

# BIRTH OF A NEW DYNASTY

## INTERESTING PERSONALITY OF PRINCE CARL WHO WILL BECOME KING OF NORWAY



NORWAY'S NEW ROYAL FAMILY

By Guy T. Viskinski.

**A** TALL, athletic, handsome young fellow, more the well-groomed Englishman of noble blood in physical appearance, dress and manners than the royal Dane he surely is, is shortly to be formally seated upon the ancient and historic throne of the Norse Kings as Haakon VII.

A new dynasty is to be born even while the most autocratic dynasty in the world may be tottering to its fall.

What about the personality of this young man, called by a practically united people from comparative obscurity to be the founder of the new line of Kings in these days when the spirit of democracy is rampant?

With what ceremonies will the crown of St. Olaf be put upon his brow?

What of the ancient Norse capital in which he will be crowned, of the equally historic cathedral where the coronation will take place? And the castle in Christiania that will be the home of the new King and Queen—what also of that?

### Interesting Personality of the New King.

**W**ITH Prince Carl, second son of Crown Prince Christian of Denmark, King of Norway, the blood of the Bernadottes does not cease to reign over the upper half of the Scandinavian peninsula, popular opinion to the contrary notwithstanding.

The King-elect's mother is Louise, Crown Princess of Denmark. She was Princess of Sweden and Norway; her father, Charles XV, ruled over the union prior to King Oscar II's accession to the throne in 1872, that Charles who was the best loved King of Norway has had in modern times.

Further, the new King is the fourth member of old King Christian's family to reach a throne within the head's lifetime. A son rules over the Hellenes as George I. A daughter is Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India, and another is Dowager-Empress of Russia.

But the first thing to be said about Prince Carl's personality is that he, like the famous Norse Kings of old, is a veritable son of the sea.

As a child he was set apart for a naval career. To this end he was educated by his father until he was 14 years old, when he passed the examinations for admission into the naval academy. There he spent the regulation four years under the chief of the school, the present Admiral Carstensen. He fared just as his comrades of nautical blood fared, no better, no worse; indeed, he would not countenance any favoritism from any instructor or mate. "I am trying to learn to be a sailor," was his way of putting it, "and I cannot learn my lessons as I should if the circumstance of my birth is going to interfere continually."

On leaving the academy he began his active career as a midshipman. That was in 1880. Since then he has slowly mounted to the grade of Captain, rank which only two Norwegian admirals have taken him 15 years to reach his present grade is good proof of the statement that he has not used his princely rank to best himself over the heads of others or to win favors in the service.

When at sea the Prince is a hard worker and he demands hard work from all under him. Yet he is well liked by his officers, and the common sailors are eager to hold him in high regard. He is a strict disciplinarian without being a martinet, and the men in his forecastle are the first to appreciate the difference.

While on shore his associates are usually of the navy and most of his time is spent in the study of naval problems. On returning from a cruise or a sojourn in England, his wife's home, his first task is to hunt up those of his naval comrades in the capital and engage in long talks with the officers. In this way, his one subject of conversation is always the sea and the things that are pertinent thereto. In this one trait he should please the Norwegians immensely, for the Kings who have made their history have been men of the sea, largely.

One of the Prince's strong characteristics is that he never neglects a friend, once he has made one. While in the naval academy he became strongly attached to his chief and his good wife, whom he, along with the other cadets, affectionately terms "Mama." He calls on her to pay his respects at frequent intervals, and whenever he receives a promotion, he goes to her to kiss like a schoolboy over her congratulations. His old schoolmates are always sure of a hearty hand and word from him, and they have had many a revel together when the good of the service has permitted.

But it is not easy to gain the Prince's friendship. From his youth up he has been exceedingly shy, and only when



PRINCE CARL IN UNIFORM OF A DANISH NAVAL OFFICER



THE HOME NORWAY HAS PROVIDED FOR ITS KING AND QUEEN THE ROYAL CASTLE IN CHRISTIANIA

he is with boon companions does he permit his real self to be revealed. His reserve does not break down until after long acquaintance and then only seldom, for he is a man who desires not a host of more or less good, so-called friends, but a small body of friends of the firmest and truest sort.

