

# Peculiarities of French Pensions and "Pensionnaires"

ARTICLE XLVI

Dieppe, France, July 31, 1920.

The daily round in a French pension is very different from that of an American or English lodgings. The morning begins with a knock on the door about 8:15. Breakfast has arrived. Breakfast in bed? Yes, we have degenerated alarmingly. But then a French breakfast is not like an English or American one. Folks wouldn't bother to get up for it. All we get is safe nu lait—equal parts of coffee and boiled milk, with bread and butter. On this we must live until 12:30. What working people do I don't know. Perhaps reverence for custom doesn't prevent them from getting a square meal. Certainly it seems to me that the French breakfast is as much too light as the English is too heavy. Thank heaven we belong to a people who eat what they want when they want it.

When we first arrived we thought that French cooking had much more variety than English, but we aren't quite so sure of it now. We got different things at first, but those different things are the same old things by this time. Lunch invariably starts off with fish, since this is a fishing town, and they are as cheap as anything we can be fed. Then there will be meat, about two vegetables, bread, and cheese. At dinner, in the evening, soup appears instead of fish, and there is usually fruit of some sort with or instead of the cheese. As in England, butter does not appear at any meal with which there is not meat.

One feature of this diet which we appreciate is the vegetables. They are well cooked and well seasoned, and there is something besides cabbage. Salads, when we have it, is particularly good, though it is made simply enough—nothing but vegetables, oil, and vinegar. But we find it hard to get used to the way things are served. The meat comes on alone. We nibble at it, hoping that something else will come before it is all gone. Just as the last mouthful disappears, the potatoes arrive. When they are gone, the beans come. Apparently it is improper to have two dishes on your plate at once. Whether this is a general French habit or not, I cannot say from lack of broader experience. It doesn't seem very profitable from the proprietor's point of view, for I am sure we eat twice as much as we should if we were turned loose on a full meal. Waiting is hungry work.

Aside from the thirty or so "pensionnaires" who appear at meals and clutter up the parlor in the evenings, the family consists of Monsieur, about twenty-five. There is also a maid, who runs marathons every day, waiting on table, and a couple of ill-defined creatures who hover on the outskirts of the establishment, supposedly performing some vague duties

in the way of cleaning or scrubbing. Just where they exercise these functions I do not know. They haven't bothered us any. Still, we have been here less than three weeks.

Monsieur never does any work outside of the house, of that I am fairly certain. Just what he does inside I have not been able to find out, though I think I have seen him carrying chairs. At any rate, I associate him with chairs in some vague way. But you know how a man who stays around home does, by insensible degrees, become part of the furniture. Madame, to the best of my knowledge and belief, does most of the cooking. On the whole, we might be in worse hands, though I was pained to note, on being admitted to the kitchen, that the dish towels were a greenish grey, shading into dark black, and that the floor looked like the bottom of a soup plate. I refer to thick soup, not thin. This was especially distressing, since I had hazarded an opinion, soon after arriving, that France, or at least Dieppe, is cleaner than England. Now I think it is a standoff. One of our French fellow guests says that this is not a fair sample, but we notice that she continues to stay, and for her health at that.

But I'm sure you want to hear about Mademoiselle. She works as hard as anyone all day, running about in an old blue apron. But in the evening, at dinner time, she dresses up in all her finery, including furs and umbrella, comes into the dining room, and talks to the guests, playing the fine lady to perfection. I suppose she feels that she needs to do something of that sort to keep the English guests from making mistakes about her social standing. I fear that those same English guests are corrupting Mademoiselle, for they have their tea every day, and she has taken to having tea with them. Yesterday she remarked, in her broken English, but with a perfect imitation of the English manner, that she was simply dead if she did not have her tea.

We are leaving here today, as everything on the coast is filled up for August. On the whole we are not sorry to leave, for during the greater part of our stay the weather has been cold and wet—more like winter than summer. We are going to avoid Grenoble because it was hot; now we shall probably go there for that very reason. Whoever first talked of "sunny France" surely didn't have this part of it in mind.

J. H. BINNS

## DRAFT DESERTERS TO BE ROUNDED UP

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with a view to definitely settling their status and punishing the guilty. For this purpose, instructions were issued on December 23, 1918, to the

local draft boards to segregate from the 24,000,000 records of draft registrants those of men reported during the period of the war as draft deserters. The shipment to Washington of these records, amounting to 489,003 began in March, 1919. Investigation showed that a comparatively small proportion of the nearly half million men reported as draft deserters could be considered as wilful offenders.

In the reduction of this number, the following class of persons, numbering about 163,000 men, had their cases disposed of during the war:

(a) Registrants who enlisted in the army, navy or marine corps, but failed to inform their local boards of the fact.

