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before 1 p.m. on April, 17, 1958.
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BRUSSELS 1958 UNIVERSAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION
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PROGRAMME OF OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY.
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Thursday, April 17, 1958.

- 8.30 a.m. Opening of Exhibition Gates, except "Grands Palais" Gate and Esplanade Gate, by which the public will only be admitted from 1 p.m.
- 9 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Arrival of guests at Auditorium and Belgium Square.
- 9.40 a.m. The Prime Minister, the Minister of Economic Affairs, the Belgian Government Commissioner General, the Burgomaster of Brussels, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Exhibition Company, will be standing near the bounds of the Exhibition Precincts, level with the Royal Gate, to welcome H.M. the King and the Royal Family together with their suite, who will be proceeding from Laken Palace.
The royal cars will be flanked by the Royal Escort.
In this formation, the Royal Procession will follow the itinerary set out below :
Dynasty Avenue, Belvedere Avenue, Footbridge Avenue, Building Avenue, Esplanade.
The public will be permitted to line the route as from Footbridge Avenue in accordance with directions given by the Brussels Police and the National Gendarmerie.
- 10 a.m. The Royal Procession will arrive at the Auditorium, Esplanade side. The public will not be admitted to the Esplanade.

On the arrival of H.M. the King and the Royal Family, military honours will be paid.

The Presidents of the Chamber of Representatives and the Senate will be at the foot of the steps to greet H.M. the King and the Royal Family.
- 10.05 a.m. H.M. the King and the Royal Family will enter the Auditorium, where the following personalities will already have taken their places : the Heads of the Diplomatic Missions, the Representatives in the European Institutions ; the Commissioners General of the Foreign Sections, the Representatives in the European Economic Commission and Euratom ;

The Exhibition Committee of Honour, consisting of :
Ministers of State, former Ministers of Economic Affairs,
Governors of the Provinces and the Belgian Congo, Heads
of Major Public Authorities, Rectors of Universities, etc.
The Members of the Legislative Chambers ; the Committee of
Honour of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi Section; the
Executive Committee of the Brussels 1958 Universal and Inter-
national Exhibition Company ; the Executive Committees of the
International Science and Fine Arts Sections ; the Experts of
these Sections ; Special Press Committee ; the Board of Directors
of the Exhibition Company ; The Consultative and Economic Committee,
the National Committee for Cultural and Tourist Events ; the
Group Chairmen of the Belgian Section and the Belgian Congo and
Ruanda-Urundi Section.

The Personalities who have accompanied H.M. the King thus far will
make their way to the proscenium of the Auditorium, where they will
join the Chairman of the Board of the Commissioners General of the
Foreign Sections and a certain number of personalities. Cardinal
Van Roey, Archbishop of Malines, and the Presidents of the Chamber
of Representatives and the Senate will take their places in the
Royal Box. The adjoining box will be occupied by the Members of
the Government, except for the Prime Minister and Minister of
Economic Affairs, who will be on the proscenium.

The Band of the "Régiment des Guides" will play "La Brabançonne"
(Belgian National Anthem).

Addresses will be delivered by :

- 10.15 a.m. The Prime Minister (in both national languages),
10.20 a.m. The Minister of Economic Affairs (in both national languages),
10.25 a.m. The Commissioner General (in both national languages),
10.30 a.m. The Burgomaster of Brussels (in both national languages),
10.35 a.m. M. de Salis, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners General.
- 10.40 a.m. The Exhibition March will be played by the "Régiment des Guides".
- 10.45 a.m. H.M. the King and the Royal Family will leave the Auditorium by
the Esplanade exit.
The Prime Minister, the Minister of Economic Affairs, the Belgian
Government Commissioner General and the Burgomaster of Brussels
will accompany H.M. the King.

The Presidents of the Chamber of Representatives and the Senate
and the other Members of the Government will rejoin H.M. the King
at the foot of the Royal Steps.

MM. Pholien and Van Houtte, who held the office of Prime Minister
at the time of the taking of the first governmental decisions on the
1958 World Exhibition, will leave the Auditorium Hall and take their
places at the rear of the Members of the Government.

Mr. Rey, Member of the European Economic Community Commission, and
Minister of Economic Affairs prior to being appointed to the E.E.C.
Commission, will join the Royal Procession.

- 10.55 a.m. Re-entering their cars, H.M. the King and the Royal Family will proceed to the patio of the Reception Hall, which is opposite the "Grands Palais" Gate, via Transport Avenue.
- H.M. the King and the Royal Family will walk across the Reception Hall, through a double line formed by architects, contractors, supervisory staff and manual workers who have participated in the designing and construction of the Exhibition buildings.
- 11.05 a.m. At the entrance to the Reception Hall, H.M. the King and the Royal Family will be welcomed by Baron F. Vaxelaire, Chairman of the Reception Committee. Fair Hostesses will be in attendance.
- 11.20 a.m. H.M. the King and the Royal Family will leave the Reception Hall. At that moment, there will be a flourish of trumpets from the top of the International Hall of Fine Arts and the Auditorium by the trumpeters of the "Régiment des Guides".
- 11.25 a.m. H.M. the King will kindle the flame in the centre of Belgium Square. At the same moment, some 50 aircraft, which will be skywriting the letter "B", will fly past, high overhead, from the south-east to the north-west. They will be followed by aircraft tracing the three national colours in the sky. After these aircraft have passed, 20.000 multicoloured balloons will be released from the top of Heysel Stadium. The Band of the Air Force will play the "Exhibition March". On Belgium Square, along the north-east and north-west sides of the pool, opposite the Reception Hall, will be the colour-bearers of the Foreign Sections, some of the flags being held by girls in national costume.
- 11.40 a.m. After the open-air ceremony, H.M. the King and the Royal Family will re-enter their cars.
- 11.45 a.m. The Procession, flanked by the Royal Escort, will make its way to Belgium Avenue and thence via Congo Avenue to Star Circus. Here it will turn left and follow Copper Beech Avenue (right-hand side). On arriving at the Footbridge Circus, the Procession will bear right to the Footbridge, taking the carriageway by which it proceeded to the Auditorium.
- The public will be permitted to line Copper Beech Avenue and the roadway opposite the Footbridge. Some 5.000 schoolchildren of the Brussels area will be grouped at various points along Belgium Avenue and Congo Avenue. Two rows of children will line the pavement on either side of Belgium Avenue as far as Star Circus.

The Royal Procession, after skirting the Atomium, will pass in front of the Main Hall of the Belgian Congo section, where there will be grouped a Congolese delegation, and also the "Troubadours du Roi Baudouin" who will chant a chorus in "Kiswaili".

12.00 noon

The Procession will arrive at the Belvedere.

12.05 p.m.

H.M. the King and the Royal Family will be ushered into the office of the Commissioner General.

A number of personalities among whom will be the Commissioners General of the Foreign Sections and their wives, will be assembled in the Salon.

12.35 p.m.

H.M. the King and the Royal Family will re-enter their cars.

H.M. the King will be accompanied by :
the Prime Minister,
the Minister of Economic Affairs,
the Belgian Commissioner General and
the Burgomaster.

The cars will rejoin the Royal Escort at Dynasty Square and the Procession will make its way to the Royal Gate. Here the Authorities who have accompanied H.M. the King will take their leave of the Sovereign.

12.40 p.m.

Military honours will be paid to H.M. the King by a detachment of the Army.

The band will play "La Brabançonne".

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