

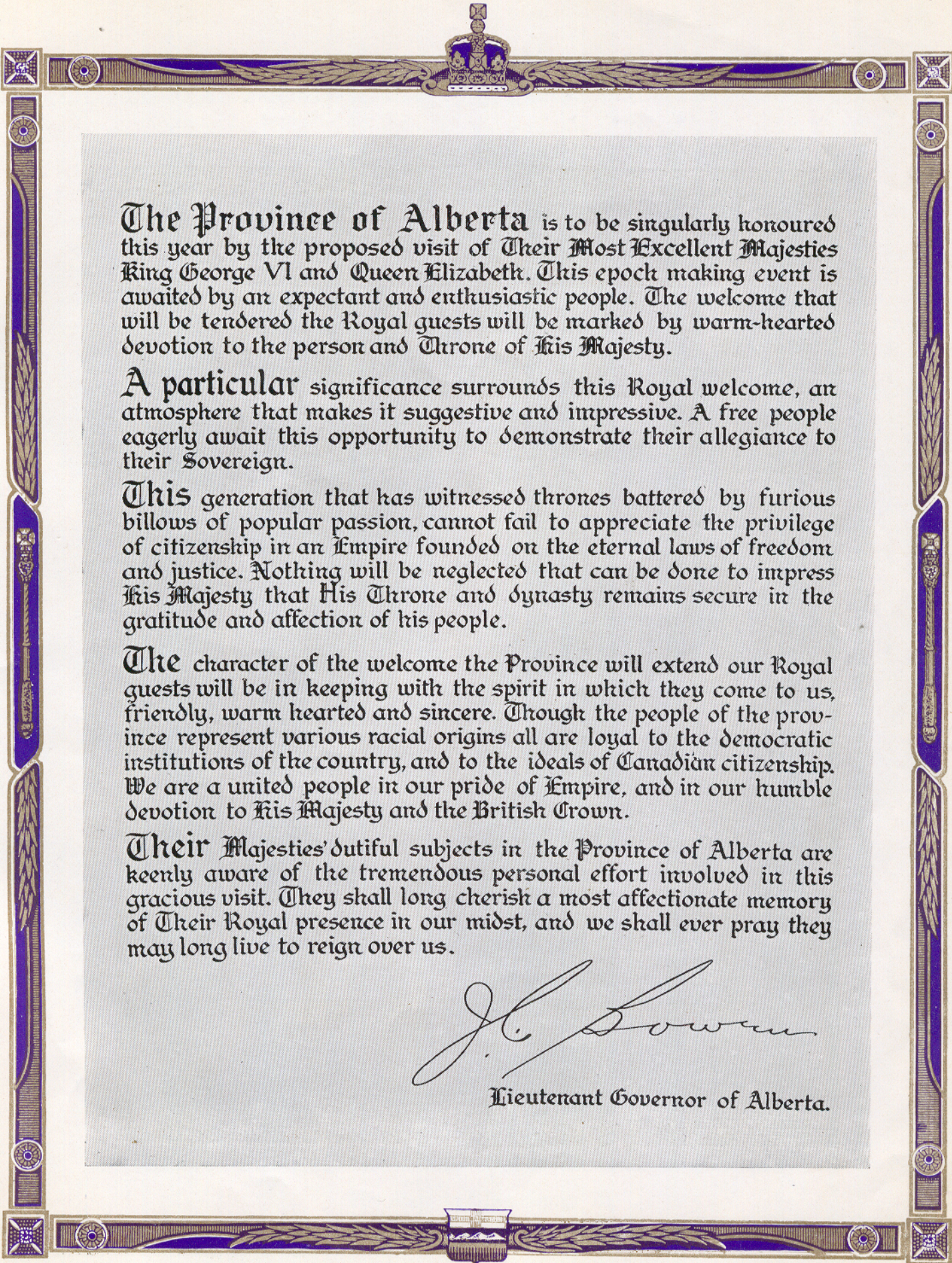


The Visit  
of  
Their Most Gracious Majesties  
**King George VI**  
and  
**Queen Elizabeth**  
To the Province of Alberta  
Edmonton  
June Second, 1939

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OFFICIAL SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

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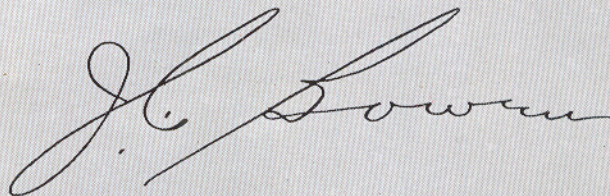
**The Province of Alberta** is to be singularly honoured this year by the proposed visit of Their Most Excellent Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. This epoch making event is awaited by an expectant and enthusiastic people. The welcome that will be tendered the Royal guests will be marked by warm-hearted devotion to the person and Throne of His Majesty.

