

and from abroad, the great event on which so many eyes and thoughts have for months been focussed, has been carried to a successful consummation. And again we say, Long live the King!

Though shorn of some of the splendours originally intended, it was still a splendid, stately and to any right mind, a solemn ceremonial. The magnificence of the pageant as first designed, before the shadow of death, to the dismay of all, in the mercy of God, to a humbled and praying people was lifted, has been more than compensated for, not only by the warmth of the sympathy it evoked from all classes throughout the empire high and low, and admiration for the pluck shown by the King, but also we may hope, by the effect upon his own mind and the mind of all the royal family, and the great officials who stand near the throne. For surely it is impossible for such an event as caused the postponement of the coronation, not to leave a deep impression behind it upon those most immediately concerned, as it certainly has upon the minds of thousands not so closely affected.

The public, official, solemn crowning of the King recalls to the mind the fact that he is the descendant of a long line of illustrious sovereigns like himself, and that he stands before the eyes of mankind as the representative and head of the greatest empire, in many respects, the world has ever seen. It is a dizzy height to occupy. Religion, and the rites of a great historic Church, invested it with their sacred sanctions and solemn charges, well calculated to sober and deeply impress any mind. Well may all the King's subjects pray that he may be enabled by divine help to wear his dignity and discharge his high duties in a right spirit, and nobly so as to commend and endear him to all his people, as his royal mother commended and endeared herself to her people. Nobly, worthily, is not to wear them proudly in a bad sense, not haughtily, lordly, overbearing, selfishly, but to lead and serve his people truly and well, for the highest and noblest service in a right spirit and after a right manner is the highest honour and dignity. In serving his people thus he will serve mankind at large through them.

It is impossible for anyone and most impossible of all for him and the whole royal family to forget that he has had set before him in the life and reign of his mother, a noble example of a great and good ruler. Apart from his public duties, as a constitutional sovereign, it is a matter of the greatest concern to the whole empire, and through it, even to other realms, that the Court life of England's King, be regulated according to a high moral standard. It is hardly possible to over estimate the importance of this.

It is, accordingly, matter of the utmost satisfaction to all who judge rightly, that the Court life has so long under the late Queen been what it has, and that it continues, under her son, to be moulded after her example. It adds to this satisfaction, that from the character of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the training, therefore, which their children are likely to receive, the high character which English Court life has so long borne, is likely to be perpetuated, for

we may hope, a long time to come. This is, and may well be, both because of the King's restoration to health, because of his happy and peaceful coronation, because of the character and disposition, which as monarch, he has so far shewn, because of the love and admiration which Queen Alexandra has so richly earned and so well deserves, a time of great national happiness, gladness and rejoicing. From many, many hearts all over the empire, will at this time spontaneously ascend to heaven the sincere and hearty prayer:

God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King.
Send him victorious
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the King.

RECREATION.

"Recreation" is a good word, though like every other noble expression, it has suffered much abuse; if we could search out its origin we would, no doubt, find that the man who first used it had a thoughtful view of life, and a deep sense of dependence on God. Men have always felt the need of rest and healthful change. The dulllest man could see that a monotonous round of drudgery meant slavery and destruction of noblest powers. Thinking men perceived that God to whom they owed their creation, must grant "recreation," perpetual quickening of life and renewal of spiritual power. In our own time science has laid new emphasis upon the fact that life is a constant process of dying and being born again. We know now, in some measure, how the tissues of the bodily frame are constantly destroyed and built up again, and this is a symbol of other processes still more invisible and mysterious. Re-creation is a constant process, each meal that we take, each good night's sleep that we enjoy plays its part in this direction. The fresh air that we breathe, the pleasant company in which we delight, these are pure God-given forces, ordained to renew our life. The one day in seven reserved from worldly care and pleasure, placed under calm conditions and set under a more spiritual atmosphere. This is a potent influence for good, it keeps us from being overpowered by the dust of the world's noisy life. Further, it is good for those who toil steadily through the winter to have a pleasant time in summer, in the country, by the sea shore or the side of the lake. The purpose of rest is to prepare for work and of recreation, to fit one for fresh effort. This, however, does not mean the neglect of all duties and the casting off of all restraint. The same principles of thoughtfulness and righteousness should apply to our play as to our work. Reverence, unselfishness and helpfulness are never to be laid aside.

We should be thankful that in this broad land there are so many simple, wholesome places where people of moderate means can enjoy a rest and get near to the heart of nature. In one or two cities "Fresh Air Funds" may be needed but speaking generally, the great mass of the people can go out in an independent fashion and get the air where it is purest and freshest. Long may

this continue and while we have our own problems may we be saved from the social difficulties of the great European cities. But what shall we say of those who go to beautiful health resorts not for healthful recreation but for foolish dissipation; many of these people wear themselves out and annoy others by their wild, senseless revelry and their pretended recreation turns out to be a delusion and a snare. All we can say is that theirs is a foolish way and we trust that by their own experience or the wise counsel of others, they will see its folly and seek the simpler, more excellent way.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY EXCURSIONS PROHIBITED IN CANADA.

For some years, but especially during 1921, various sea and lake ports in Canada have been afflicted by the landing of boat loads of American excursionists resulting, in some cases, in drunkenness and disorder; in all cases, in considerable Sunday business in hotels, restaurants, confectioneries, liveries, etc., etc., and consequent disturbance of the usual Canadian Sabbath quiet.

In the Province of Ontario the Attorney General undertook, in 1921, to enforce the Provincial Lord's Day Act against such excursions. The Court of Appeal of that Province, however, in its judgment given a few months ago, held that concerns operating under exclusively Dominion legislative authority—such as railways and international steamship companies—were not subject to this Lord's Day Act, being Provincial, hence that he, the Attorney General, was powerless to prevent Sunday excursions coming across the line. The Lord's Day Alliance had foreseen the possibility of such judgment being given and had, long before, privately interviewed the Minister of Customs as to his willingness, in the event of such a judgment, to exercise the power which he has, to prevent the landing of these excursions. Immediately on the giving of this judgment, therefore, a formal deputation was sent to Ottawa requesting the Minister to use his power for the end sought, and some two weeks ago, instructions were sent out from the Department of Customs to Customs collectors at sea and lake ports in the Dominion, directing them to "refuse attendance" upon steamers that were "known to be carrying Sunday excursions pure and simple." Hence, a troublesome excursion, that has been landing at Port Colborne, Ontario, from Buffalo, for some years past, is prohibited this season. So also, excursions from Rochester to Cobourg and other Lake Ontario Ports, and others on the upper lake frontier and in the Maritime Provinces. Thus, as it were with one stroke of the pen, the Honorable Wm. Paterson, Minister of Customs, has rendered a very large and valuable service to the cause of Lord's Day preservation throughout Canada.

Christianity is no narrow creed or system of abstract worship, but it is a practical faith that turns itself into fact, touching life on every side and ministering to it at every point.—The Presbyterian Banner.