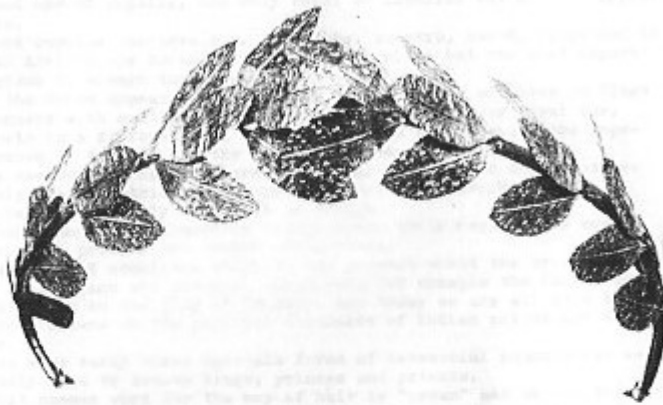
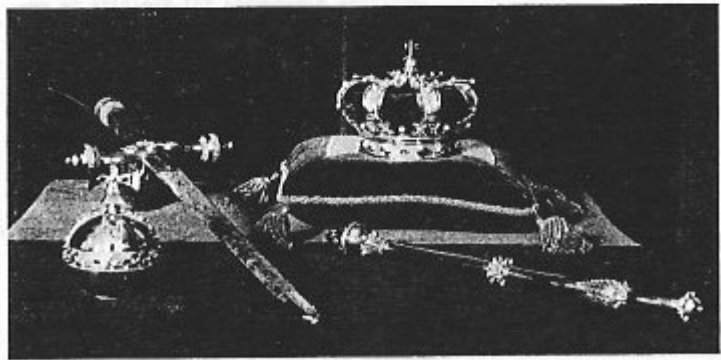


During these struggles ...



The laurel wreath ...



The regalia of the ...

On the search of forgotten regalia all around the world.

During these congress days you have got a lot of information on flags in their all different aspects. I would like to inform and to show you about a special branch of the heraldry, based on the study of the history and use of regalia, not only royal or imperial but also religious objects.

The word regalia includes e.g. the globe, sceptre, sword, flags and in several African and Asian countries an umbrella; but the most important piece is always the crown.

This, the crown appeared during these days a number of times on flags and banners with mentioning them only as an imperial or royal one. But there is a difference in shape and design e.g. between the imperial crown of Austria and the imperial crown of Iran.

This congress being an international one I collected some pictures not only from countries in Europe, but also from outside of Europe, those being completely different in design.

Although a number of dynasties disappeared, their regalia are mostly preserved in private and public collections.

In the past and sometimes still in our present world the crown appeared on state-flags and personal standards, for example the famous Saint Stephan crown on the flag of Hungary. And today we are all able to find some crowns on the personal standards of Indian princes and Maharadjas.

Since very early times special forms of ceremonial headdresses were widely used to denote kings, princes and priests.

The most common word for the top of hair is "crown" and we can derive its origin from the Latin word "Corona", which means "wreath".

In many cases the form of these headdresses symbolized the religious or military dignities of the wearers. During the republican period of the Roman Empire it was understood that the wreath was an emblem of royalty, but in the republic itself wreaths were given to individual citizens or soldiers for honourable services.

It was also a custom to give a headdress to the deaths in to the grave and today we can admire them in several museums. These wreaths were normally made from brass, bronze, silver or gold.

In the earlier times of the Roman Empire the emperors were normally nominated in the Senate and a ceremony of investiture was customary; this ceremony developed in the course of time into the rite of coronation. During the ages the crown in Europe developed from the laurel-wreath into the form used e.g. by the coronation of Queen Elizabeth of England. The use of a laurel-wreath disappeared almost completely until 1804. It was Napoleon who crowned himself at Notre-Dame with a golden wreath.

When Napoleon crowned himself Emperor of the French he was anxious to associate the new imperial title with the name of Charlemagne and a new set of regalia with which the name of Charlemagne was connected, was made. None of these ornaments however were used in the actual coronation ceremony, but they were present throughout the ceremony; Napoleon only used the wreath.

For his wife Josephine de Beauharnais a crown was made which Napoleon himself placed on the head of the new empress.

In spite of the presence of Pope Pius XII anointing the emperor the ceremony was little more than a splendid festival, without a spiritual

spiritual purport. Napoleon's love of regalia and in particular crowns we can see with his use of ancient ones and ordering for new ones. After his marriage with the Austrian princess Maria Louise he got at last his long expected crownprince and for the performance of his wife he granted a splendid crown, studded with diamonds, emeralds and rubies and made by the jeweller Nilot.

