

Newshounds!

PROMISING EDITOR

We have just had news of another young editor. This time it's Philip Carr, aged eleven, who runs a ten-page duplicated magazine of features and fiction called *Blue Mosaic*. It began with a circulation of only 50 copies, but already its editor is hoping to print 300 copies for his fifth issue.

Philip Carr, 34 Hillgate Place, London, W.8.

Looking ahead to Maundy Thursday

The people of the cathedral town of Chelmsford, Essex, are looking forward to the 11th April, when the Queen will be visiting the town to distribute Maundy Money.

The word Maundy comes from the French *mandé*, meaning "demanded," and alludes to the demand made in John XIII, 14.

Maundy was the name given originally to the ceremony of washing the feet of the poor. The day became known as Maundy Thursday and was kept by the nobility and prelates. In England it was performed by the sovereign personally until the reign of William III. Maundy Thursday is now celebrated by the distribution of money to old age pensioners.

The Cathedral, which the Queen will visit, dates back to 1228. She will no doubt see the beautiful heraldic stained-glass windows in the porch, which were given by Essex people as a memorial to U.S. Servicemen who were stationed in the county during the war.

Sheila Hammond (13), 26 Gloucester Avenue, Chelmsford.

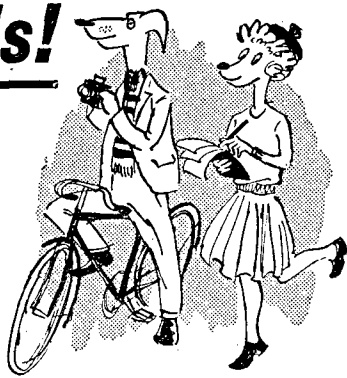
THEY FILM WILD GEESE

John Thornett and Paul Taylor, two 18-year-olds of Solihull, Warwickshire, have been camping out in a six-foot ridge tent every weekend since October. They are filming the winter habits of wild geese near the Severn Estuary, just outside the Slimbridge Wild Fowl Trust.

They expect their film *Quest For Wild Geese* to take at least three more winters to complete, because so many of the birds have already died of starvation this winter and it will be several years before their numbers get back to normal. Large flocks will probably be harder to find and to study.

Their great ambition is to follow those splendid birds back to their summer haunts in Iceland or Arctic Russia.

J. Lilly, 61 Stanway Road, Shirley, Solihull.



Key number

The Abingdon Grammar School in Berkshire, which is celebrating its quarter-centenary (400 years), has a key number which keeps cropping up in all sorts of ways.

The school was refounded by John Roysse in 1563 in his 63rd year. It was meant to accommodate 63 boys, and its school-room was 63 feet long. Since then 63 has remained a magic number for the school. Its telephone number is Abingdon 1563, and the school bell tolls 63 times at the beginning of morning and afternoon school.

The new library, which was built out of the proceeds of the school's Quarter-centenary Appeal (target—£63,000), will be opened by Princess Margaret in June.

C. P. Ridout, "Pippins," The Croft, Harwell, Berks.

WANTED—MORE NEWSHOUNDS!

The response to the call for newshounds has been enormous. Some of the items received are very good indeed.

There must still be many of you who have something of interest to tell—so what about it, Newshounds? Editor

Camera-shy cormorant

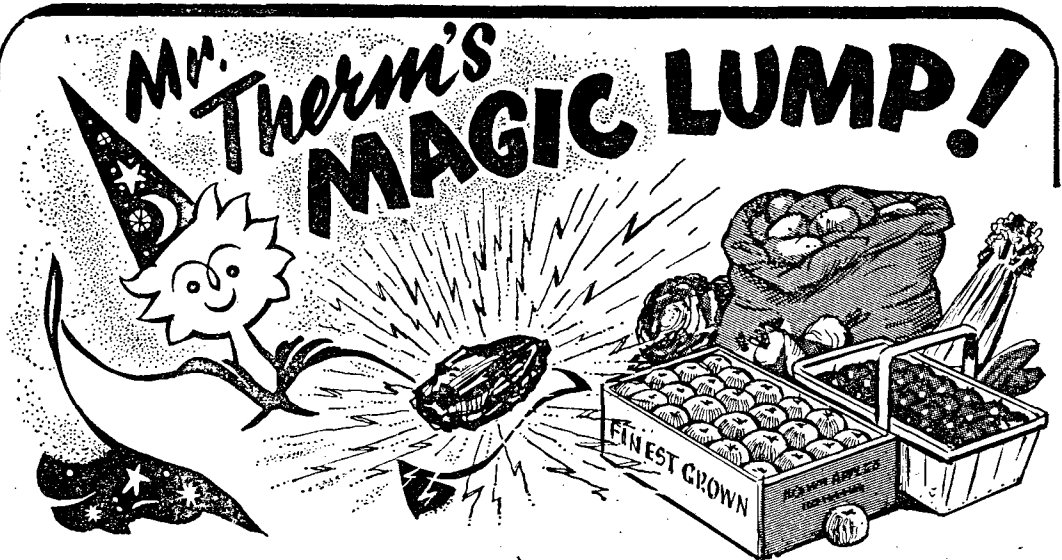
If you live a long way inland, it's unlikely that you would come across a cormorant while you were out walking. But that's what happened to three young boys while they were strolling through a park in Leeds. Seeing that the bird was exhausted, they took it to the PDSA (People's Dispensary For Sick Animals).

