

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Fourpence

2nd April, 1960

When the mail was carried by Pony Express

A TRUE TALE OF THE WILD WEST

Two thousand miles on horseback in ten days. That was the schedule of the Pony Express, the postal service set up to carry mail across the "Wild West" of America between San Francisco and St. Joseph, Missouri. Bearing in mind the wild country to be crossed, and the ever-present threat from Indians, there were many people who thought the scheme impossible. But on 3rd April just 100 years ago 80 brave and tough riders with 420 horses to share between them, stood ready to prove them wrong.

It was a little after four o'clock in the afternoon of that April day when Jim Randall, the first of the Pony Express men, rode out of San Francisco astride a gaily-decorated, buff-coloured pony and boarded the steamboat for Sacramento.

Nearly 2,000 miles away Johnny Frey was galloping out of St. Joseph, in the State of Missouri, with mail for San Francisco. Crossing the Missouri River, he headed westward across Kansas.

Arriving at the first of the 190 relay stations strung along the route, Johnny Frey flung himself from the saddle and leapt on another horse already waiting for him. Before he could rest his tired body Johnny had to make several such changes and cover some 75 miles.

Meanwhile, Jim Randall had reached Sacramento and handed on the mail pouch to Billy Hamilton, who raced out of the town at 2.45 in the morning in drizzling rain.

Sixty miles farther on Warren Upson took charge of the pouch. Ahead of him lay the most difficult section of all—the route over the snow-capped peaks of the Sierra Nevada.

Six sturdy horses were lined up at stations along the trail, and after battling through deep snowdrifts, Upson finally reached Carson City and handed over his pouch.

So it went on, the mail pouch being handed from one rider to the next in this colossal cross-country relay race. As one package of mail was speeding eastwards,

so the west-bound riders were also swallowing up the miles.

Then, at 5.45 p.m. on 13th April, Billy Hamilton returned to Sacramento with the west-bound mail. The Pony Express had come through in ten days.

Every day for the next 18 months Pony Express riders were in the saddle scorning the dangers of the trail across the snow and the desert and the threat of ambush by hostile Indians. Then, in October 1861, the trans-continental telegraph line was completed and the Pony Express ceased to be important. Shortly afterwards it was disbanded.

The story of the Pony Express is one of gallant failure against tremendous odds. It was also a costly failure; the operating company lost 200,000 dollars in their gallant venture and were forced into bankruptcy.

Although it only ran for 18 months, the Pony Express will never be forgotten. Its name and its fame live on, entwined alike with the legend and the history of American pioneers.

SPICK AND SPAN LEARNERS



Three smart London policewomen in training at the Metropolitan Police Driving School, Hendon. As an experiment a few police-women are to use motor-cycles for certain special duties.

SCHOOLS ADOPT BEAR CUBS

A polar bear cub has been adopted by the children of a school at Balsall Heath, Birmingham. The cub, Nanook, is one of two sent to Dudley Zoo from Greenland. The other cub, Helga, has been adopted by a school at Hull, which will provide cod-liver oil (a Hull product) for both bears.

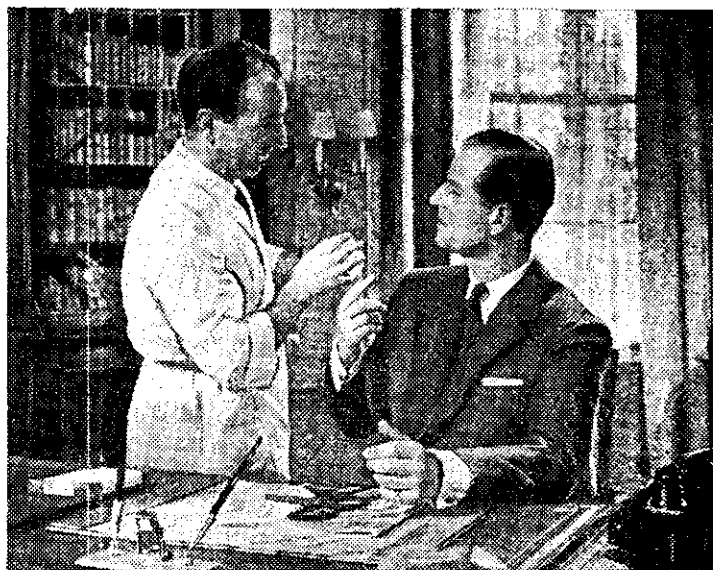
The Birmingham children already correspond with members of the Hull fishing fleet, so the adoption of Nanook will give them a further link with the sea, especially as the bears' diet includes herrings and cod-liver oil. So far, the bears have not learned to drink the oil out of a bottle, but their keeper hopes to train them in time. Meanwhile, it is poured over their meat.

The adoption of the bears will also stimulate correspondence between the two schools. The Birmingham pupils will be able to

learn about the fishing industry and how fishermen live, and the Hull children will obtain an insight into industry in the Midlands.

From time to time, the Hull children will visit Dudley Zoo to see how their bear is getting on. They also hope to be able to go to factories in the Midlands to learn about Britain's manufacturing industries. In return, the Birmingham children will be invited to Hull to learn something about the trawler industry, and see how cod-liver oil is made.

GETTING READY FOR THE CAMERAS



Prince Philip has made a two-minute film in which he appeals on behalf of the World Refugee Year. Here we see him having make-up applied before facing the cameras.

Mysterious ape that likes to watch men at work

A mysterious big ape has been making its appearance in a forest near Lake Nyasa. About five feet six inches tall, it has short legs and very long arms with tapering fingers. The face is black and hairless, and there is short black hair over its body.

The Africans call it Ufiti (ghost), because it silently watches them at work and as silently disappears into the bush. It climbs trees easily and builds rough nests in them like the gorilla. Apparently

unafraid of men, it likes to watch what they are doing while it sits among the branches. It has been particularly interested in a light blue tractor working on a lonely road; in fact, Ufiti is rarely seen when the tractor is not working.

Game experts have made attempts to track down Ufiti and get photographs, but so far they have been unsuccessful. It is believed, however, that the creature is likely to prove to be a giant sub-species of chimpanzee.

Puzzle picture



The strange object is a model of a tobacco virus, enormously magnified. Made in London, it is to be used for studies in the medical school of the University of California.

ON THE EVE OF THE BUDGET

By the CN Parliamentary Correspondent

Once again we are on the threshold of the Budget. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Derick Heathcoat-Amory, will present our national "housekeeping" account to the Commons next Monday.

THE Budget is an annual statement of the nation's finances and it falls into three parts. First there is an account of our current trade and its prospects—a review of the economic situation.

The Chancellor then outlines the expenses we have had to meet in the past year, and those we will have to face in the future. Finally, he shows how he proposes to meet those bills by adjusting taxes. He may even leave things as they are, though this rarely happens.

The Budget is concerned with the cost of the Government services.

Huge wages bill

Out of the money voted for these services we pay the wages and salaries of civil servants and the armed forces. We pay for defences and defence research, for our embassies abroad, and so on.

And at home, among other things, expenditure is either fully met (or shared with local councils) on such items as roads, houses, schools, hospitals, the National Health and Insurance services. The amount of money dealt with by the present-day Budget in Britain is about £5,000,000,000, and it is all under the direct control of the House of Commons, as was noted in this column recently.

Three interesting points can be made about next week's Budget, which will be Mr. Amory's third. First, the Chancellor makes a break with modern custom by presenting it on a Monday. Usually Budget Day is a Tuesday, one reason being that many M.P.s are still on their way back to London on Monday after their week-end visits to their constituencies. But this year President and Madame de Gaulle of France are opening their long-awaited State visit to Britain on Tuesday, so the Budget is being brought forward a day.

The second point is that this will be the first Budget since Mr. Macmillan's Conservative Government was returned at the General Election last October. There is natural curiosity to see to what extent election promises will be carried out.

The third point concerns the mounting demands from the Government back benches for cuts in Government expenditure. But the Cabinet is pledged to spend large sums on social development. The more we spend in this way the less scope there is for a Chancellor to cut taxes.

The traditional duty of the Chancellor of the Exchequer is to "balance the Budget"; to make sure that income equals or surpasses expenditure.

Chancellor's judgement

A careful Chancellor usually "budgets for a surplus." He tries to end his financial year with money in hand. Out of this surplus (if any) he makes his tax cuts.

That is where a Chancellor's judgment comes in. From facts and figures available to him he must try to assess the nation's prospects. If the trade outlook is good, even though the immediate Budget position is not, a Chancellor may decide to make a few tax cuts.

Finally, a note on procedure. Next Monday the Chancellor will be making his statement to the Ways and Means Committee. The other body through which the Commons controls finance is the Committee of Supply, also made up of all our M.P.s.

We shall remember their purposes if we recall that the job of the latter is to "supply" money to the Government—that is, spend it. The task of the Ways and Means Committee is to find how to raise this money.



OUR HOMELAND

Fording the river Glaven at Glandford, Norfolk

This Month of April

*The First of April, some do say,
Is set apart for All Fools' Day.
But why the people call it so,
Nor I, nor they themselves, do know.*

(Eighteenth-century rhyme)

IN days gone by the custom of making April Fools was very widespread. Ancient Rome had its Feast of Fools; even far-off India knew the custom, although in that country the date was the last day of March. In Britain the children still keep the practice alive. France still has its *Poisson d'Avril*.

Perhaps the most probable explanation of the origin of April Fool's Day is that it once marked the close of a pagan festival to usher in the Spring. In past ages important festivals often lasted for several days, and it is possible that, religious ceremonies over, the final day of a Spring festival was given over by our distant ancestors to jollity and playing tricks upon each other.

Weather lore

Turning from April fools to April weather, we find lore mostly suggesting that, for our own good, it should not be too pleasant. We have all too often been told, for instance, that

*March winds and April showers
Bring forth May flowers.*

But if we hope for a fine Summer and a good harvest, we must be prepared for much worse than mere showers!

*April cold and wet,
Fills the barn best yet.*

Yet another o'd saying, "It's a bad April that doesn't wear a white hat," suggests that snow in this month is also beneficial to the farmer. There's a good word for thunderstorms, too, in:

*When April blows his horn,
It's welcome both for hay and corn.*

After all this we need not be surprised at the warning:

*Till April's dead
Change not a thread.*

Season of Song

Towards the end of April our ancestors began to prepare for the month ahead. During the last few days of April, country folk used to go "May Singing," as they called it, at the bigger houses in their neighbourhood, much in the manner of Christmas Waits. They did this, however, not for money or food, but simply because singing was supposed finally to banish the cold of the Winter, and to bring good health and good fortune.

Here is one verse of one such song:

*God bless this house, and harbour
your riches and your store,
For the Summer springs so fresh,
green and gay.
We hope the Lord will prosper
you both now and evermore,
Drawing near to the merry month
of May.*

E. S. J.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

Excavations in an ancient burial ground at Cricchel Down, Dorset, show that it was used for at least 2,000 years—from about 1500 B.C. to A.D. 500.

FLOURISHING

Firms in Britain have recently had orders from South African Railways for electrical equipment worth almost £2,750,000; from Spain, for hydro-electric generating plant worth nearly £2,500,000; and from India, for the construction of a £3,000,000 factory near Madras.

A cat at Loddon, Norfolk, is mothering a baby squirrel along with her own kittens. Her owner, Mr. J. Davey, found the squirrel near his home.

An electric distress signal for disabled persons living alone is being tried out by the L.C.C. The device operates a flashing light visible to passers-by in the street.

THEY SAY...

