

WELCOME AWAITS NEW KING AND QUEEN

Duke Of York To Succeed Throne As George VI

Warm Welcome Awaiting New Sovereign And Consort From The British People. Sketch Of New Ruler's Career.

(By Thomas T. Champion, Canadian Press Staff Writer) (C. F. Cable, By Guardian's Special Wire)

LONDON, Dec. 10.—On every side tonight there were indications that a most sincere welcome from the populace of the United Kingdom is awaiting the Duke and Duchess of York as King and Queen. Naturally they are not so well known to the Empire at large or even within these isles as King Edward VIII but of their genuine good-will to all and anxiety to serve the community there has been abundant proof.

It is too early to say yet whether they will be able to undertake the Empire tour already provisionally planned for King Edward. The Duke has often expressed a desire to visit Canada, with which his acquaintance is very slight. In 1913, as a cadet in the Royal Navy, he visited Halifax. He also made a visit to Niagara Falls, Ont., passing through Toronto en route.

The Duke does not enjoy such robust health as his elder brother, although his physical disabilities seem to have been largely overcome of recent years.

"THE LITTLE DUCHESS"

It is no conventional statement to say that the Duchess of York—"The Little Duchess," as she is often called—has a charm almost peculiar to herself. It was recalled how at the launching of the Canadian Pacific liner bearing her name and christened by her she walked alongside the slipway, nodding and smiling all the way to the somewhat dour crowds of Clydeside shipworkers.

The Duke, too, has an easy way in public, particularly as he has now almost completely overcome a tendency to stammer which once was a serious handicap in making speeches.

He is not afraid, either, of making sly jokes about those around him. One of these, an allusion to the famous Irish nationalist, "Tay Pay" O'Connor, in an after-dinner speech, was greeted with loud laughter.

"Mr. O'Connor," said the Duke, "is devoted to Ireland. In fact, he will do anything for Ireland except live in it."

It was only last Dec. 2 that the Duke and Duchess paid a memorial visit to Edinburgh. The Duchess received the freedom of the Scottish capital and the Duke participated in high Masonic ceremonies.

As for their children, Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret Rose, their photographs hang in thousands of nurseries all over the Empire.

With such a happy family circle established shortly at Buckingham Palace, feeling tonight was that the throne would assume in even added lustre.

VISIT TO CANADA

The Duke of York visited Canada only once but the circumstances of the visit must have left a lasting impression on his Royal Highness.

To wind up his service as a cadet in the Royal Navy he was sent in 1913 on a six-month cruise that took him to Canada, the West Indies and Newfoundland. Besides the seamanship he acquired on that voyage he learned a salutary lesson in noblesse oblige.

It had to do with tennis. All through the voyage, at every opportunity to get ashore, the royal midshipman took his racquets along and got in a few sets. At Halifax there was an official reception for officers of the fleet. Everyone expected the royal prince to be present but he "ducked it" and played tennis instead.

According to the story told about the incident, word of his action went back to Buckingham Palace and there came a sizzling cable from King George that was as blunt as any fretful father ever sent to a blundering son. If Albert ever again broke an official engagement for tennis, the fact escaped public notice.

The Duke afterwards remarked he had visited Halifax under "the somewhat fettered conditions of the service discipline of a naval cadet."

In recent years the Duke attended more than one of the banquets held in London on Dominion Day and in 1922 he presided over the Canada Club dinner to the late Hon. Peter Larkin when Mr. Larkin went to London as Canadian high commissioner.

HIS SENSE OF HUMOR

The Duke could show a lively sense of humor in after-dinner speaking, especially when he replied to compliments directed to himself. Speaking at the Industrial Welfare Society's dinner, when the late Lord Melchett proposed his health, the Duke said: "Lord Melchett has said some nice things about me—so nice that I do not believe he was really talking about me at all. He reminds me of a sad story I heard of a woman at her husband's funeral. She had been unhappy with him, and his death was not altogether a matter of regret. The parson was praising the virtues of the dead man in such glowing colors that the woman, looking round nervously, whispered to her daughter: 'Milly, is there another corpse?'"

