some thought that the crucial test of the loyalty of a democratic people would come when the Queen should pass, and a king should succeed, who had grown up among the present generation and could not make the appeal that his mother did to the tender sympathy of a people knowing all that was in her heart. But at the close of King Edward's reign it may be said that his hold on the affection and loyalty of this nation has been no weaker than that of Queen Victoria. Rather the devotion of the populace to royalty has grown stronger and more assured, as the sovereign has moved more freely among the people, and become more clearly identified with their concerns, and as the nation has come to understand by experience in critical affairs, and by comparison with other countries, how nearly perfect an instrument of government a monarchical system is, when based upon the people's will.

"King Edward came to the throne after a training better than any previous British monarch or any contemporary sovereign ever enjoyed. His father, one of the most accomplished of political students, and a man of singular purity and wisdom, directed his education in youth, so that while academic training was not neglected, he was brought into contact with living social forces. No one doubted the late King's British spirit, but he was protected from English insularity by a thoroughly cosmopolitan education. He was at home in Germany, France and Italy, speaking easily the languages of three countries. Though the English as a class are not liked in Europe, the King was the most popular personage on the continent. While yet young, he visited the British colonies and possessions, some of them more than once, and ever after cultivated the acquaintance of statesmen from the over-sea dominions. Thus he was the first of British sovereigns to have a personal acquaintance with the domains over sea which he was called upon to rule. The value of this training was recognized by the King when he caused his son and heir to follow his example.

"Having such a primary equipment for the duties before him, the future King found himself, while yet a young man, the support and helper of his widowed mother, who, at forty-two lost her

counsellor and husband. More and more as the Queen grew older, and Prince Edward gained knowledge, experience and authority, the son assisted in bearing the burden of a position whose responsibility he could not assume. Edward came to the throne with a perfect understanding of what was before him. Moreover as Prince of Wales he had taken his share in the duties of enlightened statesmanship, and citizenship. Of his activities in all manner of work for the benefit of the poor and the suffering there is record elsewhere. It is more likely to be forgotten that he served on many royal commissions, conducting important inquiries into matters affecting the comfort and well-being of the people.

"King Edward came to the throne in a time of some anxiety. South Africa was to be pacified, reconciled and organized. The hostile feeling in Germany was expressed with brutal plainness. India was restless, and Russia was an ominous figure in Asia. It was feared that Britain had no friends, except Japan, among the nations. How far the King was instrumental in changing these conditions may be left for future discussion. We know that the reign has been peaceful, and that there is no cloud on the diplomatic situation. Africa will be a Union this month. Australia is a united Commonwealth. The dominions overseas are co-operating more effectively with the Motherland than ever before for their mutual support and defence.

"In the last year of the reign a domestic constitutional question had arisen which is thought to have given the King some anxiety. Much unauthorized use was made of his Majesty's name in this connection. Writers have ventured to say what the King would do, and where his sympathies lay. But it will be found that the King has taken no part in the controversy. The time for the sovereign to act had not come, and no impetuous minister would persuade the King to talk before the time for action. Perhaps the one who best knows what action the King would take in a contingency that has not arisen, is probably the son who is now King George. But while politicians and journals were speculating on the probable course of the King, the great body of loyal subjects throughout the land waited with the progress of events with perfect confidence that whoever else might make an improper use of his power, King Edward would act as became a constitutional sovereign.

"It may be said of the reign that has closed, as of the one before it, that it afforded a beautiful example of domestic felicity and of happy family government. The King made a singularly happy marriage. The sea-king's daughter from over the sea has become the most popular as she was the most beautiful of royal ladies. The home that is now saddened has been an example to which the British people point with pardonable pride. Edward the Seventh was a good husband and father, a good man, and a good and great King."

Long Live The King.

According to the constitution, Great Britain is never without a sovereign. As soon as one dies, the reign of the heir apparent and legal successor begins. The change from one to another is automatic and without friction or excitement of any kind. For the last eighteen years, since the death of his elder brother, Prince George had known that in the ordinary course of events, the sovereignty of the

Empire would devolve upon him. It is true that the suddenness of the call may have appalled him; but his subjects throughout his vast Dominions have confidence that he will prove himself equal to the emergency. On the death of King Edward a summons was issued to the Privy Councillors, by the clerk of the council, to convene in the throne room of St. James' Palace at 2 o'clock Saturday, for the purpose of proclaiming the new king. Accordingly the Prince of Wales, in presence of the Privy Councillors took the accession oath and issued his first official proclamation. He assumed the title of George V. The new King's first proclamation requests all officers to proceed with their duties. In consequence of the change of sovereigns, all public officials required to take an oath, will require to be sworn in again.

King George V, second son of King Edward and Queen Alexandra, was born on June 3rd, 1865, so that he is almost 45 years of age. He and his brother, the Prince of Wales, entered the Navy and spent two years in the Britannia. In 1892 his brother died, and George then Prince of Cornwall and York, became heir apparent to the throne. In July 1893 he married Princess Victoria Mary, of Teck. Six children have been born to them, five sons and one daughter. Shortly after the accession of his father, Edward VII, Prince George and his Princess made a tour of the Empire. He opened the first Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, and on his return visited the Maritime Provinces in October 1901. In 1908, he again visited Canada, and represented his Royal father at the tercentenary celebration at Quebec. We again quote from our contemporary the St. John Standard, which, among other things, has this to say of the new King:

"It will doubtless be said that the death of the King is the greater calamity, coming at the time when a grave question of prerogative is to be determined. Assuming that the situation is one of difficulty and delicacy, it does not follow that King George will fail in any way. He understands the powers and limitations of the Crown. He knows what is becoming and proper in a constitutional sovereign. There is no reason to suppose that he will overstep the bounds that are set by the best usage and traditions of modern times. King Edward's name was used much too freely in recent discussions. There was never any reason to suppose that he would intervene either to cause the Lords to submit to the decision of the Commons, or to restrict the powers of the people. We may safely conclude that King George will do as his father would have done. He will allow the people to have the system of government that they desire. If there is a crisis it is not one which the King is called upon to regulate except by acting as his constitutional advisors recommend. King George is in the full maturity of his power, and at forty-five years he has acquired experience of great value. He comes to the throne with the best wishes of a loyal people, and with their full confidence."

