

Firm is the Empire's Glory Based on Family Life and Virtue

Despite the would-be cynical and the supposedly sophisticated, it only needs a little thought and consideration to prove that the real greatness of the British peoples is broad-based upon the family circle—the home—the children—and all the happiness, the contentment, that cluster round true homes. For the great majority of mankind life is a round of toil, of struggle, of monotony, of grind. To make life worth while, there must be solid compensations for the risksome duty and the dull plodding. It is in the family life that the British people have found the counter-balance.

Royal Family an Inspiration
In an Empire where family life is

"The political historian has told us that the pictures of combats thus provided by the Victorian royalties had a considerable effect upon the light in which the Crown was regarded. The Royal Family in the days of Victoria's two immediate predecessors was not very 'respectable'; though George IV and William IV were married, they had 'private lives' of rather lurid irregularity.

Windsor Sets the Example
"Queen Victoria's advent was like a purifying breath. The middle-class paterfamilias read about the Court at Windsor or Buckingham Palace or Balmoral, and felt that the life led in those august precincts was very much like

blatant competition abroad and political strife of the most violent description at home, in the spectacle of a family, the highest family in the land, going about its daily business with the utmost decorum and devotion to duty."

King George V as Family Man
The writer quoted above proceeds to speak of King George V—the head of a family as well as the head of a nation—the head, indeed, of a family of nations:—

"The late King George's people watched his family grow up; they could understand his obvious pride in his sons, and shared that pride; they could appreciate the parents' joy when son after son was happily married—not to

of the most ancient and noble in the history of Scotland, they were unknown to the gossip-scribe and the connoisseur of society titbits.

"The Bowes-Lyon family traces its descent from a certain Sir John Lyon who in 1372 was granted the thanedom of Glamis by King Robert II of Scotland, together with the hand of one of his daughters. The family grew rapidly in wealth and position. The grandson of Sir John became Lord Glamis in 1445; in the 17th century the ninth lord became Earl of Kinghorne, his grandson was created Earl of Strathmore, and a yet later earl acquired the titles of Baron Bowes of Strathlam Castle and of Lunedale, by virtue of which Lord Strathmore has a seat in the House of Lords.

"Throughout the centuries the Strathmores played a not inconspicuous part in the life of their country, and their famous seat, Glamis Castle in Angus, may be described as 'history writ in stone.'

"Nearly a hundred and fifty years ago Sir Walter Scott spent a night within its walls, and he has left behind a description of the 'heavy pile' of which the keynote is the word 'eerie.' 'It was the scene of the murder of a Scottish king of great antiquity. It contains . . . a secret chamber the entrance of which, by the law or custom of the family, must only be known to three persons at once—namely, the Earl of Strathmore, his heir apparent, and any third person whom they may take into their confidence. The extreme antiquity of the building is vouched for by the thickness of the walls, and the wild straggling arrangement of the accommodation within doors.' As he was left alone for the night, as he heard door after door shut behind the retreating scoundrel, he began to consider himself 'as too far from the living, and somewhat too near the dead.'

Legend-Loaded Glamis
"Huge walls, winding passages, a secret room and another bearing the grim name of 'the Hangman's Chamber,' armour and tapestry, relics of Prince Charlie and of the great Sir Walter, and a bookful of legends and superstitions—what a delightful home for young folk to grow up in! We can imagine the wonderful games played in those ancient corridors by generation after generation of the Strathmore tribe, but we are concerned here only with the latest of the many—with the family of ten who were born to the present Earl and Countess, and with one in particular, the youngest but one.

"Lady Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lyon, whom we have learnt to know and love as Duchess of York and who is now our Queen, was born (on August 4, 1900) not at Glamis but at her father's English seat in Hertfordshire—St. Paul's Waldenbury. Most of her childhood days were spent at the latter, but for three months in every year the family migrated to the Scottish castle. Whether in the lovely country of Hertfordshire, however, or in the old-world surroundings of Glamis, she has enjoyed all the joys of a large family set by fortune in the pleasanter paths of the world."

And then the writer concludes with this paragraph:—

Royal Inspiration
"For four generations, then, the British Royal Family has presented to the world a spectacle of family happiness and affection. We are glad that it should be so—glad for their sake and for ours. Today more than ever before in our history the Throne is the rock about which British loyalty surges. The Crown as an institution was never so important as now, when it is in very deed the keystone of the Commonwealth. How fortunate, then, that the home life of our Sovereign is in keeping with all that tradition and training have taught us to hold dear!"

When the Present Queen Was a Young Girl at School

London.—A kindergarten school in which for a time Queen Elizabeth and her brother, the Hon. David Bowes-Lyon, were pupils nearly 30 years ago is now used as business premises.

It is in Marlbone High street and the entrance was by the small door at the side of an art dealer's shop. The school was in a room on the first floor.

