NORTHBRIDGE RECTORY (1941)
(Hilary Temple)

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<td>9</td>
<td>Rotten Borough eg Old Sarum in Wiltshire which had 3 houses and 11 inhabitants but could elect 2 Members of Parliament. Abolished by the Reform Act of 1832</td>
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<td>Town Hall on twelve stone legs Northbridge is generally thought to be based on Chipping Campden in Gloucestershire, though its Woolstaplers' Hall is on arches rather than stone legs. Many other English towns have market halls or town halls of this type, so Northbridge could be an amalgam of several places</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Wars of the Roses - Crooked Dick Civil wars fought between the houses of Lancaster and York from 1485 to 1457, ending with the defeat of Richard III by Henry Tudor at the Battle of Bosworth Field. Richard III, more usually Crookbacked Dick, was popularly known as the murderer of the Princes in the Tower.</td>
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Rennie
Nothing to do with Charles Rennie Mackintosh, but an earlier John Rennie, collaborator with James Watt, engineer, drainer of the Fens, canal-builder, who with his son, also John, built the new London Bridge (the one that was sold to Arizona) in 1831 and Waterloo Bridge between 1811 and 1817.

Quite o'ercrowed
The potent poison quite o'ercrows my spirit
Shakespeare, Hamlet, v.ii

12 Vichy
The Vichy government was established under Marshal Pétain in the southern unoccupied part of France after the fall of France in 1940, and collaborated with Nazi Germany.

12 United States
The USA had not yet entered WWII

13 Punshions - brewery
more usually "puncheon" - a large cask or barrel
BL35

15 British legion
The Royal British Legion is a charity providing financial, social and emotional support to current and ex-servicemen. It runs numerous clubs all over the country.
BL35

18 dead of influenza
probably in the epidemic which came immediately after WWI, though if Mrs Turner had been travelling for years the chronology doesn't seem quite right.

19 Eugene Aram
Subject of a novel and a poem both based on the true story of a schoolmaster of unusual ability and gentle disposition, tried and executed at York in 1759 for murder. Eugene Aram, 1832, novel by Bulwer Lytton, and The Dream of Eugene Aram, by Thomas Hood. But why the nieces looked on Mr Holden as their prey I don't know.
LAR188

21,22,23 Provençal poetry
What are Camargou and the examples of Provençal poetry based on? Can any expert tell us?
OBH

21 Venus and Adonis
In Shakespeare's poem Venus falls in love with Adonis and does everything she can to win his love.
Shakespeare, Venus and Adonis

21 Camargou
radio
usually called wireless at that time. See 276 below.
JC82

24,25 Egeria
water nymph, wife and adviser of Numa Pompilius, King of Rome
Roman mythology
CC323, WDIM 180, 266, 294, 297

24,213 Giacopone Giacopino detto il Giacopinoacccio, Strelsa
I think this is all fictional, but if there is a relusion over the names I'd like to know.
26 Render unto Caesar  
"Render unto Caesar those things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's."  
Matthew, 22:21

27 Bomb on Buckingham Palace  
Buckingham Palace was hit by a bomb on 13 September 1940. This doesn't seem to worry the Villarses nearly as much as losing one of their hens.

Ancient Mariner  
"Instead of the cross, The Albatross /about my neck was hung." The Ancient Mariner had brought bad luck on his ship by shooting the albatross.  
The Rime of the Ancient Mariner, Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

28,29 Shortages and collecting tins  
Recycling is not new! But most people only knew olive oil in those days as something supplied by the chemist for treating earache.

30 largo al factotum  
"Make way for the factotum" - the first line of Figaro's famous aria. The Barber of Seville is in demand and can do anything.  
Rossini, The Barber of Seville

Briareus, Proteus  
Briareus was a giant with a hundred arms and fifty heads. Proteus, the shepherd of the sea, could change shape at will.  
Greek mythology

36 Verena, Sintram, Heir of Radclyffe  
Lady Verena is a character in Sintram and his Companions', and Verena appears in The Heir of Redclyffe. There are similarities between the two works, and Miss Yonge's collaborator, Marianne Dyson, wrote a novel called Ivo and Verena. In Little Women Jo weeps over The Heir of Redclyffe and wants a copy of Undine and Sintram.  
Sintram and his Companions, 1842, and Undine, 1811, by Friedrich de la Motte Fouqué, The Heir of Redclyffe, by Charlotte M Yonge, 1853.

