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No. 15

Training Britain's Air Force Pilots

By Herbert Dawson



British long-distance bombers flying over France.

There are two classes of officer entries for the British Royal Air Force. A certain number of boys between the ages of seventeen and nineteen-and-a-half, are selected by competitive examination and undergo a full course of training at the Air Force College at Cranwell. These cadets are expected to make the Service their career, and they eventually attain to the majority of senior commands. However, the recent expansion of British flying strength called for far more officers than could be supplied from Cranwell. A scheme for 'short service commissions' was announced, subject to strict medical and educational tests, and to-day there is an average of 2,000 short service candidates undergoing training at Air Force stations in Great Britain.

A few days ago, I was permitted to visit one of these 'training centres', to see for myself the process that turns raw civilians into military pilots. This training occupies nine months and is divided into three periods of ten weeks each, followed by a month's armament practice at one of the target ranges in the more remote parts of the British Isles.

First the would-be pilots must learn the elementary principles of flying; this they do at a Civilian Flying School. At this stage, candidates are not in uniform. The planes they use are Gypsy Moths; not until they have mastered these simple machines and passed their 'solo' tests to the satisfaction of air force officers are they issued with uniforms and drafted to one of the regular training centres.

Flying a Gypsy Moth is very different from flying 'service aircraft' and 'intermediate training' is devoted to mastering the latter types. At present there are two main types of training aircraft in service; the twin-engine Oxford which serves as a

trainer for bombing types and the single-engine Harvard, a low-wing monoplane manufactured for the British Government in the United States. Another outstanding machine is the Miles Master — the fastest 'trainer' in the world — used for putting the final touches to the training of 'fighter pilots'. These planes are capable of 268 miles (431 kms.) per hour.

During Intermediate Training pilots obtain their experience of Air Force life. They study the King's Regulations and Air Force law, they practise arms drill on the barrack square, and learn when — and whom — to salute. In other words they are trained to be officers. There is also much 'ground instruction', but theory is not allowed to replace practice. At least half this period is devoted to actual flying. At most hours of the day there are some twenty-five planes flying over the aerodrome supervised by senior officers in the control rooms.

Although pilots are trained to fly both single-engine and multi-engine planes, particular attention is paid to personal aptitude. In temperament, a good 'fighter pilot' is a different man from his brother pilot in a bombing squadron, and the officer in charge of intermediate training must decide to which branch of the service each candidate is best suited. To handle a fast modern 'Fighter' requires more than flying skill. The pilot must be able to 'throw his plane about', be skilled in close formation flying, specialise in aerial gunnery and be prepared for close-quarter fighting against large bombing formations.

A skilled bombing pilot must have all these qualities — and exceptional staying power as well. Apart from the obvious technical demands of navigation and airmanship, he must possess the courage to drive his attack home in the face of great difficulties.

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Britain's Economic Structure Her Industrial Strength

By R. W. B. Clarke.

In a series of three articles, Mr. R. W. B. Clarke, industrial editor of the London "Financial News" and one of the most distinguished writers on economic subjects, reviews the economic structure of Great Britain to-day — the immense strength of which, coupled with the vast acceleration of her rearmament programme, accounts for her preponderating position in the world.

In the first of these articles, Mr. Clarke covers the industrial system.

For the last two hundred years, Britain's importance in the world has been based upon her industry and upon her finance. She has never been a great agricultural country, and has always been content to import a large proportion of her food supplies. Her whole reputation has depended upon the strength and quality of her industry.

A larger proportion of Englishmen are engaged in industry than are so engaged in any other country. In the North of England, you can ride for twenty miles (thirty kilometres) and never see anything but factories and houses and coal mines. The natural resources of coal and iron ore are great, and Britain was the first country to begin to develop them. Britain's industrial revolution, indeed, was the first of the industrial revolutions — in iron, in coal and in textiles. Britain led the way. So the industrial system was founded upon international trade. In the nineteenth century, while other countries were being developed and were attaining political unity, Britain flooded the world with exported manufactured goods. British inventors led the way in the application of steam power to industrial problems, British industrialists led the way in quality of manufacture and British traders led the way in the development of new markets.

In the last twenty years, the underlying conditions have changed. In 1932, the British Government was forced to reverse its traditional policy of free trade, and the emphasis began to be laid upon the building of industries for the home market. Behind the tariff wall, industries which had been depressed by the competition of nations with lower wage-rates and protected home markets grew strong again. Great reorganisations took place. Instead of free competition industrialists linked themselves together in trade associations and cartels. The character of the basic industries of the country changed, and instead of the old emphasis upon coal and cotton, new engineering industries developed, worked by electric power and producing primarily for the home market. In industry, as in finance and in international trade, Britain adjusted herself to the new

conditions of the 1930's. Just as in finance the experience of the pre-war period stood Britain in very good stead, so in industry were the changes made easier by the traditions of the past. The tradition of quality of manufacture remained. The skill of the British worker remained. The financial conservatism of British industry remained.

The result of this is that at the present time, after the changes of the post-war period, British industry is stronger than it has ever been before. More men are employed than have ever been employed before; production is greater than it has ever been before; the profitability of industry is very great; new industries are developing which show the same traditions of quality and enterprise as the old, and the old basic industries are beginning to recapture some of their old prosperity. Technically a **n**d financially, British industry is now in a very healthy condition. The productivity of industry is expanding very fast. Technical progress has been so fast that five men can now do the same amount of work as was done by seven men fifteen years ago. In the 'twenties it was said that British industry was declining; but now most of the necessary adjustments have been made to the changed underlying conditions, and industry is going ahead faster than ever.

