

The items which follow were donated to the Museum by a John Buchan enthusiast from Newtonmore in 2017.

They are all extracts from The Daily Mail during February 1940

THAT FASCIN

Lord Tweedsmuir's

TOLD SURGEONS

"WHEN I WAS 4—"

From ROY CARMICHAEL, Daily Mail
Correspondent

MONTREAL, Wednesday.

FOUR years ago Lord Tweedsmuir paid an official visit to the Montreal Neurological Institute.

He seemed fascinated by the operating theatre. He examined photographs and shot a stream of questions at the surgeons.

He told them how he had received a fractured skull at the age of four, how he lay unconscious for seven days, and how his life was saved by a trepanning operation.

Still lingering in the theatre, he asked how the surgeons would proceed with such an operation now.

"STRANGE FORESHADOWING"

"It seems to-day that that was a strange foreshadowing of events to come," said Dr. Wilder Penfield, when he recalled the visit at a memorial meeting to Lord Tweedsmuir to-day.

Dr. Penfield was one of the five doctors who fought for the Governor-General's life last week in the institute which so fascinated him four years ago.

He revealed that Lord Tweedsmuir's 21-years-old son, Lieutenant Alastair Buchan, had insisted on giving his own blood for transfusion when the situation was most desperate.

"Alas, it was to no purpose, but the spirit of the father lives on."

Dr. Penfield paid tribute to the devotion of Lady Tweedsmuir. "She showed no self-pity, nor any thought of turning back while the merest chance of life remained.

"Courage, unselfishness, and true nobility are hers."

Dr. Penfield said there were "those who deplored as unseemly the manner in which we tried to turn the tide that ran so strongly against him; those who, now we have failed, would reproach us for not leaving him to die undisturbed, who say even if we had saved him it would not have been a useful life.

"That is untrue. During the first 24 hours after cerebral thrombosis he regained consciousness, recognised his family and friends, and spoke to them.

"But for the secondary development of pressure he would quickly have been restored to an effective, happy life.

"After the third desperate operation we again thought we saw him entering a safe harbour. Then came embolism from an unsuspected source, and with it the sudden end.

Thousands lined the streets of Ottawa to-day for Lord Tweedsmuir's funeral. The thermometer stood at zero, snow was banked high, but they waited patiently and silently in the cold.

They saw the cortège move from the Canadian Senate building—where 15,000 had paid their tribute during the lying-in-state—to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church for the State funeral. They saw the coffin borne on a naval gun-carriage from the church to the station to begin the long journey home to Britain.

All Canada was represented at the service, which was broadcast throughout the country.

It is understood that Lord Tweedsmuir completed his reminiscences shortly before his death and that the typescript is now in this country. The book covers the greater part of his life.

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FEBRUARY, 1940.

ELSFIELD TRIBUTE TO LORD TWEEDSMUIR.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

DR. GILBERT MURRAY AND "A GREAT VICEROY."

A memorial service for Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada, was held on Saturday in the little church at Elsfeld, his Oxfordshire home.

All those who gathered there had known him, and special places were reserved for the villagers and old retainers.

Members of his family, including his eldest son, John, the new Baron, walked from the Manor House to the church, followed by members of the staff.

At the church, where Lord Tweedsmuir was vicar's warden, two of his oldest friends, Mr. W. F. G. Watts, a well-known farmer, and Mr. G. J. Brown, who was fellow warden with Lord Tweedsmuir, showed the congregation to their seats.

The chancel steps and the altar had been decorated with spring flowers, and the only other patch of colour was the scarlet and grey doctor's gown of Dr. Gilbert Murray, tutor and friend of the dead man, who paid a striking tribute to the famous novelist.

The Vicar of the parish (the Rev. W. M. Aste), who has taken over the living since Lord Tweedsmuir went to Canada, officiated, with the Rev. I. R. N. Miller, minister of St. Colomba's Church, Oxford, and Presbyterian Chaplain to the University.

His wife played the music for the service, which had been chosen specially by members of the family. It included Lord Tweedsmuir's favourite hymns—John Bunyan's "Who would true valour see," and "All people that on earth do dwell."

"The Pilgrim's Progress."

After the Lesson, read by Mr. Miller, the Hon. William Buchan read from his father's well-thumbed copy of "The Pilgrim's Progress" the famous passage which tells of the death of Mr. Valiant-for-Truth, concluding with the well-known words, "And all the trumpets sounded on the other side"—the words with which John Buchan ended one of his best-known books, "Mr. Standfast."

Dr. Murray, in his address, said Lord Tweedsmuir had received an extraordinary tribute of public honour, different in quality from the customary obituaries published over eminent men and great servants of the Empire. "One feels in reading them that here we have, not only a great Viceroy and a devoted public servant of high integrity, fallen in the discharge of his duty, but a warm-hearted man whose friends loved him, and outside the circle of those who knew him personally as a story teller who had charmed his way to the hearts of hundreds of thousands," he went on.

"I remember vividly the first time I met him. I was a professor at Glasgow, and at the end of a lecture, after a Greek class, a young student stood there waiting to ask me a question.

"It was nothing new. Students generally did wait to see me, to ask to be excused a lecture or to ask me about something in the lecture which I had given. This boy did neither.

