

CORONATION SERVICE AND CEREMONIES IN DETAIL.

Procession of Archbishops and Bishops' Assistant to Await Their Majesties at Abbey Door—The Communion Service—The Administration of the Oath—Anointing Then Follows.

The following taken from the London Times is the full text of "The Form and Order of the Service that is to be performed, and of the ceremonies that are to be observed, in the coronation of their Majesties King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra, in the Abbey Church of St. Peter, Westminster, on Thursday, the 26th day of June, 1902.

Section I. The Preparation. In the morning upon the day of the Coronation early, care is to be taken that the Ampulla be filled with oil, and, together with the spoon, be laid ready upon the altar in the Abbey Church.

Section II. The Entrance into the Church. The King and Queen, as soon as they enter at the west door of the church, are to be received with the following anthem, to be sung by the choir of Westminster.

Section III. The Recognition. The King and Queen being so placed, the archbishop to the east part of the choir, and after, together with the Lord Chancellor, Lord Great Chamberlain, Lord High Constable and Earl Marshal (Garter King of Arms preceding them), goes to the other three sides of the theatre in this order, south, west, and north, and at every of the four sides with a loud voice speaks to the people: And the King in the meanwhile, standing up by his chair, turns and shows himself unto the people at every of the four sides of the theatre, as the archbishop is at every of them, and while he speaks thus to the people:

Sirs—I here present unto you King Edward, the undoubted king of this realm: Wherefore all you who are come this day to do your homage, are you willing to do the same? The people signify their willingness and joy, by loud and repeated acclamations, all with one voice crying out,

Section IV. The noblemen who carry in procession the regalia, except those who carry the sword, come near to the altar, and present in order every one what he carries to the archbishop, who delivers them to the Dean of Westminster, to be by him placed upon the altar, and then retire to the places appointed for them.

Section V. The beginning of the communion service. The Introit.—O God, who providest for thy people by thy power, and rulest over them in love: Grant unto this thy servant Edward, our king, the spirit of wisdom and government, that being devoted unto thee with all his heart, he may so wisely govern this kingdom, that in his time thy church and people may continue in safety and prosperity; and that, persevering in good works unto the end, he may through thy mercy come to thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. Amen.

Section VI. The Oath. The sermon being ended, and his majesty having on Thursday, the 14th of February, 1901, in the presence of the two houses of parliament, made and signed the declaration, the archbishop goes to the king, and standing before him, administers the coronation oath, first asking the king:—Sir, is your majesty willing to take the oath? And the king answering:—I am willing.

Section VII. The Oath. The archbishop ministrereth these questions, and the king, having a book in his hands, answers each question severally as follows:—

Archb.—Will you solemnly promise and swear to govern the people of this United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the dominions thereto belonging, according to the statutes of parliament agreed on, and the respective laws and customs of the same? King.—I solemnly promise to do so.

Section VIII. The Anointing. The king having thus taken his oath, returns again to his chair, and both he and the queen kneeling at their faldstools, the archbishop becometh the hymn, Veni Creator Spiritus, and the choir singeth it out.

Section IX. The presenting of the spurs and sword, and the girding and oblation of the said sword. The spurs are brought from the altar by the Dean of Westminster, and delivered to the lord great chamberlain, who, kneeling down, touches his majesty's heels therewith, and sends them back to the altar.

Section X. The investing with the Ampulla and Imperial Mantle, and the Delivery of the Orb. Then the King arising, the ampulla and imperial mantle or pall of cloth of gold, by the master of robes delivered to the Dean of Westminster, and by him put upon the King, standing; the lord great chamberlain fastening the ampulla; the King sits down, and then the Orb with the cross is brought from the altar by the Dean of Westminster, and delivered unto the King's hand by the archbishop, pronouncing this blessing and exhortation:—

Section XI. The Investiture Per Anulum et Baculum. Then the officer of the jewel house delivers the King's ring to the archbishop, in which a table jewel is encased; the archbishop puts it on the fourth finger of his majesty's right hand, and saith:—Receive this ring the ensign of kingly dignity, and of defence of the Catholic faith; and as you are this day solemnly invested in the government of this earthly kingdom, so may you be sealed with that spirit of promise, which is the earnest of an heavenly inheritance, and reign with Him who is the blessed and only potentate, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Section XII. The Presenting of the Holy Bible. Then shall the Dean of Westminster take the Holy Bible from off the altar, and deliver it to the archbishop, who shall present it to the King, first saying these words to him:—Our gracious King; we present you with this Book, the most valuable thing that this world affords: Here is wisdom; this is the royal law; these are the lively oracles of God.