Most important, of course, is heavy industry — coal mining, iron and steel, engineering, shipbuilding, motor-car production and chemicals. These industries employ over three million men and women, and account for about forty per cent. of Britain's industrial output. In shipbuilding, of course, Britain is by far the greatest producer in the world. In coal-production and in motor-car production, British output is second only to that of the United States. In iron and steel, British output is lower than that of the United States, the Soviet Union and Germany, but is increasing fast. It is in these heavy industries that the greatest progress has been made. They were hardest hit by the fall in international trade, and they have made the greatest recovery. In the last five years, for example, the steel industry has been completely re-organised. Now there are plants in England which produce at as low cost as any in the world, despite the fact that British wages are higher than those anywhere except in the U. S. A. There is the new plant for producing steel tubes at Corby in the English Midlands, which claims to be the best in the world. There is the new plant in South Wales for making steel sheets and tinplates. Coal and iron ore are fed into one end of the plant, and

London Letter

By "The Londoner".



General Sir Edmund Ironside

Polyglot General.

General Sir Edmund Ironside, Inspector General of the British Overseas Forces, who was carrying on staff talks with Polish war chiefs in Warsaw, is the only British General on the active list who has held independent command in actual war.

On no fewer than three occasions in actual war, he found himself completely cut off from communication with the War Office. His independent commands were in such distant parts of the world as Archangel, Ismid and North Persia.

A great linguist — he is said to speak sixteen languages — he first made a name for himself as an intelligence officer in South Africa while still a subaltern, and received very rapid promotion in the Great War.

Made "The Rock" impregnable. When Sir Edmund was sent out as Governor of Gibraltar last year few realised the greatly increased importance of this position.

He completely reorganised its fortifications; under his orders deep Air Raid Precautions shelters were hewn out of the solid rock and barricades were built on the northern frontier.

He has worked up the defence of Gibraltar to such a pitch that "The Rock" can now withstand the most intense of modern sieges.

In his present office, Sir Edmund has other responsibilities besides consultations with foreign army staffs. He reports to the Army Council on the preparedness of both the Regular and Territorial field forces for war as well as overseas garrisons.

(Continued on page 2)

finished tinplate, ready for manufacturing into cans, emerges from the other — the only plant of its kind in Europe. There are the new aircraft works which have sprung up all over the country, and which have quadrupled Britain's aeroplane output in the last year. British industrialists have adapted themselves to the new methods of manufacture, and are making a great success of them.

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TRAINING BRITAIN'S AIR FORCE PILOTS

(Continued)

A bombing formation has one primary duty, to bomb, and, if possible to destroy, its objective; and nothing, aerial attack or ground defence, must turn it from this course.

To lead a flight of long-range bombers an officer must have some knowledge of forecasting weather conditions. He must also know how to hide in cloud or take shelter in low-level flying among the tree tops. He must be able to dodge searchlights and outwit the anti-aircraft guns on the ground below. He must lead his planes against hostile fighters and either battle his way through or out-manoeuvre them in tactics. Should these combined enemies prove too strong he must accept the responsibility of 'breaking formation' and continuing his attack by individual planes.

When they have completed their 'Intermediate Course', the direct entry candidates are 'given their wings'—badges showing that they have successfully passed through this period of training—and transferred to the 'Advanced Flight' for intensive training in the purely military side of flying. They have learnt how to fly; they are now taught how to fight.

This Advanced Course is concerned with tactics. Gunnery, bombing, aerial photography and scouting become of prime importance, and the students' flying time—still 50% of the ten week period—is occupied with tactical schemes of all types. In the ground classes they study the complicated theories that govern aerial warfare. In the air, they practise mimic warfare, away from



Pupils of the No. 1. Flying Training School at Leuchars receiving instruction from a sergeant pilot.

their own aerodrome, with photographic film replacing live ammunition. At the close of this Advanced Course, the Short Service candidates put in a busy month in actual flying or bombing practice on a 'range' before being posted to Service Squadrons as Pilot Officers.

This concludes the nine months' training of a candidate for a short service commission in the British Air Force—six years active service followed by four years in the reserve. In time of war the training period would be shortened considerably by omitting non-essential subjects of use only in peace time.

Among the most interesting of the scientific instruments used in training are the Link Trainer, a dummy plane for "blind flying" practice and the "blind landing beams"—instruments by which pilots can be brought safely down

to within 20 feet (6 metres) of their aerodrome in pitch darkness. The cockpit of the Link Trainer resembles the instrument panel of modern British planes. The pilot is set a course to follow and every movement of the controls is reproduced on a graph, at the instructor's table. This is a greatly simplified description of an amazingly intricate machine, whose training value cannot be too highly expressed.

It is impossible altogether to avoid minor "crashes" at a training school and bent wing tips or damaged undercarriages are no novelty to the aircrews on duty. However, serious accidents are rare, and the school I visited, which has been in use for over two years, has only suffered three casualties. This low accident record speaks volumes for the high standard of flying instruction given to Britain's fighting pilots.

London Letter

(Continued from page 1)

30,000 Militiamen join Colours.

Britain witnessed last week-end the unprecedented spectacle of 30,000 young men leaving their homes to join the Colours for compulsory military service in peace time.

They formed the first contingent of the 200,000 militiamen who are being called up for six months' training to reinforce the growing Regular Army and the doubled Territorial Army. Thus, this month there will be nearly 1,000,000 men under arms in Great Britain.

Queen Mary inspected men arriving at Shorncliffe, near Folkestone, to join the 13th/18th Royal Hussars, of which she is Colonel-in-Chief.

Mr. Hore-Belisha, Minister for War, addressing militiamen at Guildford, declared, "Both for you and for the country, this is an historic day. It is a milestone in the story of the British Empire."

Former First Sea Lord.

