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## KING GEORGE THE SIXTH — LE ROI GEORGE VI

The British people throughout the world have suffered a grievous loss by the death of King George VI.

He was born on the 15th December, 1895, and planned to follow in his Father's footsteps in the Royal Navy. After being educated as a cadet at Osborne, he joined the Navy and took part in the Battle of Jutland, before transferring to the Naval Air Arm, where he became a pilot, and rose to the rank of Wing-Commander.

At the end of the war, he devoted himself to serving his country by taking an interest in many public and philanthropic organisations, and carrying out much public work. Nonetheless, he found time for sport. He was a fine left-handed tennis-player, and, in partnership with Sir Louis Greig, won the Royal Air Force Doubles Championship, in 1926. His golf handicap was eight. In addition, he hunted several seasons with the Pytchley Foxhounds. Perhaps, however, his favourite sport was shooting, and in this pastime, like his Father, he was one of the best game shots in the country.

In December, 1936, the heavy burden of Kingship fell on his shoulders, and he carried through the many arduous and responsible tasks, which fell to his lot, with that determination and conscientiousness which were so characteristic of him. All too soon after his succession, the black clouds of war rolled up, and through those difficult years he never ceased to inspire his people by his own leadership and example.

With the beginning of the war, although he was busier than ever, yet he always managed to find time to attend the great sporting events of our country, culminating in his opening of the Great Olympic Games of London in 1948.

Through all these many years, he was supported and sustained by the help of his Queen, and the happy family circle of our new Queen and Princess Margaret.

In April, 1948, their Silver Wedding was celebrated, and, alas, all too soon afterwards, the public became aware of the serious deterioration in the King's health. This he bore with that fortitude which he possessed in such full measure. Now we mourn his passing, and he will ever be remembered, not only as a good King, but as a man of fine and kindly character, who set a great example to his people. We are indeed fortunate that he leaves behind him such an outstanding daughter, our new Queen Elisabeth, and the whole of the British Commonwealth of Nations is united in its determination to give her its full and loyal support in the years of heavy responsibility which lie before her.

BURGHLEY.