

SCANDAL LOOMS IN ENGLAND AS CHARGES FLY THAT PROUDEST TITLES ARE BOUGHT SECRETLY

Coronets on Auction Blocks, Opponents of Lloyd George Say, and, Unless He Can Calm Storm, Gilt on Some Crowns May Be Tarnished

BREWERS AND SOAP KINGS ARE RUNNING CLOSE RACE WITH BANKERS FOR HONORS

In Proportion to Years of Service, Present Prime Minister Has Record for Increasing Membership of House of Lords With 80—Late Third Marquis of Salisbury Elevated 88

CORONETS on the auction block! The blood of "commoners" ennobled for contributions to British party funds. The proudest titles within the gift of the British Empire on sale in a secret market if ambition is willing to pay the price. These are some of the accusations today that are again stirring the periodical political storm in England. Members of the House of Commons are demanding an investigation of charges that a wholesale trade is carried on in honors ranging from earldoms to knighthoods. Opponents of the Lloyd George Government openly use the word "scandal" in discussing the situation. The Government, in self-defense, proposes a royal commission to assist in the award of nobiliary and other honors.

King of England Regarded as the Fountain of Honor

Nominally, the King of England is "the fountain of honor," the source from which flow all patents of nobility, all baronetcies and membership in all the orders of British knighthood.

But actually it is the Prime Minister, the responsible head of the Imperial Government, who "suggests" candidates to the King.

In proportion to his years of service as the real head of "the crowned republic" of England, Lloyd George holds the championship as a dispenser of titles and honors.

Numerous titles, of course, were conferred for extraordinary service during the war. But many others were conferred for other reasons. Unless Lloyd George can calm the storm, an investigation will develop that may tarnish the gilt on many a coronet.

Lloyd George became Prime Minister of England in 1916. In the last six years nearly eighty additions have been made to the House of Lords, the enfeebled upper chamber of the Imperial Parliament.

The late third Marquis of Salisbury, three times Prime Minister, holds the record for the number of titles granted. Eighty-eight men were raised to the peerage while he held the highest administrative office. But his entire service as Prime Minister covered fourteen years.

Gladstone, England's "Grand Old Man," who was Prime Minister four times, awarded about fifty titles during his administrations.

The Earl of Rosebery, Prime Minister in 1894 and 1895, recommended and obtained nine titles for as many men. A. J. Balfour, Prime Minister from 1902 to 1905, made twenty-four additions to the House of Lords, although for many years he firmly refused to accept a title himself.

Accepted Order of Garter After Washington Conference

It was only after the Washington Conference, where he represented Great Britain, that he consented to accept the Order of the Garter, England's most exclusive knightly order. Shortly afterward he was created the Earl of Balfour.

H. H. Asquith, who has refused to add his name with a title, conferred twenty-six when he was Prime Minister, from 1908 to 1916.

All things considered, therefore, Lloyd George, himself a "commoner," without even the handle of "Sir" to his name, excels most of his predecessors for quantity production of peers.

The forces in British politics now moving to expose the traffic in titles contend that a regular scale of prices has been fixed.

For greater clearness it must be explained that the loftiest grade in the nobility is that of duke. Immediately below is the grade of marquis. Successively lower in the scale are the grades of earl, viscount and baron.

Suspended between the nobility proper and the knights are the baronets, literally "little barons," a titular rank created by King James I.

The grade of baronet was created openly as a revenue raiser for the monarch and the payment of five hundred pounds was sufficient to obtain the honor.

Aside from the Order of the Garter, the principal knight-hoods are those of the Order of the Thistle, the Order of St. Patrick, the Order of the Bath, the Order of St. Michael and St. George, the Order of the Star of India, the Order of the Indian Empire, the Royal Victorian Order and the Order of the British Empire.

Order of British Empire Is Open to the Women

This last is the most recently created. It was brought into being June 21, 1917, by George V and is open to women as well as men. It is divided into five classes and the first two give the male possessor the right to use the prefix "Sir" and the feminine possessor authority to use the prefix "Dame."



