EMPIRE HONORS EDWARD ON FIRST BIRTHDAY AS KING

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Today Turns New Year For Imperial Courier, Now Bachelor Monarch

Democratic Youth, He Claimed Soldier's Part in War and Established Record as an Ambassador to Dominions

By THOMAS T. CHAMPION,
Canadian Press Staff Writer.

FORTY-TWO YEARS ago tonight a bulletin from White Lodge, Richmond, proclaiming the birth of the future King Edward VIII was flashed by the Duke of York to the Lord Mayor of London, and a minute later to the world at large.

23rd June, 1894.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of York gave birth to a son at 10 o'clock this evening.
Both mother and infant are doing well.
John Williams, M.D.
Frederick John Wadd, M.B.

In those days Queen Victoria, at 75 years of age, and even then a legendary figure, was ruling the Empire, and the Royal Household in particular.

Hopes Fulfilled.

"NEVER before in the history of this island," said The Times in its next issue, "has the reigning Sovereign seen three male descendants in the direct line of inheritance. Long and prosperous as her Majesty's reign has been it has now received what we may look upon as almost its final crown. Nothing now remains to complete its measure of happiness except indeed that it should go on—as we trust, indeed, it will—until it has outlasted the reign of any former Sovereign, and has thus added one more distinction to the long list by which it is already ennobled."

As we all know, the aspiration of The Times in regard to the length of her Majesty's reign was more than fulfilled, although the happiness of its final years was clouded, both for her Majesty and for her people, by the South African War. It was a melancholy coincidence, too, that in the same hour in which the future Prince of Wales and King of England was born, there also happened the assassination of the French President, Marie Francois Sadi Carnot, who was stabbed to death by an Italian anarchist after speaking at a public banquet at Lyons.

The Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, later to be Prime Minister at the opening of the Great War and still later to become the Earl of Oxford and Asquith, was Home Secretary, and as such was present at White Lodge, Richmond, when Edward VIII was born.

In his forty-two years King Edward has travelled more of the earth's surface, and studied at first-hand its inhabitants more closely than any monarch—possibly than any man—before him. As Prince of Wales, with millions of his generation, he shared the wrench of young lives dislocated by the Great War. With those who survived he has been nobly prominent in combating the despair and disillusion of the post-war years.

To take a glance of him in his very early childhood one may turn to the record of Lord Esher, who writes of a lively tea-party "when the kids were in high spirits, and Prince Edward as composed and clever as ever. He develops every day fresh qualities, and is a most charming boy: very erect, dignified and clever. His memory is remarkable." Lord Esher also comments on the look of melancholy in the Prince's eyes "which I cannot trace to any ancestor of the House of Hanover."

This, incidentally, may pass for a true appraisal of the countenance King Edward usually displays to the beholder. Tales of "the Prince's happy smile" are for the most part mythical. They seem to have had their origin in a snapshot taken of the then Prince of Wales when he first visited Halifax, N.S. Certainly it was a very pleasant snap of the Prince enjoying some joke, and naturally proved very popular. All the same, both as Prince of Wales and as King, the Royal face is certainly not puckered up perpetually in merriment.

Accepted No Privileges.

"It was the very devil," was the summary King Edward once made of his early training. At the Royal Naval College at Osborne he endured the discipline in equal measure with the most inconspicuous of his fellows, but his station denied him many of their delights. At Oxford a marked departure was made from the routine which had been followed by his grandfather, King Edward VII, when he was at the university. The elder Edward during his university life, had special apartments and a special design in caps and gowns. His grandson was treated as an ordinary student. On his first night at Magdalen he dined in hall like any other undergraduate, and straightway began a life free from any privileges or ostentation. He tried most of the games in their season and probably made a better hand at them than his grandfather.

The academic achievements of grandsire and grandson were very likely about equal. Gladstone once said of Edward VII that he knew everything except what was in books; the same might be said of Edward VIII. But in the matter of social intercourse with men of their time at Oxford, both of the Royal Edwards harvested an immense fund of experience. With his present Majesty, as it had been with Edward VII, it was one thing to come up to Oxford intending to live the life of an ordinary undergraduate; it was another thing to get fellow students to respect that intention.

