

British Queen Orders Palace Redecoration

By DON SCHWIND

LONDON (AP)—Like many other housewives, Queen Elizabeth II is having a spot of spring decorating done.

Although the young sovereign is still living at Clarence House a few doors down the red-paved Mall, she's having at least nine rooms repaired and re-painted in drafty old Buckingham Palace—her future home.

The Throne Room, where she'll receive visiting royalty, and the green drawing room, one of the most ornate in the ancient 690-room layout, are being done over in two shades of ivory.

What's more, the royal plumbers are installing steam heating in both rooms. Since the war, central heating has been slowly reaching into one room after another of the rambling old palace, but most are still pretty much as Victoria left them.

King William IV once termed Buckingham Palace "the coldest palace in Europe" and palace flunkies—for whom the winter sniffles are almost an occupational disease—ruefully dub themselves "royal ice cubes."

Seven rooms on the second floor are being re-decorated in pastel shades.

Unlike a lot of housewives

facing the springtime clean-up-paint-up problem, there's no actual mop and bucket drill for the Queen herself. She's got the Ministry of Works for that, as well as a permanent staff of 118 palace men.

These workers give the palace a daily once-over. They include electricians, art and porcelain experts, and brass and furniture polishers. One expert mothers the palace's 250 clocks.

But Queen Elizabeth keeps a close eye on planning and has the final say on color schemes and similar detail.

So far, court circles say they don't know just when the Queen and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, plan to move from Clarence House to the big palace.

Husband Dies After 'Call' From Dead Wife

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Mrs. Catherine Love, 65, died Friday, Sunday her husband, Howard, 70, told his two sons and five daughters: "I hear your dear mother calling me." Then he collapsed and was rushed to Misericordia Hospital. He was pronounced dead on arrival. The hospital said he had suffered an internal hemorrhage.

BOMB BLAST IN TUNIS

TUNIS, Tunisia, (AP)—A crowd of Nationalists, brandishing banners demanding Tunisian independence, Sunday shattered with a bomb the windows of a French newspaper in mid-town Tunis. No casualties were reported.

Fox Outfoxes Berlin Fire Department

BERLIN (AP)—For three days now, the Lankwitz fire department has been outfoxed as the firemen are getting pretty burned up about it.

The hook and ladder boys were summoned Thursday by the city organization which protects animals from cruelty. The league said a fox had crawled up a pile of bomb ruins to the top of a 40-foot high chimney and couldn't find his way back.

Up went the big ladder and a daring fireman tried to grab the fox by the scruff of the neck. Reynard objected and scurried inside the chimney, where he figured out a way to brace his four paws so he wouldn't fall.

The firemen gave it up, returned the next day with a big stone suspended from a long rope. They lowered the stone gradually and gently until the fox was forced to ease his way to the bottom of the chimney. There two men waited with a big sack. The fox slipped past them, ran around the ruins and climbed back up on the chimney.

Saturday night the firemen tried again. The fox found a recess in the damaged chimney, crawled into it and yapped what some indignant fireman construed to be a Bronx cheer.

After a council of war, the firemen decided to let the fox stay there. They figure he'll get hungry sooner or later and do something about it.

'Scrap' Violin Made by Pastor Proves Worthy

WASHINGTON (AP)—A pastor, unable to afford a violin that matched his young daughter's talent, made his own and thereby a hobby was born.

The Rev. Clarence R. Ferguson, a Baptist minister here, started to read up on violins about the time he gave his 7-year-old daughter, Mary Alice, a half-sized violin. She made her first public appearance four months later. In four years she won a five-state contest. The pastor made his first violin in 1940 from scraps from a lumber yard. It was on this violin his daughter, at 15, played a Bach concerto with a symphony orchestra.

Ferguson's violins are now made of imported wood in the Stradivarius pattern. It takes him two weeks of steady work to make a violin, exclusive of the finish. He is now working on his eighth instrument.

Chinese Editor Joins "Sewericide" Club

TAIPEH, Formosa (AP)—Professor Tao Hsi-Sheng, prominent editor, historian and government adviser, fell into an open sewer and broke his leg Saturday night.

The Japanese-built sewer system has caused so many such accidents that victims wryly call themselves members of the "sewericide club."



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