Telegraph & Independent

TELEGRAPH—No. 26,259
FOUNDED 1855.
INDEPENDENT—No. 26,482
FOUNDED 1819.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1939.

SHEFFIELD TELE.: 22055 (15 lines)
LONDON OFFICES: KEMSLEY HOUSE, W.C.1.
LONDON TELE.: PUBLISHING: CITY 2533.
EDITORIAL & ADVERTISING: TERMINUS 1234.

NAZIS' RAGE

THE PREMIER'S review of the war situation, following the meeting of the Supreme War Council, was received with enthusiasm by the House of Commons, yesterday. Briefly he emphasised the unity of Britain and France, hinted at far - reaching military action by the Dominions and Colonies, and announced that German submarines are being constantly attacked and successes achieved, while practically all German tonnage has been cleared off the high seas. Add that the British Expeditionary Force has been safely transported to France, and the magnitude and general success of our war effort in a few days call for congratulation of the Government and the defence forces also.

On the other hand, Germany can point to her invasion of Poland which has not gone according to plan, though nobody would deny the terrific strain which has been thrown upon the courageous Polish forces, or the skill with which they are being commanded. That the German machine is out of gear is proved by the brutal announcement that open towns will be bombed in future. That crime has already been committed by the Germans, and the Poles know what fate will be meted out to their women and children. The world will note that German savagery, which immediately showed itself at sea with the torpedoing of the Athenia, has been transferred to land operations. Any excuse for deliberate murder is good enough for Germans. Didn't they shell Scarborough in the last war because it was a fortified town as proved by the existence of the Castle?

Neutral States will note the Nazi method of making war, and realise what they may have to face if they do not observe the warning given to them to the effect that they must continue to trade with Germany as usual or their neutrality will be under suspicion. Neutrality has its dangers apparently, and also its serious problems. As Mr. Chamberlain said yesterday: "The supply of vital war materials carried under neutral flags has been and will increasingly be limited by the contraband control imposed by the power of our Fleet."

Herr Hitler can threaten, but he cannot break the ring which our Navy has placed round German ports. That ring will contract until German trade has been throttled and German submarines sunk or forced to lie idle in their own or neutral ports.

All German announcements have to be examined for propaganda, but the rest of the world must soon begin to wonder how complete have been the Fuehrer's plans for a long war when his people are reduced already to still further cuts in their meagre rations and troops are being used to harvest Polish crops.

Most significant and typical of Nazi-ism is the invitation officially extended to Jewish experts and technicians to return to Germany and place their services at the disposal of the Fatherland, when no questions will be asked and confiscated fortunes will be returned to them. Jews who have escaped from Germany will never walk into such an openly displayed trap, or lift a finger to help restore the slumping fortunes of the State which has treated their race with devilish inhumanity. Seldom has injustice recoiled so quickly on the heads of its perpetrators.

Rambling Naturalist

Autumn Fruits

Wednesday, September 13th.

While the wild flowers of summer are waning, the autumn fruits are ripening to adorn with their own bright colours the orchard, the hedgerow, and the woodland glade.

Many wild berries, as previously mentioned, are nauseous to the palate and too unwholesome or poisonous to be eaten, but they are all pleasing to the eye. We must treat them as flowers, and regard them as a cheerful reminder that we have souls as well as stomachs. For what is man, asks Hamlet, if his chief good

"Be but to sleep and feed? A beast, no more."

Both flowers and berries have their own utility, which enhances their beauty to the imagination. They are not meaningless tinsel and idle toys. The gay petals of flowers attract bees and other insects to gather and distribute the pollen, thus ensuring the formation of fertile seed and the maintenance of floral beauty from age to age. The brightly coloured skins of fruits in like manner induce the birds to eat the pulp and distribute the enclosed seeds, too hard to be digested, far and wide, with similar results. But for bees and birds, probably, we should have had no fine flowers and fruits at all.