King Edward's army career began as a private in the Oxford University Training Corps. A week after the outbreak of the Great War he joined the 1st Battalion of the Grenadier Guards at Warley as a Second Lieutenant. The story has often been told, and with perfect truth, of how he wished to go to the front straight away. It was by no means an uncommon aspiration with most youths, who, like the Prince, were putting on the King's uniform in earnest in 1914. Lord Kitchener, as Minister of War, put his absolute veto on the idea. When the Prince argued that he was one of five sons and that the succession was therefore perfectly safe, Lord Kitchener's reply was, "If I were certain you would be shot I don't know if I should be right to restrain you. What I cannot permit is the chance, which exists until we have a settled line, of the enemy securing you as a prisoner. You have a lot to learn about soldiering yet. When you have learnt a bit more you may, perhaps, then go to France."

Served on Staff.

Some time later a compromise was effected, and the Prince went as aide-de-camp to Sir John French at G.H.Q. In the course of the War the Prince was awarded the Military Cross. It would be over-painting the picture to assert that there was anything notable in his war service, but it is obvious it afforded him a tragically unrivalled opportunity of surveying at close quarters the different types and temperament of his future subjects, drawn from all over the earth's surface.

Queen Keeps Busy In Public Affairs

QUEEN MARY has naturally withdrawn herself from state and high social functions since her widowhood. Nevertheless she has continued to manifest a lively interest in matters of moment to the nation at large.

Her Majesty, who celebrated her 69th birthday May 26, remains in residence at Buckingham Palace, but later in the summer will remove to Marlborough House, where King George and herself resided as Prince and Princess of Wales.

One of the most interesting of the Queen's recent engagements was her visit, last month, in company with the King and other members of the Royal family, to the great new liner bearing her name, then lying in Southampton Water. The Queen launched the liner and gave the vessel her name at Clydebank in 1934.

During the month of May her Majesty paid a surprise visit to the Chelsea Flower Show. Wearing a gown of black relieved with white at the neck, her visit took place while workmen were still busy assembling the blooms. In previous years the Queen, who is very fond of gardens and flowers, always visited the show with King George after the official opening.

E. F. Benson, one of the most competent historians of the present era, writing recently of Queen Mary, said: "She became to her people the emblem of a noble life, perfect in queenliness and simplicity. Throughout these years there were troubles in plenty; no millenium succeeded the war, strikes and internal crises abounded, and during the winter of 1928 the King for many weeks lay desperately ill, but her faith and her reliance on the will of God never faltered. And more than a year ago there came to him and to her the crown of their incessant labors. . . . The memory of it is with her still, and the loving sympathy of England sustains her."

QUEEN MARY.

Next in Line

THE DUKE OF YORK.

PRINCESS ELIZABETH.

Even in England the Prince's personality at close quarters was known but little to the people at large until after the War. He had taken his seat at a Member of the House of Lords while on leave from the Front.

It was on July 1, 1919, that the Prince of Wales established himself at York House, St. James's Palace, where his father and mother had begun their married life. At a Canadian Club dinner in London a few weeks before he had announced his intention of very soon paying the Dominion a visit. Those who were present at the dinner included the Duke of Connaught, who presided, the late Lord Byng and Lieut.-General Sir Arthur Currie, Lieut.-General Sir Richard Turner, V.C., Major-General Sir Henry Burstall, and Sir George Perley.

Speaking of his forthcoming visit at a later function the Prince remarked, "Travelling and visiting new countries opens one's mind, and I feel that it is a special advantage for me to visit the great Dominion so soon after the victorious conclusion of the greatest struggle in which the British Empire has even been engaged, and in which all our Dominions have played so large and magnificent a part."

Honored on Return.

The story of the future King's five months in the Dominion and the United States in 1919 is a chapter, or rather a volume, to itself. On returning home he received an address on congratulation from the City Corporation at the Guildhall. "I mean to travel throughout the Empire as much as I possibly can," declared the Prince in reply.

