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MERCEDES WINS GRAND PRIX.

The Grand Prix of Europe gets under way at Nurburgring in Germany. This is the third round in the duel between the Mercedes and the Ferraris. At Rheims, Mercedes won the day. At Silverstone, the Ferraris took top honours. So the Grand Prix is almost a matter of National Prestige now. The race is of 22 laps, totalling 312 miles.

Hans Herman drives the encoiled Mercedes. The team's other cars, including number 18 with Fangio at the wheel, and nineteen driven by Karl Kling, have been fitted with more conventional bodies since the defeat at Silverstone. Quickly in the lead, Fangio, sets the pace. Team-mate Herman Lang is not far away. Kling is there, and so is Gonzalez, number one, in his Ferrari.

The Mercedes hang onto their lead, 18 and 19, Fangio and Kling, flash past almost together. The half-way stage now, and it looks like a German victory. But Gonzalez is retiring! He's far from well, and still very upset by the death of his countryman Marinon, who was killed practising for the race. But England's Mike Hawthorne, whose own car has developed engine trouble, takes over the Ferrari. Now the Mercedes are in trouble! Kling is flagged in to the pits. There's something wrong with the back axle.

While mechanics work like demons, Alfred Neubauer, the German team manager, loses his temper with hordes of onlookers crowding round the pits. But seconds later, Kling is away again.

Fangio's on the last lap, but he doesn't relax. Hawthorn, and Trintignant, aren't far away. Fangio hangs grimly onto his lead and in he comes to snatch victory in the Grand Prix. Hawthorn is second, and Trintignant third. So the Mercedes have beaten the Ferraris again; but only just. Fangio, mobbed by an almost fanatical crowd, is congratulated by Federal President Heuss. Soon, in Berno, the rival cars will meet again, but, for the time being, Fangio's wife can only weep with joy.

