

## BARE REMAINS OF ABBEY IN LONDON

Stone Found at St. Saviour Bears Consecration Mark—Was Monastery Founded in 1082 A. D.

London, Nov. 20.—(By mail).—During the recent excavations in the borough of Bermondsey, a stone, bearing the consecration mark of the ancient Abbey of St. Saviour (a cross within a circle), was found on the site of the Anglo-American Company's new petrol station in Tower Bridge road. The stone will be built into the wall of the company's office for public inspection.

On the same site have also been found several door or window jambs—mouldings. Some years ago, when a sewer was being laid in Long Walk on the north side of the Anglo-American Company's site, a stone coffin was discovered, which now rests in the parish church of St. Mary Magdalen near by. Numerous foundations of walls have been seen across, some being of stone, others of brick. It would appear that the former belonged to the Abbey, while the latter relate to Sir Thomas Pope's residence, better known as Bermondsey House. Some of these walls are only separated one from the other by a foot or two.

The boundary wall of the house on the north side of Abbey street is of stone, and was part of the Abbey property. There is no doubt but that the garden, which extended from the stone wall referred to, and covered Abbey street east of Tower Bridge road and also the site of the flats belonging to the South Eastern and Chatham Railway Company (known as Abbe Buildings), was formerly the burial

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ground of the Abbey. On this site four skeletons were discovered in January, 1894. British Museum experts stated that from the analogy of form, it would seem fairly certain that these burials are of approximately the thirteenth century. It seemed highly probable that what had been found was a por-

tion of the graveyard of one of the religious foundations of medieval Bermondsey. The remains of a Gothic traceried window were found also on the same site, of apparently fourteenth-century work.

Founded in 1082.

The Cluniac Monastery of Bermondsey was founded by Alwin Child in 1082, and was dedicated to St. Saviour. It continued its function as a Priory until the year 1599, when it was converted into an Abbey by Pope Boniface IX, and enlarged to suit its greater requirements. Several of the architectural mouldings and other details which have been found from time to time unearthed are of late fourteenth or early fifteenth century design. The Abbey was situated in a Royal demesne, and was in possession of considerable lands and edifices. It was frequently inhabited by Royalty, and was the place of refuge of many notable people, several of whom were buried within its walls. Henry the Second held his first Parliament in the Bermondsey Monastery.

The Abbey of St. Saviour was a structure of considerable size. The Norman church was situated about thirty-five feet from the present south wall of the Bermondsey Church, and the end of the chancel was practically level with the eastern railing in Tower Bridge road, thus occupying half of the width of Abbey street, the south wall being in the centre of the existing warehouses. The main court was on the present site of Bermondsey square, being surrounded with the cloister buildings.

The west gateway was at the junction of Abbey street and Bermondsey street, facing Long Lane, and the north gateway existed on the site of the present narrow street which connects this square with Abbey street. The east gate spanned the present Grange-wall, and the house on the south side is the original building. The gate hinges are still existing, and may be seen on the wall of No. 7 Grange-wall. The last remaining portions of the Abbey were demolished in 1805—namely, the north gate and the adjoining buildings.

A "White Gift" service was held last night in Carmarthen street Methodist church, under the auspices of the Epworth League. Miss Gladys Brindle presided and Miss Gladys Styles was at the piano. Old-fashioned carols and hymns were sung and readings were given by Miss Gladys Brindle, Miss Doris Brindle and Miss Margaret Jones. An address on "The Gifts of the Three Wise Men" was given by the pastor, Rev. E. E. Styles. The room was nicely decorated and a large number of useful gifts were laid around the altar which occupied the centre of the platform.

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## BRITAIN'S ACCIDENT DROP.

Marked Decrease Attributed to Industrial Inactivity.

The marked drop in industrial accidents in 1921 in Great Britain is the subject of a letter from the London correspondent of The Journal of the American Medical Association. The physician writes that the annual report of the chief inspector of factories and workshops shows that during 1921 there were 82,469 accidents (951 fatal), as compared with 138,783 (1,404 fatal) in the previous year.

The remarkable drop is almost entirely due to the phenomenal inactivity in industry throughout the year and the prolonged coal strike, which resulted in many iron mills and blast furnaces being closed down, he says. These industries are heavy producers of accidents. The number of accidents due to electricity was 222 (thirty-two fatal), a reduction of 20 per cent.

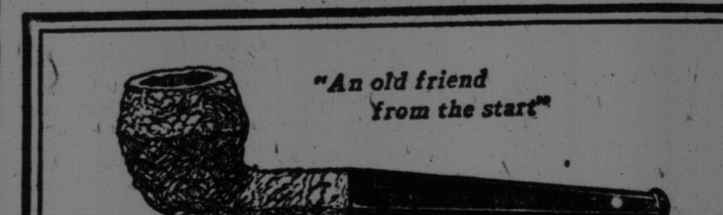
The war produced an unprecedented interest in the welfare of the workers, when it was realized that on them, as much as on the soldiers, existence depended. Now reports from inspectors all over the country show that in addition to canteens, cloak rooms, surgeries and rest rooms—matters dealt with in welfare orders—a large number of social activities—singing clubs, benevolent clubs, concerts and dance meetings. Summer camps in charge of athletic trainers, bowling greens, tennis, clinics, libraries, schools and lectures have been organized.

During the year there were 280 cases of lead poisoning, of which twenty-three were fatal. There were no cases of phosphorus or mercury poisoning, but in case of arsenic poisoning. The lower figures for anthrax poisoning (twenty-five, of which six were fatal), are partly due to the inactivity of the "cotton" states at Liverpool for disinfecting wool.

On the question of the forty-eight-

## REV. DR. TOMPKINS TO LEAVE ST. F. X.

(Canadian Press Despatch.)  
Antigonish, Dec. 20.—Rev. Dr. J. J. Tompkins, vice-president, and for many years on the staff of St. Francis Xavier University here, has been appointed parish priest at Canso, N. S.



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