It is not so much what you learn about the world that is valuable, but what you learn about your own country. I am not sure that what I have learnt about Great Britain from the outside is not the most valuable thing of the last four months. This time six years ago there was a widespread feeling, not confined to foreign countries, that Great Britain was played out. The War has entirely put an end to that idea. Splendidly as all parts of the Empire did, the Dominions are the first to recognize that it was Great Britain that bore the heaviest burdens throughout, and that it has been Great Britain that has made the greatest sacrifices.

The Prince, however, had something to add more particularly for the ears of Great Britain herself.

People in the Old Country must realize that the patriotism of the Dominions is national patriotism and not mere loyalty to Great Britain. It is loyalty to their own British institutions; it is loyalty to the world-wide British system of life and Government, and it is, above all, loyalty to the British Empire, of which Great Britain, like the Dominions, is only one part.

In the following year an even larger tour followed, comprising the West Indies, New Zealand and Australia. Once again the City of London gave him its ceremonious but most cordial welcome home. The Prince's most significant sentences in reply were not unlike the remarks he had uttered in regard to his Canadian visit. "You have to be away from the Old Country and see it from a distance to know that not only our sister British nations, but foreign nations too, are watching with intentness to see how it faces the grave social and economic problems which are the aftermath of the dislocation and unrest produced by the Great War. This can only be done by maintaining within the nation here at home the same spirit which links the nations of the Empire to us."

A visit to India was made in 1921-22, which for many reasons involved more difficulty in preparation and execution than any of his previous journeyings.

Yorks Win Their Way With Folk

Family Next in Line for Throne Finds Favor in Public Eye

IT WAS only natural that the Duke of York now the heir-presumptive, who celebrated his 40th birthday last December, should emerge into national popularity at a slower rate than his elder brother, now King Edward. Of late years, though, and especially since his marriage to one of the most charming daughters of Scotland, the Duke has come rapidly into the public ken.

Born at Sandringham.

THE Duke was born at York Cottage, Sandringham, Dec. 14, 1895, and received the names of Albert Frederick Arthur George. For the aged Queen Victoria in particular, whose reign had still five years to run, it was a melancholy coincidence that the baby was born on the anniversary of the death of the Queen's husband, the ever-lamented Prince Albert, known as the Prince Consort. Until the Dukedom was conferred upon him the Prince born in 1895 was also known as Prince Albert.

Prince Albert passed into the Naval College at Osborne, thence to Dartmouth. At 20 years of age he was gazetted midshipman on H.M.S. Collingwood. This vessel was in the 5th Division of the 1st Battle Squadron at Jutland. Captain James Ley, in his despatches concerning that great fight, bore laconic testimony of the behaviour of all ranks and ratings, and Prince Albert received a "mention." The Prince afterward served on H.M.S. Malaya. In 1918 he became full Lieutenant, but a serious illness compelled his withdrawal from the naval service. Later he entered the Royal Air Force.

Partly as a result of his studies at Cambridge, and partly through the wishes of King George and Queen Mary and their advisers, the Duke began to manifest an intense interest in a wide range of social subjects. From that time to the present his influence and activities, with those of the Duchess, have been directed toward furthering the civic welfare of the community.

His direct association with Canada has up to the moment been slight. He did get a glance at Halifax, however, in 1912, under what he has described as "the somewhat fettered conditions of the service discipline of a naval cadet." Following the armistice he visited General Currie at headquarters in Bonn. In April, 1922, he presided over the Canada Club dinner to the late Hon. Peter Larkin when he came here as High Commissioner. The Duke in recent years has also attended more than one of the banquets held here on Dominion Day.

It was in January, 1923, that the betrothal of the Duke of York to Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, youngest daughter of the Earl and Countess of Strathmore and Kinghorne, was announced.

The wedding took place at Westminster Abbey amidst every sign of general good-will on April 26, 1923. In 1926 Princess Elizabeth, "the fourth lady in the land," was born at the house in Bruton Street where the Duke and Duchess were living.

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 over three centuries.

42 Years Old Today

AP Photos.

His Majesty King Edward VIII.

Prince, 25, Saw Canada, Returned as Rancher

Intimate Story of First Visit Reveals Patience and Good Humor

Written for The Canadian Press
By FRANCIS ALDHAM.

