

# Twenty cat lovers jeer in court



**Mrs. Hoscik**  
**TWENTY women cat-lovers jeered derisively from the back of a court-room yesterday when a woman said she would not have her dogs destroyed.**  
 "I love them too much," she told the magistrate.  
 That brought more angry interruptions from the cat-lovers, and the magistrate threatened to have the court cleared.  
 After the case, the women, who claim to have formed a committee "for the wel-

fare and safety of cats" in West Norwood, clustered outside the court entrance.  
 The dog-owner was escorted from another door by a police officer.  
 The cat-lovers had turned up in strength at Lambeth court to hear Mrs. May Hoscik, of Ardlui-road, West Norwood, answer police summonses concerning her two Alsatians.  
 They heard eight witnesses describe how the dogs savaged and killed three West Norwood cats.  
 Of one incident, a witness said: "I saw one of the dogs pull the cat down from a fence by its tail and then the two of them pulled it about, rag-doll fashion."  
 That was at 3 o'clock in the morning. Later the cat was found dead.

Of another incident, a householder said: "First I heard the dogs baying and then I saw them chasing a cat up a tree. The cat either slipped or was dragged down. Then it was like the kill at a fox-hunt."  
 Mrs. Hoscik, amid interruptions from the cat-lovers, said: "People have lied about my dogs. They have even accused me of sending them out at night to kill."

### 'Big Chain Made'

"I have had a big chain made for the dogs, and they haven't been out for a fortnight."  
 She was fined £1 on each of three summonses for allowing a ferocious dog to be at large unmuzzled, and 15s. for keeping a dog without a licence. She was ordered to pay £2 2s. costs.  
 Mr. E. Lane, prosecuting, said that under the law he could not ask for the dogs to be destroyed because they had not been proved dangerous to humans, sheep, cattle or poultry.  
 "This means that these dogs could go out and attack all the cats and dogs in the neighbourhood without your being able to do any more than fine their owner," Mr. Lane told the magistrate.



The Duchess climbs by ladder into a jeep.

## WOMAN IS FOUND DEAD—MAN ACCUSED

A TELEPHONE call from Portsmouth police sent police officers to a house in Wilton-avenue, Southampton, yesterday, where they found a woman lying dead in bed. They sealed the bedroom.  
 The dead woman, Mrs. Elizabeth Parr, 27, took lodgings in Wilton-avenue a fortnight ago with a man. They said they would be staying about six weeks on holiday.

People who met her described Mrs. Parr as "a good-looking jolly girl."

Mrs. Parr was the wife of Mr. John Parr, steward at Selsey Golf Club, Sussex. They have two small children, a boy and a girl.

When Mr. Parr heard of his wife's death, he went immediately with his father-in-law to Southampton.

At 1.40 a.m. today Walter Percy Ansell, 42, unemployed of South View, Hornet, Chichester, Sussex, was charged at Southampton police headquarters with the murder of Mrs. Parr.  
 He will appear before Southampton magistrates today.

## The Duchess starts with chopsticks

THE Duchess of Kent, on her tour of Malaya, was entertained to dinner—a Malayan dinner. She used chopsticks—but only for the first course. After that, she used spoon and fork. The Duchess, with her son, the Duke, had travelled to Malacca town. A Malayan official presented her with a 100-year-old kris (dagger). On the way, at a rubber plantation, the Duchess and her son tried, not very successfully, to tap a rubber tree.

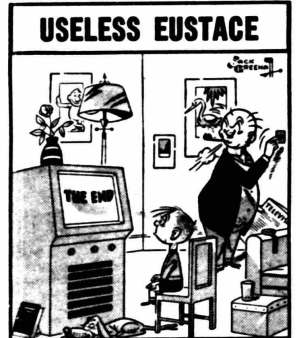
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## STRIKE TO END AFTER 14 WEEKS

The strike of 1,100 workers at the coach-building works of Park Royal Vehicles, London, N.W., is to end tomorrow morning—exactly fourteen weeks after it began.  
 Mr. W. R. Black, managing director of the firm, said last night that it had been agreed that seventy-eight men whose temporary suspension led to the strike would be taken back forty-eight hours after work was resumed.

## MODEST CLAIM, SAY RAILMEN

THE railwaymen's claim for a 10 per cent. wage increase for 450,000 workers, which had been rejected by the Railway Executive, went before the Railway Staff National (Arbitration) Tribunal in London yesterday, writes Harold Hutchinson.  
 Mr. J. B. Figgins, leader of the National Union of Railwaymen based his claim on the fact that the cost-of-living index has gone up ten points since the last claim made by the railwaymen.  
 He said that since 1947 the cost of living has gone up by 35 per cent., whereas railway wages had gone up by only 16 per cent.  
 "I contend," he added, "that the claim for a 10 per cent. increase is modest indeed, and more than justified."  
 The findings of the tribunal are not legally binding, but generally form the basis of a settlement.  
 The hearing will last several days.

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