Only a month after his retirement on account of ill-health, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Roger Backhouse, the former First Sea Lord—had the youngest British Admiral to receive this appointment since Nelson—has died at the age of 60.

When Sir Roger assumed office last September he was already a sick man, but it was due to his initiative and powers of organisation that the mobilisation of the Fleet was carried out in the crisis last autumn with such remarkable speed and smoothness.

Sir Roger Backhouse was a gung-ho expert. Starting his brilliant naval career at the age of 12, he reached Admiral's rank in 1934 and in the following year became Commander-in-Chief of the Home Fleet.

The rank of Admiral of the Fleet was granted to him, with the King's approval, as an exceptional measure on his retirement.

Nelson relies at Greenwich.

An additional gallery was opened at the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich last week, containing a collection of Nelson's relics, unique in interest and authenticity. This has been given to the nation by the grandsons of Horatia, daughter

of the heaviest single item of export, and manufacturers are now able to give close attention to overseas clients. Indian requirements from Bombay and Ahmedabad are not running at the level of last year, but India is still the largest market for textile machinery, though there has been a considerable flow of orders for spinning and twisting plant from Australia and Germany and many manufacturers report that the outlook from these quarters is hopeful. Demand for printing and finishing machines remains practically stationary.

Orders for agricultural plant are not so pronounced as for industrial, and makers of ploughs, tractors and threshers are not so active at present. To a certain extent, however, buying in this class is governed by seasonal considerations and factories are well prepared to meet any call upon their capacity later in the year. Orders for Diesel sets for pumping purposes are reported to be up to standard.

A feature of overseas specifications is the call for motor-driven machines instead of the belt-driven type, thus bringing export requirements more in line with those of the home market. The need for keeping British models thoroughly up-to-date in design so as to meet the keen competition offered by foreign makers is being appreciated and special attention is being paid to this vital point.

of Britain's most famous seaman, and Lady Hamilton.

The collection consists of Horatia's own intimate relics of her father, Lord Nelson, his gifts and the letters he wrote to her, together with such relics of her mother as escaped the various distraints for debt which dispersed most of Lady Hamilton's possessions.

To these, the Admiral's great-grandsons have added many other possessions and relics of their illustrious ancestor, laboriously collected as opportunity offered over many years.

This priceless gift will enrich a collection of unsurpassed interest and pride to all those who cherish the sea tradition with which the history of Great Britain is so closely bound.

32 Ships in 32 Month.

I hear from one of the most famous shipbuilding companies of Scotland that during the last thirty-two months, thirty-two ships, totalling 137,000 tons, have come from their yards.

The company's Chairman claimed that this truly remarkable record had never been equalled by any shipbuilding plant in the world.

During the last year, ships had been supplied from this company's yards to Australia, Norway, Greece and Poland, as well as to British owners.

Across Atlantic in 7-ton yacht.

With only a sextant and a compass to guide him, a Portsmouth fisherman aged 58 has completed his second Atlantic crossing in a 7-ton cutter-rigged yacht. The voyage took 33 days and cost about ten shillings!

Francis Edward Clark set sail from England in this boat last August to visit friends in New York, because he could not afford the fare.

Bad weather threw him out of his course and he landed first at Savannah, Georgia. His only food on the rest of the journey to New York was dried beans and he had to drink rain water.

Before starting back he had to sell his chronometer to buy food. On the journey he lost the boom of his mainmast in a terrific gale off the coast of Newfoundland. "I was unable to repair it", Mr. Clark said. "For days and nights, I ran before the gale."

When he reached Cornwall, Mr. Clark possessed a little rice, oatmeal, dried beans, a pot of marmalade and seven dollars in money. He calculated he had sailed 10,000 miles (16,000 kms).

In the words of Earl Baldwin "The spirit of adventure in England is not dead; it is rampant!"

London's "World University".

Five new buildings are about to be erected for London University as part of one of the biggest single educational schemes in the world.

The scheme has already absorbed £1,512,000 and will eventually cost nearly £3,000,000.

Commenting on the progress of the work, a University authority said:

"The refusal to allow world economic and political conditions to delay what is perhaps the most significant educational scheme of our time is typical of the vitality and progressive spirit which have always characterised London in its comparatively short University existence, and of the ability of British industry to keep pace with the University's demands at a time when so much vital work is being done in other fields of industrial activity."

Figures, not previously disclosed, reveal that there are not less than 3,208 overseas students attending London University, 410 come from Africa, 1,285 from Asia, 432 from America, 886 from Europe and 193 from Australasia. London's is, indeed, a "world" University.

BRITAIN'S ECONOMIC STRUCTURE — I.

(Continued)

Next in importance to heavy industry are the textile and clothing industries, which account for one-sixth of total output. They are not as important as they were—the cotton industry of Lancashire taught India and Japan how to spin cotton, and the Lancashire textile machinery industry provided them with plant, so Lancashire now finds itself with reduced markets. Nevertheless, Britain's output of cotton goods is still much the largest in the world. The wool and clothing industries are substantial, too, and there is a rapidly growing artificial silk industry. Then there are the food industries, the tobacco industry, an important paper industry, a growing brick and cement industry. Britain is the third largest cement producer in the world—and a host of miscellaneous industries. It is perhaps going too far to say that every known industry is represented in Britain's industrial structure. But it is not easy to think of one that is not. Heavy industry dominates the system, of course, but it is by no means the whole of it. In the last few years, indeed, the light industries have developed rapidly behind the tariff. Round London, scores of new modern buildings have sprung up in the last ten years, all producing new light goods. More is now being produced by British industry than ever before.

