

LONDON

L.T.-P.Q.Wed. Feb. 6th 52.

Tonight, a new name appears on the page of history - Elizabeth-the-Second. The full style by which the new Sovereign is proclaimed, takes the following stately form:

"Queen Elizabeth the Second, by grace of God, Queen of this realm and all her other realms and territories, head of the Commonwealth, defender of the Faith."

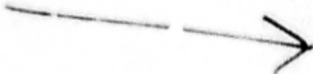
Her husband, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, now becomes the Prince Consort - the tradition of which goes back to Queen Victoria and her husband, Prince Consort Albert. Their small son, Charles, becomes the Crown Prince, and will be later created - Prince of Wales.

(Elizabeth the Second is flying to London tonight. Immediately upon the news of the death of her father, she took a plane at an airport in East Africa - where the royal couple were making a stay. Their projected tour to Australia and New Zealand - cancelled by the sudden, dramatic news: The Heiress

to the crown becomes the Queen!

From all over the world messages of condolence are pouring into Buckingham Palace - the heads of the nations expressing their sorrow over the death of King George the Sixth. His funeral waits the return of the twenty-five year old Queen, a funeral that will be attended by notables and dignitaries from all over the world.

One will be - the Duke of Windsor. ^{The Duke} ~~He~~ was in New York today, when he learned the news of the death of his brother - who succeeded him on the throne. The former Edward the Eighth will go alone, sailing aboard the Queen Mary. His Duchess, for whom he renounced the crown of Britain, will remain in New York. She has never been accepted by the Royal family -- and not by the new Queen.



Tonight, in Britain, there are scenes of national grief - in which all classes join. In Parliament there was a scene to illustrate the British attachment to the crown, and the respect in which the late King was held. In the Commons, the Labor Party was planning a new attack on the Conservative government, when the news of the King's death was announced. A woman member of the Socialist faction, Mrs. Jean Mann, ~~walked~~ walked out, with tears streaming down her cheeks.

QUEEN

Today comparisons were inevitable, and the news is full of them. Britain has a ruling Queen again - and there's reference back to the previous British Queens. The Great Elizabeth - whose triumphant reign saw the beginning of British sea power, and the foreshadowing of Empire. Presumably, ~~the new Queen today will take~~ the name of "Elizabeth the Second". Which, I suppose, would make that previous Queen - "Elizabeth the First." Changing the style of one of the best known names in history. ^H *Yes, referring back to earlier Queens--* Of lesser importance ^{was} ~~that~~ Queen Mary who ~~was~~ ruled as a joint Sovereign with her husband, William of Orange. And Queen Anne - in whose reign military glory was won by John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, direct ancestor of the Prime Minister, Winston Churchill.

Still more significant - Queen Victoria, who was on the throne for more than sixty years, and saw the British Empire climb to its height of power and success. Which takes us to what, I think, is the most

made her first appearance of State. She was a small, thin wisp of a girl, in a plain black dress, but she took her place with dignity and grace, as she presided over her first council.)

So that was how Victoria became Queen, one hundred and fifteen years ago. Well, times have changed; ~~and~~ the scene shifts from a Royal Palace in London - to a valley in East Africa. There, at a lodge presented to them as a wedding gift, Elizabeth and Philip expected to have a quiet, picturesque holiday - breaking their journey to Australia and New Zealand.

The other night we heard, on this program, how a troupe of baboons had broken into a "treetop hotel", which had been put up for the royal couple - so they might watch the wild animals of the jungle. A sumptuous observation post, high above the ground - but those rowdy baboons ripped the place apart, tearing up lamp shades, writing paper, sofa pillows and drapes which provided an amusing twister of royal ~~xxxxxxxx~~ comedy. The treetop hotel was repaired, a guard stationed to keep away the baboons. So last night

Elizabeth and Philip spent the night there, watching the jungle scenes below - in the brilliance of ^{the} tropical moonlight. They looked down on a watering hole, to which the beasts of the jungle troop at night. And watched a parade ^{of} antelope and elephants, and huge, lumbering rhinoceros. Their Royal Highnesses were glad enough to be twenty feet or so above the ground - the rhinoceros being one of the meanest, ill-tempered animals of the jungle. Then they spent the entire night, climbing down at eight o'clock this morning - and returning to their wedding-present-lodge. Where they turned in, for the sleep they had missed.

The news came first, not via Royal channels - but in the office of a local newspaper at Nairobi. The editors phoned the Royal lodge, but the staff there decided not to awaken the Princess on a mere newspaper report - but wait for confirmation from Buckingham Palace.

It took the Palace nearly thirty minutes to get through by telephone to the lodge in East Africa.

It was afternoon when they awakened the Heiress to the Crown, and told her that she was Queen. She burst into tears. Bitter grief for her Father, as the Royal old formula took form - the King is dead, long live the Queen.

They suggested, we have, that he abdicate - in the interest of his health. But the news dispatches, of late, had been indicating that the King was better. The sign was mentioned prominently - and it was eloquent for the King had gone sleeping - the traditional sport of British sovereigns. In fact, to what should be said. That was his health may have been, the sovereigns were with a gun - was excellent. There was a drive of horse and the Royal Household might have been his years.

