

## "God Save the King."

There are people who regard such ceremonies as those attending the coronation as archaic survivals, unworthy of this matter of fact age. To them, all symbolism is meaningless, and as unintelligible as the hues of the dawn or the sunset to those who are colour-blind. There are arguments for and against the constitutional monarchical principle, as there are arguments for and against the opposite extremes of despotism and republicanism on the other hand. But there is nothing to be said in favour of retaining a monarchy and not taking full advantage of the monarchical principle. To an Empire embracing many millions of people of divers races, creeds, languages, and traditions a monarchy is the only possible form of Government. There are some 300,000,000 British subjects in India to whom the idea of loyalty to the Emperor of India is quite intelligible and not inconsistent with loyalty to their native princes, but who could not so much as grasp the idea of loyalty to a written or unwritten constitution or to a debating society chosen by themselves even from men of their own respective castes.

In Great Britain the monarchy has greatly changed in character, even within the life-time of many now living, but it has not weakened an iota. *Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis*, says the old proverb. The times have changed and the monarchy, like ourselves, has changed with them. While the personal prerogative of the sovereign has been constantly dwindling, the personal influence and actual power of the monarch has immeasurably increased. The grandson of Victoria, the son of Edward, succeeds to responsibilities and powers undreamt of by Kings who enjoyed and freely used the power of life and death, of imprisonment and confiscation, over people who hated them because they feared them. To-day a smile or a frown from the King will reward merit and punish crimes beyond the powers of parliaments to reach. The tact and the personal influence of Queen Victoria and King Edward did more to promote the peace of the world, than all the diplomacy of their ministers. In days of old when a new monarch came to the throne, it was the cause of mingled hopes and fears in their subjects. When George V was crowned yesterday

"Willing nations knew their lawful lord."

A loyal king pledged his faith to a loyal people, and a loyal people pledged their faith to the King. Long may he reign. It is a shallow view of monarchy which sees in it nothing but the glitter of the crown and the glories of the throne. The sovereign who could be indifferent to these would be more or less than mortal, but the crown is a

heavy burden. Part of the King's great power is due to the fact that he is far above all personal ambitions but one—to serve his people well.

No British reign ever commenced with fairer prospects. The political storms which the nation is undergoing fortunately do not affect the relations between the people and the throne, where there is a reserve power available in the last resort for just such emergent crises.

The impressive pomp and the solemn religious ceremonial attending the coronation are by no means out of place. It is not necessary to believe in the divine right of Kings, nor in the precise symbolic significance of every detail of the imposing service in Westminster Abbey to see in the whole grand and magnificent ceremony a solemn recognition by both King and People of the fact that both realize whose authority he hath.

**The Coronation.** Not even London with its unrivalled record of royal pageants ever saw a more splendid celebration than the coronation yesterday, of Their Majesties King George the Fifth, and his consort, Queen Mary. There is not a single untoward or regrettable incident reported in connection with the imposing ceremony, which evidently appealed to the hearts of the people of the whole British Empire and enlisted the sympathies of all nations. King George's throne is evidently "broad-based upon the people's will." While the principle of monarchy is so firmly established our sensible people can afford to laugh at the extravagances of socialism.

**Reciprocity on the Rocks.** The coalition between the insurgent Republicans and the Democrats in the United States Senate to force a decisive fight on the general tariff question, before voting for the Reciprocity Bill puts the Bill in grave danger. The remarkable feature of the coalition is that the two parties are actuated by opposite considerations, the insurgents hoping to kill the Bill and thereby preserve the present protective tariff, and the Democrats being anxious to ensure a more general reduction of the tariff all along the line, than Canadian Reciprocity alone would give. The coalition was emphasised and defined by a vote instructing the Finance Committee to report the Wool Revision and Farmers Free List bills by July 10th. Senator Penrose, chairman of the Finance Committee and one of the friends of the Reciprocity Bill, evidently feels that he has been outgeneralled, and declares that in the present chaotic condition of the Senate there is no predicting what may happen. The vote stood 39 to 18 and the chances are that if the Senate passes the Reciprocity Bill, it will be with the amending measures tacked on to it, in which case it is taken that President Taft will veto the Bill.