

## The Daily Mail

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### OUR NEW GOLD COINAGE

The announcement made by Mr. Fielding, a few weeks ago, that he had decided to turn out the proposed new gold coinage on the same basis as the United States eagle, instead of on the basis of the British sovereign, has been the cause of much comment in the columns of American newspapers. Some of the writers see in Mr. Fielding's announcement the trend of public sentiment in Canada to closer connection with the United States and a consequent independence of England with a loosening in the tie binding the Dominion to the Mother Country. The New York "Herald" considers that the circumstance is important as showing how close are the natural relations of the two neighboring countries. Other American newspapers express similar views and regard with approval what they hold is an indication of the ultimate situation—the peaceful absorption of the Dominion in the Republic.

It would seem that if anything is comprised in Mr. Fielding's action further than a determination to give Canada her own gold coinage, it would be in a direction directly opposite to that suggested by our American contemporaries. They seem to have overlooked a remark made by Mr. Fielding when announcing his decision on the gold coinage—that "perhaps the time may come when we shall no longer need to make the American eagle a legal tender." It is in that direction that the Canadian gold coinage is likely to operate. Regarded in that light it will be seen that it is not a step towards independence of Great Britain but of currency independence of the United States. In the past we have made the American eagle and half-eagle legal tender in Canada because we had no gold coins of our own. The British sovereign and half-sovereign—the two gold coins in the British currency—have not been used as part of our monetary system because it was inconvenient to use them as they did not fit in well with our decimal currency. But now that we are to have a gold coinage of our own, we shall no longer have any need of American gold coins as part of our metallic currency and we assume that when the Canadian gold coinage has come into general circulation the American coins will no longer be accepted as legal tender in the Dominion. But it may be doubted if the Canadian gold coins will be much more in demand as a circulating medium in the Dominion than the American coins have been. Except in the banks the amount of gold coins in the possession of the people of Canada and that are in general circulation, has been comparatively small in proportion to the aggregate of the circulating medium. People have got used to paper money and will not take very readily to any other kind. At the same time there will be general approval of the Government's action in deciding that the country is now large enough to have its own gold coinage and not be dependent for the latter on a foreign country. Although the American coins may continue for a time to circulate in Canada, it is scarcely likely that they will for any considerable period be accepted as legal tender, unless the United States Government is willing to reciprocate and authorize Canadian gold coins to be taken as legal tender in that country, which we are inclined to think will not be likely.

### THE SITUATION IN ENGLAND

It would seem, from the tone of the latest despatches from England, that a truce is likely to be called between the several political parties in consequence of the change in the situation caused by the death of the King. All who have the welfare of the British Empire at heart will rejoice that this decision has been come to, although they will deplore the fact that such an enormous cost was necessary to bring this result about. It is tacitly admitted in many well informed quarters that

worry and anxiety as to the outcome of the dispute between the two Houses of Parliament, had a very serious effect upon the late King's health. This is not by any means to be wondered at when all the circumstances are taken into consideration. A most unwarranted use has been made of the King's name and position in regard to the matter, and he was credited with an interference in the progress of affairs which was entirely erroneous. No sovereign ever was more familiar with the duties and power of his position than was the late King, and none was ever so punctilious in regard to them.

The lull in political excitement will give both parties an opportunity of quietly thinking the matter over. The subject of contention is a most important one for the whole country, and it cannot be said that the attitude of the leaders on either side is altogether the best.

If during the next few months, some compromise can be arrived at, there can be little doubt that it will be a source of very great satisfaction to the new King. The party leaders now have it in their power to save the nation from a situation big with possibilities for evil. The prediction has been freely made of late that with the passing of the balancing power of King Edward, chaos might be let loose in England. Some observers have gone so far as to predict that he would be the last King. That may be taken for what it is worth, which is not much; but it is true that those elements which have begun to make headway in society there might have their strength and influence vastly increased by a weak King and an unpopular Government.

The Commons if they are wise, will be moderate in their demands, and the Lords, if they are more wise than obstinate, will yield without further opposition what they cannot long withhold. They will curtail their own power, and by so doing increase their influence.

The Cruiser Niobe, the first unit of the Atlantic fleet in the proposed Canadian navy, the base of which will be at Halifax, is expected shortly to arrive at that port from Great Britain, and Haligonians are preparing to celebrate the event in a manner befitting its importance. It will be interesting to know what part Mr. Borden and his colleague, intend to take in the celebration. As members for Halifax they can hardly avoid assisting in the affair, and what they have to say will no doubt be interesting in the light of the stand they took in the matter of a Canadian navy in Parliament. There they denounced it in all the moods and tenses; at Halifax they will be expected to join in the congratulations which Halifax will present to itself at being made the base of the Atlantic division of the navy.

The St. John Standard regards Mr. R. L. Borden's references to the death of King Edward VII as "a worthy tribute to the greatest statesman in Europe from the greatest Canadian statesman." The last part of this statement will be real news, to most people, and probably to no one more than Mr. Borden himself.

