

NATIVES OF NEW YORK STILL OWN UPPER FIFTH AVENUE

In Spite of the Influx of Outsiders, Knickerbocker Families Easily Remain in the Ascendant.



THE New Yorker still owns upper Fifth Avenue. All the talk of this section being overrun by outsiders is without foundation, if the best available data is to be believed. The personnel of the city's smart society is constantly changing, of course. Ward McAllister's 400 eligibles may have become 4,000 available, and the residents on Fifth Avenue come from many States, as befits the cosmopolitan spirit of the greatest of American cities. But the newer additions to society do not rule. They do not even predominate. The Knickerbocker families hold their own. Next in power is the New York family of four or five generations standing. Then come the children of the men of New England and New York State who came to Manhattan after the boom began in the city early in the thirties. When these are accounted for there are very few vacancies in the seats of the social mighty. Now and then a wealthy man or an ambitious woman may climb into one of them. New York society, however, has become more and more of an established institution. The rulers are all natives of Manhattan.

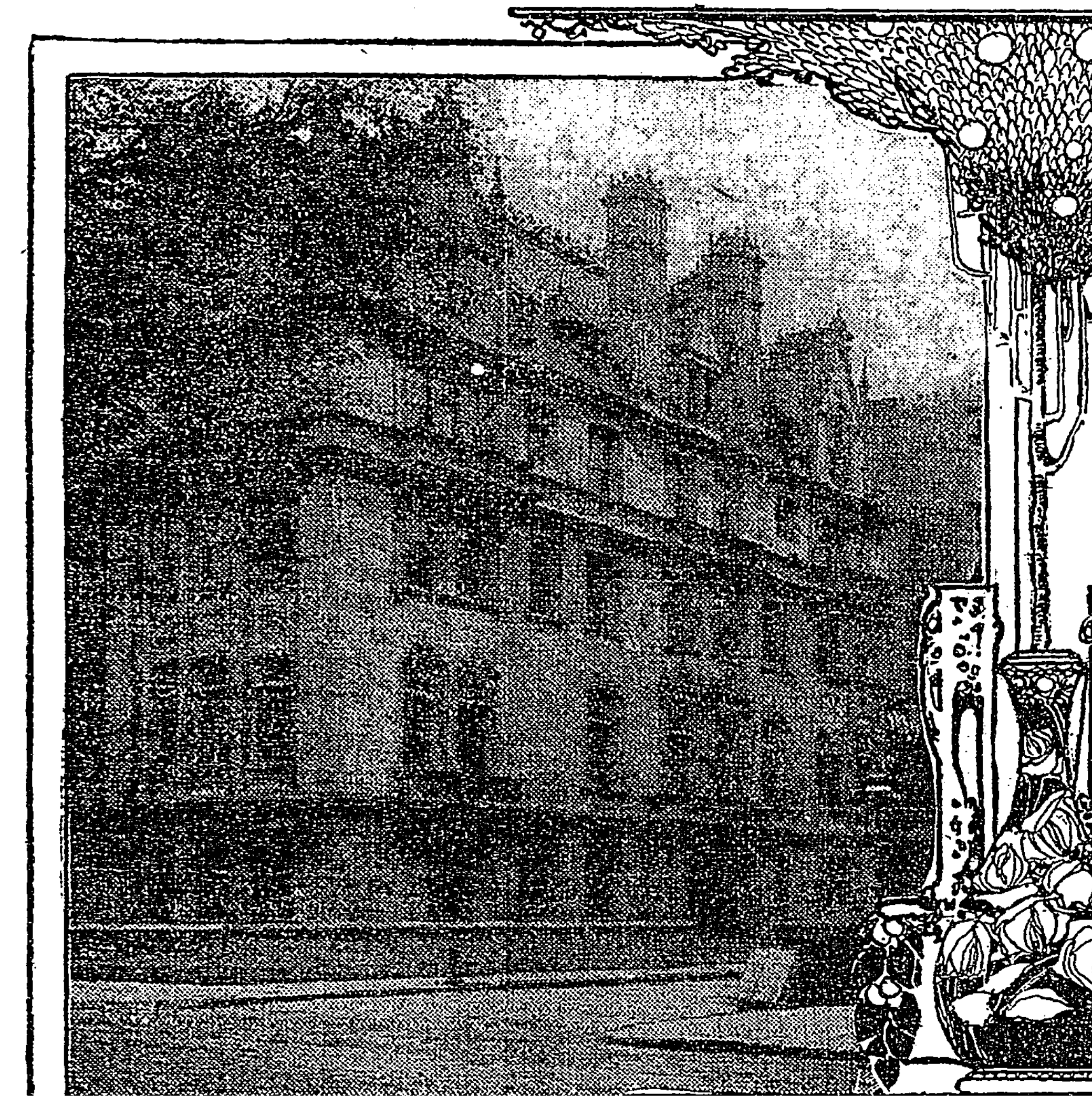
Such were the conclusions after a canvass last week of the residences in Fifth Avenue from Forty-seventh Street to Mr. Andrew Carnegie's home at Ninety-second Street. A list was prepared of the representative people living in the forty-five blocks. Then the questions were asked in each case: Where did these New Yorkers come from? How long have they or their families resided in Manhattan?

