Prince Rupert Honors King at Jubilee

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THE DAILY NEWS

Northern British Columbia's Newspaper
Joins in helping to make the King's Silver Jubilee a big event

Reign of Quarter Century Has Been Full of Activity

(Continued from Page Two)

Old Order Changed

On Armistice Day in 1918, when the guns had ceased, an indefinable impulse took London myriads to the Palace.

"We want King George." That stentorian shout from thousands of throats was repeated again and again. It remains unforgettable. In the four years intervening many thrones had been swept away but the throne of Britain, "broad-based upon a people's will," stood more stabilized than ever in its thousand years' history.

Not First In Line

When he was 26 years old George, younger son of the Prince of Wales who was afterwards Edward VII, had little thought that he would ever be called to the sovereignity of this realm. Still less did he apprehend that he would hold the Crown of Great Britain aloft through the years in which crowns throughout the world were being thrown in the dust and their wearers banished or butchered by their subjects.

Prince George in 1892 had just been created Duke of York, a title which for some years had been reserved for a younger son of the British monarch. He was following the calling of the Royal Navy and which as a junior member of the Royal Family he anticipated following all his life. In that New Year of 1892 his elder brother the Duke of Clarence ,an officer in the Hussars, caught a chill while attending the funeral of his cousin Prince Victor. The chill proved fatal.

George saw, in the death of the Duke, the whole course of his own life relentlessly diverted. Clarence had been the idol of his mother Alexandra. Bowed with grief as they were, it was impossible for the Prince of Wales and Alexandra to undertake longer all those duties which had previously almost been demanded of them and a share fell to George, Duke of York. In any case George now stood in the direct line to the throne, distant though his accession might be, and consequently the genial days of his career as an officer in the Royal Navy were put behind him. With calm resignation to the decree of Providence and quiet application of his mind, George prepared himself for still higher duties and even more severe self-discipline.

At the time of his death the Duke of Clarence was engaged to his cousin Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, known for many years to the people as "Princess May" Twelve months later came the announcement of the betrothal of Princess Mary to the Duke of York.

Their Marriage

Prince George's marriage at the Chapel Royal, St. James Palace on July 6, 1893, was witnessed by Queen Victoria, by the Emperor who married Victoria's eldest daughter (Frederick III. of Germany who died in 1888) and was father of the last German Kaiser; and by the hapless monarch who was fated to go down in history as the last of the Czars.

Queen Victoria died in 1901 after a glorious reign of 64 years and Edward VII came to the throne. Another era opened. It is rather startling to turn back the pages of modern history to consider the method of conducting foreign politics in Edward's time compared with those of today. Nevertheless it is interesting to recall how, as Prince of Wales, George played a not unimportant part in assisting his father's efforts for the preservation of peace in Europe.

Ascended Throne

In matters of domestic politics the King without exception always acted with scrupulous correctness, invariably adopting the advice tendered him by the responsible ministers. His coronation had served to asuage only for the time being the bitter fight between the House of Lords and the House of Commons, but in this matter he followed the example of his father and was prepared to accept the Prime Minister's recommendation to create sufficient peers to insure passage of the Parliament Act.

Labor Government

King George was the first sovereign of the realm to be served by Labor ministers. There is testimony in plenty that he met Rt. Hon. Ramsay MacDonald, Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas and Rt. Hon. Philip Snowden (Prime Minister, Secretary for the Colonies and Chancellor of the Exchequer respectively) with the same frankness and belief in their desire to serve the common good as he in his own station also manifested. Never by so much as a hair's breadth did the King differ in his manner of receipt of advice from the Labor ministers as from those who had served him earlier. It has been truly said that in some ways the British Labor party is the most conservative of all.

George Lansbury, veteran antagonist of most established things, extolled the monarchy and Royal family generally.

Away from the cares of office and the restrictions of the court the King finds most pleasure in yachting and shooting. At least once a year he smells with relish the salt water, the love of his youth, when he takes a vigorous part at famous Cowes regatta, off the Isle of Wight, in manning his racing yacht, the old Britannia, built by his father, while Prince of Wales. As for shooting, there are few men of his own generation who can handle a sporting gun with more effect. The King is never happier than when spending a few days with friends of such long standing as the Duke of Devonshire or the Earl of Derby. For years it has been the King's invariable custom to accept the hospitality of the Duke at the opening of the shooting season, shooting grouse over the moors adjoining Bolton Abbey in Yorkshire. Like his father before him he often favors the Earl of Derby with a visit for the Grand National steeplechase meeting at Aintree, Liverpool, and with the Queen never misses attending the running of the Derby and the Oaks at Epsom.

It would be over-drawing the picture to assert however, that King George has the same fondness for the turf as King Edward had. The truth is probably he infinitely prefers riding a horse himself to watching the performances of a cluster of thoroughbreds. He had but little luck with his own racing establishment until 1928, when he won his first classic race with the filly Scuttle in the One Thousand Guineas at Newmarket. In that year also Scuttle finished second to Lord Derby's Toboggan in the Oaks. The season was the best His Majesty ever experienced on the turf, for he won six races with five horses, gaining $50,000 in stakes.

The King though has the keenest enthusiasm for riding himself. When at court in London he can be seen almost any fine morning accompanied by one or more of his sons enjoying a brisk canter in Hyde Park before breakfast. And at Windsor he is often up and in the saddle before his guests are astir.

Queen Mary

With King George, central figure in Silver Jubilee celebration.

OUTSTANDING LIFE EVENTS KING GEORGE

1865—Born in Marlborough House, London, second son of Edward, Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII.

1880—With his older brother, Prince Albert, made cruise to South America, South Africa, Fiji Islands, Australia, Japan, Ceylon, Egypt, Palestine and Greece, as midshipman.

1891—Appointed commander in Royal Navy and placed in command of H. M. S. Melampus.

1892—Became heir apparent to the throne on the death of Prince Albert.

1893—Married Princess Victoria Mary, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Teck.

1894—His first son, Albert Edward, present Prince of Wales, was born.

1901—Made tour of the dominions, opening first parliament of Commonwealth of Australia, visiting New Zealand, South Africa and Canada.

1901—Was proclaimed Prince of Wales, on accession of his father to throne as Edward VII.

1908—Visited Canada and attended Tercentenary Celebrations at Quebec city.

1910—Promoted to be Admiral of the Fleet, and Field-Marshal.

1910—Ascended the throne on the death of Edward VII.

1911—Coronation ceremony took place, followed by state visits to Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Further coronation ceremonies at Delhi, India.

1914—Issued proclamation for mobilization of British forces for war. During war made personal visits to battlefront each year and also to Grand Fleet.

1915—Injured when his horse, frightened by cheering, threw him when he visited troops at front.

1918—Addressed huge crowds outside Buckingham Palace when word of signing of Armistice was received; later participated in national Thanksgiving service.

1921—Visited Belfast and inaugurated first Parliament of Northern Ireland.

1923—With Queen Mary, visited Vatican and Quirinal Palace at Rome.

1924—Suffered from influenza; opened the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley.

1925—Suffered second and serious illness, opened Canada House.

1928—The King contracts chill at Armistice ceremonies; worldwide anxiety as illness becomes grave. Prince of Wales hurries home from Africa.

1929—Thanksgiving services throughout Empire for recovery of King.

1931—National ministry succeeds Labor, the King returns hurriedly from Scotland.

1935—Empire joins in honoring the King on his Jubilee.

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