

# RULES OF LIFE OF THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC SHOW SIMPLICITY

France's new President, Paul Doumer, writes Sisley Huddleston in "The Christian Science Monitor," is very little known abroad. In France itself, he is not as well known as a dozen other men that might be mentioned. In order to be chosen a President, it is not necessary that a Frenchman be well known, either abroad or in the country; it is only necessary that he be known in Parliamentary circles. For in Parliament—Chamber and Senate united—which alone decides who shall be President of the republic for a period of seven years.

In Parliament Paul Doumer has long been conspicuous. Over forty years ago he was marked as one of the serious workers. He took pains to inform himself on many subjects, and he spoke with authority. He could draw up a good report, accurate and illuminating. In short, he had precisely the qualities appreciated in Parliament.

His Governor Generalship in Indo-China was noteworthy for extensive reform, sound administrations and personal dignity. His Presidency of the Chamber further demonstrated his industriousness and conscientiousness. As minister he was rigidly economical and unquestionably competent. Finally as President of the Senate he carried himself with a grave simplicity that particularly appeals to the French.

Smiles With Difficulty  
M. Doumer has not perhaps the jovial smile of the retiring President, Gaston Doumergue. Many years ago, Lord Northcliffe said to a reporter: "It is no good telling us of King Alfonso's smile—that is not news. If you can tell us that he did not smile, that will be news." With such a text one might be tempted to make some obvious remarks on the conception of news which prefers a frown to a smile; but the digression must be avoided. The present point is that all rulers, whether presidents or kings, are expected to smile.

M. Doumergue was popular because of his smile. M. Doumer smiles with more difficulty. He wears a sober but not a somber air. He has not the bonhomie of his predecessor, but he is nevertheless, good-humored. In reality, M. Doumer is the perfect type of serious Frenchman. At five o'clock in the morning he is at his desk. In the old-fashioned way, he writes his letters himself. He carefully reads every document that is submitted to him.

Later in the morning, after breakfast, it has been his custom to descend to the public rooms of the Petit Luxembourg, which he has inhabited, and to work in his cabinet with his secretaries. The news of the whole world is passed in review. The rest of the morning is devoted to visitors; and after a simple repast M. Doumer, when he is not presiding, again works with his assistant until evening.

In the evening, M. Doumer seldom goes out. The theatre has had no attractions for him; he has always avoided receptions. He reads a good deal particularly history.

It would appear, therefore, that M. Doumer is particularly austere, and indeed the legend of his austerity has begun to circulate. Yet, if a personal testimony be permitted, it has happened to me to lunch in his company, and I have found his conversation varied and agreeable, full of charm and wit, and by no means depressingly solemn.

Mme. Doumer has been the most self-effacing of wives. She has never pretended to play a part in the public life of the President. She is affable, but makes no secret of her preference for the family and not for society.

## His Rules are Simple

When she was at the Petit Luxembourg, the residence of the President of the Senate, she never appeared in the bureau of her husband. She never even went out by the front door, but chose the way of the garden, in order not to attract attention to herself. She has brought up a family of seven; four sons were killed in the war. For those sons, Paul Doumer wrote a book. One chapter entitled "Precept and Counsels" gives an excellent idea of the French bourgeois. If Paul Doumer had wished to paint the portrait of himself, he could hardly have succeeded better. He told his sons to do their duty, to be brave, physically and morally, to act, to be laborious, to be disciplined, and to safeguard the dignity of their lives. "Do not hesitate to show respect to persons and things which are respectable."

"Love truth," he continued; "be in everything true, simple and natural. Be sincere, frank, loyal and upright. Be moderate, discreet, reserved and modest."

It is likewise characteristic of the methodical, prudent, bourgeois Frenchman that, leaving nothing to inclination or what is called chance, he should lay down rules for marriage. "Let reason as well as love, direct you in the choice of your companion. Look for rectitude, goodness and moral health....Work for your family; provide it with a material life as comfortable as you can, but above all give it a beautiful and noble moral life." And here is a phrase which is indeed French, and could, I suppose, hardly be written by anybody but a Frenchman: "Open your house to intimate and sure friends, but open it only to them."

One may consider the maxims of Paul Doumer, as excellent or as poor; but, since Benjamin Franklin wrote, no maxims have been more curiously revelatory to their author.

Lima Beane says the height of fashion is lower.

# BRIDES IN WHEELBARROWS ARE DELIVERED IN CHINA

Boston, July 2—If you are a Chinese and you want to deliver your grandmother to a relative in Ningpo, you just hand her over to the Min-chu, a private postal company. It will take care of her and see that she gets to her destination safely.

All you have to do is put a label on her stating her value and where she is going. You can pay postage on her before going or put a C.O.D. sign on her and the relative in Ningpo can pay. A good way to do is to split the postage, you paying half and the relative paying half on delivery. That will more or less insure her safe and prompt arrival, too, since the carrier is anxious to get his commission.

This form of service has been going on for generations among the Chinese natives, particularly in small towns, writes a correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor. Any one can start up such an unofficial post office and work up a clientele. Letters, drafts, cabbages, parcels, mothers-in-law; everything imaginable is carried by the private mails. Customers are solicited and there are sometimes several postal services in on village.

They also take charge of almost any other kind of a mission. Thus, if a carrier comes up by boat from Shanghai, a Woosung native can confide to his post office that he saw a hat that he admires. The neighbor is inclined to be exclusive about his attire, and therefore, since a duplicate of the hat would be desirable, it is requested of the mail carrier that while he is in Shanghai that he go to all the shops and see if he can get a hat like the neighbor's.