It was in excellent spirits when he retired. But this morning, his valet went to rouse him - and found the King had died in the night, of a blood clot - the physician believes.

KING

The death of George the Sixth came as a surprise to the world - though his physicians are said to have understood the gravity of his condition, - following the lung operation he had to undergo last year. They suggested, we hear, that he abdicate - in the interest of his health.

But the news dispatches, of late, had been indicating that the King was better. One sign was mentioned prominently - and it was eloquent for Britishers. The King had gone shooting - the traditional sport of British sovereigns. In fact, he went shooting yesterday. Whatever his health may have been, the sovereign's form with a gun - was excellent. There was a drive of Hares and the Royal Huntsman bagged more than his share.

He was in excellent spirits when he retired. But this morning, his valet went to awaken him - and found the King had died in his sleep; of a blood clot - the physicians believe.

The place of George the VI

~~His~~ place in history will be that of a man

-- bound by duty. He never expected to be King.

The crown was imposed on him -- by duty. He had been a sickly child - who, as he grew up, was plagued with ulcers and a lack of resistance to colds. He had sieges of influenza and pneumonia, and complications of blood circulation - which eventually led to his death.

He was always ~~xxx~~ shy, and had to overcome the handicap of stammering. It was his nature to be ill at ease among people, but he schooled himself to the public duties of a sovereign. He would have preferred a secondary position - but was catapulted into the glare that surrounds the Royal throne of Britain.

It was a stunning change, following the abdication of Edward the Eighth - when the modest, retiring George took his place in the splendors of the Coronation.

That was fifteen years ago - and today I went

back to what seemed like a page out of a diary. *From a vantage point near ~~him~~ the throne* I covered the Coronation of George the Sixth, and gave

a broadcast account of it - from London. This was recorded at the time, and maybe it's worth while to go back to one paragraph - telling of the scene, when George the Sixth entered Westminster Abbey amid all the ⁺pomp and ceremony. In my broadcast ~~that evening~~. I tried to describe the color and the splendor, and this was the climax - as I gave it from London for this program.

RECORD

So that was how George the Sixth ascended the throne, as I told it at the time. A man who became King, though he never expected such a destiny.

MASSACRE

In Washington today. There was a grim, strange scene before a Congressional Committee - when a witness appeared with a pillow-case over his head. Hooded, with holes for his eyes, so that he might not be recognized. He testified concerning the massacre of Katyn Forest, when ten thousand Polish officers were murdered in mass atrocity.

They were Prisoners-of War, taken when the Soviet Reds joined Hitler's Nazis in the seizure of Poland - at the beginning of World War Two. The Soviets blamed the massacre on the Germans, but there has always been a belief that the mass murder of the Polish officers was the doing of the Reds.

The one who testified today was a Pole, appearing as an eyewitness. He wore the hood, his identity kept secret - for fear of Communist vengeance. He told how, in Katyn Forest, he was hiding in a tree -

when he saw Red soldiers murder one group of ²⁰⁰ Polish officers, ~~two hundred~~, and dump their bodies in a pit. The scene he described was one of unmitigated horror - in as infamous a crime as history can relate.

(The witness declared that, later on, he was taken by the Reds, and sent to Siberia - finally joining Polish forces formed by the Soviets, after the Nazis attacked the Reds. He made his way to this country as a displaced person, and is now a farmer - somewhere in the United States.)

KOREA

A brief word from Korea: - At Pan Mun Jom today the Reds presented a proposal calling for a full dress peace conference to be held within ninety days of the signing of a Korean armistice. And now,

Nelson Case.

QUEEN

L.T.-P.G. Thurs. Feb. 7-'52.

(In London, this afternoon, the new Queen performed her first act of State. For the first time she signed her name in royal style - Elizabeth Regina. It was a mournful duty issuing a decree for her father's funeral - to be held on Friday, February Fifteenth.)

George-the-Sixth will lie in State, in Westminster Hall, for three days - and the funeral will be attended, ~~as~~ it is expected, by all the crowned heads of Europe. There aren't so many on their thrones, nowadays, but there are others in exile - and a galaxy of royalty will be there. *Pres. Truman announces he will be represented at the funeral by Sec. of State Acheson.* (Elizabeth the Second and her husband arrived in London this afternoon after a flight of more than four thousand miles from East Africa) and, at the airport there was no huge crowd to greet the new Sovereign. Which was a handsome tribute by the public - Prime Minister Churchill ~~is~~ having asked the people of London not to come crowding. Some two hundred were there, members of the Royal Family and officials of the

government - headed by the Prime Minister.

The twenty-five year old young woman, who had burst into tears on hearing of her father's death, was calm and full of dignity - as she set about the duties of royalty immediately.

Tomorrow morning, she will go before the Privy Council, to take her oath as the Sovereign, and then the proclamation will be read by Heralds - announcing the accession of Elizabeth the Second. Only then will the ~~the~~ young Queen be free to go to her Mother, who remains at Sandringham, the country place where George the Sixth spent his final days. First come the duties, to which British Royalty has always been ~~reared~~ schooled.