

Chance at Life in Great Britain--Happenings in England, Ireland and Scotland Briefly Chronicled

ENGLAND

THE WRONG GLASS

Captain Who Was Cleaning His Uniform Drank Poison in Mistake for Whiskey.

A tragic error resulted in the death of Captain Herbert Fairbairn, of the Royal Horse Artillery. The captain, who was stationed in the town of Addiscombe, in the Northumbrian North Riding Royal Garrison Artillery, was cleaning his uniform with cyanide of potassium, which he had in a glass. He also had beside him a glass containing whiskey and water. He picked up the wrong glass in mistake, and drank the contents. Capt. Fairbairn, who was 44 years of age, joined the army at 15.

Dr. Collingridge, the medical officer of health for the city of London, in his report on the importation of Chinese pork, says that if this trade continues the present system will prove entirely inadequate for the proper inspection of the carcasses.

Full mourning for King Edward ceases on June 17, and half mourning on June 30.

The estate of Sir Frederick Thorpe Mappi, has been valued for probate at £21,000 gross.

Lord Carrington, Lord great chamberlain for the new reign, is being generally congratulated on his accession to that office.

Admiral Sir Wm. Garnham Luard, who was injured in a trap accident on the 18th of May at Witham, Essex, died without regaining consciousness.

A carved silver spoon, formerly the property of Sir Walter Scott, has been sold for six guineas in London.

More people are wearing mourning for King Edward than even for Queen Victoria, because he was personally known to such a very great number of his subjects.

Of the five specialists who attended King Edward in his last illness, two were Scotch. Sir James Reid, being a native of Aberdeen, and Professor Sir Clair Thomson, of Ardrishaig.

The railway returns of the United Kingdom for the year 1909 show a falling off of over thirteen and a quarter millions in the number of passengers carried compared with the preceding year.

AGED LOVERS WED

Bride Had Seen Seventy-Two Summers--The Groom Eighty-Three.

Mr. Francis Harpur, aged 83, was married at St. Andrew's Church, London, to Mrs. Emma Dimmock, who is 72. The bride and bridegroom have known each other for 72 years. The best man, Mr. Williamson, is 74.

Speaking before the diocesan conference, the Bishop of London said he had seen too much of the good that drill and discipline did to be the least afraid of encouraging a spirit of militarism by training the youth of the country to defend the country when called upon to do so.

Breaking a forepaw, a baboon called Francois, belonging to M. Dubois, who is appearing at Birmingham music hall, was taken to the General Hospital, where the limb was set under chloroform. Just as the bandage was being put on the animal became unconscious and died.

As an expression of his gratitude for a "singularly happy 50 years of married life," Sir James Whitehead, who was lord mayor of London in 1889, has given £3,000 to found a scholarship at the Appleby Grammar School. He was born at Appleby. He has also erected a working men's institute at Wilmington, Kent, where he lives.

Jon Lann, a Chinese lad of 17, who stabbed a schoolmate at a Sunday school at Hart, aged 13, with a penknife during a game of football, was sentenced by the Manchester magistrates to four strokes of the birch.

A thorough English gentleman, was the title often bestowed on King Edward, and it is one he was proud to have earned. Every night, throughout the world, at thousands of tables, on board battleships, in lonely military camps, wherever Britons met, the toast of "The King-God bless him" was ever greeted with enthusiasm.

Edward VII's short reign is remarkable for the exceptional number of titles conferred. Knights, Bachelors now living no fewer than 625 were created in the last nine years. King Edward created 53 barons, but no dukedom. The only marquessate bestowed was on the late Earl of Hopetoun, first governor-general of Australia, but three new earldoms were created.

QUEEN AS COLONEL

Queen Mary Made Honorary Colonel of the Fifth Pomeranian Hussars.

Queen Mary has been appointed honorary colonel of the Fifth Pomeranian Hussars, in succession to King Edward VII.

So indifferent to his fate was a tramp charged with begging at Kingston, that he went to sleep in court, and was awakened up to hear the case tried and receive seven days' hard.

At a meeting of the Melford, Suffolk, Rural District Council, a case of enteric fever was stated to have been caused by eating watercress taken from a contaminated ditch.

The funeral of Josef Bepper, aged 53, who died at Mitternervald, in Austria, was attended by his hundred grandchildren, who walked two by two behind the coffin.

In order to prevent snoring in the newspaper reading-room of its free library, the Holborn Borough Council has decided to substitute upright desks for the flat tables at which many visitors slumber.

An investigation into the aggregate expenditure on tobacco in the United Kingdom is contained in the report by the United States consul, Mr. Walter C. Hamm, of Hull, to his Government.

