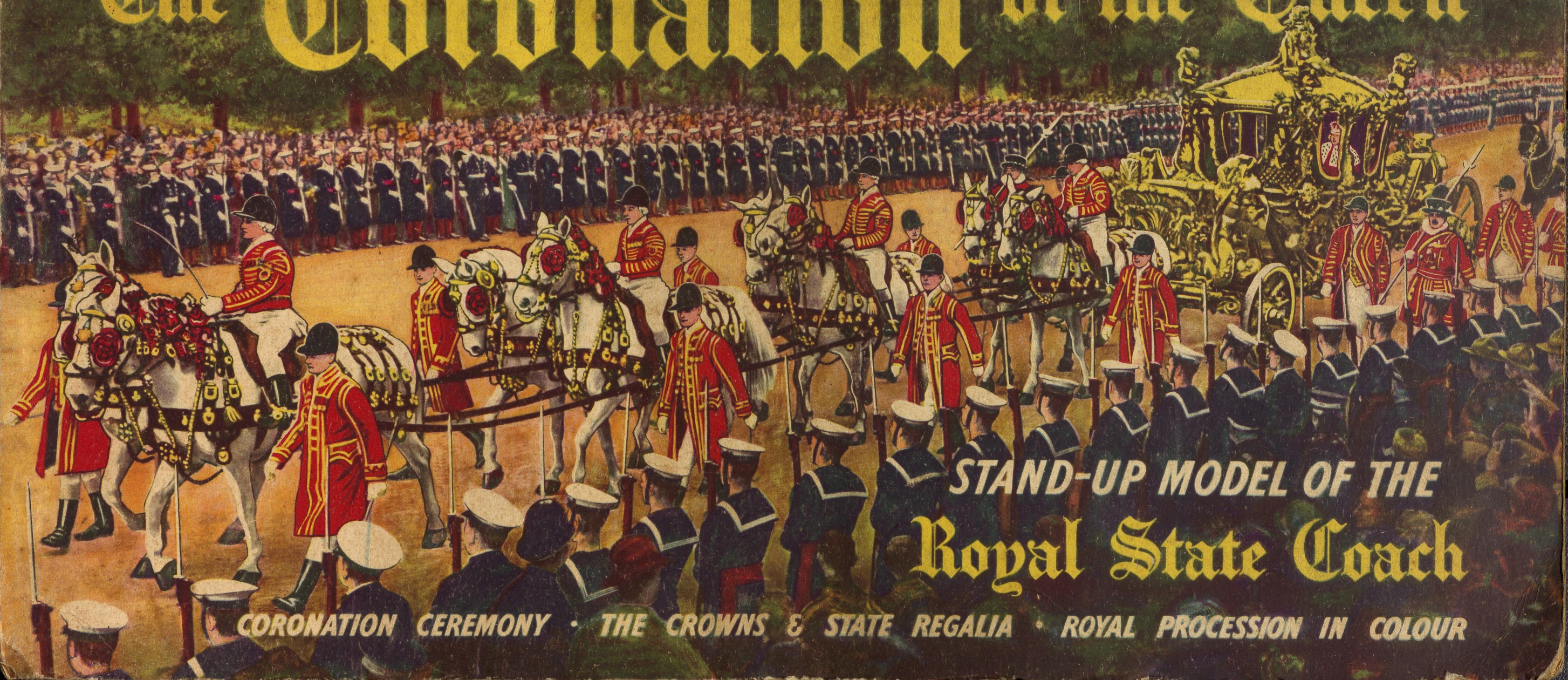


The Coronation of the Queen



**STAND-UP MODEL OF THE
Royal State Coach**

CORONATION CEREMONY • THE CROWNS & STATE REGALIA • ROYAL PROCESSION IN COLOUR

ON 2nd June 1953 Queen Elizabeth the Second will be crowned in Westminster Abbey in the presence of some seven thousand of her subjects. High officers of Church and State, peers and peeresses of the realm, representatives of the Commonwealth, Ministers of the Crown, Members of Parliament and leading citizens will witness what is the most ancient of all state ceremonials in Britain—a Royal Coronation. While there are many people who can remember the crowning of three Kings—Edward VII, George V and George VI—there is no one alive today who has ever seen the Coronation of a British Queen. The last Queen to be crowned was Victoria in 1838.

Elizabeth the Second succeeded to the throne immediately on the death of her father, King George VI, on 6th February 1952. She was Queen from that moment—Queen in name and in authority, fulfilling all the duties of the Throne. Two days later she was proclaimed with traditional ceremonial processions throughout this country and the Commonwealth. But though she reigned from her accession she was an uncrowned Queen. On 2nd June 1953 she will be crowned and will take the solemn oath to maintain the laws and customs of her realm, execute Justice and Mercy and defend the Church.

Coronations of the Past

Earliest Coronation records date back to the eighth century. Since 1066 English Sovereigns have always been crowned at Westminster, in the Abbey built by Edward the Confessor and later added to and altered by Henry III. In more distant times there was no fixed place and there have been Coronations in the Cathedral cities of Winchester and Gloucester, and the Royal borough of Kingston in the county of Surrey. The Scottish Kings were crowned at the Abbey of Scone in Scotland, where the famous "Stone of Destiny" (Scone Stone), now in Westminster Abbey, rested until 1296, when Edward I brought it to London after defeating Baliol of Scotland at Dunbar. This Stone, which is a block of rough sandstone weighing over 400 lbs., and more than one thousand one hundred years old, is part of the Coronation Chair on which the Queen will sit to be crowned. Edward I ordered the Coronation Chair to be made specially to hold it. Here it remained until 1950, when it was unlawfully removed by Scottish Nationalists. It has now been recovered and is back in its place in the Coronation Chair.

