

ENGLAND MOURNS DEATH OF BRYCE

Former Ambassador to U. S., Author and Statesman, Passes Away Unexpectedly

SOUGHT AMITY WITH U. S.

By the Associated Press
London, Jan. 23.—(Civilian and official England today mourned the death of Viscount Bryce of Dechmont, who passed away at Sidmouth yesterday. Announcement of the death of the noted statesman, author and diplomat was unexpected. Weakness of the heart intervened in his illness, and the end came suddenly.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Viscount Bryce spent a week in Washington last July, his first visit to the United States since his six-year ambassadorship between 1907 and 1913. The author of "The American Commonwealth" was awarded a peacemonger in 1914 in recognition of his distinguished services in this country. While in Washington Lord Bryce called upon President Harding, Secretary Hughes and other friends of former days, taking occasion to express especially at the White House the satisfaction with which he in common with other Britishers greeted President

Famous Statesman



VISCOUNT BRYCE
English statesman and author, who died unexpectedly yesterday at Sidmouth, England

Harding's call for the Washington Conference. Lord Bryce foreshadowed hearty British support of America's desire to see the Anglo-Japanese alliance scrapped. He had himself visited the Far East in recent years and was convinced that Japan's atrocities in China,

unless curbed, contained the seeds of conflict. Harvard, Princeton, Michigan and California Universities gave Lord Bryce degrees, and he held similar honors from virtually every great university of Europe.

"If James Bryce is not the most widely and profoundly learned man in the United Kingdom," said the London Tit-Bits, when Mr. Bryce was designated as Ambassador to Washington, "we should like to know who is his superior. Even Mr. Gladstone, it is said, was not more versatile in his knowledge than this 'Tanny Scotsman.'"

Of Viscount Bryce it also was said that he knew America better than most Americans. A diplomatist, man of letters and publisher of world renown, he was so highly regarded in the United States that he sometimes was referred to as an "English Yankee." The characterization was the more apt in that he was the first British Ambassador to this country who did not bear a title—at that time he was plain James Bryce, having previously declined an appointment to the peerage. Bryce, the scholar and diplomat, almost completely overshadowed Bryce, the mountain climber, and many who knew the famous Briton best did not know that his indomitable will and rugged body had conquered the heights of Mount Ararat—a peak long considered one of the impossible goals of the mountain climber.

Linguist and Translator
As a linguist and translator, too, he was far above the average, and he spoke fluently about six languages besides English, and was able to write easily in several of those tongues. He was constantly acquiring historical facts by use of this linguistic knowledge. The United States knew him best as Ambassador and lecturer and as author

of an authoritative work on the American governmental system entitled "The American Commonwealth." This work has been used in schools and colleges throughout the country since its publication in 1888, and is regarded by American scholars as one of the foremost works of its kind. He revised this work later, including criticism of Tammany rule in New York.

James Bryce was born in Belfast, Ireland, on May 10, 1838, so that at his death he was nearly eighty-three years old, but those who saw him on his last visit to this country remarked the vigor and energy of the man who had accomplished so much work of value to his own civilization and his own country. His father was a Scotchman, the Rev. Dr. James Bryce, a Presbyterian minister, but his mother was an Irishwoman, born in County Antrim.

The parentage of his mother and his early days in Ireland gave him an interest in the Irish question, and throughout his life he took an active and sometimes not altogether academic part in the debates on that pressing problem. When he was appointed Ambassador to this country it was noted by William T. Stead, in an article in the American Monthly Review of Reviews, that he was the first "home rule" Ambassador ever sent here; that he had supported Redmond and the Irish nationalists; that he had voted against the coercion act, and that "one of his latest acts as Chief Secretary was to secure the removal from the statute book of the peace preservation act, which made it a penal offense to carry arms in Ireland."

His city electors liked him and returned him to the House of Commons until 1884, when the Reform Bill cut up his district. Then he was invited to stand for election in South Aberdeen, and was repeatedly returned.

Ambassador to United States
He was secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland from 1905 until 1907, when he was appointed Ambassador to the United States. It was at this time an offer of a peerage was made to Bryce, but he refused because he preferred to come to this country as "plain James Bryce." In 1914 he was created first Viscount of Dechmont. He took his title from Dechmont Hill, Lanarkshire, where the Bryce family had settled in 1659.

Heavy tasks were given to Viscount Bryce during the war, and he wrote and spoke eloquently in interpreting the war aims of the Allies. He was head of the commission which revealed the German atrocities in Belgium, and later gave the same stamp of authenticity to the ravages of the Turks.

He was an early advocate of the League of Nations as "a higher, nobler Monroe Doctrine for the whole world," and of the proposal that some international organization should seek to end war.

In 1880 he married Elizabeth Ashton, of Manchester, whose mother was an American. They had no children.

TWO SLAYERS EXECUTED

Negro Highwayman Who Killed Sheriff Hill Man Electrocuted

Bellefonte, Pa., Jan. 23.—(By A. P.)—Walter A. Lewis, of Delaware county, and John Mason, of Allegheny county, both Negroes, were electrocuted

at the Rock View Penitentiary here today. Lewis barricaded his cell door in the Delaware County jail last Saturday in an effort to prevent the Sheriff's bringing him to the death house. He offered no resistance today and showed little fear as he was led to the chair at 7:23 before Judge House, at Media.

Lewis killed John Dalton, of Sharon Hill. Dalton, who was the son of David Dalton, was shot to death when held up by three highwaymen near his home July 7, 1920. Lewis was convicted of first-degree murder March 25, 1921, before Judge House, at Media.

Injured Coaster Has Scarlet Fever
Norristown, Pa., Jan. 23.—Mark Drusch, eleven-year-old Bridgeport girl, developed scarlet fever in the Montgomery Hospital, Norristown, while undergoing treatment for a broken leg sustained in a sledding accident.



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