

COLD WEATHER STORY

15 Salisbury Plain was almost the coldest, most desolate place in England, a distinction it would gladly have done without. Wiltshire and neighbouring county Hampshire defied practically everything but a snow-plough. Night temperatures were down to ¹⁴ ¹⁸ ~~22~~ (~~min~~ degrees of frost),
30 Even by day the thermometer couldn't be coaxed much above 25. Nothing very much compared with Russia or Canada but very nasty when it only comes once in a while and you're
45 not properly equipped for it.

Cattle couldn't get down to any grazing. They had to be fed with hay thrown on the snow.

20 Wimbledon Common, like hundreds of ponds and lakes, provided a lot of fun, though the country was shocked by the Lancashire news that 18 boys, a girl and a man had been drowned by falling through ice.

With the wind in the east Kent was right in the winter front-line. Villages isolated included Eastling, which was without milk and bread for two days. Six miles away at Lenham the baker got through soon after Paramount's cameraman.

Even the Thames stopped flowing past Hampton Court and it has to be very cold indeed to make the river freeze.

Well up stream at Boulter's Lock ^{it} ~~the Thames~~ was pretty solid, ^{to} nothing at all like the lovely scene ^{to} on Ascot Sunday.