Preparations for the Coronation take more than a year to complete. So much has to be done. There is the planning of the route the procession will take to and from the Abbey; the selection of privileged people to be invited to the Coronation; the sending of invitations to those guests, who will include foreign royalty, people of importance



overseas, members of the Government and friends, relations and servants of the Royal Family. There are arrangements to be made for welcoming overseas visitors when they arrive, and for finding them accommodation in London during their stay. There is also the seating in the Abbey, the stands to be erected along the route, flags and bunting made ready for decorating the streets and buildings. These are just a few of the numerous tasks that have to be dealt with. The Coronation plans are the responsibility of the Duke of Norfolk. To his family belongs the hereditary office of Earl Marshal, the chief ceremonial officer of the Realm. The present Duke has had the honour of planning the Coronations of two monarchs, for he was Earl Marshal when George VI ascended the Throne, and his previous experience will help him with this Coronation. The Abbey ceremony, designed for a King, will have to be varied for the Queen, but it will lose nothing of its splendour. For instance, the Queen will not buckle on the Jewelled Sword as has been customary, and the Golden Spurs, the Symbol of Knightly Chivalry at one time worn by Kings during the ceremony, will be only touched by her.

Our Young Queen

Queen Elizabeth II will be twenty-seven years old when she is crowned—a young Queen with a young family. She is the second Elizabeth and the sixth Queen to be crowned. Queen Elizabeth I succeeded at twenty-five and never married. Queen Victoria at her Coronation was only nineteen and did not marry until two years later. In the first Elizabethan era Britain prospered. Now it is the hope of all that a second Elizabethan era of progress and happiness has begun with the Throne and the people more closely tied than ever before.

On the morning of 2nd June processions will be heading for Westminster Abbey from the City of London, whence comes the Lord Mayor; from the Houses of Parliament, from which the Speaker will drive the few hundred yards in his State Coach; and from Buckingham Palace, the starting point of numerous royalties and foreign representatives. The hundreds of thousands of loyal citizens lining the route to the Abbey will be waiting to see the Queen in her golden Royal Coach of State which was built for George III nearly two hundred years ago. It is made of elaborately carved oak, heavily gilded, and weighs over four tons. This coach will be drawn by eight Windsor grey horses, four of which are ridden by gold-braided postillions, and accompanied by a Sovereign's Escort of Life Guards in their scarlet tunics and glittering breastplates and helmets with plumes of white spun whalebone.

On arrival at the Abbey the Queen will step from her coach and be received by the Earl Marshal. At the same time a Royal Salute will be fired in St. James's Park.

The Royal Crowns

THERE are two Crowns used at the Coronation Ceremony, one is St. Edward's Crown, known also as the Crown of England, and the other is the Imperial State Crown.

St. Edward's Crown was made for Charles II, who ordered that it should be a copy of the ancient Crown of Edward the Confessor which was destroyed by Oliver Cromwell. This Crown is used for the actual ceremony of crowning at the Coronation and it is the only time during the whole of the Sovereign's reign that it is worn.

The Crown weighs nearly seven pounds. It is made of gold, studded with diamonds, rubies, emeralds, sapphires and pearls. Under the gold and jewelled frame is a crimson velvet cap trimmed with ermine and miniver. It is separate from the Crown and is known as the Cap of Maintenance, or Cap of Estate. This Cap is worn by the Sovereign during the Coronation ceremony before being anointed or crowned.

The Imperial State Crown, although it does not play so important a part in the ceremonial life of the Sovereign, is much more valuable than the St. Edward's Crown. Many jewels have been added to it by successive Kings and Queens of England until now it is said to be worth over half a million pounds. It weighs thirty-nine ounces and contains 2,783 diamonds, 277 pearls, 18 sapphires, 11 emeralds and 5 rubies. Most magnificent of all is the Black Prince's Ruby, given to him by a Spanish King, Don Pedro, in 1368. Nearly fifty years later it was worn by Henry V at the Battle of Agincourt. During the Commonwealth period the ruby was sold by order of Oliver Cromwell for £4. It is now incorporated in the centre of the present State Crown which was made for the Coronation of Queen Victoria.

The Crown also contains the beautiful Stuart Sapphire, which is almost as big as the Black Prince's Ruby. There is as well a sapphire from Edward the Confessor's Coronation Ring used at his crowning in 1042. Edward VII added a diamond called the Second Star of Africa, which was cut from the famous Cullinan diamond presented to him by the people of the Transvaal. The remainder of the diamond was incorporated in the head of the Royal Sceptre. Four large pearls believed to have been the ear-rings of Queen Elizabeth were added by him at the same time.

Because it is so much lighter, the Imperial State Crown is exchanged for St. Edward's Crown after the crowning ceremony at the Coronation and is used by the Sovereign on all State occasions.



St. Edward's Crown



Imperial State Crown



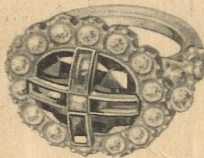
The Archbishop of Canterbury, who performs the actual crowning at the ceremony. He is responsible for the whole of the service.



