No 105 29th February 1980

"Don't forget they need your alcohol"
FRIDAY MARCH 8TH (0)

GRABBERWOCKY

(With apologies to the Author of "Alice Through the Looking Glass")

> 'Twas Danzig, and the Swastikoves Did heil and hittle in the reich, All nazi were the lindengroves, And the neuraths jewstreich.

"Beware the Grabberwock, my son, The plans that spawn, the plots that hatch! Beware the Jewjew bird, and shun the fuhrious Bundesnatch!"

He took his aryan horde in hand, Long time the Gestapo he taught, Then rested he by the Baltic Sea. And stood a while in thought.

And as a Polish oath they swore, The Grabberwock, with lies aflame, Came goering down the corridor, And goebelled as it came!

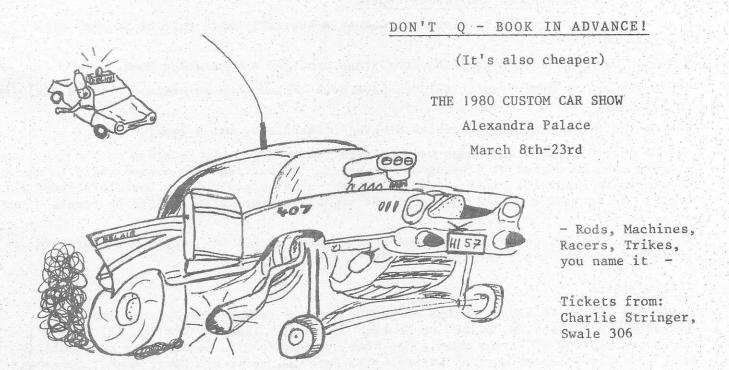
Ein, zwei! Ein, zwei! One in the eye For Polska folk, alas, alack. He left them dread, and as their head `He came meinkampfing back.

"And hast thou ta'en thy lebensraum? Come to my arms, my schemish boy! O grabjous day! Sieg heil! Be gay!" He strengthened in his joy.

Twas Danzig, and the Swastikoves Did heil and hittle in the reich, All nazi were the lindengroves, And the neuraths jewstreich.



- hicher Borney 1939



Isn't it incredible? After weeks of bitter negotiating between the Shop Floor and Management, the dispute is finally settled. Outside, a Shop Steward addresses the cheering crowd: "From now on, we get double wages, longer holidays and we only work on Fridays." Then a voice from the back shouts, "What, every Friday?"

I received two very interesting letters this week (to say the least). Both have been printed as they make an interesting comparison.

- I would like to bring to your attention the general disgust which was felt concerning the cover of last week's "Newsletter". We feel that it was in extremely bad taste and aptly shows the juvenile mentality of the editorial staff in permitting it to be reproduced. We sincerely hope that material such as this will not be included in future issues. Finally we think it appropriate if the people concerned with this fiasco printed a formal apology in next week's newsletter.

N. JOHNSTON: M. FAY on behalf of others

Dealing with the subject of last week's cover may now seem a little tricky, but, being only an innocent Phase I student, at the time the cartoon concerned seemed harmless. (By the way, my job is only to edit, i.e. compile and prepare articles for publication; and not to censor).

I believe the person who drew the cartoon has apologised through the right channels to whoever the lecturer concerned was (I still don't know). So if Messrs. Johnson, Fay and "Others" want more apologies then I suggest they approach the cartoon's creator - being all Radio Students you must know one another.

FOOTNOTE: This Newsletter may be a fiasco, but implying that the editorial staff, which includes the Principal's Secretary, have juvenile mentality in itself warrants an apology.

- EDITOR

What about this one?

(no, I didn't write it)

I am an avid reader of your news magazine and I look forward to the Friday issue so much; (I detect a trace of sarcasm here) but there is one minor problem. I find the cover seems rather boring each week. I would like to see the name of the magazine changed to something perhaps more comical?

Comments often pass my ears of the improvement of the mag. over the last three weeks or so, therefore I recommend that the changing of the name will mark the revolution from the boring, monotonous "M.N.C. NEWS" to a colourful and popular

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE

Five-star general Dwight D. Eisenhower owned a specially-made pair of pajamas with five stars on the lapels.

Comedian Danny Kaye made his schoolboy stage debut as a watermelon seed.

