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LOED MAYER'S SHOW

The pageantry of a long and honourable history comes back to London. In the thin November sunshine, the great procession steps out from the Guildhall, heralding the first Lord Mayer's show since 1938. For half an hour, a one and a half mile cavalcade of lorries, cars, decorated floats, servicemen and women and civilians passed by the new Lord Mayer. Theme of all this brilliant array was "Work and Play." And with the temperature at the usual November level, the "Sports" section had its work cut out keeping warm.

Place in the headlines went to the Football Cup with its holders Derby County, providing the Guard of Honour.

In the crowds lining the route schoolchildren outnumbered grown-ups. For the young folk, this was their first Lord Mayer's show. The Yeoman Warders of the Tower - Beefeaters to most of us - led the way for the State Trumpeters of the Household Cavalry and the City Marshal. And at the end of it all, the 200-year-old, gilded State Coach, with coachman George Granger up. Inside was Sir Brucevell Smith, 62th Lord Mayer of London, holder of an office begun in the year 1191.

Down Ludgate Hill to the swearing in at the Law Courts. And finally, (the official ceremonies over) Londoners took a last affectionate look at their new chief citizen. Slogan was "Work and Play" - and who can think of a better for Britain in 1946.

And here, by way of a postscript, a look-in at High Wycombe. There too it was Mayer's day with just a little something to make it different. In these parts, the new Mayer's first job is to take the chair on a matter of some weight. After election, here's Councillor Charles Lance weighing in.

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