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FOUR OUT OF FIVE APPEALS WIN REDUCED ASSESSMENT

Woodbridge Council sat as a Court of Revision Monday evening. Five appeals were listed by Clerk E. W. Brown.

Following arguments presented by each claimant it was moved by A. G. Banks and seconded by John Watson that the following alterations be made in the Assessment Roll for 1939: Egbert Barker, reduced \$100; John Longmore, reduced \$100; Marjorie Mallaby, reduced \$100; Ethra Nattress, reduced \$100; Edwards & Edwards, dismissed. Carried.

Moved by J. Dalziel, seconded by A. B. Cousins, that the Assessment Roll for the village of Woodbridge for 1939 as revised by this Court of Revision be final. Carried.

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Welcome to Their Majesties

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THEIR MAJESTIES KING GEORGE VI AND QUEEN ELIZABETH

By William Guy Carr, Lieut. R.N.R. (Ret.)

(Lieutenant Carr, who wrote the adventure narrative of the Submarine service, the Light Cruisers and Destroyers under the title "By Guess and By God"; "Hell's Angels of the Deep"; "Brass Hats and Bell-bottomed Trousers", served in the Royal Navy as an Officer with the same rank as the present King when he was attached to the Grand Fleet).

No matter what the modern woman thinks, the wife of the King of Great Britain still believes that first and foremost her place is in the home; that her first duty is to be the companion and helpmate of her husband, and the mother of his children. Her duties as the first lady of the land are of secondary importance.

The Queen Mother has just the same ideas, she always looked upon the home as being of greater importance than the castle; the privilege of being the wife and companion of her spouse greater than being the Queen of an Empire. She never permitted modernism to invade the Royal Court and she had little use for those who preached modernistic doctrines in regard to marriage and religion. Both believe that motherhood is the highest and greatest achievement in a woman's life.

Prince Albert, who is now King George VI, was born at York Cottage on the Sandringham Estate on December 14th, 1895. There was only eighteen months between his birth and that of his eldest brother, Edward. There was only sixteen months between his birth and his sister, Princess Mary.

Queen Victoria was still on the Throne and the young Prince Albert was born on the anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort. This fact undoubtedly determined who he was to be called after. At that time his grandparents were Prince and Princess of Wales and his father and mother the Duke and Duchess of York.

The young Princes and their sister were left at home when their parents visited Australia in 1900 to open the first Federal Parliament just as the young Princesses have been left during the period of the Royal visit to Canada. The Royal children were brought up during their younger years under the care and guidance of Madam Bricks, their governess, and 'Mrs. Brill', who had charge of the nursery. They spent most of their younger days in Sandringham and Prince Albert and Prince Edward were great pals and inseparable companions. This fact alone made it all the harder for King George, as he now is, to play the role, an accident of birth placed upon his shoulders at the time of his brother's abdication.

The King's father had been an officer in the Royal Navy. He had not been just an ornament but a practical time-serving officer. He once distinguished himself when, as Captain of a destroyer, he rescued the crew of a shipwrecked vessel in a heavy sea by the simple expedient of running his own ship alongside of the stricken vessel and taking off the crew. Only his coolness and superb seamanship enabled him to make such a spectacular rescue without damage to his own command.

After our present King's parents returned from their Australian visit they took over the training of their offsprings and determined that they would be brought up as any other English children. Royalty have sent their children from all parts of the world to England to be trained and educated, where children are taught to play 'Cricket' rather than to become units of State Worship.

It was, perhaps, quite natural that the two Princes should be sent to Osborne and Dartmouth in order to be trained for the Royal Navy. Prince Albert was sent to the Naval Training College at Osborne soon after his fourteenth birthday. He was there for two years being 'licked into shape' with a number of other young gentlemen. Two more years he spent at the Dartmouth Royal Naval College, then, at the age of

eighteen, he was sent to join the cadet-training ship H.M.S. "Cumberland". Here he was given sea experience. When he graduated, he was gazetted midshipman and appointed to H.M.S. "Collingwood", flagship of the First Battle Squadron. He was still serving aboard this warship when war broke out in August 1914.