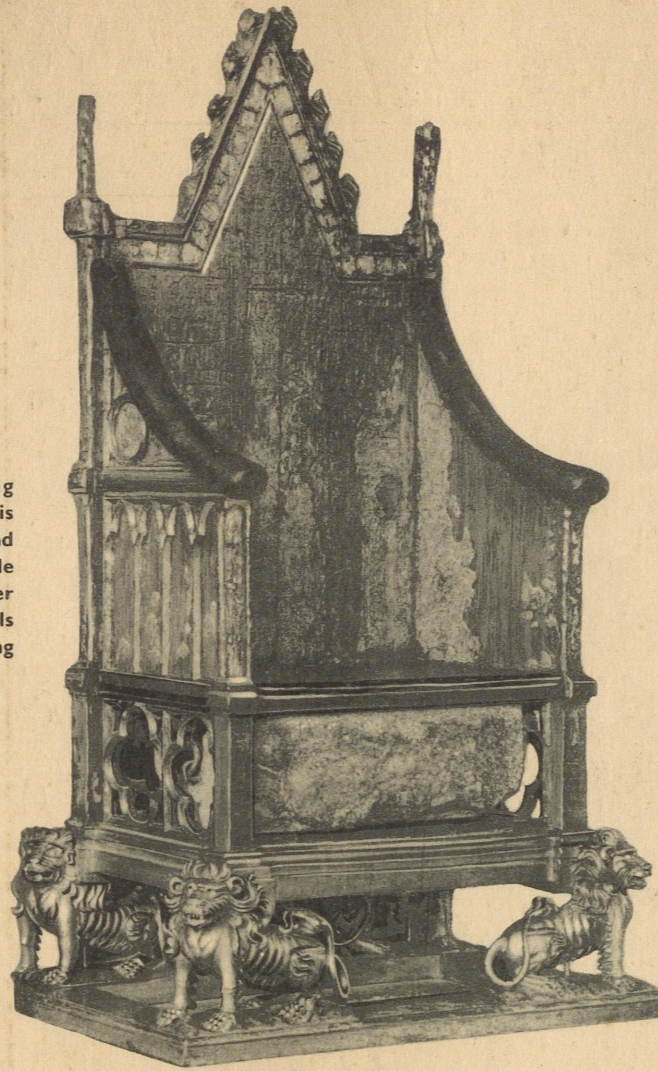
The Golden Spurs are a symbol of Knightly Chivalry. They were made for Charles II, and are replicas of those worn by the Saxons.



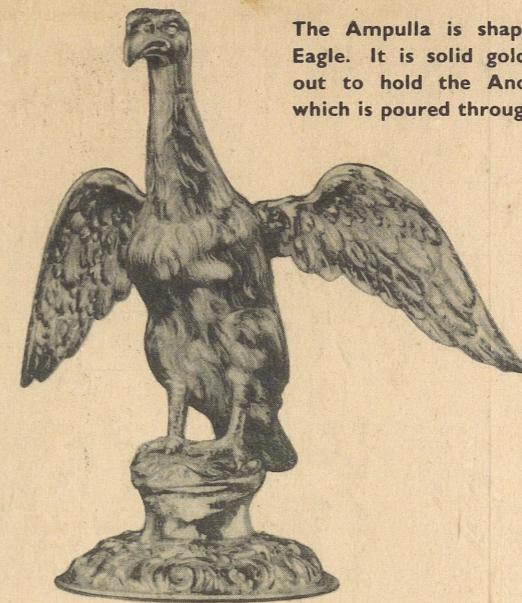
The Anointing Spoon, which is over a thousand years old, is made of gilded silver with four pearls set on the long chased handle.



The Coronation Ring, the sign of Royal Dignity. It is set with rubies and sapphires representing the Cross of St. George on the blue of the flag of St. Andrew.

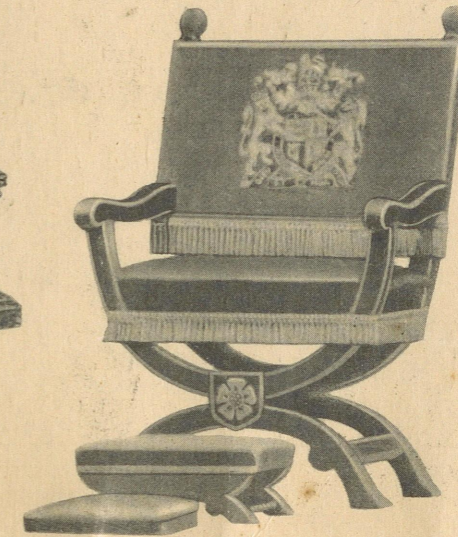


The Coronation Chair on which British Sovereigns are crowned. Under the seat can be seen the "Stone of Scone" brought from Scotland in 1296 by Edward I.



The Ampulla is shaped like an Eagle. It is solid gold, hollowed out to hold the Anointing Oil which is poured through the beak.

The Throne into which the Sovereign is "lifted" by the Archbishop of Canterbury and his bishops. From there she receives the homage of her subjects.



The Archbishop of York. He is the only other Archbishop who is present to assist the Archbishop of Canterbury at the Coronation ceremony.

The Ceremony of Coronation

The Ceremony of Coronation

AS the Queen is conducted into the Abbey by Officers of State, privileged scholars of Westminster School will exercise the right they have long enjoyed of hailing their Sovereign with the cry "Vivat Regina Elizabetha, Vivat", which means "Long Live Queen Elizabeth". When she reaches her appointed place in the Abbey by her Chair of Estate the ceremony begins before a hushed and expectant congregation. The setting is magnificent. Colour and brilliance are everywhere: bright hues of the mediæval uniforms, the crimson and ermine of the peers' cloaks and the glittering jewels of the medals and decorations, here and there dimmed by the sombre black of court dress, but the picture is one of great splendour and richness. The solemnity of the occasion is almost overwhelming.

