

New Speaker Of British House Was Former Singing Teacher

By LAWRENCE MALKIN
LONDON (AP)—It may be a long time before the new Speaker of the quarrelsome House of Commons has its members sitting up and singing Three Blind Mice in unison—but it won't be for lack of training.

Dr. Horace King, the former schoolteacher elected Speaker last week, has taught singing to children and grownups in Southampton, England, for a generation. That alone would signify the degree to which his election represents a break with tradition—but that isn't the only thing.

In the conflicts between Crown and commonsense in former times, the Speaker represented the interests of the House against the monarch. It was a dangerous task, and in 1642 the Speaker had to conceal the whereabouts of five members whom King Charles I tried to arrest by coming to the House in person.

Since Victorian times, the Speaker has served as a dignified arbiter between rival factions in the House, and in the current session King is likely to have his hands full with the parties balanced as delicately as they now are. Over seven centuries, his predecessors have been drawn from Britain's moneyed and landed ruling classes.

University of Europe. None of these has had any success, which may explain King's interest in parliamentary procedure. Although he wants to get rid of "mumbo jumbo" in Parliament's antiquated procedures, he is just as firm a supporter of the individual rights of MPs.

"I am one of those who think that the power of the executive is growing and ought to be diminished," he recently said, and he made it clear that he feels the back-bench member is the best check on the power of modern government.

In this sense, he is a traditionalist. For example, he defends the tradition of MPs never addressing each other by their names.

"When I stop a member from

calling another member 'you' instead of the honorable member for wherever it is, I don't do it because I'm a pedantic twerp, he said. "If you didn't have this custom, you would have members directly arguing with one another across the House."

During the last session, King often sat in for the Speaker, the late Sir Harry Hyton-Foster. He never left the House before 1 a.m., and some of the night sessions kept him there until dawn. The long hours were no simple task for a man of his age—84.

"I have had the happiest year of my life, and the hardest," King said.

One Conservative MP complimented him on the way he ran the sometimes rowdy House: "One thing we like about you is

a touch of the headmaster." No comparison could have been more apt. King was born May 25, 1901, the son of a steel worker. He worked his way through the University of London by playing piano in a dance band. He won a PH.D. in English and headed the English department at a Southampton school from 1930 to 1947. For the next three years, he was headmaster of another Southampton secondary school.

He has also edited an edition of Homer for schools. He describes his job as Speaker in a pedagogue's terms: "You don't impose discipline—you involve it."

When he went to Parliament, he resigned as a principal and earned extra money by teaching "action songs," in which children sing and act out the words.

As Speaker, he gets a sumptuous apartment in the palace of Westminster, a salary of £9,750 (\$20,250) and a ranking in the table of protocol as 13th in the kingdom, just behind the Royal Family, the prime minister, the Anglican archbishops and the Lord Chancellor.

After parliamentary procedure, on which he has written

a book, King's greatest love is music. During the war he translated the German army song Lili Marlene into English, and it became as popular with British soldiers as it was with German.

He wrote such war ballads as The Spitfire Song and The Convoy Comes to Port. He organized 600 concerts for troops and raised about \$100,000 for war charities.

Now he will have little time to teach action songs. Recently he told one class of tots: "I only wish that all MPs could sing as nicely as you. Because in Parliament I'm the headmaster, and perhaps we'd have no more quarrels."

One little girl told her teacher later: "Isn't it lovely? Dr. King will be able to teach Parliament Three Blind Mice with actions."

SURVEY PLANNED
OTTAWA (CP)—An economic survey of Barbados and a number of Caribbean islands will be sponsored jointly by Canada, Britain and the United States, it was announced Sunday. The study is to determine plans and suggest priorities in economic development for the next five years.

Promotions Announced

OTTAWA (CP)—RCMP Commissioner George B. McClellan has announced promotions for officers and non-commissioned officers.

Superintendent William L. Higgitt, 47, of Ottawa, assistant director of security and intelligence, was promoted to chief superintendent effective last Sept. 1.

Those promoted to superintendent, effective last Sept. 1, include Inspector Arthur Argent, 57, St. John's, Nfld.

FIND SEA GARBAGE

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CAMPAIGN SIGNS—HIS AND HERS

Dr. Tim Turner of Toronto is a Liberal supporter. He placed a large poster on his front lawn, boosting Mitchell Sharp in the Toronto Eglinton riding. He then left on a business trip and when he returned he found his wife, Georgia, had placed a sign supporting Dalton Camp next to it. (CP Wirephoto)

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New Agreements Are Considered

TORONTO (CP)—Industry Minister Drury said here the possibility of more international agreements, similar in principle to the Canada-United States auto pact, is under active consideration for some industries.

He declined to identify the industries at a press conference, but said his department has been talking to some manufacturers.

He added, however, in reply to a question that is a "reasonable assumption" the industries are foreign controlled.

Mr. Drury said that if the lack of growth in certain industries is caused by fragmentation, it is obvious the creation of larger units should be encouraged.

Of the auto pact, Mr. Drury said in a prepared statement it

has resulted in more jobs, factories, stepped-up production and lower Canadian car prices.

his name on divorce records. James, Elliott and Franklin D. Jr., preceded him.

John Roosevelt, Wife Divorced

JUAREZ, Mexico (AP)—A Mexican divorcee has parted John A. Roosevelt and his wife of 26 years, the former Anne Lindsay Clark of Nahant, Mass.

Roosevelt, 49, is the youngest of former president Franklin D. Roosevelt's five living children and the last of four sons to get

EX-DIPLOMAT DIES
LONDON (AP)—Sir Terence Shone, 71, a former top-ranking British diplomat, died at his home Friday. He served as minister-counsellor in Cairo and became British minister in Syria and Lebanon in 1944. He went to India in 1946 as Britain's first high commissioner after the dominion became independent and finished his career in 1952 as permanent British representative to the United Nations.

FIRST LABOR SPEAKER
King is a Labor party man through and through, the first Laborite to be elected Speaker. When he first went to Parliament in 1950, he turned up in a working man's cloth cap. Over the years, he has assumed such causes as price controls on beer, a trade union for widows, a commercial radio station for popular music and local news, sending the Prince of Wales to a state school, and the formation of a

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