

Mum's sheets are always snowy white While other people's look a fright Our mother knows a thing or two She always, <u>always</u> uses BLUE

Everyone loves snowy white bed linen—table linen and towels. A swish of Blue in the last rinse and you'll never see a tinge of yellow. Blue keeps all whites—white.

use

BL38

RECKITT'S BLUE PREVENTS CLOTHES TURNING YELLOW



RADIO'S BIG MOMENT

Behind The Scenes on D-Day

N a corner of the main controlroom at Station 2YA there is
a revolving chair placed between a writing table and a set
of recording machines, and here,
for 24 hours a day since September, 1939, a continuous watch has been
kept on news broadcasts from the BBC
and elsewhere and more than 30,000
records have been cut. Three men have
been the main sharers of this task
throughout the war, and recently "the
listening watch" had its big moment, a
moment which had been the subject of
speculation and wager in the controlroom for some weeks.

Listeners who had their radios on from 6.15 p.m. onwards on Tuesday, June 6, hardly need to be reminded of what they heard on that historic occasion, but they may find it interesting to be told how the NBS arranged it all.

The "listening watch" was established some months before the war, and all its work is entered in a set of large page-aday diaries by which it is possible to refer to the actual disc cut at a certain time on any day, and hear the news exactly as it was heard then, interference, fading, and all.

The man on duty has his movements restricted to a great extent by the necessity for wearing earphones all the time —as he is in the control-room where many of 2YA's announcements are made, a loudspeaker would be out of the question-and it is his job to know when news is about to be heard on shortwave, whether from the BBC or anywhere else we are likely to be interested in, including Vatican radio and even Tokyo itself. Then at the appropriate moment he tips over a small lever, and a heavy 'recording head," resembling a highly elaborate gramophone pickup, descends on a smooth black disc, spinning ready on a heavy turntable. A very fine con-tinuous thread of "shavings" tangles round the cutting instrument, and begins to pile up on a circular brush in the centre of the record. When there is enough of it you can see that it is a sort of luminous purple colour. It is highly inflammable.

After several minutes the grooves will be getting near the inside margin, and at an appropriate break in the news (or whatever is being recorded) the operator lifts the cutter and simultaneously begins the same cutting operation on another identical machine alongside, where another blank disc is already spinning at the right speed—usually 33½ revolutions per minute. Before this is fully cut the other machine will, if necessary, be ready to take over the broadcast without a break. Back to back with these two machines is another pair, so that if two important broadcasts from different quarters of the world should coincide, they can both be recorded.

Naturally, the three men who share the listening watch maintain a friendly

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