He estimates that the total value of manufactured tobacco imported for consumption amounts to £2,277,000. Consumption of tobacco manufactured in the United Kingdom, in cigars, cigarettes, and pipe tobacco, £2,133,000. The total tobacco bill, with sundry accessory items works out at £24,263,000.

At the public auction at Edmonton bankruptcy court of John Wil-

liam Craig, until recently landlord of the Black Boy public-house, West Green, Tottenham, the debtor said he had suffered from the competition of three clubs—a social club, a Liberal and Radical club, and a Conservative club. The last-named had 500 or 600 members, who formerly patronized his billiard saloon, and the takings there at one time came to £5 to £6 a week, but subsequently were not enough to pay the market's wages.

Queen Alexandra's allowance as relic of King Edward will be \$350,000 a year. She has also been left Sandringham as a dowry home. Her majesty will now be known as the Queen Mother.

King Edward was the only British king who has died at Buckingham Palace. Queen Anne and George II. died at Kensington, while George I. died abroad and Queen Victoria at Osborne. The improvement in northeastern shipbuilding is shown by the fact that at present on the Tyne the tonnage of warships building is 40,000 and merchant ships 100,000 more than at this time last year.

Miss Margaret Mary Basden, a student of the London School of Medicine for Women and of the Royal Free Hospital, is the first woman to pass the first professional examination in anatomy and physiology for the diploma of F. R. C. S.

As the result of the mysterious disappearance of a silver sacramental spoon of great age from St. Ethelburga's, city, an insurance policy is to be taken out. The spoon was about the size of an ordinary dessert spoon, and was performed in the bowl.

SERVICES IN STABLE

Centenary of Baptist Church That for Several Years Worshipped in a Stable.

The founders of the Baptist Chapel at Crayford (Kent), which lately celebrated its centenary, for several years held services in a stable on the site of the present building, which was erected in 1867.

The net cost of the History of the South African War up to March 31, 1909, was £23,991. Little further expenditure will be required.

Two ovis which attacked Police Constable Lambourne at Towcester have been shot by a member of the Walter Bairdston, on whose property they were nesting, and presented to the constable for stuffing. The ovis are being reared.

About 40 members of the Atlantic Union, comprising visitors from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the United States, spent an afternoon visiting places associated with the scenes in Dickens' works.

It was stated at the inquest on Sarah Musson, aged 77, of Stroud Green road, that the news of King Edward's death so affected her as to cause hemorrhage of the brain, from which she died.

Police Constable Denahan, of the Metropolitan police, has received 20 offers of marriage during the past few weeks, owing to the gallantry he displayed in rescuing a drowning man from the Thames.

Showing an increase for the quarter of 10,336—the highest for many years—the official estimate of the population of New South Wales at the end of March was 1,655,830. Of this increase, 6,882 was due to births.

While Arthur Allen and his father were being lopped near Buckingham it rebounded and struck the younger man on the chin, breaking his neck. The elder man was seriously injured.

Permission was given at a consistory court, held in St. Paul's Cathedral for the removal of some 40 coffins from the crypt of St. James's, Clerkenwell, with a view to fitting the crypt up as a Sunday school at a cost of \$10,000.

DEAR PENNY STAMP

One-Cent Postage Stamp of Cape of Good Hope Sold for \$102.

An 1851 woodblock one penny blue postage stamp of the Cape of Good Hope realized £20 10s at Puttick and Simpson's, London.

Mr. Percy Wadham, holder of the world's record for bait casting, has written to protest against the decision of the Isle of Wight council to curtail the bait casting season, to mitigate the dust nuisance on account of its disastrous effect on the trout fishing in the Carisbrook waters.

At a meeting of the East Preston (Sussex) Guardians it was reported that a set of golf clubs and balls had been presented to the inmates, and that the old men were learning to play the game.

Mr. William Woodward, a chimney-sweeping contractor of Warwickshire, who some time ago succeeded to the dukedom in the representation of Monks Kirby divisions of Warwickshire county council, has been appointed grave-digger at Brinklow cemetery.

During the 23rd metric class race at Harwich lately Sir James Pender's famous yacht Brynild was dismasted and sunk. The Brynild was leading at the time, closely followed by Shamrock and White Heather. All were curvy holding and there was a strong breeze from the northeast. Suddenly the Brynild, which appeared to be carrying full sail, heeled over and disappeared. Fortunately the crew were all rescued. The yacht was only three years old and cost between £8,000 and £9,000.

According to the Ipswich medical officer of health there is not a single perfect set of teeth among the school children of the district.