The Coronation ceremony, which takes over two and a half hours, can be divided into six parts.

The Recognition

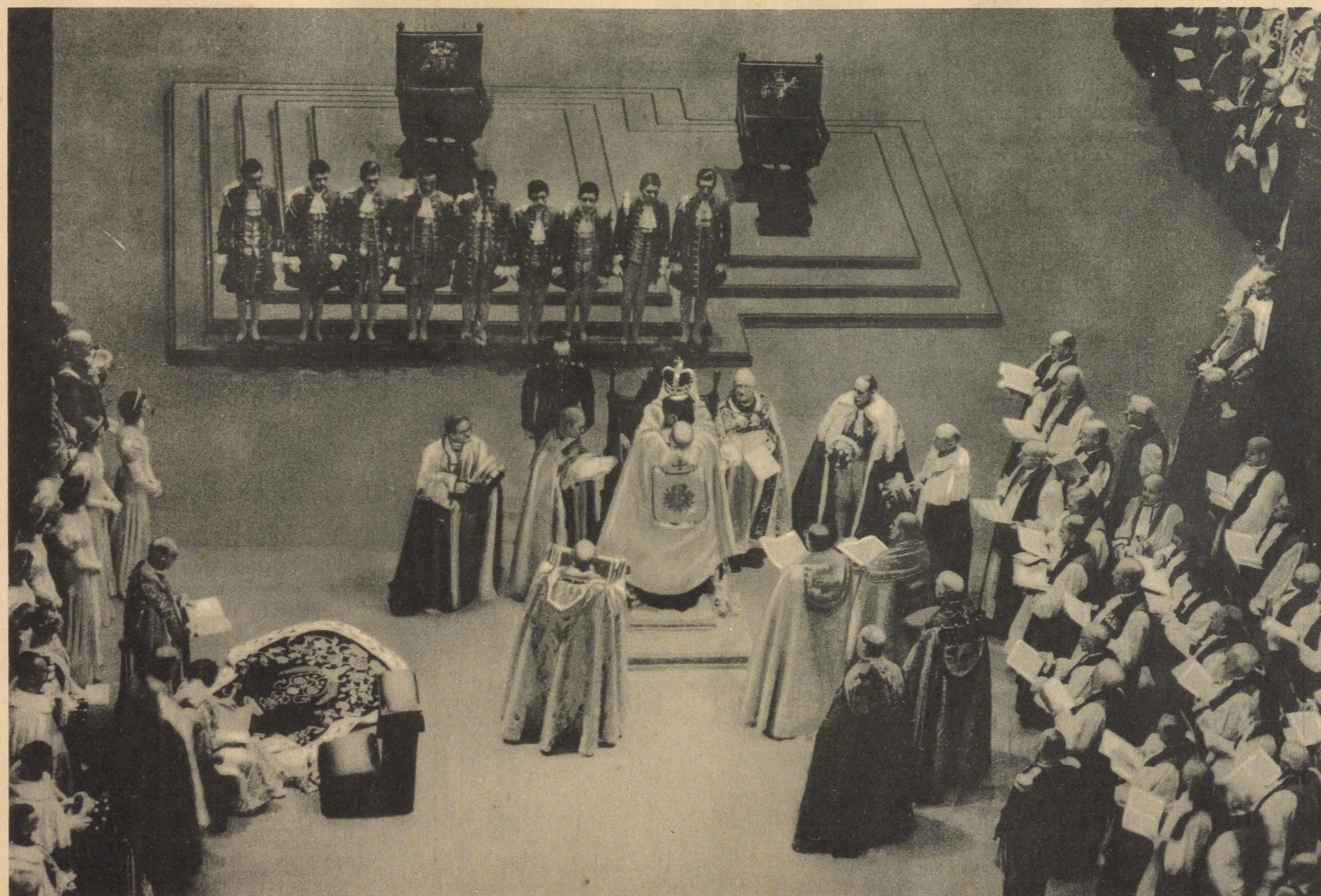
This is the formal acknowledgment by the people of Queen Elizabeth as Queen. She is "presented" to them by the Archbishop of Canterbury, while she stands by her chair, and faces in turn to each corner of the Abbey. The congregation express their homage with the cry of "God Save Queen Elizabeth".

Taking the Oath

The Queen then takes the Coronation Oath, which, though it has changed throughout the centuries, still has the same meaning. It is a promise that she will rule her peoples always according to law, justice and mercy.

The Anointing

For this part of the ceremony the Queen takes off her State Robe and sits for the first time in the historic Coronation Chair of Edward I, under the seat of which rests the Stone of Destiny (the Scone Stone). Four Knights of the Garter hold a Canopy over her head. The anointing is done by the Archbishop, who makes the sign of the Cross in holy oil on the head



The scene inside Westminster Abbey at the Coronation of King George VI, at the actual moment of crowning. The Archbishop of Canterbury can be seen placing St. Edward's Crown on the Sovereign's head while he sits in the Coronation Chair.

and hands of the Queen. This rite is an important part of the service, because it is the spiritual preparation for the crowning.

