

QUEEN'S STATE DRIVE

TO LORDS

Ballot By MPs

"Star" Reporter

THE state opening of Parliament by the Queen on November 3 will be the last act of Royal pageantry this year.

The Queen accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh will drive from Buckingham Palace to the House of Lords in the Irish State Coach.

Before it and behind will ride divisions of the Sovereign's escort of the Household Cavalry.

The processional route from Buckingham Palace through The Mall, Horseguards Arch, Whitehall and Parliament-street to the House of Lords will be lined by troops of the Household Brigade.

It will be the second state opening of Parliament by the Queen, but her first as a crowned Sovereign.

The state opening last year took place before the Coronation.

Crown's Escort

The Crown, which the Queen will wear when delivering the speech from the Throne in which an outline of the main projects to be dealt with by the Government is given, will have a Non-Commissioned Officers' escort of Household Cavalry when it is carried in a Royal carriage from St James's Palace to the House of Lords, 20 minutes before the Queen leaves Buckingham Palace.

Another item of pageantry will be the mounting of a guard of honour in the quadrangle of Buckingham Palace.

A guard of honour also of Grenadier Guards and the Band of the Irish Guards will be at the House of Lords.

Wearing their black thigh boots a dismounted party of the Household Cavalry will march to the House of Lords.

Royal Salute

A salute of 41 guns will be fired by the King's Troop of the Royal Horse Artillery in St James's Park.

Today the Secretary of the Speaker of the House of Commons will conduct a ballot for MPs who wish to be in the galleries of the House of Lords or standing at the Bar of the Upper Chamber when the State opening is performed.

A ballot for Peeresses who wish to be seated in the Chamber of the House of Lords was also to be held today.

26/10/53

*Interesting
for balcony
photo*

6.9 PM. STATE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

WHEN THE QUEEN OPENS PARLIAMENT ON TUESDAY, SHE WILL WEAR THE IMPERIAL STATE CROWN FOR THE FIRST TIME AT THIS HISTORIC AND COLOURFUL CEREMONY IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

LAST NOVEMBER, BECAUSE THE QUEEN HAD NOT THEN BEEN CROWNED, THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY CARRIED THE CROWN IN PROCESSION INTO THE CHAMBER OF THE LORDS, AND STOOD WITH IT ON THE STEPS OF THE THRONE, TO THE RIGHT OF THE QUEEN, THROUGHOUT THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH WILL ACCOMPANY THE QUEEN, AS HE DID LAST YEAR. TOGETHER, THEY WILL RIDE IN THE IRISH STATE COACH DRAWN BY FOUR GREYS, FROM BUCKINGHAM PALACE TO WESTMINSTER WITH A SOVEREIGN'S ESCORT OF THE HOUSEHOLD CAVALRY.

FOUR STATE LANDAU, EACH DRAWN BY TWO BAYS, AND CARRYING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD IN ATTENDANCE, WILL COMPLETE THE PROCESSION.

THE DEPARTURE FROM THE PALACE IS TIMED FOR 10.35 A.M. AND THE ROUTE WILL BE VIA: THE MALL, HORSE GUARDS ARCH, AND WHITEHALL TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE THE 1ST BATTALION, GRENADIER GUARDS, WITH THE QUEEN'S COLOUR, THE BAND OF THE REGIMENT AND THE CORPS OF DRUMS OF THE BATTALION WILL FORM THE GUARD OF HONOUR IN THE QUADRANGLE. THE 2ND BATTALION, THE GRENADIER GUARDS, WITH THE QUEEN'S COMPANY COLOUR, THE ROYAL STANDARD OF THE REGIMENT, THE BAND OF THE IRISH GUARDS AND THE CORPS OF DRUMS OF THE BATTALION, WILL PROVIDE THE GUARD OF HONOUR AT THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE PROCESSIONAL ROUTE WILL BE LINED BY TROOPS OF THE HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE. A SALUTE OF FORTY ONE GUNS WILL BE FIRED BY THE KING'S TROOP, ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY FROM THE SOUTH-WEST CORNER OF ST. JAMES'S PARK, THE FIRST GUN AT THE PRECISE MOMENT THAT THE QUEEN ARRIVES AT THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

*? also Handmaid
photo on this*

6.14 PM. ADD: PARLIAMENT.

EARLIER, AT 10.15 A.M., THE IMPERIAL STATE CROWN WILL BE TAKEN IN A CARRIAGE TO WESTMINSTER FROM ST. JAMES'S PALACE WITH AN ESCORT OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD CAVALRY.

PRINCESS MARGARET, WHO IS ATTENDING THE CEREMONY WILL DRIVE BY CAR WITH THE DUCHESS OF KENT TO WESTMINSTER, ARRIVING WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY NOT IN THE PROCESSION BETWEEN 10.35 AND 10.40.

THE GREAT OFFICERS OF STATE WILL RECEIVE THE QUEEN AT WESTMINSTER AND SHE WILL BE CONDUCTED TO THE ROBIN ROOM. THERE SHE PUTS ON THE ROYAL ROBES AND THE CROWN. MEANWHILE, BLACK ROD WILL SUMMON THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMONS TO ATTEND THE OPENING.

THE QUEEN WITH THE DUKE AT HER SIDE WILL "PROCEED IN STATE" TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS. PURSUIVANTS AND HERALDS WILL HEAD THE PROCESSION, THEN COME MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE QUEEN, WILL BE FIELD MARSHAL THE EARL ALEXANDER OF TUNIS, BEARING THE SWORD OF STATE, AND THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY, CARRYING THE CAP OF MAINTENANCE. IN FRONT OF THEM WALK THE EARL MARSHAL (THE DUKE OF NORFOLK), THE LORD GREAT CHAMBERLAIN (THE MARQUESS OF CHOLMONDELEY), GARTER KING OF ARMS (HON. SIR GEORGE BELLEW), THE LORD PRIVY SEAL (CAPT. HARRY CROOKSHANK), THE LORD CHANCELLOR (LORD SIMONDS), NORROY AND ULSTER KING OF ARMS (SIR GERALD WOLLASTON) AND CLARENCEUX KING OF ARMS (SIR ARTHUR COCHRANE).

WHEN THE QUEEN IS SEATED ON THE THRONE, THE PEER BEARING THE CAP OF MAINTENANCE WILL STAND ON HER RIGHT AND THE PEER BEARING THE SWORD OF STATE ON HER LEFT, BOTH ON THE STEPS OF THE THRONE. THE GREAT OFFICERS OF STATE, TOO, WILL BE GROUPED ABOUT THE QUEEN.

"MY LORDS, PRAY BE SEATED," SAYS THE QUEEN.

THEN THE LORD CHANCELLOR STEPS FORWARD AND, KNEELING BEFORE THE QUEEN, HANDS HER THE SPEECH WHICH SHE IS TO MAKE TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

WHEN THE CEREMONY IS OVER, THE QUEEN AND THE DUKE WILL RETURN TO THE PALACE BY WAY OF WHITEHALL, HORSE GUARDS ARCH AND THE MALL.