While Mr. Henry Steele was attending service at the Wesleyan Church, Chesterton, Staffordshire, he was taken ill and died in the building.

It was stated at a meeting of the Aldeburgh town council that the recent poor sprouting season meant a loss of more than £3,000 to the town.

"There is a great deal of pneumonia just now," Dr. Freyberger declared at a Lambeth inquest recently—"pneumonia of a very poisonous character."

The parish church at Erith, which is to be restored, was the scene of a conference between King John and the barons before the signing of The Magna Charta.

Old nappers at Alton (Hants) workhouse have been presented with a set of bowls, and members of the Alton Bowling Club will teach them how to play.

COSTLY CANAL

Proposition to Unite the Tyne and Solway—Would Cost \$279,000,000

A scheme for a ship canal between the Rivers Tyne and Solway was brought before a meeting of the North-East Coast Institution Engineers, at Newcastle, by Mr. J. Watt Sandemann. He recommended a low-level canal with locks at each end, the total length being sixty-six miles. To accommodate the largest class of ships it would have to be 35 feet deep and with a bottom 148 feet wide. A tunnel near Halthwaite, Northumberland, would be nine and a half miles long. Ships would be able to travel six to eight miles an hour. He estimated the cost at £55,800,000. The canal would save 345 miles between important east and west coasts, and would permit of largest warships to go from the Irish to the North Seas quickly.

The will of the late Sir Edward Foyson Wills, Bart., of Bristol, director of the Imperial Tobacco Company, and cousin of Lord Winterstone, has been proved. The gross value of the estate is given as £2,580,085.

About three million prayer books, varying in price from sixpence to ten guineas, have been rendered obsolete by the death of King Edward, and the changes necessitated in the prayers relating to the king and royal family.

A mighty hunter—six tigers in a day once fell to this unerring aim—foremost in the chase, a keen yachtsman, and the breeder of two Derby winners, King Edward goes down to posterity the greatest sporting monarch of all times.

No man has reigned over an empire so vast as King Edward's. Queen Victoria ascended the throne of an empire embracing 3,229,000 square miles; she handed it on to King Edward with three million miles added to it. The first crematorium in England was opened at Woking in 1885, and the total number of cremations since that time is 8,121. There are now altogether thirteen crematoria in Great Britain and this number will probably soon be increased.

Alex. F. Mackenzie, an old royal servant, has died suddenly in London. For many years Mr. Mackenzie, who was 71 years old, was "table dresser" at the Victoria, and accompanied her late majesty in her travels at home and abroad.

BIG POLICE BILL

Metropolitan Protection for a Year Cost London the Sum of \$12,397,450

A White Paper (lately issued) gives details of the expenditure in connection with the Metropolitan Police for the year ended November 31 last, and shows total disbursements of £2,478,490. The administrative expenses in connection with police courts amounted to £2,551, while £1,728,000 was spent on account of pay, clothing and equipment of the force. Expenses incurred in pursuit, apprehension, and conveyance of prisoners amounted to £23,574. The expenditure of the police pension fund for the year was £236,885.

The total area in Kent infected by the American gooseberry mildew is 1,436 acres, out of a total gooseberry acreage of 2,890.

With the retirement of General Sir R. S. Baden-Powell, the British army loses one of its most distinguished officers. "B. P.," as he was better known by the public, during the South African war, commenced his military career in 1876, when he joined the 13th Hussars. He has seen active service in India and Afghanistan, besides South Africa.

Mr. Hall Caine, recently celebrated his fifty-seventh birthday.

Coal smoke is destroying the exterior of Westminster Abbey.

A weekly rest day for the police of London would cost £900,000.

During April 1,935 dogs were received at the temporary home for lost dogs at Battersea.

It is said that \$10,000,000 worth of artificial flowers are imported into this country yearly.

At a Christie sale a Chinese vase sold for \$23,500, which twenty-five years ago brought only \$215.

Negotiations completed recently assure the extension of the boundaries of the City of Bath.

Two hundred and twenty-nine sites for tents on Felixstowe Beach have been let by public auction for £790.

An exciting site on the coast, a prize, Albert George Duke, a Liverpool boy, died suddenly from hemorrhage of the brain.

IRELAND

LEAVING IRELAND

Emigration From the Emerald Isle is Still on the Increase.

Emigration from Ireland is still on the increase, the total for last month being 5,883. No less than 53,000 sailed from Queenstown in the Saxonia. It is believed that this is a record number.

The tide of mourning for the late King Edward throughout the length and breadth of Ireland has been full and deep. Not a jarring note has been struck. Men of all creeds and classes have given generous recognition to the fact that King Edward was a true friend of the Irish people.