Some doubts were expressed at first whether the residents on upper Fifth Avenue represented all the elements of New York society. As the canvass progressed it became clear enough that they did. Many of the so-called Knickerbocker families have moved uptown. If there are older homes on Washington Square, lower Fifth Avenue, and Gramercy Park, and if Murray Hill is pervaded by the atmosphere of quiet conservatism, these sections are, after all, offset by the never hotels and apartment houses, by Central Park West, and the Riverside Drive neighborhood. When the cross streets were considered they were found to offer the same conditions that existed on upper Fifth Avenue in a concentrated form. Moreover, a canvass of the avenue rather favored the newer people. For this element Fifth Avenue means much, while the older families can be content to rest on their laurels, live in cross streets, or shun urban cares and taxes by living most of the time at Newport, in the Berkshires, on Long Island, in New Jersey, or the Carolinas.

Shops Still Creep Up.

At first it was decided to start the canvass at Forty-second Street, but the shops have encroached on the avenue to such an extent that there are no residences to speak of from Forty-second to Forty-seventh Street. One of the few exceptions is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard T. Wilson, just above Forty-second Street. There is a story in itself in the lives of these Southern people whose fortunes rose with the civil war, were augmented by deals in cotton and railroads, and made possible the social conquest of New York and London, whereby their daughters married into the families of the Earl of Pembroke, the Vanderbilts, and the Goelets, and the son became the husband of an Astor. This story, however, has been told many times, and belongs to Fifth Avenue "in the fifties" rather than the shopping district at Forty-second Street.

As the Windsor Arcade is passed at Forty-seventh Street, and business houses suddenly give place to residences, hotels, and clubs, New York society at once assumes its most varied-



THE RESIDENCE OF F.W. WOOLWORTH
900 FIFTH AVE.

gated aspect. Miss Helen Gould's home stands at the southeastern corner of Forty-seventh Street—a residence more vividly remembered, perhaps, by the day its doors were thrown open to the panic-stricken guests of the burning hotel across the street than by the years of unostentatious home life of Jay Gould and his daughter. In the same block are the homes of Charles A. Gardiner, the lawyer, and a native of Canada; Frederick Roosevelt, Capt. Warren C. Beach, Mrs. Robert Goelet, Mr. and Mrs. Perry Belmont, and Charles T. Cook, President of Tiffany & Co., all natives of New York and some of them of Manhattan families of long standing. Here, too, dwell Mr. and Mrs. James B. Haggis. Both are natives of Kentucky, although Mr. Haggis found a fortune in Western mines before he came to New York to become a horseman and a capitalist.

In the next three blocks to the northward are the homes of Ernest Schelling, Mrs. Ogden Goelet, Charles P. Hoffman, Jr., and W. K. Astor, members of New York families long established. Their neighbors are Mrs. Roswell P. Flower, a native of Connecticut, but a resident of Manhattan since 1869; Anson R. Flower, head of the banking house of Flower & Co. and a New Yorker born; Mrs. Daniel Butterfield, also a native of this city, whose husband, Gen. Butterfield, was Assistant United States Treasurer, and August Heckscher, the mine owner and capitalist, who looks to Hamburg, Germany, as the city of his nativity.

