



HERE'S what the "Pearlie" Queen and King will look like at the Coronation.

60,000 BUTTONS

... on this king's Coronation suit

WHONOLULU, England. HO'LL be the flashiest dressed royalty at Elizabeth II's Coronation?

The bets here are on the couple shown above: Bert and Becky Matthews, King and Queen of London's 100-odd "Pearlies," named for their pearl-button decorated clothes.

- Bert's Coronation uniform (still unfinished) will have 60,000 buttons on it. Including the jacket, vest, trousers and peaked cap, it will weigh 50 pounds. Queen Becky's gown, cape and cartwheel hat may weigh even more.

- Look funny? Not to Londoners. They're used to it. The garish style, originally used by carnival barkers, was adopted in 1900 to help Pearlies raise

money the year round for poor people.

Bert and Becky have been "Pearlies" for 53 years. Now 68 and 67—and grandparents—they live in the London suburb, Hampstead Village.

But on Coronation Day, they expect to dress up in their finery and ride their scooter bikes in London to pay tribute to Britain's new queen. ■



SCOOTERS will carry Pearlie royalty (left) past the cheering throngs.