The acrid or poisonous properties of so many attractive wild fruits are not evidence of caprice or malice in Nature. They also have their useful place in the great scheme of things. Flowers keep away indifferent pollen-carriers, such as ants, by means of obnoxious odours or prickles, sticky exudations, and even protective moats. Berries, with a kindred object, discourage pedestrian animals with a dose, not necessarily fatal, of some unpalatable or toxic secretion.

Birds, as the most efficient distributors of seed, have become associated with wild berries of all sorts in this capacity, in spite of properties noxious to other creatures. Some writers believe that birds have only the faintest sense of taste, but, after many observations of their evident likes and dislikes in this respect, I doubt that conclusion.

Why Germany Has Invaded Poland

By COUNT SFORZA

Count Sforza, former Foreign Minister of Italy, played a prominent part in the organisation of the plebiscite and of the partition of Upper Silesia in 1921. His documentation is, therefore, of considerable value at a moment when the German armies have occupied Polish Silesia, one of the richest industrial centres of Europe.

HITLER and his propagandists have made a considerable use of the questions of Danzig and the Polish Corridor. They thought that with these two arguments it would be easier to work on the German mentality and to raise certain doubts in other countries. But in actual fact the object of Hitler's supreme greed was something very different — namely, Upper Silesia. This is why this name has been rarely mentioned.

If Hitler has invaded and wishes to destroy Poland, this is above all because he wants to become the master of the rich mineral wealth of the Silesian basin. The leaders of Germany are fully aware that from a military viewpoint he who commands Bohemia commands Europe, as stated by Bismarck. But what is even truer and more important is that he who holds the metallurgic and mineral district of Upper Silesia may finally dominate the economic system of Europe.

Danzig

The leaders of Germany fully realised that the possession of Danzig adds nothing to the might of a country which already holds in the vicinity of the former Free City a series of powerfully equipped ports like Hamburg, Bremen, and Memel. They are also aware that the Polish Corridor is a poor country inhabited throughout the ages by Poles and other Slavs, namely the Kashubs.

But they also knew that the possession of Danzig and the Polish Corridor signified for them the end of Poland—and the reversion to the Reich of the inexhaustible wealth of Upper Silesia, thanks to which it would be easy, as they imagined, to dictate an economic law that forces western and also eastern Europe.

Reckoning on a victory which would give them the Polish Corridor, the German leaders already proclaim that they are preparing to expel the Slav populations. But in respect of Upper Silesia their designs are still more diabolical. I perceived this in 1921, when, following a fairly conducted plebiscite, Upper Silesia was divided between the Reich and Poland according to a line known as the "Sforza frontier."

German Intrigue

At that time I was literally besieged by German emissaries of all kinds who made the most attractive and also the most abject offers to persuade Italy to abandon the path of loyalty and honour. I still call to mind the following propositions of an important German personage who spoke Italian perfectly and professed a deep admiration for Italy.

"I can understand," he said, "that you Italians cannot afford to deny the principle of nationalities and of the observation of plebiscites, which form the very basis of your risorgimento. But in Upper Silesia we have no intention of eliminating the Poles. They are excellent miners. They form a large mass of labour which at all grades would be directed by the descendants of those Germans who at the end of the eighteenth century and in the first half of the nineteenth created Upper Silesia as an industrial region. Despite this fact my line ascribed 75 p.c. of the territory to the Reich and only 25 p.c. to Poland.

Balfour's Comment

The main point is this: After defining the frontier, which was finally adopted, I resigned, and the problem was referred to the League of Nations, which entrusted its solution to a committee presided over by Lord Balfour. After several months of study and various attempts to find a formula more satisfactory to the Germans, the League was compelled to approve my line as the sole one consistent with the results of the plebiscite and the economic interests of the region.

But when a few weeks later I met Lord Balfour at Cannes—where I played my last tennis set with that charming and statesman who set such store on his racket—he told me with his very personal touch of humour, "Your line is a perfect nuisance. We wanted to devise some new system to placate the Germans as far as possible, but whatever my experts did to manipulate the plebiscite figures and the Silesian statistics they always came back to your damned line in the end."

