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Organ of the Bookhams Social Service Bureau

No. 32

SEPTEMBER 1941

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Editorial

Another year of publication has passed, two years of war, in which the *Bulletin* has successfully carried on, bringing to its readers the information which it has deemed necessary during this time of conflict, and it can be said that this journal is the only local source of extended information for some of the Acts of Parliament which directly affect us all. We learn that much of the information given has been carefully filed by many of our readers for reference when necessary. Though the policy of the *Bulletin* has changed to meet war-time conditions, and providing that paper continues to be available, such information that the Editor possesses will be given for the public benefit. During the past three months over seventy items of useful information have been handled by the Editor, and whilst it is impossible to publish the whole of such matter owing to limited space, much information upon the latest legislation, national finance, etc. is available.

At the close of another year of publication, all concerned with the production of the *Bulletin* place on record the thanks due to the advertisers for their continued

support, and whilst understanding the difficulties of rationing, coupons and supplies, appeal to each and all for their future support for advertising space.

In our last issue an appeal was made for voluntary workers for the local Youth Committee, examiners for the Scouts, and for the Citizens Advice Bureau. Three months have passed without response to this appeal. Realising the difficulties for voluntary work, it can be emphasised that all who are not engaged upon vital war industries and other employment, that there still remains "jobs of work" to fill in those few idle hours which could be contributed to a war effort.

New benefits under the National Health Insurance scheme, together with scale of contributions, will be announced in a future issue.

Although a great deal has been published in the National Press regarding the rationing of clothing changes continue to be issued by the Board of Trade, who keep the Citizens Advice Bureau informed. If you are in doubt upon any clothing matters, the C. A. B. can help you.

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Citizens Advice Bureau Leatherhead & District

By the time you receive this issue of the *Bookhams Bulletin* the Citizens' Advice Bureau, which was first established in the Bookham Ward, will have completed two years voluntary service for the benefit of every citizen in providing a free service upon the many subjects which have affected the individual under wartime conditions. Each day that passes brings its problems, and not only the passing of a day but the passing of some item of legislation. This may or may not affect the individual, but the Bureau is kept in touch with such matters so that where necessary appropriate information can be given to enquirers upon the subject matter for which they seek.

Such recent measures as the War Damage Act have elicited numerous enquiries, and a very considerable number regarding the rationing of clothing, and it is quite obvious that if the Bureau had not been in possession of advanced information it would not have been able to tender such information.

It may be of interest to know that since its inception the Bureau has dealt with over 4300 enquiries. Whilst its title is the "Citizens' Advice Bureau," it would really be more appropriate to designate it the "Information Bureau," as the following will readily show:—
1204 recorded items upon general

matters, 3700 social charitable and ecclesiastical organisations, 422 Service and ex-service organisations, and 1340 references to other bodies. It will however be appreciated that whilst this long list is not being used every day, all this information is at the command of the Bureau for dissemination to the public when the need arises.

Whatever your needs, anxieties or problems, the Citizens' Advice Bureau will do their best to help you. The address can be found at the end of this issue under the heading Local Organisations.

The International Red Cross Committee announce that the number of words for the sending of messages, has now been extended to 25 instead of 20.

For Austrian & German Nationals: Nachrichtendienst durch das Rote Kreuz. Mitteilungen von nicht mehr als 25 worten, ohne adresse, kommen durch das Rote Kreuz nach den meisten feindlichen oder besetzten Gebieten gesandt werden. Teilen sie bitte dem Büro jeden adressenwechsel mit, da es einige monate dauern kann, bis die antwort hier eintrifft. Red Cross Postal Message Office, Alnwick House, Church Street, Leatherhead.

A full list of the Headquarters and Regional Officers of the War Damage Commission is available at the Leatherhead and District Citizens' Advice Bureau.

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Victory!

Following the line of international events from the time of Munich, Nazi Germany has been lavish in promises, none of which have ever been kept, for the breaking of a promise is a recognised and necessary part of the Nazi diplomatic technique. The account of Germany's war aims which appeared in *Die Woche*, a Nazi illustrated paper, should therefore not be taken too seriously.