Opposite St. Patrick's Cathedral are the town houses of Benjamin Altman, the merchant; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clews, Mrs. Russell Sage, and D. O. Mills. Mr. Altman is a native of Manhattan, Mr. Clews, the banker, was born in Staffordshire, England, and his wife is an American and a grandniece of President Madison. Mrs. Sage spent her girlhood in Syracuse, N. Y. D. O. Mills went from his family homestead in Westchester County, N. Y., to amass a great fortune in California.

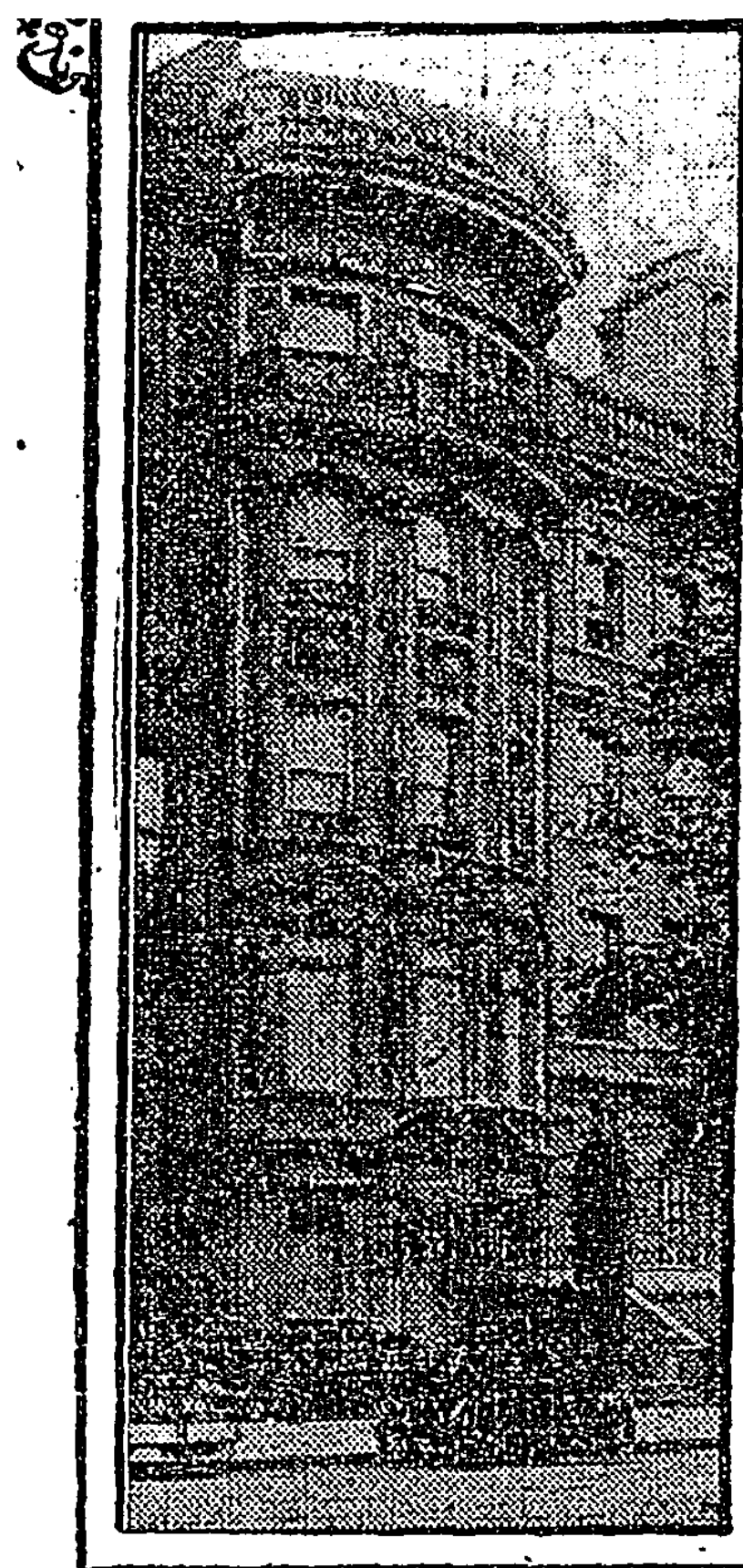
If William Allen Butler were writing ballads of New York society to-day, instead of in the fifties, his famous heroine, Miss Flora McFlimsey, would not live on Madison Square, but in one of the great houses on Fifth Avenue between St. Patrick's Cathedral and the Plaza, at Fifty-ninth Street. For in these eight blocks is the centre of fashionable New York. The section, not a

