

HITLER is all of a dither about his special boggy, the Second Front. Every time he hears of Allied large-scale practice invasions he comes over all goosey. The Wee Dope Dokter also gets so heebie-jeebly that he gets his invasions and evasions all mixed. At one moment he pollutes the air with the statement that such a thing as an invasion is ridiculous and absurd. Then he draws a breath and exhales the tidings that the German people must be prepared for an invasion. Such Goebbelisations speak louder than the truth. His first statement proves that the Nazis are so fearful that an invasion will materialise that they have to persuade the people that it won't. His second statement proves that the Nazis are so afraid that an invasion will happen that they have to tell the people that it will. The sum adds up right from either end. Perhaps Allied admission of a possible invasion is nearly as effective as an actual invasion; and the Allies are shrewd enough to let Adolf know about their preparations and exercises. This keeps Adolf looking over his shoulder, and causes him to divert at least some of his strength from Russia—just in case. But he hasn't yet withdrawn enough to make it much easier for the Russians. The time may come, perhaps sooner than later, when Adolf will wake up one morning to find that it isn't the milkman knocking, after all. Then he will have to do what he has always said will lose the war for Germany. In the meantime, he has to make it snappy in Russia in case he is suddenly obliged to make a quick 'bout turn and face the lion and eagle. But Adolf likes pincers. Before he is done, he is going to meet a pair that will draw his teeth and



claws for keeps. Black cats may be lucky for some people, but bears, lions and eagles are definitely unlucky for Hitler.

THE GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT Annual Report SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN BUSINESS

The report of the Government Insurance Commissioner upon the transactions of his Department for the year ended 31st December, 1941, which has now been presented to Parliament, reveals that the Department had another highly successful year.

Its main features are (1) the new business amounted to £2,800,408, an increase of £467,358 on the previous year. (2) the business in force at the end of the year totalled £32,445,977, to which are attached reversionary bonuses amounting to £3,814,177. (3) the total income, £1,360,056, exceeded that for the previous year by £33,952. (4) Notwithstanding that the death claims in respect of policyholders serving with the Forces involved the payment of over £50,000, the total death claims increased by only £21,823. (5) surrenders decreased by over £60,000. (6) the total assets now exceed £12,300,000. (7) the reserves have been further strengthened.

Actuarial Investigation: The usual investigation disclosed a net surplus of £198,650. This is amply sufficient to enable bonuses to be declared at the same rates as for 1940.

In view of the abnormal conditions arising out of the War, however, the Department regards it as its duty to its 100,000 policyholders to adopt the prudent course and conserve the resources of the Department to the fullest possible extent. It has been decided, therefore, not to distribute the surplus which accrued during the year, a surplus which, as already stated, is amply sufficient to enable bonuses to be declared at the same rates as for 1940, but to keep liquid the amount, £198,650, as an additional reserve for War contingencies. In order that the interests of policyholders shall not be prejudiced, interim bonuses will be granted at the 1940 rates on all policies becoming claims during the current year.

War Loan Investments: Realising the necessity for rendering all possible support to the Country in its prosecution of the War, the Department has to date subscribed sums totalling £652,180 to the various War Loans.

Over seventy members of the staff are on active service.

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LOCAL TALENT

(Continued from previous page)

day nights at 8 o'clock from all stations. All the artists are local artists and the orchestra is the 12B Concert Orchestra under Reg. Morgan. The programme is produced by D. Wrathall and Arthur Collins and there are a large number of performers. The names of some of them are already familiar to listeners, and perhaps the voices too: Stewart Harvey (baritone), and Jacqueline Page (soprano), whose picture appears on the opposite page, Thea Ryan (pianist) who plays with Eric Bell at the Novachord, June Barson, who was the winner of the quest for the Deanne Durbin voice, Mary Negus (soprano), Gordon Fagan (tenor), Betty Spiro (soprano), Jean MacFarlane (contralto), Te Mauri Meihana (soprano), and Dan Flood (humorist)—these are some whom listeners have heard and will hear again in this session.

A special object of these concerts is to encourage not only local performers, but also New Zealand composers, and each Sunday an item by a New Zealand composer may be heard. One that is likely to become popular is the song "Roll out the Bombers" by H. H. Moller, which is sung by Stewart Harvey with the orchestra accompanying.

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