37 The Megatherium club  
a megatherium is a dinosaur. The Athenaeum?

37,38 Lager  
Not a drink for gentlemen, evidently

38 Barclays had a jolly good one  
Barclays Brewery was in Southwark, near the site of the Globe Theatre

cruet  
"cruet" is a dreadfully non-U word (though not quite as bad as "condiments"). He should have said "salt and pepper".

39 rara avis  
An uncommon or exceptional person or thing  
Latin: "rare bird"

40 Newgate frill  
A beard which frames the face and goes under the chin, taking the position of the rope when a man is to be Newgate prison
hanged.

41 Morgan ap Kerrig, Crumlinwallinwer, Mewlinwillinwodd Illustrious hero of a poem (Mewlinwillinwodd) by a Welsh bard (Crunlinwallinwer), from whom Mrs Woodcourt claimed her son Allan was descended. Dickens, Bleak House PE

42, 46- 50 Ill again - made to lie down after lunch - Mr Villars was previously headmaster of Coppin’s School - did he have to retire because of his wife’s health? Dickens, Bleak House PE

43 spacious firmament above Hymn, The Spacious Firmament on High, by Joseph Addison, from an article in The Spectator, August 23 1712 Haydn’s Creation Joseph Addison, from an article in The Spectator, August 23 1712

old man was friendly "Is the old min friendly?” (Dick Swiveller referring to Little Nell’s grandfather) Dickens, the Old Curiosity Shop, Chapter 2. HReT 238, also Dick Swiveller and Sally Brass, TB 256, PE 198, CC 138

Chapter heading: Several on a Tower Alludes to the title of a tragic romance by Thomas Hardy Two on a Tower, by Thomas Hardy, 1882

45 In at the door out of the window Poverty comes in at the door, love flies out of the window Proverb

47 ARP Air Raid Precautions - organisation for protection of civilians during WWII. ARP wardens continued to do their daytime jobs.

Cleopatra’s needle An ancient Egyptian obelisk from Heliopolis brought to the Thames Embankment to commemorate Nelson’s victory at the Battle of the Nile and Sir Ralph Abercrombie’s at the Battle of Alexandria in 1801. It has nothing to do with Cleopatra.

47 Siren suit an all-in-one zip-up garment easy to put on in a hurry when the siren sounded an air raid warning. Made popular by Winston Churchill

51, 52 So she went into the garden to cut a cabbage leaf to make an apple pie/ …greatest the memory of the actor Charles Macklin who claimed Panjandrum, 1755 that he could memorise any paragraph from one reading.

51 Appealing to Caesar Under Roman law, all Roman citizens had the right to appeal to Caesar, as did St Paul in his trial before Acts, 25:1-27
Governor Festus

52 Empire & Fireside, Home & Colonial Stores
referring to a well-known chain of grocery stores

Matthew Porter Observatory, Solmer-Vollfuss
54 Is this based on a real observatory and telescope?

Pension Ramsden
55 Is there any connection with Margaret Mackail's friend
Alice Ramsden, with whom she spent a holiday at St
Raphael in the early years of the 20th century?

Les Glycines
56 Glycine is the French name for wistaria.

ah-hoory
58 Sycorax - no saint, but Caliban's mother Shakespeare, The Tempest

Scarlet woman
59 The Whore of Babylon; a false church; hence the
Church of Rome

"And stori'd windows richly dight./Casting a dim religious light."
Milton, Il Penseroso

St George's banner
60 Red cross on a white background, the flag of England,
flown on Anglican churches.