A sure way not to win the Prince's friendship is to be servile to him in any degree whatsoever. Perhaps his strongest aversion is for servility, and it has been remarked frequently that that man in Copenhagen who hates the sand or the tractor more than any one else is Prince Carl.

Here is a little story aptly illustrating this trait: Copenhagen agent who was returning to his home after an absence abroad of several years' duration, met a young naval officer of prepossessing appearance in the railway car, and it was not long before the two were engaged in an animated and friendly social chat. Each talked as the other's equal, and when they parted at the end of the journey there was the hearty handshake of equals.

Three weeks later a festival was held in the city in which the royal family took part. The merchant was present, and what was his astonishment to recognize in Prince Carl his young and enterprising traveling companion.

Instantly his frank demeanor of three weeks before changed and he approached the Prince with soft and honeyed words. But this time the merchant gave the merchant only polite attention.

When the merchant departed, the Prince, turning to a companion, rejected the incident of the ride, adding: "And now, when he knows my rank, he comes to me as a snob and not as one man frankly to another. I have no further use for him, and the pleasant words that were on my lips when I saw him approaching would not come out when he showed his true character in his servility."

Carl is not enamored of festivities or show of any sort. Neither is he an ornamental man. He is an earnest worker, and as a result little is known of him by the public, except that while his wife devotes herself to literary work, he in his leisure hours is busy wrestling with problems of navigation or deeply engrossed in reading standard naval works.

Of course, both the Prince and Princess are devoted to their only child, who manages to get around fairly well under the rather burdensome name of Alexander Frederick Edward Christian. He is now in his third year, and on the authority of visitors to his father and mother's apartment in Copenhagen belonging to King George of Greece, the boy is boss enough in the home to make his father get down on the floor and play with him by the hour. Many profess to see in the child's features much likeness to his august maternal grandfather, King Edward VII.

For some time the Prince's love of his home and his strong aversion to having himself or any of his figure in any discussion kept him from allowing his name to be brought forward as that of a candidate for the throne to which the Norwegian people have elected him. Only when he became convinced that

it was his duty to allow his candidature to be announced did he permit of its being done. Indeed, all are agreed that he has a strong sense of duty, and in this he is much like his sturdy old grandfather, who has so long held the respect of all Europe.

According to his friends the new King rears his numerous shortcomings for Kingship, chief of which is that he has been trained wholly for the sea and not at all for statecraft. But his friends argue, Norway could have chosen most any other Prince and fared a great deal worse, for it is not often that a man of royal blood is found who is choiceful of what is interchangeably known in America as horse or common sense.

The Prince and Princess were married in July of 1896. He was born August 3, 1872. She is nearly three years his senior. Her name is Christiania, born November 23, 1869. His full name is Christian Frederick Carl George Valdemar Axel. As a daughter of a daughter of King Christian, the Princess has been received by the Danes. How she will impress the Norwegians as Queen Maud remains to be seen.

### The Town and the Cathedral of the Coronation.

**T**HE coronation of the new King and Queen will take place, not at the capital, Christiania, but at Trondheim, to the north, and only three degrees south of the Arctic circle. The Norwegian constitution makes it obligatory that the King be crowned here. The crowning and anointing of the King shall take place . . . in the Cathedral of Trondheim, at such time and with such ceremonies as he himself shall determine. In view of this provision, all the Kings who have reigned jointly over Sweden and Norway since 1319 have been crowned at Trondheim.

This town, third in size in the kingdom, with a population of less than 25,000, has been called "the strength and heart of the country." It is, indeed, the cradle of the Kingdom of Norway. It was here, on Bratton, that the ancient Norse Kings were elected and crowned. Here the famous Orthing used to meet. From here sailed many of the sea-roving expeditions a thousand years ago that were fraught with such deep consequences to the human race. Here was the royal residence till late in the Middle Ages, and here, from the close of the tenth century till Norway's union with Denmark in the 14th, the country's history centered.

