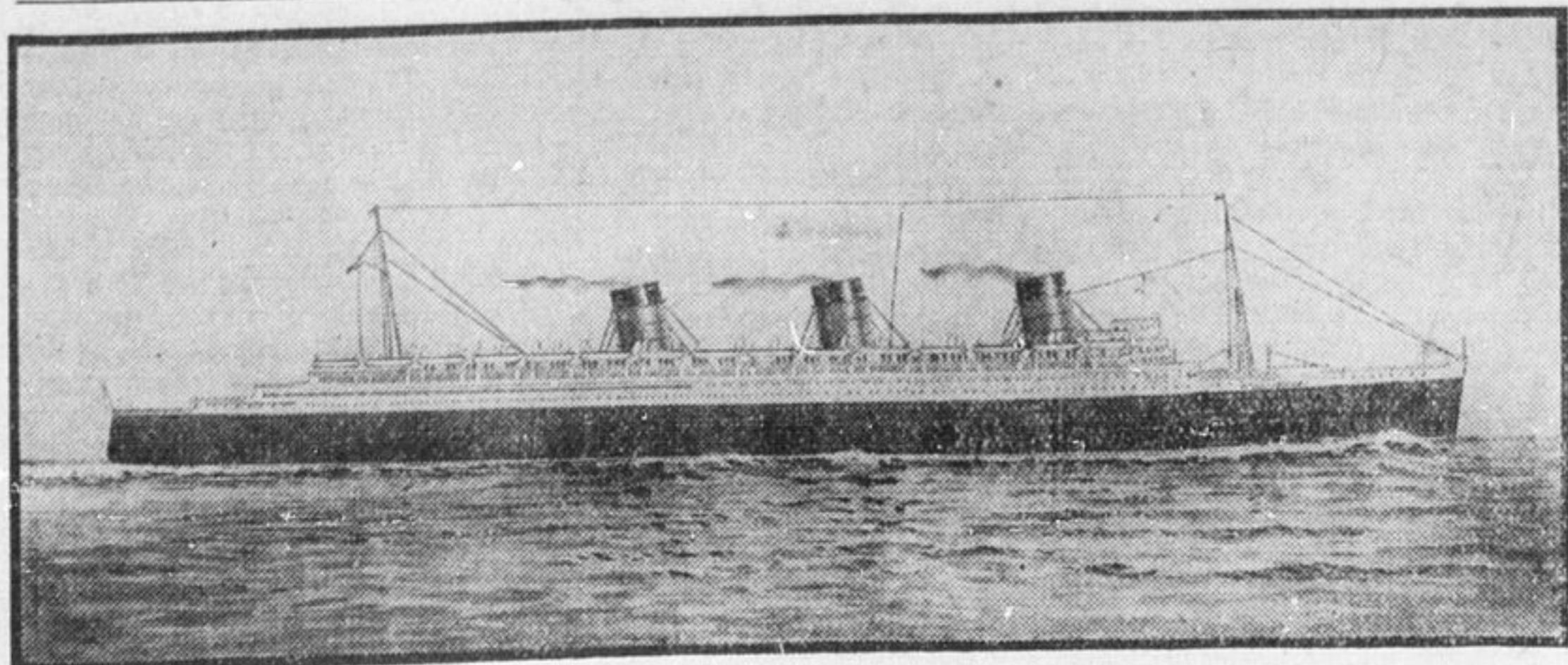


"534" THE NEW CUNARD



The above is an artist's drawing of the new giant Cunard liner at present under construction on the Clyde. This enormous vessel will register 73,000 gross tons and will be the largest liner afloat.

CORNISHMEN AROUND THE WORLD AT CHRISTMAS TIME

Sing Their Carols at Johannesburg, Pachuca, Butte City and Porcupine, Says Writer in Very Interesting Article.

