

I 14

left over. It would just mean a remainder, something that is left over, and--I know the word remnant is used that way in connection with cloth. I don't know whether it is used in any other sense in modern English or not. I don't recall it. It is interesting to think of these words--exactly what do they mean? How do we use it? You don't find out by looking in a dictionary and just seeing a parallel. You have to think, "What does the word really mean?" I had quite an argument at the University of Chicago with a man. I didn't mean to have an argument with him. I thought I was going to be helpful. He was an Italian. He was giving us a lecture on the linguistic changes and he showed how in France they had taken a study of the words used by different people from different parts of France to see how words changed their meanings, and his theory that in Paris a word originates, and they use this word for certain ideas, and the word is used in Paris and spreads from there to the provinces and then spreads all over France, and then after a while the people in Paris get tired of this word and they start using a new one and the new word takes the place of this word in Paris, and then it spreads out to the provinces and replaces the other word but it doesn't get all over France, and then in Paris where the people are discussing a great deal more than outside, they get a third word taking the place of this second word and it spreads out, and you can find--you take something written in Paris seven hundred years ago and you find that instead of a particular word they use today they use a different word, and then you will find that this word they used seven hundred years ago is still used in France, out in the outskirts, in both directions; far in the east and far in the west, perhaps up in the mountains, there are people who still use that oldest word and the second and the third haven't reached those people yet, and he said, "You find rests of these words out in the mountains and the exterior parts of France. You