(b) Men who failed to report for military duty, because of ignorance of the selective service act, but who, after learning of the seriousness of the offense, reported to military camps for service, and were restored to duty, after satisfactory showing that their offense was not wilful.

(c) A small number of persons, who during the progress of the war were convicted of desertion, or discharged as physically unfit for service.

(d) Registrants who died after their induction orders were mailed. Of the remaining 325,000 names, the records of 151,000 showed that they could not properly be charged with desertion, and the records of 173,000 registrants revealed that they had been ordered to report for military duty and wilfully failed.

Out of over 24,000,000 registrants the maximum number chargeable with wilful desertion is 173,911; considerably less than 1 per cent of the total registration, and a tremendous improvement over the draft record of the Civil war. The war department, in the near future, will publish to the country a list of men classified as wilful deserters, and desires to obtain the cooperation of the various state and local officials, patriotic societies and other agencies, including the department of justice, in bringing about the apprehension of these men. Assurances of such cooperation have in many cases already been given. Exact copies of the list of names, grouped by states or other convenient divisions will be available for postmasters, police stations and other agencies.

Pending publication of the list of deserters, any man charged with draft desertion who wishes to avoid the humiliation of arrest may voluntarily surrender at the nearest army post, camp or station, in order that his case may be investigated and his status definitely determined. In the event that any such man's case shall have been finally disposed of prior to the publication of the list of deserters, his name will be omitted from that list.

Any draft registrant who is in doubt as to his draft status may write to the adjutant general of the army, Washington, D. C., and find out how he is classified, notwithstanding the fact that ignorance of such status is the registrant's own fault, because of his lack of interest in keeping track of his obligations to the government.

The war department wishes it clearly understood that men who are guilty of wilful desertion will not be relieved of the consequences of their misconduct, nor will they be discharged merely because they write to the adjutant general of the army and request a discharge.

While the war department is prepared to give full information to the draft registrants requesting it, as to what evidence will be required in order to obtain a discharge, the documentary evidence required will be most rigidly examined when it is submitted, and must show conclusively that no injustice is done to the government in granting a discharge.

Draft deserters are men who registered, and who were ordered by the draft authorities to report for military duty at a specified time and place, and who did not so report. Such men are by law held to have been inducted into the military service of the United States, where they remain until they are discharged. They are subject to trial by courts-martial for their offense of desertion. Draft delinquents are men who were required by law to register, but who failed to register, or who, although they registered as required, failed to report for physical examination, or failed to return properly executed questionnaires.

These delinquents have not been inducted into the military service and consequently are civilians, not subject to trial by military courts. The department of justice is charged with bringing these offenders to punishment, and has indicted thousands of them before the federal courts, of whom a considerable number have been convicted. The offense of draft delinquency is no more to be overlooked than that of draft desertion. The department of justice has most ably co-operated with the war department in apprehending draft deserters.

The war department has temporarily suspended the payment of the reward of \$50 for the apprehension and delivery to military authorities of draft deserters because of the tremendous expense that would be incurred. The patriotism and universal desire of the people to see no draft deserter go unpunished, it is believed will be sufficient incentive without the offering of a reward for the apprehension and surrender to military authorities of these draft offenders.

## THURSTON COUNTY GRANGE PICNIC GRAND SUCCESS

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had a larger attendance than those closer in.

The registration books were closed during the entertainment and as the program closed Ray F. Lewis gave out the statistics as to the percentage of attendance from each Grange.

Grange	Members	Attend.	Pct.
Des Chutes	217	63	.29
Brighton Park	127	40	.31
McLean	109	13	.15
Alert	71	30	.42
Spurgeon Creek	50	12	.24
Prosperity	50	6	.12
Michigan Hill	46	7	.15
Rainier	40	—	—
Rainier	40	—	—
Skookumchuck	38	—	—
Chambers Prairie	32	15	.46
Pleasant Glade	32	13	.41
South Bay	30	13	.43
Little Rock	19	—	—
South Bay Juvenile	18	11	.61

Pleasant Glade, last year's winner of the attendance banner, now has to forfeit it to the South Bay Juvenile.

If you will notice, McLean, Pleasant Glade and South Bay all sent 13 members.

The Des Chutes Grange accepted the challenge of the McLean Grange and tried to get the State Base Ball Championship away from McLean but after fighting for five innings to a four to four tie they decided to quit and go dance for awhile. And since there was no winner the ball and bats revert to the Pomona Grange which will take charge of them.

At three o'clock the official State Grange Orchestra proceeded to start things with two hours of jazz in which everyone at the picnic that could shake a wicked hoof partook. Square dances for the young people who liked them, and trots and steps for the young people who liked them.

During the intermissions, the Des Chutes Grange Drill Team put on one of their beautiful drills. The drill was costumed in white, with sashes of pink and green and each one carried an armful of flowers.