NEARLY seventeen years before Edward VIII ascended the Throne a journalist in Nova Scotia wrote:

"This Edward of England began his reign in the year of Our Lord 1919, in his loyal Dominion of Canada . . ."

The Prince's Staff thought this was in very bad taste, but all Canada was echoing the sentiment before we were three months older. He came, this Edward of England, in all formality to fulfil a custom which had become an Empire tradition, namely that a Prince of Wales must visit the Dominions once in his tenure of office. At the beginning of the journey, he was Sterne's "Traveller of Inevitable Necessity, transported by the cruelty of guardians and under the direction of governors. . . ." He had scarce set foot in this Dominion when he became the pivot of interest in Canada and "at home," a full-fledged "sentimental traveller."

He bought a farm in Canada and came back again and yet again. He learned Canadian slang and Canadian dancing; he made scores and hundreds of Canadian friends. The history of his Canadian tours is written in the newspapers of the day and in the hearts of his Canadian people. In all the cities of Canada, and in more than half the towns, he needs no introduction, except to the very youthful.

"I have so many pleasant things to remember," he said in Halifax just before he sailed for home in 1919. These, at a guess, are some of them:

A corner of the Yacht Club in Halifax at the end of the first day of his visit there. He had been on parade for hours, listening to speeches and making them; reading telegrams; dispensing handshakes and mechanical smiles by the thousand; receiving salutes and achieving the exact gesture in response; remembering that a King's Viceroy takes precedence before him, but a Prime Minister does not; measuring his steps and guarding his speech, with a constant eye on "the Admiral" for hints on etiquette. It was all so new to him then, fresh as he was from home and school and training ship and officers' mess and the comforting punctilio of tradition.

It had been a rigorous day, and he had not begun to unbend when they reached the Yacht Club and he was asked to sign the Visitors' Book. With solemn face he sat down to comply. The pen stuck and sputtered.

"That's a hell of a pen," said a member near by. The ice was broken. The Prince looked up and his face was alight with a schoolboy grin, which was instantly mirrored in all the faces about him. Restraint dissolved in merriment; H.R.H. was at home.

Knew Old Friends.

In Saint John the Prince recognized a member of the Canadian Corps he had encountered at the front. He remembered because of a certain game of pitch and toss in which a two-headed penny was involved. In Montreal only one member of the Royal party was delighted when the boys from Laval leaped upon the running-board during the parade, doffed their berets, and said: "Comme ci comme ca?"

In Regina somebody stole his pants. It was at Government House, where the Prince spent a night. A horrified valet reported next morning that the "football britches" H.R.H. wore on early morning sprints were missing! "These Colonial servants . . ." said the valet.

In the dusk of a wet autumn day the Royal train was passing, in Saskatchewan, a marsh famous for duck. The Prince remarked that he should have liked so much to try his luck on that marsh.

The train was stopped, and a gun was found for him. "Is there anything in the world you haven't provided for me?" H.R.H. asked A. B. Calder of the C.P.R., chief seneschal of the palace on wheels which was the Royal train. Result: Four ducks were brought down in that uncertain light, and the Prince had begun his career as a hunter of really wild game.

In Alberta, at High River, he got his first taste of ranch life. The sequel everybody knows. At the ranch they "trimmed" him at poker, but could not match his skill in bridge.

When it came to issuing invitations for the luncheon the Prince gave in Winnipeg, H.R.H. thought the cards should bear the words: "Lounge Suits." Men were attending from every part of Canada, and why should they burden themselves with morning clothes? The words "Informal Dress" conveyed nothing, said the Prince—"and I'm going to wear my old grey suit."

The Admiral thought lounge suits "infra dig," but H.R.H. had his way, after considerable argument. They say that invitation was the first document the future King had ever dictated for himself.

Three months of it did not make him blase. It was the little things that evoked the swift light in his eye, the happy grin upon his face.

Veterans Recall King As Officer in France

By CAPT. W. W. MURRAY, M.C.,
Canadian Press Staff Writer.

UNLIKE the many princelings of the German States, King Edward occupied no exalted post of military leadership when, as Prince of Wales, he served in France and Belgium during the war. His career began in the Grenadier Guards, the Prince holding the rank of Second Lieutenant and performing the functions of platoon commander. Later on he was appointed to the staff, awarded the Military Cross, and wound up his war service with the rank of Major.

