

A Quarter Century of Regal Rule

Out of the shadows of regal splendor that crowned the successful reigns of his ancestors emerged George V, son of Edward VII, to guide the destinies of the British Empire. To a nation hardly recovered from the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, to an empire just realizing the greatness of her late successor, to a people immeasurably saddened and torn by parliamentary strife, the ascension of the new king meant little. His coronation was received with little enthusiasm and much speculation. He was forty-five years of age, known only to the public as a carefree, happy naval commander who was untried by national responsibilities. To what heights or depths he would guide the Empire his subjects could only hazard a guess.

Twenty-five years have passed since then and what a change they have wrought. From a shadowy and colourless personality he has developed into a figure of grave and serious mien, a popular hero, and an understanding monarch. This change has been brought about by the qualities with which God has seen fit to endow him, and by the many trying circumstances and difficult situations he has had to encounter. A striking example of this latter is the Great War. There is no need to recount the sordid details of that murderous slaughter or the part that His Majesty played in the same. That he came through it without loss of prestige or territory is manifest evidence that the guiding hand must have been a steady one. It was this steady hand and these admirable qualities that have raised him to a position which only posterity can value at its true worth.

That George V. has great natural parts no one now doubts. Unknown to his subjects he possessed a cool courage and a presence of mind that have not failed him during his quarter century of rule. His temper is pleasant and social, his manners perfect, and there is a freedom and fairness in his address that have won over the hearts that loved his predecessor so dearly. Like Peter the Great he is deeply interested in naval affairs and in the navy in which he, when a young man, served so long and so well.

An attempt to narrate His Majesty's triumphs during the past twenty-five years would be foolhardy. They

are too numerous and too lengthy. It suffices to say that he has unwaveringly and at all times followed that noble principle "bene fac quod facies."

Let us then on May 6, 1935, offer to God our thanks for giving to us as our ruler George V., and let us pray that he will be spared us many more years.

THE KING—GOD BLESS HIM



A man's best things are nearest him
Lie close about his feet.

—Houghton.

Revenge, at first though sweet,
Bitter ere long back on itself recoils.

—Milton

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.—Pope.

The good are better made by ill
As odours crushed are sweeter still.

—Rogers.

And often-times excusing of a fault
Doth make the fault the worse by the excuse.

—Shakespeare.

