

# FOREIGN PRESS REVIEW

## DAILY SURVEY OF WORLD COMMENT ON THE WAR

COMPILED FROM TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

No. 68

.....4th April....., 1940

### SWEDEN: TRIBUTE TO BRITISH RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW.

The Swedish Press commenting on Mr. Chamberlain's speech in the House of Commons, in which the Prime Minister announced an intensification of the blockade, took the opportunity to pay a tribute to British respect for international law.

DAGENS NYHETER, the Liberal organ, referred to the speech "as dispelling all previous doubt as to the effectiveness of the Democracies against the Totalitarian states."

In a reference to the Allies' handicap against Germany in their respect for international law this paper commented: "Also, in this respect the Nazi regime offers greater possibilities for the unrestricted use of force than the Democracies. The Nazi regime has only to remain true to itself and continue as it began seven years ago. What are the cold-blooded murders of Scandinavian seamen but the application of the methods of a Government which the Nazi Dictatorship forced on the German people and which forced German lebensraum on the Austrians, Czechs, and Poles?"

"We can make a comparison. While Hitler fills the air with threats to lay the British Empire in ruins and does his utmost to put this decision into practice - while this is happening the English Government signs trade agreements with Sweden and Norway assuring Hitler of the import and transport of Swedish ore without which he would after a short while have to lay down arms. It is this respect for international law which the German newspaper leader writers call English piracy. Many defenceless human beings would still be among the living if German U-boats and aeroplanes were manned by pirates of this kind."

The view taken by STOCKHOLMS TIDNINGEN was that an intensified blockade would make Sweden's position more difficult and this paper added: "What we small neutral nations first of all can do in order to counteract the consequences is to co-operate more closely, to consult with one another, and to agree on a common basis for our attitude while at the same time endeavouring in our actions to help one another as much as we can."

In a significant leading article entitled "Germany and the U.S.A." SOCIAL DEMOKRATEN, referring to the latest German White Book, declared yesterday: "The fact is noted that the German Government waited to publish these documents until after Mr. Sumner Welles had returned to America and this indicates that the Germans are fairly certain that Mr. Welles's report was unfavourable to them."

This journal also connected the White Book's publication with German fears of Allied superiority in the air resulting from American deliveries of aeroplanes.

"Since Allied air superiority may have already been achieved it seems natural that the Germans may attempt an air offensive in the spring:" it was added. "But such an attack on England and France may very well lead to a complete switch-over in American opinion since it is well known that the bombing of civilian towns is the American peoples' nightmare."

SOCIAL DEMOKRATEN concluded by expressing the belief that the publication of the German White Book would be unlikely to alter American foreign policy, as the U.S.A.'s interest lay in the continued existence of the British Empire.



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### NORWAY: MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S SPEECH 'A RESPITE.'

The Scandinavian countries have obtained a respite following Mr. Chamberlain's speech in the House of Commons in connection with the blockade but they have no guarantees that their neutrality will be respected.

This conclusion is come to today by the Left-wing newspaper ARBEIDERBLADET, which adds: "We must not lull ourselves into slumber or think the danger is over."

Commenting on the more energetic naval measures predicted by the Prime Minister, this paper continues: "These operations are to be carried out near German naval bases south of Norway but that does not mean we are out of the danger zone. A sharpened blockade will lead to German counter measures. That will mean first of all that U-boat warfare will be waged with even greater ruthlessness and it will hit us much harder than the belligerents."

A correspondent in NORGE'S HANDELS-OG SJOFARTSTIDENDE, criticising M. Koht's remarks to a British News Agency's correspondent regarding honour, writes: "M. Koht surely does not mean that one can tolerate the sinkings of ships and the murder of seamen with honour intact while on the contrary what British warships and planes have done in the nature of neutrality violations demands that one's honour be defended? Will he not agree that honour prompts an energetic defence of Norway's seamen and that the Government owes them a more tangible acknowledgement of their duties than they have yet had."

There was a tendency, in some newspapers yesterday commenting on Mr. Chamberlain's speech to be apprehensive regarding the future and TIDENS TEGN declared: "Only the future can reveal what is behind Mr. Chamberlain's prediction of the more intensive use of sea power. It is clear however that the practical measures mentioned aim at action outside Norwegian waters which consequently does not concern us."

This newspaper best expressed the general conclusion of the Norwegian Press by writing: "The Western Powers now begin slowly to feel themselves so strong that they think the time ripe for a more active conduct of the war. It is often forgotten that the two parties did not begin the war on an equal footing. Germany had planned her war economy for six or seven years while the others only seriously began to put themselves on a war footing a year before war came. Moreover, it takes longer for a Democracy than a Totalitarian Power to mobilise all its resources for a definite goal."