The result of this great increase in productive power is that Britain is carrying through a huge rearmament programme without any reduction in the standard of life of the people. The social services are unchanged—are, indeed, still expanding. Wages-rates, which are for the most part agreed in peaceful negotiation between the employers and free trade unions, are higher than ever

before. A representative rate for a 48-hour week for an unskilled worker is fifty shillings. For a skilled worker, the corresponding rate is about seventy shillings. In the last ten years, indeed, the standard of life of the people—the amount of real goods which they can buy—has risen by nearly fifteen per cent. Such an advance, through a time of depression in which Britain was losing most of her traditional advantages as the obstruction to world trade increased, is a clear demonstration of the strength of the British industrial system, and of the completeness with which it has adjusted itself to the changed conditions of the 'thirties.

There are difficulties, of course—no country is without them. There is still some unemployment—although it has been reduced by one-third since the beginning of this year. There are certain districts—the so-called "special areas"—in which unemployment is still serious, for the coal-mines on which the inhabitants depended for their living are exhausted, and insufficient new industries have arrived to compensate them. Some industries which depend upon exports, such as cotton and shipbuilding, are still depressed. But the general picture which British industry provides is one of great prosperity and activity, and the proof of it is found in the growing strength of the rearmament programme and the raise in the general standard of life.

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BRITISH MACHINERY BOOM

(From a London Correspondent)

British machinery makers are now experiencing one of the busiest times in their history. Not only is the home demand at a high level as the result of the result of the rearmament programme, but orders are being received for export at an unprecedented rate.

Indicative of the present activity are the large profit increases being recorded by the majority of companies, the numerous factory extensions necessitated by the rush of work and a jump in the number of workers employed.

Last year, machinery became for the first time the largest single item in Britain's export list with total shipments to a value of £58,000,000. Since then, this position has been maintained, and during the first five months of this year exports were £23,250,000.

Industrial development in the British Dominions has been responsible in great part for the impetus to machinery demand and it is not surprising that the leading buyers of British machinery are India, South Africa, the Soviet Union and Australia. This economic phase is also predominant in such foreign markets as, amongst others, France, the Netherlands, Brazil, Argentina, Belgium, Germany, Egypt, Poland, Iran and Sweden.

The overseas demand is being felt over the whole range of industrial equipment, and despite the present continuous home requirements for armament work the total export of machine tools, for instance, has risen by over 50 per cent in the first five months of the current year compared with the corresponding period of 1938. Orders for boring and grinding mills, lathes and milling and planing machines have been particularly heavy. The Soviet Union is a large buyer in this class and North of England firms have good contracts from this market.

Stage and Screen: In the Autumn

By Edward W. Betts of "The Era".

With the Open Air Theatre in full swing and other al fresco entertainments calling in various parts of the country, it needs an effort to think about the Autumn season, especially as I have just seen *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in Regent's Park. This is still the best of all plays for the open air and Robert Atkins's production is the most picturesque and romantic I have ever seen. The natural setting, in itself charming, is made still more attractive by a new system of lighting that so discreetly "fits in" with the soft twilight of a summer's evening as to make one forget that it is artificial.

But I must talk about the Autumn. One of the chief events will be the production of Dr. A. J. Cronin's first play, *Jupiter Laughs*. The author has not been able to get away from his own profession, but the new play is a dramatisation of neither "The Citadel" nor any other of his published novels. Although the hero is a young doctor, the plot deals with the human, rather than the medical, side of his character.

Then Noel Coward is to bring an innovation to the London stage by presenting two new plays on alternate nights. Both are his own and in both he will make a personal appearance. In *Sweet Sorrows*, a comedy described as "amorous and brittle," he will take the part of a middle-aged actor; in *This Happy Breed*, a more serious drama, he will be a working-class man in a South London household. The idea of giving these pieces on alternate nights is that the players will be relieved from monotony!

These Coward plays will be seen in London next October, after a short provincial tour. This reminds me that when Mr. Coward's sequence of short plays, to which he gave the title of *Twilight at 8.30* was being done at a country town, where earlier hours are kept than in London, the manager pasted a slip slant-wise across the posters: "The performance will begin punctually at 8."

Ben Lyon and Bebe Daniels, who have made themselves

particularly popular in England with their variety and radio performances, are to appear in a new play on the London stage.

Another Autumn production is a play by William Saroyan, hitherto known only by his short stories. The play is *My Heart's in the Highlands*, which was done by the Group Theatre in New York in April. A second play of his, *The Time of Your Life*, may have simultaneous production in the United States and in London later in the year.

A programme of six entirely new plays promises to stimulate greater interest than ever in this year's Malvern Festival—August 7-Sept. 2. Irene Vanbrugh and Yvonne Arnaud have been added to the company. The former will take the part of Lady Farnleigh in Sir Robert Vansittart's comedy, *Dead Heat*.

Robert Montgomery is to make his first English film at Denham. This is Dorothy Sayers's *Busman's Honey Moon*, which had a long stage run at the Victoria Palace, the theatre at which *Me and My Girl* has recently registered its thousandth performance! The success of Miss Sayers's first Canterbury festival play, *The Zoo of Dr. House*, led to the production of her second, *The Devil to Pay*, based on the Faust legend. From Canterbury it has come to His Majesty's Theatre in London.

Harold French, hitherto known as a brilliant stage producer — he was responsible for *French Without Tears* and *Anthony and Anna* — has just completed a six months' study of film production, as the result of which he is to make the Associated British screen version of A. E. W. Mason's thriller, *The House of the Arrow*.

Maurice Elvey, with the co-operation of the Admiralty, is directing a new picture, *Sons of the Sea*. The background is the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth, where three weeks are being spent on location. Subsequent scenes will be "shot" in a London studio.

WOMEN'S PART IN BRITAIN'S PASSIVE DEFENCE. THE WORK OF THE WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES.

