

WEST END FIRE etc.

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The gloom of the London black-out has been broken again by this fire which followed the dropping of incendiary bombs on the British capital. It was one fire which ~~that~~ succeeded in getting a grip despite the efforts of the brigades. But it is significant that we are still able to show a picture like this as an item of interest. No doubt the German High Command expected that after starting a continuous nightly blitz on September 7th there should have been by now nothing ~~left~~ ^{at} in London ~~left~~ to burn. For the first eight months in 1940 everything went so right for Hitler; we may take comfort from the fact that things have not been going so right since August. Battle of Britain a flop; London still standing; and Italy still running.

And here is a picture of a Nazi bomber for which things also failed to go right. It came off second ^{best} in a tussle with a barrage balloon. It flew into the cable --- and the cable did the rest. And for every raider brought down by the balloons we can count hundreds that couldn't come down because of them... They have made mass low level bombing of our cities an impossibility --- and for that we may be truly thankful. London is still carrying on --- very much so. They're still changing the guard at Buckingham Palace; that despite the attempts of the Luftwaffe to blot out the Palace, and of the German army to blot out the B.E.F. We know we've a long road yet to travel --- but as Mr Churchill says --- We haven't done so badly.