THE task that lies before us is to turn an old Empire into a new Commonwealth.

Mr. Harold Macmillan

BRITAIN needs a Ministry of Youth.

Mr. William Carron, president of the Amalgamated Engineering Union

Home-made thermometer



With a laboratory flask and a lemonade bottle, Mervyn Jenkins checks the temperature with a home-made thermometer. This is one of several weather instruments made by the pupils of his school at Ashford, Kent.

Senior Scouts will form bathing safety beach patrols this Summer at Mablethorpe and Sutton-on-Sea, Lincolnshire.

Everyone knows that youth hostelling is wonderful fun—and that it's cheap, too. But not everyone knows how to join the Y.H.A. and set about planning an exciting outdoor holiday. So now we've made it easy for you—a large straightforward coupon. Just fill it in, post it to us, and we'll send you an attractive free booklet and an enrolment form—everything you and your parents want to know about the Y.H.A. Spring's on its way—take your first step on the Adventure Trail now—post this coupon today!



CUT OUT

fill in

TO YOUTH HOSTELS ASSOCIATION (CN/694),
TREVELYAN HOUSE, ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

Please send me free booklet "Going Places?" and an enrolment form.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

—find out!

SCOUTMASTER GREATHEART

After a serious motor accident in the Bahamas last year, Scoutmaster Robert Hanlon came on the scene and found a coloured boy named Oswald Stubbs lying untended with a broken leg, and an arm completely severed. He rendered First Aid and then accompanied the lad to hospital in the ambulance.

There, it might be thought, the Scouter's job had ended. But Mr. Hanlon visited the lad every day. He raised £550 to provide an

artificial arm and to help the boy's family. He taught him how to write with his left hand. He invited him to stay in his home while recovering. He spent weeks trying to find work for the boy, and finally got him a place as telephone switchboard operator.

This great-hearted Scoutmaster's deeds only recently came to light in this country, and as a result he has now received one of Scouting's rarest awards, the Medal for Meritorious Conduct.

Schoolchildren thank the Army

During the snows of January a party of children from Amesbury were stranded in their school bus on Salisbury Plain. Happily, some Army officers came to the rescue, getting them back to their nearby depot at Larkhill for a night's rest.

The next morning the Army's young guests had breakfast and were then entertained with films, organised games, and pitched battles—snowball type. Meanwhile, the road had been cleared, so after dinner the children were able to get home again.

It was all very exciting, and to show their gratitude the children saved their pocket-money and bought a silver table-lighter. And the other day they all went back to the Larkhill depot to present the lighter to the officers for use in their mess.

PIEBALD BILLY



Believed to be the only piebald donkey in the British Isles, Billy lives on a farm at Ditchling, Sussex.

The CN Handwriting Test

closes this week, and all entries should be sent in by Thursday,

31st March

The final Token appears in the bottom left corner of the back page of this issue, and the address for posting completed forms is:

The Competition Department,
CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER,
3 Pilgrim Street,
London, E.C.4 (Comp.)

June for Sunshine

People who take June holidays in Britain are the ones likely to get the best weather. A survey made by the British Travel and Holidays Association shows that for the past 30 years the highest daily average of sunshine has been in June.

The survey was based on records from 16 weather stations, and the report states: "There is less rain, less chance of sultry or thundery weather, and June temperatures are usually only a little below those in July and August."

ROOM WITH A VIEW



A South London schoolboy, Christopher Warton, has painted this mural in the living-room at home. It shows the famous castle of Chillon on the Lake of Geneva. Christopher's father, seen watching him at work, is a well-known interior designer.

Loch Ness family of monsters

Tourists in the Highlands this Summer will be hoping for a glimpse not only of the famed Loch Ness monster, Nessie, but of Mr. Monster and perhaps some little Monsters as well. A Scottish M.P., Mr. John Rankin, suggested in the Commons the other day that Nessie, a tremendous tourist attraction, would soon be surfacing at Loch Ness.

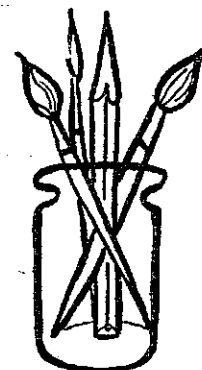
"Thousands of people have gone to Loch Ness-side to try to spot her," he said. Then he went on: "In one part of the loch, which is so deep that it has not yet been fathomed, it is believed there is a 'gentleman,' and it may be that when 'Nessie' surfaces this year there may be one or two little monsters coming to the top."

The legend of the monster dates from 1933, and "photographs" of it were obtained in 1934.



It's 23 in. x 32 in. when open.

FREE!



This big Heinz Food Painting Map of Britain

To: H. J. Heinz Co. Ltd., "Map," 23 Southwark Street, London S.E.1

Please send me a free Painting Map of Britain

NAME.....
(BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

ADDRESS.....

Stick
5d.
in stamps
here

What is haggis? How does a can of Heinz soup find its way on to your table? Which Buckinghamshire town is famous for ducks? You'll find the answer to all these, and a great many more questions, and have fun colouring lots of pictures in the new Heinz Food Painting Map of Britain.

It's big—23 in. x 32 in.—it's full of interesting facts and there are lots of pictures for you to paint.

And it's FREE! Just write your name and address clearly on the coupon shown and send it, with 5d. in stamps to cover postage, in an envelope marked "Map" to:—

H. J. HEINZ CO. LTD.,
"MAP," 23 SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON S.E.1

Cameraman in the swamps

A FEW days ago Tony Soper, the B.B.C.'s producer-cameraman, set off for America as a one-man camera team to make three natural history films for showing later in the year on TV.

He took diving equipment, and one of his most venturesome jobs will be to submerge with his camera in the Florida Everglades. This swampy jungle is expected to yield pictures of raccoons, snakes, and water turkeys.

PROGRAMMES and PEOPLE on TV and RADIO by Ernest Thomson

Tony Soper is going to Florida from New York in the diving vessel *Dubhe*, a 35-foot motor cruiser skippered by Capt. Trevor Hampton, diving-trainer at the Dartmouth Underwater Centre.

Besides his diving equipment, Tony has taken two film cameras and two tape recorders. The journey into the swamps will be in an 11-foot dinghy with an out-board engine able to operate in four inches of water.

MAN ON THE FOOTPLATE

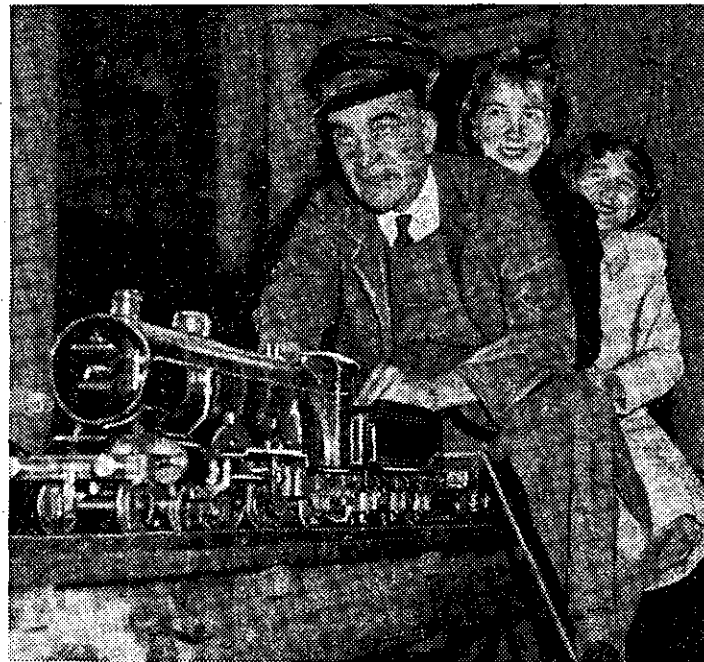
A HEADMASTER said to a 13-year-old boy leaving school: "William, take this note to a friend of mine on the railway and I think he'll put you right."

That was in Liverpool in 1907, and the boy was William Hoole, crack steam locomotive driver who left the railways last July after 52 years' service. On Friday at 7.30 p.m. in the B.B.C. Home Service, "Bill" Hoole will tell of his thrills on the footplate at speeds of 100 m.p.h. and over.

Producer Maurice Brown has given me a preview of Driver Hoole's account. It is the story of a man who loves steam engines and regrets that their day is passing because of the advent of electric and diesel locomotives.

His first job was waking the guards early in the morning. "I used to cadge a ride in one of the locos going down to the Huskisson Dock," says Mr. Hoole. "It was then, as a boy of 15, I first handled a regulator. You can imagine the thrill to a small boy. From then on, wherever there was steam I was interested."

He always loved speed. "Almost every rail had its own tune," he says. "I could always tell where there was water underneath, or rock strata, bridges, points, level crossings... As you build up for your 65, 70, 80, and get into your nineties, you get a different kind of rhythm. At over 90 things begin to rattle."



William Hoole gives two visitors to the Model Railway Exhibition a ride on an Atlantic class engine

Bill Hoole began his career at 5s. a week. He ended it with special runs at more than 100 m.p.h. on his favourite A4 Pacific

type locomotive, *Sir Nigel Gresley*. B.B.C. engineer Dick Elsdon, who recorded the talk, is himself a railway enthusiast.

Girls make their own reed pipes

YOUNG music-makers play a big part in B.B.C. television's *All Your Own* on Sunday. The programme is coming from Scotland.

Eleven girls who meet regularly at Murray House School, Edinburgh, have made their own reed pipes. They will be playing *The Ash Grove* and other favourites.

A boy who not only plays the guitar but writes the words and music is 15-year-old Swiss-born Richard Moser. He is living at Stroud, Gloucestershire, to learn English, but will make the trip to Glasgow to play and sing *The Clocks Of My Village*. The clocks tell him he is late for school, the thought that inspired him to write this song.

George Lyon (15) of Dundee, will be showing his own scale model of his home-town's tramway system. Dundee's trams fascinate him. He has a scrapbook about them and has spent weeks studying their history in the City archives.

It's hard work bringing Cinderella to the screen

CINDERELLA, with Dame Margot Fonteyn in the name part, is to be networked by Granada TV on 13th April.

Few television shows have ever taken so long to prepare. For weeks past the set and costume designers have been at work, along with artists and technicians, to make sure this 75-minute ballet programme is a success. It is specially timed for 7.30 in the evening so that children can watch.

"It is not enough to give the TV cameras a seat in the stalls," said a Granada spokesman. "The cameras have to be an actual part of the production, moving in among the dancers to bring the ballet vividly to life."

Seventy members of the Royal Ballet Company from Covent Garden will be taking part. Margot Fonteyn will dance with Michael Somes, who has the part of Prince Charming. The Royal Ballet's newest ballerina, Annette Page, will dance the Fairy Godmother, and Rosemary Lindsay and Gert Larsen will appear as the Ugly Sisters.

A leg injury prevented Margot Fonteyn from appearing in the first performance of *Cinderella* in 1948, though it was specially created for her by Frederick Ashton to the music of Prokofiev. Since then, however, Dame Margot has made it one of her most memorable and appealing roles.

BILKO AGAIN



GOOD news for Phil Silvers fans. I hear that Sergeant Bilko returns to B.B.C. television at 8 p.m. on Thursday, 7th April, for a completely new series. It will run right through to Christmas.



Trixie Tells Her Diary

Every schoolgirl loves a diary—especially when it belongs to someone else. Trixie, lively and lovable, tells all about her amazing adventures when she meets up with a mystery girl from Paris.

