



Sword of state



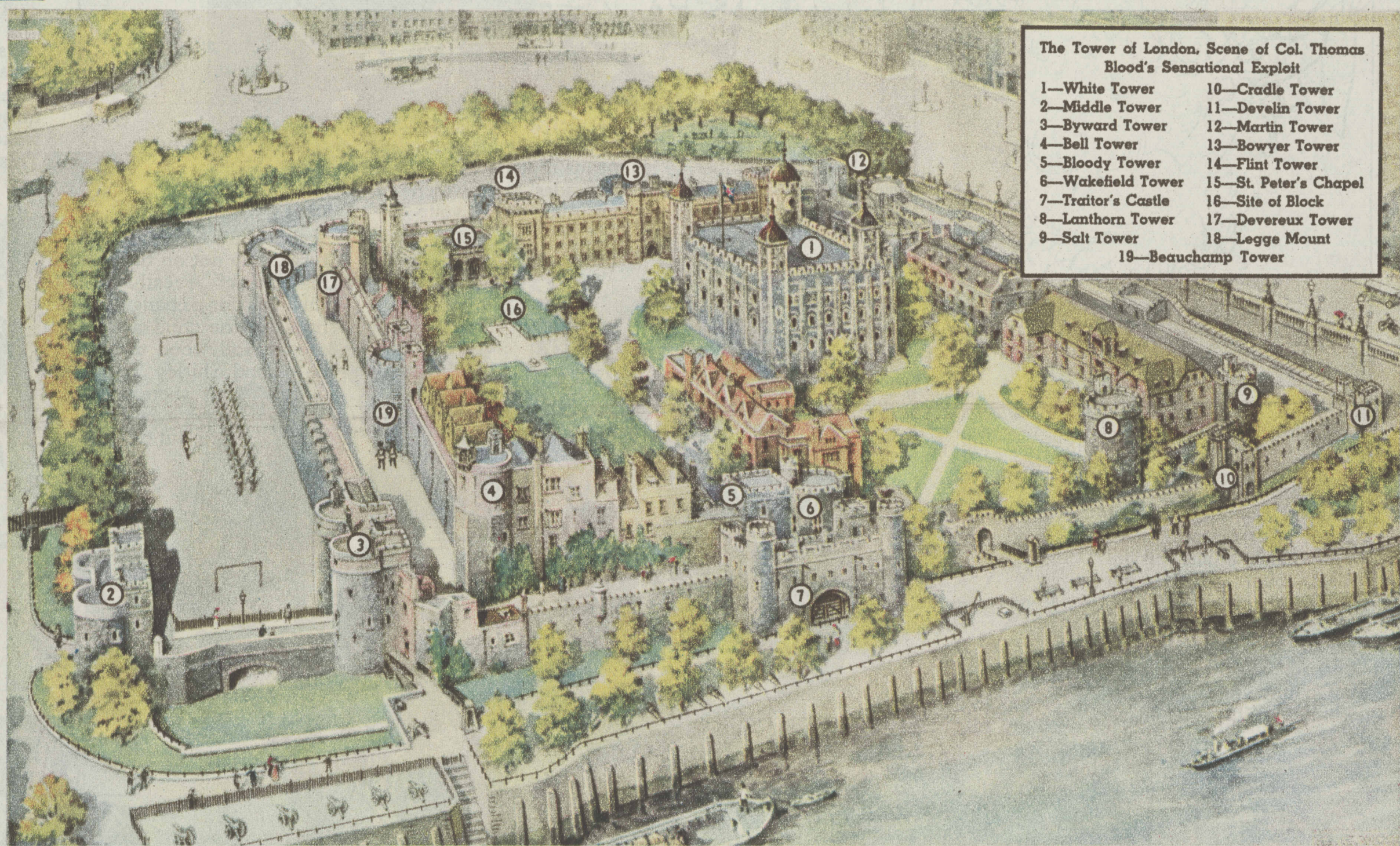
St. Edward's crown



The imperial state crown



The imperial crown of India



The Tower of London, Scene of Col. Thomas Blood's Sensational Exploit

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1—White Tower      | 10—Cradle Tower       |
| 2—Middle Tower     | 11—Develin Tower      |
| 3—Byward Tower     | 12—Martin Tower       |
| 4—Bell Tower       | 13—Bowyer Tower       |
| 5—Bloody Tower     | 14—Flint Tower        |
| 6—Wakefield Tower  | 15—St. Peter's Chapel |
| 7—Traitor's Castle | 16—Site of Block      |
| 8—Lanthorn Tower   | 17—Devereux Tower     |
| 9—Salt Tower       | 18—Legge Mount        |
|                    | 19—Beauchamp Tower    |

It was in that part of the Tower of London known as Martin tower (designated by the number 12) that the crown jewels of King Charles II. were kept. From Martin tower the bold Colonel Blood fled with the most important of the royal treasures, the king's crown.

## How Colonel Blood Stole the King's Crown

By GUY MURCHIE JR.

**T**HE coronation of George VI. can take place May 12 next only by virtue of the bejeweled crown of England.

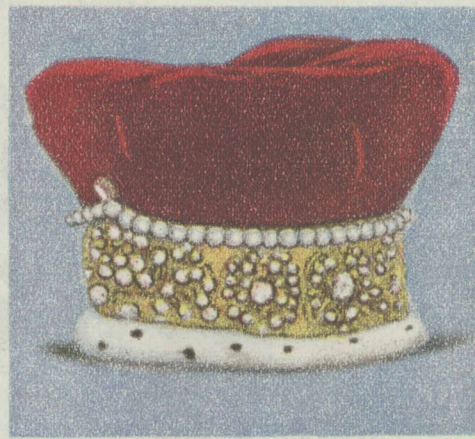
● Imagine the consternation that would rock Britain if the crown, with all its wealth of gold and precious stones, were suddenly to disappear—stolen from under the noses of the king's guard! Such a daring crime would be the robbery of the century.

● And yet that was exactly what happened in 1671 when Charles II. was on the throne. More amazing still, when the robber through ill luck was arrested with the royal loot in his possession, he so cleverly conducted himself that, despite his long record of treason, he received a full pardon and the king personally rewarded him with a handsome estate in Ireland. How any human being could accomplish this astounding combination of feats is a story.

● Thomas Blood was an Irishman with the heart of

a gladiator and the wit of a courtesan. His hair hung in long curls in the manner of his day. His nose was aquilin between large dark eyes. Although he was little known to the world at large, he was a source of unending anxiety to King Charles and the government because of his highwayman habits and his revolutionary activity as a protagonist of the lost cause of Cromwell's Commonwealth.

● When the civil war ended and the house of Stuart was restored in 1660 Blood found himself a colonel in the defeated parliamentary army, a prominent Cromwell lieutenant, and a gentleman of large estate who had suddenly lost both wealth and position through the political failure of his cause. The Puritan regime of the Commonwealth had been replaced by the easy-going regime of "the Merry Monarch," and all Cromwellians became objects of suspicion. Blood, having made no attempt at (Continued on page ten.)



Diadem of Mary of Modena



The state crown of the queen



Crown of Mary of Modena



The king's orb



The queen's orb