The coronation of Napoleon had no spiritual purport in spite of the presence of a prelate. This is quite different from the British coronation ceremony, where the whole ceremony is connected with the church England being the only country in Europe, apart from the Papacy, where a coronation still survives, has a most valuable crownjewel collection, housed in the Tower of London. Here jewels are exhibited studded with historical gems. In the coronation crown of the Queen Mother is fit the Koh-i-noor diamond, which was first reported in 1304. In 1739 Nadir Shah of Persia invaded India and brought as a loot this Mountain of Light. This diamond passed on to other rulers with other armies - first to the Afghans, then to the Sikhs and finally to the British when it was presented in 1849 to Queen Victoria. Little is known about the regalia or the rites of the installation of the pagan kings of England. In 1957 a crown was found on the southern boundary of Norfolk, but it is believed by the British Museum that it was not a kings crown but used by priests.

The kings untill 1649 had made a lot of crownjewels, but after the death of Charles I Cromwell destroyed almost the whole treasury. The present jewels in the Tower were made after 1661, the year that Charles II came to the throne.

The most important piece in the collection is the so-called St. Edwards crown, used by the British monarchs for their coronations, and always used as the crown on flags and coats of arms.

Named after Edward the Confessor and probably made for king Charles II it is only worn at coronations. In 1953 it was used by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. On the second day of June 1953 the Queen and Prince Philip left for Buckingham Palace for the coronation at the Westminster Abbey. Accompanied by colourful troops from all over the world they arrived at the Abbey where from hidden points television and film cameras started to work and show these ceremonies. After anointing she received the scepter with the cross, the Rod with the Dove and dressed in the cloth-of-gold Supertunica the Archbishop of Canterbury puts the crown on the Queen in the presence of the peers and peeresses, who take off their coronets after this supreme moment. In England its nobility is entitled to wear coronets and through these coronets we are able to find out the rank of the wearers.

There is e.g. a difference between the coronet of a baron and of a marguess.

After the moment of crowning the Queen changes the Saint Edwards crown for the Imperial State Crown, a glittering jewel.

Holding the sapphire of Edward the Confessor, the pearls of Elizabeth I and the second Star of Africa, Elizabeth will wear it many times during her reign.

Once a year in the House of Lords we see her sitting on the great throne designed for Queen Victoria. In the parliament she opens the parliament in presence of great officers of State, like the Lord Chamberlain and Earl Marshal.

As I said before England is the only European country where a coronation is held, but in other countries we see ceremonies where the

regalia are present.

In the Netherlands there is a ceremony, called the "inhuiliding" or investiture. In 1948 our present Queen came to the throne and in the New Church at Amsterdam the investiture was held, where during a religious service the oath to the constitution was taken.

The regalia, made in 1840 for King William II are placed with a copy of the constitution on a table in front of the throne; the state sword and standard of the kingdom are carried by high officials.

These regalia were used at the ceremonies of William II, William III, and the mother of Queen Juliana, Queen Wilhelmina.

Especially for the Dutchmen I can give information on the state-crown, in relation with its appearance on standards and coats of arms.

Originally its design had nine pearls on each of the arches, but shortly after the investiture of Queen Wilhelmina only five pearls remained and four disappeared from each arch.

Today the design on the flags and coats of arms is different with the actual outfit of the crown.

Within the scope of coronations and investitures in Europe I have to mention the use of a crown by the Pope. After the selection of a new Pope at the Holy See a coronation ceremony is held where His Holiness receives the Tiara. This type of crown is depicted with three circles.

One theory attributed to the three crowns is that they symbolise the Holy Trinity and the three powers sacerdotal, royal and imperial. In the personal collection of the Pope there is a Tiara of Pope Pius IX which is now normally used for official occasions.

In total there are nine tiara's at the Holy See, all made in the last 175 years.

The chapter on religious crowns is worldwide; particularly in Asia and Africa crowns are worn by priests during special occasions.

Such a use of special jewels is to be found in Ethiopia where I made last year a study during almost 4 months about the subject of coronations and regalia.

In a number of churches, cathedrals and monasteries are enormous collections, preserved after centuries, but most of them hidden in dirty stables and houses. The Church of Ethiopia is a christian church, founded in the middle of the 4th century. The first bishop, Abba Salama has built the most important church, the St. Mary of Zion at Axum. This church has been destroyed two times, first by the pagan queen Judith and the second time in 1535, when Muslim invaders destroyed it with its magnificent imperial ornaments.

This church was long for the coronation cathedral of Ethiopian sovereigns. It was the custom of each new ruler to have a new crown made for his coronation and to place that of his predecessor in the treasury of the cathedral. Here are 25 crowns to be found, but most of the princely ornaments in the present treasury - if still there after the recent political change in Ethiopia - are not older than 1665 for in that year Emperor Fasilidas rebuilt the church.

Not the whole treasury was destroyed by the Muslims: a part of it was sent before the invasion to other parts in the country. A number of islands in Lake Tana e.g. are preserving crowns of ancient rulers which now are used by priests, deacons and other clergymen of the Coptic Church. Their religious ceremonies and feastsdays, like on Timkat, Easter and Christmas, deploy under the open sky colourful with magnificent festivals the clergymen carrying their treasures.

