



THINGS TO COME—



STATIC



AN official of Harland and Wolff, ship-builders, told a reporter: "The vessel left the ways at noon, and safely took the water before her scheduled time. Before leaving the ways, Lady Wood was able to perform the launching ceremony. There was no danger that she would collapse sideways."—(Extract from English paper).

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*Karl Marx and Herr Himmler
Are somewhat dissimilar;
But I'd love to see Harpo
Eluding the Gestapo.*

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AND another painless ditty — from our Auckland correspondent, devised over soggy spuds in a hash-house:

*I could stare for years at the Mona Lisa
And really not be a whit the wiser —
But one wink from Mae West and anyone can
Feel a wiser — if hardly a better — man.*

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"MAGNIFICENT, well-covered lounge suits, massive legs, loose seats." (From a furniture catalogue).

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A CONTINENTAL journalist says he has experienced nothing like our summer this year. He must wait and try one of our winters.

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THERE is a rumour that the water diviners sent to the Siegfried Line found some truth at the bottom of a well.

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MR. MIDDLETON, gardening expert of the BBC, is to appear in a film. It is not mentioned whether he helped to dig up a new plot.

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A NATURALIST says that "Nature can show business men how to run things." Nevertheless, Nature's loose-leaf system leaves us unimpressed.

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"FOOD rationing in England is now becoming intense. The Englishman can no longer have his bacon with his ham and eggs for breakfast."—*English broadcast from Hamburg.*

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OUR daft girl-friend saw the bill-board the other day: "General Lull on the Western Front." Says she: "What is he, German or French?"

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DOG dealers say there is a slump in foreign breeds owing to European troubles. Dachshunds are sagging.

WE have often thought it a great shame that Shakespeare thought of *Much Ado About Nothing* long before Hollywood was ever heard of, because we can't help thinking what a superb title it would be for ninety per cent of the films yearly launched upon our unsuspecting heads. However, the Avon Bard *did* think of it first, and made an amusing play all about nothing. As you probably haven't even seen a copy of Shakespeare since you left school, you may find it both pleasant and profitable to tune in at 9.30 p.m. on Friday, March 1, to 4YA, Dunedin, for at that time Professor T. D. Adams is to give a reading from the play, with musical interludes.

Hurrah For St. David

Many a brave Welsh heart will be beating high on Saturday, March 2, on the evening of which the Wellington Welsh Society is to present a concert in commemoration of St. David's Day. The Welsh refuse to forget



their tall hats, the "Land of Their Fathers," their national anthem; their mines and the sweet singing and the Eisteddfods and the railway station with a name as long as itself—and we won't argue with them. In fact we'll probably tune in at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 2, when a spot of real Welsh wassailing will be broadcast by 2YA.

Bax of England

It has often been said that England has always lacked great composers and musicians. Certainly she has not produced as many as Continental countries; but England has always fostered a form of music peculiar to herself. One Englishman who must rank with the most brilliant of present-day musicians is Arnold Edward Trevor Bax, born in London in 1883. Because he is partly of Irish descent, his compositions express much of the mysti-

cism that is inherent in the poetry of W. B. Yeats, and for that reason, the two men have often been compared. He is a prolific composer, having written choral works, six symphonies, several symphonic poems, overtures, piano music, and a cello concerto. He also wrote, for Karsavina and her company, the ballet *The Truth About the Russian Dancers*. At 2.30 p.m. on Sunday, February 25, Bax's tone poem *Tintagel*, is to be presented from 4YA Dunedin.

Trumpeter

Mention was made in last week's *Listener* of the arrival in New Zealand of Grace Adams East, American trumpeter. During the past few months, Miss East has been travelling on the Continent, and while in France and Belgium had many interesting experiences. These we hope to tell about later: in the meantime, this may serve as a reminder that she is broadcasting over 2YA Wellington, at 8.33 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28, at 8.23 p.m. on Thursday, and at 8.31 p.m. on Saturday.

Szymanowski

Karol Szymanowski, the Polish composer, is claimed by many to be the greatest composer of his race since Chopin. During his fifty-four years (he died in Warsaw in 1937), he wrote symphonies, symphonic poems, a violin concerto, two operas, chamber music, piano music, choral music and songs. Despite this, he is not as widely known as he should be among English people. His music is a blend of Polish and Oriental elements. Dr. Leon Lipson has prepared a lecture recital on "Karol Szymanowski—Artist and Man," which will be presented at 9.25 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27, from 2YA Wellington.

Waltz King

In the early nineteenth century the waltz ruled over Vienna almost more strongly than the Emperor himself. Every night in the week thousands of Viennese whirled themselves dizzy in dance halls. Grand Master of Ceremonies at these festivities was Johann Strauss, the Waltz King. Johann, guided by his stern mother, had begun as a student of the organ, but soon was playing gay waltzes instead of analysing fugues. At the peak of his career he visited the United States, and conducted one colossal concert with a chorus of 20,000 and 100 assistant conductors. The experiment so frightened him that he hurried back to Vienna for good. "Beau Danube,"