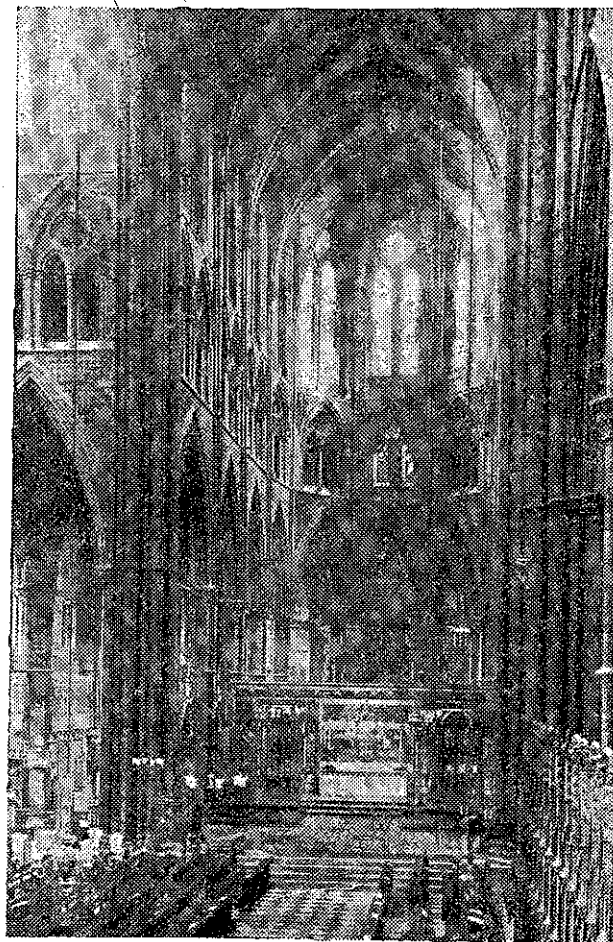


# "Pre-eminence and All the Large Effects that Troop with Majesty"

## While King Edward May be Crowned to The Strains Of A Grand Piano!

A grand piano has lately been used in Westminster Abbey in place of the organ which, according to our London correspondent whose story on the broadcasting arrangements for the Coronation is published below, has collapsed beyond repair. There is, consequently, the prospect of the most impressive ceremony of 1937 being carried out to the strains of a piano!

**W**HILE May 12 of next year, the date fixed for the Coronation, will be a public holiday in England, it will be the busiest day in the lives of several B.B.C. officials at Broadcasting House and elsewhere in London. While detailed plans for the ceremonies connected with the Coronation have not yet been completed, I can definitely state that not only will the service in Westminster Abbey be broadcast to the world, but also that commentators at various points on the route of the royal procession from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey will describe to listeners the vivid scenes of unprecedented pageantry. B.B.C. officials, I hear, have already examined the route of the procession and paid visits to the owners of houses from which good views of the procession may be obtained.



Westminster Abbey, on which the microphones of the world will be trained on May 12 next—Coronation Day. And there is the possibility of the King of the world's greatest Empire hearing his coronation music played on a piano, the Abbey organ being beyond repair!

These historic broadcasts will reach Empire listeners not only from the existing three shortwave transmitters at Daventry, but also from the three new high-power transmitters now in course of erection, which by then will be in operation. The B.B.C. engineers have already examined their records of world shortwave reception conditions during the month of May for past years, and they are led to believe that on the day and time fixed reception conditions throughout the world will be excellent. They happily recall that the ceremonies broadcast on May

6, 1935, in connection with the Jubilee of King George V were received with excellent quality throughout the world. While shortwave listeners will be able to hear all the broadcasts connected with the Coronation direct from Daventry, local broadcasting authorities throughout the Dominions and Colonies will make arrangements to relay the B.B.C. broadcasts by means of the Post Office beam telephone. Wireless exchanges throughout the Empire, however, will relay the broadcasts direct from the B.B.C. Empire Station.

**W**HILE the actual plans of the B.B.C. programme officials are still somewhat nebulous, I suggest that the choice of commentators will rest between the ever-popular Howard Marshall, Commander T. B. R. Woodroffe, who broadcast the description of the departure of the Queen Mary; Commander D. A. Stride, who broadcast the commentary on the Naval Review during the Jubilee celebrations; and Commander Stephen King Hall, who described the Jubilee procession on May 6 from the facade of St. Paul's Cathedral. It is expected that the broadcast from Westminster Abbey will be relayed in almost every foreign country and throughout the Empire. Already the B.B.C. has been deluged with inquiries from various broadcasting authorities throughout the world, and many foreign organisations have expressed their intention of sending their own commentators to London for the occasion.



The world may hear details of the Coronation from Howard Marshall, the man who thrilled an empire with his description of the wedding of the Duke of Kent and Princess Marina.