Section XIII. The Homage. The exhortation being ended, all the archbishops and bishops return to their places. Section XIV. The Benediction and the Te Deum. And now the King having been thus anointed and crowned, and having received all the ensigns of royalty, the archbishop solemnly blesseth him; and all the bishops, with the rest of the peers, follow every part of the benediction with a loud and hearty amen.

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Section XV. The Putting on of the Crown. The archbishop, standing before the altar, taketh the crown into his hands, and laying it again before him upon the altar, saith:—

Section XVI. The Putting on of the Crown. The archbishop, standing before the altar, taketh the crown into his hands, and laying it again before him upon the altar, saith:—

Archb.—Will you to your power cause law and justice in mercy to be executed in all your judgments? King.—I will.

Archb.—Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the Laws of God, the true profession of the Gospel, and the Protestant Reformed religion established by law? And will you maintain and preserve inviolably the Settlement of the Church of England, and the doctrine, worship, discipline and government thereof, as by law established in England? And will you preserve unto the bishops and clergy of England, and to the church therein committed to their charge, all such rights and privileges, as by law do or shall appertain to them, or any of them? King.—All this I promise to do.

Section VII. The Sermon. The king having thus taken his oath, returns again to his chair, and both he and the queen kneeling at their faldstools, the archbishop becometh the hymn, Veni Creator Spiritus, and the choir singeth it out.

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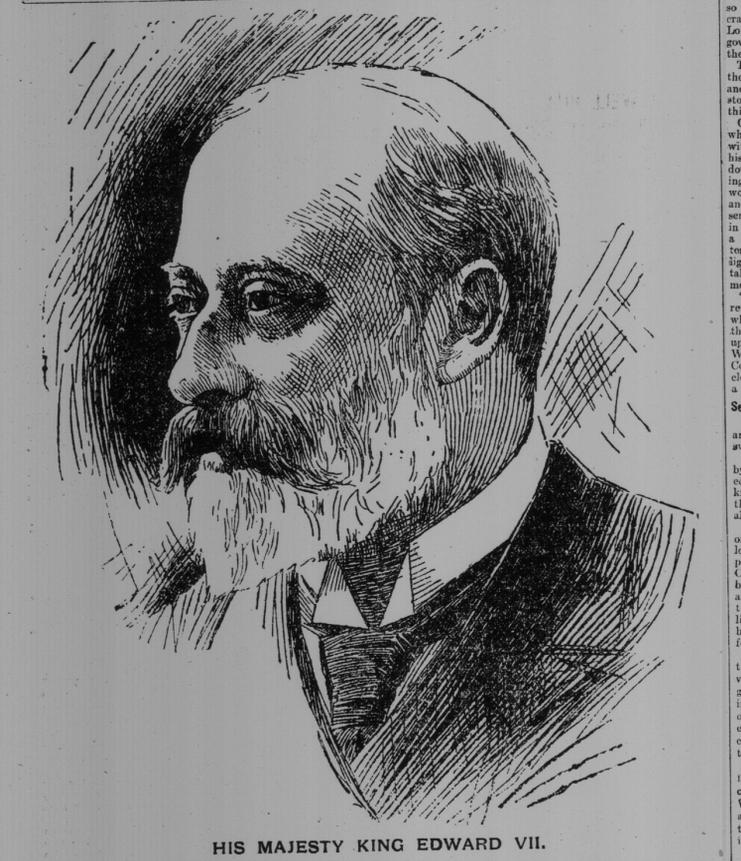
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HER MAJESTY QUEEN ALEXANDRA.