A reporter and a Press photographer later turned up to take photographs, but the cormorant was obviously not keen on any sort of publicity. As soon as the photography session started, it bit the Superintendent of the PDSA on the chin!

Paul Bettison, 61 Parkfield Mount, Leeds 11.

SORRY, ROSEMARY!

In printing the paragraph headed *SPRING CANTATA*, sent by Newshound Rosemary Adair, we said that Applecroft Junior School was in Market Drayton. The school is at Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire.



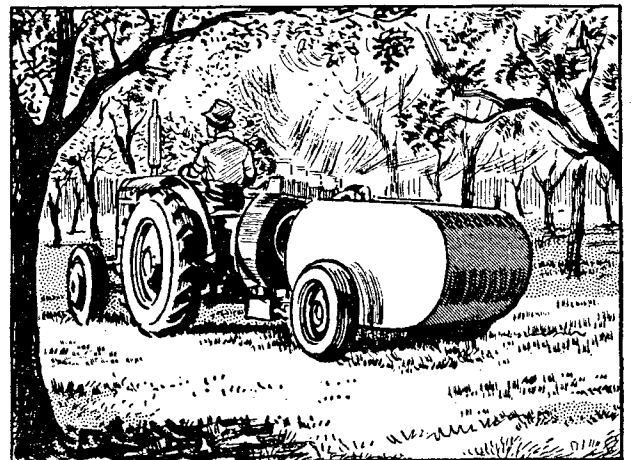
Mr. Therm is a magician. He has a magic lump which is made of coal, ordinary coal. But when he rubs it, his magic powers release its hidden wonders . . .

Issued by the Gas Council

Maybe it isn't real magic, but it certainly seems like it! When Mr. Therm treats coal scientifically, he sets free the wealth that has been locked up in it for millions of years. This treatment is called carbonisation. This way, hundreds of different things we use every day can be made. When we burn coal on an open fire, we lose these valuable chemicals up the chimney as smoke and soot. Mr. Therm's magic saves them for us all.

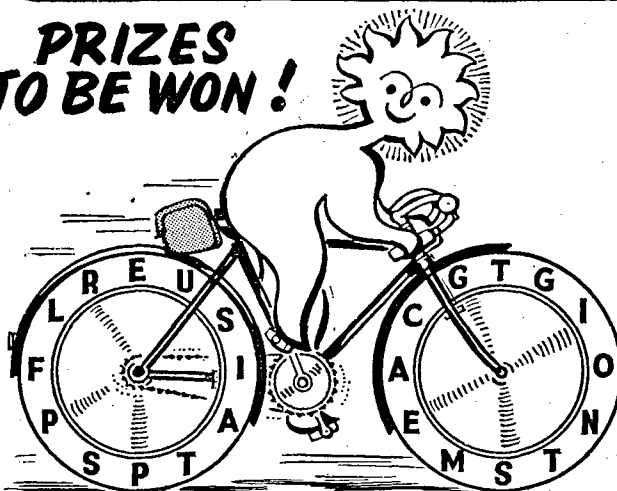
WHEN you bite into a juicy red apple from the shop you don't expect to find a maggot inside it. There might be maggots in apples from the garden but never in one from the shop. The fruit-grower takes great care that each apple is perfect—and Mr. Therm helps him. How does a maggot get into an apple? It began as an egg which a moth laid near the baby fruits; this hatched into a small maggot that ate its way into the fruit and remained there, feeding and growing bigger all the time. When it is big enough (if the apple isn't picked first!) the maggot comes out of the apple and makes its way to hide in the bark of the tree and becomes a pupa that later hatches into a moth. In summer, the fruit-grower takes out his big spraying machine and soaks the trees up to the last twig in an insecticide called BHC. This kills the young maggots, as well as other pests that harm the trees. BHC is made from benzole, which we get when Mr. Therm carbonises coal.

In winter you could see the fruit-grower spraying again, this time probably with tar-oil. This comes from coal-tar, and it will kill every lurking insect and pupa. It also cleans off the moss on the bark where the pests can hide. A fruit-grower has to be on the look-out all the year for trouble, whether from insects or diseases that weaken the trees and scar the apples. It's rather like a battle! So it's no wonder he turns to Mr. Therm for some of his most useful weapons in the fight to make sure that you can buy delicious, healthy beautiful apples and pears. (They're good for your teeth, too!)



* MR. THERM'S BICYCLE *

PRIZES TO BE WON!



The four words hidden in the tyres of Mr. Therm's bicycle all appear in the story above. Write down each alternate letter, and if you start in the right place you will find two words in each tyre. The letters are in the right order. Make a neat list of your answers on a postcard with full name, address and age, ask a parent or guardian to sign it as your own work, then post it to: Mr. Therm's Bicycle No. 15, Children's Newspaper, 26/27 Farringdon St., London, E.C.4 (Comp.). Mr. Therm will award £2 2s. Book Tokens for the three neatest correct entries received by Friday, March 22nd. His decision is final!

Mr. Therm's Bicycle No. 10 winners were: Janet Brown, Bristol; Robert Bruce, Birmingham, 34; Alwynne Hickling, Ruddington. The words were: RESINS, PHENOL, PLANED, FUTURE.

GAS FOR INSTANT HEAT