When ENGLAND CROWNS *the* SIXTH GEORGE

God Save The King!
Long Live The King!

FROM THE moment he enters Westminster Abbey, wearing robes of red and Cap of Estate, to the time he leaves, clad in royal purple and wearing the Imperial State Crown, the King is the centre of a great religious service, which were developed at the Court of the Byzantine Emperors, who ruled from Constantinople, after the division of the Roman Empire.

His first act is to kneel in private prayer. His second to face his peoples so that they may express their willingness to accept him as their King. Not until, "with one accord of heart and voice," they have cried "God Save King George," signal that they wish him as their ruler, can he be crowned.

He must face them all. Four times he is "presented" to his peoples as he stands erect, bareheaded, close to the Coronation Chair. At each presentation he faces a different direction, showing himself "to the people at every of the four sides."

He must promise, too, to abide by the laws and the customs of those he is to rule.

For the first time, Canada will be referred to in the Coronation Oath. Since George V ascended the Throne, the dominions have attained full nationhood, and the oath has been amended so that George VI will:

"Solemnly promise and swear to govern the people of Great Britain, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa according to their respective laws and customs."

At a given signal the guns from the Tower of London broadcasts the news that the King has been crowned.

Prayer follows, the Archbishop of Canterbury saying, "God crown you with a Crown of Glory,'" and the choir follows up with that memorable hymn, "Thou has set a Crown of Pure Gold upon His Head."

The King is addressed by the primate: "Our gracious and noble King, we present you with this Book. Here is wisdom . ." and present him with the Bible.

The Bible returned, the Benediction is sung

The King then leaves the Coronation Chair, and ascends to his Throne, surrounded by his Lords and Officers of State.

The words then spoken: "Stand firm, and hold fast from henceforth the Seat of State of Royal and Imperial Dignity."

And a great silence reigns in the Abbey.

Then comes the Royal Procession —the King, carrying his Sceptre, passes through the door on the South of the Altar into Sir Edward's Chapel

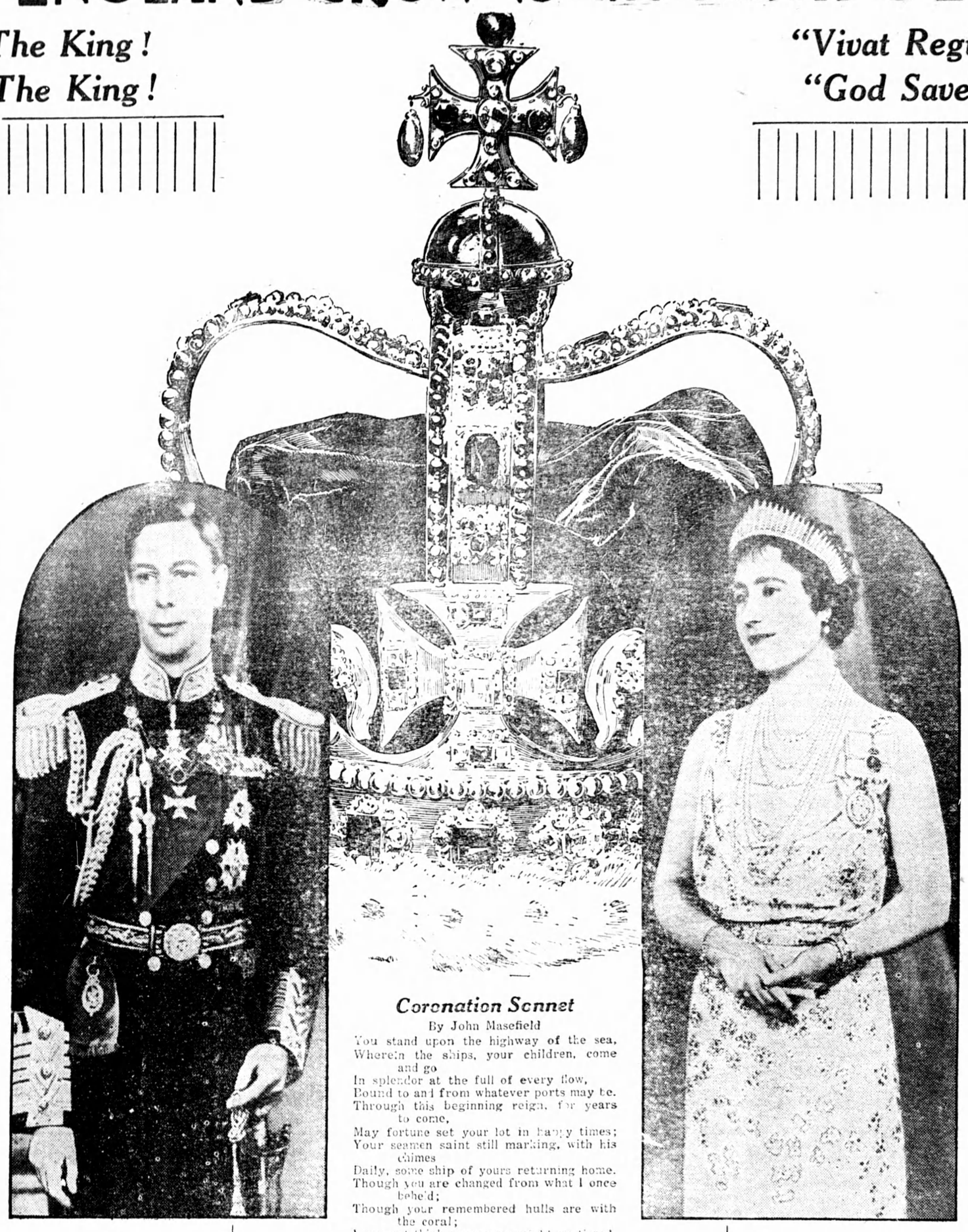
At the same moment Queen Elizabeth descends from her Throne and enters by the door on the opposite side.