Then Miss Gertrude Livingstone of Des Chutes Grange gave a classic dance which was enjoyed by all.

About five o'clock the crowd began breaking up, as most of them had farms to take care of and had to get home to them. A few stayed in the park and finished what they had left from dinner.

Through a mistake in the News it was announced that the Five-county picnic, to be held at Point Defiance park, would be held on the 20th. The picnic will be held on the 27th and everyone is invited. If Thurston County turns out as well there as at Priest Point, King, Pierce, Mason and Kitsap will have to look to their laurels.

A great deal of the credit of the success of the picnic goes to Mr. John Meixner who presided at the coffee boilers. And from what has been heard, he sure can make good coffee.

Let's all go to Point Defiance this year and then invite the Chamber of Commerce of Olympia to participate in a picnic with us next year.

## BEE DEMONSTRATION DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED

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opportunity of witnessing such a demonstration. The men conducting the demonstrations are bee specialists, and anyone interested in bees cannot afford to miss this program.

Those who have the Farm Bureau excursion signs which were used on the excursion to Puyallup might well use them again. The County Agent will be glad to supply windshield posters to Thurston county people attending the fair Thursday, August 26.

Canning Clubs to Contest. South Bay and Olympia canning club teams will meet at the Washington school, Olympia, Friday morning to compete for county honors.

The Potato club will be picked Saturday in the South Bay district. Garden club winners will be picked Monday.

A canning club demonstration occurs at South Bay today. A like demonstration was held at Rochester Wednesday.

Silo Building Demonstration. Professor A. B. Nystrom, county agent of King, will superintend the building of a wooden hoop silo on the farm of Ronald Kegley, Monday.



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August 30, as previously announced in the Standard.

Mr. Kegley lives on the South Bay road, four miles from Olympia. He is building a modern milking barn and working his old barn into a covered shed. The silo will be built of flooring, two thicknesses. Such silos are cheap and are giving entirely satisfactory results. Bring a hammer.

## BATTERY ADVICE TOO COMMON

"Battery advice is free," says C. Post, Willard Service Station dealer. "and, like all free products, it is a drug on the market. It is estimated that if a car owner would try to do all the things suggested by the trade papers, the car builders and the battery manufacturers, he would have no time to drive, to attend to business or keep up a speaking acquaintance with his family."

"As a matter of fact, a battery does not need a great deal of care, and the average driver gets good results by putting in a little water every week or so, and making regular calls at the service station. "It is always important to give a battery the right start, and the first thing every purchaser of a car—new or old—should do is to drive around to the service stations so that his battery could be registered and given the right sort of start toward a useful and active life."

## Blister Blowouts.

Bang!

The motorist stops his car and disgustedly gets out to examine the blowout. To his amazement the tire has not gone flat and the tread is still intact. Technically, this trouble is known as a "gum blowout." Pockets of air in the side wall, caused by obstructed puncture, simply reached the bursting point and exploded.

The facts of the case are, that a puncture is often partially sealed by the tread, so that air escapes very slowly. It may be that a nail, still

imbedded in the tread, assists in corking up the hole.

A slow tube leak results and air seeps through the fabric, according to Miller tire repair men. This air is imprisoned between the tread and fabric.

Each revolution of the tire acts like a force pump on this pocketed air, forcing it further and further from under the tread towards the side wall. Here it forms a blister, similar to a mud boil.

When the blister breaks, due to excessive pressure, a ragged hole is torn in the side wall rubber. Although the tear does not go through the fabric, it will result in serious damage to the carcass if it is long exposed to the road.

When a blister is noticed on the side wall, take the casing to a tire surgeon without delay.

## PREVENTION OF "FLAT-SOUR" IN CANNING VEGETABLES

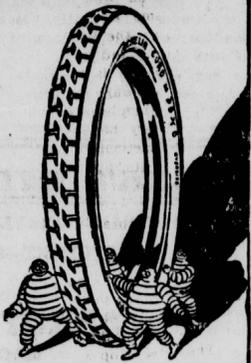
Canned corn, peas, beans, and asparagus may show no signs of spoilage to the eye, and still when opened may have a sour taste and a disagreeable odor. This trouble is known to the canner as "flat-sour," and can be avoided, United States Department of Agriculture canning specialists say, if the canner will use vegetables that have been gathered not more than five or six hours, blanch, cold-dip, pack one jar at a time, and place each jar in the corner as it is packed. The first jar will not be affected by the extra cooking. When the steam-pressure canner is used, the jars or cans may be placed in the retort and the cover placed in position but not clamped down until the retort is filled. Rapid cooling prevents overcooking, clarifies the liquid, and preserves the shape and texture.

Moonsnipers now use wireless to warn of the approach of revenue officers in the mountains of West Virginia and Kentucky.

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