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Books of To-day

Why Nazis Cannot Appreciate Jews

IN THE MARGIN OF HISTORY, by L. B. Namier (Macmillan, 7s. 6d.).

THERE are thirty-three essays in Professor Namier's book. Most of them are reprints. Six of the essays deal with Napoleon, and, although competent, they add little of importance to the grossly over-inflated volume of published comment on that unhappy mountebank.

The nine essays on the rulers of Georgian England and the six on the rulers of Central Europe in 1914 are far more valuable; and the three essays on T. E. Lawrence—one of which is very well known—are excellent; although it may be noted that Professor Namier is a better judge of character than of literary ability.

A Jew, the author has written, without virulence, though with a natural disquiet and foreboding, four essays on the history of his much-tried race. These are the best things in the book. "The Jews in the Modern World" is a superbly condensed, dispassionate, and perspicacious analysis of the contemporary Jewish problem. There is no sentence that does not deserve quotation, but a few must be selected: "Not everyone who feels uncomfortable with regard to us must be called an anti-Semite, nor is there anything necessary and inherently wicked in anti-Semitism. Nations do not like each other, and they do not like strangers in their midst . . ." Compare that with the Nazi attitude to those who do not love Nazi Germany.

"The Jew is fundamentally uncongenial to the German. The German is . . . a rebel or a fighter only by order from above; he gladly remains all his life a tiny cog in a machine. The Jew is . . . individualistic, restless and undisciplined; he could have formed a useful complement and corrective to the German. But the German could not digest him—as Nietzsche says: 'German intellect is indigestion: it can assimilate nothing'." In the nineteenth century, "The great masses of the Jewish people remained poor, ill-adjusted to their surroundings, and even to each other, for they did not form a self-sufficing and self-protecting economic entity; and they had no one to speak for them except in terms about as well suited to their needs, economic and moral, as Smiile's 'Self Help' was to those of the British working classes."

Professor Namier, after considering the chances of his race's extinction by inter-marriage and absorption, by persecution, by birth control, or by sheer lack of its once all-important will to survive, says: "Only those Jews who can build up for themselves a life as members of their nation, a nation even as all other nations, have a right to survive as Jews into the time to come."

The outstanding characteristics of this book are dignity and restraint: qualities of a rare, unhappily, and be tending to become the exclusive possessions of those whose lives are passed within the shelter of our university walls.

L. A. S. W.

NAVAL SAGA

"DEEDS THAT HELD THE EMPIRE AT SEA." By A. D. Divine (John Murray, 7s. 6d.).

With a Foreword by Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Roger Keyes, Bt., G.C.B., K.C.V.O., M.P.

IN the writing of this magnificent piece of work it is quite evident that the author has taken upon himself a most difficult task. The execution of which even many a notable writer might have accomplished with much less success. But Mr. Divine has been resourceful.

He has portrayed, with interesting accuracy and picturesque detail, the saga of England's maritime history; he has embellished that strict accuracy of historical fact with a charming play of imagination which conjures up for the reader a very real panoramic kaleidoscope of the times about which he writes.

For a hundred years after Trafalgar, although there was no major war upon the sea, Britain was never at peace. And the men of England fought their endless battle on the coast of progress of transport and of speed. On the sea they fought against the pirates and the slavers, and the author tells an exciting story of the suppression of piracy and the thrill of a slaver's chase. The coasts of far countries they fought to safeguard and to maintain the endless frontiers of the nation, and in these chapters one reads of the maintenance of the sea communications of the British Empire, the laying of transcontinental cables, and of how modern science and the advent of air power have added to the difficulties of exercising power on the sea.

In the closing pages, the author swings the searchlight round to reveal the Royal Navy back at its old trade in the last war, when the sudden brusqueness of modern battle demanded such gruesome aids as the submarine, and pays high and well-deserved tribute to our British sailors.

