

Royal Forests Outside Paris

Every Parisian has the chance to live like a king for a few hours at least, simply by wandering through the royal forests which stud the outskirts of this great city.

Scarcely a road can be taken out of the capital without arriving within an hour or two, at Versailles and Rambouillet or some former royal preserve — Versailles and Rambouillet to the southwest, Fontainebleau to the south, Chantilly to the northeast, and many others.

One is astonished that the kings and grandees built their country seats so close to each other, until he remembers that what seems close by automobile or train was far apart by horse and carriage.

The tourist knows these spots by the chateaux which grace them and the sculptured gardens of their parks, but less often by the wild forests which surround many of them, in which still live the rabbit, fox, deer, and boar.

In our own walks through the woods around Paris we have seen the tracks of rabbits, deer, and boar, but never a sign of a bear. Yet often, on my way to work in the morning between the Gare St. Lazare and Place Vendôme, I have been startled by the sight of one of these great trisly creatures of the forest, lying as though still alive, before the closed doors of a Paris restaurant.

These woods, open to all, Frenchman and visitor alike, have been "forever" dark and deep" beyond their wont this winter, their frozen ponds dusted with snow on which, it might be said, the footprints of a hunter and his dog were the only marks.

Winter struck early into the woods this year and stayed long, the coldest winter France has known this century. A few days ago a thaw came, the trees, shed of their sheaths of ice, stood out black in the swirling mist, and the frozen ground cracked into mud beneath one's feet.

We chose a stretch of woods new to us and in their depths we heard the baying of hounds, shouting, and the occasional blowing of trumpets, writes Harry Ellis in the Christian Science Monitor. Through the fog came the thudding of invisible hooves and scarlet-coated riders swooped into the mist. They stopped, listened, their horses steaming, and were gone.

Again, as we walked on, horsemen flitted by, half-hidden in the mist; they seemed everywhere in the woods; trumpets called them on, and they wheeled and disappeared.

Later we came upon groups of peasants, trousers tucked into the tops of heavy boots, clustered at clearings, staring down lanes.

DRIVE WITH CARE!

ELECTRICAL MIRACLES

Miracles of electricity have occurred within a lifetime. In 1921, a radio station broadcast 35 miles. In July, 1922, Telstar relayed European viewers, a distance of 5000 miles.

"BREATHE DEEPLY" — Ueno, a chimpanzee suffering from a sore throat and a cough, inhales a soothing preparation from a pressurized nozzle at the Tokyo Zoo.

GRIN AND BEAR IT — It appears that "Taffy," a Pomeranian dog, just bears it all with a grin as "Yogi," a Sun Bear cub, gets it in his head to lean Taffy's way. Cage mate, nameless Puma cub, walks away from the whole thing, saying "don't bother me, at a pet shop."

Parents Just Don't Seem to Care!

Parents ask themselves how youngsters could possibly commit some of the crimes of vandalism and authority-baiting charged to them. Well, here is a Portland story that may hold a part, at least, of the answer.

On the night of last Nov. 30, more than a score of youngsters, during the course of an all-night party, wrecked the interior of a penthouse apartment in the Travelers' Motel in North Portland.

Exactly who were the first glowers in professional baseball, not even Rawlins knows, but the field (no pun intended) seems to have narrowed to two men — either Doug Allison, a Cincinnati catcher, in 1869, or outfielder Charles C. Witt of St. Louis in 1875. Historians favor Witt, although definite proof is lacking.

Anyhow, the first glove wasn't much anyway — just flesh-tight leather similar to the gloves a man wears today on the street. But in the beginning, gloves were worn on both hands, with the fingers cut out of one covering the throwing hand, for obvious reasons, writes Ed Rumall in the Christian Science Monitor.

The fielders' glove came into general use about 1877, with credit going to Al Spalding. The year before Al and his brother had started a sporting goods company in Chicago, and the gloves were probably as much to develop sales as to protect the hands.

They say that the main reason for two gloves was that players always used both hands in catching a ball. History tells us that when Henry Luff of the Cincinnati club made a one-handed catch in an 1882 game, he was promptly fined the net size amount of \$5. Word is that he promptly quit the team, and who could blame him?

But Luff must have started something, because not long after that players were abandoning gloves on the throwing hand and padded fingers were making their appearance. By '91 a heavily padded catchers' mitt was introduced.

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Baseball Gloves And Their History

Power has been so accentuated in recent years in baseball that defense has been sadly neglected. As home runs popped over barriers in record-breaking numbers in the National and American Leagues, youngsters concentrated on their hitting and neglected their fielding.

But as recently as the final games of the 1923 season — the World Series involving the Yankees and Giants — fans were made keenly aware of the value of talented gloves and arms.

