

EMPRESS OF IRELAND RATED 100 A1 AT LLOYD'S

The Empress of Ireland was rated 100 A1 at Lloyds, the highest rating the underwriters give, and was considered one of the safest and most seaworthy ships afloat. A twin-screw steel steamer, she was built on the Clyde in 1906 by the Fairfield Company, Limited, of Glasgow, and was equipped with wireless and submarine signalling apparatus, according to Lloyd's register, her tonnage was 11,191, her length 548 feet, 9 inches, her beam 65 feet 9 inches, and her moulded depth 36 feet.

She had been in the Atlantic service of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for eight years, and was regarded as an example of the best in construction, and a model of excellence and taste in furnishings. The Empress has been described as a graceful ship, well-proportioned, built to meet every possible requirement of the service, and also remarkably steady in rough weather.

The ill-fated boat had accommodated

for 350 first-cabin, 350 second-cabin and 1,000 third-class passengers. She had a sea speed of eighteen knots an hour.

Six transverse bulkheads divided the Empress into seven watertight compartments, and before the Titanic disaster proved that all safety devices have their weaknesses, the sunken steamer was considered an almost unsinkable ship.

After the Titanic was sunk by the iceberg all the Atlantic steamers, including the Empress, increased their life-saving accommodation. Until the new Allan Line steamers, the Calgarian and the Alsatian, were put into service this season, the Empress of Ireland and her sister ship, the Empress of Britain, were the largest steamers running between Canada and the old country.

The sailors on the Empress had a weekly drill with boats and collision drills, and every provision was made to protect life and property.

AUSTRALIA'S ARMY IN THE MAKING

General Sir Ian Hamilton's report on the defence forces of Australia has been tabled in the Senate of that Dominion.

It emphasises the danger of too great haste in building up the Australian army. The adoption of the military principle it, says, implies, or should imply the abandonment of all idea of maintaining a permanent army save as an indispensable adjunct to the militia.

General Hamilton is of opinion that the training scheme is insufficient in itself. The attention of Australia has hitherto been concentrated on training. Now, however, the time is almost ripe for consolidating all the existing forces, national as well as military, into a carefully planned war instrument.

He calls attention to the need of machinery for maintaining an army in the field and recommends the establishment of numerous depot cadres with experienced officers and non-commissioned officers. The importance of recruit training is emphasised though General Hamilton thinks that the shortness of Australian training as compared with the concentrated course of other nations is compensated for by the senior cadets' very long and serious preparation.

If the Empire understood the full significance of this Australian experiment, he says, prayers would continually be offered up in the churches for its success, but adds General Hamilton as most people in

the northern hemisphere have been carefully misinformed by interested fanatics Australians will have in the long run to trust to their own good sense and patriotism to pull through.

The main conditions for success are:—First, the cadet curriculum must be progressive and thoroughly systematised. Second, the cadet instructors must themselves be worthy, not only in inspiration, but in experience and character for the performance of the high duty they have undertaken to carry through.

NO PEACE SYSTEM.

There should be no such thing as an Australian peace system. The system should have a direct bearing on the exigencies of war. The urgent necessity at the present juncture is that the Commonwealth's military policy should be brought into line with financial facts. For military reasons as well as on commercial grounds, the men who are to conduct the financial business transactions of the army should be trained to work the start, and it is as business men that they should hope to rise in their profession.

The report says:—The army's strong point is intelligent capable men. The weak point lies in the comparatively small number of officers capable of giving good instruction, though the Australian soldier is very amenable to discipline.

Vincent Campbell looks to be a real "comeback." After laying off a year the former Pittsburgh-Boston outfielder is playing fine ball for the Indianapolis Federals.

THE MALIGNANT GERM

Animals Contracted Tuberculosis Because Consumptives Expectorated

Frank Carrel of Quebec, journalist and author, published in his paper, The Telegraph, a very interesting experience in connection with the vagaries of animal tuberculosis. He wrote:

"Some years ago I was at Ventnor, in the Isle of Wight, and was escorted through the largest tuberculosis hospital and grounds in England by the president and trustees of the institution. In going through the grounds the president related a rather odd incident, but one of great importance, and from which an object lesson can be taken. The institution in question had decided to have its own cows and chickens, and to thereby provide its patients with the purest of milk and fresh eggs direct from its own farm, so to speak. It was not long, however, before it was noticed that the cows and chickens were looking very poorly, and, notwithstanding the fact that they had the very best of grazing and attention, it was apparent that some malady was affecting them. Examination was made, and it was found that they were all suffering from tuberculosis, and that the only way in which they could have caught it was from the expectoration of patients, who, notwithstanding the strict rules of the institutions relative to expectoration, must have sometime or other expectorated in or around the fields where the cattle were grazing. Another strange incident in connection with this discovery was the fact that pigs were the only animals that could be kept there, and that were immune from contracting the disease. At the time I visited the institution they had quite a large number of pigs which were thriving upon the waste food of the institution."

