

A remarkable woodworking aid

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culture has so far not moved appreciably in that direction. If European integration comes to pass, the Swiss farmers will have to reconsider their position. This will, no doubt, also affect the rural woman. Whatever the outward changes, however, her main task will remain that of wife, mother and homemaker. She may become less of an active farmworker and be relieved of some of the manual work. It is hoped that she will put the much needed increased leisure to good use. On the whole, she is not dissatisfied with her hard lot, but more time for spiritual recreation, for cultivating reading and the arts is desirable and will enhance her position in the centre of the rural family. With smaller economic worries, she may be able to face the challenge ahead of her successfully. She will have to choose what is good in rural tradition and discard much that has been wrongly accepted as rustic conventionality. If she can adapt herself to the altered conditions, she will create a new life which will benefit herself, her family and ultimately the whole nation.

A REMARKABLE WOODWORKING AID

The "Krallix" process for assembling, reinforcing and repairing pieces of wood, seems destined to a fine future among all craftsmen working with wood as well as "do it yourself" enthusiasts, especially in poorly equipped countries where skilled labour and specialised workshops are rare. It was in fact while looking for a simple method capable of being used in the developing countries that a Swiss engineer devised this new process. Without requiring any special knowledge or tools and in a minimum of time, "Krallix" makes it possible to manufacture a quantity of simple wooden objects such as packing-cases, struts, small pieces of furniture, crates, transport containers and frames of all sorts, and to strengthen planks, shelves, coffering, and banisters as well as to repair damaged wooden objects. The "Krallix" technique consists in the use of a steel U-shaped profile whose edges are formed by sharp teeth forced into the wooden parts to be assembled, strengthened or repaired, in such a way that they can no longer be separated. The extremely strong fixture thus obtained is due to the fact that the teeth are slightly curved, alternately inwards and outwards, so that when the band is forced into the wood, some spread further apart while others are brought closer together. The "Krallix" band, patented in almost all countries, is available in various widths, in galvanised steel, covered with a plastic coating or given a brass finish. There are special executions for fixing planks at right angles as well as double bands with teeth on both sides for fixing planks or pieces of wood one against the other. The "Krallix" band is available in about twenty different types and its use is extremely simple. The 13,200 sq. ft. permanent display in the promotion centre at Cortaillod, near Neuchâtel, allows all those interested to see for themselves the many possibilities of the "Krallix" process.

[O.S.E.C.]

GREAT ST. BERNARD HOSPICE

In spite of the Great St. Bernard Tunnel, providing an all the year round road link through the Alps between Switzerland and Italy, the *Hospiz* on the top of the Pass is still permanently occupied by the monks who breed the world-famous St. Bernard dogs. Visitors can reach "Chenalette", a view-point offering a grand view of the Mont Blanc and the Valais Alps, by chair-lift in ten minutes from the Pass.

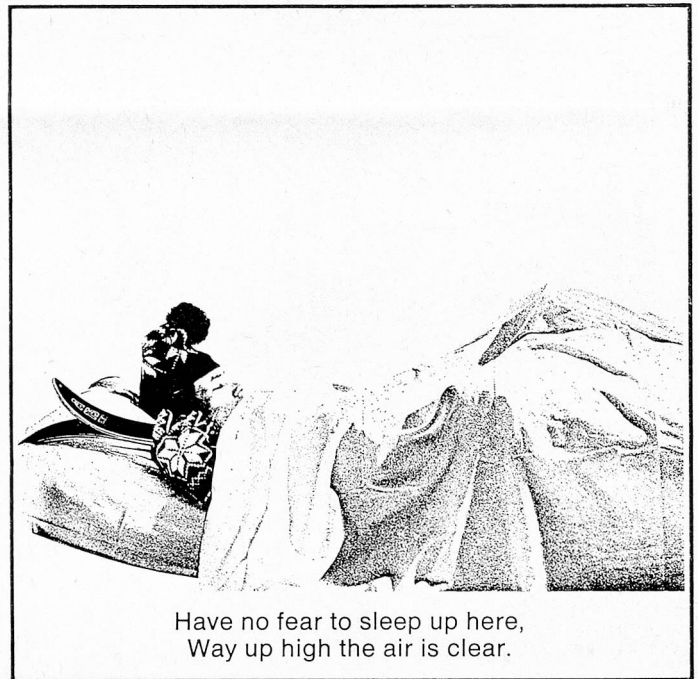
[S.N.T.O.]

HOMAGE TO SWISS PUBLISHING

Some sixty volumes of art history, among the finest works to appear since the turn of the century, have recently been put on show in the "Hall Mark" gallery in New York. They trace the career of the great Swiss publisher Albert Skira. The exhibition itself, entitled "Skira, the man and his work", is being presented in the same form that brought it exceptional success in Moscow last year. Among the works that can be admired in New York are two of the rarest books in the world — the "Métamorphoses d'Ovide", illustrated by Picasso, of which Skira brought a limited edition of 125 copies in 1931, and the "Poèmes de Stéphane Mallarmé", illustrated by Henri Matisse, which appeared a few years later.

[O.S.E.C.]

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