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LEAVE THEIR ANCIENT HOMES Ancestral Mansions of France Are Passing Out of the Possession of Proud Families.

The old families of France are feeding the pinch of adversity and, as in London, Devonshire house and other ancestral homes are being turned to easier uses, so in Paris the famous mansions of the country's great families are finding new owners. The residence of the princess of Wagram is now the Spanish embassy, the wonderful hotel in which Princess Jacques de Broglie once gave her "ball of precious stones" is now the United States embassy; the new Czechoslovakian representative lives in the mansion of the ancient de Ligne family, while the residence of the late duc de Pomar, which was inspired by Mary Stuart's Edinburgh home, Holy road manor, now shelters the Bulgarian ambassador. The Galliard mansion, Place Malesherbes, a copy of one of the wings of the castle of Blois, is to become a branch office of the Bank of France, while the ancestral home of the Roux de Bazas, in the Rue Pierre ler de Serbie, is now to be hired for dances or entertainments. Other ancestral homes, a Figaro writer points out, have been taken by antiquaries, notably the Sagan mansion and the Morny mansion. And the list could be continued. From the Continental Edition of the London Mail.

NOVELTY WOULD WEAR OFF Boss Had Right Ideas as to How to Do Away With Excitement in Office.

He had been getting to work late with such regularity that the boss ire was aroused and so he resolved to begin arriving at the office more punctually. Anyhow, all the standard articles, such as the alarm clock failing to ring, the crowded street cars passing him up at his corner, were about worn out in his case. And so one morning all week he drifted with attempted nonchalance into the office among the early arrivals. The others of the office staff at once set up a clamor. "What's the matter, couldn't you sleep last night?" some asked. "He probably was out all night and hasn't gone home yet," others remarked. "The clock that his house must have been an hour fast this morning," said another of the gang. Then the target of all these remarks became indignant. Going to the boss' desk, he made his complaint. "If it is going to cause so damn much excitement for me to get down on time, I guess, I had better be late every day," he said. "Nope," said the boss, without looking up from his work. "Get down on time every morning and you won't cause any excitement."

Fan Saves Coal. Long Island commuters, who are among those hardest hit by the coal shortage, have adopted many expedients to eke out their supplies and to make the utmost of what fuel they have.

One of them tested an idea with so much success that many other users of hot-air furnaces are following his example. He closed the damper of his intake pipe, shutting off all air from the outside, and placed a small electric fan in the cold-air duct between the outer wall of the cellar and the furnace. The fan drives the hot air into his room heated to a much higher temperature than it formerly was when drawn from outdoors. He says the cost of running the fan is of no account compared with the improvement in the heating of the house. —New York Sun

Facing the Fact. My employer, who most strenuously objects to smoking, comes to the office every morning and invariably leaves at noon for the balance of the day. Immediately upon his departure I draw my pipe from my pocket and enjoy it to the fullest extent.

One afternoon he gave us a surprise by walking in. I hastily put my pipe in my pocket, not knowing what else to do with it. While bending over my books he kept remarking about smelling something burning. Finally the stenographer procured a glass of water, and as she dashed it on my burning coat I will confess it was the most embarrassing moment of my life. —Exchange

Owned Houses; Lived in Cowshed. An almost unbelievable case of a woman with six children living in a cowshed has come to light in Leicester shire, Eng. when the husband, who has been nine weeks in a sanatorium and is shortly returning to the cowshed, appealed to the council to get them rooms in the workhouse. They have lived in the cowshed for 18 months. "It snowed on us as we lay in bed last winter," the man said. "We cannot stand another winter there." One girl of seven had died from the cold. The curious part of the matter is that the man owned four houses but could not get possession of them owing to governmental leasing regulations.

IN AND ABOUT THE CITY Some people take things for granted, whether they want them or not. A pedigree is all right in its way but the apple of discord grows on many a family tree.

MOSUL NEAR NINEVEH'S SITE WAS HERE BEFORE COLUMBUS Claims Put Forward That Danish Navigator Landed on the American Continent in 1476.

Several months ago Dr. Sofus Larsen of the University of Copenhagen reported having discovered among old Portuguese and Danish documents evidence that John Scovio of Scolf, a Danish navigator, reached the American continent in 1476. According to Doctor Larsen's account, the Portuguese prince, Henry the Navigator, after his twentieth attempt to reach India by sailing around the lower end of Africa had succeeded, conceived the idea that ships could reach another part of India by sailing northward across the Atlantic. He got in touch with Christian of Denmark, his brother-in-law, and asked him to assist in dispatching an expedition from Denmark in search of a northwest passage to India. Christian fell in with the plan and chose John Scovio, an experienced, competent sailor, to pilot the ship. Finally the ship reached the coast of Labrador in safety, and found a harbor in what is now called the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

NAME TOO MUCH FOR THEM Hawaiian Natives Found It Practically Impossible to Translate "Roosevelt" into Their Language.