"Le ciel est, par-dessus le toit,/Si bleu, si calme!"
Sagesse, by Paul Verlaine:

common friends
67 ie not mutual (frequent allusions to the fact that Dickens
got this wrong in Our Mutual Friend)

offending St Paul
67 "Is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?" I Corinthians 11.
frappay
frappé = whipped

Jack Ketch
70 public hangman

About the late beau
74 From a bawdy song Blowzabella my bouncing Doxie

Bouncing Blowsabel
86 Thomas d'Urfey, Pills to Purge Melancholy, 1719-20
Archbishop Thomas a Becket was murdered in 1170 by four knights in Canterbury Cathedral after Henry II demanded "who will rid me of that turbulent priest?" T S Eliot's play Murder in the Cathedral was first produced in 1935.

When sent to the sick wing at my school in the late 1940s we used to be served portions of marmalade or jam in the headmistress's old Elizabeth Arden cosmetic jars. And I remember staying with three great-aunts who kept each one's rations in separate pots.

Do these correspond to real people?


"WURRA-WURRA-WURRA WURR-AW-AW-AW!!! In about two minutes The Count Hogginarmo was gobbled up by those lions, bones, boots, and all, and There was an End of him." In the same chapter is Pang arang pang pangkarangpang, which she might have used as well.

"an old Sheep, sitting in an armchair, knitting, and every now and then leaving off to look at her through a pair of spectacles." But you need to see the picture.

Remarks made by a judge which are not necessary to reaching a decision, but are comments, illustrations or thoughts.
HARPICS

Harpic is a well-known brand of lavatory cleaner. Mr Scatcherd means harpies, who in Greek mythology were winged monsters with the faces of maidens, who tore people to pieces with their wings and claws, and also defecated upon them from a great height.

Dr Gordon Stables


FOUR JUST MEN

The novel was made into a film in 1921 and re-made in 1939, so they may be referring to this rather than to the novel.

Cymric dream, riddle

Cymric means Welsh (Cymru = Wales in the Welsh language).

ADJECTIVE UNPRECEDENTED

FD Roosevelt was the only US President ever to stand for a third term of office, and in fact was elected four years later for a fourth term, though he died shortly afterwards.

NONNE

The interrogative Latin participle nonne expects the answer "yes". Num expects the answer "no". I suppose nonne nowadays corresponds to "innit".

POTTOFUR

Pot au feu: a boiled meat dish where the broth is used as French "pot on the fire" soup and the meat and vegetables as a main course.

Potiphar

Pharoah’s captain of the guard to whom Joseph was sold

HULLO

Mrs Villars may not have felt priggish about Hullo, but others, including some of the nannies, often did.

I SAW STARS

"I saw stars/I heard a birdie sing so sweet, so sweet/The moment I fell for you". I found a recording by Django Reinhardt and the Hot Club of Paris, but it seems to have been originally recorded by Freddy Martin, tenor saxophonist.

Issy dore, jou de mots

Miss Crowder’s French is never quite right. Ici dort = here sleeps. Jeu de mots = pun

VILLA THERMOGÈNE

Thermogène was or is a patent medicated wadding used to treat rheumatism, chest complaints, etc.

SI JOUNESSE SAVVAY

"si jeunesse savait, si vieillesse pouvait" - if youth knew, if French proverb old age could

VIVANDIÈRE

Woman attached to a regiment as a canteen-keeper
Professor Goblin

150 Princes Street
Main shopping street of Edinburgh - the right place to buy tweed suits.

151 King Leopold
On May 28 1940 King Leopold III of Belgium surrendered to the German forces. There was a National Day of Prayer on Sunday 26 May, and the evacuation from Dunkirk started the following day. Many people regarded it as a miracle directly resulting from the Day of Prayer.

157 Popping in ... Romeo and Juliet
There is quite a lot of popping in and out to see Friar Laurence throughout the play, but I think this must be Act II where Juliet says she has got leave to "go to shrift" (ie confession) but in reality she is going to be married to Romeo.