The Presentation and Investiture

It is in this part of the ceremony that the Queen receives the State Regalia. First the Golden Spurs, then the Jewelled Sword of State, which she takes and offers to the Altar. The Orb is then handed to her as a symbol of the sovereignty of Christianity over the world. The Coronation Ring—the sign of Royal Dignity—is put on the fourth finger of her right hand. She then receives the Sceptre with the Cross and the Sceptre with the Dove. Now comes the moment of crowning.

The Crowning

Seated in the Coronation Chair and wearing a mantle of purple and gold brocade, the Queen is crowned by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The crown—principal symbol of sovereignty—is known as St. Edward's. It is a copy of the one worn by Edward the Confessor. It weighs nearly seven pounds. The Queen may, however, decide to use instead the Imperial State Crown, of only thirty-nine ounces. The crowning is heralded by a fanfare of trumpets, cries of "God Save the Queen", and the peers and Kings of Arms put on their coronets. At this moment a salute of guns is fired at the Tower of London.

The Inthronization

Anointed and crowned, the Queen goes to her Throne, into which, according to custom, she is "lifted" by the Archbishops and Bishops. The great officers bearing the swords and sceptres and the peers who carry other regalia range themselves round the steps of the Throne, while the Archbishop counsels the Queen to "Stand firm and hold fast from henceforth the seat and state of royal and imperial dignity".

Still on her Throne, the Queen receives the homage of princes and peers, and the Coronation ceremony is concluded by an anthem and the sounding of trumpets.

State

Regalia



The King's Orb



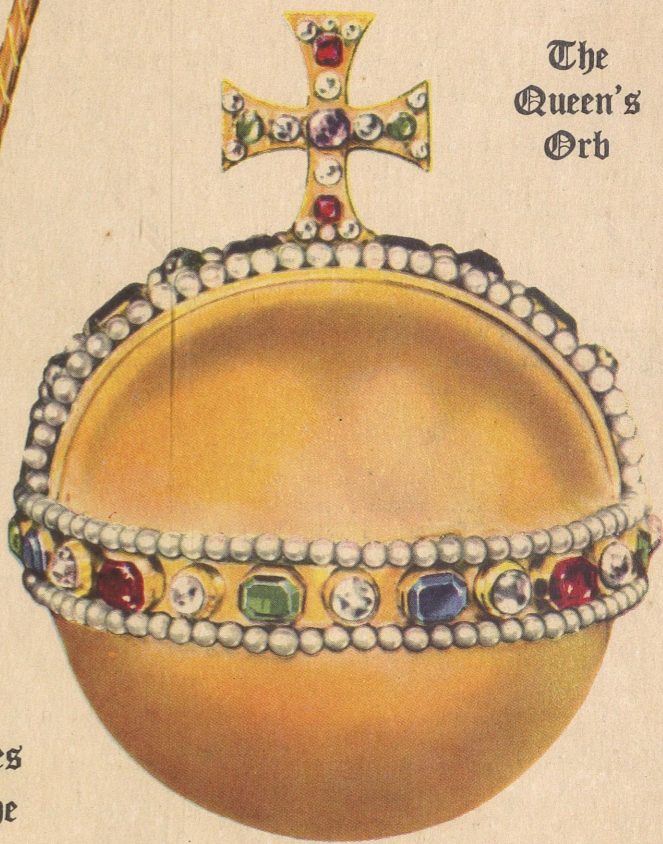
Sceptres with the Dove



Head of the Sceptre with the Cross



Sceptres with the Cross



The Queen's Orb

The two Orbs signify the dominion of the Christian Church over the world. Only the King's Orb is used at the Coronation. It is placed in the hands of the reigning Sovereign. Made of pure gold, it is about six inches in diameter and is studded with rubies, sapphires, emeralds and pearls. The Queen's Orb, which has only been used once, is smaller and not so elaborate. It was made for Mary II, wife of William of Orange when they ruled jointly.

The King's Royal Sceptre is an older symbol of Royal power and justice than the Crown. Made of gold, it is about thirty-six inches long and contains the largest cut diamond, part of the Cullinan. Above it is an amethyst and over that a diamond and emerald cross. This Sceptre is used by the Sovereign only at the Coronation.

THERE are five ceremonial swords used at the Coronation. The most important of these is the Jewelled Sword of State. Then comes the Great



The Royal Sword of State

Curtana, the Sword of Mercy

This is the shortest of the Royal Swords. The

THERE are five ceremonial swords used at the Coronation. The most important of these is the Jewelled Sword of State. Then comes the Great Sword of State, Curtana, the Sword of Mercy and the two Swords of Justice. These last three are similar in design and were first used at the Coronation of Charles II. They are copies of the original swords given, together with the title of Defender of the Faith, to Henry VIII by Pope Clement.

Jewelled Sword of State

It is worth £20,000 and is the most valuable in the world. It was made for the Coronation of George IV and is of Damascus steel. The scabbard is encrusted with precious stones in the design of the Rose of England, Thistle of Scotland and Shamrock of Ireland. At the tip is a large turquoise surrounded by diamonds, and the sword handle is also studded with diamonds. During the Coronation ceremony the Archbishop of Canterbury hands this sword to the Sovereign. Later it is placed on the altar to symbolize that it is to be used in the service of the Church.

Great Sword of State

Another is the Great Sword of State, which is, two-handed, the crosspiece of which has a lion carved on one side and a unicorn on the other. The guard, hilt and pommel are all of gilt metal. The blade is 32 inches long and 2 inches wide. It is known as the Sovereign's own personal sword, and dates back to the late seventeenth century. The velvet-covered scabbard is decorated in gilt with the English Rose, Scottish Thistle, Irish Harp, Fleur-de-lys and the Portcullis, a badge associated particularly with Westminster. In the centre is the Royal Coat of Arms. This sword is also used at each State Opening of Parliament, when it is carried, by a peer before the Sovereign, with the point uppermost.