### GEORGE V. PROCLAIMED

(Continued from page one)

ingham Palace, where the royal family with the members of the late king's household worshipped yesterday. Queen Alexandra attended and King George and Queen Mary, with Princess Mary and the three young princes, all wearing deep mourning, drove from Marlborough House. Princess Victoria who has been her mother's constant companion also was present.

Queen Alexandra requested that the service be brief and simple knowing that that would have been the king's preference. Canon Sheppard, sub-dean of the Chapel Royal officiated. Two hymns only were sung—The Resurrection Morn and Peace, Perfect Peace. Both were Queen Alexandra's selections.

The Archbishop of Canterbury preached on the subject of King Edward before a great congregation in Westminster Abbey. The state officials and tenantry at Sandringham attended the church service in a body.

The pew which King Edward last occupied was filled with white lilies. King George sent a message to them saying:

"My father dearly loved his country home, and was always mindful of the welfare of all there. My feelings towards all will ever be the same as his."

STRIKING TRIBUTE FROM NATIONALISTS.

Wm. O'Brien M.P., for Cork, addressing an "All for Ireland" meet-

ing at Bandon, paid a tribute to King Edward as being no more truly a peacemaker anywhere than in Ireland. "For the first time possibly, in an unhappy history, in eight centuries," said Mr. O'Brien, "a meeting of Irishmen, who are Nationalists to the marrow in their bones, may begin proceedings by laying a tribute of respect and genuine sorrow upon the coffin of an English king."

### QUEEN MARY.

According to a circular issued from Marlborough House tonight the designation of the new queen will be Queen Mary. The role she will play at the new court has been the subject of considerable speculation. As Prince and Princess of Wales, the new king and queen lived such comparatively retired lives that it is difficult to form an opinion, but it is almost safe to assume that the court will be far less brilliant than it was under King Edward. The latter attached the fullest weight and dignity to the ceremonial of the kingly office, and all state functions under his reign were invested with all pomp and magnificence he considered befitting the court of a great empire.

It is quite certain that great changes will be seen in the constitution of the court circle as well as among the actual officials and dignitaries of the court. Queen Mary is credited with great strength of character and is likely to exert far more influence on the court surroundings than did Queen Alexandra. She is deeply religious and has a love for charitable work connected with the church while King George, so far as is known, is more fond of country life and pursuits than of courtly pomp. Hence there is a general belief that the new court will be of a simpler and more austere type and that many of those who heretofore exercised a paramount influence in the court life will be obliged to seek comparative retirement.

A supplementary gazette, issued late last night, orders full court mourning until Nov. 7, and after that half mourning until May 7, 1911.

Albert Joy, the sculptor, today took a plaster cast of the late king's features, while Sir Luke Fildes, the noted illustrator, sketched the dead king.

### CAUSE OF DEATH.

According to The Times, the King died from heart failure, following bronchitis and, the paper declares, all rumors of other ailments may be dismissed as idle gossip. There never was danger from throat complications.

"The official bulletins" says the Times, "concealed nothing for there was nothing to conceal. On Friday morning the king rose as usual and moved about cautiously for even slight movements were apt to cause a recurrence of the heart attacks. It was not until a later hour in the evening that he left his chair for the bed."

"QUEEN MOTHER" ALEXANDRA'S FUTURE TITLE.

Queen Alexandra will in future be styled the "Queen Mother," a title not used in England since the days of Henrietta, the consort of Charles I. Her dower house will be Marlborough House, and she possibly will continue to use Sandringham House besides for a portion of each year at her summer residence at Klampenborg Bay, Denmark, which she shares with the Dowager Empress of Russia.

Prince Edward, the heir to the throne, will after the present be styled the Duke of Cornwall and Rothesay. Later he will be created Prince of Wales. He succeeds forthwith to the Duchy of Cornwall with a clear income of \$400,000 yearly, which will accumulate until he becomes of age, giving him an independent fortune of \$2,500,000. It was the income from this source which enabled the late king to purchase the Sandringham estate.

### POLITICS FORGOTTEN

There are signs already that some of the Conservatives will practically accuse the Liberals of responsibility for the King's death by worry brought upon him through threats of the party to call on him to swamp the lords by the creation of a host of Liberal peers. The question as to whether Premier Asquith should announce what advice he intended to give the King has been debated for some time. Only a few days ago Lord Knollys, secretary to the King, took pains to publish a letter in which he told a correspondent: "You are correct in thinking the king deplores his name being brought into political controversies."

London, May 9.—It was officially announced at Buckingham Palace at noon that Queen Alexandra was well and bearing up bravely. This morning rumors were current that in a paroxysm of grief the mother of the King had broken a blood vessel and that her condition was serious. After the funeral of her husband it is expected that the Queen mother will retire to Sandringham House, which King Edward some years ago made over to her as a dower house. The Lancet today publishes an authorized statement confirming the cause of the King's death as "Cardiac Failure following upon bronchitis" the statement adds: "The last hours were absolutely peaceful and painless."

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