165 Dog watch
The first dog watch is 4pm - 6 pm, the second 6pm - 8pm. Said to come from "dodged" watch. Other watches are for four hours, but the dog watch is designed so that the same sailors aren't on duty at the same time every afternoon. I should have thought the middle watch from midnight to 4 am would be much worse.

165 Pallas Pendrax
There are some interesting place names in Cornwall - where can she be thinking of?

168 Ferrovia Australis
Pelléas and Mélisande
The opera follows the play very closely so Mrs Villars could be thinking of either of these. However, Professor Mackail (AT's father) translated the play for its first performance in London in 1898, with incidental music by Fauré.

171 Persillage
frivolous or bantering talk

174 Snobisme pur sang
thoroughbred snobbery

180 Amitié par Amour ...félibriste
The félibriste movement supported the revival of the Provençal language. Amitié par Amour and Amour par Amitié were conventions of courtly love expressed in the songs of the troubadours.

181 "Heaven pity all poor wanderers lone!
From a sentimental song sung by Becky Sharp when she is trying to get Joseph Sedley to propose to her.

Thackeray, Vanity Fair, Chapter IV
| 182 | ultramontane | Roman Catholic doctrine that favours the absolute supremacy of papal doctrine over national or diocesan authority. | literally “beyond the alps” |
| 184 | Letter S painted in black/Siege of Lucknow/Kipling …"Ever upon our somehing roof ..." | "And ever upon the topmost roof our banner of England blew!". Lucknow was besieged during the Indian Mutiny from 30 May -24 November1857. The British residents took refuge at the Residency, where the Union Jack was never taken down at night from the roof. Shortly after its relief by Sir Henry Havelock and Sir James Outram Sir Henry died and was buried under a mango tree with the letter H carved in the bark. | Tennyson (not Kipling!), The Defence of Lucknow |
| 186 | Elizabeth Rivers | Born Woodville, married Sir John Grey and later Edward IV | |
| 187 | Jane Shore | One of the many mistresses of Edward IV | |
| 197 | Argyrokastro | An ancient city, now in Southern Albania, capital of the autonomous state of Northern Epirus in 1914, captured by the Greeks, forced to yield to the Albanians, occupied by the Italians in 1939, liberated by the Greeks in December 1940 (which is presumably why they are talking about it here) | |
|       | spectre brides | Title of a Gothic tale by W H Ainsworth, written at the age of 16. | The Spectre Bride, W H Ainsworth, 1821 |
| 204 | If hate could kill | If hate killed men, Brother Lawrence,/God's blood, would not mine kill you | Robert Browning, The Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister. |
| 205 | Plornish-like phrasing | Plornish is a plasterer who lives in Bleeding Heart Yard and who is given to inverting his phrases. | Dickens, Dombey and Son, Bleeding Heart Yard chapter. |
| 206 | Sharper than a serpent's tooth ...[completed lower down the page] | "How sharper than a serpents tooth it is to have a thankless child" | Shakespeare, King Lear, Act I sc.I Other King Lear relusions HR 179-183, NR 206, MB 44, 126, PBP 33, OBH 65, 345, CQ 194, 201, 250, 257 |
| 206 | Potman | | ?Waterman |
virelais

One of three forms of verse in mediaeval French poetry (the others were the ballade and the rondeau).

Gaiters, P B Baker,

Gaiters is obvious, Smith = Baker, and HT suggests PB for Percy Byshe Shelley in lieu of Shakespeare's Mr W H Boots, W H Smith

Hay-box

A device used in wartime to save fuel - the hot casserole was plunged into a box stuffed with hay as insulating material, the same principle as a slow cooker nowadays.

Play about a troubadour in French

La Princesse Lointaine, by Edmond Rostand (1895)

Evan Glendower

Possibly Dylan Thomas. He would have been considered a minor poet at that date.

Propylaeum

Which student society is this? I've tried both Oxford and Cambridge, but can't find a connection. Propylaeum means gateway or entrance to a temple.

