

LISTENING

Perpetrated and illustrated by KEN ALEXANDER

THE AWFUL TRUTH

HITLER'S recent request to America for a line on how Americans regard him and his was a great success—for America. It cost Hitler £2700 a day for a few days to see himself as others see him—probably the most costly smack in the eye ever recorded.



"GONE WITH THE WIND"

(Continued from page 13)

Rhett Butler, Olivia de Havilland as Melanie Hamilton, Leslie Howard as Ashley Wilkes and Laura Hope Crews as Aunt Pittypat. Further, they applauded the casting of Thomas Mitchell as old Gerald O'Hara, and the coloured actress Hattie McDaniel as Mammy.

That the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences also thought highly of "Gone with the Wind" was revealed when last year's Academy Awards were announced. "Gone with the Wind" very nearly scooped the pool. Vivien Leigh and Hattie McDaniel, and, so it seemed, everybody who had had anything to do with the making of the film, won an award.

Just Like Northern France

The profound effect "Gone with the Wind" has had on picture audiences wherever it has been shown is perhaps best illustrated by a story told by George Slocombe from the BBC shortly after he had escaped from France last June. Describing, in his exact way, what he and his family had endured as the Germans marched through Northern France, he said that his daughter had to walk 40 miles to join them, with the thunder of German guns never very far away. When she arrived she told her father that she had felt like Scarlett O'Hara escaping from the ruins of burning Atlanta, and Slocombe observed sadly, "Here my daughter has been through one of the greatest military disasters of modern history, and all she can do is liken it to a film made in Hollywood."

The German radio truly spilt the beans when it broadcast that a great number of Americans appear to be not among Germany's most ardent admirers.

No doubt Adolf is puzzled by such lack of understanding, and is complaining. "What an unfriendly place is this world, Goebbels! 'Pon my word, the old bon homme and dook-as-dook-can appears to be astoundingly absent. Can you understand it?"

"It's remarkable," says Goebbels. "Here we are, simply trying to leave the world a better and brighter place, and they practically tell us that the world will be a brighter and better place when we leave it. Seems kind of unfriendly to me."

"It must be jealousy," sighs Hitler. "We try to make everyone happy, with never a thought of personal gain—except of course, world domination and small perks of that kind—and our

humanity is repaid by nasty cables—some of them in Yiddish, too. An insult in English is bad, but in Yiddish it is a real back-hander."

"Don't worry," comforts Goebbels. "When you are dead, they will realise your worth. In fact, it's amazing how many there are who say that you would be better dead."

"That's no good to me," says Hitler. "I like to stay on top of the territory I occupy. Besides, dead men sell no tales."

"It is getting harder to pitch a good one," agrees Goebbels. "A great deal of the old trust and credulity seems to have gone out of the world. Fiction certainly has slumped. Foreigners won't even believe a good lie now."

"I have always craved friendliness," sighs Hitler. "Dislike makes people suspicious of good works, and keeps them alert. If they are chummy, I can get behind them with half a brick while they are shouting 'Good old Adolf!' I don't know that it was such a sound idea, asking America what she thinks of us. Optimism is all right, but it can be carried too far."

"Oh, well, it could have been worse," says Goebbels.

"I can scarcely believe it," doubts Hitler. "How so?"

"We might have asked England what she thinks of us."

Had Hitler asked England, the reply would probably have read:

"Sir,

"Your request for my honest opinion of you places far too great a strain on the mother tongue; I must refrain from putting the language to such an impossible test. But I must say, sir, that I will regard it as my privilege, whenever and wherever we meet, to knock you down and to keep on knocking you down until you are permanently prostrate. In conclusion, I can do no better than say,



with the Western Brothers, 'Play the game, you cad, play the game!'"

LESSONS IN MORSE

(No. 20)

The following is a draft of the twentieth Morse signalling lesson for Air Force trainees which was broadcast from Stations 2YC, 12M, and 3YL, at 10 p.m. on March 3, 4, and 5.