By Richard Farquhar.

Since modern warfare has been brought to the very doors of the citizen, it is the citizen as much as the soldier who will have to take measures for defence. In this defence there are a thousand important jobs which women can perform as well as, or better than, men. That is why women have been organised to play their part in the passive defence of Britain. Nor have they been slow to come forward. 284,000 women have already enrolled in one or other of the women's voluntary services.

Each of the three fighting services has attached to it a corps of women territorials to perform such duties as cooking, messing, clerical and medical work.

This article, however, does not cover the work of these women, who will be acting with the fighting forces. The Women's Voluntary Service for Civil Defence, which was started a year ago, is the body which organises and trains all the women who wish to take part in the passive defence of Great Britain. It is with this aspect of women's national service that this article is concerned.

As well as the headquarters of the Women's Voluntary Service in London, there are 800 branches established in towns and villages throughout the British Isles. These local branches canvass for and train new recruits and are generally responsible for organising and, if ever necessary, operating local passive defence schemes. The whole field of passive defence, as it is open to women, can be sub-divided into four chief categories of work: air raid precautions, which takes 41 per cent. of the recruits; hospital services, which takes 20 per cent.; 31 per cent. to evacuation, and 8 per cent. to transport, a vital service which links together all the others.

When a volunteer joins the Women's Voluntary Services she is trained in the work of one or other of these four categories according to any special experience she may already possess or any particular preference she may express. Thus, for instance, the



Members of Women's Transport Service carrying a "victim" during a training class.

Women's Auxiliary Ambulance Service is open only to those women who already possess driving experience. Ambulances, of course, are more difficult to handle than are ordinary private cars and a good deal of driving practice is necessary.

Among other difficult new experiences, volunteers are required to be able to drive while wearing a service respirator, to drive at night under black-out conditions and to have sufficient nursing and medical experience to be able to assist the medical corps with the victims of air attacks. Ambulance drivers must also have a good knowledge of the town or city in which they are working. Volunteers have to take out ambulances on practice runs from time to time in order to improve this knowledge.

Women who own cars are being enrolled to convey patients who are well enough to be removed from central hospitals to their homes or to outlying districts. Many women will also be required for general transport purposes — driving lorries and vans, etc.

Women between the ages of 18 and 55 are eligible for training in the Hospital Services. They are first instructed in the principles of First Aid and in Home Nursing and when these courses have been completed they have to undergo at least 50 hours practical clinical experience in a local hospital. Very important also is the general hospital routine which they learn. They learn to wash patients, keep temperature charts, dress simple wounds and similar nursing jobs, the efficient and speedy execution of which would be vital in wartime conditions. The capability of these auxiliary nurses to carry out the simpler duties of the highly-

skilled nurse, would release this latter for the more difficult and delicate nursing work.

In any future war, few passive defence workers will have a more exacting and important role than the air-raid warden. Many of them will be women. The training they receive is extremely full, including anti-gas training, courses in First Aid, specialized fire-fighting training, full knowledge of the geography of their locality, not only as regards the nearest First Aid depots, fire stations, shelters, etc., but also the gas, water and electricity mains, so that damage to them may at once be reported. It is the air-raid warden who will warn the local populace of the presence of gas by means of rattles and give the "all clear" signal with whistles.

Women of course, play a predominant part in evacuation schemes. Thousands of them have volunteered to escort the 4,000,000 children, aged and invalids, who will immediately be evacuated from Britain's danger zones on the outbreak of a war. And in the country women are co-operating with their local authorities in planning for the reception, housing and feeding of those evacuated. Village halls, are being converted into canteens and cottages into small isolation hospitals. To be prepared to deal efficiently with the vast influx of children to the country, many women are taking courses in home nursing, child care and cooking.

The part that women will be expected to play in the event of war will, for the first time in history, be of considerable importance, and Britain is proud of the way in which her womenfolk are responding to the nation's needs.

BOOKS

XAWRY ZALESKI: Istota ustroju politycznego Anglii na tle współpracy polsko-angielskiej. (The Essence of England's Political Constitution on the background of Polish - English Co-operation).

The author of this pamphlet has done his best to describe as clearly and briefly as possible the practical working of the English Constitution as it is at present. The purpose is even more difficult of achievement for the Polish than for the English general public. "English Constitution" within inverted commas has become part of continental European "ideologies" to such an extent that only quite few people even of the educated class are prepared to accept the statement that they know very little of the actual governance of England, and that little mostly wrong. They have all the secrets of constitutional monarchy, democracy, parliamentary government, dictatorship, and lately also *Talstatat* at their fingers' ends, and they simply shy at the suggestion of political civilization for once making a combination of its resources before they are exhausted, and successfully getting away with it. Continental historians, serious students of social and political matters are, of course, familiar with all the phases

of English constitutional practice; so are probably continental party leaders and their press, but some at least of the criticism directed at M. X. Zaleski's paper seems to show that continental party leaders and their press do not like the idea of their man in the street being told that in its present form the governance of England must be looked upon as "a wise synthesis of two antagonistic systems, namely of demoliberal parliamentarism which was typical for the XIX century, and of our contemporary totalitarian constitutions".

For English ways of thinking there is, possibly, too much logic in such a formula, just by avoiding that kind of rigid "French" or "continental logic" the English bit off, or as they themselves prefer to say, stumble upon, so many happy compromises in the practical arrangements of their polity. Not wanting a system but results that stand the tests of changes in life, they do not bother about illogicalities in their governance, and least of all do they try to assume the role of Providence by rigging up a constitution in advance of any possible change of factual conditions. They are quite content to have a king who in an emergency might use his enormous but undefined prerogatives after the style of Mr. Bernard Shaw's King Magnus; quite content also to have a premier who has in fact

the all but dictatorial powers of president in a totalitarian republic, and to have him invested with such powers by an undefined method of "double" election by the majority vote of citizens and by the confidence of his party; and quite content also with a House of Commons that may dismiss the premier - president - dictator, yet only at the price of its own *hara-kiri* whenever the displeasing leader feels himself backed by public opinion so far as to "advise" the King to dissolve the House and send out writs for a general election.