A.G.P.

CURE FOR GOUT

"IT'S AN OLD SCOTTISH CUSTOM," by Francis Drake-Carnell (P. Davies, 8s. 6d.).

THE title of this book is a little misleading, because the only customs dealt with are those that survive to the present day. There is nothing about taghairm, for instance, the pleasant old Highland method of divination which consisted in wrapping the, probably reluctant, seer in the hide of a freshly-killed bullock and leaving him near running water to await inspiration.

Of surviving customs there is a full, accurate and entertaining account, and the book also contains many odd and amusing snippets from out-of-the-way pages of history.

The minister of Tillicoultry, writing, in 1795, of a collier called William Hunter, who had been bedridden for eighteen months "with an inveterate rheumatism or gout," gives the following account of his remarkable cure:—

"On the evening of Handsel Monday, some of his neighbours came to make merry with him. Though he could not rise, yet he always took his share of the ale, as it passed round the company and, in the end, became much intoxicated. The consequence was, he had the use of his limbs the next morning and was able to walk about. He lived more than 20 years after this and never had the smallest return of his old complaint. This treatment is more likely to appeal to patients than to their medical advisers.

The book is copiously illustrated with photographs.

L.A.S.W.

Letters to the Editor

When Bomber is Overhead

Sir,—In 1914 and 1915 the Boche bombers on the West Front flew at such a slow speed that, at 10,000 or 15,000 ft., they appeared to be hovering over your head a long time, and it seemed they might drop one down the back of your neck.

Nowadays, if we see a bomber about over the top of our heads we don't need bother much because the danger of one dropping near you will be past. So that he never they are, if it hasn't happened, the safer you'll be—which point of fact might not appear to everyone—Yours, etc.,

H. T. W. PEPPER.

Froggatt Edge,
Sheffield.

Books For Balloon Barrage Men

Sir,—At various points in and around the city the men who man the balloon barrage are working in small groups. Their hours of duty are long, and their means of recreation limited. The Y.M.C.A. are providing games and other amenities, and I have been asked to help to arrange a supply of suitable books for them.

There must be many readers in Sheffield who would be willing to give books from their private libraries, and I should be very glad to receive them at the Central Library. My Libraries Committee having kindly given permission for books to be received, selected and issued there. Light reading is most likely to be welcomed, and there should be a ready use for fiction, plays, travel, *belles-lettres* and similar types.

May I appeal to all who have suitable books to spare to send them to the Central Library for this purpose? —Yours, etc.,

J. P. LAMB,
City Librarian.

The Master Cutler-Elect

Sir,—Your esteemed contributor to "A Sheffield Woman's Diary" in your issue on the 13th inst. is mistaken when she says that "the late Mr. T. W. Ward was Master Cutler in the Great War."

If she refers to the Sheffield Year Book for 1939, on page 124 she will find 1913 is given as the year he occupied that position and that Sir William Ellis was Master during the whole period of the Great War, whilst Mr. Joseph Ward was Master in 1931.

It is interesting to note that the aunt of Mr. Ashley Ward, viz., Mrs. William Irons, was Lady Mayoress in 1918, the Armistice year.—Yours, etc.,

J. W. ABBOTSON.

7, Bocking Lane, Sheffield, 6.

[Mr. T. W. Ward was elected in 1913, and was Master Cutler when war was declared in August, 1914, being followed by Sir William Ellis.—Editor.]

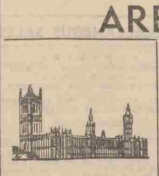
Be Cheerful and Carry On

Sir,—It is the opinion of many people that the Government have made a great mistake in closing cinemas and schools. Children are getting out of hand after a month's holiday. Shelters are prowled, and most people could get home from cinemas in a few minutes.

Let us be cheerful and carry on as we did in the last war.—Yours, etc.,

SENSE.

