

Steeped in the functions of Monarchy

by Francis Bennion

When I was born the Queen's grandfather was on the throne. When I was married the Queen's father was on the throne. Now the Queen is on the throne. When I die her eldest son may be on the throne. After that his son may at some time take the throne. Family continuity is what matters, with each successor being steeped in the functions and duties of reigning as monarch. When an unsuitable monarch emerged in the shape of Edward VIII he was persuaded to withdraw before there was even time for him to be crowned.

In the Republic known as the United States of America by contrast the electors have free choice among candidates who are usually strangers to power but have personal wealth sufficient to enable them to bear the enormous financial costs of getting elected.

I have no doubt which is the better system.¹

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Doc. No. 2012.013

The Times 7 Jun 2012

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References:

None

¹ Published in *The Times* 7 June 2012.