

Royal Route, Ceremony Approved for Toronto, Says Hon. H. C. Nixon

Final Leg of Journey, From Christie Street Hospital to Station, Shortened as Principal Change

RUSH OF ACTIVITIES

Plans for the thirty-mile tour in Toronto May 22 of King George and Queen Elizabeth have been submitted to Ottawa and Buckingham Palace and are now fully approved, said Provincial Secretary Harry Nixon yesterday as he concluded the debate on the Speech from the Throne in the Ontario Legislature. He read a summary of the thirty-mile route and the arrangements as finally reached.

Principal change affected by the highest authorities was that of shortening the final leg of the journey, from Christie Street Hospital to the Union Station, by way of the Exhibition Grounds. The Royal party will proceed south from the hospital, west on Bloor Street to Parkside Drive, south to Lake Shore Boulevard and east to the Exhibition Grounds and station. This change shortened the route considerably and avoided some bad railway crossings, said Mr. Nixon.

"I believe the route as I have outlined it to be final and will not be altered," he concluded. "It is a matter of great regret to me that several beautiful sections of the city, which sent deputations asking the Royal procession to pass through their districts, could not be obliged."

Details Outlined.

Details of the ceremonies of May 22, as outlined by the Provincial Secretary, are as follows:

"At 10:30 a.m., their Majesties will detrain at North Toronto station. (All times given in this memorandum will be Daylight Saving.) They will be met on the platform by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Premier, the Mayor and their wives, and the District Officer Commanding.

"An artillery salute will be fired as their Majesties detrain and there will be a guard of honor, which his Majesty will inspect.

"Their Majesties will then proceed south on Yonge Street with a cavalry escort to the City Hall.

"Arriving at the City Hall at about 11 o'clock, the members of the Council and their wives will be presented to their Majesties, and the Mayor will hand his address to his Majesty. Their Majesties will then proceed south on Bay Street to Front Street, west on Front Street to University, and north on University to Queen's Park, arriving at the Parliament Buildings at about 11:40 a.m., where they will be met by the Premier and Mrs. Hepburn, and escorted to this Chamber through lines of ex-service men now in the public service of the Province to the number of well over 1,400. The Premier will read the Royal address approved by the House, and present it to his Majesty. A bouquet of flowers will be presented to her Majesty by the wife of the Chief Whip of the House. The holders of the Victoria Cross now residing in Ontario—other than those at Ottawa—will be presented to their Majesties, and will be guests of the Province for the day.

The names of these V.C.'s that I have are as follows: Sergeant C. Barron, Toronto; Sergeant W. Merrifield, Sault Ste. Marie; Sergeant E. J. Holland, Cobalt; Private T. W. Holmes, Toronto; Lieutenant W. L. Rayfield, Toronto; Sergeant Harry Robson, guide at Queen's Park; Captain Charles Rutherford, Sergeant-at-Arms of the Legislature; and Captain W. B. Geary, Toronto.

"All members and their wives will then be presented to their Majesties by the Speaker. This will not be a formal presentation as one understands such affairs. I understand the ladies will probably wear afternoon dress, and their Majesties will descend from the dais and shake hands with each of us.

Brief Rest Period.

"After a brief rest period her Majesty will proceed to the north campus of the university to present new colors to the Toronto Scottish Regiment. She will then join his Majesty in Hart House, and they will proceed to luncheon in the Great Hall, the luncheon to be given by the Province. All members and their wives will be among those invited.

"After luncheon their Majesties will continue their drive from the south of Hart House to Queen's Park Crescent, east on Bloor to Winchester, where they will be met by a cavalry escort, and drive between lines of school children in Riverdale Park from about 2:30 to 3. The assemblies of school children at Riverdale Park and at the Exhibition Grounds will be under the direction and supervision of the Board of Education and the Separate School Board of the city. Arrangements will be made to accommodate children from other parts of the Province as well. They will then continue along Danforth Avenue to Woodbine Avenue, and down Woodbine Avenue to the race-course.

"They will drive around the track in a carriage with a cavalry escort and will arrive in the enclosure at about 3:30, remaining there for about twenty minutes during the running of the King's Plate. They will then drive out of the track in a carriage, and, taking their motor car, will proceed along Queen Street to King Street, west to University and north to Queen's Park.

"At about 5 o'clock, after a rest

period, they will proceed north on Avenue Road to St. Clair and west to Christie Street, south on Christie (pausing briefly at Christie Street Hospital) to Bloor, west on Bloor to Parkside, then south to the Lake Shore Boulevard and east to the Exhibition Grounds, arriving there about 6 o'clock.

Cavalry Escort.

"A cavalry escort will meet them and take them between lines of school children in the Exhibition Grounds and out the Princes Gate and along Front Street to the Union Station, where they will be met by a guard of honor, which will be inspected by his Majesty. Upon their Majesties' departure a royal salute will be fired by a battery stationed in the vicinity.

"The morning route will be at a comparatively slow pace, as it is with a cavalry escort, and the length of the route is approximately six miles, which should give ample opportunity for all people to see their Majesties.

"The route in the afternoon will be at a faster pace, which is necessitated by the distance which has to be traversed. However, at each gathering of the school children and also at Woodbine provision has been made for a cavalry escort, which will lend a note of color and be particularly impressive to the children."