

LISTENINGS

Perpetrated and illustrated by KEN. ALEXANDER

STRANGE VICTORY

HERR VON RIBBENTROP boasted to Mr. Matsuoka the other day, "You are visiting us at the most important time in the history of the world, namely, the final phase of the battle against England. Germany and Italy have already won the war, and the world will know it by the end of 1941."

Then Berlin was bombed, the Yugoslavs said "You go . . . !" Musso's minions went into reverse at Keren and Harar and his fleet proved not fleet enough in the Mediterranean.



Even Mr. Matsuoka must have detected a squeak in the Axis. It would be excusable of him to express his perplexity behind closed, locked, and sealed doors with the dachshund's ears blocked and the canary blindfolded.

"Our all-knowing Foreign Minister says that we have already won the war, my dear Gretchen," says Hans to his frauspouse. "Isn't that just dandy!" says Gretchen. "Just like the last war. We had the same kind of victory, if you recollect. I am only a foolish frau, but sometimes I think it would be nice if we could lose a war occasionally. We might get more to eat. Look how thoroughly we defeated England in the last war, and yet—" "Yes," sighs Hans. "It does seem as though we have our own way of winning wars. But the clever Herr von Ribbentrop must know what he is talking about—or, must he?"

"Well, all I can say, Hans, is that I felt terribly unpatriotic last night when

we were fleeing for the shelter. I kept repeating 'We have won the war,' 'We have won the war,' but the bursting bombs seemed to say 'Hah! 'Hah! 'You're tellin' me!' which as we know is the hymn of hate of the decadent democracies. It is well that the Gestapo cannot read thoughts."

"And the good Mr. Matsuoka, who is of the Axis but not on it," muses Hans, "I fear that the Oriental mind cannot read the signs of victory as we do. Rice is not strengthening to the brain. Mr. Matsuoka may believe that, because our buildings burn down, our factories blow up, and our shelters cave in, we are not up-and-coming. He may even consider that Italian soldiers who run too hard and Italian ships that don't run hard enough mean that Victory is going places outside the Axis."

"It is nice of the clever Herr von Ribbentrop to tell us that Germany and Italy have won the war," says Gretchen. "But how much nicer it would be if the British told us. Even Herr von Ribbentrop might feel more certain of it then."



"Aye, it is a strange Victory, Gretchen. Sometimes I feel that it would be better to lose on a full stomach than win on an empty one. Still, it is nice to know that we have won."

"Forgive me, Hans. I am only a stupid frau, but why doesn't the war stop when it is won? If we could only dare ask the clever Herr von Ribbentrop that one!"

LESSONS IN FRENCH

(Continued from previous page)

vieux fours des anciennes maisons! C'étaient, autrefois, des merveilles de construction faites de petits carreaux de cuisine juxtaposés. On faisait du feu de bois dans l'intérieur du four, et puis quand les carreaux étaient bien chauffés on ratissait de côté la braise, et on mettait cuire le pain sur les carreaux chauds, car même maintenant le pain n'est jamais cuit dans des moules mais à même le four.

Jean: C'est intéressant. J'aime beaucoup entendre parler de tout cela. Maman m'a déjà dit que le pain est la vraie nourriture française, et que les Français trouvent qu'il est impardonnable de gaspiller une miette de quelque chose de si bon.

Sa Tante: Ca c'est bien vrai, mon petit, mais va-t'en jouer maintenant. Nous en parlerons plus longuement une autre fois.

Chanson: Ile de Capri.
(Chanté par Tino Rossi.)



● Men who value speed plus smartness use GILLETTE—the quickest, smoothest (and thriftiest!) shaving system.



GILLETTE

ONE-PIECE RAZOR SETS 8/6 to 25/-
BLUE GILLETTE BLADES 5 for 1/6
STAINLESS GILLETTE BLADES 5 for 2/-

LISTERINE
For
DANDRUFF

NOW, Dandruff can be cured!