

THE LATE LORD NORTHCLIFFE



Alfred Charles William Harmsworth, later Viscount Harmsworth, was born in Dublin in 1865, his father being an Englishman and his mother Irish. He went to London early in life and engaged in the newspaper business. His first great success was a little weekly paper which found its readers among the masses, later he purchased other daily papers, including the London Times, Great Britain's greatest paper for more than a century, and started the Daily Mail, somewhat on American lines, and made it a phenomenal success. He had a dozen or more publications throughout England, and for years has been the country's foremost publisher. He was made Viscount Northcliffe in 1917, having rendered valuable service in the war. He declined the position of Air Minister in the Lloyd George cabinet. For some years Viscount Northcliffe was as prominent in the political world as he had been in the newspaper field. He had been for some time in deadly conflict with Premier Lloyd George and his policies, but peace had been restored. He was ill at the time the armistice was signed. His illness was diagnosed as due to adenoma of the thyroid gland, for which he underwent an operation in June, 1919. Plans were made early in 1921 for a world tour. The start was delayed until July because of labor trouble, involving the publishing industry, and a renewal of hostilities between Lloyd George and himself. Lord Northcliffe attacked the motives of the Premier and Marquis Curson in desiring to represent Great Britain at the Washington Arms Conference. As a result of this attack, government news was barred from the Northcliffe press. Lord Northcliffe sailed for America defying the boycott. During his world tour, Lord Northcliffe occupied the public attention of each country he visited, displaying great knowledge of the problems facing various nations. Arriving in New York, July 23, 1921, he warmly

endorsed President Harding's plans for the armament conference. In Australia he saw a grave danger in that country being overrun by Asiatics, and in several addresses revealed an intimate knowledge of Australia's national problems. During his tour of the Pacific he made a close study of the situation in the Far East, and in Hong Kong he expressed the opinion that the Anglo-Japanese Alliance was a bar to its solution. He returned to London from his tour in May, 1922. In June he was reported to have made a tour of Germany incognito.

Shortly after the completion of his world tour, differences grew in the Newspaper Proprietors' Association over wage scales. Lord Northcliffe criticizing certain methods of the newer members of the Association. He later resigned. In May, 1922, dissension broke out between Northcliffe and other members of the Associated Newspapers, Ltd., owners of the Northcliffe Press. In June, 1922, libel suits were brought against Lord Northcliffe by Sir Andrew Caird, vice-chairman, and Walter G. Fish, a director of Associated Newspapers.

The day in which the announcement of the filing of these suits was made, Northcliffe was reported to be suffering from a nervous breakdown in Switzerland. He was brought back to England several days later, and was reported then to be ill from ptomaine poisoning.

Early in July his differences with Lloyd George were said to have ended and the libel actions brought by Fish and Caird were said to have been dropped. His health, however, continued to grow worse, his ailment being diagnosed as due to "unknown poisoning". From this attack he never recovered.

DEATH OF FORMER KINGS CO. LADY

The death occurred in the early morning, of Wednesday, August 2nd, of Sarah Jane, beloved wife of Mr. John A. Cochrane, at their home in Dartmouth, having lived there the past few years, after selling their home in Hants Co., upon the failing health of Mrs. Cochrane. She was born in Cornwallis, almost 82 years ago and spent all her young life in this county until her marriage to Mr. Cochrane almost sixty years ago, her birthday and wedding day being in November. Beside her aged husband, she leaves three sons and four daughters. The deceased lady was the oldest living sister of Mr. George I. Fraser, Gererwich.

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