

# Big Increase Seen in Mental Diseases

## Hospitalization Gains 100 Per Cent in 25 Years.

New York.—A 100 per cent increase in the number of mental cases brought under hospital care in the United States during the last twenty-five years is reported by the National Committee for Mental Hygiene in a review of its activities made public in connection with its twenty-fifth anniversary celebration.

According to the report, there were 159,006 patients in state hospitals in 1910, or 173 per 100,000 of the general population, as against 318,948, or 255 per 100,000, as shown by the latest census figures. During this period the population of the country has increased about a third. Thus, it is pointed out, while the ratio of patients to population is 50 per cent higher, their total number has doubled, increasing three times as fast as the general population.

This increase, the report explains, is chiefly due to the intensive development of treatment facilities which followed the campaign of institutional reform launched by the committee twenty-five years ago. It does not mean that the actual rate of mental diseases has increased in that proportion.

### Public More Alert.

"A seeming paradox at once confronts us in any attempt to audit the effects of the mental hygiene movement upon the nation's mental health," the report states. "After twenty-five years of increasingly widespread activity in this field of public health, we actually find an increase of 100 per cent in mental cases as measured by the number

of persons under treatment in mental hospitals.

"As a matter of fact," the report continues, "this increase is due, in large part, to the results of organized mental hygiene work during this period. Chief among these is the enormous increase in the provision of hospital facilities and a corresponding increase in the readiness of the public to take advantage of these facilities."

"Thanks to the stimulus of the mental hygiene movement and its educational influence, many thousands of hitherto untreated cases were brought to light, more and more of which were brought under treatment as hospitalization improved and the public attitude toward the subject changed from the hopelessness of the past to the confidence of the present."

### Humanization Program.

When the national committee was organized in 1909, shortly after the publication of Clifford Beer's autobiography, "A Mind That Found Itself," its chief concern was to humanize the care of the insane, to eradicate the abuses, brutalities and neglect from which this class has traditionally suffered, to focus public attention on the need for reform, to hospitalize asylums, and to raise the standards of care in general.

There followed a general improvement and expression of institutional facilities throughout the country. New hospitals and new additions to existing hospitals were built in state after state, until today the number of hospital beds available for mental and nervous cases is equal to those of all other types of sickness combined.

"In the process," the report says, "the committee strove to remove

the stigma associated with diseases of the mind from time immemorial, to spread newer and more hopeful conceptions of the nature of mental diseases and their curability, and to break down the isolation of state hospitals from the general stream of community life. Thanks to the work of mental hygiene agencies, public confidence in these institutions has greatly increased and with it public willingness to use them."

## Two New Patents Issued as Aid to U. S. Defense

Washington.—Two new patents for inventions designed to strengthen national defense have been issued by the United States patent office.

One of the devices patented is a contrivance for locating and illuminating planes at night for aircraft gunners.

The enemy plane is discovered by a sound-locating device. After delicate, automatic corrections are made for speed of the plane, wind velocity and time consumed in recording the information, the plane's position is transmitted by a searchlight.

Another patent was issued for an invention enabling maps and orders to be read and corrected in the field at night.

The device consists of "a light-tight chamber, a carrier of data sheets mounted therein, an eyepiece for observing the sheets, means of feeding the carrier into position to expose the data sheets to the field of view of the eyepiece, means for illuminating the interior of the chamber and lightproof means to permit insertion of a writing instrument or making notations on the data sheet."

### Sheep Herded 70 Miles

Nashua, Mont.—All the pioneers aren't dead. John Deskeret, farmer, and his wife recently walked 70 miles to herd their sheep here for shipment.

## SEEN and HEARD around the National Capital

By CARTER FIELD

Washington.—Lower interest rates is part and parcel of the administration's "small profits" program, and is to be applied very shortly to the railroads of the country.

The plan is to have the interest rates on all railroad bond issues, where the roads are now in the hands of receivers, marked down. It may be applied to some railroads not now in the hands of receivers, also, though this has not been definitely decided.

Most railroad bonds bear interest at rates varying from 4 per cent up to 7 per cent. Only the very strong roads were able to obtain money at the lower figure. And in the case of nearly all the weak roads, the returns are actually much higher than the interest rate indicates. For the bonds were sold originally below par, so that the specified rate say of \$6 on each \$100 is actually \$6 on \$85, for example. In addition to which the original purchaser, if he holds the bond until maturity, makes the \$15, or whatever discount may have been on the original price.