One who was a pupil at the school at the time has recalled how one day the headmistress brought in two small children to introduce them to the school. A chestnut-haired little girl of about nine years in a tussore dress, protectively holding by the hand a small boy who looked slightly younger.

"Here," the headmistress said, "are Elizabeth and David Bowes-Lyon."

The two children soon became absorbed into the general life of the school. The proprietor of the shop below still remembers the little girl, who is now Queen, and her brother coming and going and racing off after school hours to play in Regent's Park.

But the education of Elizabeth was in the main due to her mother, Lady Strathmore; Elizabeth and David, the two youngest of the family, were brought up very much together in their early years.

Their favourite game was "dressing up." Their history lessons had stored their minds with memories of the past. Elizabeth's games of "Let's pretend" were usually about beautiful Scots-women.

She would dress up in costumes belonging to her ancestors of the time of James VI, later James I of England, and would call herself "Princess Elizabeth" after the Queen Elizabeth of Bohemia, King James' daughter.

During 1934 the British Royal Mint struck coins to the number of 138,913,285. Of these coins 50,001,785 were Imperial, 71,741,132 were Colonial and 17,170,368 were foreign.

Canada, with an area of 3,700,000 square miles, has an average of three persons per square mile, and in Australia the comparable figure is two persons. In the United Kingdom it is 468.

Something About the British Queens

Heir to Throne Does Not Pay Homage if a Girl

London.—Britain can have three kinds of Queens.

There is the Queen-mother, who like Queen Mary is the mother of the reigning monarch.

There is the Queen-consort, who, like the present Queen Elizabeth, is the wife of the ruling King.

And there is the Queen-proper, who reigns in her own right.

The last English queen to do this was Victoria, who came to the throne just 100 years ago. The next will probably be the Princess Elizabeth, elder daughter of King George VI.

The Queen-consort is by no means as exalted a person as her husband. He is crowned by the will of the people; she, if she be crowned at all, is crowned at his command.

The King's Subject
The wife of Charles I was never crowned, nor were four of the wives of Henry VIII. Although she is the First Lady of the Land, the Queen-consort is the King's subject, and can be sued at common law. She has her own household, and her own Attorney-General and Solicitor-General.

A Queen in her own right has all the powers and privileges of a King and her husband is her subject.

But one ceremonial act which took place at the last Coronation and has taken place at nearly every Coronation as far back into history as can be remembered, will be omitted on May 12. That particular piece of ceremonial is the act of homage which the heir to the throne pays to the newly crowned king. Princess Elizabeth will not pay homage. Not because she is too young, but because she happens to be a girl instead of a boy, and for some traditional reason, the origin of which nobody seems able to remember, women are not expected to pay homage—whoever they may be.

The Children
The little Princess with her sister will, however, be present at the Coronation ceremony—or so it is expected—just as her aunt, Princess Mary, was twenty-seven years ago when, at the Coronation of King George V, she with her three younger brothers sat in the royal box. Moreover, she will be attired in ceremonial dress, wearing the royal purple, which has been specially woven for her, over a simple light frock.

The kirtle, which is part of the robe worn by princesses, will not be used, but she will wear the mantle—in miniature, of course—slung from the shoulders by golden cords and having a little cape made of ermine falling to the waist.

The coronets which both Princesses will wear are not quite of the ordinary type, which perch upon the crown of the head. Neither of the children could be expected to maintain a bearing dignified enough to hold an orthodox coronet in position over a long space of time. Those to be worn, therefore, have been specially made and fit like comfortable hats, which will give no anxiety to anybody.

Globe and Mail.—One thing about the Coronation celebrations will be absolutely new—there will be ice hockey games for a special Coronation Cup. The Canadian influence again?



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Britain's Family of Nations

Total Area of 13,909,782
Square Miles. Population
493,370,000

The British Empire covers one-quarter of the surface of the globe and its population is over one-quarter of the entire human race.

Of the total population of the British Empire about 210,000,000 are Hindus, 100,000,000 are Mohammedans, 12,000,000 are Buddhists, 12,000,000 are Animists, 4,000,000 are Sikhs, Jains and Parsees, and 750,000 are Jews. Christians number about 80,000,000, of which 67,000,000 are Protestants and 13,000,000 are Roman Catholics.

The United Kingdom—England, Scotland, Isle of Man, Wales, North Ireland, Channel Islands.

British Dominions—Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, Newfoundland, Irish Free State.

The Empire of India.
Crown Colonies and Protectorates—Aden, Ascension, Basutoland, Bechuan-

aland, Bermudas, British Guiana, British Honduras, British North Borneo, British West Indies, Brunei, Burma, Ceylon, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, Fiji Islands, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, Kenya, Malay States, Malta, Mauritius, Nigeria, Nyasaland, Pacific Islands, Papua, Rhodesia (North and South), St. Helena, Sarawak, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somaliland, Straits South, Sudan (Anglo-Egypt), Swaziland, Tristan da Cuna, Uganda, Zanzibar.