The Greek writer Aeschylus is said to have been killed when an eagle dropped a tortoise on his head.

Robert the Bruce, the famous liberator-king of Scotland, was a leper.

Thomas Edison's first invention was a device that enabled him to sleep on the job. As a young man, he worked as a telegraph operator. He was required periodically to check the wires by sending a brief signal to another station sonce every hour throughout the night. He devised a gadget that sent the signal automatically so that he could sleep undisturbed!

Josef V.D. Stalin, during whose reign an estimated 30 000 000 people were murdered or starved to death, was a theology student in his youth.

ANNIVERSARIES

Feb. 28th 1865: 10 boys from HMS WORCESTER drowned in Half-Way Reach. The boat (variously described as "barge" or "cutter", probably like our whaler, 28' by 6'7") was being "worked up" river when a cap blew overboard. The boat, under the smallest suit of sails ("leg-of-mutton" shaped) jib, fore and main, was "worn round, foresheet let go and main boom more than half topped up". A gust gybed the boat, and all 22 occupants were thrown into the Thames when the gunwhale went under. She "could carry twice" the 22 carried. (All remarks " - " from various inquest reports).

London's watermen were offered £1 for every body recovered and taken to Erith. Among the consequences was a deep split in the College as to whether small boat sailing was indeed an essential part of an officer's training. Another was that henceforth no-one would be allowed in a boat without a certificate proving his swimming ability (Many sailors still thought it kinder not to be able to swim if a ship went down at sea - better a quick than a lingering death).

Another irony was that three of the 10 drowned had only been at the College one month. One had only joined on Feb. 21st, one week before the accident, and his was the last body recovered from the Thames nearly two months later. A number of their graves are in Erith Parish Churchyard.

(That this tragedy made a considerable impression on the public at large at the time may be seen from that in the contemporary "Beeton's Annual" - a compilation of snippits to entertain the Victorian mind before the days of Radio and TV, there was published an exceedingly long poem on the subject. It is typical of its period, oozing emotion and "poetese" and I will not bore you with it but only say that, with three accompanying engravings, it filled six pages and ran to 24 verses each of four lines - MS)

Those of you who are worried for the safety of our Olympic competitors - if they go ought to spare a thought for those who competed in AD 60 when the Olympics hit quite a low in standards of skill, sportsmanship and integrity when the Roman Emperor Nero entered as a contestant. Nero was a terrible athlete, but he was also one of the most politically powerful men in the Ancient World and great efforts were made not to injure his ego. He was judged the winner in every event he entered.

Nero means black in Italian - was it a family name or did it relate to his colour?

GOING SOUTH?

The Lewisham Operatic Society presents:

Rogers & Hammerstein's

3rd - 8th March at 7.30

Tickets available from: Lewisham Concert Hall Advance Box Office - Telephone 01-690-3431

SOUTH PACIFIC

Gravesend 26: Groundhogs 3

After the comfortable victory over Poplar, this match was a great disappointment. Just managing to scrape together a side that hadn't even played together was an obvious disadvantage. In comparison, the Gravesend side were well organised in their play.

The Groundhogs were under pressure from the start and this was the pattern of play until half time. With Gravesend winning most of the ball in set and loose scrums, the Groundhog backs didn't have a chance to show what they could do. The 16-0 score at half time was a fair reflection of the way the play was going.

The second half was a different story. After shuffling around in the scrum and finding a settled combination, the Groundhogs' pack started winning ball and applying pressure. But even being in Gravesend's "twenty two" for most of the half, the ball was not being used along the line.

Pushing up so much created a vulnerable defence which Gravesend exploited, although the tackling was faultless in most cases.

Gravesend managed to score two more tries and convert one while the reply was only a drop-goal.

If the play in the first half had been like it was in the second, then it might have been a different story

From the University of London:

GOLDSMITH'S CHOIR

Musical Director: Arthur Davidson C.B.E. : Conductor: Michael Thomas

Programme includes music by: Stamford, Handel, Bach, R. Vaughan Williams, Beethoven, Mozart, Walton and others

at St. Laurence Church (Nr. Lewisham Town Hall) : Saturday 1st March at 7.30

Admission by programme - available from Goldsmith's College School of Adult and Social Studies, Lewisham Way, New Cross SE14 6NW Price 60p (30p for Students/O.A.P.'s)

A woman was trying hard to reorganise her Womens' Institute Meeting for that afternoon, due to the cancellation of the speaker at very short notice. While she was pondering on a replacement, two tramps came to the door and asked if she would give them something to eat in return for some work.

