

KING ABDICATING - - GEORGE VI ASCENDS

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then, for the first time since the beginning of August, in a position to look into things.

"There were two things which disgusted me at that moment. There was coming into my office a vast volume of correspondence mainly at that time from British subject, and American citizens of British origin in the United States all expressing perturbation and uneasiness on what was then appearing in the American press. I was aware also that there was in the near future a divorce case coming on, the results of which made me realize that, possibly, a difficult situation might arise later. I felt it was essential that some one should see His Majesty and warn him of the difficult situation that might arise later if occasion were given for continuation of this kind of gossip and criticism—that might come if this gossip and criticism spread from the other side of the Atlantic to this country. I thought in the circumstances that there was only one who could speak to him and talk the matter over with him and that man was the Prime Minister. I felt doubly bound to speak as it was my duty as I conceived it to the country and my duty to him not only as a counselor but as a friend.

"I consulted—I am ashamed to say it but they have forgiven me—none of my colleagues.

"I happened to be staying in the neighborhood of Fort Belvedere about the middle of October and ascertained that His Majesty was leaving his house on Sunday to entertain a small shooting party at Sandringham and that he was leaving Monday afternoon. I telephoned from my friend's house Sunday morning and found that he (the King) had left earlier than expected. In these circumstances I communicated with him through his secretary and stated that I desired to see him.

King Never Seemed Offended or Hurt

Premier Baldwin related how the interview was arranged for Tuesday, October 20, at Fort Belvedere. He added that, despite the necessity of telling His Majesty the truth as he saw it, "never has His Majesty shown any signs of offence or being hurt at anything I have said to him."

The Prime Minister continued to relate how he had told the King that he had two great anxieties—the effect of continuation of criticism proceeding from the American press on the Dominions, particularly in Canada where it was widespread in effect, as well as in this country. I reminded him of what I have often told him and his brothers in the year's past and that is this:

"The crown in this country through the centuries has been deprived of many of its prerogatives but today, while that is true, it stands for far more than it has ever done in its history."

Premier Baldwin added that, while the present day feeling for the crown had grown up in the last three generations, "it might not take so long, in the face of the kind of criticism to which it is being exposed, to lose that power far more rapidly than it was built up and, once lost, I doubt if anything could restore it."

"I told him," went on Mr. Baldwin, "that I had come naturally and wanted to talk it over with him as a friend. He said to me not once but many times during these many, many hours we have had together, especially towards the end: 'You and I must settle this matter together. I will not have any one interfering.'"

Mr. Baldwin pointed out to the King the danger of divorce proceedings and that period of suspense when everyone was talking would be dangerous. The Prime Minister added that one of the reasons the King wanted to take the present action quickly was that "there should not be sides taken and factions grow up in this country where no faction ever ought to exist."

Premier Baldwin next saw the King at Buckingham Palace November 10 and began by giving him his view on a possible marriage. "I told him that I did not think this particular marriage was one that would receive the approbation of

The Latest Picture of the Abdicated King

King Edward VIII, who renounced the throne today, is seen here wearing the uniform of an admiral of the fleet, pictured coming out of the conning tower hatch of the new submarine "Narwhal" after he had inspected its interior. The occasion was the review of the home fleet in Portland Harbor a couple of weeks ago.

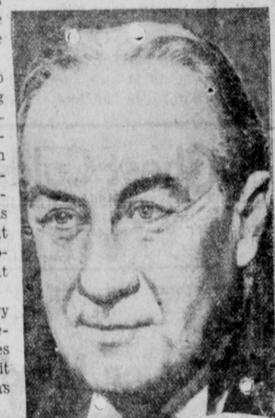


the country. The marriage would have involved a lady becoming Queen and I did tell His Majesty that I might be a remnant of the old Victorians but my worst enemy could not say this of me that I did not know what the reaction of the people would be to any particular course of action. I pointed out to him that the position of the King's wife was different from the position of the wife of any citizen of the country. It was part of the price a King had to pay. His wife became Queen and, in the choice, the people must be heard.

"Then His Majesty told me that he was going to tell me something he had wanted to tell me for a long time. He said: 'I am going to marry Mrs. Simpson and I am prepared to go.'

"I said: 'Sir, that is most griev-

Premier Baldwin



Who made dramatic and momentous announcement in Parliament today.

ous news and it is impossible for me to make any comment on it today."

"He told the Queen that night. He told the Duke of York and the Duke of Gloucester the next day and the Duke of Kent, who was then out of London, either Wednesday or Thursday. For the rest of the week, as far as I know, he was considering the point of morganatic marriage.

"On November 25 His Majesty sent for me again.

"Meantime a possible compromise had been suggested: that the King should marry and that Parliament should pass an act enabling the lady to be the King's wife without the position of Queen."

"In the last days from that date until now," continued Mr. Baldwin "that has been the struggle in which His Majesty has been engaged. We have had many talks discussing the aspects of this limited problem."

Proposition Of Morganatic Marriage

The King asked Mr. Baldwin if the proposition of a morganatic marriage had occurred to him. "I

said yes," Mr. Baldwin went on, "and he asked me what I thought of it. I told him I had given it no considered opinion but, if he asked me what was my first reaction, I would say that Parliament would never pass it. I said that, if he desired, I would examine it formally. He said he had no such desire.

Baldwin then asked the King if he wished the suggestion of a morganatic marriage put formally before the whole cabinet and communicated to the Prime Ministers of the Dominions. The King replied that he did.