Earthquake Destroys a City.

A large part of Cartago, Costa Rica, was destroyed last Thursday night by a powerful seismic movement. Details are very meagre for the telegraph wires have been levelled between San Jose and Cartago. The operators at the latter place were killed. It is known that at least 500 persons are dead and many hundreds are injured. Scores of buildings were thrown down, among them the Palace of Justice, erected by Andrew Carnegie. The wife and child of Dr. Bocanaga, the Guatemalan magistrate to the Central American arbitration court, have been killed. Panic reigned while the earthquakes continue. San Jose has also been shaken, some of the buildings being damaged, but no deaths are reported in that city. Some persons were slightly injured. Earth shocks also were felt at several points in Nicaragua near the Costa Rica frontier. Reports reaching there state that there is much suffering and destitution at Cartago, consequent upon the disaster. At Costa Rican legation Washington, Minister Calvo received word that the city practically had been destroyed, 500 persons were dead and many hundred injured as a result of the disturbance. Further, the minister was informed by the department for foreign affairs the shocks had finally ceased and the damage

and loss of life is confined to Cartago. Cartago, capital of Cartago province lies at the foot of Irazu volcano about 14 miles from San Jose. It has an estimated population of 10,000 and is the seat of the Central American peace court, for the home of which Andrew Carnegie donated a large sum. Cartago was the capital of the country until 1823. It has suffered frequently from earthquakes, and was partially or in greater part destroyed in 1823, 1803, 1825, 1841, 1851 and 1854. On April 13 last a serious of earthquakes, varying in intensity swept over Costa Rica, doing considerable material damage, but practically without loss of life. San Jose suffered most severely, while both Cartago and Port Limon felt the force of the disturbances.

14 Miners Killed.

All hope that of the 45 white miners and 100 or more negro miners entombed in mine No. 3 of the Palos coal and coke company, Palos, Ala., as the result of an explosion on the 5th, may be rescued alive, has been abandoned. It is thought that if any of the men escaped death from the explosion, they were later suffocated by black damp. Estimates of the number of men actually in the mine at the time, vary. Those in a position to know, estimate the number at 45 whites and about 100 negroes, while others say the number is much larger. Officers of the mine say that according to their records only 110 men in all are in the mine but a number of miners were employed under the contract system the list of names on the payrolls does not include all in the mine, it is said. Immediately after the explosion the villages organized to attempt to rescue those entombed, John Pascoe and another miner went into the mine, but were soon overcome by black damp they were dragged out unconscious. Later rescuers under the direction of Assistant Fire Inspector Neal, were equipped with oxygen helmets and sent into the mine. These succeeded in going several hundred feet. They found three human bodies and a number of dead mules. No attempt was made to recover the bodies on account of the fire damp, which soon drove the rescuers out. Late tonight another attempt was made to explore the workings. The explosion is supposed to have been caused by one of the miners going into a gaseous pocket with a lighted lamp.

Summer Resorts.

Experience, the testimony of thousands, and the popularity of the several fishing, hunting and tourist districts located on the lines of the Grand Trunk Railway System, is conclusive proof that they are the Elysium of the sportsman, and the Mecca par excellence of the tourist.

The "Highlands of Ontario" is a land dotted with lakes and rivers—rivers that have their sources in the northern forest and flow until they join the vast inland seas, Superior, Huron, Erie or the Atlantic Ocean. This great Tourist Railway reaches all the principal resorts in this vast territory, including Lakes Orillia and Couchiching, the Muskoka Lakes, a popular resort 1000 feet above sea level, where thousands of people annually make their summer homes for rest and recuperation. The Lake of Bays district where some of the finest hotels in Canada are to be found, and a locality replete with natural beauty and loveliness, with splendid fishing—Magallowan River, the very heart centre for sport for rod and gun—Lake Nipissing and the French River, where wild and rugged scenery is to be found, and the atmosphere filled with health-giving properties; splendid fishing and hunting grounds are found in this territory. The Temagami region, a forest reserve containing 3,750,000 acres of lake, rivers and wilderness, the scenic grandeur of which is incomparable—magnificent fishing and hunting in season. The 30,000 Islands of the Georgian Bay is another most delightful and beautiful territory, where the most interesting trips may be taken. The steady increase of travellers to this locality is alone proof that it is becoming the most popular resort on the inland lakes. The Algonquin National Park of Ontario, a comparatively new and attractive region, little known to the lover of rod and gun and the tourist, has all the summer attractions that appeal to the denizens of the city. The territory has been set aside by the Provincial Government of Ontario solely for the delectation of mankind. The gamut of black bass, speckled trout and salmon trout are found here in goodly numbers. Hunting is not allowed. The Algonquin Park covers an area of 2,000,000 acres, there being no less than 1,200 lakes and rivers within its boundaries. Good hotel accommodation is found in all the districts mentioned, and a postal card addressed to the General Advertising Department, Grand Trunk Railway System, Montreal, will receive prompt attention and illustrated publications of any of the districts will be quickly sent to all enquirers.

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