

**Saturday Night Talks**  
By F. E. DAVISON  
Rutland, Vt.

CORONATION HOURS.

Nov. 22, '08—(1. Kings 1: 32-40.)

That was a crucial period of Solomon's career when the anointing oil of Zadok, the priest, was put upon his head and the crown of dominion was handed to him by David, his father, Adonijah, the younger brother of Absalom, aspired to the throne and by furor and clamor, was attempting to stampede the people in his behalf. But David had his own ideas in regard to the succession and with promptness and vigor he abdicated in favor of Solomon, that he might see the favored son firmly established in the seat of government while he was yet alive. The conspiracy came to naught, the people caught the enthusiasm of the hour, and cried out, "God save King Solomon!" And thus began the reign of one, under whose direction the kingdom of Israel reached the high water mark of national greatness. From the first moment that the crown of royalty rested upon his head he bore himself in a kingly fashion. Solomon was every inch a king.

**Crowned Scoundrels.**

The American youth is not eligible to royalty, thrones and scepters are not in our line. In this country there is no hereditary rank entitling the possessors thereof to place and power above the common throng. Yet there are coronation days in this land of equal rights and dignities are sought and won by American citizens. In Old World kingdoms it has often been true that crowns have rested upon unworthy heads. Many a monarch in rank has been a criminal and a slave in character. The writers of history are compelled to expurgate and cleanse their story before giving it out to posterity. Every careful student knows that the private lives of multitudes of kings and queens will not bear investigation. The rulers, "by divine right" are few, judged by the standard of morals taught in the Bible. One of the reasons for the disruption of the empire of Solomon after his death is to be found in the fact that Solomon's son, Rehoboam, followed his father's example instead of his preaching. The thousand wives of Solomon's wholesale adultery, were more influential in some respects and made a deeper impression on the empire than his thousand proverbs. Solomon's reign was the golden age of the Jewish kingdom, but he, himself, before his death, almost fills the poet's description. "The greatest, wisest, meanest of mankind."

**Crowns For All.**

It is said that when the Princess Victoria was called to the kingdom, the messengers who were the highest dignitaries of state, arrived at her palace from the death-bed of the king very early in the morning. They had great difficulty in arousing any one; but at length the princess' maid appeared, who said that her mistress was asleep and must not be disturbed. "Tell her," said the Archbishop of Canterbury, "that we have come on business of importance to the Queen, and even her slumbers must give way to that." Such a message was not to be put aside, and the princess appeared and was soon invested with royal robes and prerogatives. And what was true of Victoria is true of every young person in whatever land they live. We are all called to kingship and queenship. "They shall be kings and queens unto God, and they shall reign forever and ever." "Fold your arms over your breast, and you have covered a realm vast enough to engage the efforts of an archangel. He that ruleth his spirit is greater than he that taketh a city." Many a man who has ridden at the head of a troop has been unable to put down a rebel lust camped upon his own soul. That young man has come to coronation who is a ruler of his own body, soul and spirit. That is a crown that does not descend by the law of primogeniture, it must be won by personal struggle.

**Crowns Are Credentials.**

Many men and women are wear the crowns of royalty. We come to epochs in life, great crises of existence, turning points in our history, hours fraught with destiny, moments when eternal issues hang upon the decisions we make. If in those crucial times we shrink, falter, fail to measure up, shut our eyes to glorious possibilities, choose present satisfaction rather than future expansion we push away the crown of earthly dominion, and it passes to another more worthy than we. But the world is full of people who have come to coronation. It is not necessary to postpone to a future existence crowning days. He who is not crowned here, will not be crowned there. Thrones and dominions are not arbitrarily bestowed. He who would be a candidate for promotion in another world must carry his credentials with him. It does not necessarily follow that the world must recognize royal qualities, but they must be in the soul's possession. Men and women have been cast out, and assassinated by their fellow men as unworthy of life, but they have been hailed as monarchs by the angels. The eternal crowning day is coming by and by.

**CANADA'S MOVING GARDEN SPOT**

It has Followed the March Westward and Is Now in British Columbia.