### DENMARK: MR. CHURCHILL'S NEW APPOINTMENT WELCOMED.

Mr. Churchill's appointment as head of the Committee of Service Ministers is given great prominence in today's Danish newspapers which regard it as a tremendously important move.

Professor Gudmund Halt writes in BERLINGSKE AFTENAVIS: "It is the command of the Atlantic that is the chief source of Britain's powers. Whoever will conquer England must break that mastery. Since England has controlled the Atlantic for a couple of centuries it is difficult to imagine this mastery being lost."

The London correspondent of the POLITIKEN states: "Mr. Churchill has become what he wanted to be - that is to say the War's Minister.' He himself would use another expression for it - he would have said Minister of Victory. This tells something both of himself and of what has happened in British policy."



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### SWITZERLAND: PRESS REVERSED ON PREMIER'S SPEECH.

The Swiss Press gives great prominence to Mr. Chamberlain's speech in the House of Commons and editorial comment is, on the whole, reserved, although one newspaper takes an unfriendly view.

The NATIONALZEITUNG, the Radical Democratic newspaper, writes: "The Allied principle is that the neutral countries can only expect delivery of the products of the French and British Empires if they guarantee to reduce trade with Germany, whereas Germany insists that neutrality means the continuation of trade relations unreduced. Both theories are an arbitrary expansion of the principle of neutrality.

"Should Germany find herself in a supply crisis, owing to the new blockade measures, she will be tempted to cover her most urgent needs by a surprise action against the neutrals."

The Zurich newspaper VOLKSRECHT, the Social Democratic organ, declares: "The neutrals need not fear the danger of the British cutting off their supplies. England cannot afford to let her markets suffer or to make herself unapproachable because the neutrals are far too valuable as customers. Both sides tend to interpret neutrality according to their own conceptions and to judge the neutrals by what they want them to be rather than by what the neutrals have a right to be."

In critical tone, the BASLER NACHRICHTEN, the Liberal Democratic organ, declares: "Molotov's gentle words have silenced Allied threats to Russia and violent tirades against the neutrals have taken their place. The English Press has scolded the neutrals as though it were their fault that Europe is not an inter-Allied beanfeast. They are not threatened with an infringement of their neutrality. They are not told to choose between going without the resources of the Allies and of limiting trade with Germany.

"Nevertheless, the Allies are also faced with alternatives. Their trade relations with the neutrals are not entirely one-sided, and one should not forget M. Reynaud's often repeated declaration that France urgently needs foreign markets if she is to maintain her trade. The neutrals cannot be satisfied with Mr. Chamberlain's promise, conscientiously to respect their interests, for it is the neutrals themselves, and not the Great Powers, who are able to, and have the right to define what those interests are. It is well known that the strong have always thought of themselves as the protectors of the weak, but an Alliance which vaunts itself on every possible occasion as being the patron of small States, should allow them full freedom to decide what is in their interest and what is not. Protection is a fine thing, but a State which is forcibly protected becomes a Protectorate and the practice of such a kind of protection is ordinary imperialism.

"German iron reserves are admittedly in a bad way, and are apparently only sufficient for two months, but after approximately two months, the North Sea will be navigable and then the interruption of German transports along the Norwegian coasts will no longer be important. Therefore, we believe that it is still uncertain whether the threat to Norway's neutrality will be carried out. If it is, then not only will Scandinavia complain bitterly, but also the echo from America will be considerable and most disagreeable for the Allies. Indeed, it may even have serious political consequences."



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### FRANCE: UNANIMOUS WELCOME FOR MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S SPEECH.

Mr. Chamberlain's statement in the House of Commons, announcing an intensification of the blockade, has been fully reported in the French Press and comment was unanimously favourable.

In the semi-official PETIT PARISIEN, M. Bois declared: "Mr. Neville Chamberlain's declaration in the Commons marks an important turning point in the conduct of the war. In words which left no room for doubt as to his determination, the British Prime Minister announced that the economic war against Germany, with all the weapons that it implies, was to be pursued by Great Britain and France with increased severity. This was not unexpected in view of Mr. Churchill's recent speech, in which he stated bluntly the problems arising from neutrality. Mr. Neville Chamberlain expresses himself more calmly, but none the less categorically.