A particular significance surrounds this Royal welcome, an atmosphere that makes it suggestive and impressive. A free people eagerly await this opportunity to demonstrate their allegiance to their Sovereign.

This generation that has witnessed thrones battered by furious billows of popular passion, cannot fail to appreciate the privilege of citizenship in an Empire founded on the eternal laws of freedom and justice. Nothing will be neglected that can be done to impress His Majesty that His Throne and dynasty remains secure in the gratitude and affection of his people.

The character of the welcome the Province will extend our Royal guests will be in keeping with the spirit in which they come to us, friendly, warm hearted and sincere. Though the people of the province represent various racial origins all are loyal to the democratic institutions of the country, and to the ideals of Canadian citizenship. We are a united people in our pride of Empire, and in our humble devotion to His Majesty and the British Crown.

Their Majesties' dutiful subjects in the Province of Alberta are keenly aware of the tremendous personal effort involved in this gracious visit. They shall long cherish a most affectionate memory of Their Royal presence in our midst, and we shall ever pray they may long live to reign over us.



Lieutenant Governor of Alberta.

# CANADA PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

## To The King's Most Excellent Majesty

May It Please Your Majesty:

**T**he Government of the Province of Alberta, on behalf of your loyal people, humbly pray that Your Majesty may be pleased to be assured of the sincere and enduring loyalty of the people of this Province to Your Royal Throne and to Your Most Excellent Person. Your devoted subjects of this Province desire respectfully to extend to Your Majesty and to Your Royal Consort a most cordial and enthusiastic welcome, upon this, the first occasion that a reigning British Sovereign has set foot upon the Continent of North America, and to express their deep appreciation of the solicitude and interest displayed by Your Majesties in the welfare and circumstances of your Canadian people, by journeying to this far-flung part of Your Majesty's Empire. Your dutiful people of Alberta, the youngest and most recently constituted Province of the Dominion, trust that, under the guidance of Providence, they may continue along

the path of social, economic and national progress, and so be able to make a worthwhile contribution to the good and welfare of the Provinces of Canada, and of the British Commonwealth, during your most excellent reign. We most heartily join with all your people in the Dominion of Canada in the hope that the visit of Your Majesties to your realm of Canada will prove most enjoyable, and may be attended with every circumstance which will render it both pleasing and of interest to you. We will ever pray for the health, happiness and welfare of Your Majesty and of the Royal Family.

Dated at the Legislative Buildings of the Province of Alberta, Edmonton, this second day of June, in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred and Thirty-nine, and in the Third year of Your Majesty's Reign

William Aberhart  
Premier





His Majesty King George VI

PHOTO: RUSSELL—LONDON



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth

PHOTO: DOROTHY WILDING---LONDON



Their Majesties and Their Royal Highnesses the Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret

PHOTO: MARCUS ADAMS---LONDON

## Historical Significance of the Royal Visit

**T**HE Coronation in May 1937 of George VI differed from that of all his long line of predecessors. He was crowned, as none of them had been, King not only of Great Britain and Ireland but also of "the British Dominions beyond the Seas". He became "King of the Dominion of Canada". And now, as King of Canada, he is making

a royal progress through the Dominion. For the first time in the history of Canada we welcome on our soil our reigning Sovereign. By his presence among us the Kingship becomes for the citizens of Canada a living reality. We welcome to the Dominion and to this Province and City OUR King and OUR Queen, and we pledge to the Throne our loyalty and homage.

# The Stability of the British Throne

**F**ROM the days of Cedric the Saxon to the present, our Royal Line has stood, a marvelous object lesson of national stability and a tribute to the abiding qualities of the British character.

David Lloyd George recently wrote: "When my school lessons first made me conscious of an external world of countries as great as our own, there were in Europe eight powerful monarchies—Great Britain, Russia, France, Prussia, Italy, Austria, Spain, and Turkey. There are only two of these now left—Great Britain and Italy.

"The sceptre in Russia is now wielded by the son of a Georgian cobbler in an environment of grim simplicity. The splendor of the dazzling court of the Romanoffs has completely disappeared.

