Britain Plans Law to Preserve Old Houses; Would Check Removal by Americans

London—For the first time an attempt will be made by the government to restrict by law the removal from Britain of buildings of historic and national interest. A measure for this purpose is now in the hands of Parliamentary draftsmen and is expected to be introduced in the coming session.

The bill is designed to be an effective check upon the growing tendency on the part of wealthy foreigners, especially Americans, since the World War, to buy historic houses and other buildings and remove them piece by piece for reerection abroad.

Not long ago a piece of a fourteenth century England Cotswold cottage at Chedworth was taken down and packed into boxes. The dismembered cottage, weighing 475 tons, was placed aboard a train of sixty-seven cars and then shipped to America. The Earl of Powis's old half-timbered house at Lymore near Montgomery, built about 1675, without any alterations was scheduled as an ancient monument by the Office of Works, but the Earl's offer to the nation had to be refused because of lack of funds for adequate maintainance. The house was auctioned and was purchased by an antique dealer, who said much of the valuable oak paneling and the fine staircase would go to America.

Meanwhile, despite the proposed legislation, an Englishwoman, Mrs. Amy Adams, has announced she is going to America for the sole purpose of selling old English cottages to Americans. She said she already had bought a Hertfordshire cottage for shipment to America next year.

"Since the desire for old cottages has grown in America," she added, "I am going to buy and sell them."

When a building of historical or national interest comes under the provisions of the proposed bill, it will be illegal for the structure to be removed, not only out of England, but from its existing site. It is also expected that a check will be placed on stripping such buildings of their fittings.

Meat and Drink Once Sold by Yard

English Forebears Referred to Prussia as Sprucia as Late as 1614

"Meat and drink were sold by the yard once upon a time in Merrie England," remarked that delver into ancient customs, Dr. Frank Vizetelly. "In those days yard meant something prepared, and it was as common to speak of a yard of beef as it was to ask for a yard of cloth. Wine, ale and beer were served by the yard in a glass that stood thirty-eight inches high and contained two pints. The annual feast of the Corporation of Hanley in Staffordshire the initation of each member consisted of his swearing fealty to the organization and drinking a yard of wine—that is a pint of port or sherry—out of a glass one yard in length.

"A word that has a very interesting history is spruce with its double meaning (1)smartly or finely dressed' and (2) 'the fir tree' known as spruce fir. On its face, this word does not bear any resemblance to Prussia, yet on special occasions it was the custom among our forbears to deck one's self out in the dress of other countries. Men who adopted the particular dress of Prussia were arrayed in a style to which the epithet spruce might have been applied with perfect propriety. They were appareled after the style of Prussia, or, as it was commonly known and spoken of in those days, Spruce. The reason that Prussia should have been called Spruce instead of Pruce is to be attributed to the English fondness of inital S, which may have been drawn, in this case, from the German ras Preussen.

Where Puss Came From

"The domestic pet that competes nightly with radio songsters is commonly known by the popular name of puss. In Friar Bacon's 'Proprecie' it figures as 'pusca ' Minsheu spelled it pusse and the term was used for both a cat and a hare. Wergwood, an English theorizer in etymology, suggested that the name was given probably as an imitation of the sound made by a cat in spitting. Another scholar however, pointed out that the hare, when spoken of by those who used Latin, was called lepus. Others introduced the name carelessly into the Norman French, and later spoke a jumble of languages, of which Latin formed no small part, introduced the term which became a familar word, and was not long before the first syllable of the noun le was explained as the French definite article le, and lepus became le puss.

"Only the theoretical student of words would identify the gooseberry with St. John's berry, yet according to Fox Talbot in Germany, plants of this genus are known as Johannisbeeren, that is John's berries, because they are ripe about the time of he feast of St. John, midsummer. In Low German and in Holland the fruit named after him is Jans-beeren, and the word has been carelessly, andignormantly corrupted into Gans-beeren, of which our English gooseberry is a literal translation. Gans in German signifies a goose.