BLACK-OUT RULES ARE VITAL



London Day By Day

By Vulcan

KEMSLEY HOUSE, Wednesday.

CHEERFUL, steadfast and confident, Parliament went through its business this afternoon with only one complaint to make—that the Ministry of Information does not allow the public to learn more about the war. On that the criticism was forthright and effective, and it is likely to result before long in a less hide-bound and unimaginative direction of the Press censorship.

In other directions the House of Commons, being composed of average English, Welsh and Scots people, is ready to put up with inconveniences or hardships, and to accept the Government view that in a war it is well to be over-cautious rather than risk your own citizens' lives needlessly.

In the mood the House even cheered Mr. Chamberlain's decision that the "blackout" regulations must in the main remain unchanged, even in remote rural areas, until an air raid tests them.

Is the test to be long delayed? May we perhaps escape it after all? The German announcement that they propose to bomb open towns in Poland and "strafe" civilians might be the last stage but one before similar brutalities in the West. It certainly suggests that Hitler doubts whether he can beat the Poles without "frightfulness."

Supplies From Russia

EXPERTS here are not impressed by the reference in General Goering's speech a day or two ago that Germany hoped to get supplies of grain and oil from Russia. It is pointed out that Russian oil production at present is only sufficient for her own needs, and to increase production would mean erecting new machinery, which would be a lengthy process.

While it is true that Russia has a potentially great wheat supply, she would have to extend her present organisation, and this also would take time. Even assuming she could grow sufficient wheat supplies to send to Germany, the transport would present great difficulties, and the roads are bad and, under heavy pressure, would be made worse.

Overlooked

GENERAL GOERING has also overlooked the question of financing these purchases. She can only do so by barter agreements, and with her industrial production entirely turned over to the needs of the war she would be unable to supply the machinery against oil or wheat.

At the moment she has an adverse trade balance with most countries and neutrals to-day are in a position of ordinary tradesmen who ask for cash.

Oil By-Products

AN American technologist came at lunch to-day that he trusted the British gas industry as well as the proprietors of coke ovens and the firms producing oil from coal, would succeed in husbanding Britain's resources during the present emergency by treating their products as the United States has begun to treat the products of oil wells, both liquid and gas.

It seems that at American oil wells the hydrogen is now separated from the natural gas, and from the oil produced in "cracking" the heavy petrol. It goes to make ammonia.

The hydrocarbons are combined with other elements to make synthetic alcohol, glycerine, acetone for themselves, and even flavours and perfumes. From this natural gas a highly flavoured compound is produced which can be added to margarine.

Have Nazis Done So?

BY solvent treatment of other products of the oil wells, such as paints, and disinfectants are secured. But the big advance is technique, and the one which is about the way to a better employment of British coal, is the method of making just described of building up hydrocarbon compounds by adding other chemical elements to the hydrocarbons.

Coal is a complex of hydrocarbons. Will the day ever come when we will treat it with solvents and build up out of our necessities from it instead of simply barously burning it, or retorting it at high temperatures for a few hydrocarbon products?

The Germans may have had some success in the new methods, if Herr Goering's boast that they can manufacture edible fats may be based on fact.

Dreaded Punishment

THE enthusiastic response to the call for volunteers in Britain and land to form an Overseas Expeditionary Force is reminiscent of 1914. Then some ten thousand men were required, and over forty thousand came to join up. When the selection men were in camp waiting for the ship it became the practice to pick on those who frequently transgressed against good order and military discipline, and turning them out of the force. This method which made the force, and kept the men exemplary, as their greatest dread was fear of not being allowed to serve.

The Welcome Cup

A WAR without Y.M.C.A. would be unthinkable, and I am pleased to learn that arrangements have already been made to establish canteens in France and forward as the military Army grows will allow. The Salvation Army will go with the Army, and some of their officers are already in France on an advance guard.