Read Trixie's Diary in SCHOOLGIRLS' OWN LIBRARY

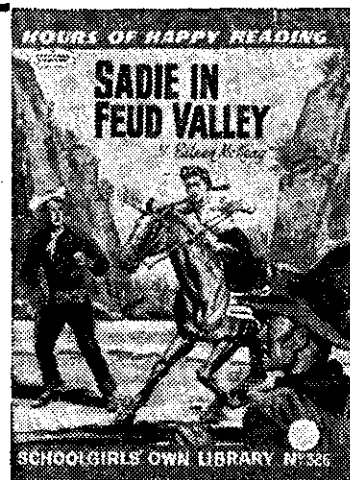
Issue No. 325 OUT NOW Price 1/-

All-Star Western

Read an enthralling story of the old-time West—"Sadie in Feud Valley." It tells of a bitter feud between two ranchers and how Sadie Kendrick strove to mend the feud and bring peace to a strife-torn valley in Texas.

Buy "Sadie In Feud Valley" SCHOOLGIRLS' OWN LIBRARY

Issue No. 326 NOW OUT Price 1/-



Mountaineering thrills on Snowdon

To be the imaginary victim in a mountain rescue exercise, being swung down on ropes like a parcel, must be even more hair-raising than doing the actual rescue work.

This was the role played last Summer by Alan Prothero, then a member of the B.B.C. Welsh News staff. In this week's *Sunday Special* he will be talking with Canon J. H. Williams about the excitements of mountaineering on Snowdon.

Canon Williams moved to Llanberis, at the foot of Snowdon, in 1943. Since then he has given mountaineering tips to more than 12,000 young people from all over the world.

Team of seven bring you the Boat Race

Two B.B.C. launches will be scurrying after the Oxford and Cambridge boat-race crews at 4 o'clock next Saturday. The race is not being covered by I.T.V.



Michael Henderson

Once again the launch *Everest* will be fitted with TV cameras to give viewers pictures all the way from Putney to Mortlake. Michael Henderson will be TV commentator for the send-off from

Putney. Wynford Vaughan Thomas and T. B. Langton will be on the launch.

For sound radio, John Snagge will, as usual, be on the launch

Santosy, with John Hind and Jock Clapperton to keep him company. Raymond Glendenning will have a microphone on Chiswick Bridge to give his own impressions of the finish,



Wynford Vaughan Thomas

Chi-Chi does not like his log cabin

A SMALL log cabin recently built by keepers beside the giant panda's pool is designed to give Chi-Chi, the £12,000 panda, shade from the sun. But it does not look as though Chi-Chi is anxious to take advantage of it. He seldom ventures inside, but spends most of his time sitting on the roof, per-

WHO'S WHO at the ZOO

forming endless antics to the great delight of visitors.

"Chi-Chi must be about the most contrary animal in all the Zoo collection," an official told me. "He never wants to do what we want him to do. When last Autumn we erected a special weighing platform for him he carefully avoided it, and his keepers had quite a job to entice him on to it. It seems to be just the same with his new log cabin. However, he may change his mind when the sun gets really hot. We certainly hope so.

"Giant pandas normally live at altitudes of from 8,000 to 14,000 feet and do best in cold, cloudy conditions. Too much sunshine is very liable to cause moulting troubles which can only be specially treated by spraying with a hair-nourishing liquid and applying coconut-oil—a difficult business at the best of times."

Breeding Locusts by the thousand

IN a warm, brightly-lit laboratory, recently built beneath the insect house, the London Zoo is now breeding locusts on a larger scale than ever before.

Along one wall are 25 breeding-cages, in which migratory locusts pair and lay their egg-pods in small sand-filled "pockets" in the cork flooring. Hoppers (as the baby locusts are called) hatch in about a fortnight and are then

fed on grass until they are wanted as food for various Zoo exhibits.

"Locusts are being bred all round the clock, literally by the thousand," an official told me. "Even so, we find they are not too many. There is a large and ever-increasing demand for them. They are regularly wanted not only for certain tropical birds, but for some of the monkeys and reptiles as well.

"The latest demand has come from the ostrich house, where keepers are feeding them in large numbers to some of the storks and cranes. Just lately, the Great Bustards there have also been showing a liking for them."

Bid for freedom

A FIVE-FOOT Indian Sarus crane, one of a pair now lodging temporarily in the Zoo Gardens, has made a bold bid for freedom.

Apparently there was a quarrel between the birds, whereupon the male crane spread his wings and took off. Keepers gave chase and saw it alight in the llama paddock. But as they approached, the crane took off again and soared high into Regent's Park.

"Keepers from other sections were hurriedly summoned, including most of the nursing staff at the Zoo's hospital, and they spread out fanwise into the park.

"Fortunately, the chase did not last long," said Headkeeper E. Scrivener of the ostrich house. "The crane soon came down in the archery range. We carried it back to its enclosure and clipped its wings to ensure that it does not try a 'repeat performance'."

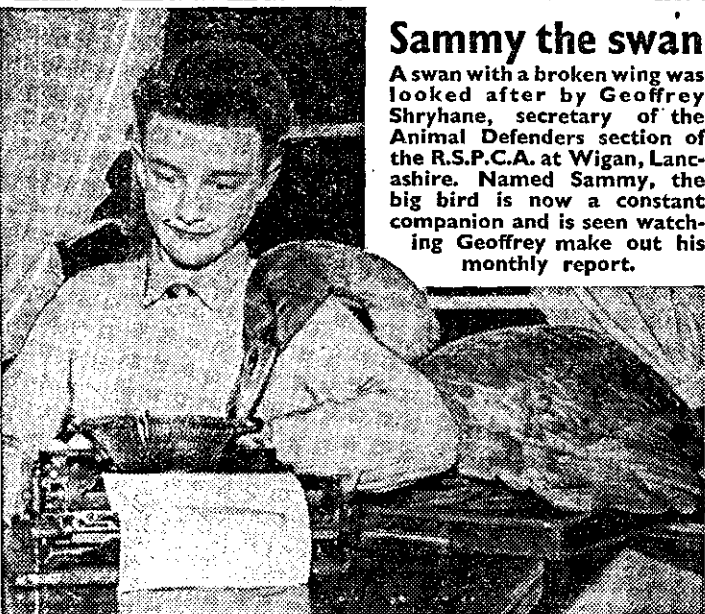
Morocco bound

A TRIP to the hot sands and barren hills of Morocco lies ahead for London Zoo's curator of birds, Mr. John Yealland. Early in April he is flying there with John and George Newmark, both well-known animal collectors.

The Newmarks, who are twins, are both schoolmasters—George

Sammy the swan

A swan with a broken wing was looked after by Geoffrey Shryhane, secretary of the Animal Defenders section of the R.S.P.C.A. at Wigan, Lancashire. Named Sammy, the big bird is now a constant companion and is seen watching Geoffrey make out his monthly report.



is at Court Lees School, in Godstone, Surrey; John is at Hereward House, a school in Hampstead. Both have collected many specimens for the London Zoo.

"We are going with a list of 'wanted' specimens in our pockets," Mr. George Newmark told me. "Mostly we shall be after snakes and lizards for the Zoo's reptile house. For the insect section we have been asked to collect scorpions, beetles, and similar desert insects.

"Mr. Yealland is mainly going for a holiday. But he hopes to be able to pick up an interesting bird or two for his section of the menagerie, possibly in one of the native markets where local birds are sometimes offered for sale."

PET FOX



Megan Charles of Hereford has a most attractive pet, a fox named Cindy.

Flamingoes for the Palace

ONE of the first birds the Queen's new baby will see when he is taken out into Buckingham Palace gardens, is likely to be the flamingo. Eleven of these birds, which spent last summer in a lake in the Palace grounds, have been wintering at Regent's Park, where they could be provided with adequate shelter.

Very shortly now these flamingoes will be returning to the Palace gardens.

"They have done very well at the Zoo," said an official. "They mingled readily with the European Greater flamingoes here, and gave us no trouble. Only once or twice did we have to confine them to their shelter because of the cold.

"Our main anxiety was to preserve their superb colouring. These Rosy flamingoes have a lovely salmon-coloured plumage which can only be kept in perfect condition if the birds' diet is right. We gave them special rations consisting of shrimps, cockles, brown bread, cod-liver oil, and other colour-preserving constituents."

CRAVEN HILL

STARS OF THE NORTHERN CROWN

LOOKING AT THE SKY

The seven chief stars of the Northern Crown, or Corona Borealis, may now be seen to advantage when the sky becomes dark. Rather low in the eastern sky, they will be readily recognised with the aid of the star-map.

To the Ancient Greeks this semi-circle of stars represented the crown which Dionysus presented to Ariadne as a wedding gift. After she died, according to legend, he threw the crown up into the sky.

The brightest star in the crown is Alphecca, the second magnitude star which appears at the tip of that imaginary Y formed in conjunction with the bright stars of Boötes, as described in the CN of 19th March.

Alphecca is of particular interest because it is composed of two suns less than ten million miles apart. They are nearly twice the diameter of our Sun but together they radiate about 40 times more light and heat.

It would be a grand spectacle were these suns as near as our Sun. Being only about eleven times the width of our Sun apart, they would always appear together in our sky except about sunrise and sunset, when one might appear alone above the horizon. But their relative positions would be constantly changing, because they revolve round a central point

between them. This revolution takes 17 days and 8 hours to complete, and during this time they might eclipse each other.

However, the two suns of Alphecca are about 3,860,000 times farther from us than our Sun, their light taking about 61 years to reach us.

The much fainter Beta is about 204 light-years away, and Delta



233 light-years, which accounts for their faintness. Epsilon is about 150 light-years distant.

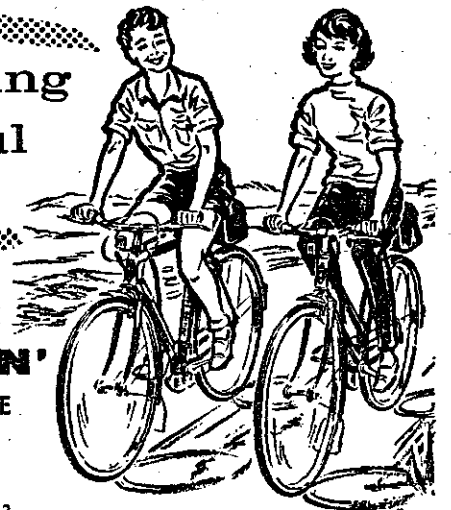
Gamma is however much more interesting, for though about 148 light-years distant, it is known to be composed of two suns about 3,070 million miles apart. One of these radiant suns revolves round a much larger one like a flaming planet, but so vast is the orbit that it takes 87¼ years to do so.

G. F. M.

★
Make friends
with a cycle!

★
a sparkling
colourful
cycle!

★
The 'JUNIOR
CHAMPION'
WITH 19-INCH FRAME



Royal
Enfield
BICYCLES

Please send me a copy of your 1960 Cycle Folder in colour.

NAME.....
ADDRESS.....

THE ENFIELD CYCLE CO., LTD., REDDITCH, WORCESTERSHIRE.

CS.400

ALL RIGHT IN THE



Eleven competitors in a row, all dressed up and ready to go:

"This is great fun," said Stirling Moss after his first run in a kart. Thousands of enthusiasts up and down the country entirely agree with him; and that is one of the reasons why Britain's newest sport looks like becoming highly popular.

