

action, the fundamental principles of the British Constitution involve (a) liability to defensive service of all male subjects of the Crown, (b) the supreme control of that service by the Crown. To the Crown belongs also, as a natural consequence, the power of declaring war and peace, and, as another consequence, the control and conduct of all international intercourse. For, if it is too cynical a view that all international intercourse has grown, historically, out of war, it is, unhappily, beyond question, that all international intercourse has been controlled, though in a degree less now than formerly, by military considerations.

THE KING AS HEAD OF THE 'EXECUTIVE'

Closely connected with his military character is the position of the King as chief executive officer of the State. The origin of this side of the Kingship is, clearly, the necessity for maintaining internal order; for it is obvious that a community in which internal order is not maintained cannot be trusted to defend itself against external attack.

THE POLICE

This duty of the Crown is, in normal times, performed through the agency of the 'police,' i.e. a special class of civilian soldiers trained and used for the purpose. But it is unquestioned law throughout the British Empire, that the King, and any one to whom he has entrusted the powers of a magistrate, may call upon all his male adult subjects (soldiers or civilians) to aid him in the task of maintaining order, and that any such person who refuses to help is liable to fine and imprisonment. The widely-spread belief that, in England at least, what is called the 'reading of the