

Travel
SHAW SAVILL



1st. Class—Athenic, Ceramic, Corinthic, Gothic, Dominion Monarch.
Tourist Class—Southern Cross.

To England
 Via Panama Canal and Curacao or via South Africa

In the Pass at Thermopylae

A BBC dramatisation based on Herodotus's history of the Persian war, with Donald Wolfit as Xerxes and David King-Wood as Themistocles, will be heard this week from all YC stations. *The Tragedy of Thermopylae* was written and produced by Colin Shaw, and the incidental music was composed by Kenneth Leighton, and is played by the BBC Northern Orchestra conducted by Vilem Tausky. Xerxes, the King of Persia, was the son of Darius, whose troops had been defeated by the Athenians at Marathon in 490 B.C. When, five years later, Xerxes succeeded to the throne, his counsellors urged him to avenge the defeat of Marathon. If Athens could be conquered the rest of Greece would follow, they argued, and eventually all Europe might fall into the hands of Persia. It was such a dream of power that Xerxes succumbed to their

promptings, gathered a vast army and marched northwards to cross the Hellespont into Europe. When news of his coming reached the Greeks they held a congress to discuss what action should be taken. They were bitterly divided and ambassadors were dispatched to enlist help from the Greek colonies overseas, but in the end the mainland Greeks were obliged to rely on their own resources.

It was decided to send an army to Thermopylae while the combined navies of the Greek States took up station at Artemesium, not far away. One of the two Spartan kings, Leonidas, led the



allied army, but unwilling to give up the idea of a defence of the Isthmus altogether, they sent only a token force of 300 men. Reinforcements never came, the position at Thermopylae was betrayed, Leonidas was killed, and the road was open for Xerxes to enter Athens.



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Danger in Disguise

"YOU know the way it is" is a favourite saying of Felix Holliday, hero of a new serial, *Danger in Disguise*, but for him, "the way it is" is usually most unexpected and dramatic. *Danger in Disguise*, written by Arthur E. Jones (below), scriptwriter at 1YA, is a mystery thriller in eight episodes, and will begin next Sunday, November 25, at 8.0 p.m., from 2ZB. Listeners have already met Felix Holliday as Johnny April—it was



only when Arthur Jones started to write a book about April that he discovered an American had written several books with a hero of the same name—so Felix Holliday was born.

Danger in Disguise has been produced in Wellington for the NZBS by William Austin, who also plays the part of Holliday. Felix just can't keep away from trouble, and in this serial he certainly has his fair share of it. It all starts quite simply, with the delivery of a letter to the wrong flat, but after that events lead swiftly to a full-scale mystery. Murder, violence and the desire for money loom large, but for all that the serial is not horrifying. Arthur Jones has treated it with a light, whimsical touch which is often reminiscent of Peter Cheyney. Others taking part in the serial are Jessie Weddell, Roy Leywood, Patrick Smyth, Alan Jervis, Davina Whitehouse, Stuart James, Gavin Yates, Peter Read and Harry Painter.