quarter of a mile in length, represents more concentrated wealth than any similar residence district in the country and probably in the world. It is bounded on the north by the Metropolitan Club, at Sixtieth Street, and on the South by the Union Club, at Fifty-first Street. These clubs are, to a degree, the arbiters of the smart set, for the men of society who do not belong to the one are usually members of the other. The dwellers in the great houses, moreover, stand for the essence of New York and American society.

The Vanderbilts predominate. In the great house at Fifty-first Street are Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Sloane, (Emir V. Vanderbilt), Malcolm D. Sloane, and Mr. and Mrs. Dillwyn Cross. The new marble house across the avenue and next to the Union Club is the home of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Osgood Field, (Lila V. Sloane.) William K. Vanderbilt's family in the marble chateau at Fifty-second Street comprises himself and Mrs. Vanderbilt, formerly Mrs. Rutherford. The other Vanderbilt house is occupied temporarily by Henry C. Frick, of Pennsylvania birth and United States Steel Corporation fame.

Dr. and Mrs. W. Seward Webb (Lila Osgood Vanderbilt) have a town house at 680 Fifth Avenue. Two doors above are Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton McK. Twombly, (Florence A. Vanderbilt.) Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., (Grace G. Wilson.) live in the same block, at No. 677. At Fifty-seventh Street William C. Whitney's old residence is occupied by his son, Harry Payne Whitney and his wife, who was Miss Gertrude Vanderbilt. Across the street is the great house of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Sr., who was Miss Alice Gwynne of Cincinnati, Ohio.

The other residents of the neighborhood come from many States, include family after family of National reputation, and stand for almost every branch of American activity. The old Manhattan families have representatives in Mrs. Frederick Gallatin, kinswoman of the Goelets, Rhinelanders,



THE RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM B. LEEDS, 587 FIFTH AVE.

Stevenses, and Gerrys. Mrs. H. Mansell Schieffelin and her daughter, Mrs. Ernest H. Crosby, Mr. and Mrs. Frederic De Peyster Foster, Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Iselin, and Mr. and Mrs. James W. Gerard. Ex-Vice President Levi P. Morton came to New York years ago from Shoreham, Vt. Rear Admiral J. Rufus Tryon was born in New Jersey. William G. Rockefeller, his neighbor, claims Tioga County, N. Y., as his birthplace. S. B. Chapin, the banker and broker, is a native of Milwaukee, Wis. His neighbor, C. K. G. Billings, started his career as a capitalist in Saratoga Springs. Mr. and Mrs. Harvey E. Flisk are New Yorkers born.

Of the professional men, Charles W. Harkness, the lawyer, was born in Meadville, Ohio. Dr. Alfred K. Hills began his career as a physician in New

Hampshire. His wife is a Philadelphian. Paul Untermyer, son of Samuel Untermyer, is of Southern extraction but a native of Manhattan. Stewart M. Brice, another lawyer, came to New York from Lima, Ohio. George Austin Morrison, President of the American Cotton Oil Company, and his wife both come from this city, as does Mrs. Benjamin Brewster.

