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THE WORLD WE SAW

Despite Chancellor Dalton's penny on the pint, it was an encouraging week. Latest figures from Britain's coalfields show that the miners' output has been upped by a quarter million tons, to give the country four and a quarter million - the highest figure since Dunkirk. On a tour of Britain's coalfields, Pathe cameras went to Northumberland. Listen to the men of Stobswood Colliery (Manager Defty and Joe Bailey) telling the story of their output.

Since May, the 350 miners of Stobswood Colliery have beaten their output-target every week. In an October week they turned out 2,800 tons - 8 tons per man. And Stobswood coal is not that easy to handle. 200 feet down, in the Beaumont seam, the coal being worked is only 27 inches thick. But it's good stuff, as the housewives of Border country will tell you.

As an individual worker, the British miner is doing better than any miner in Europe. Production per man-shift shows an increase of one hundredweight a worker on last year. The number of young workers at the coal face is rising slowly, and the rate of mechanisation is progressing.

Stobswood is only a small pit in the heart of Britain's coalfields. Union Secretary Ogle Redpath says that their spirit is the reason for success.

Winter's stock for industry now seems to be assured. Next year, coal may return to Britain's list of exports. Stobswood's story is one of success - shared by all the nation's miners.

Sportsmen had a surprise this week when the Arsenal - unbeaten English league leaders - met the striped shirts of the Paris Racing Club. The Highbury Club dropped out of the auction for Tommy Lawton but their play proved that they could have done with the new Netts County centre-forward. With two of their regular defence men playing in the international, the famed Arsenal defence conceded four goals - and here is Vaast scoring his.

Arsenal's forward line fought back. The ball goes to outside-left Ian McPherson but goalie Vignal makes a daring save.

The Racing Club succeeded where every English club failed. The Gunners were certainly not in championship form. Rattled by the French tactics, Nicolitch goes on to score almost unchallenged.

Arsenal's reply was a sole effort from 30 yards by Rommie Hooks.

Final score - a 4:3 French win and Arsenal's first defeat. The week's news also brought the story of the Swiss Government's wedding present to Princess Elizabeth. World famous Geneva jewellers prepare a platinum and diamond bracelet watch. On the floor above, watchmakers are putting together the intricate precision movement, composed of 80 minute parts.

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The Swiss Federal Council made a specific detailed order for the present. In platinum and fitted with glittering diamonds, it is a £5,000 watch.

But there was one person in Britain quite unperturbed by Royal wedding talk.

Being page to cousin Elizabeth did not worry Prince William of Gloucester, playing with his three year old brother, Richard, at their home. Pathe cameramen received special facilities for these pictures from the Duchess of Gloucester. Six years old, in December, Prince William is senior page. While in Australia (where his father was Governor General) the young Prince soon became popular with the people of the Commonwealth.

The political bomb-shell was left till week's end. It burst in Downing Street. After much coming and going of Government leaders, came the announcement that Hugh Dalton had resigned the Chancellorship, following what he himself described as a grave indiscretion to a journalist. Rumours grew in a surprised nation, and many who professed to know, were tipping Cripps as the new Premier. It was an unusually grave Mr. Dalton - looking older than his 60 years - who left his Downing Street home for the House of Commons. The people were to hear his new proposals - designed to combat inflation. In his last talk to Britain as Chancellor, Hugh Dalton said:-

And so Britain's No. 1 planner, Sir Stafford Cripps, became Chancellor of the Exchequer in addition to his duties as economic chief. Never before in a long Ministerial career had his political star shone more brightly.