



THINGS TO COME—



STATIC



PIRATE radio stations in Germany opened one broadcast with:

There is a grave shortage of tailors in Germany. It is reported that General Goering is designing a new uniform.

ANTI-NAZIS in Godesburg, says a Belgian newspaper, suggested that if Hitler is anxious to find the 10,000 Saarlanders who are said to be "lost" owing to the chaotic German evacuation plans, he should ask General Goering to "step aside for a moment" so that he can see what is going on.

SECOND thought from Nicholas Bentley's "Second Thoughts":

*How many revs a minute
Would Ruskin turn in his grave
If he saw the exhibition
That Salvador Dali gave?*

THIS, in case you wouldn't have thought so, is a true story. Two gentlemen were chatting in a city office. The wireless was turned on, and sweet strains came from it. One gentleman said to the other: "I believe that's Haydn."

Said the typiste, brightly: "That's right. 'Sweetie, where are you hidin'?"

TAXI driver: I'll have a job finding the other sixpence change for you.

Scot: Ah, weel, the nicht's young.

"THE person who minces his words runs the risk of being misunderstood." In fact, he may make a hash of things.

AN infantry battalion recently received a ration of dog-biscuits by mistake. The regimental sergeant-major's bark must have been worth hearing.

IT is reported from Berlin that Hitler's favourite astrologer, Emma Ebertin, supposed to be the only person who knows the exact date of his birth, has vanished. German cynics suggest that the reason for her sudden disappearance is that she also knows the exact date of his death and that Hitler has sent her on ahead to explain his policy of "peace with honour." They add that the reason why the Fuehrer has not already absorbed Heaven into the Reich is because there are certain "non-Aryan" elements to eliminate first.

AN Austrian the other day applied for a job in the French Civil Service. "But are you a foreigner?" asked the examiner. "Oh, no," replied the Austrian, "I'm an Antihitlerian."

THE main thing with a crime play or novel is to have a good criminal. Murderers with repressed psyches or Oedipus complexes are not half as popular as really low types, like sinister Orientals or dope fiends, or white slave runners. You couldn't ask for a more adequate criminal than the villain in Max Afford's radio serial, "The Mysterious Mr. Lynch." "Mr. Lynch" proves partial to murder in the costume of a medieval executioner, complete with running noose of hemp. He terrorises London, is behind the strange whistling of "Danse Macabre"—in fact, he should give you many delicious shudders of horror. Complete with haunted Abbeys, brilliant criminologists, baffling enigmas and charming women, "The Mysterious Mr. Lynch" will begin from the Exhibition studio of 2YA early in February; and we'll give you more blood-curdling details later.

At Five He Began

At the golden age of five most children are going through a transition stage—beginning to forget about toy blocks, beginning to read and scrawl a little, and play soldiers. With the Czech composer, Frederick Smetana, fate ordained differently. He did not have to walk before he could run; from infancy he made a flying start to brilliance. Thus the illustration: it is said that he played



in a Haydn String Quartet at the age of five. His father, manager of a Southern Bohemian brewery, was a keen musician and gave the youngster his chance. The boy was to become a champion of the music of his native land, putting the spirit of Bohemia's people, scenery, and legend into his works. His most famous opera is his humorous *The Bartered Bride*, which was written in 1866; the opera will be heard from 4YA Dunedin, on Sunday, January 21, at 9.25 p.m.

Singer of the South

The keen nip of Otago and Southland air is a stimulant for singing. There's nothing better than a bust of song in the chill of the early morning, or on cold winter nights. Jean McLay, Dunedin mezzo-contralto would be the first to tell you so. She, herself, began singing at the age of eight, and before she was sixteen was never beaten in competitions. She rounded off her early days of singing by winning a scholarship at eighteen. You don't have to be born under the shadow of the Metropolitan Opera, or in Covent Garden Market, to be a fine singer. Miss McLay started life in Pukerau, later went to Gore High School, and aside from schooling, had great success in Dunedin competitions. She has appeared also as soloist with the Invercargill Orchestral Society and the Dunedin Junior Orchestral Society; and of course, she is well-known over the air. Jean McLay will be heard at 8.10 p.m. and 8.47 p.m. on Saturday, January 27, from 4YA Dunedin.

Missionary Giants

Missionary effort is an integral part of New Zealand's story. It was the missionaries who brought civilisation to New Zealand and prepared the way for British government and organised British colonisation. There were giants in those days—Samuel Marsden, Bishop Pompallier, Henry Williams, Octavius Hadfield, Samuel Ironside, and others. It is fitting, therefore, that the centennial talks arranged by the NBS should include a number of these early figures in missionary history. There will be a series of talks from 2YA on Sunday afternoons, beginning on January 21, when the Ven. Archdeacon Bullock of Wellington will speak about Samuel Marsden. On the following Sunday afternoon, the 28th, the Rev. Dr. F. H. Walsh will talk about Bishop Pompallier, the pioneer Roman Catholic missionary in New Zealand. This will have a connection with contemporary events, because in the ensuing week the Catholic Church will hold its National Eucharistic Congress in Wellington. On Monday evening, January 29, the Rev. Dr. Noel Gascoigne will broadcast from 2YA a character sketch of the present Pope. On the following Sunday, February 4, the Rev. J. H. Haslam will talk about leading figures in the Wesleyan missionary field in the early days. It is intended to give about ten talks alto-