

LISTENINGS

Perpetrated and illustrated by KEN. ALEXANDER

TWO BIRTHDAYS

HITLER is said to have reached the age of 52 last Sunday. But the world knows that this is incorrect—that Hitler is ten thousand and fifty-two; that he springs from the age when Man walked with his knuckles on the ground and when "keeping one's end up" was a physical commonplace rather than a human virtue. Hitler's mission is to skid the world back to the era of primordial slime—provided he can hold a monopoly of mud. But, in his fervour for bigger and better bestiality, he forgot that the majority of the peoples of the earth prefer to retain an upright position, even though it may expose them to the blackjack of barbarism. Such peoples include Yugoslavia who, sadly, rose too late, and Greece who still stands, heroic and erect, prepared to taste death with honour than suffer life without it.

It is said that Hitler's birthday was spent at the Balkan front with his troops. A tasteless jest! While Hitler smugly complimented himself on the rat-like cunning which has permitted him to survive fifty-two years he denied more than fifty thousand young Germans the privilege of seeing the next twenty-four hours. For these there were no "Happy returns of the day."

Goebbels broadcast that Germany, and millions outside Germany, would offer their heartfelt gratitude for the blessings Hitler has given them and will hail him as a genius. No doubt it requires a measure of genius for a monster like Hitler to reach 52 years. No other man of his calibre could have succeeded in surviving 52 minutes. We

They Really Are Sisters

ELSIE and Doris Waters really are sisters, and they also have four brothers, with whom they formed a family band in their younger days. One of these brothers has risen to fame—he is Jack Warner, comedian. Elsie and Doris studied piano and elocution at the Guildhall School of Music. Elsie also studied the violin. They began their professional career about 1923 performing at concerts, "at homes," and so on, and later joined a concert party. Elsie is fair and "Gert." Doris is dark and "Daisy."

3YA listeners will hear Elsie and Doris Waters on Saturday, May 10.

In the Family

MUSIC runs in families. One has only to think of the Bachs and the Strausses to realise that. The case of Egon Petri, the virtuoso pianist, is also remarkable in this respect. His father was a violinist, his grandfather an oboist, and his great-grandfather an organist. Egon Petri himself is reputed to be Holland's foremost pianist. Quite early in life he was sent to study under Teresa Carreno, of whom middle-aged New Zealand music lovers still talk enthusiastically. Petri later studied with the great Busoni.

4YA listeners will hear Egon Petri, pianist, on Monday, May 5.

cannot give Hitler a "big hand" for his birthday. But one day—. He will be surprised!

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A BIRTHDAY of a different kind was celebrated in the shadow of Mt. Olympus. Here the New Zealanders and Australians were fused in the fire of combat for the first time in this war. Their valour and steadfastness has echoed round the world. Thus was born the new Anzac. May I claim the privilege of seriousness to offer my humble tribute to these new Anzacs.

ANZAC REBORN

Brave sons of Anzac,
Second of the line begun
By men who bid for victory
And, losing—WON.
Brave sons of Anzac,
Worthy of their sires who wrought
Glory from reverse—
Yet dearly bought—
At Suvla and the spurting,
Crumbling steepes,
Of grim Gallipoli,
Where many an Anzac sleeps.
Sons of those sires who,
Failing, none the less
Gained something greater
Than a brief success.
Who wrote indelibly
Upon the page of Fame,
"ANZAC"—a torch to carry,
Rather than a name.
Those sons who listened
At their fathers' knee,
Now hold the gates
That guard Democracy.
Australia and New Zealand,
Hail, ye sons!
Anzac! Reborn with thunder
Of ten thousand guns.
On ancient Mount Olympus—
West and east—
True to the word of Anzac,
There they held The Beast,
Wave and wave of Menace
Back they grimly threw,
Proudly, in valour and fire,
Anzac was born anew.
And gallant old Olympus,
While the thunders shook,
Wrote the word "ANZAC"
In his immemorial book.



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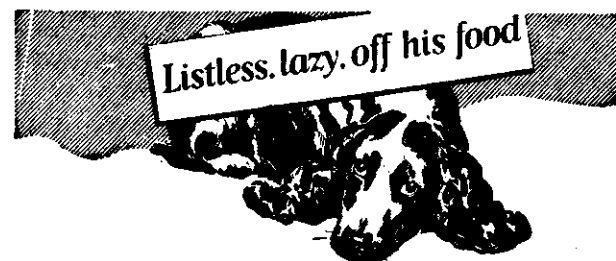
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