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Hogg on flying objects

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By DUDLEY STEPHENS

ANY unidentified flying objects spotted over the country in the next few days might well be Mr. Wilson's chickens coming home to roost, Mr. Quintin Hogg (Con., Marylebone) said in the House of Commons yesterday.

Mr. Hogg's sally at the Prime Minister got a burst of delighted laughter from Opposition benches. It came when Mr. Wilson was replying to a question on unidentified flying objects from Sir John Langford-Holt (Con., Shrewsbury).

Mr. Wilson said that most such objects which could not readily be identified as natural phenomena or planes and balloons were not described in sufficient detail to be satisfactorily traced.

Memory feat

It was then that the beaming Mr. Hogg put in his suggestion. The chickens would probably come to roost on the ruins of the Prime Minister's reputation, he said.

But Mr. Wilson was far from amused. He fell back on his well-known feats of memory to gain back the ground he had lost.

He said, "I seem to remember thinking that this question was funny when it was put forward by Mr. Nigel Birch (Con., Flint W.) some six years ago."

Opposition attempts to establish statutory rights of appeal and public inquiries where the Board of Trade had refused grants under the Industrial Development Bill were defeated by a majority of 65 (201 to 136).

Mr. F. V. Corfield, an Opposition spokesman on trade and power, said, "We attach enormous importance to this appeal principle."