

BRIDGING "THE FLEET" - Royal Engineers build 100-yards-
long pontoon bridge across the "sea arm" at Wyke Regis
in record time of two hours !-Dorsetshire-

Picture.:- These fellows look like sailors, but they're Royal Engineers--

--at their bridge camp at Wyke Regis. Life belts are worn as a safety measure while they complete their pontoon--

--bridge across 100 yards of swiftly running tidal water between Weymouth Bay and Chasil Beach. Every man--

--has his own particular job and the result of perfect organisation is efficiency. The unsinkable pontoons are launched first--

--from the banks and then added to the bridge's length as it stretches further--

--across the water. Steel box girders are used to keep the--

--bridge units in position. It may be only a temporary affair--

--but it's got to carry anything up to thirty--

--tons weight. When all the pontoons are in position, the approach is prepared--

--in the same thorough way. No delays must be caused by the--

--wheels of lorries or guns sinking into the earth or shingle. A fault in the assembling of these hundreds--

--of parts might cause a fatal disaster. In--

--war mistakes are paid for by lives. There must be no--

--mistakes. In two hours the bridge is complete and capable--

--of transporting a whole army. Meanwhile a smell of camp cooking calls across the water. The men--

--stampede. Bridge building is all very well - - but
"Pass the Cocoa, Bill !"