## INVENTOR OF PHONE

## Bell's Personal History Is Told for First Time

WASHINGTON - Few Ameri-

Yet it is seldom realized that the wondrous invention of the Scottish-born genius was an out-growth of his love for his deaf wife, Mabel Hubbard Bell, and his life's work—helping the deaf to speak.

The personal story of Dr. and Mrs. Bell is told for the first time in a new book, "Make a Joyful Sound," by Helen E. Waite. Miss Waite's account of Dr. Bell's career, his family life, imaginative work in many fields, and the remarkable woman who stood beside him, is based upon official records, the reminiscences of Bell descendants, and upon family papers never before made available to a biographer. Mabel Hubbard was the daugh-

ter of a Boston philanthropist, Gardiner Greene Hubbard. Before she was 5, a virulent attack of scarlet fever destroyed her hearing. This was a stunning blow to a family in the 19th century, for there were few teachers who could or would dedicate themselves to handicapped children.

But guided by her parents, Mabel acquired words and speech by observing the movements of other people's mouths. At 13 she learned an alien language, German, by lip-reading.

When Mabel Hubbard was 15, her mother took her to Alexander Graham Bell for lessons in elocu-tion. He was a tall, shy Scotsman who had come to Boston to teach and lecture in the Boston Day School for the Deaf. Young Bell had an extraordinary gift for making the most ordinary exer-cises fascinating, but he was al-ways financially embarrassed be-cause he hated to charge deaf

students for their lessons.

Mabel married Bell in 1877
when she was 19, a year after he had successfully demonstrated his telephone at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia.

Dr. Bell's bride had been much a part of his work. It was a strange twist of fate that a girl who could never again know the

Even at the height of his fame, cans, and probably no other naturalized citizen, have had a greater influence on present-day life than Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone. continually preached the advan-tages of lip-reading in lieu of sign language. Dr. Bell took an active part in

building the National Geographic Society and was its second president, 1898-1904. A many-faceted man, Dr. Bell theld the then heretical belief that

women ranked with men in intelligence and had just as much right—and duty — to use their brains. Mrs. Bell pioneered in the formation of women's clubs and parent-teacher associations in Canada, where they had a summer home. As a guiding light in the Aerial Experiment Association she was the first woman patron of aviation.

The Bells' first daughter, Elsie e

May, became the wife of Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor, who served as president and editor of the Na-tional Geographic Society for more than half a century.
Dr. Grosvenor has written:

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"Mrs. Bell was as great a woman as Dr. Bell was a man. Desnite her deafness she was exceeding o ly well informed on scientific ematters. And, although history li hasn't paid much attention to the fact, her creative talents seemed scarcely less brilliant than Bell's himself "

Dr. Bell died in August, 1922. Characteristically, Mrs. Bell had his funeral cortege accompanied by the sound of joyful music to remind their children and grand-children that his life had been a joyous one. Mrs. Bell followed her husband into death in January, 1923, and both are buried on the summit of Beinn Bhreagh, or "Beautiful Mountain," the site of their home in Nova Scotia.

Miss Waite's book, "Make a Joyful Sound," is the first authorized biography of Mabel Hubbard and Alexander Graham Bell. It is published (\$3.95) by the Macrae Smith Company of Philadelphia.