Canadians remember him first as a slim boy of 20 trudging sturdily along the road from Poperinghe to Ypres at the head of his stalwart platoon. Many orders had already been conferred on him by virtue of Royal birth, and he was always conspicuous by his rows of ribbons.

The story is told of an encounter between the Prince and a Canadian officer "somewhere" in the Ypres Salient in the spring of 1915. The Canadian, unaware of the identity of the junior subaltern, and somewhat interested in the decorations of his Royal Highness, asked:

"Hey, kid—where'd you get all these 'gongs'?"

Without embarrassment, the Prince shot back the ancient and inevitable response:

"I got them in the rations."

The Prince of Wales joined the Canadian Corps as a Major on the General Staff in 1917, succeeding Prince Arthur of Connaught. From then on his associations with the Corps were extremely intimate. Appreciating the value of his presence among the men, the Prince was diligent in his visits to battalions and batteries. Nor were these carried out with any of the trappings of royalty. As a General Staff officer he took his job seriously.

He continued with the Canadian Corps until the end of the war, and, as was natural, frequently had to perform the dual roles of combatant officer and Prince of the Royal House.

In Valenciennes, November, 1918, the citizens arranged for him a welcome befitting his station; and in the Grande Place they had erected a platform on which sat a bevy of beautiful young ladies. One of them had been assigned to the duty of presenting his Royal Highness with a bouquet of flowers.

Arrayed in front of the platform was a Guard of Honor drawn from a 4th Canadian Division battalion.

Some minutes elapsed before the Prince put in his appearance; but in that few minutes something happened. In some way a goat had strayed loose and was wandering through the crowd. It made straight for the platform, and unerringly selected the young lady holding the bouquet. Finding flowers suited to its taste, the goat began nibbling, until nearly half of the blossoms had disappeared—and this in front of a soldiery completely convulsed with laughter, but unable to do anything about it. When the Prince appeared, the remnant of the goat's breakfast was solemnly presented to him.

As Prince of Wales, serving on the staff of the Canadian Corps, his Majesty enjoyed the greatest popularity. He was a "mixer," a good officer, and withal, a Prince.

Beloved as Prince For Personal Touch With Common People

Edward's Speeches Impressed England on Housing Problem; His Activities Resulted in Bringing About Better Conditions

By THOMAS T. CHAMPION,
Canadian Press Staff Writer.

AS EXEMPLIFYING the relation of the King to the people of the United Kingdom, it is instructive to note the character of the comments in the House of Commons in the discussion a few weeks ago on the Civil List and the Select Committee's recommendations concerning his Majesty's financial requirements.

The sole amendment offered from the Labor opposition benches to the committee's proposals was that the revenues of the Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster should be surrendered in return for a lump sum—little more than a matter of bookkeeping, in fact.

"We have in our present King a man who has more direct and intimate associations with our common people than any Monarch since the days of Charles II," declared Pethick Lawrence, formerly Financial Secretary in the Labor Government.

Workers Want Monarchy.

SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS, former Labor Solicitor-General, offered nothing in criticism of the monarchy, but spoke against what he called "the standard of lavishness and luxury imposed on the Royal family by the traditional demands of our aristocratic society."

In an editorial the next day The Daily Herald, which represents left wing opinion, said: "Recent events have made it plain to the most limited intelligence that the people, and not least the ordinary workers do want to retain the Crown. Opposition to the Civil List does no more than start an unpopular republican hare, distracting attention and alienating sympathy from the popular causes which really matter."

Sir Archibald Sinclair, Liberal Leader, pronounced it in the public interest that a sovereign should be encouraged to take a personal interest in the management of great estates.

Sir Archibald might have pointed to the interest which the present King has always exhibited in the property of the Duchy of Cornwall. A substantial part of the Duchy revenue comes from property in the Kennington area of London, less than a mile across the river from the Houses of Parliament. Years ago this was an area of upper middle-class houses. In the course of time, with the migration of the earlier population, these houses degenerated into tenements for three, four or even more families. Most of them came to have a seedy, out-at-elbows, seen-better-days aspect.