All of which is important in consideration of the present plans of the administration. For President Roosevelt believes very firmly that the railroads, and for that matter, all business, has been paying entirely too much for the money.

The President has been studying charts, which show that the railroads of the country as a whole pay nearly one-sixth of their total freight and passenger receipts—net, not gross—in interest on their indebtedness. This does not include dividends—for such roads as are fortunate enough to be paying them, and they are few and far between. It includes nothing but interest on money borrowed, mostly in the form of bonds, and mostly at rates in excess of 4½ per cent.

### President's Idea

The idea most favored by the President, it is learned, is to start with roads now in receivership, which means with bonds which at present are in default. The government would supervise an exchange, in which holders of existing bonds would accept bonds bearing a much lower rate of interest. The incentives to the bondholders would be two. One would be that the whole transaction would lighten the fixed charges of the railroads that the interest would almost certainly be earned. But more important, the government would guarantee the interest—though not the principal—payment.

Thus a man owning a \$1,000 bond of the X, Y, and Z. railroad company, which on its face calls for the payment to that man of \$70 a year, would accept a bond calling for payment of only \$30 a year. But he would be sure of getting his \$30, and as a result he would not have the slightest difficulty in selling the bond should he desire to do so. It would be as good as a government bond except that the principal would not be guaranteed.

And actually, the government would be taking only a modicum of risk. For if the interest burden of the railroads were so scaled down, they would earn enough money to pay the interest except in a few instances, and in these instances the government presumably would not have provided for a guarantee. For the administration program does not contemplate that the government would guarantee a small rate of interest on all railroad bonds. Many of the weak sisters will be so cut down and frozen out that only properties regarded as economically sound would remain.

Another consideration, from the treasury viewpoint, would make the whole idea sound from the government standpoint. At present the RFC is holding many millions of railroad bonds as security—bonds which may easily become worthless in the near future unless this interest burden on the railroads is scaled down. Officials studying the question believe the government would salvage more on RFC loans than it would lose in refinancing mistakes.

### Favor World Court

Reports that President Roosevelt will make a drive on the new senate to have the United States join the World court have been rife in the last few days, although no word has come from the President himself on the subject. Most of the senators with whom the President conferred at Warm Springs have long been advocates not only of United States participation in the World court, but also of joining the League of Nations, so there was no effort on his part to win converts. If the World court was discussed, the point at issue was tactics in acquiring a two-thirds majority and forcing a vote, not arguments for or against.

The President made it very clear, at the dinner on Woodrow Wilson's birthday, that he had no intention of reviving the League of Nations fight. Much water has flowed under the Washington bridges since then, and a world situation has been brought about which would make American participation in the

league much more logical than it appeared at that time.

However, the few survivors of the old "irreconcilables" are very bitter and determined men. Two of the outstanding foes of the league, Borah of Idaho, and Johnson of California, are particularly effective. And the President has plenty of trouble on his hands with another treaty—the St. Lawrence seaway pact with Canada—and with the soldier bonus, so that he would not be anxious to take on such an unnecessary controversy.

But if the World court protocol could be approved, the first step would have been taken, and no one need be surprised if the United States should actually enter the League of Nations along about 1937. If conditions still seem auspicious from the White House viewpoint.

### Seek Borah's Scalp

It is rather interesting in this connection to note that Senator Borah comes up for re-election in 1936, and that the present plan of the New Deal is to take his scalp in that fight.

Idaho went overwhelmingly Democratic last November. It not only elected a Democratic governor by a majority of around 17,000—very large for such a small state—but elected two Democrats to the house. All the dope prior to election had been that one of the former Republican members, defeated in the Hoover debacle of 1932, would come back.

In addition, Idaho elected a tremendous Democratic majority of each house of its legislature. So the New Deal organization in the state is all set to retire Borah to private life. So that there is little doubt in the minds of New Dealers who believe they can beat Borah that ratification of the League of Nations covenant would be much simpler if postponed for a couple of years.

A glance over the old roster of senators who broke Woodrow Wilson's heart and kept the United States out of the league shows but few are left. Brandegee of Connecticut, Knox and Penrose of Pennsylvania, Fernald of Maine, Shields of Tennessee, and Thomas of Colorado, are dead. So is Henry Cabot Lodge, who, though not an irreconcilable, maneuvered the fight that killed the treaty.

The elder La Follette is dead, but young Bob is in his place and seldom goes counter to any of his father's ideas.