The Y.M.C.A. will work on the same plan as in the last war, and will use wooden huts at the more permanent positions and send mobile units forward. They did great work in the last war, and savery troops returning from the front line have mentioned the hot food always ready for them at advance Y.M.C.A. posts. No doubt in getting voluntary helpers it is anticipated, and it is expected that hundreds thousand will come forward as soon as they are needed.

Nazi Psychology

THERE could be few examples of the Nazis' peculiar logical ineptitude than the attitude on the Belvedere Palace at Warsaw. While the Nazis were careful to see that they had mounted guards on Pilsudski's tomb at Cracow, the Belvedere Palace, which is just as much to the Poles because it was the place Pilsudski lived and breathed there, has been bombed. Nor is it a building of any sentimental value, being used now as a museum, and standing in a conspicuous and isolated position.

A porticoed building not unlike Buckingham Palace in appearance, the Belvedere Palace was built in 1822, and was the residence of the Russian Viceroys when Poland was under Russian domination. The abortive rising of 1830, repressed with severity by the Russian authorities, began with an attack on Prince Constantine, the Viceroy Grand Duke of Russia, who married a Polish Princess, was lucky to escape with his life through a back door.

Pilsudski always preferred the Belvedere Palace to the Zamek Cracow, the medieval residence of the Kings of Poland. By residing in the former palace of the Russian governors he emphasised the Polish spirit that had taken place in the former Poland, from a subject State of Russia to an independent Power.

What They Wanted

A STORY of one of life's problems in reception was told by a woman who had billeted on her a family from the East End of London. She provided the family of mother and three children with scrambled eggs for breakfast. When she returned some few days later she found the eggs in the scuttle.

The mother declared indignantly they had never seen stuff like it before, and were not going to eat it. "What we want," she declared truculently, "is a good breakfast. That's what we have."

CURRENT TOPICS

Lights—Remember Long Winter Nights

IT would be very wrong to attempt to hustle the authorities into lessening precautions designed to protect the people against attack. As we have steadily said all along, we must make the best of whatever Hitler's war forces upon us. All the same, it has become increasingly evident that there will have to be some modification of the lighting restrictions, not for the benefit of motorists, or even of pedestrians, but to prevent confusion among the general population.

It must be remembered that there is still daylight after 8 o'clock in the evening. By that time shops, offices, warehouses, and the smaller factories have closed, and the people are safely at home. But the amount of daylight will steadily decrease until we reach the shortest day about fourteen weeks hence.

IN THE WINTER

We cannot close down the business and working life of the people at 3 p.m. so that people may reach home in daylight. And one's imagination rather quails at the thought of what may happen if the "rush" hours of homeward travel have to be carried out in impenetrable darkness.

Just what the modifications should be we have not considered. That, again, we must leave to the authorities. But it does seem evident that there must be more light if living is to be possible at all during the coming winter.

We must not expect much, nor, indeed, ask for much, but be as satisfied as we can with minimum concessions. As we write comes an intimation of new measures relating to lights on motors and the use of flash lamps. Details must be awaited.

LOST IN THE DARK

On this question of dark streets, a reader tells us that during the last war he went with a convoy of 35 lorries into Albert, on the Somme, in 1916. It was about midnight, not a star to be seen, and the drivers went round and round looking for a road out of the town. They could not see a soul, but finally a military policeman came up.

"What do you think you are?" he asked. "A circus calling attention to your arrival? If you come round here again I'll run the whole lot of you in."

Having had his say, he showed the party the way. But, adds our correspondent, half of them got lost shortly afterwards through following another convoy at cross-roads, and were only stopped from going into No-Man's Land by an officer who jumped out of a trench to inquire why they were taking stores to the Germans.

NOT A JOY-RIDE

Conditions in some towns are admittedly difficult at the present time. The driver of a car late at night along The Moor, for instance, does not repeat the experience unless absolutely forced to do so.

If he could get out an antique car and perch himself high above the bonnet, with the windscreen fastened well up, he might manage fairly well, but modern cars were not designed for use in black-outs, and anyone who cannot see well in the dark risks his own neck and the lives or limbs of others in attempting to drive in present conditions.

