

ODDS AND ENDS

AUTARKY ARITHMETIC

"BUT if the Fuehrer leads them in war," said Alice doubtfully, "I don't quite see what they want a Field-Marshal for at all."

"Perfectly simple," said the Red Queen, with a pronounced sniff. "It's all been thought out beforehand. The Fuehrer leads them to war and the Field-Marshal leads them to peace."

"But isn't that the wrong way round?" suggested Alice timidly.

"Of course it is," said the Red Queen, heartily. "But then they are the wrong way round, you see—otherwise they wouldn't be Hitlerites. So the Fuehrer goes off to the front and the Field-Marshal comes home and talks for two hours in Berlin."

"In a bathing costume?" asked Alice.

"Not yet—they haven't got one big enough. Besides, he wouldn't have room for all his medals on it. And the Field-Marshal must have his medals on in



—Sunday Graphic

THE WEDDING MARCH

order to keep himself all worked up for telling Mr. Chamberlain how nice it would be if only everybody (except the Poles) would sit down and talk peace with the Hitlerites."

"But Mr. Chamberlain wouldn't do anything of the kind, would he?" inquired Alice anxiously.

"If you ask me," said the Red Queen, "I think it's gone a bit beyond Mr. Chamberlain by this time. Anyway, the immediate result of talking peace for two hours to Mr. Chamberlain was an announcement by return of ether from the British Cabinet that the Field-Marshal had better get ready for three years' war. So that makes five for the Hitlerites to be going on with."

"Why five?" asked Alice.

The Red Queen smiled tolerantly.

"Three and two make five, don't they, stupid?" The Hitlerites have been

Burgomaster Max Had The Answer

Burgomaster Max, who defied the invading Germans in 1914, and died in Belgium recently, became an almost legendary figure. Here is another story about him:

When the first German general entered the Town Hall at Brussels, he proceeded to the Burgomaster's room, revolver in hand. After a few moments' conversation, he laid down the revolver. The Burgomaster replied by taking the pen from behind his ear and laying it also on the table.

Severe Penalties For Black-Out Burglars

At London Sessions last month sentence of five years' penal servitude for a burglary during the black-out was passed on Septimus Mills, aged 64, described as a labourer.

The acting deputy chairman, G. Russell Vick, K.C., passing sentence, said: "There is no doubt that you used the black-out for the purpose of carrying on crime, and, so far as I am concerned, I am determined that it should be widely known by all the criminal classes that the punishment which will be given by Courts for offences committed during such a time in this country will be very heavy."

Club For Jitterbugs In Australia

Jitterbugs will be able to peck, truck, bug, twist, whirl and strut to their hearts' content at a club formed by Della Davis, well-known Sydney stage and cabaret dancer, says the Australian *Wireless Weekly*.

The organisation is to be called "The Jitterbugs," and is claimed to be Australia's first jitterbug club.

The idea is to get jitterbugging going in full swing in Sydney, and dancing will be held every Saturday night.

Della Davis is a jitterbug specialist, having learned the dance from American experts.

blockading themselves for two years—and now they're going to be blockaded by somebody else for another three."

"But why did they blockade themselves?" inquired Alice, now thoroughly confused.

"It's called autarky," said the Red Queen, "or the Four-year Plan. But I doubt whether you would really understand it. It's like giving yourself a flying start into misery in order to improve your morale. The result is real self-sufficiency."

"It sounds very odd to me," said Alice.

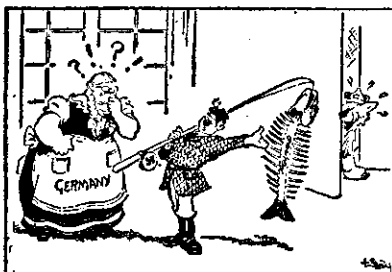
"But nothing like so odd as it must sound to the unfortunate German people," said the Red Queen, firmly.

From "The Manchester Guardian"

BBC FOREIGN LANGUAGE BROADCASTS

Why World-Wide Coverage Is Necessary

SOME listeners have been wondering why certain broadcasts in foreign languages are carried on in the main Overseas Service of the BBC as well as in the European Service. To those who do not understand the languages concerned, it is disconcerting, of course, to have no alternative programme in English, but there



—Western Mail, Cardiff

ADOLPH BRINGS HOME THE CATCH

are good reasons for the arrangement, and these are given in an air-mail communication from the BBC:

The war schedule of short-wave programmes from Great Britain is based broadly on the provision of a World Service (incorporating the Empire Service) and a European Service. These two main services coincide for certain bulletins in English and in foreign languages.

Afrikaans, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish are the languages concerned. Of these Afrikaans and French are Empire languages—the mother-tongues of a large proportion of South Africans and Canadians respectively. Moreover, French is widely spoken in some Colonial territories—in Mauritius, for example—and in many other parts of the world outside the Empire.

German and Italian fall into a rather different category. They are spoken by an appreciable number of citizens of the Empire, and they are, moreover, languages with wide currency in many other parts of the world. The object of the BBC's Overseas Service in wartime being to secure world-wide coverage, it is clearly desirable that the news in German and Italian should be included in the main service and not confined to Europe.

Spanish and Portuguese take their place in the main programmes because they are the languages of South and Central America, as well as of Spain and Portugal, and of appreciable sections of the population of Portuguese possessions in Africa and in other parts of the world, such as Goa and Macao. The outbreak of war made it necessary, on technical grounds, to abandon the separate Latin-American programme service that started in July, but the BBC still has responsibility to its dual audience, and the principal languages are rightly represented.

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