The first organised kart races were held only a few months ago; they were mainly between U.S. Servicemen, who introduced Karting to Britain. Yet already there are more than 40 firms making these little machines, and clubs are being formed at a tremendous rate. The Royal Automobile Club, which controls the sport, estimates that in a short while there may well be as many as 1,500 clubs in this country.

Karting, please

The sport also has its own magazine, and from the first issue we learn that manufacturers anticipate that they will produce 20,000 karts this year. Incidentally, the magazine emphasises that the name of the sport is Karting and not Go-Karting, as it is often called. The Go-Kart, it seems, is the name of one of the most popular makes of kart in the United States, where 100,000 people regularly take part in racing.

What is a kart? Basically, it consists of a simple steel framework slung a few inches above the ground on wheels of between nine and 12 inches in diameter, with a two-stroke engine supplying the power.

Yet these little cars can reach speeds of up to 50 miles an hour—and when you are travelling at that speed only a few inches above the ground, with the engine buzzing away like an angry hornet, it seems as if you are travelling twice as fast.

Safety is another reason for their popularity. Because they are so low-slung, it is almost impossible to turn them over. Drivers have the thrills of real motor racing with practically none of the risks.

A third advantage is their cheapness; they have, indeed, been called the "poor man's racing cars." Simple karts with a lawnmower type of engine can be bought for as little as £50, and though more powerful types with twin engines cost up to about £150 their drivers know that if they do have a crash replacements will not run them into a heavy bill.

And unlike real racing drivers, karting enthusiasts can soon become experts. On the simpler karts, which have no gears or clutch, the driver has only a throttle and brake to operate.

Tracks can be laid down anywhere—at the end of a disused aerodrome runway, on a school playground or on a big car park. American airmen have even held meetings in an aircraft hangar, and Jack Brabham and Roy Salvadori have given an exciting demonstration in a ballroom. A field with a smooth surface can also be used, though racing on grass usually causes wheel spin and consequent loss of speed.

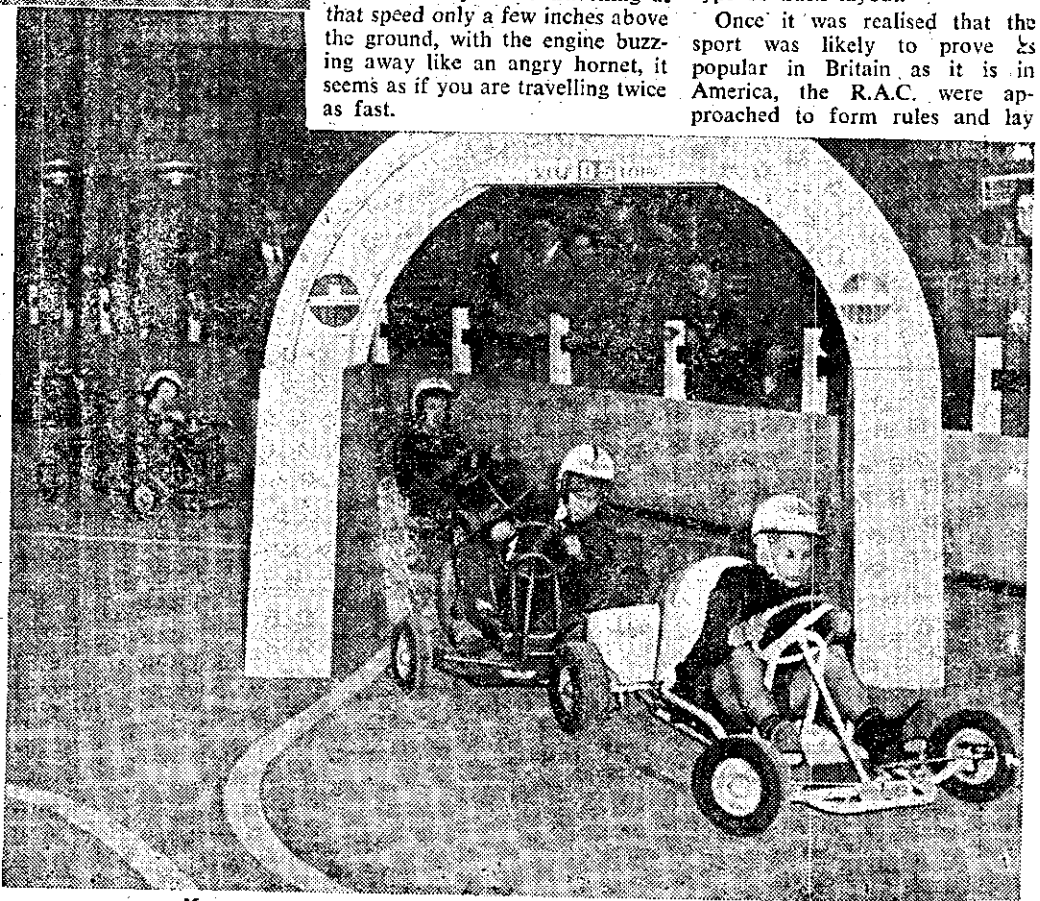
Thrills on the bend

The best kind of track is one with straight stretches not more than 100 yards long. Ideally, a circuit should have short straights, and plenty of twists and corners, for one of the greatest thrills in Karting comes from swooping round a bend with your foot hard on the throttle. The diagram on this page, which is based on a track in California, shows the ideal type of track layout.

Once it was realised that the sport was likely to prove as popular in Britain as it is in America, the R.A.C. were approached to form rules and lay



Words of advice before she sets off on the first run



Youngsters enjoying a run at the Schoolboys' Own Exhibition

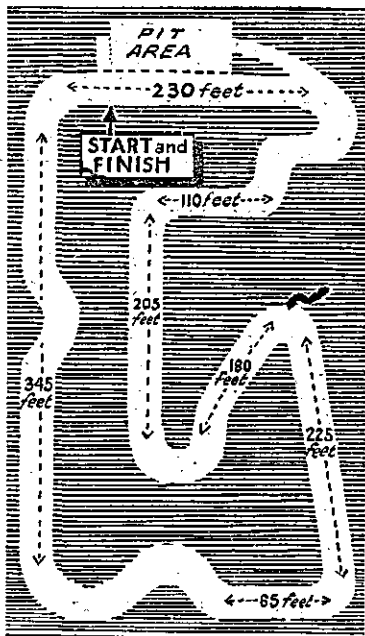
KART

down specifications. They have divided the machines into four groups: those with gearless engines up to 100 c.c.; those between 101 c.c. and 200 c.c.; karts with gear-box units up to 100 c.c.; and 101 c.c. to 200 c.c.

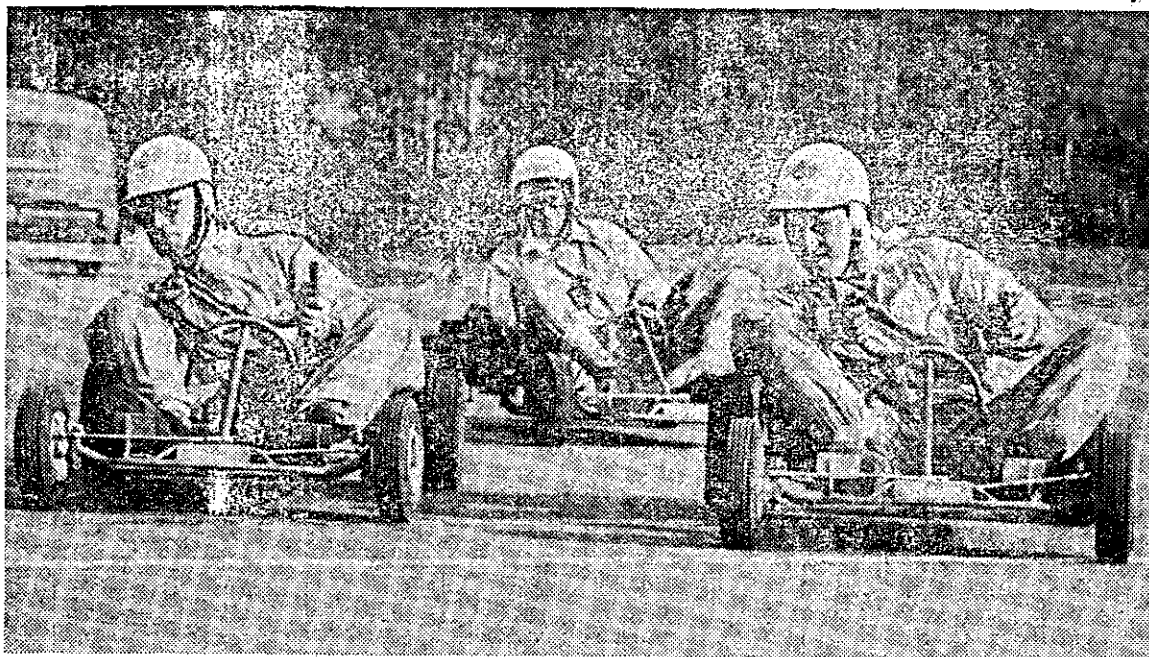
For this year, at any rate, the R.A.C. have decided to limit engines to 200 c.c. If all goes well they will consider sanctioning more powerful models, like the ones sometimes used in the U.S.

Incidentally, anyone who may be thinking of building his own kart should take note of the R.A.C.'s warning that professional advice should be sought to ensure that the vehicle is up to competition standard.

The R.A.C. have also ruled that the minimum age for competition drivers shall be 16. But whether you are old enough for competition karting or not, you will agree with Stirling Moss that "This is great fun."



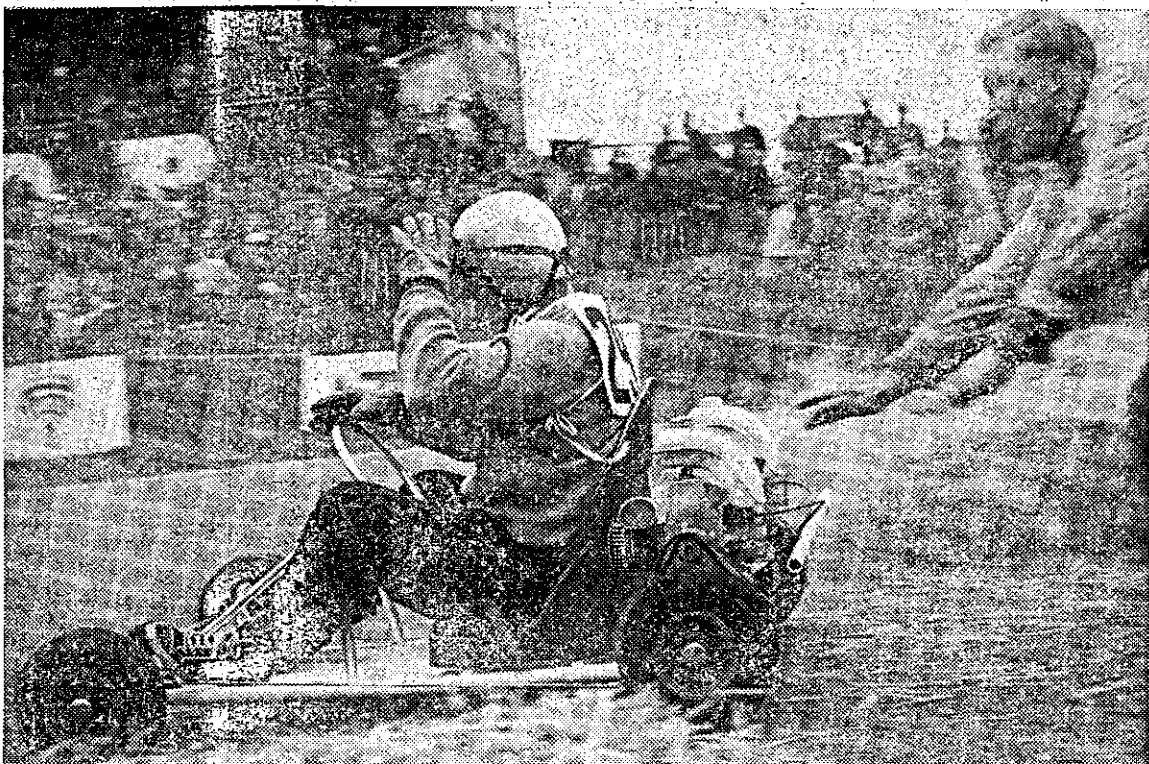
The ideal track layout



Steady nerves are needed when jostling for position round a corner



Last-minute touches in the pits (Photo: Peter Horstman)

