

PICTURES DAY AT TUILLERIES

J. Melville Brown Describes
Parisian Scenes

EDITOR'S NOTE—WINNETKA TALK has received another letter from J. Melville Brown, pioneer resident of the north shore who, with his family, is making a tour around the world. Several other letters which he has written have appeared in these columns—letters from the Orient. This one is dated Paris, France, May 15, 1925.

BY J. MELVILLE BROWN

"It is a charming afternoon", reads the letter, "and the long vista of the Tuilleries is a lovely sight to behold. So we hire some of these hard-bottomed seats, at 20 centimes each—or one cent—that we can move about with the shifting shadows, and let our thoughts flow along with the moving panorama. A soft wind like an ocean zephyr bends the bushes and the grass retains its springtime freshness untouched by summer's heat and blighting drouth. Radiant tulips are a riot of color amidst a surrounding sea of blue violets, wide-eyed pansies and pensive forget-me-nots, and gentle daisies hide in the grass like little children playing in a meadow.

Palace Picturesque Scene

"The old palace stands grim and gray, eyes, and there are hundreds closed in sleep, touched by the wind's caress. Cunning children, like animated dolls, build mud mansions, as they will dream air castles when grown older. The fountains are oceans across which clipper ships scud under white sails and we wonder how many of these young mariners will some day sail their own argosies over greater seas.

"The old palace stands grim and gray, its roof black with aging time, but its long even outline still impressive and picturesque against the sky. A vivid imagination is not needed to people these stately halls and corridors with ghosts of long ago. And if ghosts there be, how those of the old aristocrats must fidget and fume as they peer from the shadows at these magnificent lawns made into common playgrounds.

"But how the people love them, enjoying the sunshine and shadows, little woods and fountains and even the stone statues of the old tyrants, as if trying to make up for the cheerless centuries when their forebears had only their hovel walls. Children play in glee; old men bask in the sunshine and contentedly smoke their pipes; women knit busily as in the days of Madame Defarge, but record us in sinister sentences among their stitches; trim nurses read and keep watchful eyes on their charges and an old man passes by throwing invisible molecules to the twittering sparrows flocking at his heels—soon they are lost to sight, another sort of a Pied Piper.

Burn—Canonize Prophets

"It is a long perspective from the palace to the great Arch of Triumph.

The tall obelisk half way between cuts into a sky as blue as any that ever dazzled above old Egypt, its earlier home. We look across to the Rue de Rivoli where St. Joan of Arc sits gleaming on her bronze horse and recall that only last Sunday marching processions buried her in flowers and wreaths of white lilies. What a curious habit this older world has had of burning its prophets and canonizing them afterward.

"Back of us is a low gray building stretching from the Louvre to the Place la Concord and housing the Salon of 1925. If we are not enthusiastic over this collection it is because we have just left a more inspiring one in Rome. But we admit to being old-fashioned and that 10 minutes before Millet's "Angelus" in the Louvre brings more thrills.

An Evening in Paris

As the coming night stretches lengthening shadows homeward the Eiffel tower grows into a filmy tracery against the amber sky and in the opposite direction the towers of the Notre Dame are a painter's dream in the gray dusk. We turn again to the old palace and the sun's last rays linger lovingly on the stone cupids who in turn look down on the noisy images of cardinals and kings on the long balcony. Children still play and the stone lady still drives her chariot and four horses on the old Arch of Triumph. Along the streets the sidewalk tables are crowded with happy, chattering throngs and the roar of busses and honking of cars are a noisy symphony of sounds that soften into a crooning cry of a vast city over its tired children.

Howard Wells' Pupil Wins National Honor

William Beller, the Chicago pianist, an artist pupil of Howard Wells, has just won the first prize in the national contest held at Portland, Ore., by the National Federation of Music Clubs. This is a distinction which carries with it a \$500 prize and various concert appearances before music clubs. Mr. Beller's friends on the north shore will be glad to hear of his success. Mr. Wells resides at 1208 Forest avenue, Wilmette.

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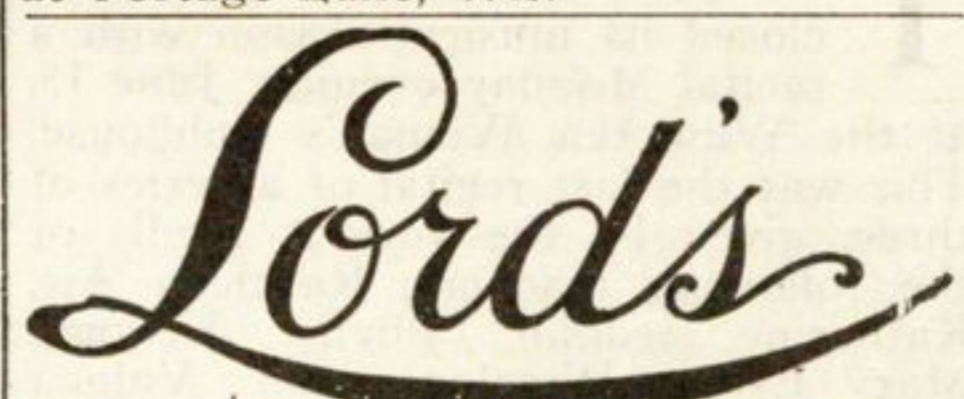
Uncle Sam is helping to build roads so fast that when he turned the corner into 1925 he had placed under construction nearly one-third of the total mileage of the main interstate and intercounty highway system provided for in the Federal Highway act approved November, 1921, according to the touring bureau of the Chicago Motor club.