TEA IN ENGLAND

The Earliest Price Was From \$30 to \$50 a Pound

The earliest record of tea being mentioned by an Englishman was probably that contained in a letter from Mr. Wickham, an agent of the East India Company, writing from Firando, in Japan, on June 27, 1615, to another officer of the company, resident at Macao, in the south of China, asking him for "a pot of the best sort of chaw." It was not until the middle of that century that the English began to use tea; they received their supplies from Java until 1686, when they were driven out by the Dutch, says the "Bulletin" of the Imperial Institute. At first the price in England ranged from \$30 to \$50 per pound. In the Mercurius Politicus of September, 1658, occurs an advertisement of the "China Drink called by the Chinese Teha, by other nations Tay, alias Tee," being sold in London. Thomas Garway, the first English tea-dealer, in 1659 or 1660, offered it at prices varying from \$3 to \$12.50 per pound. Not until 1677 is there a record of the East India Company having taken any steps for its importation.

Newspapers in Britain

There are forty daily publications in London, 183 dailies in the rest of the kingdom, while British weekly and monthly publications total 2,643 and 1,482 respectively. England, excluding London, has 138 daily papers and 1,365 weeklies, Wales has eight dailies and 121 weeklies, while Ireland stands well in the journalistic world with nineteen dailies and 200 weeklies. In London there are 694 weekly publications.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

JUNE 3.

1801—Richard Cobden, English statesman, born. Died April 2, 1865.

1808—Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, born in Christian county, Ky. Died in New Orleans, December 6, 1889.

1840—The Unicorn, the first steam vessel from England, reached Boston 1862—General Robert E. Lee assumed command of the Confederate forces in Virginia.

1873—Great peace demonstration held in Cooper Institute, New York City.

1876—Game of lacrosse introduced into England by members of the Montreal Club.

1879—Baron Lionel de Rothschild, the first Jew who sat in the house of commons, died. Born November 22, 1808.

1887—German Emperor laid a stone to inaugurate the Kiel Canal to connect the North Sea with the Baltic.

1889—New harbor at Calais opened by President Carnot.

Father's Bald Head

A little boy reached school with very untidy hair, and his teacher asked him:

"Why don't you brush your hair?"

"Ain't got no brush, sir," replied the boy.

"Why don't you use your father's brush, then?" asked the teacher.

"He ain't got no brush either," was the reply.

"No brush! Why hasn't he a brush?" asked the teacher again, in astonishment.

"He's got no hair," was the gloomy reply.

BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

King George V, forty-nine years old today.

Neil Munro, noted Scotch author and journalist, fifty years old today.

Rev. Cortland Myers, pastor of Tremont Temple, Boston, fifty years old today.

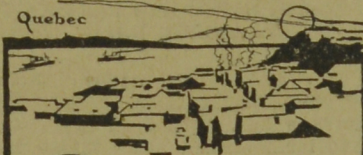
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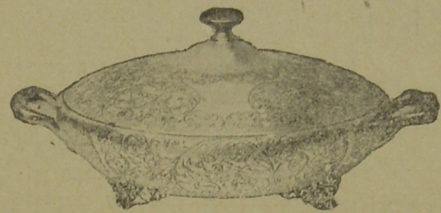
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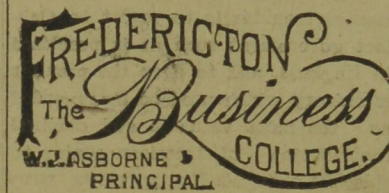
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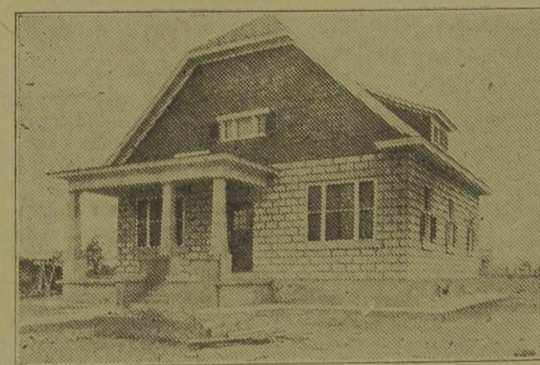
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