A Cornish friend last week gave The Advance a copy of The Cornish Times, published at Liskeard, Cornwall, England. This Old Land paper contains much of interest and of course its many articles and items of news will have a special interest for the many Cornishmen in this country. In view of the fact that for several years the Cornish people in Timmins and district have sung carols around the town around Christmas time and have also carried along other Old Land customs here in other ways, an article dealing with the "Cousin Jacks" and Christmas will make especial appeal to readers of The Advance. This article is by W. A. Pascoe, St. Neot, Recorder, Liskeard Old Cornwall Society, and is in full as follows:—

The observance of Christmas in Cornwall dates back to such a remote period that conjecture has to be resorted to in order to amplify the meagre pages of history.

Certain it is, however, that when the rest of England lay steeped in a welter of Paganism, the Cornish people by virtue of their early conversion to the Christian faith, celebrated in the traditional manner the feast of the birth of Christ, known in their peculiar tongue as Nadelik. Year after year, from one decade to another, from generation to generation through centuries to successive centuries; through changes of forms of religion and religious thought; from the early British Church to the Roman, through the vicissitudes of the Reformation, down to the present time, the Cornish folk have remained constant in their enthusiasm for and adherence to the spirit of Christmas.

It needed no Dickensian revival to stimulate their zeal, for many customs peculiar to Cornwall had become associated with the festival, so that Christmas became, as it were, the zenith of their efforts in song, in music, feasting and merrymaking.

The Cornish Spirit

This strong sentiment which the Cornish people held for Christmas, persists to this day; indeed, it is so strongly marked that it would seem that the spirit of Christmas and the Cornish spirit are in their essence synonymous. In order to find the highest expression of this spirit, however, one has to leave Cornwall and turn to Cornwall beyond the seas, the mining centres of the Far West, of South Africa, of Mexico, India, and Canada, in fact to any remote quarter of the globe where metalliferous mining provides a lure to attract the ubiquitous Cornish.

The maxim, "They little know of England, who only England know," applies perhaps more forcibly when the word Cornwall is transposed for England. Similarly, to discover the supreme regard which Cornishmen hold for Christmas we must not only cross the Tamar, but travel overseas. Widely dispersed over the face of the earth in Johannesburg, Pachuca, Butte City, Porcupine Camp and in many lesser known camps at Christmastide one hears the Cornish carols sung at their best.

For the Cornish exile, deprived of his birthright and compelled by sheer necessity to wander in strange lands, foregather with others of his race and sing his traditional carols. From time immemorial the Celt has been noted for his skill in part singing—Giraldus Cambriensis bears testimony to this fact—and of all the Celts the Cornish, with their kindred, the Welsh, may claim to excel in vocal harmony. Carol singing is pre-eminently the most popular of all the Cornish customs centred around the Feast of the Nativity, and wherever the Cornish are gathered together at Christmas they sing carols.

They sing them in the spirit in which they were intended to be sung, in the open air, as was the first Nowell sung at Bethlelem. The right and proper setting for carol singing is under the broad canopy of heaven.

Home, Sweet Home

Nothing arrests the attention or stirs the emotions of a Cornish exile like the sound of these old harmonies heard in a foreign land. They carry his thoughts back across the sea to his old home. They recall to him some once familiar scene.

To one, perhaps, they portray the magic of a sunset seen over Mount's Bay. To another they bring back the

sound of a restless sea against stern ramparts of beetling cliffs. Some remember the murmur of a caressing wind upon the highlands, swaying the wide fronds of the bracken, stirring the heather in purple undulations and penetrating through the unyielding gorse. To all in varying measure some half forgotten scene of home comes back to mind.

I retain a vivid recollection of hearing a party of London Cornishmen numbering about 400 singing on Paddington station on the occasion of an excursion to Cornwall at Christmastide. Mr. S. J. Cope, the conductor of the Queen's Park Band, who, I believe, was a native of Helston, mounted a pile of luggage and conducted. The effect of this great volume of harmony enhanced as it was by the domed roof of the station was unforgettable.

Cornishmen were, therefore, pioneers of community singing in London, but it is only fair to add that their brother Celts had established a custom of singing Welsh melodies in Hyde Park on Sunday night.

In British Columbia, where, as in Good King Wenceslas's days "the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even," I have heard at Christmas the streets ringing with the old familiar tunes.

In the heart of the Rockies in Idaho, for weeks before Christmas Day one might hear the Cornishmen sedulously practising for the great event. Even in India, amid scenes differing strangely from those associated with Christmas at home, the Cornish miner celebrates in this time honoured manner.