Petrol rationing will undoubtedly reduce the number of private cars using the roads at night, for the "juice" will vanish far too quickly when drivers have to crawl along in low gear.

PROBLEM OF PAPER

A number of people have been wondering why newspapers reduced their size immediately on the declaration of war. The reason is very simple. There would not be enough paper to go round if normal sizes were retained.

It must be remembered that the raw material for paper is all imported. We make plenty of paper in this country, but the wood pulp has to come from overseas—Canada, Finland, Scandinavia, and so on. Only two or three days ago Sweden prohibited the export of wood, wood pulp, and newsprint except under licence.

Then, again, the Government needs much paper. The millions of leaflets distributed over Germany took a lot, besides which the Government is issuing many booklets and other publications, not to mention forms to be filled in.

PRESS PREFERS PEACE

The Government's requirements must come first, with the result that the newspapers have to be sternly rationed.

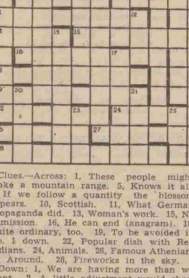
There is another point. We have heard it said that newspapers are "profiteering" in selling these small papers. If the newspaper that would take the trouble to compare advertisements in normal times with the number the papers are getting now, they would quickly realise that there is precious little "profiteering" about it.

War is no use to newspapers. It is in times of peace, when the community they serve is pursuing its ordinary, normal activities, that newspapers flourish best.

CROSSWORD PUZZLES

We don't know how many of our readers amuse themselves solving crossword puzzles, but we have received several expressions of regret that pressure of war news has crowded out that which appeared in the "Telegraph and Independent." We hope it may be found possible later to resume it.

Meanwhile, we offer our own readers a crossword puzzle all to themselves. We don't regard it as clever, or very intricate, but it may afford a few minutes' entertainment. Possibly we may be able to follow it with others, and perhaps our readers will tell us not to waste our space on anything so trivial. Anyway, here it is:



Clues.—Across: 1, These people might make a mountain range. 5, Knows it all. 9, If we follow a quantity the blossom appears. 10, Scotland. 11, What German propaganda did. 13, Woman's work. 15, No admission. 16, He can end (anagram). 18, Ordinary, too. 19, "To be avoided in No. 1 down. 22, Popular dish with Red Indians. 24, Animals. 26, Famous Athenian. 27, Around. 28, Fireworks in the sky.

Down: 1, We are having more than we want. 2, A little adjustment would show the lack of beer. 3, With no R the prospect of coal disappears. 4, Does not justify its name on cloudy days. 5, Ever upwards. 6, A nice little bird. 7, Going backwards. 8, Dodging. 12, The end of it all. 14, Some weapons of Hitler terrorism. 17, Ability and achievement go together frankly. 20, Whimper. 21, Basis of thrillers. 23, If the first letter were the second it would happen. 25, Finally we meet her.

WEST END GOES TO SUBURBS

PEOPLE living in the outlying suburbs of London are now enjoying performances by West End casts owing to the closing of theatres in the central areas. For instance, at Golders Green, which reopens this week, John Gielgud appears in "The Importance of Being Earnest," and Marie Tempest is expected to follow later with "Dear Octopus." One effect of this invasion of the suburbs will probably result in more West End casts playing to suburban audiences after the war is over.

Economically it is sound, for suburban theatres are generally larger and more comfortable than many theatres in the West End. In the last few years there has been an increasing tendency to "try-out" plays in the suburbs, and there was a growing movement to send better companies to these areas, a tendency which is now being accelerated by force of circumstances.

Thought for the Day

The last, best fruit which comes to late perfection, even in the kindliest soul, is tenderness toward the hard, forbearance towards the unforbearing, warmth of heart towards the cold, philanthropy towards the misanthropic.

—Jean Paul Richter.

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