"Mr. Chamberlain, and France with him, do not want the Allies to be the victims of too much respect for the rights of neutrals when these excessive scruples would involve the neutrals along with the Allies in the same 'terrible fate which has been that of the other victims of German policy.'

"What is important is to 'deprive Germany of essential materials for the continuation of her aggressive policy.' The blockade must, therefore, be tightened up, must become more and more severe and to this end, Mr. Chamberlain has declared that nothing would be neglected.....

"Mr. Chamberlain did not fail to welcome the increasingly close collaboration and the continued cooperation between Great Britain and France, the strength of the bonds which unite them, in the first place in order to win the war, and afterwards in order to construct the peace. Mr. Chamberlain's declaration began and ended on this note. What it promised and the spirit which animated it, make of it an event the scope and significance of which will soon become apparent."

The Right Wing PETIT JOURNAL declared that the speech had dispelled the last illusions which Herr Hitler might still have retained regarding the possibility of concluding peace before having suffered the penalty of defeat.

"As the days and months pass, Great Britain and France become ever closer in outlook and policy and their collaboration increases," it was stated. "Unlike the powerful master of the Third Reich, the Allies did not enter this war for any immediate end, such as the aim of dominating Europe.

"The Allies have entered resolutely in this struggle in order to right the wrongs so unjustly caused to innocent victims and in order to construct the new balance of power in Europe when peace returns.

"The difference of aim explains the difference of method and this is what the British Prime Minister so clearly pointed out to the Commons."

After asking "what did the Supreme War Council decide in London last week?" this paper concluded: "It decided on a plan of action in the field of economic warfare, which though it may be less deadly than military warfare, is yet quite as dangerous to our enemies."



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### U.S.A: MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S "GOOD DAY'S WORK".

The British Cabinet changes generally meet with a favourable reception in the New York Press and Mr. Churchill's appointment as head of the Committee of Service Ministers is given pride of place on all front pages.

In an editorial article the NEW YORK TIMES states today: "The shift shows that Britain means business. In recent weeks the British had felt that they were not getting the energetic leadership they deserved. Mr. Chamberlain might have to do more reshuffling before the people are satisfied.

"The impression in England is that the Treasury is a weak spot and the Government has not a large-scale economic policy. The budget should show whether this discontent is justified. For the present Mr. Chamberlain seems to have done a good day's work."

Referring to the latest German White Book this paper declared: "Perhaps it is these famous Polish 'documents' that constitute this year's March offensive in Hitler's fixed holiday schedule. Berlin chose to advertise to the world that the Government of the United States is virtually the Ally of the Allies. If disaster threatens Great Britain and France Mr. Roosevelt would do his best to bring the United States to the rescue. This is an extraordinary gift offer to the Germans' enemies in the war of nerves.

"The authenticity of the documents has been denied in Washington - formally by Mr. Cordell Hull and contemptuously by Mr. Roosevelt. But if the Berlin disclosures were authentic in every syllable it would only make the story more damaging to the Nazi cause. It would be an invitation to the German people to ponder the grim fact that among their enemies in the war is the richest and most powerful country in the world. It would be a heartening reminder to the people of Great Britain and France in moments of despondency."

In an article warning the German leaders not to underestimate the possibility of America's entry into the war, the CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, stated: "The directors of the German Government..... have made it inescapably clear by word and deed that if they prevail in this conflict they will make further war on our ideals and institutions. We may have no illusions about French or British altruism but our comfort, if not our safety, depends on the French army and the British navy. We may have no special love for France or England or they for us but the Dictator idea is as repugnant to us as to them.

"The question is - has this been made sufficiently clear to the Dictators. How long would the Germans have the stomach for war if they knew that behind the man-power of the Allies were the almost inexhaustible resources of this continent."

The French Yellow Book on the origins of the war which has now been published in full in the United States was commented upon in the NEW YORK TIMES in the words: "Because one man and his fanatical advisors willed it, darkness descended upon Europe. Because his mind was made up death snapped the lives of thousands of brave young men and untold miseries overwhelmed millions of civilians, and the threat of doom now hangs over an entire generation. Whoever reads these documents will understand the grim resolve of the Allied peoples that one man's will and that one man's obsession shall no longer play havoc with the lives and fortunes of mankind."



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### BELGIUM: MIXED RECEPTION FOR MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S SPEECH.

Mixed praise and criticism of Mr. Chamberlain's speech in the House of Commons are contained in today's Belgian Press.

VOORUIT, the Left-wing organ, writes: "The speech was awaited with interest everywhere but the British Premier taught us nothing new. We are inclined to say it has caused a certain disillusionment."

