

NEPAL SETTLES DOWN AFTER CORONATION

From Katmandu the hosts of foreign journalists have gone and the city of temples, as travellers have called it, has resumed ~~mm~~ the normal life recently interrupted by the coronation of King Mahendra. The ancient capital of Nepal is a city of contrasts, where the very old rubs shoulders with 1956. This independent kingdom in the north east of the Indian sub-continent, lying between India and Tibet, is just a little less than the size of England and Wales and has about nine million people. Katmandu itself has rather more than 175,000.

As throughout the little kingdom there is a mixture of races. / ^{With} The original Mongolian-type inhabitants now mingle Hindus and Gurkas. Though the country is by no means isolated it manages to live its own life, little affected by power-politics or the cold war.

In the fertile valleys they grow rice and wheat, enough in fact to export, Nepal sending to the republic of India hides, cattle, jute and timber.

Almost worlds apart seem the timeless agriculture ~~mm~~ and the pomp of King Mahendra's palace in the capital. ~~HIS Majesty held a garden party soon after he was crowned.~~
He is a man of modern ideas, / ^{and} ~~reputedly~~ ambitious to guide his people to prosperity and importance.

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