Quinquagesima

The Sunday before Ash Wednesday Fifty days before Easter, counting both Sundays

One who has fed on honeydew

"For he on honeydew hath fed, And drunk the milk of Paradise

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Kubla Khan

brave new world

"O brave new world, That has such people in't!" Miranda's speech from The Tempest, but also used as the title of Aldous Huxley's novel Brave New World, 1932

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, The Tempest, Act V Sc I. Aldous Huxley, Brave New World, 1932

MH37, PE 19, LAR 195, OBH 120, 182, HaRet 68, ESR 40, LAAA 15, 54, TST 137

Cuens di moult …sangz

Can any French scholar help here?

Sir Brian de Bois-Guilbert

Knight Templar who lusts after the heroine, Rebecca, and Sir Walter Scott, Ivanhoe is defeated in a tournament by Ivanhoe, who does not kill him, but he dies "a victim to the violence of his own contending passions".

hold a Soviet in their hearts

A soviet was originally a workers' local council in late Imperial Russia

Ghismond Beucilsz, the Dame d'Aiguesdouces, Madon lou Cabrou, Puy des Stryges

Are these complete inventions, or is there any basis in Provencal literature?

Pin-oak

Pinocchio - the Walt Disney film came out in 1940
The Tape and Sealing Wax Board is used in several of Thackeray's novels.

Malvoisie

Malmsey wine, made from the malvasia grape

Malvoisie

Malmsey wine, made from the malvasia grape

Monemvasia, in the Peloponese

Malmsey wine, made from the malvasia grape

Monemvasia, in the Peloponese

"GWIN O EUR: Wine from gold. That is my taste. Ale is well; mead is better; wine is best. Horn is well; silver is better; gold is best."

Thomas Love Peacock, The Misfortunes of Elphin

DA 280, TST 101

frequently occurs in both the Bible and Greek myth - any in particular?

There are several thousand saints, but I think this one is an invention. However, how about oregano = Basil? St Basil would imply Eastern Orthodox practices, which would put particular emphasis on Easter.

Odin = Wotan, the warrior-king. It was thought that if the Nazis gained power over the whole of Europe they would introduce a form of religion assimilating Norse mythology.

"Their heads were green and their hands were blue and they went to sea in a sieve."

Edward Lear, The Jumblies

Other Edward Lear refs MH 45, OBH 16.

"You are my honey, honeysuckle./I am the bee./I'd like to sup the honey sweet/from those red lips you see"

The Honeysuckle and the Bee, from a play, Bluebell in Fairyland, 1901

WDIM 316-7

"She's gone like Alexander; to spread her conquests further"

Bonnie Leslie of Dundee, traditional folk song
"Buss (kiss) me, wife", and "Buss me, Kate, my poor lass" both appear in Chapters VII and XLVI, *The Cloister and the Hearth*, by Charles Reade, 1861.

"argle-bargle" same as argy-bargy = a violent argument

could AT be thinking of her own first unfortunate marriage to James Campbell McInnes?

Of course Radio is no more English than Welsh – it's international, and probably first used by a Frenchman

La Faute de l'Abbé Mauret, by Emile Zola viciously anti-clerical novel, part of his Rougon-Macquart series, heavily bowdlerised when first translated into English

Miss Crowder means the corniche, a road on the side of the cliff, as on the French Riviera

*Auprès de ma blawnd* = next to my girlfriend, how pleasant it is to sleep. French 17th C drinking song, popular with British troops in WWI

Armida was an enchantress in Tasso's *Jerusalem Delivered*, also a painting by Marie Spartali Stillman.

Here I think the reference is to a poem by Mary Coleridge, set to music by Sir Hubert Parry (was it something that J C McInnes used to sing?)


"Thus I stand like a Turk with his Doxies around/From all sides their Glances his Passion confound"
that depressing German Knight…
Miradéiou for miradéiéou

283 Morland
George Morland, 1763-1804, painter of English rustic scenes

284 The silence grew … its bosom did so heave "But at afternoon or almost eve/"Tis better, to that degree, By the Fire-side, Robert Browning you half believe/It must get rid of what it knows,/Its bosom does so heave."

