

Queen Mary Still Active On Reaching 80th Year

AP Newsfeatures
LONDON—The sprightliest old lady in England turned 80 on May 26.

"Princess May" they called her in the days of the empire builders. Queen Mary is her title now, a name revered by millions of Britons, Canadians, Australians, South Africans, New Zealanders and colonialists in an era when the empire of her grandson shrank day by day.

She has been a dowager queen, a queen in name only, since the death of George V, her husband, eleven years ago but the cheer that goes up when her ancient red limousine appears gives evidence that the British people's regard for her does not go by the calendar.

They look at her hair when they remember them. They may find her more radical subjects do more than whether the monarchy is needed in the modern world but they smile affectionately when the old queen's name is mentioned and they never fail to cheer her when he passes.



MARY OF ENGLAND
"Every inch a queen"

One reason may be that Prince Victoria Mary Augusta Louise Olga Claudine Beatrice Elizabeth York has acted every inch the queen since she first ascended the throne alongside the dithering George V in 1910.

Through personal and national tragedy she has retained the regal bearing. "Democratized" she picked up G.I. hitchhikers during World War II. But she did it as a queen. No one who has met her can imagine her forgetting the royal manner.

They leave her in strict seclusion at 171, Marlborough House, overlooking St. James Park, where she has lived since her husband's death.

To some Queen Mary is the embodiment of a greater, happier era. To others, she is entitled to respect as a dignified woman of 80, royal antecedents apart. But offer a birthday toast to "the Old Queen" and you will look to for the Briton who will not smile and clink glasses.

Bill Introduced To Use Alaska Wood For Paper Making

WASHINGTON, AP—Legislation to permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell Alaskan timber for paper manufacture was introduced by Congressman Butler, Republican of Nebraska, of the public lands committee.

It would apply to the Tongass national forest.

Butler said in a statement that the legislation is necessary to permit operation of paper mills in the territory.

"It has been my hope for several years," he added, "that paper mills could be built in Alaska and thus take care of the shortage in print paper in the United States. Construction of these mills will also make it possible to develop southern Alaska and make use of their large timber resources."

Two companies are now planning to build mills but cannot give the go-ahead sign until this legislation is passed.

King George died in 1936 and their eldest son, Queen Mary's favorite, succeeded him as Edward VIII. Everyone knows of the crisis that preceded Edward's abdication. No one outside her tight circle of friends knows the agony it cost Queen Mary.

Whatever her own feelings, the old queen has abided by the decision of history. She has never met the American woman who became the Duchess of Windsor.

As her 80th birthday approached, Queen Mary held rigidly to a schedule that would have tired many women half her age. In one recent month she attended six exhibitions, an opera, a play and filled eight other public engagements.

She goes to any and all sorts of affairs—hospital benefits, musicals, book exhibitions, patry shows. Scotland Yard delighted her by taking her fingerprints, and solemnly keeping the impressions for future reference.

She loves plays and movies. The sound track of one film, "The Wicked Lady," was censored for fear it might offend her. But she turned up later at an uncensored performance of the U. S. play "Pick Up Girl" and, by her patronage, helped make it a hit.

One day recently she went with the Duchess of Kent and her children to Miss Tussaud's Waxworks, for the first time in forty years. Attendees said she had a wonderful time.

For all that most Londoners have seen her repeatedly, they form crowds and applaud whenever regal old Queen Mary appears. But

Famed Dutch Art Forger Now Being Forged Himself

AP Newsfeatures
AMSTERDAM—American art

lovers eager to acquire an "original" Van Meegeren may be aware that the master-forger of Holland is being forged himself.

Han Van Meegeren, the Dutch painter who swindled Hermann Goering by selling him an oil, "Christ and the Adulteress," signed

by the famous seventeenth century Dutch painter Johannes Vermeer, now is complaining that there are several "faked Van Meegerens" in circulation.

Because he was not being acknowledged by Dutch art critics in 1936 Van Meegeren started

painting forged Vermeers to fool critics, art dealers and other experts, "to prove their incompetence and my own genius," he said.

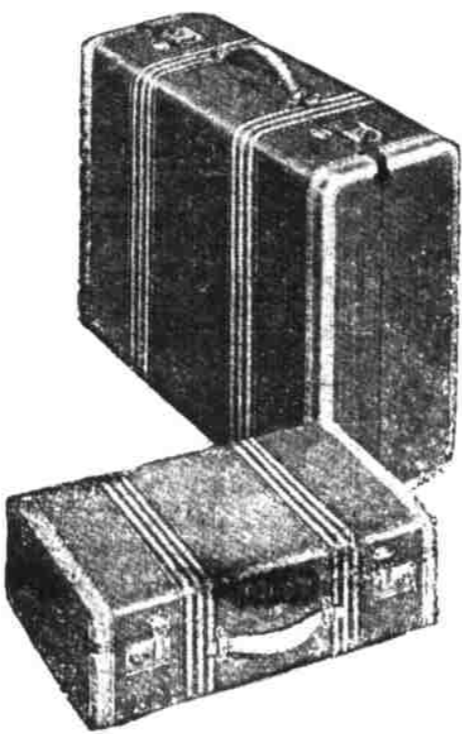
He painted six bogus Vermeers. The sixth, "Christ and the Adulteress" was sold to Nazi No. 2. After the liberation of the Neth-

erlands Van Meegeren was charged with "collaboration with the enemy."

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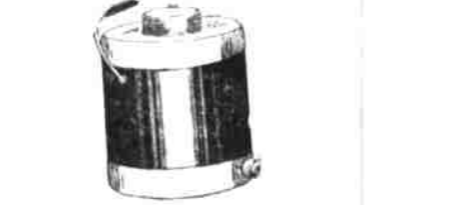
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