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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

At Olney, Mrs. Isabel Dix defends her pancake race title, as 39 - including some who advertise - start for the annual Shrovetide race, through the village to the church. It's an international race as housewives in Liberal, Kansas are racing at the same time in America.

And here's the finish, with Mrs. Isabel Dix going like a good 'un to repeat her last year's win over the 415 yards course and collect the same reward from the vergers!

At Liverpool, "Francenia" docks from Canada bringing Field Marshal Alexander, with adopted daughter Susie, younger son Brian and Lady Alexander. Lord Alexander, who was Governor-General of Canada for six years, is to take over as Defence Minister. But the really outstanding thing today seems to be Brian's tie! To those who served in North Africa, Lord Alexander in charge of Defence is good news for Britain.

At Poitiers, where almost six hundred years ago the Black Prince overwhelmed the French, 56-year-old Marie Besnard arrives at the Palace of Justice. Accused of the murder of twelve relatives, she also faces trial for fraud and on this charge is found guilty. In the cemetery rest many she is accused of killing with arsenic. From the twelve £20,000 came to the widow Marie Besnard, who meantime, now goes to gaol for two years for fraud. The murder trial re-opens in May.