

NEWS WARMED UP

Explanations were over. The worst was known. Reminiscent of another great hour, Britain got down to the job. Yet the nation's affairs reflected a resilient people, to whom ordinary events still mattered. At Brighton, there was time to honour a great man who also once faced a national crisis. While the party he leads talked politics, Winston Churchill received the Freedom of Brighton. A Guard of Honour of the Royal Sussex Regiment was drawn up for his inspection. As Warden of the Cinque ports, Mr. Churchill is an honorary Colonel of the 5th Battalion.

One hundred thousand people cheered the war leader as he drove through the streets on his way to the Dome.

Inside the Great Hall, the thoughts of the three thousand men and women present, flew back to 1940, when one man rallied Britain and the world.

"We find ourselves confronted with very hard times" said Mr. Churchill and concluded:-

Mr. Churchill recalled that the last time he was at Brighton was at the end of the first week in July, 1940. "I came to see the then General Montgomery, who commanded the famous 3rd Division, which was at that time spread along more than 30 miles of the coast. This was the invasion front. Invasion was said to be imminent. We dined along - a small party of four or five of us in the Royal Albion Hotel, which was otherwise almost deserted. I looked out of the window at the pier and saw Grenadier Guards sandbagging a kiosk at the end and making loopholes to repel a landing. And this was - perhaps my memory was at fault - the kiosk which in my young days I had always known as devoted to the performing fleas." (Laughter.)

Brighton's honour was symbolic. It was a people's thanks to a great figure. How great, was a matter for history.

Nottingham - Britain's great textile centre - also thought there was a time for play as well as work. While the nation's leaders were reshuffled and the same hand

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dealt out as before; the people of Nottingham, led by Lord Mayor Shaw, went gay at the Goose Fair.

One of the oldest Fairs in Britain, it is the City's annual day of merry-making. Thousands of Nottingham's citizens directed themselves to the Fairground for a few hours "away from it all."

Nottingham certainly had quite a day. But there was no future in it for the geese.

Although the nation's women would perform miracles this winter with their four-a-month clothing coupons, they still talked about fashions which were out of their reach. From Paris came the latest autumn styles. Calf length skirts have won the battle of the hem-line. Wistfully envious, British women can only lengthen their utility frocks. For evening wear, Paris has gone in mainly for black and white designs.

Meanwhile, British women will have to go on clothing themselves in their imagination while awaiting the day when they return to pre-war elegance.

There were also sports thrills for people able to find a little off-duty time. Near Bradford in Yorkshire, the vagabonds Motor Club held a motor cycle scramble.

Twenty four riders race round a tough course, and it's here that they get to the stickiest part.

Making the most of the "Indian summer" weather, motor cycling fans came to pettery fields from all over Yorkshire.

With basic petrol cuts now operating, we may have to wait a long time for the next motor cycle scramble.

But it was hard to keep International politics off the front pages. During the week came the carefully publicised announcement from Warsaw of a nine-country Communist tie-up. This meant virtually a new Comintern to succeed that dissolved by Stalin in 1943. Into this move fitted the Saar elections. As European Communists proclaimed the future co-ordination of their activities, the Saar voted on a simple issue. Superficially, it was for a new Landtag, the Constituent Assembly. In hard fact, the Saar people polled for an economic tie with France or Germany.