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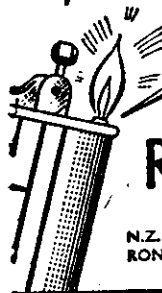
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SLAUGHTER OF HORSES

(continued from previous page)

team can kill a horse, skin it, cut it up, and have the whole thing out of the slaughterhouse, including all the offal and every other part, within 20 minutes of bringing in the horse alive. These enforcement officers will have to be quick on the job. . . The country demands immediate action to put an end to this sordid traffic, which is entirely alien to the British people."

Reply by Minister

Next we quote the reply of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food (Dr. Edith Summerskill):

"It may not have occurred to hon. Members that the enforcement of the order in respect of this commodity is, perhaps, harder than the enforcement of orders in respect of any other commodity with which my Department has to deal; and for this reason housewives who are unfortunate enough to have husbands who have big appetites for meat, go to the places where horse-meat is sold, and if they are overcharged they are a little reluctant to complain, because they are not anxious to have the details of their purchases, and the places where they make them, ventilated in the local papers.

"Therefore, while it may be quite easy to get a housewife to give evidence against a greengrocer who has charged more than the maximum price, it is with the utmost difficulty that we can persuade witnesses to come forward to give evidence against these particular people. That is why we find enforcement extremely difficult. Furthermore, the clientele in these shops is rather limited, and the seller of horse-meat knows his customers. We find that, in these cases, when we send an inspector, male or female, to make a purchase, for some curious reason the controlled price is always charged. The seller of the horse-meat suspects that particular customer.

"The farming industry of this country is the most highly mechanised in the world, and young farmers are rather apt to despise horses. They have developed a love for tractors, and it is a most difficult thing to persuade these young farmers to use horses on their farms when they are now accustomed to use some kind of mechanical instrument. The Ministry of Agriculture have

assured us that they are making efforts to persuade the farmers to continue the breeding of horses, but we cannot control the slaughter of horses by the farmer or his agents, and the only solution is for the young farmers to breed more horses. We are doing everything in our power to persuade them to do so."

But the best comment was this parody by the *Manchester Guardian*:

"Which would you rather eat, child?" asked the Red Queen. "A horse, a dog, or a cat?"

"I'd rather not eat any of them; thank you very much," said Alice.

"Oh, but you may have to," said the Red Queen briskly. "It's no use taking a hoity-toity line like that, you know—you've got to move with the times. Don't you realise that people in this country are now eating so many horses that there is a positive fear that we may run short of them for working purposes—a horse in the kitchen is worth two in the stable, child."

"All the more reason," said Alice firmly, "why I shouldn't eat them."

"You may have done it without knowing," persisted the Red Queen. "There's more meat goes into the pie than ever came out of a cowshed. And appetite comes with eating, you know."

"Well, it wouldn't in my case," said Alice with a slight shudder.

"Don't be absurd, child!" was the Red Queen's rejoinder. "Now I knew a man who became a most confirmed hippophagist, but he began in quite a small way—wouldn't touch anything to start with except the smallest of Shetland ponies. Then he got on to the New Forest and Dartmoor varieties and worked right up through Percherons and Suffolk Punches to Shires and Clydesdales. Very determined he was; also developed a tremendous taste for everything that began with horse—horse-radish, horse-chestnuts, horse-mushrooms, and everything like that."

"What happened to him in the end?" inquired Alice with some interest.

"Oh, bad—very bad!" admitted the Red Queen gloomily. "Hippophagy got such a hold on him that he tried to gnaw the winner of the Derby as it was led in for unsaddling. So they took him away and he was shot at Lights Out on Horse Guards' Parade."

SHORTWAVE HIGHLIGHTS

THE following is the summer schedule of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation, which broadcasts each evening (except Sundays and Wednesdays) to Australia and New Zealand. On Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, the English programme ends at 7.50 p.m. when a special programme for Swiss listeners is broadcast.

Stations, Frequencies and Wavelengths (7.15 p.m.-9.15 p.m.): HER 5 (11.865 mc/s., 25.28 metres), HEI 5 (11.715, 25.61), HER 6 (15.305, 19.60).

Each transmission begins at 7.15 p.m. with the Home News, followed by Views on the News. At 7.20 p.m. on Mondays, Swiss Spotlight is broadcast; on Tuesdays, Swiss Sports Round Up; Thursdays, Economic Bulletin; Fridays, Swiss Spotlight; Saturdays, Cultural Review. "The Swiss Curiosity Shop" is heard at 7.30 p.m. under its various sub-titles (on Mondays, Music Box of Lucas; Tuesdays, Twenty-two are One;

Thursdays, Among Us Girls; Fridays, Tony Bell and his Orchestra; Saturdays, We Recorded for You). "Towards a Better World" is heard at 7.45 p.m., also under various sub-titles (Mondays, Practical Achievements; Tuesdays, Social Aspects; Thursdays, The Geneva Observer; Fridays, Mind Over Matter; Saturdays, Interviews). On Tuesdays at 7.50 p.m. Music by Swiss Composers, followed by Swiss Folk Music, is broadcast, and on Friday the Symphony Hour is heard at the same time.

UN Broadcasts

FROM Tuesday to Saturday, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation broadcasts United Nations programmes over CHOL (11.72 mc/s., 25.60 metres) and CHLS (9.61, 31.22), between 4.0 p.m. and 4.35 p.m. The programme opens with the United Nations News, followed at 4.15 p.m. with the feature "UN Today," and at 4.30, a short news talk.