BARON DEWAR
His millions were made in the distilling business, which has drawn many darts in parliamentary criticism

If the titles of nobility granted in the last five years have been an ever widening stream, the distribution of knight-hoods has become a torrent, created with more "Sir Knights" than the age of chivalry ever saw.

To American eyes the most noteworthy case of title bagging in recent years was that by William Waldorf Astor, great-grandson of the fur trader who founded the Astor fortune.

William Waldorf Astor gave up his American citizenship and established himself in England. For sixteen years, according to general reports, he stalked a title, but met rebuff after rebuff.

The World War brought him his opportunity. He gave liberally to various funds and, acting on the Prime Minister's advice, King George created Astor a Baron in 1916.

But that lowest grade in the nobility apparently did not satisfy him. Greater exertions and expenditures followed, and in 1917 Lloyd George presented Astor's name at Buckingham Palace for a Viscount.

The promoted peer took the title of Viscount Astor of Hever, after Hever Castle in Kent, the birthplace of Anne Boleyn, which he purchased and restored.

Astor died suddenly in October, 1919, and was succeeded by his son, Waldorf Astor, whose wife was the first woman to win election to the House of Commons.

Brewers Running Race With Bankers for Titles

In the recriminations hurled right and left in England now, some of the bitterest remarks are made about the frequent recognition given distillers and brewers.

The makers of whiskies, beer and ale are pressing close on bankers, soap

manufacturers, dry-goods, merchants, rich grocers and shipbuilders in the race for titled honors.

So many brewers have been advanced to the peerage in recent years that a London punster said it really was becoming the "beverage." Fortunes built on thrist and a craving for stimulants were used to win baronies, counts of arms and places in Burke's Peerage.

The most dazzling success in that direction was attained by Edward Cecil Guinness, Earl of Iveagh, who was Viscount Iveeden, until his elevation to an earldom in 1919.

with that title for fourteen years before he could "make the grade" to the rank above.

Lord Iveagh Has Given Much to Aid Housing

Lord Iveagh has given liberally to his native city of Dublin. One of his philanthropies has been the bettering of housing conditions for the poor. Like most members of the Guinness family he has a pallid complexion which gives point to a little incident when both his sons were at a session of Parliament.

Rupert, his heir, is plump and ruddy-

Baron Forteviot was Sir John Alexander Dewar, Bart., before he was given a coronet in 1916. He is chairman of John Dewar & Sons, Ltd., one of the biggest distilling concerns in the world.

Baron Dewar is the managing director of this gigantic distillery, whose products are passed over the bars of public houses in every city, town and hamlet of England. The Dewar whiskies have a wide vogue in other countries as well, not including the United States, where they once were readily obtainable favorites.

This noble lord was Sir Thomas Rob-



Lord Leverhulme, former soap king and noted philanthropist, receiving at a garden party, one of the many given by him in recent times

ered, while Walter, the other son, is slight and has the Guinness pallor. A parliamentary wit, in referring to the brothers, spoke of them as "stout" and "pale," an allusion, of course, to the products of the big Guinness brewery.

Perhaps the most prominent of the distillers in the House of Lords are the brothers Baron Dewar and Baron Forteviot, both holders of new titles.

ert Dewar, who was made a knight in 1902 and a baronet in 1917, when Lloyd George had been nearly a year in power. He hurred his way into the peerage two years later.

Lord Dewar has become a semi-official spokesman for the liquor interests of Great Britain and has been caustic to the extreme in his comments on American prohibition. He toured this country in 1920 to get first-hand impressions on how prohibition worked here.

Soap King Elevated to Baron of Leverhulme

Another peer of recent creation is Baron Leverhulme, the British "Soap King," the builder of Port Sunlight, a model industrial city. As William Hesketh Lever he began as the owner of a small soap plant in Warrington, England, and gradually developed a business that reaches into many countries.

The popular title of "Soap King" did not satisfy him. He wanted a title backed with the authority of the King, one that would be a certain social asset and that would attest his great success as a merchant.

Accordingly, in 1911, he became Sir William and six years later, with Lloyd George at the British helm, he was advanced to the grade of baron. His baronial estate is Levens Castle, Stornoway.

