



Legend of
THE OIL AND
AMPULLA

Menu

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS



SCOTTISH SECONDARY SCHOOLS

TRAVEL TRUST

CANADIAN TOUR

1937

Table d'Hôte Dinner

TOMATO JUICE

FRUIT COCKTAIL

COLD CONSOMME

CREAM OF CELERY

COLD BOILED SEA SALMON, MAYONNAISE

FRIED FILLETS OF HADDOCK, TARTAR SAUCE

CHICKEN A LA KING

ROAST RIBS OF BEEF AU JUS

COLD HAM AND TONGUE, POTATO SALAD

BOILED POTATOES

MASHED POTATOES

BUTTERED NEW CARROTS

GREEN BEANS

HEARTS OF LETTUCE
(French Dressing)

LEMON JELLY WITH WHIPPED CREAM

INDIVIDUAL DEEP BLUEBERRY PIE

MELON

ICE CREAM WITH FRUIT CAKE OR WAFERS

CANADIAN CHEDDAR CHEESE WITH BISCUITS

ASSORTED BREAD

WHITE OR GRAHAM ROLLS

TEA

COFFEE

MILK

ICED TEA

ICED COFFEE

Sunday, August 8th.

The Legend of THE OIL AND AMPULLA

HISTORIANS declare that the religious rite of 'hallowing,' or consecrating the new monarch by anointing him with oil, is older than the ceremony of endowing him with the symbol of secular authority. In accordance with this order of precedence, the Archbishop of Canterbury anoints the King before investing him with the regalia and crown.

The origin of the Holy Oil which the Archbishop uses, and of the Ampulla which holds it, is hidden in a legend. During his quarrels with the King, quarrels which led to his assassination, Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, was exiled to France. There, while he was praying, he was blessed with a vision of Our Lady who presented him with a golden vessel shaped like an eagle and a vial of oil which, she instructed him, held priceless virtue for the consecration of kings.

St. Thomas (he was canonized in 1172, two years after his murder) placed these precious gifts for safekeeping in a church where they remained neglected for a hundred and fifty years. Then they were discovered by an unnamed holy man who presented them to the Duke of Lancaster. The Duke delivered them to the Black Prince who placed them in the Tower.

There they were again forgotten for many years until Richard II rediscovered them. He was so impressed with the oil's miraculous powers that, though he had already been crowned, he requested to be reanointed. The Church would not permit the ceremony to be repeated. So the Ampulla and the Holy Oil were not used until the coronation of Richard's successor, Henry IV, in 1399. But they have been employed at every royal 'hallowing' in Westminster for now well over five hundred years.