Before St. Edward's Altar King removes his mantle and Sacred Vestments, and is clothed in his Robe of Purple Velvet.

The Coronation Crown then changed for the Imperial State Crown, since St. Edward's Crown is used for the Coronation only.

Queen Elizabeth, carrying the Septre with Cross and an Ivory Rod with Dove, passes to the West Door of the Abbey.

Together in stately, awe-inspiring procession along the route arranged for Coronation Day, the King and his Queen passes towards Buckingham Palace.



Coronation Sonnet

By John Masefield

You stand upon the highway of the sea,
Wherein the ships, your children, come and go
In splendor at the full of every flow,
Bound to and from whatever ports may be.
Through this beginning reign, for years to come,
May fortune set your lot in happy times;
Your seamen saint still marking, with his chimes
Daily, some ship of yours returning home.
Though you are changed from what I once beheld;
Though your remembered hulls are with the coral;
I can not think upon your might unstirred.
O sacred city of the lost sea-bird
May wealth, out-ransoming the ports of old,
Be yours, with spiritual gold and holy laurels.

"Vivat Regina Elizabeth"
"God Save The Queen"

AND AS SHE passeth by the King on his throne she shall bow herself reverently to His Majesty.

Not until the King is on his throne does the coronation of his Queen commence. When it is ended she ascends to her own throne at the King's left hand, two steps lower than that of His Majesty's.

She does not pay homage to her liege lord, as all others have done by the time she ascends her throne. Princes and dukes and the representatives of each and every degree of nobility have kissed her husband on the left cheek as token of their fealty

She, his wife and queen, is called upon only to "bow reverently."

With him she heads the procession into the abbey, robed in purple and wearing a circlet of gold. With him her first act is to kneel in prayer at a faldstool before her chair or state on the south side of the altar. From this chair of state, which she does not leave until she kneels at the altar for prayers before her own coronation, she sees the anointing and crowning of her husband as he sits in King Edward's chair.

Her anointing and crowning take place on a faldstool set between the coronation chair and the altar. Four peeresses hold a rich pall of gold over her while she is anointed on the head, the Queen's ring placed on the fourth finger of her right hand, and the crown placed on her head. Her crowning is the signal for all the peeresses to put on their coronets.

She kneels beside the King at the altar for communion, and like him offers up an oblation of a pall or altar-cloth, and an ingot of gold. The gold is a "mark-weight," approximately eight ounces.

One more the King and Queen are separated before, side by side, they leave the abbey to meet the loyal cheers of their subjects. As they enter St. Edward's Chapel to prepare for the state drive to the palace, the Queen crosses before the altar to use the door on the north side while the King enters the door on the south side. They meet inside the chapel. The separation is of seconds only.

A Pound of Gold

The King's Offertory was originally a mark and a wedge of gold; later it became a pound of gold and a pall. Palls were offered by King George V and Queen Mary. The King's sword was also offered upon the Altar and redeemed by the highest noble present. At one time the King spent the previous night in solemn vigil, as before his knighthood. The form of service for the Coronation of George VI lays down that the King shall take the Oath before Communion, instead of during Communion, as in 1911. No Sermon is to be delivered, and the Act of Homage will be made by the peers together, instead of individually.

The sceptre which King George VI will receive at his coronation.

Coronation Costliest In English History

The Coronation of King George and Queen Elizabeth will cost the Treasury £454,000, a far greater sum than has been spent on any previous Coronation.

In the estimates published it is disclosed that £524,000 will be required altogether, but towards this £70,000 will be realized from the sale of seats aong the route of the procession.

The last five Coronations have cost:

George IV., 1821	£238,238
William IV., 1831	42,298
Victoria, 1838	69,421
Edward VII., 1902	193,000
George V., 1911	185,000

Comparing the estimates with those for the Coronation of King George V., the greater part of the increased cost is in the estimate of the Office of Works for the preparation of Westminster Abbey and annexe and the erection of stands along the route. This has increased from £33,000 to £354,000 — less the £70,000 for the sale of seats.