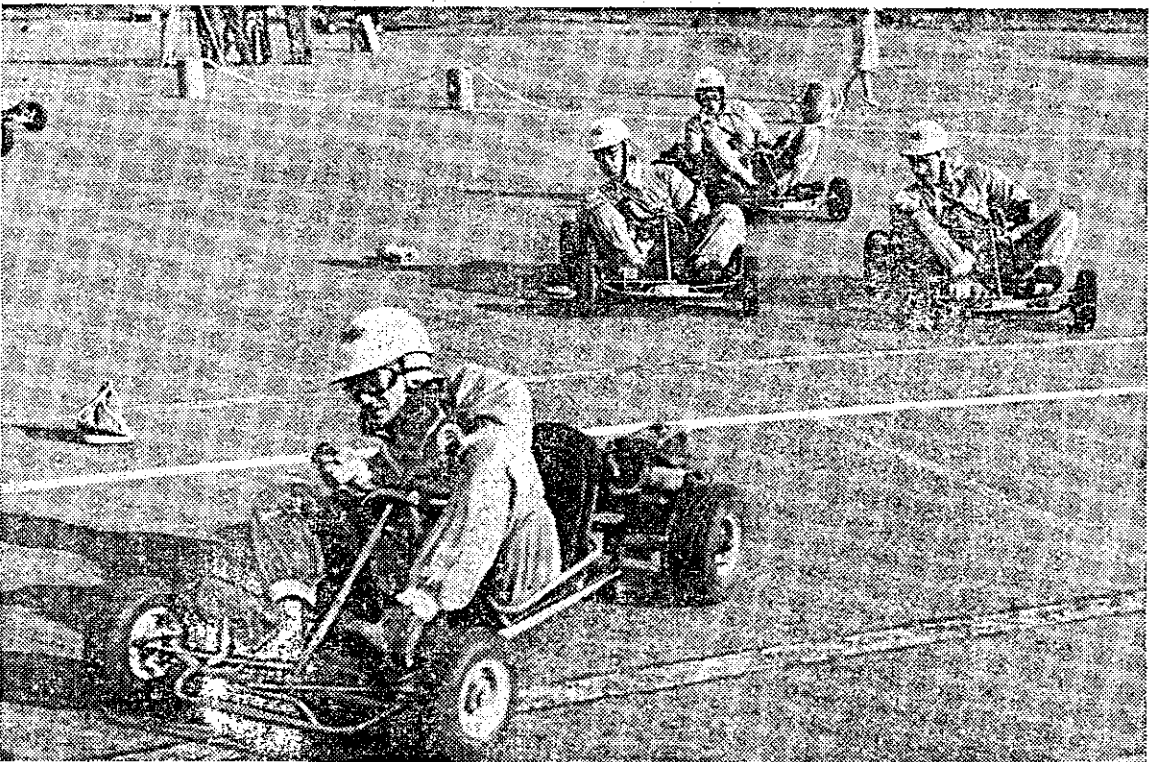


A hearty shove at the start of a race at Brands Hatch

(Photo: Peter Horstman)



Stirling Moss demonstrates a kart to a B.O.A.C. girl



It is almost impossible to turn a kart over, so corners can be taken 'flat out.'

In the country now that April's there

It was the poet Browning who sang "O, to be in England, now that April's there," but every naturalist would echo him. April is quite the most exciting month of the year in the countryside, with everything stirring and burgeoning after the long Winter.

All our resident song birds are in full song by the beginning of April, and almost all our resident birds have built their nests and laid their eggs by the middle of the month. If early April is particularly cold, they may be delayed for a week or ten days, but often an April snowstorm catches them unawares and then the first clutch of eggs may have to be abandoned, and a new one started.

Nearly all our Summer migrant birds arrive during April. The exception are a few early ones that come in March (chiffchaff, wheatear, ring ouzel, swallow, sand martin, wryneck); and a few late-comers that arrive in May (swift, nightjar, spotted flycatcher, turtle-dove, hobby, marsh warbler).

Moreover, the bulk of our breeding population of the birds whose forerunners arrive in March, usually does not turn up till April; while forerunners of the May arrivals, especially the swift and turtle dove, often appear in the last week of April.

Arriving with a song

The principal birds to look out for as they arrive in April are the willow warbler, house martin, cuckoo, nightingale, common whitethroat, blackcap, tree pipit, and common redstart. Most of our Summer visitors which are song birds start to sing almost as soon as they arrive, so they are fairly quickly detected.

Although many butterflies appear on the wing on sunny days in late March, it is the middle of April before we can expect to see them on the wing almost every day. To the small tortoiseshell, peacock, and brimstone, which are



The common redstart: one of the visitors due here during the next week or two.

the principal March fliers, April can add the large and small cabbage whites, the attractive green-veined white, and the dainty orange-tip.

Many other winged insects begin to appear regularly in April, including honeybees, bumblebees, queen wasps, and the curious bee-

fly (*Bombus*). This is a true two-winged fly, allied to the houseflies, mosquitoes, and daddy-long-legs, but its furry body makes it look very much like a small bee as it hovers in front of flowers, projecting its long tongue into them to collect the nectar.

There is an immense list of wild flowers which start to bloom in April, though many of them can be found already out in March in the favoured warm districts of the west and south-west. The flowers I always look for in early April are the marsh marigold or king-cup, which looks like a huge bright yellow buttercup; the cuckoo flower or lady's smock, white or lilac in colour, and with the four petals which show it to be a member of the great crucifer or cabbage family; the little white wood-sorrel, with its clover-like trefoil leaves; and the extraordinary-looking wild arum, more commonly known as lords and ladies or cuckoo-pint. RICHARD FITTER

KEYS OF THE KINGDOM OF MUSIC

For all young people who are pausing, as it were, on the threshold of music, wondering what it has to offer them, we can thoroughly recommend *Let's Have Some Music*, by Donald Hughes (Museum Press, 12s. 6d.)

Dr. Hughes deals patiently and sympathetically with the vexed question of why this music is called "good" or "classical," and why that music is not. In fact, he explains just what "classical" means. He also points out the illuminating truth that just as much bad music was written in the time of Bach as at any other period.

Great music, in short, is the kind that lives, because it is found to satisfy and inspire men and women through many generations.

The author takes his readers to a concert and explains what is

happening. He writes very interestingly about joining a jazz group and really getting the most out of it. He hands his readers the keys to a fascinating kingdom they can all explore for themselves.

WINDMILL BOY

Alan Page of Lowestoft is only nine, but he already knows a great deal about windmills. He gave a 30-minute talk on the subject to his class the other day at the Fen Park Primary School.

He knows all the technical windmill terms, he can draw every detail and knows where every windmill is in his native Suffolk. Now he is writing a book about windmills which will be placed in the school library.

ON RECORD

New discs to note

FLOWER DRUM SONG on Gala GLP369. This enchanting new musical show by Rodgers and Hammerstein opened at London's Palace Theatre last week. On this selection you can hear most of the melodies, including the popular *I Enjoy Being A Girl* and *Love Look Away*. (LP: 16s. 9d.)

JOSÉ MELIS: *Tonight* on Oriole MG20038. Melis is a popular pianist in America, and on this disc gives us some imaginative playing of some old favourites. They include *Harbour Lights* and *Over The Rainbow*. (LP. 37s. 9½d.)

OWEN BRANNIGAN: *Folk Songs From Northumbria* on HMV7EG8551. Gerald Moore accompanies this fine bass singer in a collection of seven traditional Northumbrian songs. Many are familiar from Brannigan's television appearances, perhaps best known being: *Cushie Butterfield*, *Lavender's Blue*, and *The Keel Row*. (EP. 10s. 7½d.)

CONNIE FRANCIS: *Rock-'N'-Roll Million Sellers* on MGMC804. For her latest long player this

THE ENGLAND SISTERS: *Heartbeats* on HMV45POP710. These are three charming young



ladies who are new to records. They have an appealing way with them. (45. 6s.)

KENNETH MCKELLAR: *Famous Handel Songs* on Decca DFE6623. Kenneth McKellar has made many friends on both sides of the Border with his television series. Here he has devoted all his attention to the songs of Handel. Two are taken from *The Messiah*, and others from *Ptolemy* and *Xerxes*. He has a fine voice, well suited to these strong, beautiful pieces. (EP. 10s. 11½d.)

PERCY FAITH: *Bon Voyage* on Philips BBL7359. American orchestra-leader Percy Faith always produces superb long-playing records. He combines good taste with excellent choice of material. This musical tour of the world makes very fine listening. (LP. 35s. 9½d.)



pretty little American singer has chosen a selection of best-selling rock 'n' roll tunes. (LP. 34s. 1½d.)

Strange to Relate

THIS IS THE BARNACLE GOOSE. HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY THIS BIRD SHOULD BE NAMED AFTER A SHELLFISH?

IN THE MIDDLE AGES IT WAS BELIEVED TO BEGIN LIFE AS A BARNACLE SUCH AS WE MAY SEE ATTACHED TO A ROCK OR DRIFTWOOD. AS THE BIRD WAS ONLY A VISITOR TO EUROPE AND NEVER SEEN TO BREED, IT WAS EASY FOR THE LEGEND TO GROW. THE 12TH CENTURY HISTORIAN, GIRALDUS CAMBRENSIS WROTE OF THE BIRD: AS HE SAW IT IN IRELAND, HE WAS SHOCKED TO FIND THE CLERGY THERE EATING THE GESE DURING LENT. THEIR EXCUSE WAS THAT THE BIRD WAS BORN...

...AS A BARNACLE IN THE SEA AND COULD THEREFORE BE CONSIDERED A FISH. IN THIS DRAWING FROM AN OLD MANUSCRIPT YOU CAN SEE HOW BARNACLES WERE SUPPOSED TO HATCH OUT AND GROW INTO YOUNG GESE, THEN DROP OFF AND SWIM AWAY. (ABOVE LEFT) WE SEE VARIOUS TYPES OF BARNACLES.

BILL HOOPER



THE TROUBLE WITH JENNINGS

by Anthony Buckeridge

Plans for a dormitory feast go astray when Jennings is prevented from bringing a food parcel upstairs from his tuck-box. After lights out his friends persuade him to try again, and suggest that if he meets a master he should pretend to be walking in his sleep.

13. Change of plan

As a music lover, Mr. Hind was fond of listening to orchestral items on the radio; so when he heard that a symphony concert was being broadcast on Monday evening he decided that this was a programme not to be missed.

Accordingly, he hurried through his portion of curried mutton, waded aside an offer of apple tart, and rose from the supper table with a brief word of apology.