"In Germany, a house painter, who shuns pomp in his immediate surroundings, has now been substituted for the glare and glory of the Hohenzollerns.

"In France, the brilliance of the Third Empire has been supplanted by the sombreness of the Third Republic.

"In Austria, the Hapsburg Empire has been broken into fragments.

"The oriental impressiveness of Stamboul is a thing of the past and the massive palaces of the Spanish monarchy have been converted into fortresses to defend the authority of a republic."

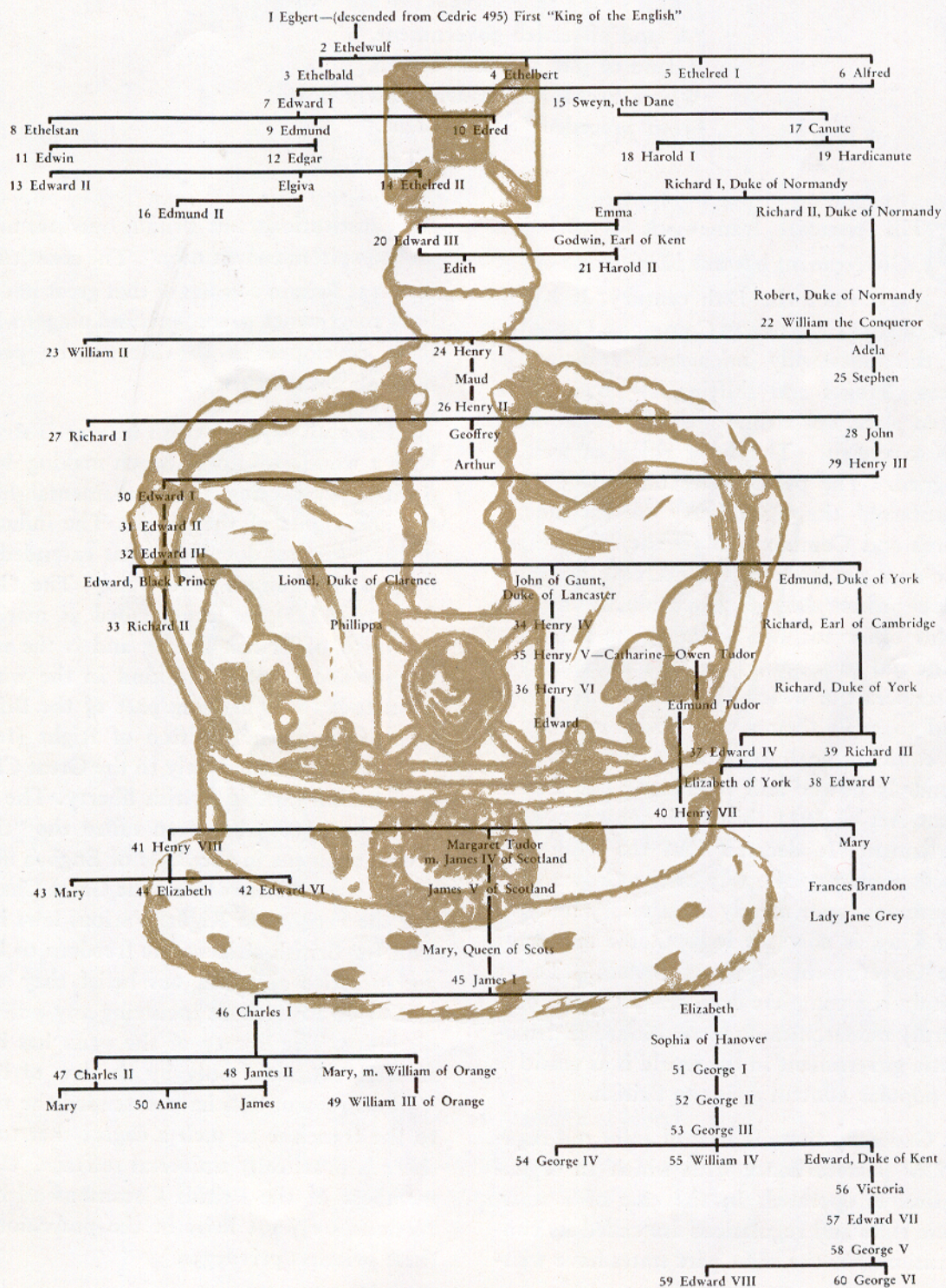
The British Throne in all its majesty remains steadfast, more deeply entrenched than ever in the minds and hearts of the British peoples. And for this, King George V and Queen Mary, the illustrious parents of our present King, are in a great degree responsible. The conspicuous integrity of their personal characters, their understanding conception of the functioning of the crown within the limits of constitutional practice, the "royalness" of their bearing in the presence of their people, their embodiment of the typical qualities of the British character won for them and the crown the real and lasting affection of their subjects everywhere.

