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FRIDAY, 19 OCTOBER, 1928.

Whitehall, October 16th, 1928.

The following Addresses were presented to The KING on the occasion of His Majesty's visit to Newcastle upon Tyne and Gateshead and of the opening by His Majesty of the new Tyne Bridge on the 10th October, 1928:—

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE CORPORATION.

To Their Most Gracious Majesties King George V. and Queen Mary.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTIES:

We, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of the City and County of Newcastle upon Tyne, humbly offer to Your Majesties our loyal and affectionate welcome to our City.

We desire to express our heartfelt gratitude to Your Majesties for the gracious interest which you have displayed in the inauguration of the Tyne Bridge, an undertaking designed to improve not only the means of communication between the City and the adjoining Borough of Gateshead but also to facilitate traffic on that important and ancient highway the Great North Road.

The distinguished honour conferred upon the City by the gracious presence of Your Majesties on this important occasion will long be remembered by the Citizens of Newcastle upon Tyne.

We earnestly pray that Your Majesties may long be spared to reign over your grateful and loyal subjects. To which Address His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—

I am happy to receive your loyal and dutiful Address and the Queen and I are deeply touched by the affectionate welcome accorded to us by the citizens of Newcastle upon Tyne.

It is a great pleasure to us to have this opportunity of seeing so vast an assembly of school children and of visiting the new Heaton Secondary Schools. I congratulate the Educational Authority of the City upon the provision of these finely constructed and well equipped buildings which, I am confident, will mark a great step in advance for secondary education in Newcastle.

The primary object of to-day's visit, the Opening of the Tyne Bridge, recalls a like occasion in the past and forms another association of my Family with your City; for in 1906 my dear Father came here to open the Bridge which bears his name.

It is a source of much grief to me to know that during the past few years the men and women of this area have been living under the shadow of grave industrial depression. Owing to the dislocation of trade caused by the War the industries of coal, iron and steel and shipbuilding, which have given world-wide renown to the River Tyne have been struggling with adversity. The erection of the new Bridge is a characteristic act of courage and demonstrates your belief in the power of these industries to recover lost trade and to play again their former proud role in the world's markets. I am happy to obverve that your