This article was written by H. G. von Studnitz, a very close associate of Ribbentrop, and so may well represent the official Nazi side. It is well to remember the kind of peace that Germany imposes on her victims. The treaty of Brest-Litovsk imposed on Russia in the last war, dismembered her and wrecked her industries. This would be mild compared with what the Nazis would offer us if ever this country should be beaten.

The whole of Nazi war aims is indeed a typical piece of propaganda, of repeated and constant hatred against Britain, of grandiloquent promises made only to be broken, or a picture of Europe happy and contented by the occupation of Sovereign States by the Germans. But for all the military occupation there is an unseen "army" whose only weapon at the moment is the V sign, and I would remind any of our readers who listen to any German news—and

perhaps particularly to German news in English usually read by one of the sneering traitors—that the recent claim that the V sign is of German origin, never was or ever can be the German for Victory. Those acquainted with the language know that the German word is Sieg, and it is learned from Dutch sources that German troops have chalked the letter V, whereupon the Dutch have added *orstorung*, written in full gives *Vorstorung*: destruction!

Allotments in War Time

What part are allotments playing in war time? During and immediately after the Great War the allotment movement reached its peak with 1½ million allotments and in the present conflict this figure has been surpassed. But there is further need of effort to grow more, and with this in mind the attention of all residents is drawn to the establishment of Emergency Food Officers, that for Great Bookham being Mr. A. E. Murrells, Torbay, Eastwick Drive Tel. Bookham 354, and for Little Bookham Mr. C. V. Brayne, Wolverley, Little Bookham, Tel. Bookham 502.

An emergency scheme has been set up to supplement supplies in the event of breakdown, to implement the food situation in the event of emergency.

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Matters of the Moment

In our March issue some details were given regarding conditions in the Channel Islands and the delay in the Red Cross postal message service. It is very satisfactory to inform all concerned that these messages are now arriving at regular intervals of 10 to 14 days.

The British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John invalid comforts dept., together with St. Dunstan's for blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen, announce that if relative and friends receive news of prisoners of war suffering from eye injuries, will they please notify the Red Cross, 14 Carleton Terrace, S.W.1.

The War Office have issued a booklet entitled "Injury or damage from enemy action," containing important information for soldiers serving at home or overseas.

Dependants and families suffering distress due to enemy action should get in touch with nearest district representative of Soldiers, Sailors & Airmen's Families Association, whose address is C.A.B., Alnwick House, Church Street, Leatherhead, or St. Jean, Crabtree Lane, Great Bookham.

A Central Advisory Panel of Professional Consultants has been set up to give advice on how to provide protection from air raids for those people for whom there is no statutory provision. The name and address of their nearest consultant can be obtained from the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Emergency Information

It is not the intention to spread alarmist propaganda or view the near future with complacency, or indeed to indicate pessimism, but to place concrete facts before the public that their interests will be in the hands of reliable and confident persons.

A scheme has been prepared for the dissemination of news should the need arise. Such need may be due to severe enemy action by the cutting of essential communications, or to invasion. Lack of news may start rumour, and rumour invites fifth column activity. To avoid such circumstances an Emergency Information Service is being set up, and sites selected for posting such matters of news if such an emergency should come. It may be suggested that the B.B.C. can send out the news bulletins, but if your wireless reception is operated from the electric supply and that is cut off you remain ignorant of any news. If you are using a battery operated set, the chief difficulty would be the supply of another battery. Whatever difficulties may happen a news service will be maintained.

The Deputy Emergency Information Officer for Bookham is Mr. W. A. Muggeridge, "St. Jean," Crabtree Lane, and the Assistant D.E.I.O. Mr. O. Groom, "Wychwood," Sole Farm Road.

They've done it again!

The local Garden Society have scored another great success despite wartime conditions, by holding their 65th annual Show. Weather conditions have been far from good this year, consequently the number of exhibits was smaller, but on the other hand the judges declared the quality was quite up to the usual standard and perhaps even better.

Amongst the many good things were two exhibits of collections of vegetables by the Goodrich Road schoolboys, and sons of members of the society. In the former it was a decided advance on last year's exhibit (so much so that extra prizes were awarded by the judges) and in the latter it was interesting to note how well the boys are following in fathers footsteps, in fact it may not be long before "dad" will have to look to his laurels.

Another item was the luncheon and tea arrangements made by the Fetcham Women's Institute whose members are to be highly congratulated upon their successful efforts in view of all the catering difficulties they had to encounter previous to the show.—R.A.

