

ENGLAND UNDER WATER

58/54

Soaking June, we called it - and hoped for the best in July; but July seems to be challenging June's record. Market Harborough, for example, is considering changing its name to Market Harbour. Gumboot manufacturers and ducks are enjoying themselves, but everyone else is just wondering where the summer's got to.

Most worried, of course, are the unfortunate shopkeepers with damageable stock on their hands; and as for the farmers, we just daren't quote them without an I certificate. The rest salvage what they can from their waterlogged homes - and the moment the water subsides a little, start mopping up. Just look at that high water mark on the wall.

Still, we can always go to the pictures if we dont mind swimming there. The cinema industry pride themselves on carrying on whatever the circumstances - and as long as they've got projector, screen and circle seats above water, they can manage! And next week's film is particularly appropriate.

Thanks for the tip. We'll be round - if the water stays away from us !