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NEWS BRIEFS

Right down to a diagram of the scales, preparations were made for the weighing of the Aga Khan in diamonds on his diamond jubilee. With his young wife, His Highness stayed at his Bombay home for a ceremony never before equalled even in this fabulous land. Directly descended from the Son-in-law of Mohammed, the Aga Khan's person is sacred to the Ismaili peoples - recognising this they offer him his weight in diamonds.

Stretching over 250 acres of English pasture near Great Missenden is a graveyard of 20,000 lorries, cars, motorcycles and trucks. In transport-hungry Britain, their fate has already been decided - some for the scrap heap, others for reconversion. Several are reported as nearly new. Press reports ask why so many good cars are rotting and growing into the ground while so much of our car production is claimed for export.

In her wartime assignment as a Thames flak ship, London's famous Royal Eagle paddle steamer went all through the war and came out with a kill of five enemy aircraft and five doodlebugs. Now she's getting ready again with a lick of paint and all the busy paraphernalia that crops up when a grand old ship gets demobbed.

A woman electrician gives a feminine touch, and the caulking hammer makes the seams as sound as they used to be on the old peace-time joints between London Bridge, Margate and Clacton.

Getting the wheel turning again is Royal Eagle's much decorated Second Engineer.

SPEECH