286 frog footman
Lewis Carrol, Alice in Wonderland

leaving the world to darkness "The ploughman homeward plods his weary way./And leaves the world to darkness and to me"

290 Thomas Gray, Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard

291 Watteau and French Revolution
The French court painter Antoine Watteau lived from 1684-1721. . It would have been difficult for him to paint any portraits during the French Revolution which started in 1789

293 Nwedermoor
Nuits d'Amour (nights of love)
la malade, la matrone
the patient, the matron (but "matrone" means midwife in French, not as Miss Crowder thinks, a hospital matron)

Mon Oncle et mon Curay
There was a 1938 film based on a novel, 1889, by Jean de la Brète, pseudonym for Alice Cherbonnel, who wrote several novels for young girls. I assume that "My Uncle and My Parish Priest" is not as risqué as Miss Crowder thinks, but that she is confusing "et"= "and", with "est" = "is". Hence the comments about the Catholic clergy.

294 VAD
Voluntary Aid Detachments were formed in 1909 to provide nursing assistance in times of war.

295 trespass
trépasser = to die, or as we might say, to pass away.

302 All his teeth outside like a hyena

303 a state of syncope
fainting

304 Che gelida manina
Rodolfo's aria, "Your tiny hand is frozen" Puccini, La Bohème, Act I

305 trespass
trépasser = to die, or as we might say, to pass away.
Ptarn, Paythan

Pathan (pronounced something like Ptarn). A warrior race in India, descended from ethnic Afghan Pashtuns, viewed in romantic fiction either as courageous warriors (Kipling, and M M Kaye’s *The Far Pavilions*) or sinister and cruel (*Paul Scott’s* *The Raj Quartet*)

Which ones in particular, I wonder? Virginia Woolf or Ivy Compton-Burnett, perhaps?

Larkhill is a Royal Artillery garrison on Salisbury Plain

Officers of a rank below Captain (Lieutenant and 2nd Lieutenant) are addressed as Mr in speech.

"Yet we have gone on living/Living and partly living"

*TS Eliot* *Murder in the Cathedral*, 1935

Word used by the Scots to denote an Englishman, originally meaning Saxon.

Ghost story (very Gothic) where the heroine pines for a mysterious stranger who turns out to be an evil spirit, and both are cast into the fiery pit.

"chewing the food of sweet and bitter fancy" according to the ODQ, but some sources do give "cud", especially when quoted by, for example, Sir Walter Scott

Flights to the USA during WWII went via Lisbon, Portugal being a neutral country.

enchantress who bewitched the crusader Rinaldo

*Tasso, Jerusalem Delivered*

A beautiful maiden who sits and sings on a rock in the Rhine and lures sailors to their death

Fairy-Queen of the forest whose husband, Raymond, was never allowed to see her on a Saturday. When he did, he saw that she was half serpent

"Say, shall my little bark attendant sail/Pursue the triumph, and partake the gale?"

*Pope, An Essay on Man* (CC37)

Titus Livius, known as Livy, Roman historian, 59 BC - AD 17

neat is an obsolete name for cattle

"star-maiden", daughter of Zeus, personification of justice

*NTL 283*
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<td>Mrs Gamp … Jonadge's belly</td>
<td>&quot;'I wish it was in Jonadge's belly, I do', cried Mrs Gamp; appearing to confound the prophet with the whale in this miraculous aspiration.&quot; Dickens, <em>Martin Chuzzlewit</em>, Chapter 40 PE 374, OBH 110, HR 45, JC 21, WDIM 8, ESR 58, 62, 81, 221, NTL 202, 236</td>
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<td>347</td>
<td>White Knight</td>
<td>The White Knight had pieces of equipment hung all over himself and his horse, including a beehive, a bunch of carrots, and some fire-irons. Lewis Carrol, <em>Through the Looking-Glass</em></td>
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