

HOMES—AND HOMES

To say that the orphaned children are the most fortunate would be to state the matter too strongly. But certain it is that some orphans have an advantage in that the right sort of homes are chosen for them by experienced and kindly supervisors of the asylums or other institutions that have undertaken responsibility for the child's well-being. The child who lives with his own parents is subject to whatever conditions happen to prevail in the particular home he has been born into, says the Boston Herald. If he has been allotted wise and considerate parents, willing to create a helpful atmosphere, the child is, indeed, blessed. If he has drawn foolish, inconsiderate and selfish parents, he is far worse off than the orphaned wail, who is placed in a carefully selected home, there to be properly trained and nurtured. It is a pity that every child cannot have a proper home with his own mother and father. But, of the two classes of "orphans," those whose parents are dead and those whose parents are false to them, the former are not always the worse off.

A writer in the Christian Science Monitor says: "Several years ago, when I was working for a moving picture company, an organization of writers asked me to talk to them about writing for the screen. The only thing I said was that the best way to write for the screen was to forget the screen and write as well as they know how. Anything less than God, I pointed out, would be unfair to both the writer and the screen. Unless the screen could make use of the writer's finest work he would be doing himself a grave injustice to take it into consideration. Moreover, the screen, though it had not then discovered the fact, was in dire need of real literature, literature embodying American ideas and ideals, and writing done to measure would prevent the screen from developing to a point where it would be the author's servant and not his master."

"There are a million varieties of size, style and kinds of shoes made in the United States; 6,004 of axes; 7,302 of firearm cartridges; 280 of United States flags," says W. A. Durgin, a Chicago business executive, who has temporarily given up his private concerns to be a special assistant to Secretary Hoover in elimination of the waste in industry. "The waste in six leading industries is placed at 40 per cent," continued Mr. Durgin in emphasizing the fundamental economy that should go a long way toward making American industry prosperous. "Forty per cent of the capital, material, labor, mental effort just thrown away with nothing to show for it. Even if this is only half right it means \$1 out of every \$5 destroyed."

College graduates get a lot of "kidding" because of the widespread notion that they are puffed up and expect the world to fall at their feet. The Christian Science Monitor suggests that this is not true of the college graduate. The Monitor probably is right. Most nationally accepted notions are false. El Howe, the famous country editor, writes: "Does a red flag really bring a bull? We are always talking about it, but did you ever personally know a bull to take after anything red?"

Robins, thrushes, finches, nuthatches and all kinds of song birds and insect-eaters which are protected by law and never killed by Americans are being slaughtered by thousands by foreigners who obtain hunting licenses illegally and believe that the licenses authorize them to kill anything, according to John B. Burnham, president of the American Game Protective association.

A Chicago man got fined a dollar in a police court for swearing at undertakers who were about to begin work on him. He should have waited until they finished their job, and then sworn out a warrant against them.

Harvard astronomers announce that the diameter of the universe is six times as long as it was formerly supposed to be, but even at that there does not seem to be any place where a man can throw his old safety razor.

Don't write a letter of protest to your postmaster if you get a twenty inch alligator in your morning mail. He may not be welcome, but he is entirely legal, according to the latest ruling of the Post Office department.

An American soldier who deserted at Coblenz and turned up in Moscow has asked to be sent to Leavenworth. He appears to have discovered that American punishment is better than soviet freedom.

Soviet propagandists in the United States might well curb their enthusiasm until sovietism in Russia manages to provide at least one square meal a day for all Russians.

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