"I won't wait for the next course. The concert starts in a few minutes," he explained to his colleagues. Fumbling in his pocket for his cherrywood pipe, he strode from the room intent on enjoying an hour of good music in the quiet of his study. . . . But Mr. Hind didn't reach his study until the programme was over.

As he crossed the front hall a light pattering footstep caught his ear. The sound came from above; and pausing in the well of the staircase he looked up and saw a dressing-gowned figure descending the top flight of stairs to the first floor landing. Mr. Hind recognised the dressing-gown.

"What are you doing there, Jennings?" he called.

Too late to retreat

For a moment Jennings panicked. His step faltered and he clutched the banisters in wild alarm. Then he recovered and his mind worked fast, coping with the unexpected turn of events.

Plan D! Now was the time for this delicate operation to be put into practice. . . . With his eyes wide open and his hands extended in front of him he continued his silent journey down the stairs. He heard Mr. Hind call out to him again; and then heard him hurrying up the stairs towards the landing. It was an unnerving experience and Jennings had to summon all his courage to proceed with the plan when every instinct prompted him to admit defeat. But it was too late to retreat. He must go on, trusting in Plan D and hoping for the best.

"Jennings!" Mr. Hind called again as he reached the landing; and then more loudly: "Jennings!" Still no answer; still the slow, glassy-eyed descent down the stairs.

Mr. Hind was puzzled. Was the boy deceiving him or was he really asleep? He thrust out his hand to halt the approaching figure and then changed his mind. If the boy

really was asleep he must not be wakened suddenly. What was the proper procedure in a case of this sort? Mr. Hind was in a quandary. For the life of him he couldn't think what to do next.

Neither could Jennings! For as he reached the landing he realised with a shock of dismay that Plan D contained a fatal weakness which had not occurred to him until that moment. If challenged he was to continue his sleep-walking performance, but must not rouse suspicion by going anywhere near the tuck-box room. Where, then, should he go? He could not come to an abrupt halt. He must appear to be heading in some direction. . . . But which?

To this vital question Plan D had no answer. Plan D was a disaster which could only be retrieved by a miracle of inspiration and a split-second change of tactics. . . . And Jennings' mind was blank.



Slowly, but without faltering, Jennings made his way along the corridor

He had reached the bottom stair by now. Two yards ahead of him stood Mr. Hind, completely blocking his path. He must either walk straight into him or . . .

At that moment Jennings' brain cleared and an idea born of desperation occurred to him. With an abrupt change of direction he turned away from Mr. Hind and began walking along the landing towards Form 3 classroom at the far end of the corridor. Plan E was under way!

It was his encounter with the headmaster and Mr. Hind earlier in the evening that had sparked off the idea of this E plan in Jen-

nings' mind. From what had transpired then he felt sure (well, almost sure, and this was no time for doubting) that both masters believed his peculiar behaviour to be due to overwork.

Surely that in itself was sufficient excuse for sleep-walking. So what could be more natural than that the wakeful brain should strive to continue with its studies when the body should be resting. . . . Very well, then! With his mind still on his work he would proceed to his classroom and go on with his English literature under the impression that evening preparation was still in progress.

Slowly, but without faltering, he made his way along the corridor. The temptation to glance over his shoulder to see if Mr. Hind was following was strong, but he managed to resist it. A false move at this stage would give the game away completely.

He reached the door of Form 3 classroom and went inside. Should he switch on the light? Yes, of course. Even Lady Macbeth needed a taper for her nocturnal walks. Then he walked over to his desk in the back row, sat down, and took out his English book. He opened it at random. Oddly enough the passage that caught his eye was the sleepwalking scene from *Macbeth*.

A thought occurred to him and he turned the book upside down. After all, if he was genuinely asleep he wouldn't really be able to read however much his overwrought brain might persuade itself to the contrary.

Jennings kept his eyes on his book when Mr. Hind came into the room a few moments later. There was a short silence; then Mr. Hind said:

"Come along now, Jennings. Stop playing the fool. I know perfectly well you're as wide awake as I am."

Jennings nearly fell into the trap. Then he recovered and told himself that Mr. Hind was bluffing. He couldn't possibly know for sure. In silence the boy turned a page and went on with his upside-down reading.

Mr. Hind was shaken. He bit hard on the stem of his cherrywood pipe and hurried from the room to seek the advice of his colleagues. Even then Jennings made no move; perhaps this was another trap. Perhaps Mr. Hind

was waiting in the corridor to see whether the so-called sleepwalker would make a bolt back to bed. If Plan E was to succeed safety first was the watchword from now on.

Meanwhile, Mr. Hind had arrived back in the dining hall. Mr. Pemberton Oakes and most of the other masters had already gone, but Mr. Carter and Mr. Wilkins were still seated at the table, chatting over a cup of coffee. They looked up as the music master came in.

The unbeliever

"There's something rather unusual going on," he informed them. "I've just met Jennings coming down the stairs from his dormitory. He—er—he gave the impression that he was walking in his sleep."

"Nonsense! I'll guarantee he's as wide awake as you or me," Mr. Wilkins retorted.

"That's what I thought. All the same, I was extremely curious to know what he was up to, so I followed him to his classroom." Mr. Hind paused and bit on his pipe stem with a worried expression.

In his own mind he had felt sure that Jennings would not keep up his pretence for long, and it had come as a surprise to him to

find the boy studying his copy of *Macbeth* as though prepared for a lengthy session of preparation. The fact that the book was upside down was beside the point, for the whole situation was, in Mr. Hind's view, somewhat topsy turvy.

He glanced at his colleagues and saw that they were impatiently waiting for him to continue; so briefly he recounted the scene in the classroom and expressed the doubt that his original assumption had been correct.

"You think he really is asleep, then?" Mr. Carter queried.

"I don't know what to think. The Head and I met him wandering round the basement earlier on this evening, looking rather distracted. He told the H.M. he'd been studying in his free time after prep and was feeling the strain of overwork."

"He told him what?" Mr. Wilkins shot out of his chair like a rocket from its launching base.

"It sounded most improbable, I agree. In fact, the Head pulled his leg about it," Mr. Hind went on. "But in the light of what has happened now, I'm beginning to wonder whether there might have been something in it after all. I think I'll go and find the Head and get him to deal with it."

To be continued



**SO REAL!
—SO MODERN!**

The famous brick and mortar building kit brought bang up-to-date with Architect-designed contemporary style models. Kits include bricks, mortar, roofing, windows, doors, plans, instruction booklet. Models can be permanent or dismantled and bricks used again.

Kit A, 19/11 Kit B, 27/6 Kit C, 50/-

* At good toyshops, hobby shops and departmental stores. If your dealer cannot supply, write for address of nearest stockist.

**CONTEMPORARY
BRICKPLAYER**

J. W. SPEAR & SONS LTD.,
(Dept. C.N.), ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX

7 LARGE Q.E. MALTA for WORLD OF STAMPS



3d. POST FREE

To all asking to see our Quality Approvals we will send these 7 large MALTA for 3d. only (Abroad 1/- extra). Without Approvals Price 1/3. Adult Collectors catered for. Monthly selections speciality. If you wish you may join "THE CODE STAMP CLUB," Sub. 1/-.

Approvals sent monthly. Fine Gifts. (Postal Sec. Est. 1897.)

Tell your parents.

WRIGHT'S STAMP SHOP, Canterbury, Ltd. (Dept. 112), Canterbury, Kent

Language that everyone can easily learn

A LITTLE Jewish boy living in a Polish town nearly a century ago was dismayed to see the arguments and fights which often broke out among the people. He realised that much of the trouble arose because living in the town were Russians, Poles, Lithuanians, and

this might even help to put an end to war.

You may not know the name of the Jewish boy, Lazarus Zamenhof, but you will almost certainly know that of the language he invented, Esperanto. Its name means "the one who hopes," and was the pen-name used by Dr. Zamenhof when he wrote his first book, *Lingvo Internacia*, the international language.

Today several million people speak Esperanto in addition to their own language. In some

Quite a number of stamps have been issued in honour of Dr. Zamenhof. The latest comes from Bulgaria and shows his portrait and the green star which is the badge of the international Esperanto association.

This badge was also featured on Austrian stamps of 1949 and 1954 honouring meetings of Esperantists in Vienna.

At the beginning of the 20th century there were only two independent countries in the whole of Africa: Liberia, on the west coast, and Ethiopia in the east. All the rest of the continent belonged to various European powers.

Since then many African countries have learned to rule themselves and several are now fully independent. During this year Nigeria, Togo, Somalia, and the Belgian Congo will be added to the number.

In celebration of these historic events, 15th April has been chosen as Africa Freedom Day. It was on that date three years ago that the first meeting of representatives of the free African nations was held—at Accra, in Ghana.



Jews. Each race spoke a different language, scarcely understanding its neighbours, and this led to distrust and even hatred.

The Jewish boy, who was very clever at learning foreign languages, determined that when he grew older he would devise a special language which everyone in the world could understand. When people could talk to each other easily, he thought, they would no longer quarrel so bitterly. Perhaps

countries it is learnt by children at school, for it has a simple grammar consisting of only 16 short rules.

133 DIFFERENT STAMPS

Catalogue Value 10/-



FREE

Simply give us your name and address and enclose 3d. for postage and we will send this WONDERFUL PACKET OF STAMPS ABSOLUTELY FREE OF CHARGE. In addition marvellous Approvals will accompany each gift. No obligation to buy anything.

PLEASE TELL YOUR PARENTS. BRIDGNORTH STAMP CO., LTD. (Dept. W55), Bridgnorth, Shropshire

STAMP PACKETS OF QUALITY

(All Different)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 G.B. 1d. Black 15/- | 12 Herm Island 3/- |
| 7 Brunel 1/3 | 100 South Africa 10/- |
| 100 China 1/6 | 50 —do— 3/- |
| 100 Hungary 2/- | 250 World 4/6 |
| 25 Iran 1/3 | 100 Brit. Empire 3/6 |
| 25 Sweden 1/6 | 10 Saudi Arabia 2/- |
| 25 Finland 1/6 | 25 Korea 5/6 |
| 100 Ct. Britain (All Obsolete) 8/6 | 10 Cyprus 1/3 |
| 50 —do— 2/6 | 10 Gold Coast 1/3 |
| 10 St. Lucia 3/6 | 10 Kenya 2/6 |
| 100 Australia 5/6 | 10 Zanzibar 1/6 |
| 50 New Zealand 3/6 | 12 Malaya 1953 2/- |
| | Mint Coronations 5/- |

Orders under 5/- postage 3d. extra
 WE DO NOT SEND APPROVALS
 Stamp Mounts 500 Id. Gibbons' SWIFTSURE Illustrated Loose-Leaf Albums 100 Leaves with room for 100 extra.
 Price 15/- plus 1/9 postage
 J. A. L. FRANKS, LTD. (Dept. C.N.1), 140 Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4

£2 FREE

(Catalogue Value)

Our sensational Treasure Trove packet containing hundreds of stamps and cataloguing well over £2 will be sent free IMMEDIATELY to anyone joining our Approval Stamp Club with MONTHLY FREE GIFTS. Write NOW enclosing 4d. for postage and asking your parents' permission.

Adventures Ltd.
 C.N.14,
 14 St. James's St., Brighton, Sx.

101 STAMPS OF THE WORLD—FREE

This fine packet of stamps (all different) is offered free to readers who send 4d. postage and ask to see our Discount Approvals. (Price without Approvals—1/- post free.) Please tell your parents.