The Royal Sword of State



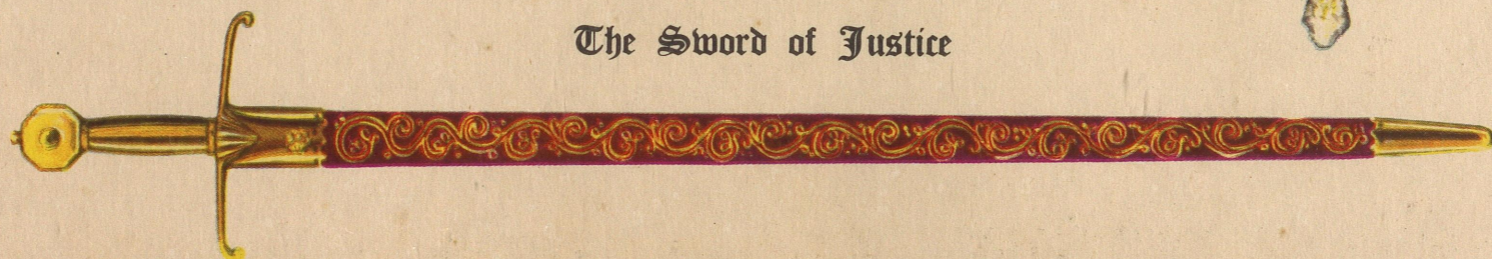
Curtana - The Sword of Mercy



The Royal Mace



The Jewelled Sword of State



The Sword of Justice

Curtana, the Sword of Mercy

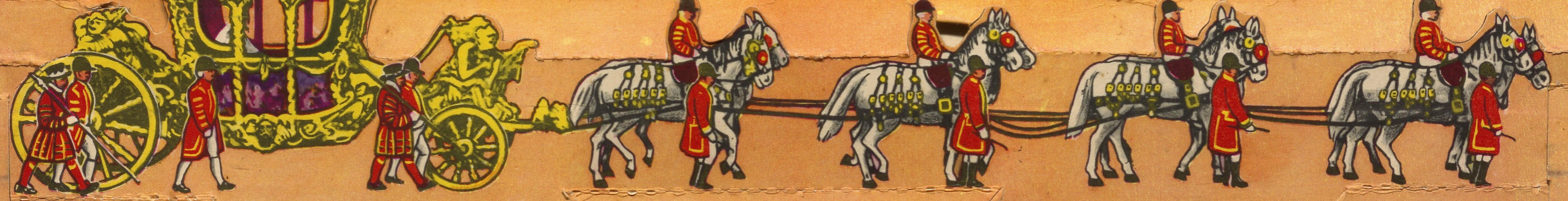
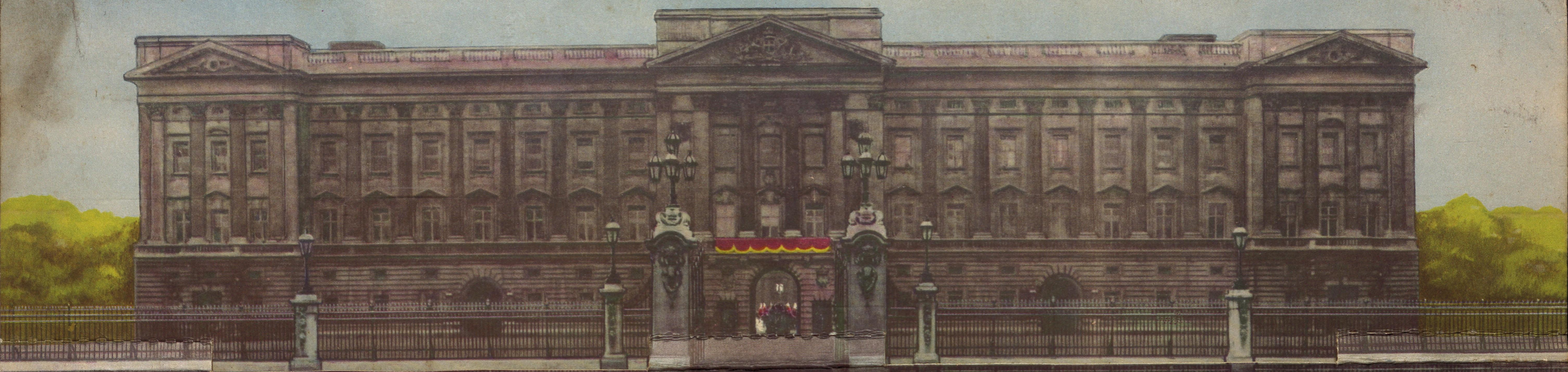
This is the shortest of the Royal Swords. The name Curtana comes from Courtain, the name of the famous short sword belonging to Ogier the Dane, who is said to have been one of the peers of Charlemagne, and for a short time King of England, but this is only a twelfth-century legend. The original, destroyed with all the other State Regalia during the time of Oliver Cromwell, was broken off at the tip to denote that it was not to be used in strife. The present sword was made for Charles II, but the point was rounded off. This sword is carried between the two swords of Justice in procession before the Sovereign. The handle is bound round with fine gold wire, and the scabbard is covered in crimson velvet with a scroll design of gold braid down the centre.