The Duke also once ventured in after-dinner speaking to make a sly "dig" at the famous Irishman, the late T. P. O'Connor. After enumerating some of Tay Pay's qualities, the Duke laughingly added: "In fact Mr. O'Connor loves Ireland so much that he will do anything for it but live in it."

In a way the date of Prince Albert's birth on Dec. 14, 1895, was unfortunate, for it was the anniversary of the death of Queen Victoria's husband, Albert, Prince Consort. The aged Sovereign was prone to become rather morbid over such coincidences, and was not a little distressed that the new Prince should arrive on a day of such mournful memory.

Nevertheless, her Majesty was consoled when the parents eventually agreed that the infant's name should be Albert, York Cottage, Sandringham, his birthplace, had only a short time previously been assigned to the then Duke and Duchess of York as a second home. In London they resided at York House, St. James's Palace, which was to become so well-known as the quarters of the future Prince of Wales, later Edward VIII.

Prince Albert, as a child, spent much of his time with his elder brother in the Norfolk home of his parents, and doubtless shared the elementary teaching by Madame Brieka. Later Mr. Hansell was appointed tutor to both the young Princes.

STARTED CAMPS FOR BOYS

After his naval training, his service during the Great War, and his term of studies at Cambridge he began to manifest an intense interest in a wide range of social subjects. From that time on his influence and activities were directed toward furthering the civic welfare of the community.

One of the most novel and successful enterprises which the Duke initiated in welfare work was the establishment of an annual camp for boys in equal number from the historic public schools of England and from the industrial districts. To a total of 400 these boys, drawn from all grades of social life, were split up into parties for bell-tents, where they nightly toed the same pole. Some years New Homney, in Kent, has been the site of the camp, and in other years Southwold in Suffolk.

The Duke himself frequently spent a night under canvas with his guests, and participated in the general life of the camp. At Southwold he headed the early morning bathing parade for the beach, when mouth organ and bugles provided the march tune.

A POPULAR MARRIAGE

When the Duke married Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, youngest daughter of the Earl of Strathmore, in 1923, the British people took her to their hearts.

The Duchess, who was born Aug. 4, 1900, at St. Paul's, Waldenbury, in Hertfordshire, was known before her marriage to her wide circle of friends as Lady Betty. Her childhood was spent at Glamis Castle, the family seat at Forfarshire, traditionally associated with the murder of Duncan by Macbeth. Between the Royal Family and that of the Earl of Strathmore there was a long-existent friendship.

The future Duchess of York only a year before her own marriage had been bridesmaid to Princess Mary, now the Princess Royal, when she was wedded to Viscount Lascelles, later the Earl of Hare-

New King, Queen And Heir - Apparent To Throne



wood. For two years prior to the announcement of their engagement the friendship between the Duke and his bride had gradually ripened.

Up to the time of this marriage it is noteworthy that, with the exception of Princess Mary's, the marriages of the Royal household into the peerage for at least a century had in all instances been into Scottish families. Princess Louise, fourth daughter of Queen Victoria, married Lord Lorne in 1871. The people in Argyleshire then said that Queen Victoria "would be a proud woman that day, with her daughter marrying the son of the great Duke of Argyll." The Earl of Fife married Princess Louise Victoria, eldest daughter of King Edward. Another royal match with a Scottish family was that of Princess Patricia of Connaught with Captain Ramsay in 1922.

Princess Elizabeth, first child of the Duke and Duchess, was born April 21, 1926, and it was in the Duchess' childhood-home of Waldenbury that she said good-bye to her eight-months-old baby daughter when the call of Empire took the young couple to Australia. They left Portsmouth in January, 1927, in the battle cruiser Renown, on their Australian tour, an important feature of which was the inauguration by the Duke of the new Commonwealth capital of Canberra. They travelled about 34,000 miles and were acclaimed everywhere with joyful enthusiasm.

DUCHESS POPULAR

The charming personality of the Duchess and her pleasant smile greatly impressed the Australian people, and her temporary illness whilst in New Zealand, owing to the long strain of official and social engagements, evoked general sympathy. In a farewell message the Prime Minister of Victoria said of the Duchess: "She is a story-book princess, and she has won all hearts by her womanly charm." The royal travellers were away from England for six months.