As early as 896, when, according to many authorities, the Norseman weaver busy anticipating Columbus' great discovery, King Olaf Trygvasson dedicated a church to St. Clement on the town's site, but St. Olaf, who Christianized the country, is held to have been the real founder of Nidaros, as the town was originally named, 20 years later.

St. Olaf, as King Olaf Haraldsson, reigned until 1022, when Knut, the famous Danish King, ruling in England, drove him into exile and had himself proclaimed King in Nidaros. Seven years later, Olaf, leaving the friendly Russian court of Jaroslava, entered his native land, only to meet death at the hands of a peasant army in the battle of Verdalen.

Great as his influence over his people had been in life, it was manifested in death. The land was filled with stories of the miracles that drops of blood from his wounds had wrought. King Olaf Kyrr built a church over his tomb. On his being canonized the body was transferred to a reliquary and placed on the high altar, and from then on until the troublous times of the Reformation it was a cause of pilgrimage for the devout not only from all parts of Scandinavia, but every European country as well.

This church, known in ecclesiastical history as Olaf Kyrr's Christ Church, was the original of the cathedral in which the coronation and the anointment will

take place. Because of the importance which St. Olaf's shrine had given to Trondheim, it was raised to an archbishopric in the middle of the 12th century, and shortly after that the famous Archbishop Eystein decided to enlarge the church to a cathedral, in order to make it meet the requirements of a metropolitan seat and accommodate the vastly increasing number of pilgrims to St. Olaf's shrine.

Rostein pushed the work forward until he was compelled to flee to England, to escape punishment at the hands of King Sverre, on account of ecclesiastical conspiracy against the throne. He was in exile three years. During that time he escaped punishment at the hands of King Sverre, on account of ecclesiastical conspiracy against the throne. He was in exile three years. During that time he escaped punishment at the hands of King Sverre, on account of ecclesiastical conspiracy against the throne.

When he returned home he began constructing the cathedral's distinguishing feature, the great octagonal choir, for which architectural authorities hold that Canterbury's horseshoe-shaped eastern end served as the model.

Eystein died with his great work far from completed. Through the following years it was carried on by his successors, and at the beginning of the 14th century the Cathedral was pronounced finished.

Twenty-eight years later occurred the first of the long series of disasters to which the town and cathedral were subjected. A great fire destroyed the town, as well as the cathedral, which was restored only to be reduced in large part to a mass of ruins by two fires occurring in the first decade of the 18th century.

But the greatest disaster befell the cathedral in the days of the Reformation. Then sacrilegious hands snatched the relics of St. Olaf, and with their disappearance the pilgrimage ceased and the cathedral rapidly lost its pre-eminence it had enjoyed for so long a time in the eyes of Christendom. The great octagon was left in ruins, and the town, third in size in the kingdom, with a population of less than 25,000, has been called "the strength and heart of the country." It is, indeed, the cradle of the Kingdom of Norway.