All that M. X. Zaleski has briefly put down and explained in his pamphlet without going into details of constitutional theory and history; his views are, of course, borne out by the leading English authorities on the subject, and still more emphatically by developments of English political life since the downfall of Mr. Lloyd George's last government. There is no doubt the late Sir Sidney Low's prediction in the last pre-War edition of his fundamental work on *The Governance of England* has come true: an English premier of strong character "may come near being a dictator". There is, however, as repeatedly and insistently pointed out by M. X. Zaleski, this essential difference between the totalitarian States of the Continent and the

(Continued on page 4)

THE VISIT OF POLISH SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ENGLAND



Polish School children at The Tower of London.

The Polish party of school children who visited England as prize winners of the British Council's competition returned recently to Poland.

Their stay in London, where they visited many places of interest including The Tower, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, the British Museum, the National Gallery, the Tate Gallery and many others, as well as their trips to Windsor Castle, Eton, Hampton Court and later on to Oxford and

Stratford-on-Avon made on them a great impression. As I was told by them they enjoyed their trip immensely and apart from the pleasure they had, they learned a lot about England and English culture and history.

The impressions gained will stay undoubtedly for a long while in the young minds developing a vivid interest for further study of the subjects with which they made such a pleasant acquaintance.

C. H.

A DANZIG NUMBER OF THE "WIADOMOŚCI LITERACKIE"

"Wiadomości Literackie" the well-known literary weekly, recently published a special number dealing with the many aspects of relations between Poland and Danzig in the past and the present. Articles, essays, prose and poetry from the pens of the best Polish historians, publicists, writers and poets are giving a full and detailed picture of the rôle of Danzig in the history of Poland of former days, as well as of its significance for Poland's independent life of the present day.

Some 67 authors of which I would mention such names as Professor H and e l s m a n, K. Pruszyński, Minister Matuszewski, General Sikorski, K. Smogorzewski, Z. Nowakowski, P. Hulka-Laskowski, F. Papee, Professor S. Kot, M. Treter, A. Skałkowski, M. Kugiel, J. Wilder, S. Estreicher and many others speak fully of the links connecting Danzig, the outlet to the Polish sea, with Poland. Dr. Hermann Rauschning in an article on Danzig gives an impressive account of the situation as seen by a true Danziger.

Many essays deal with the cultural and artistic monuments of Danzig which are an everlasting proof of Polish influence in that city during many past centuries. This number of the "Wiadomości Literackie" is a real source of information on Danzig at which the interest of the whole world is at present fixed.

C. H.

BOOKS
(concluded)

present English conception of a political leader of wide dictatorial powers, that the moral straight-forwardness of the leader is placed under the effective control of the community. The powerful English premier must win and keep the full confidence of a free public opinion. Otherwise he will be hurled from power without fail. The English political system takes full account of the sensitiveness of public opinion with regard to the honesty and straight-forwardness of the ruling leader. "The broad masses do not easily find their way among the complicated arena of political problems for which they even do not care over-much, but honesty, honour, readiness to make sacrifices, loyalty, patriotism — in short the imperponderals — are of greatest interest to the average citizen, whose judgment in such matters is usually right and determined. It is this weight of imperponderals in English politics which explains the extremely conscientious fulfilment of international obligations by English Governments, and also their unwillingness to enter into not sufficiently considered or premature commitments with other nations." Public opinion in England "is the true voice of English collective conscience and national spirit". England, says the author, is a nation safe from any danger of an over-growth of totalitarian currents from the left or right; this is why Polish-English co-operation which has been just initiated, is so important; the key-positions of Poland in central Europe and of Great Britain in the West open the possibility of making safe, at least on two points, the path of civilization from the dangers of antagonistic constitutional ideologies which know of no compromise.

M. Gor.



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WARSAW STAGE

"LE BOIS SACRÉ"

The Teatr Narodowy presents one of the best comedies by Robert de Flers and de Caillevet, *Le Bois Sacré*, a fine satire on the methods sometimes employed for receiving the French *Légion d'Honneur*.

The clever construction of an interesting problem, the amusing situations and wit make it one of the most interesting theatrical entertainments which are always appreciated by the Warsaw public. The fine work of the French comedy writers does not always correspond with the interpretation of the *Teatr Narodowy*. Among the actors first place must be given to Jerzy Chodacki, Jerzy Leszczyński and Leon Łuszczewski who are excellent and well understand the requirements and style of the play. On the contrary the feminine leads interpreted by Misses Maria Gorczyńska and Alina Zeliska are quite miscast. Both the actresses fail to underline the special humour and wit of their rôles.

Jerzy Leszczyński's production gives the performance a lively tempo. Special mention should be made of the sets by Andrzej Pronaszko who produced stylish interiors which well expressed the modern ways of stage-design.

J. M.

SUMMER COURSE FOR POLISH TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

A three weeks' summer refresher course for Polish teachers of English has just been held at the British School, Warsaw (director, Mr. H. A. Mackenzie). This was the first attempt at arranging such a course and it was voted by all who attended it a very great success. The programme included dictation, phonetics, pronunciation, grammar, reading, discussions and lectures and particular attention was paid to "typical mistakes made by Polish students". On the last day the students, to mark their appreciation, gave a surprise tea and presented Mr. Mackenzie and his assistant, Mr. Hills, each with a beautiful book, and the course dispersed with many happy memories.

