

WHEN EUROPE'S RULERS WERE BOYS and GIRLS



Italy's King in His Tender Years

When Russia's Czar was a Boy

The Kaiser at the Age of Six

She Grew Up to Be the Present Queen of Spain



Queen Wilhelmina of Holland was an Amiable Little Girl



The King of England was Proud of His Sailor Suit



An Early Photo of Alfonso of Spain



When Queen Maud of Norway was a Little English Maid



Now the Queen of Rumania, She is Widely Known as Carmen Silvia

Present Day Kings and Queens before they Learned the Cares of State

lad, who liked play better than anything else, but who buckled down to his studies under exacting tutors like a little man, because he realized what was expected of him. He was not given much money to spend, probably not nearly as much as many American and English children of today. Now that he is a king and a grandfather many times over, he believes in rearing children just as he was reared.

When young Nicholas of Russia faced the camera for his photograph he had no more serious care upon his mind, doubtless, than devising some new game with which to enliven the hours of respite from study—for the education of a future emperor begins early in life.

This is the most easily recognized picture in the lot; the face of the czar today is the face of this child, except that it is lined with cares now and is fringed with a beard; the eyes are the same—large, dark, pensive, almost sad. It seems that the lad, more than any other of the youthful royalty, was intuitively aware of the weighty responsibilities of a crown.

GREAT CHANGE IN THE MAN

At the age of 6 years he who is now the mighty Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany seemed a gentle, almost shy, little fellow. One scarcely imagines it possible that he would grow into the domineering war lord and dictatorial ruler upon whom the eyes of the civilized world are nearly always fastened.

When Wilhelmina of Holland was 10 years old her father died, and she became queen, although her mother and a council of statesmen ruled the country until she was 18. She had the strange experience of being a monarch and yet having to study lessons as directed and to obey orders like any other little maiden.

She was taught to dress modestly—she is possessed now, perhaps, of the quietest tastes of any European ruler. Until she was 12 years old she was dressed entirely in white, even to her kid shoes and silk stockings.

Little Wilhelmina came to the royal home late in her father's life, and was a disappointment to the king, who longed for a son to follow him upon the throne. She had a good mother, who reared her with loving care, yet with the simplicity of the average Dutch home.

The little girl who is enjoying, apparently, her swing has lived to become, the most prolific and noted of writers in royal ranks. She is now Queen Elizabeth of Roumania, but is much more widely known under her pen name, Carmen Sylva. A love of nature has remained from the days of her romping, rollicking, swing-enjoying youth, for she was raised on a farm.

She played among the flowers, ran about the fields as any farmer's child might do and even worked in the garden. So little did thoughts of exalted station play upon her mind that as she grew up she declared her greatest ambition was to become a school teacher.

Photos by Underwood and Underwood

SO MUCH of dignity and splendor surround a throne that one's imagination rarely turns backward to picture the stately ruler as just a boy or girl, with no thought of the cares of a nation entering the sun-loving brain.

Indeed, it is rather difficult to conjure up mental pictures of the kaiser or Edward VII of England just as rather ordinary-looking little lads, as fond of play and as impatient of books, perhaps, as any of humble birth about them; or of the queen of Holland, Roumania or Norway, looking exactly like other little maidens of those lands, worried more by broken dolls than by thoughts of future responsibilities.

One doesn't have to imagine what the prominent monarchs of Europe looked like in their childhood days; faithful records of the camera permit us to see them just as they were. Rarely has a more interesting lot of pictures been presented than those shown on this page.

QUITE unlike the portly, gray-haired Edward of today is the English boy who stands with his hands in the pockets of his sailor suit.

He was the pride of his young queen-mother's heart, but was reared sensibly and carefully, and was far from being a spoiled child, it is said. Queen Victoria had the good, old-fashioned idea that work was good for boys, and that the first step toward qualification to command others was to learn to obey orders.

He was a merry, fun-loving, light-hearted

Interesting and full of the pure joy of living were the youthful days of the English girl who in time became Queen Maud of Norway. She was the sunbeam of her parents' home, just as her son, merry little Prince Olaf, is now the sunbeam of her own.

Born in the purple, Maud was reared in the strict simplicity that surrounded all the children of England's king and queen. She spent the greater number of her early years at Sandringham, being trained and educated under the personal supervision of Queen Alexandra.

Known in youthful days to members of the royal household as "Princess Merry," and to her brothers and sisters as "Harry," Maud was distinguished by an active, vigorous and mischievous personality, ever keen for fun and adventure, and for that reason often in little troubles.

Very proud, no doubt, was little Victor Emmanuel of Italy of his soldier cap and sword—more so than he is today, for the king of that country is not fond of state pomp and display. In his boyhood days, as now, Victor Emmanuel was fond of outdoor life and soon

became an expert rider. His training was marked by almost Spartan simplicity and severity and in the same way he is rearing his young son, the heir to the throne.

Although he did not know it at the time, the future was not promising to little Alfonso of Spain when he posed for the picture shown here. His father had died before he was born, his country was torn by internal dissensions and blighted by poverty; its statesmen were bending every nerve to retain the colonial possessions that were slowly but surely slipping from Spain's grasp. Yet he lived to become a very active and interesting young monarch, with two sturdy and handsome children of his own.

Their mother, fortunately, had good looks to transmit to them. She was a chubby, attractive little girl, who, having a German prince for a father and an English princess for a mother, and spending much of her time in Paris while a child, grew up knowing how to speak three languages with equal facility. When she became the consort of the Spanish king, she learned the language of his country also.