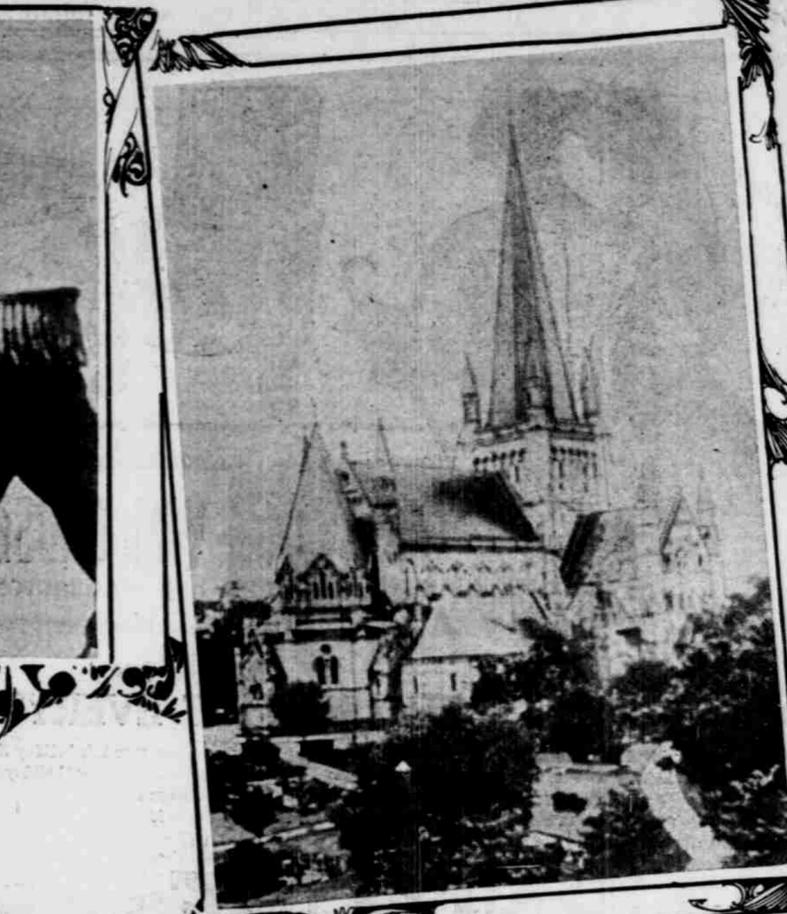
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TRONDHJEM CATHEDRAL WHERE THE CORONATION WILL TAKE PLACE



### The Simple Coronation Ceremonies.

**A**LTHOUGH the Norwegian Constitution of 1814 states explicitly that the coronation shall take place with such ceremonies as the King himself shall determine, it is a fact that every King since that date has ascended the throne with practically similar ceremonies. These ceremonies, more or less altered, have come down from the time of the ancient Norse Kings. They are striking in their simplicity, when compared with coronations in other lands; and there is no reason to believe that Prince Carl will elect to have the crown of St. Olaf put on his head with ceremonies other than those incident to the coronation of Oscar II and his Queen Sophia, 22 years ago last July 18th.

Oscar and Sophia made their appearance in the ancient Norwegian capital two days prior to the coronation, and took up their abode in the Stiftsgaarden, more like a comfortable two-story mansion than a royal palace. The harbor was filled with Swedish, Norwegian and foreign warships, dispatched thither in honor of the event. The little town was decorated profusely with flags. Troops were posted everywhere about the town as guards.

The coronation ceremonies began early on the third day, with the royal procession from the gates of the Stiftsgaarden. It proceeded through the Munkgaarden (Monk's street) to the northern side of the Cathedral, where is the King's doorway. At its head marched the lower court and state functionaries. The higher officials also were on foot, so was the King, and likewise the Queen, whose crown was borne by three maids of honor. The King was in a General's uniform under an ermine cloak, and, besides other decorations, he wore a plaque of St. Olaf. The royal children were in line; but the new Crown Prince, owing to his tender age, will probably be left at home when his father and mother are crowned. The procession was an hour in passing, and one of its marked features was that everyone of it was on foot.

On entering the Cathedral, the King was received by the Bishop of Trondheim, surrounded by two other bishops and surrounded by numerous clergymen. After several short prayers, the King was conducted to an archway, and placed on the right of the altar, and

the bearers of the imperial banner and the royal insignia ranged in a semicircle about him. The Queen was received in like manner and placed in a chair opposite the King's.

When all were placed, the organ ceased playing and the King and Queen knelt in prayer in solemn silence. When they regained their seats, the royal insignia were placed upon the altar, divine services began, and after several hymns and brief prayers, the Bishop of Hamar preached a short and appropriate sermon.

Then the King rose and went to the royal throne, placed upon temporary steps in front of the altar. The prince's mantle was taken from his shoulders and the royal mantle, with its gold embroidered crowns upon purple velvet and with borders of ermine, was put upon him.