An official of the department said recently: "There are a number of reasons for the increased cost. First, there is the advance in the cost of materials and labor since 1911. Then there is work for this Coronation which has never been done before.

"Increasing the accommodation inside the Abbey to nearly 8,000, about 1,000 more than in 1911, makes the work more intricate, and adds to the cost considerably. Sound amplification and broadcasting arrangements are two other new items to be paid for by the Office of Works.

"Decorations along the route of the procession, floodlighting and the decoration of other public buildings in London and thousands of Government offices in the provinces, such as Post Offices and Inland Revenue offices, have never been undertaken before by the Office of Works."

Another item in the Office of Works estimate is £140,000 for the erection of stands. Other detailed estimates for this year's Coronation compared with the costs in 1911 are:

H. M. Household, including entertainment of Royal and other guests	£100,000	$90,000
Earl Marshal's Office ...	4,000	3,500
Dominions and Colonial Offices	4,000	15,000
India Office	20,500	37,000
Miscellaneous	14,000	5,900

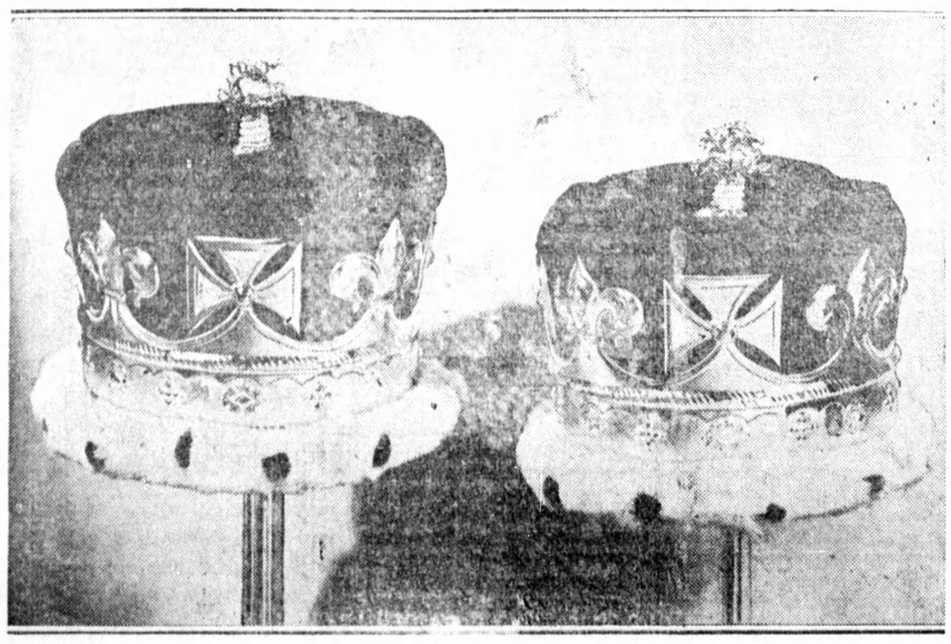
Expenses estimated for this year, but not in 1911, are:

War Office	£ 1,000
Air Ministry	500
Foreign Office	3,000
Admiralty	23,000

Yeomen of the Guard

The Yeomen of the Guard, popularly known as the "Beef Eaters," march in the rear of the procession and assist the great officers of State in carrying up the dishes of the sovereign's table at the Coronation Banquet. There are many stories concerning the origin of the term Beef Eater. The best authenticated connects that title with Henry VIII. The story runs that bluff King Hal was hunting in the neighborhood of Reading with some of his yeomen and had disguised himself in their uniform. He became separated from the party and called upon the Abbot of Reading who, thinking him to be a yeoman of the guard, invited him to the table on which stood a huge joint of roast beef. The supposed yeoman set about it with a will and made a huge meal. When the disguised king had finished, the Abbot exclaimed: "Well fare thy heart! and here in a cup of sack, I remember the health of His Grace. I would give a hundred pounds on the condition I could feed so heartily on beef as you do. Alas, my weak squeamish stomach will hardly digest the wing of a small rabbit or chicken." The Beef Eater then departed and a few days later the Abbot to his amazement, was arrested and conveyed to the Tower, when for a short time he was fed on bread and water. At length a piece of beef was put before his which he proceeded to eat with the utmost enjoyment. While he was thus enjoying himself the king entered and demanded £100 for having restored to the Abbot his appetite for roast beef! The Abbot paid up and was released and henceforth the yeomen of the guard became known as the Beef Eaters owing to their association with this story.

SPECIAL CROWNS FOR WEE ROYAL HEADS



Two little Princesses, daughters of the King and Queen, need special Imperial headgear for the Coronation. Our photo shows the lightweight crowns which are being made in London for Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret Rose. They are of silver gilt, with jewel-like chasing and mounted with the cross-plate and fleur-de-lis.