The Prime Minister saw the King again on December 2 when his inquiries had gone far enough "to show me that neither in the Dominions nor here would there be any prospect of such legislation being accepted." He then told the King he was afraid the proposal was impracticable.

"His Majesty said he was not surprised at that answer. He took my answer without question and he never referred to it again. I want you to put yourselves in His Majesty's place and realize what his feelings are and know how glad he would have been had this been possible.

"There was no formal decision until I came to the history of yesterday but, when we finished that conversation, I pointed out that possible alternatives had been nullified and it had really brought him into a position where he could be placed in a grievous situation between two conflicting causes in his own heart—either complete abandonment of the project on which his heart was set or remaining as King. He intimated to me that he was prepared to go, later contracting the marriage if possible.

"The House must realize, and it is difficult to realize, that His Majesty is not a boy. He looks so young that we all thought of him as our Prince. But he is a mature man with a wide and great experience of life and the world. He has always had before him three motives which he repeated in the course of conversation at all hours and again and again—that, if he went, he would go with dignity, that he would not allow a situation to arise in which he could not do that, and that he wanted to go with as little disturbance to his ministers and people as possible."

Legalizing Abdication And New Ascent

Parliament will remain in session, it was indicated today, until all necessary steps are taken for the abdication of the one King and the making of another. Members of Parliament expect to take the new oath of allegiance on Monday.

The bill to make abdication law is ready now for introduction here and in the Dominions. A new dukedom will probably be established for the abdicated king.

Edward VIII, with his younger brother, the Duke of Kent, spent the last moments of his reign at Fort Belvedere. Just before Parli-

ment heard word of the King's abdication, the new King and the Duke of Gloucester had left Edward's side to motor in the direction of Windsor.

Queen Mary had gone to her second son's home in Piccadilly Circus while the House of Commons assembled. Yesterday she had been at Fort Belvedere with Edward. Moving of Edward's effects from Fort Belvedere was observed last

CANADA ACCEPTS KING'S ABDICATION

OTTAWA, Dec. 10.—The Dominion cabinet passed an order-in-council today accepting the abdication of King Edward VIII. The action will be presented to Parliament in January for ratification.

BUSINESS FOR PORT

Seattle Heads That Traffic Will Be Diverted From Vancouver To Prince Rupert

SEATTLE, Dec. 10: (CP)—Shipping men here predicted last night that many foreign ships now carrying cargoes from western United States points into Vancouver would be diverted to Prince Rupert because of growing congestion in Vancouver harbor.

Meanwhile no change appears in the longshore strike situation. The second government chartered ship Arctic, with relief supplies for Alaska, was to sail last night.

BIRTH NOTICE

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Cameron, nee Helen A. Sim, in Vancouver, B.C., Sunday, December 6.

night. Reports that he will go to Cannes to join Mrs. Simpson are persistent but, so far, without official confirmation.

NEW QUEEN AND DAUGHTER



Elizabeth, Duchess of York, and six-year old Princess Margaret Rose. Of charming personality, the new Queen has long since been taken to the hearts of the British people. She was born on August 4, 1900, and is a fitting successor to Victoria, Alexandra and Mary.

NO ALTERATION IN CORONATION

LONDON, Dec. 10: (CP)—It was unofficially stated today that there would be no alteration in coronation plans for May 12, the date already set.

HASTINGS IS TORY

No Change in Ontario By-Election Held Yesterday—Dr. Welsh Wins

MADOC, Ont., Dec. 10: (CP)—Hastings East, traditional Conservative stronghold, remained Conservative yesterday with a victory for Dr. Harold S. Welsh by a majority of about 1200 over Dr. H. A. Boyce, Liberal, in a bitterly fought by-election for the Ontario Legislature.

Card of Thanks

Mrs. John Wozney and son wish to thank all their good friends for their many kindnesses extended during the time of their recent bereavement and especially to those who sent flowers for the funeral.

Protect Your Hard-Earned Savings

THROUGHOUT Canada, life insurance policyholders and beneficiaries should realize the menace to their own and the national welfare that lies in extreme and unjust legislation.

These policyholders represent 50 per cent. of the electors—federal and provincial. Through the institution of life insurance, they have so pooled their resources that their collective interest can withstand attacks that would bring financial disaster to the individual.

Despite war, epidemic, panic and depression, life insurance has met every policy obligation promptly and in full.

Despite the financial disturbance of the past six years, it has distributed, and continues to distribute, to its policyholders and beneficiaries, over \$500,000 every working day.

Seventy-five per cent. of this money has been, and continues to be, paid to living policyholders; the balance to beneficiaries.

Life insurance is the greatest co-operative business in Canada. No one doubts its strength and stability. No one questions the prudent and intelligent direction of its affairs.

It is the guardian of the hard-earned savings of 3,500,000 men and women in all walks of life.

Today there are forces in Canada that menace the welfare of these people. These forces would penalize their savings and impair their investments through legislation which cancels public and private debts—regardless of the debtor's ability to pay—and which tends to destroy the ownership of public and private property.

The interests of life insurance policyholders and beneficiaries—as of all other citizens whose savings are invested in one form or another in Canada—demand that promises to pay be observed, when the debtor is able to pay; that hard-earned savings which safeguard the homes and families of the Dominion be protected from unjust legislation.

Life Insurance

Guardian of Canadian Homes

