

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,
 I have just returned from a visit to Sicily, where I was amazed to find a very large number of apparently wealthy Germans. They filled the hotels everywhere, were always in the most expensive rooms, and spent money freely on champagne and in other extravagant ways. They seemed to delight in flaunting their wealth before the English and Americans. Owing to the free way in which they spend their money the hotel-keepers were undoubtedly giving them a preference over other nationalities. Much the same state of things is to be found in almost all the Italian towns – surely if money has to be found to put Germany on her feet again, these are the people who should find it – MR BERTRAM PHILLIPS, Dinton House, Wilts.

(The Times, (London, England) Wednesday, May 14, 1924)

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Dinton

GERMANS IN SICILY

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WEEDLESS PARKS

Is not the absence of weeds in the parks explained by the fact that the turf there is almost entirely composed of rye grass, which flourishes best where it is most trodden? The continual tramping of feet destroys the weeds and coarser grasses, so enabling the rye grass to extend its hold. Is this not borne out by the fact, upon which you remark, that where the grass is cut and not walked upon weeds abound? Is it not possible also that the London fogs act as a fertilizer? My gardener puts any soot he can get into the water he uses for his plants. Again, sheep are the best grazing animals you can have for improving grassland. – MR BERTRAM PHILLIPPS, Dinton House, Dinton, Wilts.

(The Times, (London, England) Friday, June 20, 1930)

Destroying Wasps' Nests

I am surprised to see that the Ministry of Agriculture have issued a booklet advising people to destroy wasps' nests with cyanide of potassium, which is, of course, a very deadly poison.

I should like to point out that it is quite unnecessary to use any poison at all. A cup of turpentine poured into the hole, which should then be blocked up, is all that is necessary. The fumes of the turpentine will kill every wasp in the nest, and all risks connected with the handling of a deadly poison are removed. This fact cannot be made known too widely.

Mr Bertram Philipps, Dinton House, Dinton, Wilts.

(The Times, Friday, July 27, 1934)