The Collis P. Huntington house at Fifty-seventh Street recalls the story of a vast fortune amassed in California. Its mistress, Mrs. Huntington, comes from a Connecticut family. The residence of Mrs. Marcus Daly suggests in the same way the struggle for great wealth in Montana copper mines, and the residence of S. R. Guggenheim, the apartments of Isaac Guggenheim in the Hotel Savoy, and the new residence of Rudolph Guggenheim, near Seventy-third Street, recall the achievements of seven brothers, Philadelphia born, in smelting industries of the Far West and later in Nipissing and Wall Street. In the same way John Markle stands for the mining industries of Pennsylvania. Around the corner, in Fifty-eighth Street, is the residence of Charles B. Alexander of insurance fame and Mrs. Alexander, who was Miss Harriet Crocker of California. Of the younger set are Alfred C. Gould, Edwin Gould, and R. T. Wilson, Jr.

Beyond the Plaza and the marble walls of the Metropolitan Club the story of New York society is repeated in thirty more blocks of pretentious dwellings facing Central Park. In rapid succession come the French Gothic mansion of Commodore Elbridge T. Gerry and Mrs. Gerry, the residences of Mrs. Jabez A. Bostwick, W. Emlen Roosevelt, the banker; W. Lannan Bull, a broker—all New Yorkers born. The white marble house, No. 803, four doors above Sixty-first Street, is the home of Mrs. James E. Martin, recently leased to William E. Corey, President of the United States Steel Corporation, on condition that he occupy it with Mrs. Corey. Mrs. Josephine Schmidt, who lives in another French Gothic house at

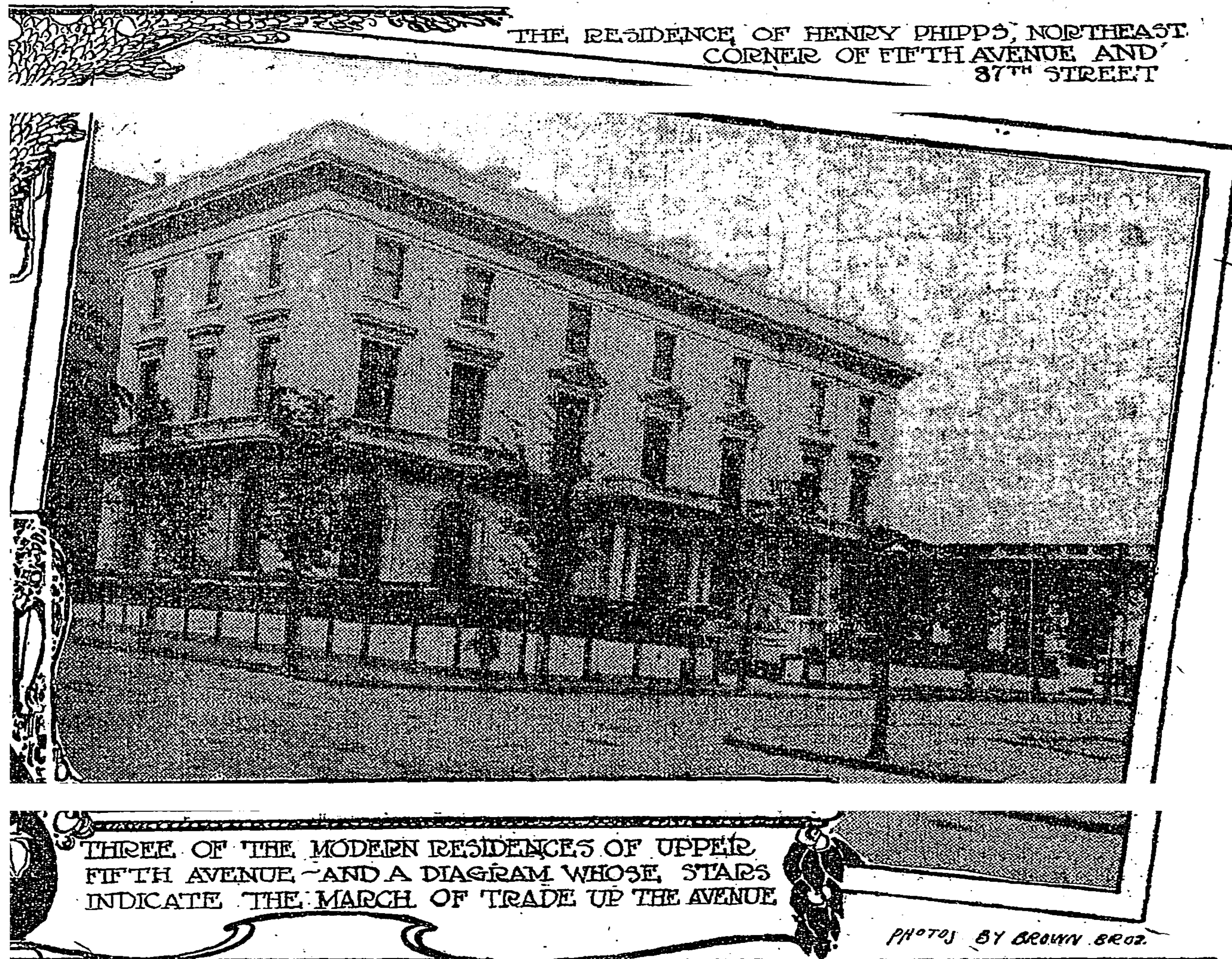
Sixty-second Street, is a Cincinnati woman, who has been managing the brewery of her late husband, August Schmidt, for fourteen years. In the next three blocks New Yorkers born are again in the majority in Miss Matilda Bruce, Mrs. Thomas Rutter, Frederick M. Gould, Frank J. Gould, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford W. Brokaw, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mortimer Brooks. Edward J. Berwind, at Sixty-fourth Street, a native of Philadelphia, represents Pennsylvania's coal interests. On the opposite corner is the new home of George Crocker, the banker, from California. Mr. and Mrs. Watts Sherman, who live at the next corner, came to New York from Providence, R. I.