Curious History of Dupe

"The word dupe has a curious history. It originally meant a dove or pigeon, the most simple and guileless of creatures. Webster and Littre both claim that the word came from the old French name for the hoopoe, probably on the ground that Randle Cotgrave described dube as a hooper, a bird that hath on her head a great crest or tuft of feathers, and nestles in ordure.

"Even at the present day, trustful and simple persons are frequently called pigeons. The French have corrupted pigeon, used in the sense of dupe, into bejaune, a novice; a simple, ignorant, unexperienced ass; a rude, unfashioned, homebred, hoyden; a sot; ninie; dolt; noddie; one that's blanket and hath nought to say when he hath most need to speak; so Cotgrave wrote it into the record.

"Grimace is another word with which our simple scolars have loved to play. One of them derived it from grim. Menage claimed for it agrimemsor, a land surveror. Thomson looked to the Italian grimmacia, and if this be reliable, then it may come from the Spanish gimio, monkey, in Latin simia, but it should not be forgotten that grimaciers were formerly a company of artists whose duty was to carve the fantastic heads used in architecture, such as are frequently to be seen in our gargoyles, and Randle Cotgrave draws attention to this fact. But, in Old Saxon we have grima, a war mask, including the vizor of a helmet that concealed the warrior's face. Both the comic and tragic masks of the ancients were so distorted and ludicrous as to reproduce a facial expression.

"Our phiz comes from the French vis, the face, from the Latin visus, from viso, the visage or countenance. The chain from the ph to the v is confirmed by the word visomy used by Spenser for physiognomy in days when scholars did pretty much as they pleased with the language that they used. From the Old English vis we have vis-a-vis face to face.

Brewing Created the Stoker

"One etymologist says that the word stoker is from the Irish stoca, a servant boy; a helper, adding that the final a of other languages often becomes er in English, as in Spanish daga, English dagger. But the original stoker came from the Dutch, in which language it was a term used in brewing, and it appears in dictionaries of Bailey and Phillips—one looks after a fire, and some other concerns in a brewhouse. It is allied to the Middle Dutch stock, propably from the use by the stoker of a stock, or thick stick in stirring a fire and arranging the logs, and this is the same word as the Old French estoquer. Middle English stoken, to stab. A stock rapier was a stabbing rapier and so we see that from stabbing to stoking is but a step.

"The story of pier is also an interesting one, and Skeat traces it from he Anglo-French pere, a stone. It is defined as a mass of stone-work, forming a pier or pile of a bridge. Objections have been offered to this etymology of Dr. Skeat's on the ground that in the first place, the piers of bridges were very generally made of wood and not of stone, it would not have to be called simply a pier. The piers of a bridge are one thing and stones are another. The phrase a bridge with wooden piers is quite common.

"The real origin of pier is said to be altogether different from this. It meant originally a landing place on the seashore or the banks of a river and as seamen often landed from their ships at night. It was necessary to keep a light burning to guide them to the landing spot. This light was the pyr or pyre or beacon, a pier or lantern by the shoreside. From the pier or light at the end of a jetty, the sense was extended to include the landing place, and ultimately was applied to all structures built over water or raised from it, which were called piers.

Warlus Once Horse-Whale

"The horse-whale of old is the walrus of to-day. It is sometimes spoken of as the seahorse. In Iceland it is rendered kross-hvair. The name is said to have been given to it from the noise that the small animal makes, which is said to resemble the neighing of a horse.

"The term asparagus is one of doubtful origin. It has been traced to the Latin from the Greek asparagos. In Medieval Latin it occurred as sparagus, and was found in English in the form sparagi as early as the year 1000. One scholar traces it to asparagous, the windpipe. Cotgrave explains the French esperge, as "the herb sparage or spargus," which Skeat pronounced mere corruptions of the Latin word. The French aspereges is a holy water sprinkler, a term derived from the Latin aspergere, to sprinkle, yet the asparagus of modern times scarcely seems suited for the purpose of sprinkling, much less so when tied up in bunches.

"The etymology of the word pansy is traced by Skeat to the French pensee, a word from which we get the beautiful idea of 'the flower of thought or remembrance,' yet our friends, the etymological scholars, will not allow that pansy is to be traced to panacea, for the panacea of the Greeks was the most celebrated herb—panakeia, signifying 'all-heal;' hence, a remedy for all diseases, and the author of this bright thought advises us to consider the other name of the plant in support of his point of view—heart's-ease, that is, a cure for all woes.