### Government Housing

Public Works Administrator Harold L. Ickes, secretary of the Interior, and although not one of the radicals who hopes private industry will collapse under the New Deal and thus produce something akin to socialism, is somewhat premature in his ideas about government housing.

For example, his comment that would-be home builders should be supplied with money at 3 per cent.

Although just a few weeks before the President had said 5 per cent. Again, his thought of the government itself lending all the money needed for new home construction. Whereas, the President is hoping vigorously that private capital will supply not only funds for this purpose, but for refinancing old mortgages.

A little thought on this striking difference between Roosevelt and Ickes, throws a considerable and very bright light on the whole idea underlying the New Deal. Especially, if it is taken into consideration with various things Roosevelt has said about capital.

### Cause of Depression

There has been much talk about the stock market crash causing the depression. Mr. Roosevelt knows better than that. So do most of his advisers—but not all. The President believes what caused the depression was the pouring of excessive profits, over a period of years, into new factories and plants of all sorts. Until finally there was capacity to produce far more—some ten times more—than the people could consume.

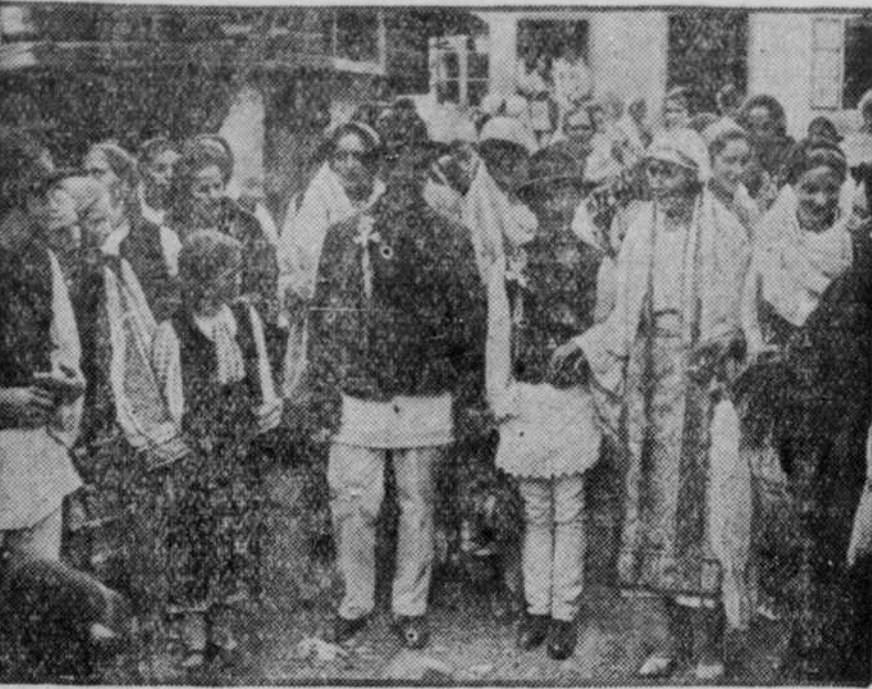
Especially as too large a percentage of the prices paid for all articles went into profit—that is into investment in the final analysis—instead of into channels where it would be spent for goods immediately consumed. Or, in short, kept in circulation.

The 3 per cent statement of Ickes is one of the extremes which makes a point clear. A capitalist lends a middle class person \$10,000 at 7 per cent on a home mortgage. Every year the capitalist receives \$700 in interest. As he already has more income than he can spend, the capitalist takes this \$700 every year and puts what is left, after taxes, into new investment. None of it is spent for goods immediately consumed.

Roosevelt would cut that to \$500 a year. Which would mean that the home owner would spend, every year, \$200 more for better clothes, or a higher grade automobile than he now uses, or what not. But whatever he spent it for would provide greater consuming power, greater prosperity, and as a matter of fact, therefore, greater safety for the investments of the holder of his own mortgage. Unless, of course, he saved it, whereupon it would be just as perilous in its effects as though he had paid it to the capitalist.

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# In Rumania



Wedding Procession in Rural Rumania.

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

IN RUMANIA, East and West are so interwoven that it is difficult to determine where one leaves off and the other begins.

Some historians attribute the strange blending of the Orient and the Occident within the Rumanian borders to countless invasions. Each invader, whether Roman, Hun, or Turk, left his strong imprint on the nature of the people.