Of the 174,350 miles of roads in the federal aid system, 54,950 miles had been placed under construction up to January 1, at a cost which will total \$452,880,311 to the federal government, according to figures furnished to the club.

Of the mileage which had been placed under construction up to the beginning of the current year, a total of 42,828 miles had been completed, leaving a balance of 12,127 miles actually under

construction at the beginning of the year. It is anticipated that of this amount, fully 10,000 miles will be completed before January 1, 1926.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Smythe and family of 43 Kenilworth avenue, left this week for their summer home at Portage Lake, Wis.



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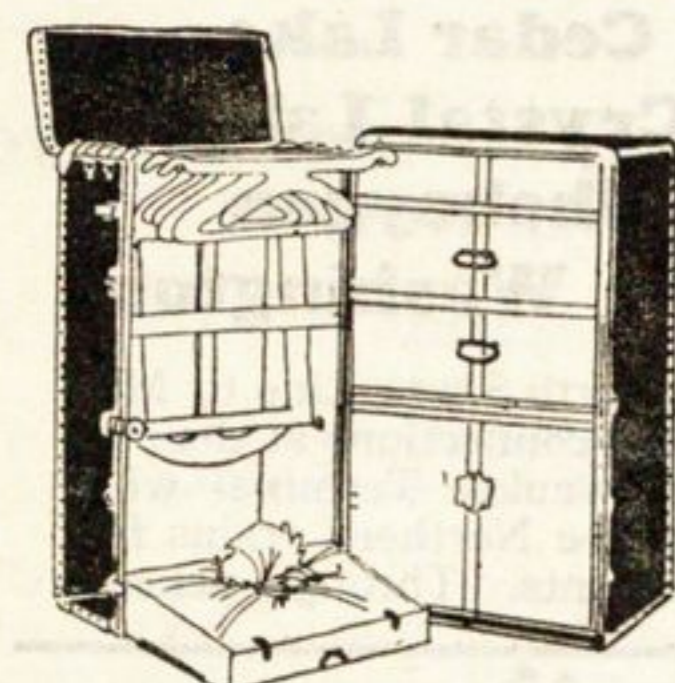
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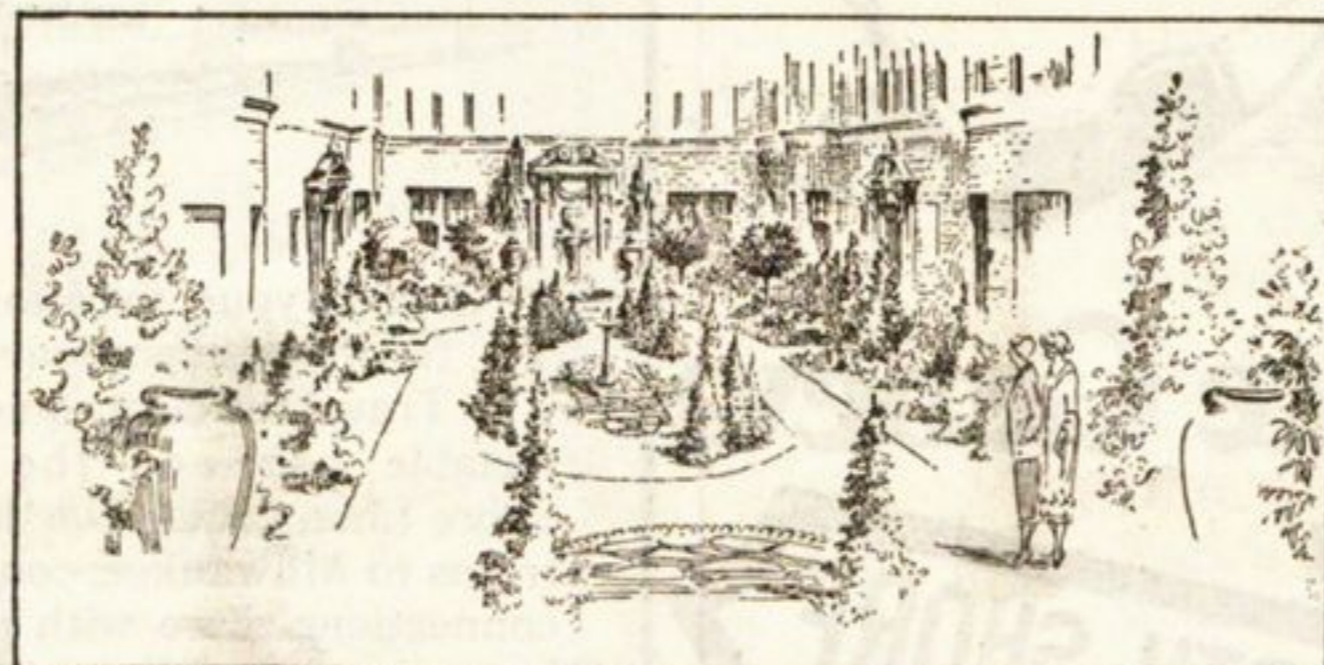
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