The Red Cross postal message service has now been extended to Greece and Jugo-Slavia. Further information can be obtained from the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Bookham & Dist. Rabbit Club

The above club has now been formed, and Mrs. Wootten, 1 New Parade, Leatherhead Road, is the appointed Secretary.

The Ministry of Agriculture is sponsoring domestic rabbit clubs, and will make an allowance of food to all breeders providing they are members of organised clubs. Breeders with more than four breeding does are regarded as commercial producers and allowed a ration of 28lbs. of bran per quarter for every four does. A new class of domestic producer is now recognised which consists of persons with four does or fewer, who are breeding for flesh or fur and flesh, and a ration of 7lbs. per breeding doe per quarter will be allowed to such producers providing they belong to organised clubs. Rations will not be available for individual domestic rabbit keepers nor for fattening stock in possession of members of clubs. Pets are excluded from the scheme.

An appeal is made to all rabbit keepers to cut the grass verges and nettles, and by so doing preserve valuable food and hay for the winter.

Quite a few conditions apply to the issue of rations as stated above, and as space will not permit of them being given here, all rabbit keepers are urged to join the club when full details will be given by the Secretary, so join now.

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Who Knows?

Years ago, it is said, Tennyson once asked Browning what the meaning was of a certain line in one of the latter's poems. The reply "when I wrote that line I was inspired and only the Creator and I knew what I meant, since then I have forgotten," reminds me sometimes of a garden in which a man and his wife share the work between them. Very often, provided one doesn't encroach upon the other's province, this works very satisfactorily, but sometimes it brings about an unpleasant development. For instance a City man who lived in a clayey London suburb obtained his gardening experience on an allotment during and after the last war. The text books as well as his fellow plot holders told him to plant the brassica (cabbage) family hard, and this he did to such an extent that some of his sprouts, kale, etc. were planted with the aid of an iron crowbar and the results were good. A year or so after arrival at Bookham, and on lighter soil, he agreed to his wife's request that she should plant out some sprouts plants which he had been bringing along, and when he arrived home his wife showed him the greenstuff all set out in rows, but observing he was not over pleased asked him what was wrong. He said what his experience had been, pointing out that she had merely forked over the ground and put the plants in very loosely. It was agreed

that they should wait and see, and in the following September, much to his surprise, the result was the finest lot of sprouts he had ever grown. This was capped by the lady asking him "how long he had been an expert."

It is a well known fact that women generally possess what is known as "the green hand," which means as a neighbour remarked "my wife can make a hole in the ground with her fingers, push or dump a plant into it, and it will flourish, whereas the result of my effort in spite of the care and attention I give the things, is failure." This experience not only applies to planting but also to the propagation of flowers or shrubs by cuttings.—R.A.

A list of relief funds has been supplied to the Citizens Advice Bureau concerning the nationals of Belgium, Czecho-Slovakia, Italy, Germany and Austria, Holland, Poland, Spain, Palestine, and the Channel Islands.

Extract from Ministry of Information note.—"Germany is finding it difficult to get the necessary high-grade steel, and notices have appeared above every work bench warning the men that they must not discuss the quality of the steel supplied to them. The penalty is a sentence of up to twenty years imprisonment."

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Bookham Scouts & Allied Organisations
Mr. John Oliver, Scout Hut

Bookham Youth Club

Bookham Youth Organizations Cm'ttee
Mr. C. V. Brayne, C.M.G.
Wolverley, L. Bookham Tel. 502

Bowling Club
Mr. Andrews, Five Beeches,
Dorking Road. Tel. 201

Boys' Brigade
Mr. D. Cook, Flushing Farm House

Boys' Brigade and Life Boys
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Grove, Fetcham

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Mrs. Westondarp
Hawkwood, Guildford Rd. Tel. 38

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Wolverley, L. Bookham. Tel. 502

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School Lane, Fetcham

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Mrs. Pontin, The Anchorage, Sole
Farm Road. Tel. 131

Literary & Dramatic Society
Mrs. Bowen, Sunnycot, Lower Rd.

N.S.P.C.C. District Correspondent
Mrs. Stanley Russell,
Elmcroft, Bookham Tel. 13

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Leatherhead Rd. Tel. 575

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