

CRICKET COMES BACK

After six years out of the limelight back comes County cricket. This month sees the great awakening. Alf Gover sends down the first try out ball to left hander Laurie Pisklock at Surrey's famous Oval ground. Looking out for tomorrow's stars, Pathe introduces Eric Bedser (on the left) with twin brother Alex. The hands are Alex. Drop a ball in them and you can see why young Bedser can make the leather do a trick or two. Here he goes - bowling to brother Eric - two of Surrey's white hopes.

Things are on the move in Yorkshire too. At their Headingley ground, the cricket county bring out Len Hutton - record scorer in test cricket, he hit up 327 against Australia. Now he's limbering up to a spot of fast bowling from Big Bill Bowes - ex-war prisoner and Yorkshire ace.

Best known name is Gloucester's Wally Hammond. Coming out at Bristol, he is here to take a taste of Tom Goddard's spin-bowling wizardry. Nobody since W. G. Grace has skippered a test side at the age of 43 but batsman Hammond looks like smashing the precedent this year.

The big names of season 1946 are still in the mystery bag - but one that's sure to come out is Gloucester and England skipper, Wally Hammond.

SPEECH