It is quite possible now that today a priest wears one of the crowns

of the deposed emperor Haile Selassie. During his reign he used several crowns and donated some to churches and monasteries. His original name is Tafari Makonnen, but he changed it on november 2nd 1930, the day when he was crowned as emperor of Ethiopia. The word "emperor" in the ethiopian language is "niguse neggeest", which means King of Kings. Untill 1900/1910 Ethiopia was divided in several kingdoms and principalities, with the emperor as head of State. Before Haile Selassie became emperor he was already crowned as Negus, or King, and after that coronation he reigned as so-sovereign with his aunt Zauditu. During the last coronation in Ethiopia the type of a cylindrical crown was used.

Emperor Haile Selassie's coronation was held with a ceremonial slightly derived from England.

In 1902 his father Makonnen represented Emperor Menelik II at the coronation of King Edward VII and impressed by this ceremony he told his son, then a boy of ten, about his experiences. When Haile Selassie became emperor the ancient rituals of the Coptic Church were harmoniously blended with ceremonial drawn from the English coronation services and even Ethiopian noblemen present wore coronets, of which fourteen were especially made by the Goldsmiths and Silversmith Company in London.

Although a number of kingdoms and empires disappeared in this century, their jewellery is largely preserved in collections where we today can admire the work of the goldsmith of hundreds of years ago. The famous collection at the Hofburgmuseum at Vienna was until 1918 in the possession of the imperial family. Although they took a number of jewels with them after their disposal the Hofburgmuseum still can show some extraordinary pieces. The crown of emperor Rudolf has never been used as a coronation crown and was made in Prague in 1602.

In 1806 the Holy Roman Empire didn't exist any more and after creating the Austrian Empire this crown became symbol of the country. Another crown in this collection was given by Sultan Achmed I of Turkey to the Prince of Transylvania in 1610. This type of crown, closed on the top, is very common in eastern countries and at the Golestan Palace at Teheran there is preserved a closed crown of Agha Muhammed Khan, made of gilded copper and stripped of its jewels. A part from the famous Persian treasury was used 8 years ago for the coronation of the present emperor and his consort the empress Farah. In 1967 the emperor placed under the Mualim rites the Pahlevi crown on his head. This crown was made for his fathers enthronement in 1925, and resembles these of ancient Persia.

For the empress no crown was available, for she was the first woman in Persian history to undergo a coronation. Therefore French jewelers made a crown set with diamonds, pearls, rubies and emeralds, borrowed from the state treasury. The whole Persian treasury, collected through the ages is not a private treasury but belongs to the state. Behind the imperial couple is the famous so-called Peacock Throne, of which history tells, that it was brought from India by Nadir Shah. This throne was once in the possession of Mogul emperors and put in the Red Fort at New Delhi. For everybody ancient India is like a fairytale on the splendours of the Maharajas. These former rulers have no more power today and sometimes they have to sell bit by bit their



princeless treasuries, for they have no income from the state. Now and then, mostly during wedding ceremonies the old splendour reappear, but more of their jewellery's can be seen at auctions in America and Europe. One of the former rulers is the Maharaja of Bharatpur, whose ancestors were very powerful, for they even occupied the capital of the Mogul Empire Delhi and brought home an enormous loot. In former days these Maharaja's also possessed the famous Taj Mahal. The pomp and richness of the present Maharaja fall into decay and what is left are the coronation paintings of his ancestors in his Golbagh Palace near the city of Bharatpur. The coronations in India were called "Durbar" and recently such a Durbar was held in Kathmandu, in Nepal, a kingdom in a corner of the globe.

The coronation in Nepal are held under the vedic-rituals, lasting for several days. The main part of the ceremonies are held at the Royal Sanctuary of the Hanumandhoka Palace, where the king receives his regalia including the royal standard, the national flag, the sword, the umbrella and the famous helmetlike crown with the plume of the greater bird of paradise.

The king of Nepal is the world's only Hindu monarch and his coronation is almost completely a religious ceremony, with the priests present from all over the country, wearing their official dress and typical crowns only used in that part of Asia.

After the coronation the newly crowned king drives through the city on an elephant for a triumphal tour. The coronation of the present king's father was the first real free coronation without the of the Rana family present.

Untill 1950 this family was one hundred year in power but in the named year King Tribhuvan revolted against these Ranas. He went into exile in India with his whole family, except his grandson Gyandra, brother of the present king. This young boy immediately was crowned by the Rana family as the new king of Nepal, but no country recognised him as head of the State, so the Ranas had to accept the returning of king Tribhuvan, loosing their own power.

In 1956 the father of the present king Birendra was able to accept a coronation, to be a real ruling king of Nepal.

It is difficult for me to end my talks on the subject on regalia and coronations, for almost every country had or still has something to show, like e.g. the kings of Cambodia, the investiture of Prince Charles of Wales, the several rulers of African tribes, or the coronation of the King and Queen of Tonga. Yet I hope that you have got some idea about the coronations and in particular about the different forms of headdresses with their historical and artistic value, recognizing the crowns which still appear on the flags of the world.