An authority on soap and all the chemical processes used in the making of that friend of civilization, Lord Leverhulme has gained unpleasant notoriety in the matter of art.

His first clash was with a portrait

painter, Augustus John, who placed the baron's likeness on canvas two years ago. Mr. John was chagrined and infuriated when the portrait was returned to him in a mutilated condition.

The representation of the head and part of the body had been cut out of the canvas. In that condition it was placed on exhibition in the Chertil Galleries in Chelsea.

Lord Leverhulme tried to soothe the angry artist. He explained that he wanted to keep the canvas in a safe and that it was too large. So there was nothing else to do but cut out the head and lock that away securely. He further explained that his housekeeper returned the remainder of the portrait by mistake.

Last year the "Soap King" had another artistic row, this time with Sir William Orpen, a renowned portrait painter. Sir William made the astonishing announcement in Paris that Lord Leverhulme refused to pay the price agreed upon for a full-length portrait of himself.

Baron's Explanations Caused Many Chuckles in Paris

The doctory baron's explanation was enjoyed hugely in English art circles, and it traveled to the Quartier Latin of Paris, where it caused countless chuckles on the boulevards and in cafes and studios.

It seems that Lord Leverhulme wanted a full-length portrait and wanted to be painted while standing up. But Sir William suggested "for artistic reasons" that the baron sit down, to which Leverhulme agreed.



VISCOUNT ASTOR
Wealthy American who renounced his citizenship and finally won his coveted title in England

LORD IVEAGH
Former brewer and one of the richest men in the United Kingdom

Accordingly, he was painted full length, but sitting down.

Sir William had offered to paint the noble lord's head and shoulders for \$5000, and a half or three-quarter portrait for \$7500. The price for a full-length portrait was \$10,000.

When the full-length portrait of the seated baron was completed, Lord Leverhulme refused to pay the full price on the ground that a portrait sitting down did not show enough of him to justify a \$10,000 fee. Sir William retorted that he did not sell his art work by the yardstick.

Aristocratic eyebrows were raised in Mayfair when the 1919 honors list was announced and the name of William Mall Walker was noted among the new barons.

Not that Baron Waverley—the title he took—was unworthy of the honor. He came of a fine old country family and was a noted sportsman and lover of blooded horses.

But the new baron's chief bids to fame were that he had bred a Derby winner and that he won the Grand National and the National Hunt Steeplechase with his entries. The crowning (or was it the coroneting) act of his career was his presentation in 1918 of his stud of race horses and mares to the nation to start a national stud.

Oil Played Big Part in Making British Lords

Oil, which gave the world its richest man in the person of John D. Rockefeller, has played a part in the making of British Lords.

Viscount Cowdray is the outstanding representative of the oil interests, who sits occasionally in a crimson cushioned seat in the House of Lords.

This nobleman won his way to immense wealth as Westman D. Pearson. He is president of S. Pearson & Son, Ltd., which controls oil fields in many parts of the world. Cowdray has had a truly romantic career.

He is remembered in this country as the builder of four tunnels under the East River, New York, for the Pennsylvania Railroad. His engineering profession won him renown before he climbed to the heights of the oil empire he administers.

His chief oil holdings are in Mexico, Persia and Russia. In the republic south of the Rio Grande his oil fields are so vast that he has been spoken of as "the member from Mexico" in the House of Lords.

Viscount Cowdray was made a baronet in 1894, and a baron in 1910. In 1916 he was created a viscount. He takes his title from Cowdray Castle, a magnificent pile in Sussex. Tradition has it that a curse has been on the castle for centuries.

Most of the 14,000-acre Cowdray estate in Sussex is woodland, and it includes a 600-acre deer park, where Queen Elizabeth shot deer with a cross-bow, and where her brother, Edward VI, had hunted some thirty years before.

One of the newest of English barons is Lord Ashfield, better known in the United States as Albert H. Stanley. The Baron was born in Derbyshire in 1875, and was brought to this country when five years old.