The King knelt upon the footstool. The Bishop of Trondheim dipped a finger in the sacrament horn and made the sign of the cross on the King's brow, breast, temples and hand-joints, saying, as he did so:

"May the Almighty, Eternal God pour over you his Spirit and Grace, that you may, with wisdom and strength and good will, so rule over us that the name of the Lord be glorified, that right and truth prevail, that the weak of the land and of the people be furthered and confirmed."

The King was now seated on the throne. The crown was placed on his brow, and from the Bishop's hands he received the scepter, the globe and the sword, which had been in its scabbard, lying upon a cushion. The sword was unsheathed by the King, and when returned to his chair in the nave, then the Queen was conducted to the throne and the same ceremonies were done to her, except that she was anointed only on the brow and hand joints. The coronation closed with the singing of the concluding versans of the cantata written especially for the coronation, divine services having been begun by singing the first part.

In the procession back to the Stiftsgaarden, the King and Queen walked in full regal pomp, wearing the royal crowns and carrying sceptre and globe. It was 1:30 o'clock of the afternoon when the last of the procession disappeared behind the Stiftsgaarden gates, and the coronation was over.

Of course, there followed a banquet. It was spread in the banquet hall and 700 guests were present. And, of course, the new King will mark his coronation with a banquet along similar lines in the same hall. In such fashion does tradition hedge a King about, in spite of all sorts of latitude guaranteed to him by so powerful a document as a national constitution.

The oath that the King takes before the Storting, immediately on assuming his princely duties, is set down in the constitution.

"I promise and swear that I will govern the Kingdom of Norway in accordance with its constitution and laws, so truly help me God and His Holy Word."

### Where the New King and Queen Will Live.

**T**HE castle in which the King and Queen will live occupies a commanding elevation in the city of Christiania, overlooking a portion of the capital and the harbor. It is a spacious stone structure in the midst of a spacious park. Its cornerstone was laid in 1828 by King Carl Johan (Bernadotte). It was completed in 1848, and by reason both of its short life, as castles go, and the improvements that have been put on it from time to time, it is one of the most modern royal residences in all Europe.

A goodly portion of the castle's fittings belonged to King Oscar. These are now being replaced by the Norwegian government, and in other ways the castle is being made ready to receive the new rulers and the youthful Crown Prince, whose apartments and those of the future Crown Princess, are on the second and third floors respectively, the one directly above the other.

The second is the main floor. It is reached by a broad and sumptuously decorated staircase. On the right are the King's apartments, on the left the conference rooms and the large salons for receptions and court purposes. The Queen's rooms are directly under the King's, the suites being connected by a private stairway. These rooms are being wholly refurbished. King Oscar had his rooms furnished with silver wedding gifts and family portraits; the Queen's also were largely fitted with mementos of her reign. About the only things that will be permitted to remain in the apartments are the portraits of the Bernadotte family, hanging in the King's office and constituting its decorations. As the new King has Bernadotte blood in his veins, the portraits will not be in bad taste.

The council-room where King and Ministers confer, has always been simply furnished. The state and royal libraries, cover the greater portion of the walls. A Spartan could ask for nothing plainer.

The state banquet-rooms—the various salons, the audience-room—all are rich examples of various styles of interior decoration. There are numerous rooms for ladies and gentlemen-in-waiting and other court functionaries. A King chapel is in the north wing on the second floor. Store and guest rooms take up the major part of the third floor, while the basement is given over to the servants, kitchen, laundry, etc.

The massive chandeliers that formerly were striking features of the great salon, running through the second and third floors, were removed and sold at public auction when an electric lighting system was installed in the palace. In time these chandeliers came into the hands of Crown Prince Christian, of Denmark.

It is said that one of his gifts to his son, when he is formally placed on the Norwegian throne, will be these chandeliers.

When the new rulers feel like it they can ascend to the flat roof of the castle, mount the platform at the flagstaff's base, and from this vantage point survey not only the entire capital, but the fjord on which it is situated and many square miles of the picturesque rugged country, as well. Then there is the park for quiet strolls; indeed, they should find their new residence much more comfortable than the more or less uncomfortable they have occupied in their apartments in Copenhagen since their marriage (Copyright, 1905, by McClure, Phillips & Co.)