Only a month elapsed after the outbreak of war when the young Prince, still a midshipman, had to be invalided home with Appendicitis, but as soon as he was well enough, he returned to his ship and it was about this time that I had the honour to meet him on several occasions. I was serving as a midshipman aboard H.M.S. "Donegal", attached to the Seventh Cruiser Squadron. I remember well, on one occasion, racing him in for the mail when he was in charge of the Collingwood's picket-boat and I had charge of the Donegal's.

One wild, stormy day, when the fleet were anchored in Scapa Flow and the mailboat was moored up a sheltered cove, a full gale swept the harbour where the Grand Fleet rested at anchor. Picket-boats from all ships were ordered to collect the mail that winter's morning. I left at breakfast time and did not get back to my ship until the afternoon. The usual trip took about two hours. I believe that the picket-boat from the "Donegal" and the one from the "Collingwood" were the only two boats which completed the trip and returned with the mail. Prince Albert was midshipman of the Collingwood's picket-boat on that occasion also. To give some idea of what the weather was like, the fires in the boilers of the Donegal's picket-boat were nearly put out on no less than five occasions. The Coxswain and myself did the steering while the remainder of the crew were kept busy baling the water out of the engine-room and after cabin.

On another dirty night the young Prince brought despatches aboard H.M.S. "Donegal" from his Admiral. He had to wait for a reply from the "Donegal's" Captain. As midshipman of the watch I invited him down below to enjoy the hospitality of the Gunroom mess. He chatted and talked with the members of the Gunroom mess until the Quartermaster of the watch came below to announce that the despatches were ready and the picket-boat alongside. While in the Royal Navy, he was treated exactly the same as any other officer of the same rank, did exactly the same work and performed the same duties.

His health became gradually worse as the war progressed, and on several occasions he was sent South for special medical attention as he was apparently suffering from stomach ulcers.

Midshipmen from the "Collingwood" told me that this fact worried the young Prince very much indeed. He hated to be away from his ship, disliked the thought that his frequent absences might be misunderstood by those who were not familiar or informed as to the true facts in regard to his health. Finally, he persuaded the authorities to send a special doctor to the "Collingwood" so that he could continue to serve aboard ship and to receive the necessary treatment while afloat.

Thus it was that he was aboard his ship H.M.S. "Collingwood" on the day she sailed from Scapa Flow to take part in the greatest naval battle of all time. His job during the Battle of Jutland was no sine-cure. He was in charge of the fire-control turret, one of the most responsible positions in action and one of the hottest spots as well.

In the fire-control turret are the instruments which control the salvo firing of the ship's guns. The proper range of the enemy ships is obtained and passed by telephone to the various guns, then the correct deflection is given to allow for the enemy's speed, wind, etc. After the gun-layers and sight-setters at the guns have adjusted their range dials and set the deflection, the gun-layers train their sights on the enemy ships. Indicators in the fire-control

turret register the number of guns which are "on the target" at one and the same time. The guns are fired from the central fire-control turret at the moment most guns are 'on' the enemy. Those guns which are 'off' do not fire. Should the fire-control turret be 'knocked out of action' then the officers in charge of the different gun turrets carry on independently.

The present King of England was given no decorations 'sent up with the rations' just because he was a Prince of the Royal Household, but he was mentioned in despatches because he did his allotted task while in action "calm, collectedly and with great efficiency". He proved himself to be a 'prince of a fellow' under conditions of actual warfare to have as a shipmate.

War-time 'grub' and the war-time routine aboard ship did not help his stomach to become any stronger and it was finally decided that he should retire from the Senior Service and join the Royal Flying Corps. He did considerable flying both at home and in France and finished the war as Wing-commander.

In October 1919, Prince Albert went to Cambridge where he studied civics, economics and history. In 1920 he ceased to be Prince Albert when he became the Duke of York. In his new capacity he was not long breaking into his round of public service and one of his first duties was to open Queen Mary's Convalescent Centre at Woodcote Park, Epsom. In top hat and morning clothes he chummed around with the ex-service men and finally planked himself down on the grass amongst them while they all had their photographs taken.