"Darkie Parties"

In Cornwall itself it is regrettable to note that the custom of carol singing tends to decline. Time was, when in town and country, from Christmas Eve to Old Christmas Day, men sang as if in duty bound. In the country districts of East Cornwall, carol singing was often supplemented by what were known as "Darkie Parties," consisting of troupes arrayed in weird costumes, with blackened faces, and playing primitive musical instruments, including triangles, bones, etc. These went the round of the big houses and farms and sang ditties or acted to the great amusement of their hearers. Perhaps there is some connection between these "Darkie Parties" and the Guise dancing custom in West Cornwall, which has recently been given fresh impetus at St. Ives.

Wassail drinking too was an old custom associated with Christmas, which has only very recently lapsed. Warleggan and St. Veep were two of the parishes where it last lingered.

In the capacious farm house chimneys of East Cornwall it was customary to burn a huge "mock" or "mott," this was a massive stump of a tree which completely filled the fireplace. Placed on the hearth on Christmas Eve, the Christmas mock provided a noble conflagration. Its heat radiated to every corner of the room, sometimes to the embarrassment of those unaccustomed to such a prodigious consumption of fuel and the resultant high temperature.

Old men relate stories of the days when the standard of living was not equal to that at present obtaining. Then it was the custom for the children of poor parents to visit each farm in turn, armed with a large bowl, sol-

iding what was known as "Gooding." Gifts of fruit, sugar, flour and suchlike comestibles were given, the object being to provide a few luxuries to supplement at Christmas time, their usual plain fare.

Saffron Cake

No doubt the English plum pudding, like other "foreign" Christmas delicacies, set out on its westward journey many years since; but it has failed entirely to oust from its position of honour, that peculiarly Cornish confection, the saffron cake.

Reputed to have been made known to us by the Phoenicians who, moreover, are credited with initiating our ancestors into the art of making that other delicious Cornish monopoly, clotted cream—Christmas saffron cake represents the acme of the Cornish housewife's endeavour.

What preparations, what careful selection of fruits and candied peel. What dexterous mixing and manipulation. How judiciously is the whole mass permeated with the juice of that golden and aromatic herb, saffron. Then the anxiety through long hours for fear it "don't plum fitty" until at length issues from the hot oven that finished and inimitable creation, the Christmas cake.

"Furriners" who cannot be expected to show any keen judgment and whose palates are doubtless sated and dulled by the indiscriminate nature of their diet, have been heard, prompted by envy, to inquire, "What is this medicated concoction?"

Their attempt at ridicule is feeble and unavailing. Saffron cake and Christmas are rightly connected, for saffron, I believe, grows profusely in the land where nearly two thousand years ago the first Christmas was celebrated. In Cornwall it is the custom to taste as many cakes as possible at Christmas. For every fresh cake tasted a happy month will ensue. "Do'ee come in and taste the caake" is still a certain invitation in many houses.

The old habit of decorating the interior of the house with holly and other evergreens is another survival which bids fair to remain with us in perpetuity.

There seems to be a variance as to the right methods of disposal of these Christmas decorations in the Duchy, but as far as East Cornwall is concerned it is generally believed that on no account must they be removed before Old Christmas Day and that dire results will follow if they are burnt. Other customs there are which cannot be dealt with in the brief space of this article.

In conclusion, let us unite in observing not only the outward form of these ancient formulas but also in practising the spirit of Peace and Goodwill which is pithily expressed in our proud motto: "ONE AND ALL."

