HONEYMOONERS BEAT THE TAX

Spring time was always ring time; nowadays more so than ever. Love doesn't burn more fiercely than it used to; it's a matter of Income Tax. Marry before the end of the Financial Year, and the husband gets married man's personal allowance for twelve months when he was still single. Hence the last minute rush. More than 2,000 honeymooners flew to Jersey, and a Pathe News cameraman went with some of them on a typical flight. Money for old boots.

A sensitive bride might resent her wedding being fixed by the tax laws, but there was no sign of it on the aircraft. In fact, they were quite pleased about it. No use pretending they weren't going on their honeymoon; nobody was doing anything else. Wedding cake laid on by the airline company.

The last thing you'd have expected was that there'd be a grandfather in the company. But there was - the pilot!

If you're wondering why so many newlyweds chose Jersey, it's because the Queen of the Channel Islands was enterprising enough to lay on hotel accommodation, at the right price; thereby attracting tourist business in the off season. Our cameraman was no less enterprising. He stuck by the honeymooners, to see how they got on. They, of course, being surrounded by other novices, weren't in the least nervous...In the hotels there wasn't a spinster in sight.

One couple weren't honeymooning. They were celebrating their Diamond Wedding: Mr. and Mrs. Pulluneli, from Walton on Thames. Then there was that philosophical chap, the hall porter. He's seen it all before.

Obviously it had been a tiring day.

In less than 20 minutes it would be ten o'clock.

Is there a gamekeeper in the house?