Swords of Justice

These Swords of Justice are very similar. The Sword of Justice to the Spirituality is blunted at the end, and the Sword of Justice to the Temporality is sharp-pointed. Their scabbards, which are decorated with gold scrolls, are almost identical. At the Coronation Ceremony they are carried upright by peers of the realm who walk before the Sovereign.

The Maces

There are eight maces carried at the Coronation by the Sergeants-at-Arms. Two of these maces bear the monogram of Charles II, two of James II, three of William and Mary, and one of Queen Anne. The last one was later altered to George I. The mace was originally a fighting weapon used by Cavalry soldiers. They used to bludgeon their enemies with the weighted head. Now the mace is regarded as the symbol of authority of the Sovereign and the heavy head has been exchanged for a replica of a crown.



Long Live the Queen

PRINCE CHARLES PRINCESS ANNE



Gold Stick in Waiting

He is responsible for guarding the Sovereign. The late Lord Birdwood, who is shown here, held this office at George VI's Coronation.



Garter King of Arms

Garter King of Arms is present throughout the service in Westminster Abbey in the capacity of Master of Ceremonies. His richly embroidered tabard, dating back to the thirteenth century, bears the design of the Royal Arms.



Two Peers in their Coronation Robes

The crimson velvet and ermine cloak of a baron (worn in this picture by Lord Kennet) is trimmed with two rows of black fur. The number of these rows differs according to the peer's rank. The blue velvet robe is the ceremonial dress of a Knight of the Garter. It is shown being worn by the late Earl of Lytton, a member of the Order of the Garter. The coronet completing a peer's dress varies in design for a Duke, Marquess, Earl, Viscount and Baron.



Page of Honour

The duty of the Pages of Honour at the Coronation is to be in attendance on the Sovereign and certain peers of the realm. Above is Mr. George Seymour, who was one of the pages at the Coronation of King George VI.



Yeoman of the Guard

A member of the Queen's Bodyguard who walks beside the State Coach carrying a pike. The uniform dates back to Tudor times.

The Royal



Married



Family Trees

The Royal

Family Trees

SINCE the reign of the first Queen Elizabeth from 1558 to 1603 there have been only four Queens among the seventeen monarchs who have ruled. Queen Elizabeth I was the last Sovereign to rule over England and Ireland only. On her death James VI of Scotland became James I of England, Ireland and Scotland.

Elizabeth I was a daughter of Henry VIII. She ascended the Throne at twenty-five, never married, and reigned for forty-five years. The Elizabethan era stands out in history as one of great prosperity, culture and the beginning of the British Empire. James I occupied the Throne for twenty-two years. Among the great events of his reign were the founding of colonies in America, the start of sea-trade with India and the publication of the Authorized Version of the Bible. He was succeeded by his son, Charles I, in 1625. His strong views on religion, royal powers and politics soon made him unpopular and through his outspokenness and unfair demands brought about the Civil War. He was beheaded as a traitor in 1649.

A Period of Restoration

For eleven years England had no King and was a Commonwealth under Oliver Cromwell. Charles II was crowned in 1661. His reign was a period of restoration. The Monarchy with all its splendour of gay court life was restored. When Charles II died in 1685 his brother James II became King. He was forced to abdicate in 1688 because of his unpopular efforts to restore the Roman Catholic Church. Then his daughter Mary, who had married William of Orange, came to the Throne and ruled jointly with her husband. This is the only occasion on which regal power in Britain has been shared. William outlived his wife, and when he died in 1702 the crown went to Anne, Mary's sister.

When the Union of Scotland came about in 1707, Anne became Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and was very popular. In 1714 she died after only twelve years on the Throne. As none of her six children survived her, the crown passed to the fifty-four-year-old great-grandson of James I, George Lewis of Hanover. He reigned as George I, but had little interest and no influence in Great Britain. His son, George II, also of Hanover, succeeded him in 1726 and ruled for thirty-four years. He was a fine soldier and took considerable interest in the domestic affairs of the country.

In 1760 George III, his grandson, became King. The French Revolution of 1789 and the Napoleonic Wars caused great unrest in the

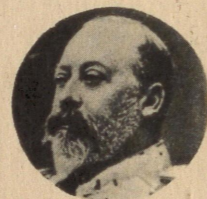


QUEEN VICTORIA

Married



PRINCE ALBERT

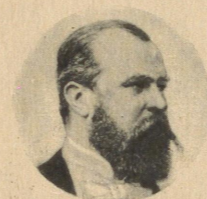


KING EDWARD VII

Married



QUEEN ALEXANDRA

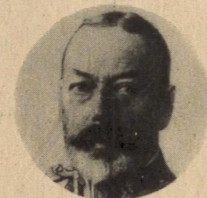


GRAND DUKE OF HESSE

Married



PRINCESS ALICE



KING GEORGE V

Married



QUEEN MARY



PRINCE LOUIS OF BATTENBERG

Married



PRINCESS VICTORIA

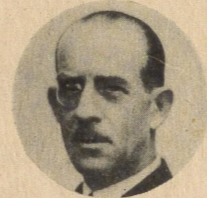


KING GEORGE VI

Married

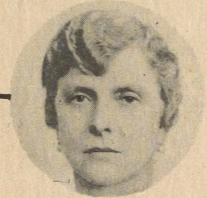


QUEEN ELIZABETH



PRINCE ANDREW OF GREECE

Married



PRINCESS ALICE



QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Married



PRINCE CHARLES



PRINCESS ANNE



PRINCE PHILIP

country during his reign. In 1820 he was succeeded by his son, George IV, who had been ruling as Prince Regent since 1811. He was an unpopular King, disliked by the nation, and was the cause of the Monarchy losing a great deal of its prestige. He died in 1830 and the crown went to his brother, William IV, who was a much more likeable person. He was a seafaring man, joining the Royal Navy as a boy, and was appointed Admiral of the Fleet in 1811 and later became Lord High Admiral of England. It was during his reign that the first parliamentary reform bill of 1832 was passed.