## God Save Our King

God save our Gracious King,  
Long live our Noble King,  
God save our King.  
Send him victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Long to reign over us,  
God save our King.

Thy Choicest gifts in store,  
On him be pleased to pour.  
Long may he reign.  
May he defend our laws  
And ever give us cause  
To sing with heart and voice  
God save our King.

## Descent of the British Sovereigns from Egbert to George VI



# Britain, The Mother Country

"A land of settled government,  
A land of just and old renown,  
Where Freedom broadens slowly down  
From precedent to precedent."

—Tennyson.

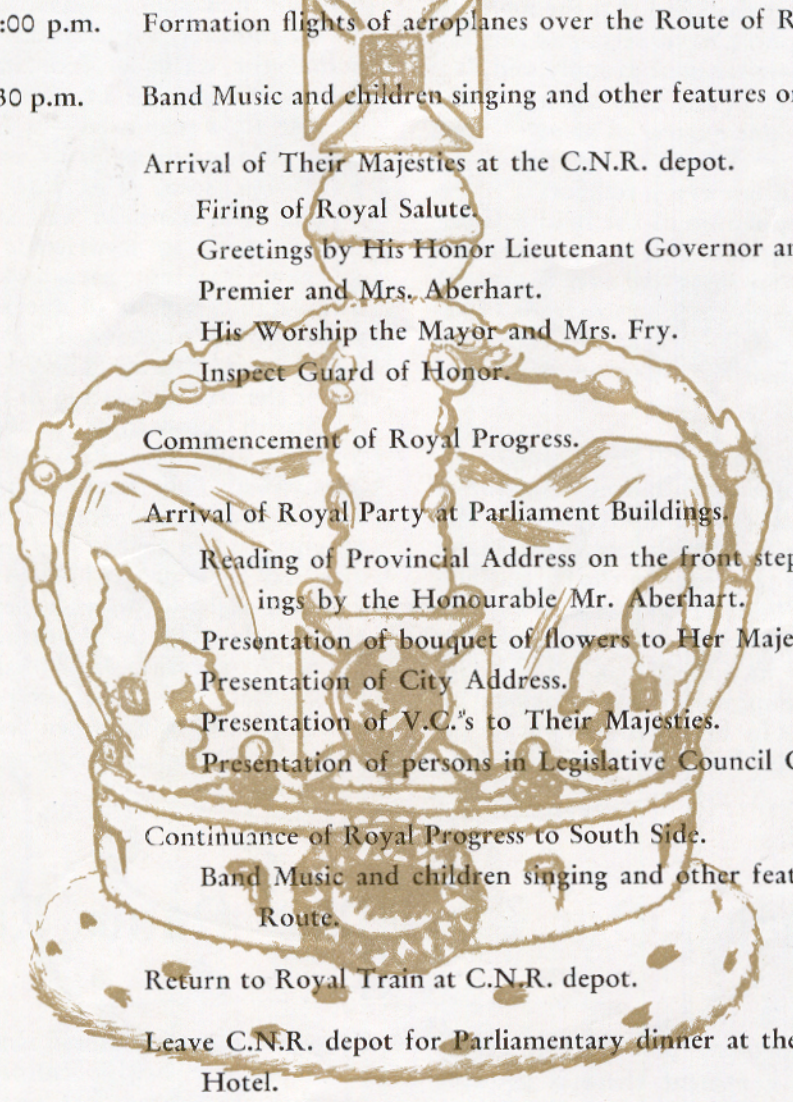
THE essential framework of Britain's Government has not altered, one might say, since the 17th century. It is still that of Kings, Lords and Commons. But within this outwardly unchanged framework, great changes and shifting of power have taken place. For a time authority rested with the sovereign. The King ruled as well as reigned. The peaceful Revolution of 1688 transferred the sovereignty to Parliament, Lords and Commons. Now the King reigns but does not govern. He exercises his executive power through his cabinet. But he holds office for life while Prime Ministers come and go and this gives him an experience in statecraft of which his ministers are always glad to avail themselves. Within the limits of constitutional practice he exercises tremendous power and influence. The Parliament Act of 1911 shifted the power within Parliament. It decreed that the House of Lords should go the way of the Crown. The Commons, once merely an advisory body to the King, is now the indisputable master of the Government of Great Britain. Today Britain is a complete democracy though outwardly monarchical in form. No other democratic government in the world is as sensitive to popular control as is the British.