Teachers' Bowling Scores for Week of January 21

The following are the Teachers' Bowling scores for January 21st:—

A TEAM			
J. Bogie	155	169	324
G. Rogers	106	207	313
O. Ramsay	90	124	214
G. Hughes	62	133	195
E. Connor	144	155	299
Total	557	788	1345
B TEAM			
Sub	150	150	300
M. Barr	193	189	382
G. Everett	142	197	339
J. Harris	117	184	301
M. Thorburn	143	154	297
Total	745	874	1619
C TEAM			
M. Arscott	225	192	417
W. Huckerby	138	150	288
H. White	92	75	167
W. McKelvie	136	136	272
E. Ohlman	99	148	247
Total	690	701	1391
D TEAM			
M. Morrison	133	177	310
H. Everett	140	194	334
M. Tackaberry	251	150	400
N. MacLeod	172	225	397
E. Blyth	51	159	210
Total	747	905	1652
SUB TEAM			
K. Carter	136	123	259
E. Dempsey	57	116	173
V. McKinley	104	193	297
M. MacIntosh	93	145	238
H. Prettie	146	113	259
R. Rinn	70	70	140
I. Sime	151	159	310
A. Loyst	136	73	209
Standing of teams:—A, 0; B, 3; C, 0; D, 3.			
Highest single score—M. Tackaberry.			

BRITAIN'S "KING OF TURF" ENJOYS SUNNY HAVANA



STEVE DONOHUE

All the way from England, world-famed jockey, has come to enjoy a Cuban holiday. Steve is the only man in history to win six English Derbies, and he was presented with a pair of gold spurs in honour of his achievement.

Power Co. Affected by Development of Mines

The improved situation and the development in the mining industry in this North Land has had its effect on the progress of the Canada Northern Power Corporation as noted in the letter to shareholders sent out last week with the dividend cheques. In this letter from B. V. Harrison, vice-president and general manager, there are many points of interest. The letter in part is as follows:—

"You will be gratified to know that the earnings of your company continue to show an increase, the gross amount for the twelve months ending November 30, 1930, being \$3,160,274.01 as compared with \$3,117,808.40, during the corresponding period last year.

"The outstanding feature of the past three months, affecting your company's business was the re-opening of the Dome mill, which occurred during the first week in November. The other mines of the Porcupine camp are also making satisfactory progress which reflects itself in increased use of power and greater earnings for your company.

"In Kirkland Lake, the established mines are improving the facilities of their plants and increasing the tonnage of ore treated. Two additional properties have opened up operations in the South Lorrain camp, and although their power demands are small, the extension work in that area is significant. In the Boston Creek area, we are able to report the addition of the Telluride Mine to our customers, connection with our system being made on November 10th.

"Construction work at our Upper Notch plant has now been completed. On November 12th this addition to our system was placed in operation, and has now taken its permanent place among

our producing power stations. "During the past quarter our output of electricity has reached a new peak, and during each of the three months an average of over one million K.W.H.'s per day were produced. The gross monthly earnings of the company also reached a record figure during November amounting to \$283,695.00, exceeding that of the previous month by \$14,803.00. In addition to the larger increases of power consumption which have been reported in recent letters, the majority of the mines operating in our territory are increasing their power requirements which indicates a most favourable outlook for the new year.

"Your company's pulp mill has been running continuously since the date of our last letter, which must be gratifying both from an industrial and financial angle. The equipment of all your plants and transmission lines is in splendid condition and water storage basins have ample reserves."

DOG POISONERS AT WORK AT BOTH NORTH BAY AND TIMMINS

The death of five dogs in the one section of the city was being investigated last week at North Bay. Dr. A. L. Rooks, veterinary surgeon, who was treating other dogs that had taken poison but had not succumbed, said that there seemed to be a regular epidemic of dog poisoning in North Bay. "It is inhuman and a disgrace to the city," he is quoted as saying. "The North Bay chief of police had received several complaints about dogs being poisoned in the city and is conducting an investigation.

During the past week or two there have also been complaints in Timmins about dogs being poisoned here. Among the dogs poisoned here was one owned by one of the members of the town police force.



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Capital \$12,000,000 Reserve \$24,000,000
Total Assets over \$265,000,000
J. A. McLEOD, General Manager, Toronto



NATURAL TONE



SELECTIVITY



SENSITIVITY

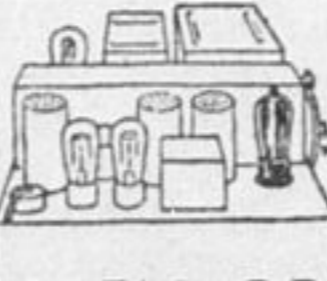
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