

SUMMER!!

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The weather is news. And it's been bad news for holidaymakers this so-called summer. Rain, rain, rain - and further outlook unsettled.

Where does all the bad weather come from? Pathe went out in search of the weather news - and we started far out in the Atlantic with the weatherships. Brave men struggle through the downpours of rain-falls-to-come.

Every few hours, for weeks on end, they send balloons up to find variations in temperature, pressure and humidity. This information is radioed back to Dunstable, where the Central Forecasting Office prepares its charts. Here, as at seven other stations in the country, more balloons are released. Up it goes - maybe to start a new crop of flying saucers stories. Over now to Ramsgate, where, despite raincoat weather, they're holding a carnival - appropriately enough on its waters. An exciting high-spot of the show is the hydroplane race.

Something to warm the cockles of your heart are these daring damsels. Here's something they never intended - their bathing suits are getting wet - but it's rain, not sea water. Wales hasn't fared much better in the weather stakes, but at least the rain keeps its distance for most of Llangollen's International Histeddod. From all over Europe, dancers and singers, gather each year for the festival. Trying to get away from the rain in their country?

Llangollen, whatever the weather, provides a charming setting for the festival. But if the visitors think they've escaped the dark clouds they left in their own country, well I'm afraid they're mistaken. But now let's have a look-in on some of the dancing. Here's a French team practising their paces.

And now a team from Austria with a traditional "slap" dance.

Bad weather has forced the stores to sell off summer dresses, and if you happen to be in the super O.S. category, here's a chance to get yourself a few new clothes. Just join the queue, have a good gossip, a cup of tea and a sandwich, and we'll see what they have to offer.

And in we go - no herring and gouging please; make it a good clean, snrap.

For victory in the battle of the bulges, try this -

On now to Windsor, and the Royal Show. And, believe it or not

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a fine day to greet Her Majesty the Queen, who so often seems to have been dogged by rain-clouds. Old and new crafts are displayed at the Show, which covers about 150 acres. Machinery and livestock are, of course, the main ingredients of the exhibition, but a little Dartmoor pony, called Juniper nearly steals all the limelight. It is to be given to the Queen for the use of Prince Charles and Princess Anne.

Now for the cattle parade - and housewives there's no need to be green with envy - they'd all cost a darn sight more than seven and six a pound! To watch the march-past, Her Majesty takes her seat at the side of the grand ring. The Show, which is put on by the Royal Agricultural Society, is the biggest of its kind in the world, and costs about £150,000 to prepare.

From North of the Border come these Highland cattle, all wrapped up to face an English July.

Westwards again, to a new sunshine Home for Blind Babies at South-ern-down, in Glamorganshire. Here (in the sunshine they can only feel) 24 children up to the age of 7 will have their schooling. The home, which was once a hotel, is only a short distance from the sea. It is the ninth such home to be taken for administration by the Royal National Institute for Blind Babies.

Princess Margaret arrives to declare the new Sunshine home open. Ten Cardiff businessmen, calling themselves "Tenevus" raised about £24,000 towards the cost of the home. The Variety Club of Great Britain made a donation of nearly twelve thousand pounds. Now, as Her Royal Highness opens the door of the Home, their plans are fully realised. In a family atmosphere blind children will begin their hard training which will enable them to live normal and useful lives in the future.

Her Royal Highness leaves the Home as rain begins to fall. But, first little Alan George, one of the blind children, presents a bouquet.

Now we follow the clouds back to London, where, Mr. David Hibbert, a well-known weather consultant, looks to the future:

That's the expert's opinion. To get another view, we drop in at another weather research establishment to meet a Professor who considers himself the leading authority in this country.

Carefully-prepared charts reveal to the Professor the fluctuating trends of weather-to-come. So lets hear the verdict from the man himself -