Council of the Parnell monument fund, and another remittance is promised.

By the death of the Rev. Prof. James D. H. O'Connor, the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Ireland has sustained a great loss.

A two-year-old ewe, the property of Patrick O'Connor, Logafoll, Castlebar, recently gave birth to five strong and healthy lambs.

Peter Barron, aged 62, a railway milesman, took suddenly ill while attending mass at Kilmacow Church, and died in a short time.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie subscribed most liberally towards the building and maintenance of libraries in the north of Ireland. Belfast City alone benefited to the extent of £15,000. This sum was expended in the erection of three new public libraries; at Old Park, Falls Road and Donegal Road.

Mr. Carnegie is not the Scottish freeman of the city of Belfast, as this honor was conferred on the late Sir Donald Currie.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES DIPHTHERIA.

London Central Branch, and Mr. Wm. O'Brien has been invited to become president. The league has also started a shilling fund.

Cookstown urban council has under consideration a scheme for the erection of 30 houses for working classes, which it is estimated will cost £25,000.

A handsome new chime of bells has been erected in the Longford Cathedral in London.

It is stated that three-fourths of the Irish members of Parliament are teetotallers.

After three days of idleness, drapery clerks in the rush won their strike for shorter hours.

The election of Mr. Donovan as Lord Mayor of Cork is declared invalid, and the application quo warranto to grant it.

"Capit House," the residence of the late Sir Richard Wallace, of Antrim, may soon be purchased for an infirmary.

At the age of over 100 years the death of Queen Edward's Queen Victoria, Blackfield, near Templemore, of Mrs. Shea.

In the absence of criminal business, white gloves were presented to Judge Crotty at the Enniskillen quarter sessions.

IRELAND'S FRIEND

Nationalist Press Makes Strong Appreciative Reference to Late King Edward the Seventh.

The Evening Herald (Nationalist) says: "The accounts from all parts of Ireland indicate no abatement in the popular grief at the death of the King. Many additional meetings of public boards and organizations of various kinds have been held, and the resolutions of sympathy and condolence passed to the members of the royal family show that in every corner of the country King Edward was popular and beloved, as being in a very marked degree the friend of Ireland, and a sympathizer with the people and the aspirations."

Mr. T. M. Healy is taking an action for libel against Miss Julia Christina Flood, of Dundalk, and Mr. Thos. Drumpeole, of Ardee, the printer of a certain pamphlet entitled "Healy's Betrayal—Violent Attack on 'Home Rule,'" which was widely distributed in his constituency. Before taking action Mr. Healy wrote to Mr. Hazleton, M. P., the prospective Redmondite candidate, asking him to publish the publication of the circular. Mr. Hazleton did not reply.

The following amusing letter was received by the Liberator, of the Liberator district council, "Derry." Dear Sir, John Bridgeman, the occupier of a cottage at Clontra, is leaving, and I beg to apply for the tenancy of it. I am a married man, with a wife and a good worker. I am a widower, and if I get the cottage I am willing to relieve the rates of one of the lady inmates, if she will have me, and as I was good enough for poor Mary Ann (my late wife) to do so, I am yours faithfully, Mike Ryan.

The letter was addressed to the chairman of the district council.

In a case, at the Dublin city sessions, the defendant, being charged with assaulting his mother-in-law, Mr. Seymour Bushe, K. C., said married men were not disposed to be desperate admirers of their mother-in-law.

By the Old Age Pension Act, because if you have a mother-in-law who is drawing an old age pension you take as much care of her as if she was a precious piece of china.

TEMPERANCE GAINING

The Cause Has for Months Been Making Great Progress in Ireland.

For months the temperance cause is said to have been making remarkable progress in Ireland.

An old age pensioner named Moynihan was killed by lightning at Mill street, County Cork, on the 13th ult.

It is proposed to close a distillery in Londonderry, which gives employment to over 200 persons, and this, it is stated, is "solely due to Budget."

A marble bust of the late Dr. Lynd, of May Street Church, Belfast, has been placed in the church, of which many years he was the honored minister.

Lady Thompson, wife of Sir Wm. J. Thompson, Registrar-General for Ireland, was killed on the 17th ult. in Kingston through a fall whilst stepping from a car.

At Dublin three men were sentenced to eight months, and five to four months imprisonment for a criminal conspiracy by which a Tipperary landowner was subjected to an organized boycott.

Thousands of people assembled at Nenagh, County Tipperary, to witness the funeral of the brothers McCormack, who were hanged there 52 years ago for a crime, of which they were innocent. The remains were transferred from the grounds of the jail to Loughmore Cemetery.