"Most certainly," she replied, "There's some wood in the woodshed that needs chopping and stacking. If you can manage that I'd be extremely grateful."

So the tramps set to work, and she continued to worry about her meeting.

Suddenly she saw one of the tramps spring out from the bushes, turning cart-wheels and doing acrobatics all over the croquet lawn. With a final double somersault across the greenhouse he vanished into the shrubbery. Flinging open the door, she rushed out and asked his partner if he thought his friend would be willing to repeat his marvellous act for the sum of £20 at the Institute meeting that afternoon.

"Hoi, Fred," hollered the tramp, "Lady wants to know if you'll chop off another finger for £20."

WHO IS THE MOST POPULAR FEMALE IN THE COLLEGE?

MAVIS

WHY?

- 1. She is programmed to answer your needs.
- 2. She asks the questions and you give the answers.
- 3. At the end of the session you just switch her off!
- 4. Available: 9.00 am 8.00 pm Mondays to Thursdays
 9.00 am 5.30 pm Fridays

'ORRIBLE CROSSWORD

Clues Across

- 7. (6,3,7) Games of mixed fortunes in ascending & descending order.
- 10. (4) Surely never prosaic!
- 11. (8) Rave about and gets older, and it's figures between extremes.
- 12. (4) Dairying centre of Isle of Wight?
- 15. (3) Prepare flax.
- 17. (4) Between the aisles in church.
- 19. (6) Orange that's another way to write wild ass.
- 21. (4) Doom, or perhaps old Greek lady controlling it.
- 23. (3) Shade for outcry.
- 24. (6) August seat of power in Rome & Washington.
- 25. (5) Re-tax it's additional.
- 27. (5) Staff of life it's said.
- 28. (6) Taken without leave.
- 30. (9) Cover-up aimed for by laundry?
- 32. (6) Get free.
- 34. (6) Rats, la! Starry!
- 36. (4) Cover, over the face.
- 38. (4) Amphibian trodden under-foot by horse.
- 39. (5,2) Given lodging and tricked.
- 40. (4) Rite about in stack.
- 41. (4) Abbreviated potato for getting up weeds.
- 42. (4) Move unsteadily, but stately.
- 43. (5,5) Long ship and bird of the War God, which flew over museum fence.

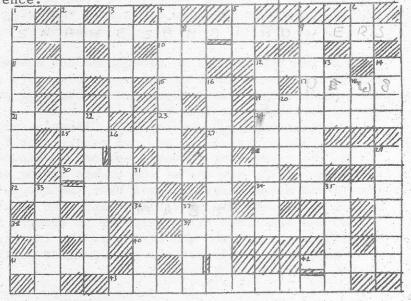
Clues Down

- 1. (5,6) Try job, if of sterling worth.
- 2. (8) One of boxed set? In fortification.
- 3. (6) Males winning card; it's a threat.
- 4. (5,5) Daily hunt for news? No, it's for fun.
- 5. (3) Tree, mostly dead now.
- 6. (3) Circle round for planet, it goes, but still round.
- 8. (4) High point of features.
- 9. (4,3,3) Vagrant will not make the count.
- 12. (5) Narrow escape from cut-throat?
- 13. (4) Herb conferring wisdom?
- 14. (4) Quite dried up.
- 16. (3,5,4) Sorcery, executed in Indian ink?
- 18. (3) Check, for distemper perhaps?
- 20. (4) Tidy, without water.
- 22. (9) Swopped one thong for another.
- 26. (4) Fall over on journey?
- 29. (7) Set at nought.
- 31. (7) Led astray, with promises!
- 33. (6) Line, perhaps from the lash.
- 35. (6) Fame, made great name for a ship -
- 37. (5) an unsmiling at ship's end.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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FROMTRUCKTOKEEL



TRELLIS PUZZLE

Four-letter words hidden in the sentence below fit into the grid, as shown:"STOP, you PEST, it's OPENing"
PEST, STOP, OPEN

With the idea that we should re-cast Gwendolen Idol in the role of Eve in Eden, with a ewer full of caraway SEEDs representing a vegetarian stew and all her lines in verse, we achieved the high-point of our production careers.

To help, the middle word is given.