The first public appearance of the Duchess of York since the death of King George was when she attended the annual convention of the women's section of the British Legion. The Duchess then made one of the longest speeches she has ever made in public. She said:

"The ideal of the legion is service for others, and, in its work of giving both comradeship and material help to those who are in need, the women's section plays a very useful part which merits every encouragement. I understand that the gifts of clothing which the women's section has been able to make through their clothing scheme to distressed areas has proved a wonderful boon. I feel sure, also, that many needy ex-servicemen in those areas will be glad of the opportunity now open to their daughters, for whom no work is available locally, to enter our centre at Burnham Hall for training with a view to employment elsewhere later, and the possibility of helping their families at home."

On Aug. 21, 1930 a second daughter was born at Glamis Castle to the Duke and Duchess of York, and received the name of Princess Margaret Rose. She was the first royal baby to be born in Scotland for more than three centuries. The last royal heir was Charles I, who was born at Dunfermline Palace in 1600. Margaret is an old Scottish name. Rose is the name of the Duchess' sister, Lady Rose Leveson-Gower.

As in the case of Princess Elizabeth the christening took place privately in the chapel of Buckingham Palace, the Archbishop of Canterbury performing the Sacrament with water from the River Jordan.

Few personages attain the dignity of a biography at four and a half years of age, nevertheless it was "with the sanction of her parents" that the "Life" of Princess Elizabeth, written by Anne Ross, formerly attached to the Duchess of York's household, was published in 1930. In this we are told of the royal grandmother looking down on the new baby in her cot. "I do wish you were more like your little mother," Queen Mary declared.

The little book is a happy and sympathetic study of childhood, and perhaps the most solid impression afforded by it is that royal children in the nursery differ not at all from most other infants who are reared under conditions of reasonable comfort and kindly supervision.

Lady Cynthia Asquith in a more detailed book upon the married life of the Duchess of York a couple of years later declares that at the age of six Princess Elizabeth showed she had inherited her mother's instinctive courtesy. "If Princess Elizabeth does not resemble her mother in appearance," writes Lady Cynthia, "I feel sure she is endowed with many of her qualities. Are not the same serenity, grace, radiance and dignity already perceptible? Those who knew the Duchess in her early childhood tell me the promise of the flower was already discernible in the bud, and that it was almost as though she had some premonition of her destiny and was rehearsing for the part she was one day to play, so assiduously did she practice her good manners."

In 1920 he became Duke of York and a year later founded "The Duke of York's Camp" in which he brought together lads from the factories and an equal number of wealthy young aristocrats. After his marriage to Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon in 1923 and the conquest of a speech impediment which made him a shy personality and a backward speaker, the tempo of his official life increased.

Youngsters began to look to him as the guardian of their playgrounds for in 1925 he became president of the National Playing Fields Association, formed to provide adequate playing space for children. One story is told of two little lads who presented themselves bright and early one morning at the Duke's London home, 145 Piccadilly, and asked to see him.

Officials barred the way and questioned the boys on the nature of their mission. Tearfully

The Duke of York formally became Duke of York, Queen, and the Princess Elizabeth heir-apparent. Legislation will be brought down in the British parliament and in all parliaments of the empire confirming the accession and barring any issue of Edward from rights to the throne, but enabling him to marry without the consent of the new King. The photograph shows the Duke and Duchess of York with Princess Elizabeth visiting the Richmond horse show. The abdication is the first since 1329 when Richard the second abdicated.

When he entered the Naval Training School at Osborne, and two years later went to sea in the "Hood," the Duke of York died in 1919.

Albert and Edward marched solemnly in the funeral procession behind the new King, George V, their father, the German Kaiser and the Duke of Connaught. They were clad in their cadet uniforms, with little Eton "monkey jackets" in blue with gilt buttons and blue-pegged caps with white crowns.

Edward had become heir-apparent and his life was no longer his own but for Albert there was still the serious business of making of himself an efficient naval officer. He studied mathematics, physics, electricity, engineering, French, English composition and literature and napped himself thoroughly he did not distinguish himself. Examinations, he confessed later, found him "usually at the bottom of the lists."