Though Paris may be France, Bucharest is hardly Rumania. This capital has almost nothing in common with the country. It is a gay, cosmopolitan city, often, if not aptly, called the Little Paris of the Balkans.

Its streets are crowded with smartly dressed women, officers resplendent in their colorful uniforms and gold braid, and men and women of the foreign colonies, who contrast strikingly with peasants in native dresses and gypsies in rags and tatters. Its restaurants and coffee houses, always famous for good food, are abuzz with the latest political rumors and gossip.

The opening, in the autumn, of parliament by the king is a brilliant event. For several blocks and for hours the palace guards in their bright uniforms, high patent leather jack boots, shining helmets with white horsehair plumes, stand smartly at attention until the members of parliament, the diplomatic corps, the army generals, and the king have passed.

The great moments are the arrival and the departure of the king, in an open landau. Footmen in satin breeches, long coats of brocade, and three-cornered hats, and a ferocious coachman cracking his whip at six milk-white or coal-black stallions, on whose backs ride postillions in bright red hunting costumes, add to the striking medieval picture.

### Sleighride in Bucharest.

It is fun in winter to hire an open sleigh drawn by horses bedecked with bells and red ribbons, and driven by a coachman in a high fur caucula (cachoula), a tall astrakhan cap, long velvet coat, and wide girdle of metal.

There are still a few coachmen living in Bucharest who belong to a curious alien sect called Scopliti, now almost extinct. The men were allowed to marry, but at the birth of the first child they were made sterile. One sees them often driving open carriages. They are fat and their skin is like yellow parchment.

The wide avenue leading up to the Arc de Triomphe, past a pretty little race course, and a golf links of the Country club, is a miniature suggestion of the Champs Elysees in the French capital. Many stately palaces and homes line its streets. Rumania has gone modern in her new houses and apartments.

There is much music other than in the cafes. Bucharest boasts of rather good opera during the winter and a really fine symphony orchestra plays modern music. The national temple is well patronized and plays by Rumanian and foreign authors are given. Once ornate, the building is now shabby, although an air of faded elegance still pervades the place.

The parliament buildings and the Rumanian Orthodox church stand on the summit of the only hill in Bucharest. Bucharest is a city of churches. From everywhere can be seen rising the rounded domes of the Rumanian Orthodox church.

### Among the Peasants.

Around Bucharest the country is not unlike the agricultural state of Kansas. Here is a tremendous wheat and corn region. Visitors enjoy going through the villages in this fertile district. Crazy little Rube Goldberg houses, whose whitewashed walls are painted in soft pastel shades and decorated with borders of flowers or animals, present an amusingly shabby aspect along the streets. Rumania is one of the few countries now left in Europe whose peasants usually dress in native costume.

The Rumanian peasant is lovable. Always gracious, courteous, and good-natured, he is industrious, yet somewhat inefficient. He works hard in his fields and forests, but always in a primitive manner, using the crude tools of his forefathers. Many residents of Bucharest spend their summers in Predeal, at

the top of the Carpathian pass, on the boundary line between the "Old Kingdom" and Transylvania. During their holidays they have many opportunities to observe the ancient methods of work followed by the peasants.

One is particularly impressed with the native manner of washing clothes. The laundress builds a fire in the yard beneath a large iron pot, in which she puts the clothes to boil. Then, in a large wooden trough hewn from a log, she rubs and washes the garments with her hands, without even the aid of a washboard. Next, she wrings out the heavy linen with her own hands. Back-breaking work it is, but the clothes emerge spotlessly white.

Politically, Rumania traveled toward the left after the war, as have in a degree most of the countries of the Near East. The large landholdings were expropriated and the acres sold to the peasants on easy terms, the result of which was to place the peasant in a more advanced position than he had ever known. It was not the intention to subject the landholding gentry to confiscation, although the results now present that appearance.

The land was appraised on a basis of reasonable value, and the gentry given Rumanian bonds in compensation for the land. When subsequently the nation went off the gold standard and her money depreciated, these bonds became almost worthless. Since 1926, however, her currency has been among the most valuable.

### Gypsies Are Numerous.

In the Danube Delta country, during the spring and summer, many gypsy camps are found. The gypsies carve out of wood huge water troughs, all variety and manner of cooking utensils, washing equipment, etc. With their wild animal eyes, scraggly black locks, wretchedly dirty, and clad in rags, gypsies are a proof of the disillusionment of reality.