When on sick leave from the Navy also during and after the war, King George VI was never happier than when visiting the sick and wounded men of all branches of the service, and it was while cheering up the wounded that he met his future bride for the second time. He met her first when she was only five years old.

Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon was born on August 4th, 1900 at St. Paul's Waldenbury, Hertfordshire, and she spent most of her childhood days where she was born or at Glamis Castle, the home of her ancestors which legend connects with Macbeth. Glamis Castle was turned into an emergency hospital during the war. There is an old picture taken shortly after the war showing Prince Albert in 'mufti' grouped with the Earl of Strathmore and members of the Earl's family. The Prince is standing next to the Earl's son David and directly behind Lady Elizabeth. Officially, it is reported that he met his future bride at a party given at Lady Leicester's home but there are many ex-service men who claim to remember their meeting long before that. They met, according to these men, when Lady Bowes-Lyon was a war-time nurse and her future husband a visitor to Glamis Castle Hospital.

Following the public and official meeting at Lady Leicester's, Lady Elizabeth acted as hostess at Glamis at a house party which included Prince Albert and his sister Princess Mary. When Princess Mary married in 1922, Lady Bowes-Lyon was one of her bridesmaids. Under the noble battlements of this famous Scottish castle, in an atmosphere steeped in the traditions of the past, Prince Albert learned to know and love Lady Elizabeth, and to her he became Prince Charming. It was a simple case of two human beings falling very much in love with each other for which happy occurrence the Empire may to-day feel truly thankful.

One Saturday in January, 1923, the young Duke of York went down to spend a week-end at St. Paul's Waldenbury. On the Sunday morning, when the rest of the party went out to attend church, the Duke, seeking an opportunity when he could be alone with his beloved, took Lady Elizabeth by the arm and they dropped behind. He steered into a pathway which led into the depths of the woods. Here under the can-

opy of Heaven, while the remainder prayed in church, he proposed to her, and she, being assured that she would be welcomed into the Royal family by both the King and Queen, joyfully accepted his proposal.

So it was in the depths of the forest, under an old oak, with a sharp frost in the air, and the warm glow of love in their hearts, that these two people, who are now our King and Queen, plighted their troth. The sun came from behind the clouds in the wintry sky and a red-breasted robin acted as their only witness.

To those who say they wouldn't walk an extra step to see the King and Queen; to those that would rather sit than stand when they hear the national anthem played or sung, let it be pointed out that at least we should love and respect them as two very human beings and recognize their true value to the Empire.

As King George VI, he is the visible head of the Church of England on earth. As such he reminds us to order our lives according to the precepts and practices of Christianity. He at least sets the example; if we fail to follow, let us not blame him or Christianity.

As King of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Dominions over the seas (now known as the British Commonwealth of Nations) he wears a crown, and that crown is the link which unites and binds the British Empire. Those who are dissatisfied with this state of affairs and those who talk treason and preach sedition, should be treated as peace time enemies of the Empire, and are to be considered far more dangerous than any individual can be when bearing arms against us in times of war. These traitors avail themselves of our protection and accept our hospitality while they plot and plan the destruction of our democracy.

As Queen, Lady Bowes-Lyon represents all the high and lofty ideals mankind has wrapped around and about womanhood for ages past. She is to us, and may she always remain, Her Most Gracious Majesty.

As a wife, she sets an example of perfect unselfishness, bowing her own wishes, ordering her own life, so that it fits in with her husband's daily routine and the welfare of the Empire. She is one wife who keeps her vows to "Love, Honour and Obey", and doesn't think it any indignity so to do.

As a mother, she is the same as any other good mother. She loves her children, her husband and her home. She delights in dressing her little daughters. As one of a family of ten children she was never spoiled herself and takes every precaution to see that her babies are not subjected to treatment which is likely to spoil them. Both the King and Queen love the simple home life and are never so happy as when staying at their real home, Royal Lodge, Windsor, enjoying each other's companionship and sharing the joys and childish sorrows of their two children.

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