

# MANY PLACES IN U. S. NAMED FOR GEN. LAFAYETTE

N. Y. Times.

Geographic names of French origin in the United States stand as permanent monuments to the historical period when a large part of our territory was held by France, according to Dr. Henry G. Bayer, author and Associate Professor of French at New York university. A list of localities, rivers, lakes and islands which bear names of French origin would reach enormous proportions were it possible to compile it, Dr. Bayer declares. Many more, he says, have been anglicized and others corrupted beyond recognition.

A list of some 5,000 American geographical names with descriptions of their French origins has been prepared by Dr. Bayer. His work is the result of several years of research and will form the basis of a book to be published this fall under the title, "French Names in the Geography of the United States."

In an article in the current Romance Review Professor Bayer describes a few of the names taken at random from his forthcoming book. Some of the French names in his list appear in many states. LaFay-

ette, for instance, appears 150 times in the geography of the nation, although sometimes it is shortened to Fayette. More than fifty towns, townships, counties, lakes and streams are named Paris.

The Mississippi valley, according to Dr. Bayer, contains more geographical names of French origin than any other section of the country. LaSalle, who first explored the river, has cities and towns named in his honor in Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and other states. The French Jesuits—Marquette, Charlevoix and Lelande—likewise have many cities and towns named for them in the valley.

The names of Allouez, Boyer, Girardeau, Champlain, Chateaugay, Courtableau, Duchesne, Fairbault, Fremont, Jogues, Laclede, Lesueur, Marquette, Montour, Nicolette, Perreault, Verendrye and hundreds of others who helped to open up the wilderness of the New Continent, can be found in the geography books. Juneau, the capital of Alaska was named for Joseph Juneau, a gold prospector. Stephen Girard, a native of France who became one of the wealthiest men in America and who advanced several million dollars to the United States treasury during the War of 1812, has the town of Girardsville, Pa., named after him. Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, North Dakota and Ohio have towns named Napoleon, while New York and Iowa have Bonapartes. Iowa has a Tallyrand. Louis XVI had Louisville, Ky., named for him.

Many Indian tribes received French names which in turn became geographical appellations. Huron, the name of places in many states, is from the old French "hure," which means rough hair on the head and was bestowed upon a tribe of Indians because of their unkempt appearance.

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## Welcomes Brevity In Modern Speeches

Hopes That All Orators Will Take Tip From Introduction By Gardner.

Chapel Hill Weekly.

At the recent ceremonies connected with the new gigantic Empire building in New York ex-Governor Alfred E. Smith's speech consisted of about 26 words.

At Kings Mountain on Tuesday of this week, according to the stop-watch held by Charles Parker, the News and Observer correspondent, Governor Gardner spoke just 25 seconds in introducing President Hoover. He told the throng that here was that "distinguished chief executive, Herbert Hoover," and sat down. Which is the shortest introduction we ever heard of except the one made by a cabinet officer, whose name we forget when he introduced President McKinley by saying: "Gentlemen, the president."

Governor Gardner deserves unstinted praise for his forbearance at Kings Mountain. What he said was entirely adequate, and his prompt subsidence was a gracious and considerate act.

In North Carolina annals the great classic in the way of introductions is the speech that Colonel Kirkpatrick made in presenting President Wilson to a Charlotte audience—a speech the fame of which goes ringing down the years. The Colonel talked on and on, and used up so much time that the president's remarks had to be cut short. Charlotte citizens still shudder when they recall the episode.

President Hoover's address at Kings Mountain was only 22 minutes in length. We are gratified to read that it "was far different from the 'blood-and-thunder orations of other Kings Mountain celebrations.' That is negative commendation but still it is something. Twenty-two minutes of commonplace talk is certainly far better than the hour or more which usually has to be endured on patriotic occasions.

The truth is, of course, that nobody goes to a jamboree of this sort to hear a speech. Whoever is really interested in the speech can get a much better understanding of it by reading it in the newspapers next day. What people go for is the stir and general hullabaloo—the crowd, the bands, the marching, and the sight of a celebrity. Therefore, the less speaking the better. Mr. Parker's report says: "The human mass on the mountainside had gathered to see the president; when it had seen him it had other business. The mass began to writhe and melt away. Before the brief address was ended, gaping spaces of brown earth dotted the slope."

We pray that the recent examples

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## Col. Woods to Help Solve Unemployment



Colonel Arthur Woods, former police commissioner of New York, has been asked by President Hoover to undertake a solution of the national unemployment problem, as he did for President Harding in 1921.

(International Newsreel)

of brevity in speech making mark the beginning of a new era of mercy. Long speeches are a plague of the first magnitude.

**NOTICE.**

Effective October 31st, 1930, the schedule leaving Shelby at 6:50 p. m., arriving in Charlotte 8:30 p. m., and leaving Charlotte 9:00 p. m., arriving Shelby 10:45 p. m., on Saturday and Sunday only will be discontinued.

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## Prize Similes Of This Year Given

(Syracuse Post-Standard.)

The author of "A Dictionary of Similes" makes an annual addition to the list. His findings among the similes of 1928 are now made known. So carefully does he harvest his crop each year that it can properly be taken for the best to be found in the English language. In evidence here are samplings therefrom, in each instance accompanied by the name of the writer responsible for their creation. Thus:

As empty as the library of an Elks club.—Percy Hammond.

Scarce as a stenographer with cotton stockings.—H. C. Groth.

As monotonous as the second visit to a night club.—Tom Mason.

As noisy as an oed gliding through a pool of oil.—Tony Sarg.

She is as popular as a suppressed novel.—Sidney Skolsky.

As out of date as the rustic of a skirt.—Charles G. Shaw.

Short as a microbe's shadow.—Arthur (Bugs) Baer.

I slept like a cornerstone.—Sir Austen Chamberlain.

About as necessary as another leg to a centipede.—F. A. Jusallite.

Vague as a Bronx dweller's idea of Brooklyn.—Charles Darnot.

Characterless as a restaurant lemon pie.—Irvin Cobb.

Common as pickles in a delicatessen.—H. C. Witwer.

Dry as a three-time widow's handkerchief.—Will Rogers.

Mentally three pounds lighter than a straw hat.—Arthur James.

Steady as the Leviathan in dry dock.—Homer Croy.

Inseparable as a commuter and his newspaper.—Anna Farnum.

Low as the insteps on a duck.—George D. Lottman.

## Lower Cleveland Personal Mention

(Special to The Star.)

Shelby, R-2, Oct. 30.—The farmers are almost through with the cotton picking and are trying to get their wheat and oats sown.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon Blanton and children spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Blanton.

Mr. Andrew Blanton and sisters attended the pound party that was given at their sister's, Mrs. Erwin Guffey Saturday night in the Pleasant Hill community.

Those who were the guests at Mr. G. B. Blanton's Sunday were: Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon Blanton and children, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Blanton and children, Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Earl.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tullah and son were the guests Sunday of Mrs. Bun Runyan.

Little James Newton Tullah is spending a few days with his grandmother, Mrs. Bun Runyan.

A jazz band plays every day at a London railway station. The idea is to encourage passengers not to loiter about and miss their trains.—The Humorist (London.)

High school students have a bad habit of asking dadies intricate questions and strange to say, daddies usually too busy to take the time to answer them.

One difference between a politician and a statesman is that the former gives the people what they want in a hurry, and the latter makes the people like what he wants them to have.

We are unfamiliar with the nomenclature of Tom Thumb golf courses, but assume that an eagle becomes a June bug and a birdie a flea.—Weston Leader.

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