Lindbergh's Light

Lindbergh Beacon, most powerful searchlight in world, recently placed upon top of Palmolive building in Chicago, from where its light shaft carries for many miles.

28 Nations Sign New Peace Pact

Project Assures Financial Aid to Invaded Nation

Geneva—Action taken during the present meeting of the League of Nations indicated as the session neared a close on October 2nd that the League was firmly convinced that war-like penalties constitute the best guarantee of security and peace.

Two developments pointed to this conclusion. The first was the adoption and signature of the convention for financial assistance to invaded nations in time of war and the second was the rejection by the assembly of a project to modify the League covenant and harmonize it with the Kellogg Pact outlawing war.

Twenty-eight nations signed the convention offering financial assistance to invaded countries. Of these 22 were European countries. There were five abstensions — Germany, Italy, Hungary, Switzerland and Luxemburg.

Under the convention the League will be able to utilize immediately the weapon of economic isolation against any invading nation. The League can strengthen an invaded nation with loans and renewed economic assistance.

Many experts expressed the conviction that this would be sufficient to stifle war.

Friend—"What's the matter with your thumb?" Victim—"I hit the wrong nail."

Fascist Italy Bans the House-Fly And Orders New Rules Enforced

The house fly, which is, along with the mosquito, one of the chief pests in France and Italy where windows are unscreened, will no longer find toleration in Fascist Italy. Mussolini's government began its campaign against the fly a year ago, directing attention toward the breeding places and stating that extermination indoors was by no means an effective method of prevention.

But the public has not responded to the Fascist order with the whole hearted enthusiasm expected of it. A new order has now been issued to the prefects of the kingdom reminding them that the campaign of prevention is to be strictly enforced along the lines outlined previously by Professor Antonio Berlese, head of the Entomological Institute of Florence.

Professor Berleses's directions demand attention to the fact that flies deposit their eggs on decaying matter and, if their larvae are to hatch out, this matter must remain undisturbed for a period of two weeks. All refuse that cannot be destroyed should be attacked in the Spring, being sprayed with a solution of molasses, arsenic and water. The flies are readily attracted by the mixture and feeding eagerly upon it die within an hour. It is essential however, that the spraying should be kept up regularly throughout the Summer, which is the breeding season.

The Berlese method has been successfully used at the Summer resort of Montecantini, by the hotels on the Lido, and a large tuberculosis sanitarium near Milan, as well as the Royal Palace of San Bossore, near Pisa. Professor Berlese has guaranteed to keep a town as large as Florence completely free from flies within a three-miles radius if his method of treatment is rigorously applied. Under the new Fascist order to the prefects of Italy the Berlese method is to be put into force. All heaps of refuse, all town, village or city dumps, all manure heaps on farms, as well as butcher shops, slaughter houses and other places which flies are likely to infest are to be protected against fly incubation.

Ontario Centre Of Flour Industry

The chief centre of the flour milling industry in the Dominion is Ontario. This province with a production value of $106,486,000 in 1928, accounts for more than one-half of the total production of the Dominion. Quebec, Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan are responsible for almost the entire balance. Among the four, Quebec comes first, with a production of $29,338,000; Alberta second, with $21,005,000; Manitoba third, with $18,788,000; and Saskatchewan fourth, with $15,781,000. The other two provinces, in which the milling industry figures among the leading industries, are British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, in each of which the production value is under $2,000,000.

The expansion of Canada's milling industry during the war was due to the export trade, and Canada has since then held her own among the flour exporting countries of the world. To-day, Canada is exceeded as an exporter of flour only by the United States. Since the opening of the century, export of flour by the Dominion has multiplied more than tenfold. In the fiscal year 1900, exports of wheat flour from Canada amounted to only 768,000 barrels. Ten years later they totalled 3,064,000 barrels. In 1920, they amounted to 8,863,000 barrels, while for the fiscal year 1929 they were 11,406,000 barrels. In the fiscal year which closed in March last there was a decline, owing to the general slackness of the grain trade, to 7,893,000 barrels. It is clear, however, from comparative figures, that over a period of years Canada has been advancing as a flour exporting country, while the United States has scarcely held her own. As evidence of this, it may be stated that, while in 1928 the flour exports of the United States were 430,000 barrels less than in 1913, these exports from Canada were 5,843,000 barrels greater than in the year before the war.