Glorious Reign of Victoria

Then came the great Queen Victoria. She was the niece of William IV and ascended the Throne in 1837 when she was eighteen. Through her knowledge and understanding of affairs at home and abroad Queen Victoria restored the prestige of the Monarchy. She was proclaimed "Empress of India" in 1877 and a new Dominion was added to the Crown. At home parliamentary reform was well under way and the Industrial Revolution had done much to improve the conditions of the workers. The Victorian era lasted sixty-three years, during which time British prosperity reached its peak. Queen Victoria died at the age of eighty-one, a dearly loved and respected Sovereign.

Her son, Edward VII, came to the Throne in 1901—a gay, likeable man, greatly respected abroad. Due to his influence, relations between France and Great Britain became more amicable. He reigned only nine years, and then his son, George V, succeeded him in 1910. The twenty-six years of his reign were clouded by the First World War and its aftermath. At his death his son, Edward VIII, was proclaimed King but was never crowned. He abdicated, eleven months after his father's death, in 1936. The crown then went to his brother George. George VI had not been prepared for kingship, but in spite of his many handicaps was one of Britain's greatest Sovereigns. Six years of his reign were menaced by the Second World War, the worst of all time. He died suddenly in February 1952.

Now we come to our new Queen, Elizabeth II. From the time it became known that one day she would succeed her father, King George VI, she was carefully prepared for this great responsibility. She had before her the fine example of her parents, whose self-sacrifice and devotion to duty made them beloved by the people. Now as Queen, she is acclaimed by the nation, and all look forward to her reign being the most glorious, most prosperous and most progressive in our history.



Order of the Queen's Procession

Based on that of King George VI

Detachments of Yeomanry & Scouts Regiments



Representative Detachments of Royal Artillery



Representative Detachments of Cavalry of the Line



Aides-de-Camp of the Services. Navy - Marine - Army - Air Force



Admiralty Sea Lords



Military Members of Army Council



Members of Air Council



War Office Staff



Field Marshals



General Officers Commanding



Escort of Officers from the Colonial and Dominion Contingents



Yeomen of the Guard & Watermen



Massed Bands of Household Cavalry



Honorary Aides-de-Camp



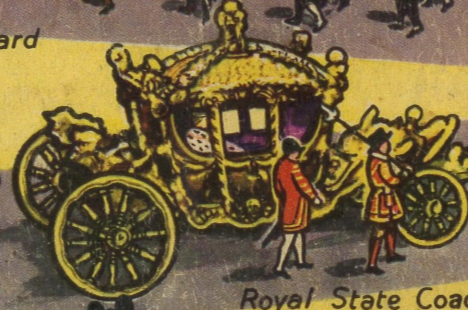
Royal Standard



Principal Services Aides-de-Camp



Royal Dukes



Royal State Coach

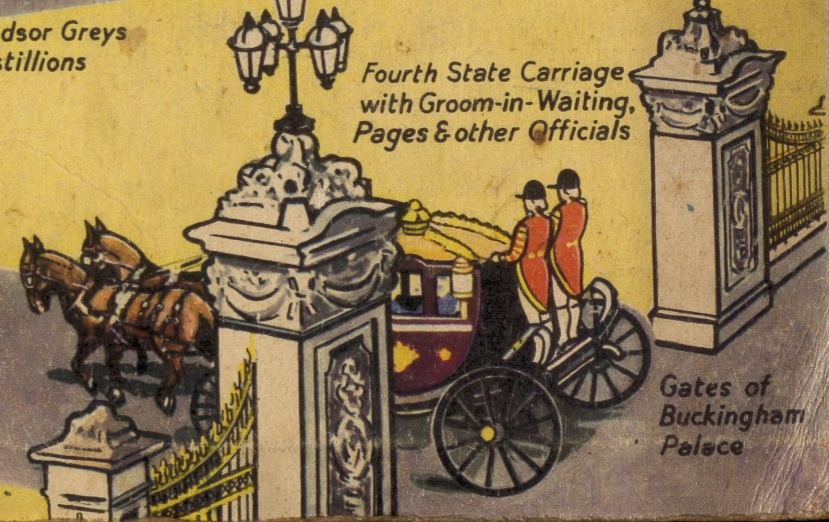
Eight Windsor Greys with Postillions



Gold Stick in waiting



Fourth State Carriage with Groom-in-Waiting, Pages & other Officials



Gates of Buckingham Palace

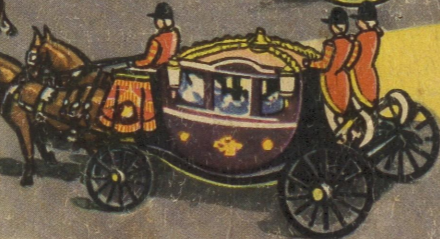
Equerries in Waiting to the Queen



First State Carriage with Lord Chamberlain, Mistress of the Robes, Lady-in-Waiting



Second State Carriage with Lord-in-waiting and other Officials



Third State Carriage with Keeper of the Queen's Purse and other Officials