Defensive gems by Tom Tresh, Roger Maris, and Bobby Richardson sent the Yankees to victory in the seventh and deciding game, while the stylish Ralph Terry was pitching a shutout against the Giants.

Yes, the glove is vital a part of baseball as the ball and bat; and it was with this thought in mind that we invaded the Rawlins Sporting Goods Company plant in downtown St. Louis, to dig into the story behind the making of a glove.

My guide and informant on a tour of the plant was Ralph Horton, advertising manager of Rawlins.

Gloves, and sports equipment of all kinds, are old business with Ralph, but he's all excited at the moment over what Rawlins calls a "Golden Package."

The package includes a Stan Musial personal model glove, a copy of Stan's book on how to play baseball, a scroll listing all of his records, and a full-color picture of him, Horton told me.

He said that the package is suitable for framing.

"I think it's a tribute to Stan's popularity that we distributed more of these packages the first two weeks they were on the market than we expected to sell in a year. We just can't make them up fast enough."

It was a long road, however, before there could be such a product as the Stan Musial model.

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How Can I Give My Dog a Party?

Q. How can I give my dog a party?

A. By rubbing some cornmeal into his fur, and then combing it out.

Q. How can I keep my dog cool and free from mosquito bites?

A. Try wrapping the neck of a cloth thoroughly saturated with vinegar.

Q. What is a good way to do the dog for his refrigerator?

A. Try using an empty pound shortening can for this purpose. Unwashed, the can has just the right amount of shortening left in it to keep the dog from sticking, has no odor, and does not take up space in the refrigerator as would a pound of equal capacity.

EXECUTED — The body of Premier Abdel Karim Kassem is carried from the defense ministry in Baghdad, Iraq, following his execution after a hastily summoned court.

Murder By Mail — Easy To Get A Gun!

A 16-year-old boy from Fairfax, Va., ordered a snub-nosed .38 Caliber revolver from a California mail-order house specializing in weapons. While he and a 14-year-old were inspecting it, it went off, killing the younger boy.

A youth went to the Railway Express Agency to pick up a mail-order revolver. (The law presently allows guns to be ordered by mail but not to be delivered by mail); the REA theoretically asks recipients to prove they are 21, and sends names in advance to police in the area to keep them from convicted felons.

The youth in question had no trouble getting his lethal little weapon — the address he gave? — a vacant lot.

The Senate juvenile delinquency sub-committee under Chairman Thomas J. Dodd (D), of Connecticut, gave another case: a 16-year-old boy, who had been "deserted" by the insertion of a barrel block. But a metal rod easily knocked out the so-called "block."

Let us call on another recipient, Tom Jones. Jones has a record as juvenile delinquent. He is illiterate. He is 20. Under lax supervision about the same as in the rest of the United States he got his gun all right. He wanted it, he said, as a "gun collector."

And so the examples go. When committees investigate called on one youth, 21, and unemployed, he and gun were out. His wife told investigators, "He carries it with him so the kids can't get a hold of it."

Unemployment in America is now up 5.3 percent and rising, according to the California Unemployment bears heaviest on youth, the uneducated, and Negroes. Among boys under 21 the actual percentage of unemployed is probably 12 percent; among Negro youth perhaps 20 percent.

Unemployment breeds demoralization, street corner loafing, gangs, crime. Youngsters can get their weapons for the crime from mail-order houses specializing in the traffic.

"Anyone — virtually anyone — can get a gun," testified Sgt. Kenneth Carpenter of the Los Angeles Police Department. Another Los Angeles detective — Lt. Manuel Pena — observed:

"Guns are placed into the hands of juveniles, felons, aliens, narcotic addicts. . . . Virtually anyone, for a quick profit."

The subcommittee inquiry went particularly into mail-order deliveries from the California groups. But if a boy failed to get a weapon by mail he stands a fair chance of buying it locally. In many parts of America few questions are asked, writes Richard I. Strait in the Christian Science Monitor.

No other big country permits this. The motion pictures of no other country emphasize crime so regularly, or brandish guns so casually. Unemployment. . . . Mass media stressing violence. . . . Easy access to lethal weapons. The result goes almost without saying: It is murder by mail.

Any reporter who writes on this subject knows, over the years, of the almost instant reaction that will come from the small arms lobby. The National Rifle Association seems to be dedicated to the defeat of registration.

Europeans find it hard to believe the situation. America's murder rate is high partly because the weapon for acts of passion is everywhere.

A final statistic: Police checks of 200 recipients of mail-order guns in this city show 25 percent with criminal records; they had been delivered to "felons, minors and even mental defectives." Washington is typical.

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Mr. and Mrs. William Lint held their family dinner at their home December 23rd.

Miss Annie Keen is visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell Easton over the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. William Booth spent Christmas Day with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pendergast Grim.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Jepson had the Waldbrook and Jepson families as their guests on Christmas Day.

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