SOCIETY EVENTS.

Warsaw.

There will be no events at the Anglo-Polish Society from the 15th July until the 1st September. The library will be open every morning from 10.30 to 1 o'clock and in the afternoons from 4.30 to 5.30. Neither the library nor the club will be open on Saturday afternoons or Sundays. Details as

Good servant seeks work in an English family at once, Kurzeska, Zawrat 3. Warsaw—Mokotów.

TIMES OF ENGLISH NEWS BROADCASTS

Short Wave	Long Wave
All bands	Deutch
2.15 p. m.	6 p. m.
5 p. m.	9 p. m.
7 p. m.	11.50 p. m.
10.30 p. m.	
1.30 a. m.	
Sundays, 10.15 p. m.	Sundays, 8.50 p. m.
	(Polish Time)

C I N E M A S

- ATLANTIC.** "Luisa Rainer and Mi-liza Korjus in 'The Great Waltz'." (Musical on life of Strauss).
- BALTYK.** "Three Cadets".
- CASINO.** Dorothy Lamour in "Mexican Nights".
- BOLESSEUM.** "A Smile of Senorita".
- EUROPA.** Jan Francisz in "The Comet over Broadway".
- IMPERIAL.** Jany Gaynor in "Young Hearts".
- NAPOLEON.** Edwige Feneille, L'Amour Dancoeur.
- PALLADIUM.** Edward G. Robinson in "Confessions of a Nazi Spy" (First rate thriller).
- RIALTO.** Melvyn Douglas in "The Return of Arsen Lupin".
- ROMA.** Franciska Gaal in "Katharina" (Light Comedy).
- STUDIO.** Comedy.
- STYLWY.** Madeline Carol in "Four Millions".
- SWIATOWID.** Fernandel in "La Legion Brangère".
- VICTORIA.** Wallace Beery in "The Port of Seven Seas".

The films mentioned above were those showing on the day of going to press.

THEATRES AND MUSIC

- ALIBABA.** Orzeł czy rzeszka? (Musical) Ateum. "Les jours heureux". (French comedy).
- BITEO.** Closed.
- FILHARMONIA.** Closed.
- KAMERALNY.** Closed.
- KONSERWATORIUM.** Closed.
- LETNIA.** "A public scandal" (Farce) MAKE QUI PRO QUITO Closed.
- MALICKIEJ.** Closed.
- MALY.** Closed.
- NOWY.** Closed.
- NARODOWY.** "Le bois sacré" (Comedy) de Flers and de Caillevet.
- POLSKI.** Geneva? by G. B. Shaw.
- REBUTA.** Closed.
- TEATR WIELKI.** "Panna Wedona" (Polish opera).
- TEATR WIELKI OPERA.** Closed.
- CIRCUS.** Closed.

ART EXHIBITIONS

- I. P. S. Polish Battle Painters.
- ZACHĘTA. "The first forty years of the Zachęta" and a display of Simardzki's work.
- NATIONAL MUSEUM. "Still Life" by Old Masters.

to the autumn programme will be announced in the Warsaw Weekly for the 15th August.

Gdynia. There will be no lectures during August. The Library will be open from 8-9 p. m. on alternate Wednesdays, i. e. August 9th and 23rd.

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The following persons are entitled to receive visas or immigration certificates for Palestine

