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TUESDAY, 19 MAY, 1925.

Whitehall. 19th May, 1925.

The following Address was presented to the KING on Saturday, the 9th instant, on the occasion of the reopening by His Majesty of the British Empire Exhibition, Wembley:—

BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION.

YOUR MAJESTY:

As President I ask you graciously to declare open again to-day the British Empire Exhibition. This date was chosen as being the fifteenth anniversary of the date of Your proclamation as King-Emperor; and the representatives of the territories of Your Empire who are associated together in this great enterprise take this occasion to offer to you their humble duty and to express the hope that Providence will permit long continuance of a reign which has been so auspicious to your peoples.

The benefits which flowed to the Empire from the holding of this Exhibition in 1924 were so marked that it was decided, after mature consideration, to continue it for a second year. We felt that the work of education which the Exhibition represented could usefully be continued during a second season: and with your sanction and that of the majority of the Governments of the Empire, and with the generous aid of the guarantors who renewed the credits they had provided for the 1924 season, it was decided to continue that work in 1925.

The Exhibition which you see set out before you to-day, Sir, has integrally the same purpose as in 1924: to show how great are the

resources available within the Empire. But whilst the Exhibition thus maintains the same character, it will present its lessons of Empire in a new manner. Careful thought and untiring energy have been devoted to the problem of fashioning our display so that it will impress not only the fresh observer but those who were familiar with the Exhibition of 1924 as being full of novel interest. The aim has been to provide not only a complete University of Empire but a great pleasure and recreation ground.

As in 1924, the Fellowship of the British Empire Exhibition and the Women's Section will co-operate with the main organisation of the Exhibition so that the best use may be made of the lessons that it offers.

I hope, Sir, that this 1925 season of the Exhibition will complete the work so well begun in 1924, and that when we close our gates in November it will be with the confidence that Your peoples have benefitted greatly not only in regard to trade and production but also by the growth of an instructed pride in the Empire's achievements in the past and its aims for the future.

To which Address His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—

It gives me great pleasure to come here with the Queen to-day to re-open the British Empire Exhibition for the season of 1925.

The task undertaken by the Exhibition was too important to leave uncompleted. When at the close of the 1924 season it became