

London Letter

(By FANTON HOUSE, for the Canadian Press.)

LONDON, May 26.—Empire Day was kept with a wealth of magnificence at the British Empire Exhibition. Someone had the happy idea of making May 24 itself a day of Youth. The Duke of Connaught, representing the King, took the salute while ten columns of boys and girls (Scouts, Guides, and members of various cadet corps), 8,000 in all, marched past the Royal Box at the Stadium. Afterwards we had the Trooping of the Color—the evolution in which the flower of our Army exhibits the perfection of its drill on the King's Birthday—smartly performed by youngsters from two famous naval and military schools. Music was supplied by the largest military band brought to date—a thousand instrumentalists, including 300 drums and fifes and 100 pipers. These gave a display of their own marching and counter-marching in the great green arena amid roars of admiration.

There was another pageant before the Empire Thanksgiving Services on Sunday May 25, which was attended by the King and Queen, the Princess of Wales and several other members of the Royal Family, the High Commissioners for all the Dominions and the Agents-General for the Colonies. First the huge massed band was marshalled in the arena. Their Majesties arrived, heralded by the State Trumpeters, and a procession began, headed by detachments of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Metropolitan Police of London. Then came a Guardsman with the Union Jack symbolic of Empire, followed by standard-bearers with the Dominion flags. Next marched our old friends the "Beef-eaters," or Yeoman Warders of the Tower of London, in their handsome Tudor uniforms, and after them a body of Chelsea pensioners in long scarlet coats—old warriors representing the Army of Yesterday. There were hearty cheers for the old boys, and warmer greetings still for those who followed—a group of disabled soldiers, some still in hospital blue, some blind.

Another procession entered—first the choirs of many churches, then bishops and clergy of all denominations, among whom were the Bishop of London and the Archbishop of Canterbury. Many who were present on both occasions found the ensuing service even more impressive than the ceremony at the opening of the Exhibition, a month earlier. No such congregation has assembled before in the history of the world; 100,000 people were actually in the stadium, and if those he counted who listened in with wireless, it may be said that millions took part.

ANOTHER ROYAL VISIT.

The King and Queen of Italy, with their son and daughter, the Prince of Piedmont and Princess Mafalda, have spent a crowded four days with our King and Queen. As though a programme were not sufficiently full that included, in this brief space, a State Ball and Banquet, a great charity ball, a half day at Wembley, lunch with the Lord Mayor of London, two receptions and a luncheon at the Italian Embassy and visits to the Italian Church and Hospital, our energetic guests contrived to do quite a lot of semi-private sight-seeing. The King of Italy found time for the Tower, the Zoo, the Coin Department of the British Museum, and Westminster Abbey, while the rest of his party were only a shade less enterprising. The weather was extremely fine, and visitors from the dominions had numerous opportunities of seeing the visitors from Italy, both at Wembley and as they drove from function to function about the streets of London. King George and Queen Mary themselves making their fifth visit to the Exhibition, acted as guides at Wembley to the Italian royals, whose interest was such that the carefully prepared timetable had to go by the Board. The tour began with a round of the Canadian Pavilion and the two railway annexes, where the party took special pleasure in the beautiful and ingenious panoramic views of Canadian scenery. They proceeded to Bermuda, and then to the red-walled West African town, where the Ashanti drummers tapped out a greeting, and great silken umbrellas of green, scarlet and gold were borne over their Majesties' heads. When an African chief visits another village, it is proper for him to bring gifts, the King had duly observed the custom by sending the village a sheep. Black chiefs and princesses, attired in gorgeous native fabrics, were presented, and did the honors of their huts with dignified courtesy.

ENTERTAINING DOMINIONS.

June and July will be filled with entertainments for Overseas visitors. Their Majesties will give garden parties at Buckingham Palace on June 24th and July 5th and 24th. The Government garden party, to which 2,000 guests will be invited, has been fixed for June 27th, and the reception and ball at the Guildhall, at which the Lord Mayor will be host, is to take place on June 30th. "Domination Women's Week," organized by the Women's Section of the British Empire Exhibition, will be held from July 1 to 26. Canada's special day being the 23rd. Each day will be marked by a morning conference and an afternoon

Timely Merchandise Featured in the June-July

Cambric Underwear

Camisoles.

White Voile and Cambric: all sizes.
Reg. 50c. each for 45c.
Reg. 70c. each for 65c.
Reg. 90c. each for 75c.
Reg. 1.15 each for 1.00
Reg. 1.20 each for 1.10

Women's Knickers.

Neatly trimmed, in both open and closed styles.
Reg. 90c. pair for 80c.
Reg. 1.00 pair for 90c.
Reg. 1.10 pair for 1.00
Reg. 1.20 pair for 1.10
Reg. 1.50 pair for 1.35
Reg. 2.20 pair for 2.00



Brassiers.

White and fancy.
Coutil: trimmed with embroidery and lace edging.
Reg. 40c. each for 35c.
Reg. 45c. each for 40c.
Reg. 50c. each for 45c.
Reg. 55c. each for 50c.
Reg. 60c. each for 55c.
Reg. 65c. each for 60c.
Reg. 70c. each for 65c.
Reg. 75c. each for 70c.
Reg. 80c. each for 75c.
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