SUMMIT STAMPS,
 SEATON, WORKINGTON, ENGLAND

11 FREE! "Sweet Sixteen" GIFTS!!
 To all new applicants for Approvals sending 4d. post, etc.: I offer ONE of these FREE!

- 16 G.B. & Empire Commems. (Centenaries, Visits, etc.)
- 16 South & Central American Pictorials.
- 16 "Fine Arts" Thematics (fam. pictures, musicians, etc.)
- 16 "Iron Curtain" Pictorials (Russia, Czech., etc.)
- 16 "Iron Curtain" extra packets with Approvals, 6d. each; or all for 1/3 plus post.

Please tell your parents.
J. B. MORTON
 (C.N.M.), Trinity House, Tower Road, Felixstowe.

TRIANGLE STAMPS FREE!

PLUS 25 OTHER STAMPS

Set of **28 COLOURED BUTTERFLIES**

FREE! STAMPS FREE!
 Send 3d. postage and request Approval selection. (Please tell your parents.)

ROSEBERY STAMP SERVICE
 (Dept. C1), 37 Rosebery Road, Epsom

6 GIANT CRETE (RPF) FREE TO THESE PACKETS

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 50 diff. | 100 diff. | 200 diff. |
| Austria 1a 1/9 | Russia 5/6 | Czech. 8/- |
| Malaya 3/6 | Spain 2/3 | France 5/- |
| S. Africa 2/9 | U.S.A. 4/6 | 500 diff. |
| Brazil 1/6 | Mozambique 15/- | Austria 17/6 |
| Eire 4/6 | Colombia 8/6 | Germany 14/- |
| Israel 8/- | Holland 2/- | Hungary 20/- |

Please tell your parents.
 Postage 3d. extra. C.W.O. LIST FREE.
 Balfour's (G), 16 Kiddleminster Rd., Croydon, Surrey

TRIANGULAR STAMPS FREE!

5 Triangular Stamps depicting Animals, Birds and Helicopters are sent entirely free to applicants for my Bargain Approvals and enclosing 3d. for postage. Please tell your parents before replying.

S. W. SALMON (C47),
 179 Beechcroft Road, IPSWICH

A FREE ALBUM and 50 STAMPS

Sent immediately we receive your application to join our 4 Star Stamp Club and receive our Bargain Approvals and MONTHLY FREE GIFTS.

Write NOW enclosing 4d. for postage and asking your parents' permission.

Adventures Ltd.
 C.N.14,
 14 St. James's St., Brighton, Sx.

FREE 17/- (CATALOGUE VALUE)

PACKET OF 100 ALL DIFF. STAMPS PLUS SUPER PERFORATION GAUGE

to all applicants asking to see my famous 4d. upwards Approvals. British Colonial or Foreign. Don't delay. Write today enclosing 4d. in stamps for postage. Please tell your parents.

C. T. BUSH (CN20),
 53 Newlyn Way, Parkstone, Poole, DORSET

SCHOOL DINGHY

This smart sailing dinghy, Fram II, is the latest addition to the "fleet" belonging to Scargill Secondary Modern School in Derbyshire. Cutting the mooring ribbon to launch her on the Manor Floods at Ilkeston is Mr. Jack Longland, Director of Education for Derbyshire. At the helm is science master Mr. D. R. Sim,

and with him is a member of the school sailing club, which was formed about 18 months ago.

The boys of the club themselves built the new craft, and now have two dinghies in a canoe to keep trim, aided by the profits from the school tuckshop. At Easter they are to have a sailing and camping holiday on Lake Windermere.



Full marks for plane-spotters

Two boys who had been plane-spotting at London Airport went to the office of K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines and said that they had just seen one of the company's new Lockheed Electras. They asked if the company were now flying these American turbo-prop into London.

The officials told them that while it was true the firm had bought Electras, they were not

coming to London and the boys must have confused a Viscount with an Electra.

But the boys were insistent that they were right. They even gave the aircraft's registration letters.

When the K.L.M. staff rang up the control tower, they were told that a K.L.M. Electra, on a delivery flight to Amsterdam, had been cleared at 26,000 feet, over the area half an hour before.



Every year Ghana issues special stamps on Africa Freedom Day, and this year there will be three. The design of each stamp features one of the initial letters A, F, or D. The letters are formed of the flags—in full colour—of the independent nations represented at the meeting.

These bright new Ghana stamps were designed by an American artist and printed by the London firm of Harrison and Sons, so they are truly international.

C. W. HILL

ASTOUNDING VALUE!

ALL DIFFERENT: 10 Birds & Butterflies 1/3 (20 2/6); 10 Yugoslavia 1/-; 12 South West Africa 2/-; Office Mixture—enormous value—20 different 1/3; 40 for 3/-; 100 for 7/6; 20 Triangulars 5/- (10 2/-); 5 Formosa 1/- (8 for 2/-). Postage 4d. or post free if Approvals requested.

Please tell your parents.
DEVON SERVICES LIMITED
 115 EXETER ROAD, DAWLISH

SURPRISE PACKET FOR STAMP COLLECTORS!

Request to see our famous DISCOUNT Approvals and enclose 3d. stamp for return postage, and you will receive FREE OF CHARGE 50 SELECTED STAMPS; Plus Perforation Gauge ALSO EXTRA SURPRISE PACKET. (If you send 1/- Postal Order to cover postage we will also send Free Stamp ALBUM). Please tell your Parents.

MYERS & CO. (Dept. CN38),
 42 Castlevew Gardens, ILFORD, Essex

DO YOU KNOW that in February, Tristan da Cunha, one of our smallest Colonies, issued a new set of stamps showing the Queen's Head and various types of FISH. That many Countries have stamps depicting FISH, and that an interesting collection can be made. That we will send to YOU, ABSOLUTELY FREE, a set of three of these stamps, as shown.

Just ask to see our Superior Discount Approvals, enclosing 3d. stamp for postage. (Overseas 1/0).

WRITE TODAY, RIGHT AWAY, and please tell your parents.
M. HUTCHINSON (Dept. 67), GRUB REED, ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX



200 STAMPS PLUS 2 FROM RUSSIA FREE

To all who request discount Approvals. Send 5d. to cover postage. Please tell your parents.

BAYONA STAMP CO. (CN), HEYSOMS AVE., GREENBANK, NORTHWICH, CHESHIRE.

ALL APPLICATIONS for advertisement space in this publication to be addressed to Advertisement Manager, CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER, Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4.

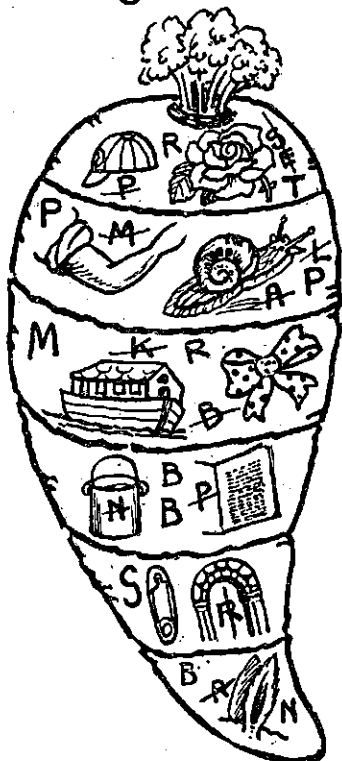
PUZZLE PARADE

STEP LADDER

The steps of this ladder are four-letter words, the clues for each being given alongside. The answer to each clue begins with the last two letters of the word above; the first clue gives NEST.

Cane
 Bird's home.
 Heavenly body.
 Piece of land.
 Every.
 Masticate.
 Water-jug.

Six hidden Vegetables



CAN you find from these clues the names of six vegetables?

What are we?

ONE in jump and one in play,
 One in snow and two in sleigh.

You will not have far to look,
 We are found in every book.

Crossword Puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Group of people, plants, or animals. 5 Eggs. 8 Separated. 9 Spectacle or view. 11 Finish. 12 Afternoon meal. 13 Negative. 15 Besides. 17 Held. 20 Manuscript. 22 Anger. 23 Unhappy. 25 Profane oath. 27 Suggest. 28 Tree. 29 Trials.

READING DOWN. 1 To sample. 2 Notions. 3 Receptacle. 4 Level. 5 Poem. 6 Sellers. 7 Total. 10 Underground storerooms. 14 Outsize. 16 Printers' measure. 18 Wearies. 19 Takes the skin off. 21 Native of Scotland. 23 Health centre. 24 Note of tonic solfa. 26 Employ.

Answer next week

NAME THIS SOCCER TEAM

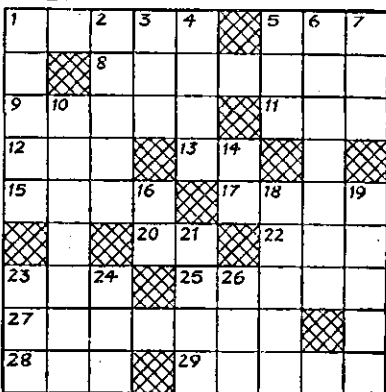
The letters in the words printed in italics can be rearranged to form the name of a famous Second Division soccer club.

"RECENTLY I have noticed a vast improvement in the school side," said the Head. "The boys are all very keen on their training sessions, too."

ON YOUR DESK

Can you rearrange the jumbled words below to make the names of four articles you probably have on your desk?

NCELTP; berbru; lerru; nep.



Animal numbers

ASK a friend to add together one thousand; nothing; fifty; and one-fifth of eight, so that the total will give the name of an animal. This is how it is done: M is the Roman figure for one thousand; O is nothing; L is the Roman figure for fifty; and E is one-fifth of the five letters in eight—forming the word MOLE.

WAKE UP, DORMOUSE!

"I HAVE just found Dormouse stone cold in his Winter nest in the hazel bank," said Red Squirrel worriedly to Wood Owl one spring evening.

"Don't worry. He is only asleep," Owl said. "But it is high time he was woken up." Flying over the hazels, he called loudly: "Ker-wick! Wake up, Dormouse!"

But Dormouse did not stir. "He is dead," said Squirrel sadly.

"No, he's not," replied Owl. "Just you wait until the sun begins to warm him."

Next day the sun's mid-day beams just reached the bank. And in the evening Dormouse uncurled his tail from his nose.

"Goody!" cried Squirrel. "But how thin you are, Dormouse! You do want feeding up." Just then a spider ran against Dormouse's foot. But instead of eating it, he said: "Sorry!" and moved his paw away. Then he dozed off again.

Next evening Owl tried to wake him thoroughly, and Dormouse did stay awake long enough to discover how different the woodland was from when he had gone to sleep. Bluebells spread under oaks instead of acorns, and uncrumpling leaves grew instead of ripe nuts on the hazels.

"Don't like Spring. There is nothing to eat," yawned Dormouse, this time apologising to a slug trying to crawl across his path.

"Well, really!" exclaimed Owl and Squirrel together as he dozed off again. So next evening they got the Nightingales to sing Wake-up duets with Owl. Then Dormouse really did sit up, and absentmindedly caught and munched the spider and the slug still lingering unwarily around.

That did the trick. The food began sending strength into his thin little body. "Why, Spring is wonderful!" he cried, his large eyes beaming. And he began hunting around for a really good meal.

JANE THORNICROFT

TWO'S COMPANY

WRITE this down on a sheet of paper and ask a friend to make sense of it:

He spoke from 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 interested people.

After your friend has probably given up the idea you read the sentence as:

He spoke from 22 to 2 to 2.22 to 222 interested people.