Generally there is a set of rules and regulations in accordance with which an organization is operated. In the case of a state, these rules and regulations are called its constitution. For the most part states have writ-

ten constitutions, but Britain operates under an "unwritten constitution". The constitution of Great Britain consists of that great body of legal enactments, precedents and usages which have developed in the life of the people through the centuries.

The pathway of British history is strewn with a wonderful list of epoch making documents guaranteeing the fundamental liberties and rights of the people. The influence of these famous documents has extended far beyond the bounds of Britain. The Great Charter (1215) has been hailed as marking the birth of British liberty and is the most famous document of its kind in the world. Even today it is a living part of the British Constitution. The Petition of Right (1628) is regarded as second only to the Great Charter as a bulwark of British liberty. The Bill of Rights (1689) has been called the "third great document in the Bible of English liberties"; the two others being the Great Charter and the Petition of Right. Various laws have won for British citizens the freedom to hold and practice any religious belief they wish and to do so without incurring any political disability. The liberty of the press has been secured, restricted only by the law of libel. Various reform bills have extended the right to the franchise to such a degree that today there is practically universal suffrage. We as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations are joint heirs in the possession of these priceless privileges.

# The Royal Progress

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- 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Formation flights of aeroplanes over the Route of Royal Progress.
- 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Band Music and children singing and other features on line of Route.
- 3:30 p.m. Arrival of Their Majesties at the C.N.R. depot.  
Firing of Royal Salute.  
Greetings by His Honor Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Bowen.  
Premier and Mrs. Aberhart.  
His Worship the Mayor and Mrs. Fry.  
Inspect Guard of Honor.
- 3:40 p.m. Commencement of Royal Progress.
- 4:30 p.m. Arrival of Royal Party at Parliament Buildings.  
Reading of Provincial Address on the front steps of the Buildings by the Honourable Mr. Aberhart.  
Presentation of bouquet of flowers to Her Majesty.  
Presentation of City Address.  
Presentation of V.C.'s to Their Majesties.  
Presentation of persons in Legislative Council Chamber.
- 5:30 p.m. Continuance of Royal Progress to South Side.  
Band Music and children singing and other features on line of Route.
- 6:20 p.m. Return to Royal Train at C.N.R. depot.
- 7:45 p.m. Leave C.N.R. depot for Parliamentary dinner at the Macdonald Hotel.
- 8:00 p.m. Parliamentary dinner at Macdonald Hotel.  
Return to the Royal Train at the C.N.R. depot at approximately 10:00 p.m. There will be a Royal Salute on the departure of the train.
- 10:20 p.m. Fireworks display.



## The British Commonwealth of Nations

**I**F WE cast our eyes on the map of the world we shall find that the sun in its daily course, never sets upon Englishmen"; a British writer once proudly said. It is true. One quarter of the land surface of the globe containing one quarter of its population flies Britain's flag. Almost every race, every grade of civilization, every religion is represented in the population of the British Commonwealth of Nations. This vast region is not contiguous but "far flung" all over the world, and its various parts range in size from a continent like Australia to a rock like St. Helena; from lonely islands to densely populated India.

This "loosely hung" Empire with its parts separated by immense distances is unique in history. Unlike all other Empires, ancient and modern, it is neither unified nor centralized. How is it bound together? In theory the Sovereign and the Imperial Parliament in London are the rulers; but in actual practice there is great variety in government all the way from self-governing dominions to dependent crown colonies. In his introduction to the official Coronation Programme, John Drink-

water used these words: "By a series of constitutional changes culminating in the Statute of Westminster, the Overseas Dominions acquired the status of free and independent nations, answerable in nothing to the Parliament at Westminster—as fine an achievement of statesmanship as any the modern world has seen. This association of free peoples is, as has been well said; a league of nations, with an unwritten; yet inviolable covenant; making peace certain for a very considerable section of the world. The inviolability is proclaimed in a specific reference in the Statute, 'The Crown is the symbol of the free association of the members of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and—they are united by a common allegiance to the Crown'. They are noble words. That is a bond, a bond that operates in the King's sovereignty and in that alone. In their 'free association' these people look to one head, each with the right of direct appeal and through him proclaiming their brotherhood. It is a majestic conception and it has unique spiritual sanction in the world of politics. It is the best example yet shown of the binding strength of co-operative good will."