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SCOTLAND

THE KING'S MITTENS

Miss Nelson, of Dundee, Knitted King Edward's First Mitts.

Miss Nelson, Union street, Dundee (now over 90), knitted King Edward's first pair of mittens in her early days in London.

The first mill for the spinning of flax by machinery in Scotland was erected in Brighton, near Glamis, in 1790, by James Ivory & Co.

At a spring sale of store cattle at Carmyllie, Forfarshire, the 13th ult., about 400 head were disposed of at good prices.

About 100 men in Dundee have refused the Royal Naval Reserve long service and good conduct medals.

Baile Cormie, Buchhaven, has made a great show (of himself) in refusing to take the oath of allegiance.

Several Rosyth farmers have been awarded substantial compensation from the admiralty for being prevented access to the foreshore for seaweeds.

After the proclamation of the king a Kinnear on the 11th ult., two women were knocked down and injured by a runaway horse, one of them sustaining a compound fracture of a leg and a broken arm.

On the 10th ult. Andrew McIntyre, draper, Burntisland, a member of the U. F. Church there, and has on several occasions led the praise, was convicted of stealing cigarettes from an automatic machine and fined £3 or 20 days.

There is a proposal about to secure a public library for Kirkintilloch, but one of the councillors calls a halt with a question as to whether public baths are not more pressing public need.

Two fine specimens of the golden eagle have been taken from a nest on the border of Sunderlandshire and sent to Dublin Zoological Gardens.

Mr. Hamilton, Toward, Kirkcubright, who in her 10th year has lived in the reigns of six British sovereigns—George III., George IV., William IV., Victoria, Edward VII. and George V.

Neil Menzies is selling Foss House and Rannoch Lodge, with 28,000 acres of land, mostly deer forest, and grouse moor.

On the 13th ult. many districts in Scotland were enveloped in a mantle of snow. Ben Nevis was covered eight to twelve feet deep.

The Earl of Durham has taken Arfarie Deer Forest. It extends to 32,000 acres.

On condition that Buckie raises £100,000 the Government is to grant a loan of £55,000 for 50 years at 3 1/2 per cent for the extension of the harbor.

"ASHES TO ASHES"

Rev. A. B. Grant, the new pastor of Old Greyfriars' Church, Edinburgh, was introduced to the congregation at a social meeting on the 17th ult. and presented with pulpit robes.

Recently a cremation society was formed in Edinburgh. The object of the society is to promote the practice of cremation and burial reform by means of meetings, lectures and publications or otherwise. There are already about 180 members, including many well-known persons.

In the biggest funeral from Edinburgh to London 34 of the 39 won gold medals.

Owing to the King's death the Lord High Commissioner will hold no reception at Holyrood this year, but there will be the usual levee and dinners.

Sir John G. S. Kinloch, Bart., died at Kinloch House, Meigle, Fifeshire, on the 20th ult. He was born in 1849, and succeeded to the baronetcy in 1881. In 1889 Sir John was elected M. P. for East Perthshire in the Liberal interest, and held the seat continuously till 1905, when he resigned.

It has been decided by the general committee of the Hadden memorial fund to accept the tender of Bower & Florence, Aberdeen, to erect a Celtic cross of rough grey Scotch granite springing from a cairn of the same material, on Pipers' Hill, Braxton, Northumberland, near the centre of the battlefield, where the final struggle took place in which King James fell.

An interesting Scottish relic, a cannon some 350 years old, has been acquired by a Sunderland bowling club in England, as a decoration for their green. It was found deeply imbedded in the River Wear, and, according to a Sunderland antiquary, it formed part of the equipment of the Scots army when they invaded England during the civil war of the Cromwellian era.

There are 92 applying to be headmaster of the Alnwickshire Higher Grade School.

Penwick Parish Church, in some respects, is the most interesting martyrium in Ayrshire.

James Dickie, for 37 years letter carrier at Skelmorlie, has, on retiring, been presented with £129 14s 2d.

An effort is being made to raise money to clear off the debt of £450 on Ayr Deaf and Dumb Mission.

While cycling at Girvan White, a boy, collided with a passenger and fell in front of a brake and was killed. His father was in the brake.

The wages going at Kilmarnock hiring fair on the 10th of May were: First men, £14 to £16; young men, £10 to £12; boys, £7 to £8; byrns, £9 to £11; kitchen girls, £9 to £10 10s; young girls, £7 to £8.

The annual show of the Neilston, Renfrewshire Agricultural Society was held on the 7th ult. The entries at most doubled, compared with last year.