

QUEEN MARY: NATION PAYS LAST HOMAGE

The royal tenant was leaving Marlborough House. A bearer party of the Queens Company, Grenadier Gds, carried the coffin of Qu. Mary from her last home, where it had lain in the Queens Chapel, and now placed it upon the green gun-carriage of the Kings Troop, Royal Horse Artly. In the mile-long procession to Westm. Hall marched representative detachments of Queen Alexandras Army and Naval Nursing Services.

40
(half mst)
140
38
60
The Prime Minister and Mrs. Churchill - old friends of Queen Mary's - arrived for the service in Westminster Hall, which was to be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury. With Her Majesty the Queen came the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret. It was a scene which made the mind hark back to that day thirteen months ago when the heavily-veiled Queen Mary herself came to Westminster Hall after the death of her son, the King, the last great sorrow of her long life. And now she herself received the homage of the millions in whose hearts she reigned. Queen Mary's two surviving sons, with the Duke of Edinburgh and the young Duke of Kent, marched in the opening stage of the final journey.

(next)
From Horseguards' Parade through the arch into Whitehall came the ^{R.A.F.} detachment of 210 officers, N.C.Os and men, ~~the Royal Air Force~~

262 marchers represented the Royal Navy and the Royal Marines. *And*

~~In most impressive and traditional manner the country did honour to a noble queen. Marching in reminder that the Commonwealth too mourned Queen Mary were men of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, there as one of the six regiments of which her Majesty was colonel: *ni - chief*~~

45

Britain was losing now a great figure who linked our modern time with the so different, far off age when Queen Mary was born. 1867 to 1953 - what had she not seen in those 85, nearly 86 years!

(STV canopy)

The body of Queen Mary came to the great Hall which she had often entered on State and royal occasions; the hall of William Rufus, which has remained immutable through nine centuries of change, ~~was a monument~~ a monument to England's history. The coffin was received by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Great Chamberlain, the Minister of Works and the Gentleman Usher of the House of Lords, Black Rod. Members of both Houses of Parliament were inside the hall, in the company of those attending the short service.

(next)

Those near the walls heard, perhaps, the singing of Abide With Me. There was a prayer, "in thankfulness for the great blessings bestowed by the example of her steadfast life." Then Her Majesty and the Duke left the Hall.

The Earl of Harewood and the Honourable Gerald Lascelles, his brother, had been in the congregation. So too had Queen Mary's brother the Earl of Athlone. With Princess Alice he had flown home from South Africa. But this was not only a family mourning. Queen Mary's death bereaved her people. Already, for nearly a mile along the Thames, was formed the queue, moving slowly towards Westminster Hall, there to pay humble but heartfelt tribute to Queen Mary, the well beloved. ~~Upon the~~

Upon the purple catafalque, in royal setting, Queen Mary lay. Her coffin was draped by the Alexandra pall, used at the burial of the Unknown Warrior, Queen Alexandra and King George V. The single wreath bore the inscription "In loving memory from her devoted Lilibet and Philip."

It spoke to all.

300
Cenall 1/2