The Astor residence, at Sixty-fifth Street, is considered by many a pivotal point of New York society. Mrs. William Astor and Col. John Jacob Astor are too well known as New Yorkers to require further mention. Mrs. John Jacob Astor was Miss Willing of Philadelphia. Henry O. Havemeyer, the sugar refiner, and a native of Manhattan, lives on the next corner. His neighbors are Mr. and Mrs. R. Livingston Beekman of Knickerbocker lineage, and Mrs. Herman O. Armour, who was Miss Jane Livingston before she married the New York representative of the Armour packing houses.

Claus A. Spreckels, the California sugar refiner, recently bought a house in the next block. The towering brownstone mansion with a pretentious new art gallery, just above it, is the New York home of Mrs. Charles T. Yerkes, a Philadelphian, who reached Fifth Avenue by way of Chicago and London.

A tragic interest attaches to the next residence—a dignified double house of brownstone with a portico of colored marble and elaborate grills. Built by William C. Whitney, it was the home of James Henry Smith—"Silent Smith"—who began life in Milburn, Ill., and ended it in Japan a few weeks ago while on his honeymoon trip. Mrs. Smith, formerly Mrs. Rhinelander Stewart, was a Baltimorean in her girlhood.

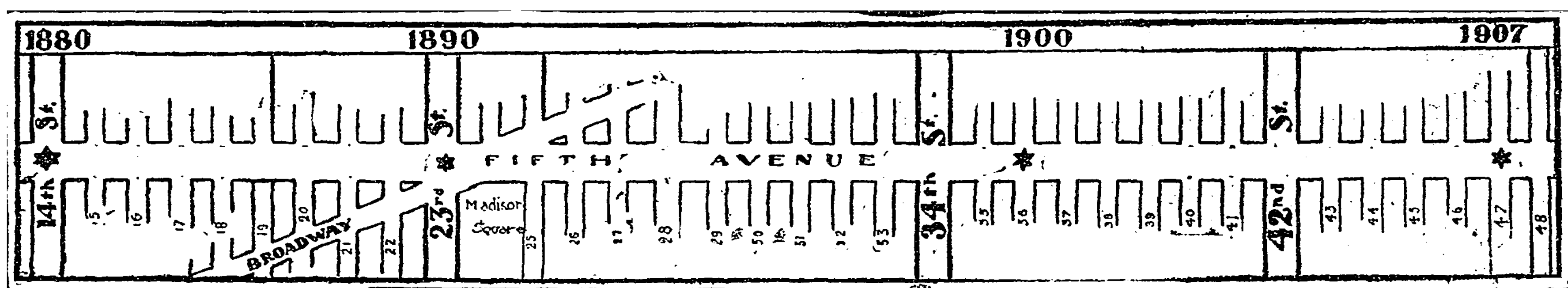
In the same block are the homes of



THE RESIDENCE OF HENRY PHIPPS, NORTHEAST CORNER OF FIFTH AVENUE AND 37TH STREET

THREE OF THE MODERN RESIDENCES OF UPPER FIFTH AVENUE—AND A DIAGRAM WHOSE STAIRS INDICATE THE MARCH OF TRADE UP THE AVENUE

PHOTO BY GEORGE BRON



The Majority, Who Are Not Knickerbockers, Hail from New England and the Eastern States.

Mrs. Joseph Stickney, a member of an old New York family; of Daniel Gray Reid, a native of Richmond, Ind., who is best known as an official of many corporations. Mr. Reid's nearest neighbor is Francis Burton Harrison, a lawyer, born in Manhattan.

Above the Lenox Library, at Seventieth Street—now associated with the plan of Henry C. Frick of United States Steel Corporation fame to make the block the site of his new home—is the residence of James Abercrombie Burden, the ironmaster of Troy, N. Y. John W. Sterling, a lawyer, born in Stratford, Conn., and Samuel Thorn, from Flushing, L. I., live in the two new houses just above it. George Henry Warren and the Rev. Alfred Duane Pell, members of old New York families, are their neighbors. In the next block is Mortimer L. Schiff of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., a native of New York. His father, Jacob H. Schiff, has his town house on the avenue two blocks further north. Mr. Schiff's birthplace was Frankfurt-on-the-Main, Germany.