"He came up to me and pointed out that Lord Bacon, in his essays, had quoted the Greek philosopher Democritus in Latin, and asked if I could tell him where Bacon got his Latin translation of Democritus.

"That did me. I could not answer the question, but I became strongly interested in the questioner, and from that moment our long friendship dated. He dedicated to me his first book, 'Don Quixote of the Moors,' and we remained friends all our lives.

L.N.U. Work.

"For many years I hardly saw him, but in the Great War we met again, often. We sometimes served on the same committees, and he was the first chairman of the editorial committee of the League of Nations Union, of which I was also a member, and we had many talks together, usually in the train going to London.

"Although we started on opposite sides in politics, we came nearer as we aimed at understanding and grew in experience," Dr. Murray continued.

"I was an ordinary Liberal, he was a special kind of Conservative, a romantic and imaginative Conservative quite different from certain other types.

"A historian and lover of human nature and its adventures, he had an affection for places with historical associations, for institutions of which he knew the growth, and, above all, he had an immense attachment to this great British civilisation, built up by centuries of humane endeavour and now perhaps in danger of being destroyed.

"The world in general will know of his extraordinary gifts, his versatility, abundance of output, perhaps of that imaginative and courageous journey into the Arctic circle—not for mere adventure, but 'in order to understand Canada.'"

"Splendid Courage."

"His friends only will know of his sense of duty, his industry, his warm heart, the utter absence from his nature of any meanness, or jealousy or unkindness, the splendid courage and fortitude with which he faced and conquered his long ill-health.

"Death came to him suddenly, painlessly, in the fullness of his powers and at the very height of his great career, in the faithful and successful discharge of a high office which, as he once told me years ago, was the one in all the world which he wished for most."

The chief mourners were Lord Tweedsmuir (son), the Hon. William and Mrs. Buchan (son and daughter-in-law), Capt. B. F. R. and the Hon. Mrs. Fairfax-Lucy (son-in-law and daughter), Miss Anna Buchan (sister), the Hon. Mrs. Grosvenor (mother-in-law), Mrs. Peyton Jones (sister-in-law), Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Arthur Grenfell, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. C. D. Crozier, Prof. and Lady Mary Murray and Miss Violet Markham.

OTTAWA MOURNS HER CHIEF

From Daily Mail Correspondent

OTTAWA, Tuesday.

LORD TWEEDSMUIR returned for the last time to Parliament Hill, Ottawa, to-day, where citizens of the sorrowing capital were waiting to pay their last respects to the Governor-General.

Lord Tweedsmuir, known to millions as John Buchan, the novelist, died last Sunday in Montreal at the age of 64.

At noon to-day the special train from Montreal arrived at Union Station, where Mr. Mackenzie King, the Prime Minister, the Cabinet, and the Mayor of Ottawa were waiting.

Others present included Sir Gerald Campbell, High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in Canada, the Ministers of France, Belgium, the United States, the Netherlands, and Japan, and the Empire High Commissioners.

Lying in State

The coffin was carried by eight bearers through a guard of honour, followed immediately by Alastair Buchan, the Governor-General's son.

Fifteen minutes later the coffin rested on a dais in the centre of the draped Senate Chamber, surrounded by four tall candles.

Throughout the day an endless line of men, women, and children filed past the bier.

The funeral will take place to-morrow. The service will be held in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and conducted by the Rev. Alexander Ferguson.

After the service, the coffin will be sent back to Montreal for cremation.

The ashes are to be shipped to Britain for interment, probably at Elsdeld, Lord Tweedsmuir's Oxford home.

Lady Tweedsmuir and her son Alastair are crossing the Atlantic for the interment. They will be joined by the new Baron Tweedsmuir, who, until his father's death, was Captain John Buchan, of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

LADY TWEEDSMUIR TO BRING ASHES HOME

Details Announced of Arrangements for Funeral in Canada and Scottish Interment

THE official arrangements for the funeral of Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada, which were outlined in the "Oxford Mail" yesterday, have been announced in Montreal to-day.

The train bearing the body is to leave Montreal for Ottawa at 9.30 a.m. (2.30 p.m. British time) to-day. At Ottawa the train will be met by officials of the Canadian Government and Embassies, says the British United Press.

A motor hearse will carry the body to the Chamber of the Senate, where it will lie in state between 3 and 6 p.m. and 8 and 10 p.m. The funeral is to take place to-morrow.

Pall-bearers will be drawn from the Canadian Navy and Army, the Royal Canadian Air Force and the Mounties.

The body will be carried to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on a

naval gun carriage, where the funeral service is to be conducted by Mr. Alexander Ferguson.

From the church the body will be taken on the gun carriage to the railway station, where it will be placed on the train again for Montreal, where the cremation is to take place.

The details of the funeral were settled in a conference between Lady Tweedsmuir and officials in Ottawa yesterday afternoon.

She did not see the body before the coffin was sealed at her request.

She and her son Alistair are going to Scotland for the interment when Lord Tweedsmuir's ashes are taken across the Atlantic to his beloved Scotland.

They will be joined on this side of the Atlantic by the new Baron Tweedsmuir, who until his father's death was Lieut. John Buchan, of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces.

(Eisfield Tributes to Lord Tweedsmuir on Page Three.)