

Lesson 6

READ THIS STORY #1, Advanced

The King

In 1936, the Prince of Wales was a dashing and popular young member of the ruling family. The British were happy when he became King.

No one expected that he would give up the throne less than a year after he became king. Such an event had never happened in the history of the country.

Before he became king, the Prince of Wales had been introduced to Mrs. Wallis Simpson. She was a very attractive woman from the United States. He fell in love with her and was determined to make her his wife.

But Mrs. Simpson had been divorced. A divorced woman is not permitted to become the queen of England.

The King told his subjects that he could not continue as their King unless he had the help and support of the woman he loved. So he gave up the throne. Some thought it was a very romantic declaration. Others thought the King had been duped by a power-hungry female.

Most were saddened by his decision. The King became the Duke of Windsor and lived in exile the rest of his life.