

## Montreal Gazette

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### **PENFIELD IN RUSSIA WITH MISSION TO STUDY NEW SURGICAL TECHNIQUES**

Member of an important medical mission to Moscow – reportedly the first of its kind ever arranged since establishment of the U.S.S.R. – Dr. Wilder G. Penfield, head of the Montreal Neurological Institute and internationally noted neurologist and surgeon, was said in Montreal yesterday to have arrived safely at his destination, presumably with the other members of the scientific party.

While censorship regulations heretofore have not permitted any mention of the medical mission, its existence had been known for some time. Only few details can as yet be given, however.

It is unofficially reported that the party consists of at least half dozen internationally famous scientists of the medical profession, among them two Americans and three Britons. So far as is known, Dr. Penfield is the only Canadian member of the party.

From an authoritative source it was learned several weeks ago that the medical mission, arranged through British, American and Soviet state officials, was formed for the principal purpose of studying various types of fracture wounds among was casualties and the U.S.S.R.'s methods of treatment. It was assumed that various other medical problems and new developments which are believed to have been evolved by Soviet medical men since Russia's entry into the war, will also be closely studied by the Allied Nations party.

Only a week ago, Dr. Penfield – along with several other “distinguished surgeons from the Dominions and the Allied countries” – received an honorary fellowship in the Royal College of Surgeons. He left Montreal by bomber more than a month ago. While no official word of the identity of other members of the medical mission has been released, it is significant that among the surgeons honored in London with the Montreal Neurological Institute chief surgeon of the Soviet Army, and Prof. H. C. Naffziger of San Francisco, chairman of the committee of neurological surgery of the National Research Council of America.

Others mentioned were Col. J. A. McFarlane, consulting surgeon in the Canadian Army, and Prof. N. S. Shenstone of the University of Toronto, but it could not be learned here whether they were members of the Moscow-bound group.

From various unofficial sources it was learned that Dr. Penfield's inclusion in the medical mission was expressly desired and arranged for by Maxim Litvinoff, former Soviet ambassador to the United States, while he was serving in that capacity in Washington some months ago.