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## *The Heart of the Empire Rejoices in Their Majesties' Silver Wedding*

The 26th April, 1948, brought a memorably radiant occasion in our history, when in April sunshine the King and Queen celebrated their marriage of just 25 years ago.

It was a day of great rejoicing for the people of London and innumerable visitors who waited for hours to cheer and congratulate their Majesties as they proceeded, accompanied by the Royal Family, all along the route, to the Thanksgiving Ceremony held in St. Paul's Cathedral.

On their return to Buckingham Palace from the simple and moving service of Thanksgiving, there was no diminution of the crowds who still waited to acclaim their devotion.

In their loyal affection, the people of our country and Empire realise, in admiration and gratitude, that, through the exacting duties of their public station, their Majesties have been a shining example of a happy home life.

The Queen's words, in adding to the King's Broadcast at the close of a great day, are an inspiration to the human world:—

"There must be many who feel as we do that the sanctities of married life are in some way the highest form of human fellowship, affording a rock-like foundation on which all the best in the life of the nation is built.

Looking back over the last 25 years and to my own happy childhood, I realise, more and more, the wonderful sense of security and happiness which comes from a loved home.

Therefore, at this time my heart goes out to all those who are living in uncongenial surroundings and longing for the time when they will have a home of their own. I am sure that patience, tolerance and love will help them to keep their faith undimmed and their courage undaunted when things seem difficult.

This morning we felt

the moving service in St. Paul's to be one of rededication as well as thanksgiving, and I pray that by God's guidance we may have many opportunities of service towards the lands and people we love so well."



*Our Beloved King and Queen*

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