The family, a branch of an old one named Knatteries, settled in Detroit, where the future Lord Ashfield's father changed his name to Stanley.

Albert Stanley Started Work as Chore Boy

Albert Stanley started work as a chore boy for the Detroit United Railways and moved up so rapidly that when twenty years old he was assistant superintendent.

A few years later he was made general superintendent of the Detroit

United Railways and soon afterward attracted the attention of Colonel W. E. Hines, of the Public Service Railway of New Jersey.

Stanley became manager of the Public Service Railway. When the United States declared war on Spain he enlisted in the United States naval reserve and served through the war on the auxiliary cruiser Yosemite.

When he resumed his street railway work his fame soon spread to England, and he was invited to become manager of the London Underground Railway. He accepted the offer and speedily was recognized as one of the foremost transit experts of England.

In 1914 a baronetcy was conferred upon him, and when Lloyd George formed his war Cabinet Sir Alfred Stanley was made Minister of Commerce and president of the Board of Trade. In 1920, through the good offices of Lloyd George, he became Baron Ashfield.

The bestowal of a peerage on the man who started his career in Detroit was one of the conspicuous exceptions to the honor awards which have created the present upsurge in England.

There have been outcries before over the handing out of coronets and knight-hoods. But they never have reached the intensity and fury of the present outburst.

Lloyd George proposes a royal commission to assist the Government with selections for the honors list. But the sharp attack comes at a time when a reconstitution of the House of Lords is contemplated.

The extreme liberals want to do away entirely with hereditary legislators. The moderates and conservatives believe that England still "dearly loves a lord."

And Englishmen who know their history and genealogy slyly point out that of the 600 members of the House of Lords scarcely thirty can trace their ancestry back to the Reformation.

But the Britons who are tilting against the entire order of nobility say the situation in these modern days is only aggravated by the wholesale ennobling of green grocers, tea merchants, tanners, soapmakers, candlestickmakers, distillers and brewers.

Little Benny's Note Book

By Lee Pope

I was laying on the setting room floor wishing vacation was all year around instead of just summer, and pop was writing a letter at ma's desk, and I had a idea, saying, Hay pop, our teacher told us once that germs grow quicker in milk than they do in anything.

She was quite rite, and that's the reason the law compels the milk companies to take so many sanitary precautions, pop sed.

Well how is that, pop, do germs like milk? I sed.

They're crazy about it, pop sed.

How about microbes, do they like it too? I sed.

Just as much, if not more, pop sed.

And bacteria too? I sed.

You bet, pop sed, and I sed, G, that's a good thing to know, aint it pop?

Splendid, pop sed, and I sed, Im glad I found it out.

Nolledge is power, pop sed.

And he kept on writing his letter and I sed, Well hay pop?

Was a matter now? pop sed, If milk is libel to be so full of germs and microbes and things, why cant I have a glass of grape juice for breakfast and suppur insted of a glass of milk? I sed.

Because Y is a crooked letter, now either go to bed rite or get up off the floor one or the other, pop sed.

Wich I got up off the floor.



BARON ASHFIELD
Educated in America, Albert Stanley won his way in England and finally the great ambition, a title



LORD COWDRAY
An oil magnate who could finance a Mexican Government, where he had large holdings

The founder of the Guinness fortunes was Arthur Guinness, a brewer in a small way, who had saved his money while working as a butler for an aristocratic Irish family.

The original Guinness migrated from the little Irish town of Leixlip to Dublin, where he leased a small establishment at the St. James Gate. His business grew steadily until his death, when it passed under the control of his son, Benjamin Lee Guinness, an even better business man than his father.

Benjamin Guinness, in the course of years, made "Guinness stout" known internationally and incidentally acquired a knighthood. The Earl of Iveagh is the third son of that seton of the brewing house, one of the richest in the world.

Edward Cecil Guinness stepped first on the baronetcy rung of England's social ladder. Six years later, in 1891, he became a baron and in 1905, a viscount. He had to content himself



Cowdray Castle, one of the beautiful old English estates, the home of the oil king. It was here that Queen Elizabeth so often hunted deer