VERY CLEVER

HOLD two pennies on the palm of your left hand and one penny in the palm of your right hand. Then tell a friend that you will change the position of the coins, in one movement, so that two will be on the right side and one on the left.

This may not appear possible, but the secret is simply to cross your arms.

MIXED DOUBLES

IN each of the following pairs of numbered sentences, the blanks represent two words which sound alike but are spelt differently. Can you write them all correctly?

Answers are given in column 3

1. Once upon a time — were three bears.
They gave me — word that they would help us.
2. Members of the town council are known as —.
The old men who advised the king were wise —.
3. The suspense was almost too great to be —.
The new baby had only recently been —.
4. The blacksmith proceeded to — the horse.
We attempted to — the hens out of the garden.
5. The batsman was clean — in the first over.
I will make so — as to say.
6. "Gin a body meet a body coming through the —"
He showed his disgust by making a — face.

RIDDLE-ME-REE

MY first is in lock and also in key.
My second's in captive but not in free.
My third is in nine and also in ten.
My fourth is in goose but not in hen.
My fifth is in biscuit and also in cake.
My sixth is in shudder but not in shake.
My seventh's in sparkle but not in gleam—
My whole is a flower that grows by the stream!

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Riddle-Me-Ree. Kingcup. Six hidden vegetables. Carrot; parsnip; marrow; cabbage; spinach; beans. What are we? Vowels. Name this soccer team. Aston Villa. On your desk. Pencil; rubber; ruler; pen. Step ladder. CANE
 NEST
 STAR
 AREA
 EACH
 CHEW
 EWER.

MIXED DOUBLES

1 There, their. 2 Councillors, counsellors. 3 Borne, born. 4 Shoe, sho. 5 Bowled, bold. 6 Rye, wry.

A PICTURE TO COLOUR



HERE is a Spring scene which will make a delightful picture when coloured with paints or crayons. First, cut it out, paste on thin card, and allow to dry before applying the colours.

1/2 PRICE OFFER! SENT FOR 10/-
 The FUGHT LIEUTENANT
 Genuine NEW
 WATERPROOFED
 3oz. DUCK TENT
 Sent for 10/-
 bal. 18 fort-
 nightly pay-
 ments 7/1 plus carr.
 Waterproofed 1960. Tents of
 8 oz. WHITE duck. Galeproof.
 Brand new, surplus to export order. DON'T
 CONFUSE with Tents made from drab mat-
 erial never meant for tentage. This is real
 thing, withstands anything, even in our
 climate. Approx. 7 ft. 6 in. x 6 ft. x 6 ft.,
 3 ft. walls. Cash £5.19.6, carr. 6/- complete,
 ready to erect, incl. valise. Willisden's
 Green 42/- extra. Ridge pole 7/6. Flysheet
 39/6. Rubberised Groundsheet 19/6. These
 essentials sent on approval. Refund g'teed.

HEADQUARTER & GENERAL SUPPLIES LTD.
 (Dept. CN/85), 196-200 Coldharbour Lane,
 Loughboro' Junc., London, S.E.5. Open Sat.

LUXURIOUSLY QUILTED 'QUILTERFOAM'
SLEEPING BAGS
 ONLY 19/11
 FURTHER REDUCED—BRAND NEW POST, ETC., 2/6
 Slip into it—so soft and comfy—and enjoy
 restful sleep throughout the night. No
 blankets, no sheets. It is everything in one
 including special padding for a beautiful
 soft mattress effect. As light as a feather
 it rolls up to a tiny lightweight size. Only
 19/11, post, etc., 2/6, even finished in heavy
 quality strong material—really hardwearing.
 NOT a blanket with outer but genuinely
 quilted. Under half price for a limited
 period only. Refund guaranteed. LISTS.

LEDERHOSEN
 (LEATHER SHORTS)
 TYROLEAN STYLE
 39/6 P. & P. 2/6
 Real leather.
 Supple suede
 finish, soft
 velvet. Light
 Tan or Light
 Grey shade.
 Washable. Zip
 opening. Slant
 pockets, adjustable waist.
 Ideal for Scouts and campers.
 Usual price 70/-. Waist 21 in. to 27 in.
 Men's waist 29 in. to 40 in. 55/-. Post 2/6
 (42 in. to 46 in. 10/- extra).
 Any order sent C.O.D. (Pay postman.)
 Refund guarantee. (Dept. CN.27)
 99 Annerley Road,
 London, S.E.20

FILMS FREE
 GRA
 FOR YOUR EASTER
 HOLIDAY SNAPS
 NO NEED TO BUY ANOTHER-EVER!
 That's what Gratispool offers you. An
 ultra-rapid British made Film FREE if you
 send this advert, and a 6d. stamp (to
 cover postage and packing). NO
 CATCH. We do it so that you too can
 try this universally popular GRATIS-
 POOL SERVICE. Famous for 25 years.
 Sizes 120, 620 and 127 only.
 BRITAIN'S BIGGEST PHOTO FINISHERS
GRATISPOOL LTD.
 (Dept. C. N.1), GLASGOW, C.1

The Boat Race should be a close affair

ONCE again we may see a novelty introduced by the Oxford eight when they meet Cambridge on Saturday in the 106th Boat Race.

Last year, you may remember, the Dark Blues used a "banana boat," so-called because of its slightly raised ends. This year they have been experimenting with "spade" oars, the blades being eight inches wide as against the usual six and a half inches.

Both will be using new boats, but of much the same design as



Oxford (above) and Cambridge during training



before, and rowing styles will be upright and without exaggerations.

This year is it Oxford who start as holders, having defeated the Light Blues by six lengths last time (only their seventh win since 1913).

The Oxford President, D. C. Rutherford, who rowed number four in last year's winning crew, told a CN correspondent: "Yes, we are in a much happier position than we've been for many years, and we've had great enthusiasm as a result of having heaps of first-rate material from which to mould Saturday's crew. But the Boat Race is like no other race and not only is the unexpected likely to occur, but over-confidence is just as fatal as lack of confidence."

G. H. Brown, the Cambridge President, said: "We shall do our very best to right the balance of the Race result this Saturday. Light Blues' supporters need have no fear of that."

Men to note in Saturday's race include Cambridge's John Beveridge, the club secretary and an ex-R.A.F. oarsman who makes and plays his own guitars—"To the somewhat doubtful pleasure of the others in the crew," said Brown.

The Oxford crew once again includes an American—T. S. Swayze, who stands six feet four yet only weighs 13 stone. "He is superbly fit, not an ounce of superfluous muscle anywhere," said President Rutherford. "He should be our power-house."

Swayze was captain of boats at Harvard and rowed bow in the winning Harvard Grand Challenge Cup crew at Henley last year.

Who is going to win on Saturday? Cambridge have seemed slicker in training, but it is a known fact that Oxford take longer to develop, and both Presidents agree it should be a close affair. The thousands who line the tideway and the millions who will watch on their television screens should see a very thrilling race.

NEVER ON THE LOSING SIDE

SINCE Annette Cairncross started playing for England's netball team in 1956 she has never been on the losing side. All twelve games in which she has appeared have been won. During that period England have lost only one game—to Australia, and on that occasion Miss Cairncross was dropped from the team.

Annette was actually born in Edinburgh and could thus play for Scotland. But having left Scotland at an early age to live in Croydon, Surrey, she qualifies for England by residence.

One of the finest "shooters" in netball, Annette makes at least 100 practice shots every day.

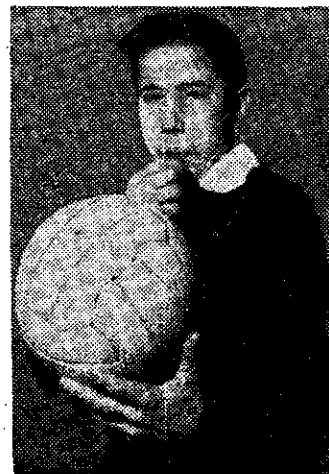
Cap for their Mistress

GIRLS at the Northwich County Grammar School, Cheshire, were thrilled when they heard that their physical education mistress, Miss Sybil Webster, had been selected for the recent ladies' hockey international against Germany at Wembley.

But they were disappointed when they found there were no tickets available. However, they soon had another opportunity of seeing Miss Webster in action, for a week later a large party travelled to Shotton, near Chester, to see her play against Wales.

Although she had previously represented Cheshire, Northern Counties, and England "B," the Wembley game brought Miss Webster's first full "cap."

Junior referee



Claimed to be the youngest qualified referee in British football, Richard Haines of Easton, Bristol, is still only 15. He holds a certificate from Gloucestershire F.A.

FOOTBALL SHORTS

SATURDAY sees the opening of the schoolboy footballers' international programme. England will be meeting Ireland on the York City F.C. ground.

The schoolboys of these two countries have met on 19 previous occasions, and England have lost only one of these games, winning 17 and drawing the other. The only time the match was played at York, in 1952, England triumphed by five goals to nil.

The England team chosen for Saturday's game includes Ronnie Harris, captain of Hackney Boys, whom we mentioned recently in CN as likely to follow in the footsteps of his brother Allen, a former schoolboy international and now a Youth "cap" with Chelsea.

Another of the boys selected is Ray Bloomfield, of West London, whose uncle is Jimmy Bloomfield, the famous Arsenal inside-forward.

OLYMPIC TIE

GREAT BRITAIN'S Olympic soccer team will also be in action against the Netherlands. If the British side can win this qualifying tie in Holland, they will make certain of a trip to Rome for the Olympic tournament in August. They have already won both their games with Eire, the only other country in the British section of the qualifying competition.

APPRECIATION

THE F.A. News reports this story from Italy of the thief who appreciated good play. After appearing in a match for Inter-Milan, the Argentinian player Angelillo discovered that his car had been stolen. A little later he received a phone call from the thief. In appreciation of Angelillo's good performance, he said, he had decided not to steal the car. He then indicated where it would be found.

UNCAPPED STAR

ONE hundred experts voted Lucien Olieslagers as Belgium's Footballer of the Year. Yet, strangely enough, Lucien has never once represented his country.

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Who is the only athlete to win three gold medals at one Olympic meeting?
2. Where will the next world table tennis championships be held?
3. How does an umpire signal a boundary?
4. Who are the world ice figure-skating champions?
5. Which is "odd man out" here: wedge, hammer, blaster, putter?
6. Which two teams will meet in the A.F.A. Cup Final?

Correction: In a recent quiz we said that the world ice figure-skating champions were Carol Heiss of America and Aldin Giffert of France. 5. Hammer, the others are golf clubs. 6. Kingstonian and Hendon. 1. Jesse Owens, in 1936. 2. Peking. 3. By waving one arm from side to side. 4. Carol Heiss of America and Aldin Giffert of France. 5. Hammer, the others are golf clubs. 6. Kingstonian and Hendon. Ireland by Glenavon. Scotland will be represented by Kilmarnock. York. This should have been "England." International soccer tournament in New

Table tennis stars in Zagreb

THE European table tennis championships, held every second year, start at Zagreb, Yugoslavia, on Saturday and last for a week.

In 1958 the singles titles were won by Zoltan Berezik and Eva Koczian, both of Hungary, and these two are favourites to succeed again. Eva Koczian has been practising 2½ hours every day for several months in a determined effort to retain her title.

In the last championships Ann

Haydon was the star of the English party and gave Eva Koczian a great fight in the final, losing an exciting match in five sets. With Ann now concentrating on lawn tennis our leading woman will be Diane Rowe, and once again we may have a Hungary v. England final.

Ian Harrison and Bryan Merrett, our No. 1 men players, will also be expected to put up good performances.