Who has not conjured up some gay, romantic picture of gypsy life from afar? Yet how distressing when one meets it at close quarters! But gypsy music is beautiful. Almost at every street corner in Bucharest one encounters an urchin with his violin, ready to play for a few lei.

Winters in Bucharest are bitterly cold. Often one is distressed to see gypsy boys, half naked and shivering, begging at the street corners.

Since time immemorial gypsies have gone into the bear-taming business. Very often you see several gypsies, with an equal number of bears, making them dance for a delighted crowd of onlookers. Or, falling a bear, gypsies are iron-forgers and blacksmiths, and their beautiful hand-wrought grilles are famous everywhere.

On many great houses in Bucharest are found fine examples of gypsy ironwork.

### Valcov Is Interesting.

Valcov, Rumania, is more Russian than Russia. The men all wear full beards and are dressed in long velvet coats buttoned very smartly up the front, while the women in their full skirts and heads covered with bright scarfs, make a gay picture. Children are everywhere chewing sunflower seeds, the Russian substitute for gum and peanuts.

Valcov is like a tiny Venice, with its canals serving as main thoroughfares through the town. Both in the fishermen's houses and in the market places, the traveler always finds at least one lovely ikon.

Entering first an immense storage building, one sees where the fish are cleaned, sorted, packed in ice for shipment to Bucharest and other consuming centers, and smoked or salted for export. There is a great variety of salt-and-fresh-water fish, including some strange Danubian species. At the back of the storage house is a deep cave topped by an earthen mound, where hundreds of tons of ice, cut from the river and canals in winter, are stored against the summer heat.

Crossing the main canal by an arched wooden bridge, which recalls the Rialto, the traveler arrives at the large open market. Here the fishermen bring their daily catch to be sold under the supervision of the state fisheries.

## Capital Leads in Total of Crimes

### Washington Ahead of Pittsburgh and New Orleans.

Washington.—The city of Washington enjoys the dubious distinction of leading eight sister cities of approximately the same size in crime. That was disclosed in an analysis by the Department of Justice of crime in ten cities hovering about the half-million population mark.

Washington takes the first place in robbery, grand larceny and petty larceny, and is second in murder, burglary and auto theft. In the first nine months of the year on this basis, the capital leads in general crime. Cincinnati, New Orleans, Minneapolis, Newark, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Buffalo, and Milwaukee follow in the order named.

In the first nine months of the year the total number of crimes was 8,927, a slight increase over the corresponding period in 1933, which has a total of 8,857 crimes. In 1934 there was a decrease in murder, robbery, burglary and auto theft, but an increase in grand and petty larceny.

The analysis by the Department of Justice was made in the height of civil war on crime. The District Bar association and civil groups are clamoring for a reorganization of the district's police department to halt a crime wave and end gambling in the city. The outpouring of civic indignation followed the recent slaying of an innocent bystander in a gang feud.

With a murder rate of 10.3 per 100,000 population, Washington is behind Cincinnati with a rate of 12.9. The murder rate of other cities in the population group is as follows: New Orleans, 10.1; Minneapolis, 4.1; Newark, 3.6; Pittsburgh, 2.5; San Francisco, 2.3, and Milwaukee, 4.

The Washington auto theft rate of 480.8 is behind that of Minneapolis of 490.4, and the burglary rate of 393.2 is behind that of Newark with 691.5. Washington leads in

burglary at 99.7, grand larceny at 169.8, and petty larceny at 679.9 per 100,000 population.

## FUR-TRIMMED GOWN

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



Pastel gowns trimmed in dark fur is a favorite theme with designers who are interested in creating evening modes. Here is a very charming illustration of the fur-with-pastel vogue. This gown, recently noted at a preview style display given by the Chicago Wholesale Market council is fashioned of pale rose and silver crepe trimmed in borderings of mole. It is of that ingenue type which so appeals to the debutante the success of whose

## Sails Thousands of Miles to Vote

Sydney, N. S. W.—Before Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Slack of Wentworth, Falls sailed for England their member of parliament asked them, "You'll be back in time to record your votes, won't you?"

"I'll take good care of that," replied Mr. Slack. When they had been in London only a few days they read that the Australian elections were to be held at an earlier date.

So they hurriedly curtailed their trip and returned to Australia in time to vote. "I made a promise to Mr. Lawson and I will keep it," said Mr. Slack.

"coming out" party depends so largely on the prettiness of the frock she wears. The graceful flare of the slender skirt, the slit hemline of which is outlined with fur, the peplum and the wide collar are all important style details.