Not many of the people who note ex-Senator W. A. Clark's new palace, now nearly finished, know that the owner is a Pennsylvanian by birth, as Mr. Clark's name has become synonymous with his copper mines in Montana. Just above Senator Clark's are the homes of Mr. and Mrs. William Van Duzen Lawrence, natives of Elmira, N. Y., and Monroe, Mich., respectively, and the marble mansion of Mr. and Mrs. Carlos M. de Heredia, who came to New York from Cuba.

In the Upper Avenue.

Isaac V. Brokaw, who lives at Seventy-ninth Street, came from New Brunswick, N. J. His neighbors are Mr. and Mrs. Irving Brokaw, Mrs. Simon H. Stern, wife of the merchant; William Bateman Leeds, a Western man and President of the Rock Island Road; Frank W. Woolworth, owner of many stores; Philip Livingston of Knickerbocker lineage, and Mrs. Louis Stern. Of the other residents in the neighborhood, William Saloman of Speyer & Co. is a native of Mobile, Ala., and Mrs. Saloman came from Scotland. Mrs. William M. Kingsland was Miss Mary J. Macy, a daughter of the Nantucket Quaker who came to New York to establish a department store. George Crawford Clark, the banker, claims St. Louis, Mo., as his native city. Andrew S. Hamersley, Miss Annie Leary, El. P. Hatch, Mrs. Richard S. Dana, and A. B. Hilton are members of families long established in New York. J. Mitchell Clark is an ironmaster who came here from Boston. Archer M. Huntington, the author, is a son of Collis P. Huntington, and his wife is an Englishwoman. Andrew Carnegie, a native of Scotland, completes the list.

To this list must be added the scores of others in the large hotels and apartment houses and the temporary dwellers on Fifth Avenue who form the floating population of the smart set. The list has been purposely confined to the noteworthy householders as best defining New York society in its most permanent and concrete form.

The canvass comprises 119 names. Of this number, 68, or more than one-half, are natives of Manhattan. Most of them belong to well-established families, and fifteen are of Knickerbocker lineage in the strictest sense. New York State contributes seven and Pennsylvania ten, Scotland two, England one, Germany two, Canada one, and Cuba one name to the list. The other States represented are California and Ohio; each three names; Connecticut, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Missouri, and Georgia, two names each, and New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, Kentucky, Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin, one representative each.