

THE STATE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Through the gates of Buckingham Palace comes the Irish State Coach bearing Her Majesty the Queen to Westminster, where she is to declare open a new session of Parliament. The Duke of Edinburgh, in naval uniform, is beside Her Majesty who wears a rich diadem of pearls and diamonds. Accompanying the Royal Coach is a Sovereign's escort of the Household Cavalry.

Into Horse Guards Parade moves the coach, and here hundreds who have waited many hours press forward for a closer glimpse of the Queen. Radiant in her rich robes of State she waves acknowledgment of their acclaim.

Through Horseguards Arch, the royal coach turns towards Whitehall. A Guard of Honour mounted by nearly a hundred Guardsmen awaits Her Majesty. Yeomen of the Guard (the Queen's own Bodyguard) and the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms are represented.

Yeomen of the Guard complete their traditional search for Guy Fawkes in the vaults. Now comes the Maces which are carried near the sovereign's person as weapons of protection.

Princess Margaret and the Duchess of Kent arrive for the ceremony. Other members of the Royal Family have already taken their places with the assembled Lords and Commons. Passing Parliament Green, the Royal coach comes to the Palace of Westminster. This is the second time since the Queen's accession that she has attended this ceremony. And now that she has been crowned, Her Majesty will wear the Imperial State Crown as she addresses her ministers of both houses within the House of Lords, and seeks God's blessing upon all their counsels.