

Message of
condolence
sent by
Canada.

On May 7 the Governor General of Canada cabled the following message of condolence to the Secretary of State for the Colonies :

The announcement of the death of King Edward VII, which has just reached Canada, has created universal sorrow. His Majesty's Canadian Ministers desire that you will convey to His Majesty King George and the members of the Royal Family an assurance that the people of Canada share in the great grief that has visited them. In the discharge of the duties of his exalted station his late Majesty not only won the respect and devotion of all British subjects, but by his efforts in behalf of international harmony and good will he became universally esteemed as the Great Peacemaker. Nowhere was this gracious attribute of the Royal character more deeply appreciated than in His Majesty's Dominion of Canada.

Funeral at
Windsor.

At the impressive funeral ceremonies which culminated in the interment at Windsor on May 20 practically every country in the world was represented. The representatives of Canada were the Right Hon. Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, K.C.M.G., Chief Justice of Canada, the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. A. B. Aylesworth, K.C., Minister of Justice and Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., High Commissioner for Canada in London. In all the Dominions of the Empire the day of the funeral was observed as one of general mourning. Throughout Canada the day was marked by cessation from business and pleasure, by solemn memorial services in the churches and by military parades and ceremonies in the chief centres of population.

Reign of King
Edward VII.

Known and loved as Prince of Wales for 40 years, during which long period he filled a peculiarly difficult position with consummate tact and invariable good humour, King Edward, upon his accession, proved what had hardly been realised by the public, that he possessed the very highest qualifications for his exalted station. And he endeared himself still further to his subjects by the extraordinary versatility and zest which he displayed in connection with all phases of the national life. As head of the army and navy he was naturally alive to the interests of these Services, but the representatives of agriculture, of art, of science, of literature, of music, of the drama and of the learned professions also found in His Majesty an active, intelligent and enthusiastic patron, while on the lighter side of life he appealed irresistibly to the great majority of his countrymen as a typical English sportsman.

Sympathy
with the poor
and suffering.

The keen, practical sympathy which King Edward ever evinced with suffering and distress was especially shown by his establishment, on the occasion of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1887, of what is now known as "King Edward's Hospital Fund," and it was also manifested by his personal if less public labours when Prince of Wales as a member of the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Poor. His anxiety that conspicuous merit and courageous conduct displayed by the humbler classes of his subjects should not go unrewarded found expression by his institution of the Imperial Service, Edward and Police Medals.