Mandated Territories—Cameroun, W. Samoa, Palestine, S. W. Africa, Tanganyika, Togoland, Nauru Island, N. E. New Guinea.

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE EMPIRE

In 1934 the creameries of Ontario made 80,423,400 lbs. of butter, and cheese factories produced 73,497,000 lbs. of cheese.

Exclusive of dialects, 225 languages are spoken in the Indian Empire.

In 1935 South Africa was responsible for 43 per cent. of the world production of gold.

The British Empire covers one-quarter of the surface of the globe, and its population exceeds one-quarter of the human race.

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King George VI and Family

featured as the greatest feature of life, it is but fitting that here as in other lines, example and inspiration should come from the head of the Empire. A writer in an Old Land magazine recently touched on this, in part, as follows:

Lightening Royalty's Load

"Who can calculate the value to the British Empire of our Royal Family? A king ruling in solitary state may be a shining figure, but a lonely one. One who has a wife and a home in which there rings the note of childish laughter has given, it is true, hostages to fortune, but holds also one of the greatest gifts at fortune's disposal. A wedded monarch is so much more human, so much more easily understood. Those who see him from the crowd's verge know that, in courtship and marriage and parenthood, he must have passed along much of the road that they, his humble subjects, have trodden. They feel he knows the joys of home life, its cares and responsibilities; that he realizes the anxieties which children bring in their train, and is just as surely acquainted with the blessings and the comfort.

"A royal family is, indeed, an 'interesting idea'; the family makes royalty human and understandable. Britain has been particularly fortunate in this respect—at least for almost two hundred years.

that he lived in his family circle at Norwood or Maida Vale. Generation after generation of the Queen's subjects grew up, came to maturity and had families themselves; and never very far from the minds of any of them was the figure of the old lady who, though most royally royal, was still a devoted mother and grandmother.

"Victoria's passing marked the close of an epoch, but the new sovereign had lived in the full blaze of publicity for many years, and his life as a country gentleman among his children at Sandringham and Marlborough house did much to endear him to his subjects. Then in the background was his son—the second of a family of five—who was most happily married and was the father of five sons and a daughter."

Royalty in Ascendant

Despite the republican sentiment that seemed to grow in the middle years of Queen Victoria's reign, when after the death of her husband, she retired from public gaze, the British Crown revived in popularity before the century's close, and under King Edward and his noble son, King George V, its prestige and influence became still further enhanced. As one writer said:—

"There was something soothing to the British peoples, whose nerves were being increasingly set on edge by the

the bride presented to them by some match-making chancellor, but to the girl chosen by their own hearts; they noted, too, when the children's children came upon the scene, that the royal grandfather was all that a grandfather should be. The love of home, of one's wife and children, of grandsons and granddaughters—here is something that everyone, whatever his or her station in life or viewpoint, can comprehend and sympathize with.

Loyalty Unleashed

"He's one of us," said the man in the street and the woman in the home. For years their admiration grew, and at last they were given an opportunity of expressing their long-laboured emotion. The Jubilee celebrations were marked by a display of popular fervour that has seldom if ever been equalled, and never surpassed; and the height of the enthusiasm was reached when there stepped out on to balcony at Buckingham Palace—George V by the Grace of God King-Emperor—yes, but something else besides, a true gentleman of Old England, with his wife and children, son-in-law, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren gathered about him in one big family party on his day of greatest happiness.

"Twenty-five years before, he had begun his reign at a time of tremendous political strain, and he had been but four years on the throne when the Empire he had been called to rule was subjected to the severest trial in its history. The post-War years, too, were difficult and trying in the extreme. Through war and peace alike, however, the King and his Consort moved on their way, calmly doing their duty as each day made its new demands. When all about them was in a turmoil, when thrones were falling like the autumn leaves, they rested apparently unmoved, unperturbably unmovable. We know now whence came their strength."

Turning from the King and the King's Family, the writer turns to the Queen and the truly royal line from which she came. Queen Elizabeth may well have pride of race as fine as those of any other line. The story of her family goes back nearly 600 years. The writer quoted before says:—

Strathmores in History

"That happy family that had made its seats at Windsor and London, Sandringham and Balmors, represented home life played on the loftiest stage in the social structure. A little lower, below but not far below the steps of the Throne, there was another family in which nowadays we take a very great deal of interest, although in the pre-war years their doings were given little publicity in the newspapers. They were of the aristocracy, but of the aristocracy of culture as well as of birth. Hence, though their titles were many and high, though their name was one



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