

potion. Lucrezia and Ferrara lived happily ever after. This is a nice story, with a fine moral, but of course it is not history. Actually Lucrezia Borgia was mixed up in several sordid and fatal intrigues before she married Ferrara, and it is probable that Ferrara poisoned an admirer fairly late in her life. As far as I know Cesare did not try to poison Ferrara as related in this radio fable, and Cesare himself did not die until years later, when he was killed in a skirmish in France. A nice story, but to echo Professor Sinclaire, why drag in Lucrezia Borgia?

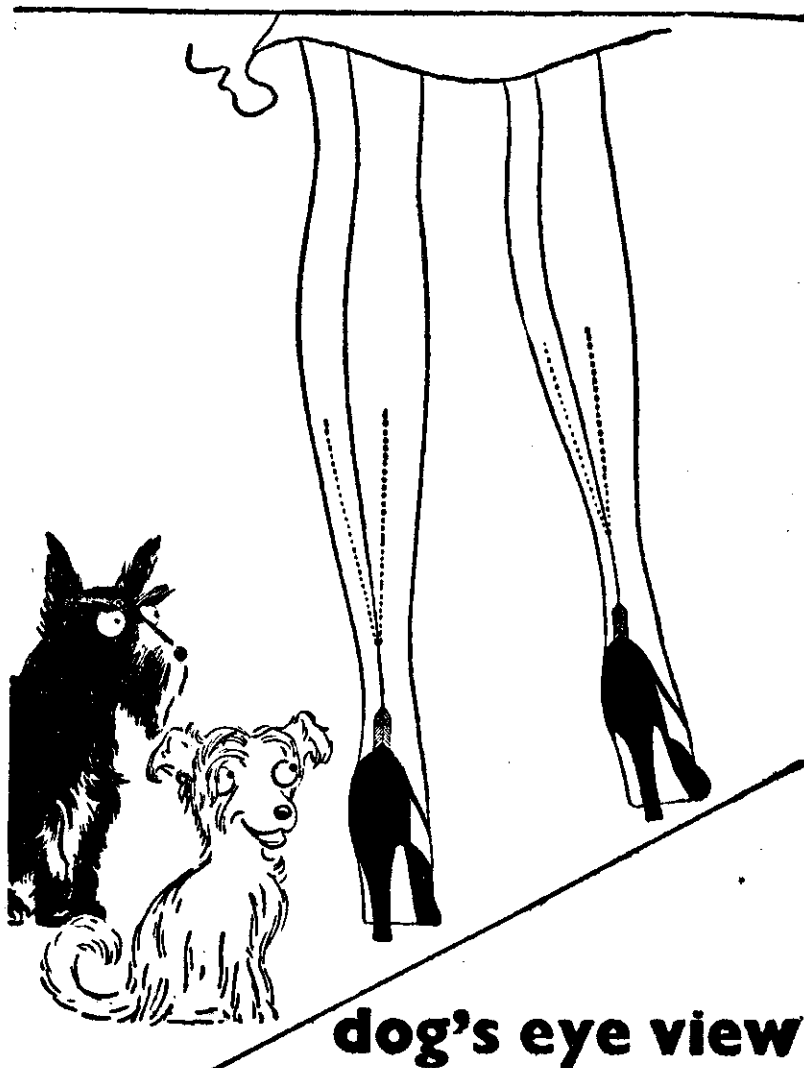
Radar

UNFORTUNATELY Helen Stirling's two talks, "A Radar Operator's Impressions of the Battle of Britain," have not made me sufficiently familiar with radar to feel confident that my comparison is technically appropriate, but I should like to say at the risk of confusing my services that Miss Stirling plotted a steady course (would "sailed on a clear beam" be more fitting?) between the Scylla of triviality and the Charybdis of technicality. Her talks were shop, but presented from the consumer viewpoint, and while she did not scorn the aid of personal anecdote to lighten her descriptions of the technical side of the work she did not allow her talks to degenerate into mere chattiness. The whole effect was that produced by a well-blended documentary. Miss Stirling's voice was admirably suited to her role crisp, occasionally ironical yet modest withal. It was not at all difficult to fill in the details of well-pressed uniform and trim coiffure and to see her at the work she described and in those settings which the screen has made familiar.

Reasonable

"HERE," said the announcer, "is the Overseas and New Zealand news." After the usual tales of skulduggery in high places, minor wars, accusations, denials, conferences and starvation, it was pleasant to be soothed by local items. An overseas visitor had said something kind about our fishing, but our hotels were not quite what he was used to; there was talk of an old building, a landmark, being removed from a northern city to make room for a block of offices; somebody's cow had broken a butterfat record; a Minister had made a statement about a new hydro-electric scheme, and there was a controversy on a fine point in the organisation of next season's football. The English wife of an R.N.Z.A.F. man, at whose home I was being entertained that evening, clicked her knitting needles and said she had just about got used to New Zealand radio, but she wished the NZBS would broadcast five or ten minutes of English news once a week. "The BBC used to broadcast New Zealand news for Kiwi units in England during the war," she said. "My husband lapped it up, even if it was only about a clock tower being demolished. There must be hundreds of English brides out here now; you'd think something could be done for them." It seemed a reasonable request; I imagine she was thinking of something other than the items of local interest occasionally heard at the end of the BBC news bulletins.

(continued on next page)



Tell you what I notice, Mac. More and more girls with these converging fashion marks on their stockings.

Yes, Aussie, and the taper heel as well. When you see them both together you know it must be

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