This has all been altered. Great blocks of flats have arisen in place of this worn-out wilderness of decayed gentility, and King Edward has been constant in personal supervision of the establishment of such a better order of things. In speeches to the country at large upon the housing question he has voiced his indignation at the conditions under which so many pass their daily existence, and his influence has undoubtedly been a powerful lever towards public opinion registering this as one of the most vital matters of the moment.

In his tours of the distressed areas of England within the last few years the King has helped to rouse the nation to the shame of unemployment, and the very modesty and diffidence with which he has submitted his views of what he has seen have put new vigor and new faith into those who are trying to bring relief to the workless.

Here it may be mentioned that in public speech-making it took him some years to overcome a certain constitutional nervousness. In his earlier efforts he nearly always spoke from carefully prepared briefs, but there have been occasions of moment when in the preliminary proceedings he could be observed diligently preparing notes for the remarks he was to make only a few minutes later.

Of the additional burden of duty which has fallen to King Edward since his accession, it is too early yet to speak at length. The King is still inhabiting the comparatively small, but comfortable, quarters at York House, St. James's Palace. Business of State he conducts daily from Buckingham Palace, where Queen Mary continues to reside until Marlborough House is again ready for her.

Known to Empire.

The King has been patron of the airplane for many years. As Monarch of the Realm he made a striking departure when he travelled by plane from Sandringham to London to take the Oath of Accession to the Throne before the Privy Council on the day after King George's death. Another remarkable event occurred on the following day, when by means of the radio, the Accession of Edward VIII was heard by the people of the British Empire on every continent and every sea. In his first radio message, which was broadcast to the Empire on March 1, the King uttered the following words:

I am better known to most of you as the Prince of Wales, the man who, during the war and since, has had the opportunity of getting to know nearly every country of the world under all conditions and circumstances. And, although I now speak to you as King, I am still the same man who has had that experience, and whose constant effort will be to promote the welfare of his fellowmen.

In the matter of social relations a vast difference is observable in the careers as Prince of Wales of Edward VII and of his grandson, the present King. The grandfather, from his early manhood until his death was renowned for being the best dressed man in Europe. If he went out in a new style of collar or tie, for instance, the young bloods of the town would be hunting Regent Street or Piccadilly for its like the next morning. It was said he never put on the same pair of gloves twice.

The present King has never betrayed the slightest inclination to follow his grandfather in such matters as these. He dresses neatly and quietly and there is no record that the tailors of Saville Row were ever called upon to follow any novel pattern of habiliment adopted by the present King.

Connaught, at 86, Has Active Life

EIGHTY-SIX years old last May Day, the Duke of Connaught, granduncle of the King, and Governor-General of Canada, 1911-16, possesses the bearing which many a man twenty years younger might envy.

Fondness for an active open-air life, an abundance of congenial duties, and a genial regard for his fellow men and women have almost obviously helped the Duke to reach so long a span and still take a pleasurable outlook on all that is going on about him.

Having forsaken his former custom of spending the colder months in the South of France, the Duke passed most of last winter at Bournemouth and Bath, and has now returned to London. He lives in his familiar quarters at Clarence House, St. James's Palace, fulfilling almost daily some duty either as a member of the Royal house or as senior Field-Marshal of the British Army.

In this last capacity the Duke on May 26 presented to his grand-nephew King Edward VIII the baton of Field-Marshal, his Majesty having assumed that rank on accession.

On his 86th birthday the Duke of Connaught was proclaimed Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons for the thirty-sixth time. In that capacity a few weeks ago he presented the King, who as Prince of Wales was Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, with an address.

When Rudyard Kipling died in January it came to light that the Duke of Connaught, then an army officer in India, had put Kipling, as a young man of 20, in the way of securing the impressions and material which set him on the road to fame. His "Departmental Ditties" and other works were written when the Duke arranged that Kipling go to the frontier with the troops.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

BIRTHDAY DATE CHANGED.

The accession of Edward VIII to the Throne changed the King's Birthday from June 3, the late King George's natal day, to June 23. The latter date is observed as a bank holiday in Canada, but, owing to its proximity to Dominion Day, is not a general holiday.