The village of Roosevelt has changed its name back to Pukoo. Not many persons, probably, know where this village is. It is situated in an obscure corner of one of the Hawaiian islands, and some years ago it had as one of its residents a Dr. E. S. Goodhue, who was anxious that the name of the famous president should never die out of this section of American territory. So he got up a petition to the postmaster general at Washington, asking that the original name of the village should be altered, as far as the mail was concerned, to Roosevelt. The request was granted, but the new name bothered the natives terribly. They have no "r" or "s" or "t" in their alphabet, and the nearest Hawaiian equivalent to Roosevelt turns out to be Lukiweki. So they sent a second petition, in which they stated that they were deceived into signing the first, and asked that the native name of the village be restored. The petition has been granted.

ALWAYS MEN FOR THE AGE There When Needed, Whether Born in Log Cabin or Towering Apartment in Big City.

Future Presidents of the United States will be born in apartment houses, and a fond people will have to hallow and bronze-tell a fourteen-story skyscraper. It will be its own lofty monument. Long ago we passed the log-cabin stage of historic shrines. The log cabins have been exhausted. Our largest crop of heroes now comes largely from the two-story brick house. The-dore from one of three stories. But the apartment house is bound to make its way as a cradle for immortals, regardless of the rather severe restrictions against families, large or small. The future great, born in one of these towering hives, will, even at their birth, triumph over the trammels of restrictive regulation of tenement families.

Improved Disinfectant Soap. Austria reports a new development in the manufacture of disinfectant soaps, which it is claimed, has proved a decided success. The disinfectant used is lactate of silver and a very small amount produces remarkable results. The soap has been used in hospitals for general washing purposes, for sterilizing instruments (it does not contain any corrosive ingredients and hence can be safely used for this purpose), disinfecting clothes, rubber gloves, etc. There are several uses for the new soap in domestic life. The soap is made by dissolving one part of the silver lactate in fifteen parts of water and then adding enough agaragar, or carageenan moss, to make a jelly. The mixture is then added to the regular soap batch, and the resulting product can be made into solid, paste or liquid. In the solid form it can be used for toilet and laundry purposes. In the paste form it is usable as a dentifrice. In liquid form it may be used as a gargle and mouth wash. —Exchange

Automatic Steering Gear. The first American passenger ship to be equipped with automatic steering gear, recently completed a successful return voyage to the West Indies, under the guidance of this apparatus. The instrument says Popular Mechanics Magazine, consists of a gyroscope compass arranged to open and close an electric circuit controlling the stopping and starting of the rudder-operating mechanism. The instrument is capable of being set for response to different amounts of deviation from course, this case being noted where the departure from the true course was set as close as one sixth of a degree.

Ptolemy Speaks From the Past. At Tiberias, the ancient capital of upper Egypt, archeologists from Pennsylvania university have found demotic or common language, papyrus that fill a gap in history from B. C. 309 to 246. This period includes the reign of Ptolemy Philadelphus, who was so successful in levying heavy taxes with a minimum of injury and dissatisfaction. As the manuscripts deal mainly with financial affairs, our own Ptolemies may perhaps learn from them how to create in us a nation of cheerful givers. —Scientific American

Observed Time Limit. We were to have out of town guests for dinner. I had no salad forks, so I borrowed some from a neighbor. I cautioned my young son to say nothing about them during the meal. He didn't, but just as we finished he picked up several of them and said, "Well, I guess we'd better take these home now." —Exchange

Knew Her Mother. "And shall I speak to your father, dearest?" "Yes, but for goodness' sake, don't say a word to mother." "Why not?" "Because we don't want the engagement made public for two or three days yet." —Boston Transcript

Fame's Delay. "What do you think of Tut-Ankh-Amen?" "He's one of those chaps," replied Senator Stogghum, "who get a lot of wonderful publicity so long after their death that it doesn't do any good."

SMALL BOY FULLY EMPLOYED Little Paul's Explanation of His Pre-occupation. Had a Somewhat Humorous Tinge.

Little Paul had been sitting still by the window for so long that mother began to get suspicious. "What are you doing, Paul?" she asked. "No reply." "Paul, answer me!" mother ordered. "Nothing," was Paul's enlightening reply. "Mother said nothing more for a few minutes. Then: "Paul, you must be doing something! What are you so interested in out there?" Paul turned to reply this time, his dignity highly offended. "Oce, mamma!" he exclaimed. "Can't a fellow sit here without being bothered and watch the cars pass, go and come?" —Kansas City Star.

Bits from an English Play. "I might be induced to marry again if I could find a man to induce me." "I think marrying again is such a nice complement to one's first husband."

"We women rather like selfish men. They give us a chance of sacrificing ourselves." "There are times when all nice men regard all nice women as their mothers. After a good dinner is one of them." —Boston Transcript

Both Are Still at Large. "If there were 500 brave men in Petrograd," Carl Radek, the Bolshevik journalist once said to Lenin, "you would be put in jail."

"The man who ruled Russia with an iron hand received this sally calmly. "Some comrades may go to jail," he said slowly, "but on the basis of probabilities it is more likely that I will send you to jail than that you will send me."

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