Wash the Soap First

When washing in public places, do you ever think of examining the soap before using it? If it is not a fresh tablet, have you wondered whether the person using it before you was in a good state of health or whether that person was suffering from some skin disease? Be on the safe side, therefore, by washing the soap first, and guard the health of others by washing the soap after you have used it.

Kind Old Gentleman—"How did you lose your eye, my poor man?" Tramp—"Lookin' fer work, sir."

Teacher—"Now, Peebles, tell me which month has twenty-eight days." Peebles—"They all have, teacher."

Mennonite Exodus Stopped by Soviet

Soviet Demands Return of 30,000 Memmonites Who Await Chance to Emigrate to Canada

Paris,—Soviet Russia is writing another tragic chapter in the pitiable story of the Mennonite exodus.

Some months ago 30,000 Mennonites were colleted in a forest on the outskirts of Moskow, awaiting permission to leave the territory of the Soviet republic. Their land had been expropriated. Their rights granted by Peter the Great and Catherine had been repudiated, and their goods had been dispersed. In spite of difficulties and a charge imposed on migrants of $150 for a passport, about 6,000 Mennonites reacred the German frontier, mostly on foot. They found shelter in an abandoned military camp. The Red Cross kept them from starvation.

Stubbornly the set aside other projects, determined to reach Canada, where the advance guard of their movement had landed in 1925 and 1928. Separated, they felt they would be lost. They had settled in Russia in 1701.

Their numbers had grown to 3,000,000, chiefly on the Ukraine, and they had helped to make it one of the richest wheat belts in Russia. The tragic sequence of events in their experience during the past year is lost if it is forgotten that their determination was to remain united in migrating to Canada, a country which has always proved hospitable to their people

In the meantime the centralized economic system of the Soviets spread inexorably from the cities to the country. Soviet commissioners issued these decrees:

(1) Enrolment of the Mennonite youths in the Red army.

(2) Inventory and seizure of the summer's crop and stocks of cereals.

(3) Order to speak Russian and teach in the schools.

(4) Prohibition of old agricultural methods and obligation to follow Soviet organization of agriculture.

Tragic Experience

The Mennonites resolved to quit the inhospitable country en masse. The Soviet government began its measures of repression.

All authorization to leave the country has now been definitely refused. The Soviet is demanding that the German Government deport the escaped Mennonites who are encamped at Konig. There, under the most heart-rending conditions, these unfortunate people have for months been waiting for a chance to get to Canada.

But the Soviets are inexorable. They consider the Mennonites fugitives as Russian citizens who must answer for insubordination. For the Mennonites return to Russia means the abandonment of all hope.

Peacock Feathers Arrives

Tacoma, Wash.—A large shipment of peacock feathers from China arrived here recently on the Hiro Maru These gaily colored plumes are used in making of fans, drapery and other decorations. It is considered unlucky for Chinese to handle peacocks or the feathers, so Manchu laborers are employed on the pea fowl ranches. The feathers were consigned to New York.

Golfer—"Terrible links, caddy, terrible!" Caddy—"Sorry, sir, these ain't links—you got off them an hour ago."

"Father," said Clementina, "do you enjoy hearing me sing?" "Well," was the answer, "I don't know, but it's rather soothing in a way. It makes me forget my other troubles!"

In an English examination paper a class of small girls was asked for the opposite of certain words. In one paper the opposite to "permanent" was given as "Marcelle." This is only the counterpart of a notice seen in a hairdresser's recently, which declared:—"I, the undersigned, do hereby guarantee that any permanent wave executed by us will last for at least six to ten months."

Storm Wrecks Fury on Trees

Street in Germantown, Pa., after trees had been uprooted by an electrical storm that lashed the city with intense velocity.