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An American Tribute to Edward the Peacemaker

From The Bellman, Minneapoli

HEN the history of the first decade of the twentieth century comes to be written, the three names that will be no largest in its pages will in all probability be those of Edward the Seventh. Theodore Roosevelt, and the Emperor William, of Germany; and, of these three, that of Edward the Seventh will possibly go down to posterity as the greatest, not perhaps in personality, but in influence. In sheer force and versatility of intellect the late king was probably the inferior of his nephew; certainly he was not so richly endowed as is the expresident of the United States. But his qualities of mind happened to be exactly those qualities most necessary for the position which he filled.

The sovereign of the British empire

position which he filled.

The sovereign of the British empire must always, from the very nature of the place which he holds, be a figure of importance in the history of his generation. Good or bad, weak or strong, he is the titular ruler of the greatest power in Europe, of the power which has always behind it the possitility of turning the continent of Europe into a battlefield of the nations. Theoretically and constitutionally, the authority which the king of England exercises in controlling the destinies of his empire is far less than that wielded by the President of the United States; actually the moral influence of the sovereign is a power, limited only of the sovereign is a power, limited only by the personality of the person who uses

by the personality of the person who uses it.

The monarch, whose untimely death has plunged the whole world into mourning, may almost be said to have created a new sphere of usefulness for the constitutional sovereign. The field of home politics, under ordinary circumstances, is closed to him. He must accept the verdict of his subjects, given in electing their representatives; must call as his chief advisor the man who is designated, by the suffrages of his followers, for the leadership of whichever political party is intrusted by the people with the task of government. In particular and especial instances the advice of the sovereign may be of the utmost service to the chief minister of the crown, as it frequently was in the reign of the late queen, from half a century's intimate 'esperience of government, was often in a position to tender to her ministers the council of an expert. The field, however, in which the influence of a constitutional sovereign of active mind and high ideals can find greatest scope is that of foreign polities. That was the truth which King Edward was quick to realize. The dignity of his position, his ties of relationship with other reigning houses of Europe, above all his natural bonhomic and charm of manner made him peculiarly fitted for the task which he set himself, the task of conducting delicate, informal negotiations with other powers.

It is easy to see how valuable as an intermediary one in his position may be

ducting delicate, informal negotiations with other powers.

It is easy to see how valuable as an intermediary one in his position may be. An exchange of "notes" between governments is conducted with all the stitted formality of diplomatic usage; but when one head of a state pays a friendly visit to another head of a state, the two meet upon equal terms; they can talk as man to man and as friend to friend. Both have the interests of their respective countries at heart as well as the good of humanity as a whole. To both the possibility of war between two peoples appears as a gigantic and overwhelming catastrophe, a disaster to be avoided-by every means consistent with national dignity. What wonder if an exchange of cipars is followed by an exchange of confidences, and that, in, turn, leads naturally to the mutual expression of the deare for a better understanding between the two mations? The rulers separate with expressions of good will; the press echoes them; the people approve them; and an entente cordiale is established, the result of which will be that, when differences arise between the two nations, as arise they must, they will be settled with mutual good tween the two nations, as arise they must, they will be settled with mutual good feeling, and forbearance, instead being put to the gruef arbitrament of war.

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ALBERTA MASONS
The Alberta Grand Lodge session of the A. F. and A. M. elected the following officers for the year at Calgary: Grand Master, A. J. Dunlop, Edmonton: deputy grand master, Thos. McNabb, Lethbridge senior warden, R. Patterson, MacLeod; junior. warden, S. J. Blair, Calgary; treasurer, Dr. N. J. Lindsay, Calgary; treasurer, Dr. N. J. Lindsay, Calgary; secretary, D. Geo. Macdonald, Calgary; registrar. W. M. Connacher, Galgary; chaplain, Rev. Canon Stocken Gleichen: grand tyler, R. H. Finch; district deputy (1) J. W. Rankin; (2) T. M. Burnett: (3) R. H. Christie; (4) R. W. Wilson; (5) E. D. H. Wilkins; (6) Geo. Simpson.

ALBERTA CABINET CHANGES

An Edmonton dispatch of May 26 said:
"The Rutherford government came to a
swift and sudden, but not unexpected end

swift and sudden, but not unexpected end today, when after a break of ten weeks, the legislature resumed session.

Hon. Arthur L. Sifton, chief justice of Alberta and brother of Hon. Clifford Sifton, takes the helm as premier of the province. Premier Rutherford handed in his resignation this morning to Lieutenant-Governor Bulyea, yielding to the pressure of the party: He also submitted the resignations of his ministers, Attorney-General Cross, Duncan Marshall, minister of agriculture, and Hon. P. E. Lessard, without portfolio. Almost immediately afterwards Chief Justice Sifton was sworn in as president of the executive council. in as president of the executive council.

The resignations of Messra. Cross, Marshall and Lessard are left in his hands to accept or refuse if he desires to retain any of them in his new cabinet."

WATERWAY SYSTEM

Hon. Wm. Pugaley addressing the Oatario Club, at Toronto. Thursday, said: "We are considering a waterway system from the Red River to Lake Winnipeg from the mouth of the Saak-atchewan River, and thence across the prairies to the Foothills of the Rockies 100 miles west of Edmonton, which will give a direct system of navigation for 1,500 miles to Winnipeg.

"This system needs two locks which would make it possible to generate from 60,000 to 80,000 horse power which could be utilized for grinding grain and manufacture raw lumber.

"The government is also considering a system for navigation from Lake Winnipeg to the Hudson Bay, where vessels can go to England."

MUST EQUALIZE RATES

The Board of Railway Commissioners has ordered that the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railways give the same rates to ex-Lake Western Grain from Montreal to points in Ontario and Quebec on the same mileage basis, as that in force on the same commodities from Georgian Bay elevator points. The Montreal shippers have been complaining about the westbound rates for a couple of years but the railways declined to equalize the charges as hetween Montreal and the Lake ports. Finally the matter was brought to the attention of the board of railway commissioners which has decided that there must be no discrimination in favor of lake ports, and against Montreal shippers