Land training over, he went aboard the 9,600-ton cruiser "Camberland" to find his sea legs in the usual six-month cruise. He learned to swing his own hammock and had his first glimpse of the outside world. The cruise was to the Cape Verde Islands, St. Lucia, Trinidad, Barbados, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Rio de Janeiro, Bermuda, Canada and Newfoundland.

CROWDS CHEER NEW KING AND QUEEN

Look Forward to Happy Reign. King Edward Will Complete Last Official Act Today.

(By George Hambleton) (Canadian Press Staff Writer) (C. F. Cable, By Guardian's Special Wire)

LONDON, Dec. 10.—In the quiet of Fort Belvedere tomorrow night, Edward VIII will give Royal assent to the act of abdication. It will be his last official act. He then automatically will cease to be King. The reign of his successor will begin.

On Saturday morning the Accession Council will meet at St. James's Palace. The same afternoon, the Duke of York—under the title, it is expected, of George VI—will be proclaimed King. It is assumed his consort will be known as Queen Elizabeth. It is understood the date, namely May 12.

The act of abdication so far has metely received first reading in the House of Commons. Tomorrow it will have to pass all stages both in the Commons and in the House of Lords.

James Maxton, leader of a small group of Clydeside left-wingers has given notice that on second reading in the Commons he will move, in amendment, that this House "declines to give second reading to the bill which has been necessitated by circumstances which show clearly the danger to the country and to the British Commonwealth of Nations inherent in hereditary monarchy at a time when the peace and prosperity of the people require a more stable and efficient form of government of the republican kind, in closer contact with, and more responsive to the will of the majority of the people."

If Maxton's republican movement is pushed to a division, there is no doubt it will be heavily defeated.

At first almost stunned by the bewildering succession of events, London already is looking eagerly forward to a happy reign of the new King and Queen. Tonight crowds gathered outside Buckingham Palace with great rapidity. By nine p. m. there must have been

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On his return he became a midshipman aboard the "Collingwood" where his shipmates called him "Mr. Johnston." Then came the War—but the Prince almost missed action.

A month after the War broke out he became ill and was rushed to land for an appendicitis operation. After convalescence he was sent for service in the Admiralty and it was not until early 1911 that he rejoined his ship.

Early in 1916 he was forced to go ashore again and served in the Admiralty but rejoined his ship in time to take part in the Battle of Jutland.

His baptism under fire came when the "Collingwood" started shelling German destroyers and the "Derfflinger." His station was in a fore turret and he carried out the routine so thoroughly that he even served up the usual cocoa to his turret mates.

For his work he was mentioned in Admiral Lord Jellicoe's dispatches and one of his mementoes of the occasion is the white ensign, "Collingwood," flew during the battle. He remembered the occasion when, preparing an evening snack in his home, he told his wife: "Let me make the cocoa. I know all about the job."

After Jutland the Prince spent a good deal of time aboard hospital ships. He suffered from extreme trouble and finally, after a period as acting-lieutenant aboard the battleship "Malaya," he went ashore and underwent an operation for duodenal ulcer. It marked the end of his naval service.

JOINED AIR FORCE

In February, 1918, he went to the Royal Naval air service station at Cranwell and was one of the first naval officers to be absorbed into the Royal Air Force when the naval arm and the Royal Flying Corps were combined. In October, 1918, he went to Nancy where he served on the staff of Sir (later Lord) Hugh Trenchard who became Commissioner of Metropolitan Police, London, 1931-35.

After the Armistice the Prince undertook his first official mission on behalf of his father, representing him at the spectacular entry of King Albert of the Belgians into Brussels. He did not return to England until February, 1919, and in the following July he won his pilot's wings.

Typical of his methodical way was his qualification in the final test. On the day fixed he rose early in order to have the usual over. But a high wind was blowing and he was strongly advised to postpone his attempt. With a matter-of-fact: "I can't have it hanging over my head," he went up and passed the test.

Shortly after King George V died Jan. 20, 1936, the Duke of York flew with his brother, King Edward, from Windsor to London. It was the first time a British King had been in the air and, of course, the first time a King and the heir to the throne flew together.