

# CHURCHILL INJURED BY AUTO IN 5TH AV.

## British Statesman's Shoulder Sprained and Face Cut as He Is Struck at 76th Street.

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### TAKEN TO LENOX HOSPITAL

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#### Specialist Aids in a Thorough Examination—Scotland Yard Man Guards Room.

Winston Churchill, British statesman, who arrived here last Friday for a lecture tour, was struck and painfully injured by an automobile last night while crossing Fifth Avenue between Seventy-sixth and Seventy-seventh Streets. He was taken to Lenox Hill Hospital near by and was found to have suffered a sprained right shoulder and lacerations of the forehead and nose.

Hospital officials immediately summoned Dr. Otto Pickhardt, well-known consulting surgeon, and Mr. Churchill was taken to the operating room for a thorough medical examination. This precaution was taken, the officials said, to insure against overlooking possible internal injuries.

Dr. Pickhardt completed his examination shortly after 1 o'clock this morning and, while saying Mr. Churchill's injuries were not serious, admitted that the sprained shoulder was causing him "slight annoyance."

Another specialist was summoned shortly before 3 A. M. and said that as a precautionary measure Mr. Churchill would be detained at the hospital for about three days. A Scotland Yard man was stationed at the door of the statesman's room to prevent his being disturbed. Mrs. Churchill decided to remain at the hospital overnight. Diana Churchill, their daughter, was not notified of her father's accident when she returned early this morning to their suite at the Waldorf-Astoria. The specialist, whose name was not disclosed, said there was no cause for alarm concerning Mr. Churchill.

Mr. Churchill, fearing that news of his accident might be exaggerated and might cause "undue alarm to his friends in England," issued strict or-

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# CHURCHILL INJURED BY AUTO IN FIFTH AV.

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ders to all officials and employes of the hospital against giving out any news of his injury.

The accident occurred shortly after 10:30 o'clock when the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, the police reported, tried to cross the avenue against the traffic lights.

Mr. Churchill had emerged from a taxicab on the west side of the avenue between Seventy-sixth and Seventy-seventh Streets. He paid his fare, tipped the driver and started to walk north to Seventy-sixth Street. After going a few paces, he apparently changed his mind and decided to take advantage of a momentary break in the traffic to cross the avenue.

He stepped behind the taxicab which he had just vacated and hurried to the centre of the street. A northbound automobile, owned and operated by Mario Contasino of 300 Yonkers Avenue, Yonkers, bore down upon him and before Contasino could stop the car Mr. Churchill had been knocked to the pavement.

The avenue at that point has little pedestrian traffic, being flanked on one side by Central Park and on the other chiefly by private homes, but a small cluster of persons quickly appeared, passing motorists stopped to ask questions and to give advice, and traffic was tied up for several minutes.

Mr. Churchill was picked up and, although shaken, was seen to be not seriously injured. Contasino helped him to his taxicab and took him to the Lenox Hill Hospital in Seventy-sixth Street, between Park and Lex-

ington Avenues. There Mr. Churchill gave his name and his age, 57, and said his temporary address was the Waldorf-Astoria.

Attendants took him to a private room, where his cuts were bathed and treated and his sprained shoulder adjusted by Dr. Bloom of the hospital staff. Dr. Pickhardt was summoned at once and, upon his arrival, the patient was taken to the operating room for a detailed examination.

## Mrs. Churchill Not Alarmed.

Mrs. Churchill was notified at the Waldorf of her husband's accident and reached the hospital before 11 o'clock. After listening to the physician's report, she said she was not alarmed by her husband's condition and wished that impression to be clearly conveyed to their friends in England.

Contasino was questioned by the police after the accident but, upon Mr. Churchill's statement that he had attempted to cross the avenue against traffic lights and in the middle of the block, Contasino was released and cleared of all responsibility.

Mr. Churchill said later that his intended destination was 952 Fifth Avenue. He took the accident good-humoredly and freely admitted, the police said, that he was entirely to blame. His greatest concern, hospital attendants said, was lest the seriousness of his injuries be exaggerated when word of the accident was conveyed to England.

Mr. Churchill arrived here last Friday on the North German Lloyd liner Europa to make a series of lectures on "The Destiny of the English-Speaking Peoples." His first lecture appearance was on the same night at Worcester, Mass. His first New York lecture appearance had been scheduled for tonight at the Brooklyn Academy of Medicine under the auspices of the Institute of Arts and Sciences.