

10502501
10502501
47/88
10502501

WEDDING MONTH OPENS

The Royal wedding day was only a short way ahead as November opened. For the Royal family, it was to be an exacting month as public engagements made their demands in addition to the wedding preparations. The King and Queen's diary began in the West Country with a visit to Plymouth. It was from this great port - nearly 400 years ago that Sir Francis Drake sailed to defeat the Spanish Armada. Today, the city of Plymouth has another bold plan - to build a new city on the ruins of the old - devastated by German bombs.

Great crowds packed the streets as the King and Queen arrived to give Royal support to the building programme. They were received by Lord Mayor Taylor.

During enemy air attacks, six thousand buildings were totally destroyed. Already, more than three thousand new houses have been built since the end of the war. Referring to the city's reconstruction programme, the King said:-

SPEECH

At the site in the city centre where "Royal Parade" will cut across "Armada Way," stands the foundation stone that commemorates the start of the new city.

This memorial is the hub around which the new shopping centre will be built.

At the time of the Royal family's West Country tour, Paris saw the opening of its annual motor exhibition. Despite the virtual ban on private motoring (operating in France as well as in Britain) visitors flocked to see shiny, lavishly designed American models. France came out with a 4½ litre Delahaye - described as the most beautiful car in the world.

Its futuristic layout will assure for it a ready market, when produced in large numbers. Another of the new cars on show, is the French Simca Six. While Foreign manufacturers came out with something different, Britain stuck to the Rolls Royce and other "Tried and Proven" makes. Export figures slant the story. Last August, ten thousand British cars were sold abroad. The pre-war monthly average was just over three thousand. Now dollar starved Europe cannot afford American luxury models. With the Export target of 300,000 a year (and aided by a little imagination) British cars can make the world's market their own.

It was "Divisions" at the Royal Naval College, as the King and Queen's tour of the West Country concluded with a visit to Dartmouth.