DID YOU HEAR THIS?

=Extracts From Recent Talks =

Pilarim in Palestine

AFTER some time in Egypt, Lady Hester went on to the Holy Land. Years before, in London, a fortune-teller had assured her that she was destined to make a pilgrimage to Palestine, to ride into Jerusalem, to spend seven years in the desert and finally to be crowned

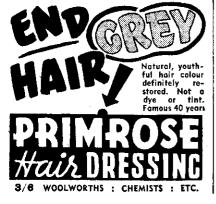


Oueen of the Iews and rule the destinwas setting about of this prophecy come true - for she believed in it implicitly, and to the end of her life kept in her stables two

Arab mares, on which, she believed, she and a new Messiah would ride into Jerusalem. Well, on this occasion she duly rode into Jerusalem, but no one took any special notice of her, so she was forced to conclude that the time was not J. Gerard, 2YA, May 1.) ripe for the fulfilment of the prophecy. So she made her way north, and stayed at various places in Syria - Sidon and Damascus particularly.--("Some Adventurous Women: Lady Hester Stanhope." Margaret Johnston, 2YA, May 2.)

Legitimate Cheating

ONE of the most popular diversions in the Navy is a game called "Ukers," which is played on the deck on a marked out course. It is really rather like a giant game of Ludo, with certain differences. The dice are about four or six inches



square and are tossed in a bucket or rum cask, the players stand on the board and are surrounded by an interested audience at least three deep, and the fun begins when the game starts, for the first rule of the game is that if you can cheat and get away with it, that's quite all right and merely shows your cleverness. So that the men who are backing one side will try by catcalls and "barrackies of the Chosen ing" to divert the attention of the other People. So here she side while some particular bit of dirty work is going on, and as both sides are making the first part constantly shouting out some comment or answer, the noise is more than considerable and the amusement value very high. Sometimes, if there are two or three ships together, one ship will send a challenge to another, to come over and have a game, and then both teams dress up in a weird and wonderful assortment of fancy dresses, and they really settle down to a cut-throat contest -- ("Hobbies and Occupations on Shipboard." Mrs. O.

It Has Worn Well

THE American Constitution is a very short affair, and unlike most legal documents, it's a delight to read. Ten amendments, known as the Bill of Rights, were added to it in 1791. But since then in 150 years there have been only eleven more changes of the written text. It has been elaborated by Acts of Congress, modified by usage and custom, and interpreted by judicial decisions. Yet the main part of the framework is still the same as a group of wise and able men planned it in 1787. The Constitution has survived one gigantic threat, the Civil War of the north against the south. But the Union was saved because for 70 years the United States had grown in prosperity and security and the sentiment for the Constitution was by then stronger than the sentiment against it. Under this same Constitution the number of the States has increased from thirteen to forty-eight; the population has grown from four millions to one hundred and thirty millions; the area of the United States has been extended from 800,000 to 3,000,000 square miles. Yet a document drafted in 1787 proved adaptable to these changes. That is a

striking political record.—("A Survey of American History: Creating a Constitution." Professor Leslie Lipson, 2YA, April 20.)

The Frontier

THE frontier, as they called this region, has been a powerful influence in American history. The frontier means the outer edge of settlement; and, with successive waves of immigration, this outer edge was steadily pushed farther west - to the Mississippi, then to the Rockies, then to the Pacific coast. Periodically, as each new area became settled, it began to assert its own claims and interests in protest against the dominance of the older eastern regions. On the frontier, American civilisation with its towns, and schools, and farms, its highways and, later, its railroadsall this was rough hewn out of forest and mountain and prairie. When the frontier first raised a voice of its own, it spoke the accents of democracy. The pioneers had brought their traditions with them; but in a new land, unencumbered by vested rights, they could select and choose what they would retain from the past, giving a new meaning to constitutional formulas of liberty and equality .-- ("A Survey of American History: From Jefferson to Jackson." Professor Leslie Lipson, 2YA, May 4.)

"Bells On Her Fingers"

DEOPLE are always drawn irresistibly to hear Harriet Cohen. Hers is a magnetic personality. She is really fascinating to hear play, to meet, and to talk with. Sir Henry Wood has said of her: "Harriet Cohen is the possessor of most charming and attractive per-



sonality. Everybody seems to know her, and she seems to know everybody. I have never met an artist with a larger circle of friends." Well, there she sat on this afternoon under a spreading chestnut tree, looking particularly at-

tractive and just about to begin to play a Bach concerto on a glossy, nine-foot concert grand, with the British Women's Symphony Orchestra conducted by Geoffrey Shaw. And immediately we were startled by the lovely sound of Harriet's Bach soaring away to the pale blue sky. A beautiful tone, with "bells on her fingers," and a radiant and pulsing life. As she plays, he lives for us.--("Little Adventures in Music: A Grand Piano in Hyde Park." Valerie Corliss, 2YA, April 28.)



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