



# THINGS TO COME—



## STATIC



**T**HE British Chess Congress was held some time ago. When a player moved after a comparatively short cogitation, cries of "Blitzkrieg!" from the spectators were immediately suppressed.

**W**RITING about income tax, a correspondent tells us he is seriously wondering whether he could suggest to the Government that he keep the tax and let the Government have the income.

**T**HE resolutions we made at the beginning of the New Year are becoming so difficult to grapple with we should have called them wrestle-unions.

**T**HE proposal to give a bonus to German parents for every male child born, is being seriously considered. Trust the Nazis to think up some Herr-raising scheme or other.

**I**N London, air raid wardens often sing when going on their rounds. A favourite number is "I Passed By Your Window."

**A** CORRESPONDENT says he weighs 10 stone and his soldier son weighs 16 stone. A block off the old chip?

**T**HE name of a recently discovered juvenile film star at Hollywood is Schoonover. What a chance for a caustic critic to say he was glad that the film was!

**"O**LD-FASHIONED parlour games are losing their popularity," says a gossip writer. Small boys have always felt that Hunt-The-Slipper had a rather depressing sound about it.

**A** SCIENTIST claims to possess a six-inch tube containing enough gas to stupefy a thousand people. It reminds us of the cigar that was being smoked in our tram the other evening.

**O**H-H-H Sandy, that popcorn smells good!  
Aye, it does, lass. We'll go back and drive a wee bit closer.

**W**HEN talking to Hitler," says an American journalist, "one gets the impression that he has an axe to grind." It's just as well, perhaps; the ex-Kaiser is probably rather particular about lending his.

**"H**ERE'S a health unto His Majesty!" The King's birthday is observed on Monday, June 3, and 2YA, Wellington will present special features on that day. At 8 p.m., "Kingship," an unusual history of British monarchs, will be broadcast. Next at 8.35 p.m., the new BBC show "Coronation Diary" (previewed in *The Listener* on May 17), will be presented, and, since all the world loves a laugh, "By Royal Command," a programme by some of the best-known variety artists, will follow at 9.15 p.m.

### "Swing" Nearly Swung

If our jitterbug readers think that "Captain Swing" is a new session for devotees of the gutbucket, bullfiddle, *et al*, they are mistaken. This is the title of a highly exciting radio play by Francis Brett Young and Edward Stirling. "Captain Swing" was an imaginary character, living about 1830, who was blamed for outrages against machinery-using farmers; such as the burning of



hayricks, a crime punished by death. "Swing" captured, is tried by his own father, but ultimately escapes through the help of a labourer's daughter whom he loves. Female lead in the play is taken by Lorna Forbes, well-known in this country as a member of touring companies. If you want good, high-handed, hot-blooded romantic adventure, don't miss tuning in to 1YA, Auckland, at 9.15 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, when "Captain Swing" will be presented.

### The Mountains

The origin of mountain ranges will be discussed by Dr. F. J. Turner in Dunedin (4YA, Tuesday, June 4, 7.30 p.m.) while, in Wellington, A. P. Harper will talk about the people who climb on them (2YA, Friday, June 7, 7.40 p.m.). The subjects of both talks are peculiar. New Zealand mountains are very young indeed, compared, for instance,

with the Alps in Switzerland. They are still settling, and going through the fierce process of erosion which ultimately will make pasture-lands of the moraine valleys, and fertile deltas where their rivers now take so much controlling on their way to the sea through shingle beds. These mountains have produced a special sort of mountaineer, and it is with his activities that Mr. Harper will deal from 2YA.

### A Loaf of Bread, And How . . .

We don't seem to hear as much of our old friend Omar Khayyam these days as we did a generation ago. There was a time when the verses of Fitzgerald's adaptation were on the lips of many, and there was an Omar Khayyam Club in London that gave literary people an excuse for dining and speech-making. The publication of Fitzgerald's translation of the Persian poet is one of the romances of literature. The first edition went almost unnoticed, and was actually put into the penny box. Then recognition came, and those who were lucky enough to have bought the book for a penny, and kept it, reaped a fortune in actual money value. A poem, however, does not lose any of its beauty because it is hackneyed, and there will be numbers of listeners interested to hear how it sounds when read. O. L. Simmance is to give extracts from the Rubaiyat at 3YA on Wednesday, June 5, at 8 p.m.

### Hearing Stars

If you care to tune in at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, to 2YA, Wellington, you'll be hearing stars instead of seeing them. Gustav Holst's suite, "The Planets," will be presented in the "Music Since 1900" series. It is of interest to note that during the later part of the last Great War, Holst went to Salonika and then to Constantinople to organise musical activities among the Allied soldiers. The composer always had the power of communicating his own love of the finest music to other people, men, women or children, whom he met. His work aroused great enthusiasm among the soldiers, and under Holst they put on a number of performances, even of such difficult works as Byrd's three-part Mass.

### Strike up the Band!

One of the players in the Wanganui Garrison Band, which will play from 2YA during the evening programme of Sunday, June 2, has played the soprano cornet for more than 40 years. He is W. Francis, and he can look back over a very long record