

have since occurred due to the disestablishment of the Irish Church and the Union with Scotland Act, 1706. The Oath must be administered by the Archbishop of Canterbury or York, or any other bishop of the realm appointed by the Sovereign for the purpose. (See Halsbury's Laws of England, 2nd ed., Vol. 6, pp. 397,398,414).

4. A description of the taking of the Oath by King George V at his Coronation on June 22, 1911, as reported in the London "Times" of the following day, is appended hereto.

South African Proposal

5. The South African Government feel that a multiplicity and the multiple administering of oaths should, if possible, be avoided for the sake of the dignity of the ceremony. They would prefer what they call a "collective oath". Their proposed alteration affects only the first part of the traditional Oath. The second part - concerning the execution of "law and justice in mercy" - could remain unchanged. Upon the third part - which concerns the Established Church in the United Kingdom - South Africa, having no established church, offers no observations. They would be agreeable that the "collective oath" be administered for South Africa by whatever English bishop might act for the United Kingdom.

6. The proposed South African Coronation Oath Act reads as follows:

"1. The King shall, either on assuming the Executive Government of the Union or at his coronation take an oath, the purport of which shall be that he will govern the people of the

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(M.G. 26, J 4, volume 169, pages C120194-C120809)

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