## Even Bring in Berries

The mail carrier agrees and usually brings home what is asked. Likewise, if strawberries are in the market in Shanghai and have not yet been uncrated in Woosung, he will take orders and bring them back.

If letters or packages are lost through carelessness of the transmitting Min-chu, the sum is made good, since the value of every article is written on the outside, and if there is money in an envelope it is also

noted on the outside. The only thing at which the line is drawn is replacing the human element in the postal service. If a bride or a baby is lost in transit, the company is not held responsible, and it is up to the original owner to obtain his own duplicate.

Every means of conveyance is used for this service. Runners usually carry letters from one family to the other. Love letters or other important documents which require prompt delivery are scorched on one corner. If there is need for an extraordinary amount of haste, a small red feather is poked through the envelope. No stamps are put on the envelopes as the carriers collect at the other end. Trading vessels and canal boats are used for out of town delivery. Bicycles are found to very convenient for parcel delivery. Wire baskets are placed on the handlebars and even may be strapped to the seat.

## Brides in Wheelbarrows

The less wealthy carriers use wheelbarrows for package delivery. Even brides are sometimes taken from one village to another on wheelbarrows, although the more popular bridal coach, carried by four men is used if it can be afforded. Fast special service is maintained for important parcels and brides. Sometimes the service stays open until after midnight if the business interests demand it.

In the province of Chekiang and Fukien, nearly every small village has its private letter runner who serves all the families. He usually has a boat in connection with a seaport. Several times a month he goes around to all the families and collects mail, vegetables and visiting relatives, and takes them to the city. When he returns he brings back mail, new dresses, and more relatives. Everyone in the village goes down to see him off and every one is there to welcome him back. His job passes to his eldest son, or, if his eldest son has been cut from the family favor by misbehavior, it goes to the next eldest. If the letter-runner has no son, he grandly bequeaths his remunerative duties to his nearest and dearest friend.

# CANADIAN SECURITIES HOLD LEAD WITH U. S. INVESTORS

Washington, D. C., —July 21—While purchases of foreign securities by the United States dropped to the lowest point since 1919 during the first six months of 1931, Canadian securities continued to hold first place in the favor of American financiers, according to figures made public today through the Commerce department.

In only the years out of the past 17 have American purchases for the first half of a year been so low. Last year, in the six months period, purchases stood at \$699,000,000 and in 1929 they were \$458,000,000 compared with an estimated total of \$207,941,500 up to the end of June this year.

Out of this current total virtually half, or \$102,141,500, was invested in Canadian securities. Both the total and Canadian figure are exclusive of an estimated \$62,500,000 refunding of Canadian securities in the United States, including about \$50,000,000 in the conversion loan of the Dominion last May.

## Decline In Activity

The serious decline in the activity of the United States as a purchaser of foreign securities started during June, 1930, according to experts in the finance, and investment division but no opinion has been offered as to whether the change marks a permanent trend, or is simply the result of world-wide economic conditions.

Out of the 18 foreign issues offered in the United States, during the second quarter of 1931, Canada provided 15 involving a net amount of about \$45,500,000, or 45 per cent. of the total for the quarter. Only two of these were corporate issues, both by firms associated with American firms. These were British Columbia Telephone Company, \$2,500,000, and Dominion Gas and Electric Company, \$7,000,000, both issued in May.

Other securities in the total were issued by Federal, provincial or municipal governments, or were governmentally guaranteed, amounting to \$86,987,000, from which sum was deducted the \$51,000,000 represented by refunding.

Other issues purchased in the United States included Ford Motor Company, Limited of Great Britain \$28,000,000; Taiwan Electric Power Company Limited, Japan, \$22,800,000 and the Hawaiian Pineapple Company Limited, Hawaii, \$5,000,000.

The highest approximate yield estimated for any of the securities was 6.90 per cent for the Dominion Gas and Electric bonds, with rates on Canadian Government bonds ranging from 2.50 to 4.65 per cent. to maturity.

## VACATION

While others sigh for ocean trips And foreign-bound excursions, I stay aloof from pleasure ships, And plan no such diversions.

Within me stirs no strong desire To view the lofty steeples Of ancient churches, or admire The ways of foreign peoples.

To scenes of Venice, France, or Spain, Though tourists may be thronging, No scared shrine or old domain Inspires the slightest longing.

I much prefer to sit at home While all these sights unravel; And through this scenic cosmos roam By means of newsreel travel! —MORRIS FRISCH, In New York Sun.

A 100 per cent optimist is a man who believes the thinning out of his hair is only a temporary matter.

# HIS HEROIC MEASURE FOR DODGING GYM

(New York Sun)

Back from his freshman year at college, Bond was being reprimanded by his father for laziness in his studies. He admitted that he had failed in one course, or maybe two, but he argued that he had worked pretty hard.

"But look at your marks!" his parent insisted. "You don't need to argue with me when I know you cut classes. Your record shows that."

"Gosh! if you think I am lazy," Bud protested, "you should know

Pete Stevens one of my classmates. You know what that fellow did? He hated gymnasium practice and every other form of physical training. He just liked to lie in bed afternoons and read poetry. He was bawled out for cutting gym glasses, so you know what he did? He cut the soles from a pair of gym shoes and then ran twice and the cinder track with the shoes on his bare feet. After that his feet were so sore he was able to get the doctor's approval to stay away from gymnasium two weeks!"

The Ghost Of Jules Verne Speaks  
It seemeth to me that the Winnie Mae's log

Makes a terrible sucker of Phineas Fogg.

H. I. PHILLIPS, In New York Sun.

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