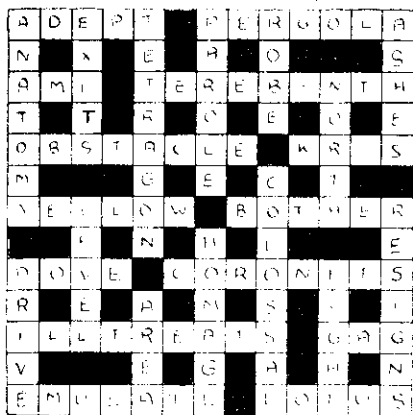


THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

(Solution to No. 338)



Clues Across

3. Flag? No! No! But it's a banner.
8. Bat, indeed? This could be argued.
9. Matt died, it is allowed.
11. "There came unto him a —, beseeching him, and saying 'Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy.'" (St. Matthew, 8).
12. Mixture of saint and sot found along the railway line.
14. To be full of them indicates energy.
17. Kindled.
18. Occupant.
22. Ice cold
23. Don't, Eric! (anag.).
26. In a King's son, a feature is confused, as a rule.
27. Ten traps in a church.
29. Talent.

Clues Down

1. Ahab's wife.
2. Trying to slim.
3. They are subject to frequent changes.
4. Peculiarity.
5. Giant fin (anag.).
6. Close to the sea.
7. Indication of assent from Don?
10. Do you get the bird here?
13. "While the earth remaineth, — time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." (Genesis 8).
14. This poet is the reverse of drab.
15. "One of Our — is Missing," as the film title informed us.
16. Hungry.
19. When upset, this girl is aimless.
20. Cultivators found on boats?
24. Rage.
25. Enter in confusion for a French preposition.
27. Meal in 29 across.

(continued from previous page)

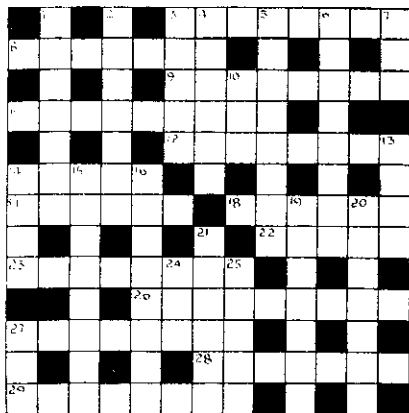
not "mucked about with." Their character should be accepted, and liked for its own sake. Wood may be painted—in which case the wood quality is frankly abandoned, and something else is substituted that can, in the right context, look very good; but to daub honest wood with dark brown stain, to hide its nakedness, or to make it look old, is aesthetic cowardice and dishonesty.

If people are content to like the qualities of things for their own sake, if they abandon pretence and don't try to make things look more expensive than they really are, or absurdly different, they will not go far wrong in their aesthetic tastes. It is the element of humbug, the basic dishonesty, that creates pretentiousness and vulgarity.

Does all this really matter very much? Does it matter, in a somewhat grim world, whether people's tastes are vulgar or not? Well, ponder this thought: if people are dishonest—even unconsciously, by way of self-deception—in their aesthetic tastes, have we any reason to hope that their ways of thinking and feeling will be any more admirable, any more honest and real, in politics and business, and in the general conduct of their lives?

Corruption can't be kept in watertight compartments.

No. 339 (Constructed by R.W.C.)



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THE AGE OF REASON. Jean-Paul Sartre, 11/4 posted. The long-awaited first novel by the most discussed author and playwright of to-day and the prophet of "existentialism."

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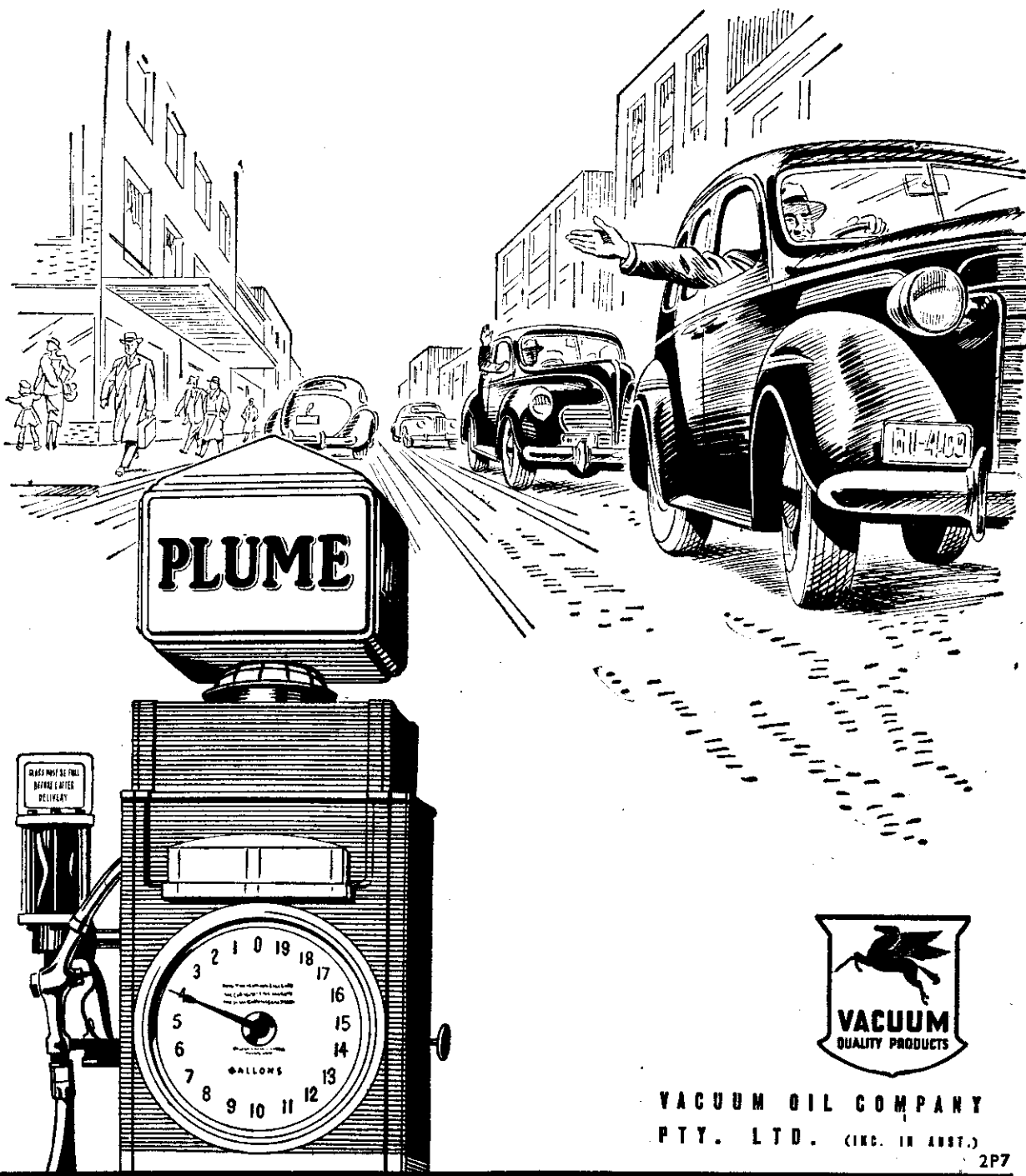
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