Canada is all the time discovering fertile districts of limited extent which it calls garden spots. The Canadian school geographers of twenty years ago gave that name to the Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia, where the apples grow.

Then western Ontario got into the fruit raising game and earned the unofficial title. It didn't keep it very long, for today it is the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia that moves the patriotic Canadian into hyperbole speech.

The Okanagan is a depression in the mountains, running north and south for more than 150 miles. It holds a lake of the same name which is eighty miles long and of an average width of three miles. The area from this lake to the foothills is fast filling up with orchards.

The climate there is something to wonder at. Fruit trees blossom in March. The mildness and dryness of the air make it possible to raise fruits which could not be raised elsewhere in the same latitude.

Of course there are apples, as there are almost everywhere else in Canada, but peaches, apricots, nectarines, grapes and even figs flourish in the southern part of the valley. One enthusiastic writer has spoken of this region as the Italy of Canada.

The rainfall is less than ten inches a year, so irrigation has to be resorted to. The soil is amazingly fertile, an orchard earning its keep in a few seasons. It is a prosperous community.

The names of the towns have a prosperous sound. There is Summerland and a Peachland. Presumably it is all Happyland.

The valley is filling up rapidly with a high class of settlers. Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, president of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, which skirts the upper end of the Okanagan, has a place at Summerland. The Earl of Aberdeen has a ranch at Vernon.

Some figures will show how well this district deserves the title of garden spot. A resident of Peachland sold the crop of peaches on his five-year-old trees for \$355 an acre, the purchaser picking and packing the fruit. A Summerland man got \$809 for the fruit of 110 peach trees, at the rate of \$1,200 an acre. Still another Summerland man got \$1,935 an acre for his strawberry output.

Land in the Okanagan costs now up to \$1,000 an acre. Imagine that price for a worked out farm in the East! It costs from \$100 to \$200 an acre for irrigation. A man can make a profitable living out of five acres of virgin ground and he doesn't have to wait long for returns.

**A Missouri Fish Story.**

"It is a well known fact that when alarmed fish scuttle into dark places beneath the water. A friend of mine told me of an ingenious plan adopted by an old fisherman on the Blue River to take advantage of this fish custom," said A. S. Van Valkenburgh, United States District Attorney.

"The old fisherman procured a barrel, bored a number of holes in it and weighted the bottom with lead and iron. To the top were fastened two ropes attached to a windlass on a boat. Rowing out to the middle of the Blue the barrel was sunk, resting on the bottom of the bottom of the river. Then the old fisherman sent his four sons, two in each direction, to joints fifty yards away, where they entered canoes and commenced to beat the water with flat paddles, raising a great hubbub. Gradually they worked down to the boat where the old fisherman was ready to haul out the barrel. As they came close to him he quickly lanned the windlass and the barrel came to the surface. By actual count there were twenty-eight shad, forty carp, seventy catfish and nine jack salmon in the barrel. The catch weighed 160 pounds."—Kansas City Star.

**New Advertising Stunt.**

The sandwich man who parades eternally up and down, his front and rear encasing proclaiming in glaring poster type the virtues of this and the goodness of that, has been eclipsed. Perhaps it was time. Nobody stopped to read. Everybody tumbled over him. His successor was observed walking down Nassau street the other evening. He was more than well dressed. On his hands were white gloves. He stood on the curb, waved those white gloved hands as if appealing to an audience and raised them aloft as if calling upon heaven to witness that he was speaking the truth. He gestured frantically as if laying down the law in an emphatic manner. But no word came from his lips. Of course the crowd stopped and looked and would have listened. When he had attracted sufficient attention he disclosed a huge placard which had been lying at his feet and pointed at the words printed thereon in foot high type. The crowd was caught. It moved on disgustedly, but it could not help but read. The message had been delivered.—New York Sun.

**Some of the Ear Marks.**

About as near as some men ever get to being aristocrats is to part their hair in the middle and neglect to pay their bills.—Howard (Mr.) Courant.

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