## Canada, Our Home and Native Land

**I**N THE northern part of this North American continent there is growing up a virile young state. As nations go, Canada is in its youth. Its institutions are rooted in the solid ground of British constitutional practice. It has inherited the whole body of British culture and the liberties and freedoms so dearly won. And in new environment, unfettered by the restrictions which hamper older civilizations, it is building up

its own distinctly national character. We are proud of our British connection and the priceless privileges it has bestowed upon us. We are proud too of the possibilities of our own national individuality and its greater freedom. As an autonomous member within the Empire, Canada is taking its place as one of the nations of the earth and making its influence felt in world affairs. In our loyalty to Canada, we are none-the-less loyal to the Empire.

Edmonton, Alberta,  
Canada 2nd June 1939.

**O**ur **H**eir **M**ajesties  
**K**ing **G**eorge VI and **Q**ueen **E**lizabeth

**O**ay it please Your **M**ajesties:

**O**n behalf of the citizens of The City of Edmonton we express to you our deep appreciation of the honour of your visit. We sincerely welcome you to our City, and trust that your brief stay with us will prove pleasant and enjoyable.

We pray for the health, happiness and welfare of your **G**racious **M**ajesties and of the members of your family, and cherish the hope that you may long remain our beloved **K**ing and **Q**ueen.

**P**ledging to you our unswerving loyalty  
affection and esteem

**Y**our most faithful and devoted servants

Edward Brown    Hugh Macarthur  
Geo. A. Campbell    W. B. McCall  
H. Casselman    J. H. Ogilvie  
D. A. Trout    Sidney Paterson  
Daniel M. Smith    Blair Pearson  
Aldermen

John W. Fry  
Mayor

Arthur Russell  
City Clerk

## The Royal Coat of Arms

**T**HE LION rampant of the Royal Coat of Arms appears first in England in 1189, when it was used by Richard the First. Nine years later it is found in the form in which it has ever since been displayed in the Royal Arms. The form of the supporters on each side of the Arms has varied very much. From the days of Henry

the Fourth to Elizabeth, different heraldic animals were used, as, for example, harts, leopards, antelopes, bulls, greyhounds, boars, and dragons. When James the First of England and Sixth of Scotland, came to the throne of England, he "brought the Scottish unicorn to face the English lion", and these two have faced each other across the shield ever since.

### Heraldic Description of the Royal Arms

THE ARMS are divided quarterly. The first and fourth quarters Gules (red), three lions passant and guardant (for England). The second quarter Or (gold), a lion rampant within a tressure flory counterflory (for Scotland). The tressure flory, etc., is the heraldic description of the decorated margin of this

quarter. The third quarter, Azure, a harp Or (gold) (for Ireland).

SUPPORTERS, dexter, a lion; sinister, a unicorn.

CREST, a helm affronted (i.e., full-face), of gold.

### Arms of the Province of Alberta

Upper part a red cross on silver (the cross of St. George); beneath, blue sky, silver

mountains, green field with golden wheat sheaves (or ears).

## L'Envoi

**T**HE few hours spent by the King and Queen in Edmonton will be long remembered. Their presence here makes us feel profoundly that we are indeed part of the great Commonwealth of Nations which we call the British Empire. Many of the people of Canada, especially those of the West, have come from other lands to make their homes here. But whether they were born in

Canada, or have come from Great Britain or Ireland or the United States or other countries of the world, their differences of origin and tradition are today transcended by a common feeling of loyalty and devotion to King George and Queen Elizabeth, the gracious and living symbols of the Empire's unity. Such feelings "are ties which, though light as air, are as strong as links of iron".



# Map Showing Route of Royal Progress at Edmonton, Alberta, June 2nd 1939

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 WITHIN REASONABLE DISTANCE EACH SIDE.

AUTO CAMPS - SOUTH SIDE ATHLETIC PARK.  
 VICTORIA PARK.  
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INFORMATION BOOTHS - LOCATED AT MAIN HIGHWAY  
 ENTRANCES TO CITY.

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 COOKING LAKE RD. N<sup>o</sup> 14  
 CLOVER BAR RD. N<sup>o</sup> 15  
 STONY PLAIN RD. N<sup>o</sup> 16  
 ST. ALBERT TRAIL N<sup>o</sup> 1