## Uncle Sam Will Deliver Gifts on Christmas Day

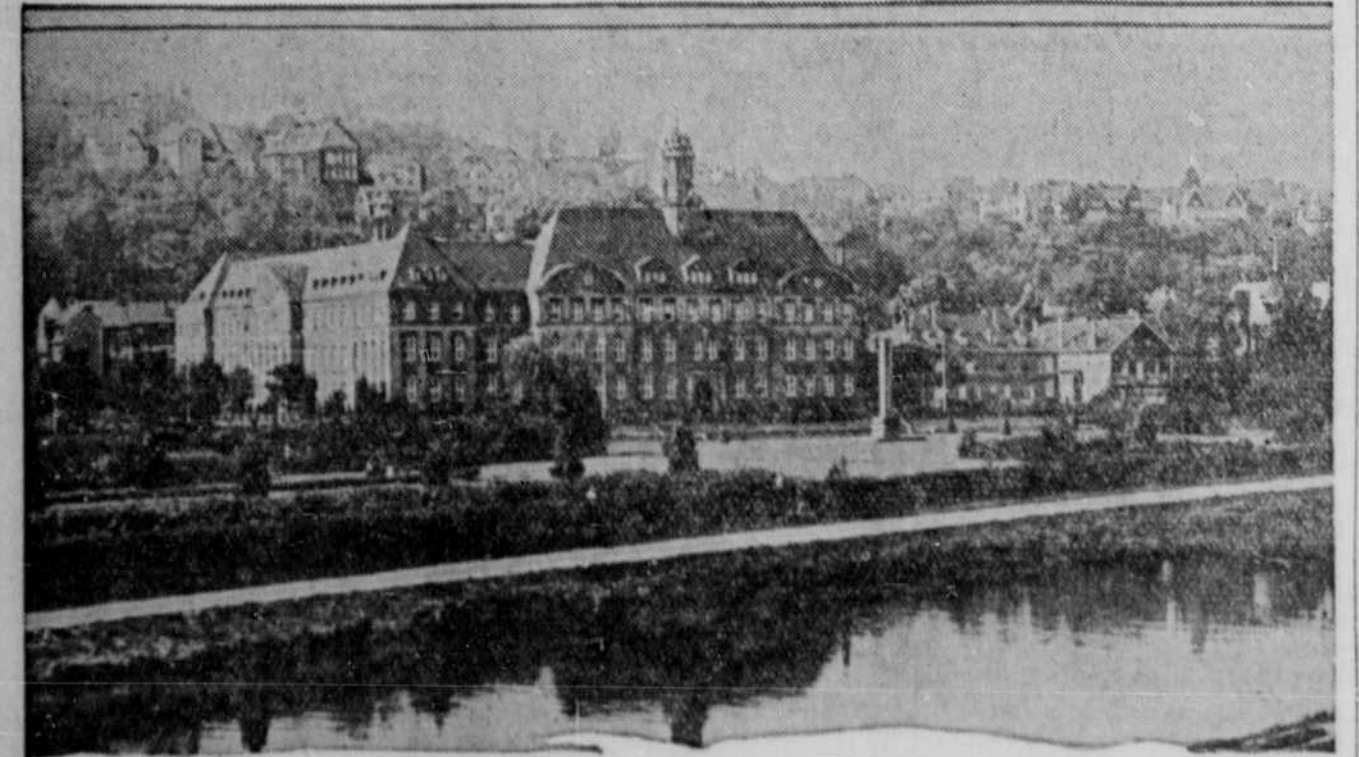
Washington.—Postmaster General James A. Farley said that for the first time since 1928 gift parcels will be delivered on Christmas day in all cities having regular delivery service.

No postal employees, however, will be compelled to work. Farley said a large number of substitute and temporary employees will probably be glad to receive the extra day's pay.

## Gigantic Water Lily in Texas Draws Attention

Austin, Texas.—A lily in one of the biological pools on University of Texas' campus has attracted the attention of zoologists because of its size. A blossom measured 52 inches in diameter. One of its floating leaves supported a child weighing 50 pounds. The lily is a Victoria Regia, said to be native to the Amazon river.

## Where Saar Plebiscite Commission Will Meet



The "neues landes gericht," palace in Saarbruecken, where the commission for the plebiscite of the Saar will meet in January, 1935. It is in this building that the present League of Nations commission sits.