BEFORE beginning the receiving practice the Instructor had a short talk to trainees about sending. He intimated that in previous lessons every effort was made to explain the correct method of holding and manipulating the key. In addition, the correct and incorrect methods of holding the key were shown in photographs which were published some time ago in *The Listener*. Trainees were asked to study these photographs again and to endeavour to remember what they had been told. It was pointed out also that trainees should not try to send at too fast a speed. If it were found in sending that stumbling occurred in the transmission of certain letters or that rhythm was lost or frequent mistakes made, the trouble was most probably due to the speed of sending being greater than the capabilities of the trainee. In such case the speed should be slowed down and transmission continued at a steady rate.

Another point made by the Instructor was that in the event of someone adversely criticising a trainee's sending the trainee should not get upset but should try to analyse the criticism, because there must have been a reason for it, and then endeavour to correct the faults which were discovered. In order to avoid the clipping of the final dashes of letters, speed should be reduced and, if anything, the final dashes should be over-accentuated until the tendency to clip had disappeared. It should always be borne in mind that there is someone copying the messages. A difficult time may probably be experienced in reading the signals owing to static or some other

form of interference and all the consideration possible should be given to the receiver by transmitting the best Morse possible.

The remainder of the lesson was taken up in receiving practice, jumbled letters, figures and plain language being transmitted. In view of the fact that a test will take place during the week following the broadcast of lesson No. 20, a preliminary practice for this test was also given.

The following are the answers to the tests broadcast on Thursday and Friday, February 27 and 28, and Saturday, March 1, for men on No. 4 Course:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Line:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
	T	P	A	S	L	A	Y	U	S	D	L	O	H	O	K	S	D	V	G	Z	W	B	O	D	P
	R	O	H	N	P	P	A	A	U	D	H	O	U	Q	K	D	G	I	I	R	C	V	A	R	
	E	I	K	G	O	V	C	I	C	M	C	V	A	L	N	X	C	U	B	L	I	K	U	I	
	W	U	C	B	Z	X	G	L	L	L	I	Y	X	P	P	E	Y	W	P	W	H	X	T	X	
	O	J	F	M	E	C	Q	F	K	A	F	M	X	R	D	V	L	Q	Z	F	G	B	R	R	

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Line:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Z	L	W	Z	U	I	I	K	S	T
	B	S	W	I	I	A	A	G	V	O
	T	N	V	O	M	A	H	O	C	A
	K	B	H	J	W	E	W	O	E	J
	H	A	T	B	U	W	Z	I	O	N

	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
L	O	M	I	N	X	S	V	Z	H	Z	C	F	L	L
D	P	V	D	S	Z	X	K	P	R	P	L	K	H	H
N	F	A	W	A	Q	E	M	Z	W	K	A	V	Z	Z
P	B	C	G	E	C	P	C	P	C	T	J	Q	C	C
M	F	U	A	G	B	R	P	R	V	M	E	C	Q	Q

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

Line:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	R	V	X	U	N	I	J	E	C	W	H	R	W	E	F	Y	A	B	C	L	X	D	W	D
	F	O	M	A	D	L	D	U	A	K	L	Z	O	Z	L	L	B	V	E	H	L	T	F	F
	Z	L	A	B	K	R	P	H	M	S	X	F	T	W	Z	L	M	I	V	U	W	T	N	Y
	N	B	I	E	C	S	T	U	R	D	C	V	G	B	H	M	B	S	P	V	J	P	Q	O
	S	P	O	H	Q	I	A	F	N	V	B	P	R	F	D	V	Q	U	Z	W	Q	Y	S	X

George Lansbury's Will

THE will of the late George Lansbury, M.P., was proved last year for the comparatively small sum of £1695. He directed the cremation of his remains, and the ashes thrown into the sea somewhere off Land's End. "I desire this," the will stated, "because although I love England very dearly and consider this lovely island the best spot in the world, I am a convinced internationalist and like to feel I am just a tiny part of universal life which will one day break down all divisions of creed and speech and economic barriers and make mankind one great eternal unit both in life and death."—(From "The World," November, 1940.)