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notice of you. But if I take it into my head to walk down the main street of Oamaru, which has a population of 8,000, and array myself in a pale blue jacket and pink trousers, the whole town will know of it in a very short time and probably somebody will write to the press to suggest that my proper place is Seaciff.

The bright young university man who yearned for Britain on the grounds of Mr. Stephen's criticism has probably, as you suggested, already discovered that unorthodoxy and eccentricity are no more welcome there than here. But the main point is that to-day non-conformity is to-morrow's orthodoxy. To lard oneself with a lotion and broil oneself brown in the sun, lolling on a public beach in a state of almost nudity, would have struck a Victorian maiden as the height (or depth) of shameless indecency. To-day it is so orthodox that the press carries advertisements extolling the virtues of the lotion. Take Wesleyan Methodism, the Salvation Army, women riding bicycles, the hatless brigade, and teetotallers: all these in their time were condemned and derided as unorthodox, nonconforming, and eccentric; to-day they are the orthodox.

The tendency to unorthodoxy or eccentricity may perhaps be a manifestation of nature's machinery for securing a variation of the species; given enough encouragement and scope, the unorthodox very rapidly become gossellers aiming at a new orthodoxy which is their unorthodoxy. I doubt whether Paradise itself will be free from this tendency—there will be some angels with a kink for wearing their haloes askew.

J. MALTON MURRAY (Oamaru).

FOSTER PARENTS

Sir,—Though I do not doubt that many people take foster-children because they love them, I cannot agree with "Child-lover" that it cost 12/6 weekly to feed a baby of four to six months. My own child's diet at six months was as follows (Plunket):

Milk	28 oz. (plus 14 oz. water)
Karilac	4 tablespoons
Rosehip syrup	2 teaspoons
Cod Liver Oil	2 teaspoons
Cereal jelly, oven dried crust, strained vegetable juice and raw apple pulp.	

This is a normal diet, and 12 months ago did not cost me more than about 5/- weekly.

MARY S. (Auckland).

PROGRAMMES OR ADVERTISING?

Sir,—The Listener now consists of one-third advertising, one-third articles, and one-third programmes, with the result that the information given in programmes is quite inadequate for selective listening. Far too much time is included in group titles which give little or no indication of the items to be broadcast. In the 3YL programme for Wednesday, January 8, for instance, there is only one item, "Hopalong Cassidy," that is defined by name, and no authors or composers are mentioned at all. Only one item has the performers mentioned (Cicely Courtneidge and Jack Hulbert).

The programmes for the YA stations are somewhat less vague, but they always include a number of indefinite headings like "Lunch Music" and "Dinner Music" which are liable to occupy

the only times of the day when anyone who is busy can listen. It is disappointing to switch on and hear only the last three notes of some beautiful record by Lili Kraus. It is also annoying to switch on and hear the sort of thing that is so often broadcast, a time-filler that is possibly not detailed because it is not worth mentioning by name—nor is it worth playing.

ARTHUR LUSH (Christchurch)

PHOTOGRAPHY


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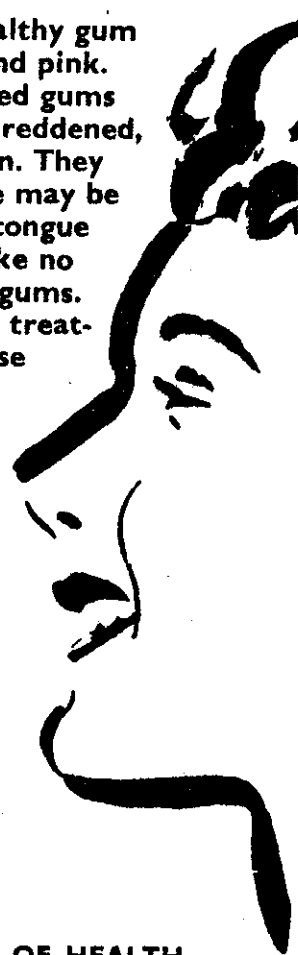
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ARE YOUR GUMS RED OR PINK?



The normal healthy gum is firm and pink. Unhealthy inflamed gums (gingivitis) are reddened, tender and swollen. They may bleed, there may be bad breath, dirty tongue and constipation. Take no chances with unhealthy gums. Consult your Dentist for treatment without delay. Practise these rules and keep your gums healthy.

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- Brush your teeth and gums regularly after meals and especially before bed.
 - Eat plenty of fibrous foods which require chewing, such as vegetables (raw if possible), meat, raw fruit. Bread crusts are good. These foods massage the gums and keep them healthy.
 - Eat a balanced diet which includes fresh vegetables and fruit.
 - Take plenty of fresh air and exercise.
 - Visit your dentist regularly for a check up.

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