CANTEENS IN TUBES SUIT US TO A TEA :

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The 130-thousand people who sleep every night in tube stations raise a good many problems. They get there early and so need something to eat long before bedtime. London Transport has established six depots where the food is received and prepared for despatch to the station canteens. There are 48 of them working already. Very soon there'll be more than 120. Many of the 80 stations used as shelters will have two canteens each. Tons of food are consumed every night. To prepare and deliver it is the work of over a thousand people.

The food-special loads up at the depot some time before the evening rush hour and sets out on the delivery round. In the coaches behind, girls sort out the trays to be put out at each station, working quickly, as the stations aren't far apart.

Unloading is a quick job too. The food-train has to be out of the way when the rush hours begin. Twenty seconds is the time allowed at each station. Cocoa and tea are made on the platform. Nearly half-a-million cups are drunk every night.

Nippy in wartime works nights, and underground at that. It's all one of the ways in which Londoners, with the authorities' help, cope with the raids and keep cheerful. If you're not spending Xmas at home book your tube-station now.

Buns, chocolates, time-tables.

Some patrons say, "Them as likes cocoa can 'ave it. Mine's a Guiness!"