No of certificate	NAME	Age	Category	Last date of visa	Admission (last date of issue)	Address
112924	SPIRGEL Rose	43	A	26.9.39	26.10.39	Rynek, Jarosław
112988	STANISŁAWA Peza	59	D	7.10.39	7.11.39	Cienna 5, Grodno
112989	" Chjeza	14	"	"	"	"
112990	SUKIENNICIA Gtita	48	B	6.10.39	6.11.39	Majszela 16/24, Warszawa
112992	" Mennchem	15	"	"	"	"
112994	LEJTOR	12	"	"	"	Klimontów
112995	MEINGARTEN Haya	17	"	"	"	"
112996	FEIGA	24	"	"	"	Odrzywół
112997	FRIDMAN Ita	14	"	7.10.39	7.11.39	Słowackiego 48, Kraków
112998	STEINWURZEL Adela	24	"	"	"	Brulbozów
113000	ZYLBERMAN Ciria	7a	"	"	"	Kazimierz Wielki, Kraków
113003	SZWARZ Estera	23	"	6.10.39	6.11.39	Sienkiewicza 10, Tarnopol
113005	BRIEF Beria	34	"	"	"	"
113012	Edyta	3	"	"	"	Lódź
113010	WILHELM Moszek	16	"	"	"	Wiłowska 91, Łódź
113020	AIZEN Ignacy	10	B	7.10.39	7.11.39	Warszawa 21, Warszawa
113022	SALBERG Abraham	13	"	"	"	Hogencina, Łódź
113028	ALEKSANDROWICZ Abram	15	"	"	"	"
113029	Ruchla	16	"	11.10.39	11.11.39	Piłsudskiego 15, Leszno
113029	CHEYER Cilly	24	"	"	"	"
113069	Wadwiga	2	"	"	"	"
113100	Julanna	1	"	"	"	"
114289	MAYZEZ Beviriz	61	"	23.9.39	23.10.39	Zbyszyn camp.
114309	RIKMANMAN Abraham	9	"	26.9.39	26.10.39	Pl. św. Anny 3/4, Lwów
114314	MYLNAKSA Ruth	12	"	27.9.39	27.10.39	Rybnik
114320	KAPE Ruwin	19	"	"	"	Pińskiego 7, Łuck
114323	POLLAK Paweł	12	"	"	"	Bortnowskiego 5, Cieszyń II
114328	KIMEL Geszta	17	"	"	"	Warszawa 21, Warszawa
114338	KLARH Razel	37	D	"	"	Kleparzowa 10, Lwów
114334	Klara	23	"	"	"	Końskie
114345	BERLINGER Rachel	25	B	3.10.39	3.11.39	Łomżyńska 18, Kolno
114348	ABEWEKICZ Mała	23	"	"	"	Sapierzyńska 10a, Warszawa
114384	PROIMOWICZ Baruch	14	"	"	"	Mł.
118490	ZINKIN Pania	27	"	"	"	"
118494	CHURMAN Ester	16	D	5.10.39	5.11.39	Wilenska 37, Opole
118500	MAJMIN Szulim	15	"	6.10.39	6.11.39	Braska 11 m. 4, Warszawa
118511	FRYDMAN Hirsz	11	"	"	"	Twarda 24 m. 4, Warszawa
118529	PINGHUS Kaja	32	"	"	"	Janów k/Sokółki
118530	Liuba	4	"	"	"	"
118531	" Feiga	4	"	"	"	"
118536	ARABOWICZ Jakob	57	A	"	"	Nalewki 23, Warszawa
118537	STEINER Georg	65	B	"	"	Pruska 13, Kraków
120510	COBBATT Chajta	25	D	22.5.39	22.10.39	Szumski k/Wrzeżanów
120516	BENET Rachel	16	"	23.9.39	23.10.39	Pińskiego 2, Oświęcim
120517	" Mirjam	15	"	"	"	"
120518	" Erika	12	"	"	"	"
120519	" Chawa	9	"	"	"	"
120588	KORN Mordecha	21	B	28.9.39	28.10.39	Wilezy
120588	GUTMAN Ber	23	"	"	"	Targowa 36, Warszawa
120594	STERNFELD Oscher	87	A	4.10.39	4.11.39	Poland
120594	" Bluma	38	D	"	"	"
120595	" Uri	1/2	"	"	"	"
120596	" Mendel	65	"	"	"	"
120705	MENTLIK Israel	60	"	"	"	"
120705	Riwka	50	"	5.10.39	5.11.39	"
120706	FELDMAN Benjzon	62	"	"	"	"
120707	Gtita	62	"	"	"	"
120708	STEIGMANN Czarana	66	"	"	"	c/o Blocha, Pińskiego 45
120709	WINTER Saul	56	"	"	"	Poland
120710	" Frida	50	"	"	"	"
2486135	MAKOWICZEJ Jakob	G	B	5.1.40		Przedecz, pow. Włodawek
2486131	LIBERMAN Nita	"	"	31.10.39		Żelazna 89 m 45, Warszawa
2486125	CY GIELENICKI Eda	"	"	19.3.39		Konarskiego 5, Lida
2486118	HOCHMAN Szlana	"	"	30.9.39		Genie 25/54, Warszawa
2486116	PERLMUTER Mancia	"	"	25.9.39		Rejtana 10, Stanfiszów
24061109	BAKCHER Chaim	"	"	5.8.39		Krasieński 7, Lwów
24061128	KLOCMAN Hiza	27	"	8.1.38		Grochowska 169, Warszawa
2486119	KRÖL Ieek	8	"	26.9.39		Nowogrodzka 7, Radom
2486120	KUPPERMAN Sima	64	"	30.9.39		Druza 25, Brześć
2486123	LEWIN Wulf	"	"	12.11.39		Niekodem 6, Wilno
2486127	KARTIN Josef	"	"	31.8.38		Niecaja 4, Rohatyn
2486129	SZLACZANG Mendel	"	"	10.10.39		c/o Zyms, Krakowska 45
"	" Iies	"	"	"		Warsaw
"	" Jonasz	"	"	"		"
2486133	BERENSTEIN Ester	"	"	16.10.39		Elektoralska 26/11, Warszawa
2419122	ROMANOWSKA Mina	"	"	31.10.39		Sienkiewicza 6, Białystok
2486121	LOWENKOPF Leib	"	"	13.11.39		Sienkiewicza 7/2, Warszawa
2486115	NAWRA Sara	"	"	1.10.39		Jerozolimaska 5, Ciechanów
2486128	SCHWARTZ Ruth	"	"	21.9.39		Leszko
2486132	BURSZTYN Fruma	"	"	21.9.39		Próżna 17, Warszawa
2443162	HERSZENDORFER Rachla	"	"	31.7.39		Bródzki, Radomski
2443161	WARGULUS Josef	"	"	21.6.40		Zamechofa 4, Łódź
2443123	ZOBEL Sender	"	"	28.12.39		Łomżańska 9, Lwów
21931	RACHENBUCH Majer	"	"	3.8.40		Mnnarowska 18, Warszawa
2443171	PERL Beria	"	"	31.12.39		Przybyłowa 98, Radom
2443170	WATKENDORF Gtita	"	"	30.6.40		Kofelaska 2, Warszawa
2443160	LAISKA Nacha	44	"	30.6.40		Kofelaska 120, Dąbrowa Górna
2443168	ZEMPEL Sara	24	"	30.9.39		Szczepany
2443167	WARGULUS Szanna	"	"	31.7.39		Przybyłowa 10, Zwolen
2443166	GOLOMBEEK Mała	28	"	31.12.39		Miła 39, Warszawa
2443165	KEIN Alice	"	"	12.10.39		Ciaszyn Zachodni
2443164	SZTEJN Simcha	47	"	6.12.39		Polna 52, Warszawa
2443163	OLBIAK Jozek	7	"	31.12.39		Baranowska 2a, Warszawa
"	" Perla	7	"	"		"
2417163	BRETT Mendel	66	"	12.10.39		c/o Rapp, Kolarska 3, Lwów