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THEATRE TAKES DAY OFF

Stars of the stage and screen make Bechampton's theatrical Garden Party a gala performance for all fans. Noel Coward - back from Broadway's bow ties steps into the well-dressed man's uniform to welcome the guests, among whom is smiling Margaret Lockwood.

Though admirers form a hedge which breaks the wind the stars are glad of the near ankle-length skirts which keep their legs warm in this English holiday weather. Apart from the fashion parade, the sideshows are the big attraction of the day.

Up-and-coming star Hy Hassell - resplendent in an Edwardian style bonnet - joins the customers, while old favourite Margaret Rutherford calls out the odds. Further away, there is another old-timer, comedian Leslie Henson, selling (and collecting) autographs. His first small customer regards him with unalloyed suspicion.

At the fun fair - the Crazy Gang are together again in full force - watched carefully for new gags by rival Vic Oliver. For these gentlemen of laughter it's a thorough busman's holiday - with a sideline laid on at the "fish for your supper" stall. Raymond Massey - just back from America - makes certain of landing his breakfast, as well. He shares the catch with the Crazy Gang - and this is the result.