LIBRE BELGIQUE, the Conservative organ, compares the "big things promised by the official communique" after the War Council meeting with the Premier's declaration, and states: "The following days have shown a distinct retreat from the radical position laid down by the London official communique. Do these contradictions imply a certain confusion and disagreements on Allied war plans?"

Considerable satisfaction is expressed in other sections of the Press that Britain does not intend to adopt extreme measures, and commenting on Mr. Chamberlain's statement that Britain intends to respect the economic agreements reached with neutral countries, the Conservative newspaper METROPOLE declares: "It would seem certain that international agitators have lately much exaggerated the menacing nature of the new Allied decisions."

### GERMANY: NAZI FAIRY TALE.

In a message, which for sheer imagination, probably outdoes anything printed in the German Press during the last few weeks, the WEST DEUTSCHER BEOBACHTER stated: "The English wireless has suddenly raised its listening fees by fully 50 percent. The anonymous increase has caused great concern and aroused strong protests among the public. It is further proof that the British money earning caste do not overlook a single department of public life when it is a question of putting more millions into their own pockets."

Even if there were any truth in the WEST DEUTSCHER BEOBACHTER's statement, the British fee would still fall far short of the German listening fee. The Germans have always paid two marks a month or approximately 24s a year.

Photographs published in the German papers show that many military, sporting and other metal trophies have been contributed to the collection of old metal ordered by Marshal Goering as a birthday present for Hitler. In an article in the BERLINER ZEITUNG AM MITTAG, headed "Sportsmen, you Must Also Sacrifice", the owners of sporting trophies were called upon to contribute all their sporting medallions and trophies made of metal. The writer declared: "These trophies are really not so handsome that you cannot give them away in the hour of need. If you want to have a lasting souvenir in your hands, preserve the inscription on the socket of your statuette and if that should seem a blow, remember that the sacrifice you are making is curing your vanity. You must not be too proud to throw your vanity into the scales against the necessities of life of a whole nation."



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### HOLLAND: REACTION TO CHAMBERLAIN'S SPEECH AND CABINET CHANGES.

Some apprehension is shown in the Dutch Press in commenting upon Mr. Chamberlain's speech in the House of Commons in connection with the blockade.

HET HANDELSBLAD, though distinguishing between German violence and the Allies' economic methods puts both in the same class by affirming that they represent unjust pressure on the neutrals which are "the countries against which each belligerent prefers to wage war rather than against the enemy."

In another article this paper, after a summary of the position, states: "The Third Reich is face to face with a new situation as regards England and France. Will Hitler be forced at last to play his military stake in defence of his economic security?"

The NIEUWE ROTTERDAMSCH E COURANT, the Liberal organ, criticises Mr. Chamberlain's statement regarding the small neutrals' interests and states: "It boils down to an argument that the States bordering on Germany should give up their neutrality in the interests of the Allies."

DE MAASBODE, the Catholic organ, is less critical though it is apprehensive of the results to the neutrals. This paper has the impression that the Allies will exercise great care regarding international law and confine themselves to reprisals but "even so there is room for arbitrary interpretation and action. On the other hand the neutrals have a good deal in their own hands. They must observe strict neutrality as regards Allied measures and German reprisals."

After an analysis on points in Mr. Chamberlain's speech on the standpoint that Germany's victory would be the neutrals' grave, HET VOLK, the organ of the Social Democratic Labour party, states: "It would be folly to deny that these arguments are echoed in neutral countries. How can a people like ourselves be deaf to them in face of the fury that has spread death and destruction among our peaceful fishing folk?"

Referring to the changes in the British Cabinet, the London correspondent of HET HANDELSBLAD says: "The most important change is that of Lord Chatfield's resignation. The others are unsensational though they are perhaps a prelude to more radical ones."

DE TELEGRAAF declares: "The important change made by Mr. Chamberlain in his Cabinet is the abolition of the Ministry of Co-ordination for Defence. Mr. Churchill's increased prestige is extenuated and makes him actually the most dominating figure in England's prosecution of the war after Mr. Chamberlain."

### EGYPT: BLOCKADE'S EFFECT ON GERMANY.

"The tightening of the Allied blockade means a new phase in the war in which Germany will suffer more severely than ever by having her sources of supply cut off."

This statement is made in today's AL BALAGH in commenting on Mr. Chamberlain's speech in the House of Commons.

This paper continues: "The Allied trade agreements with the neutrals will also deprive Germany of her raw materials. Mr. Chamberlain also announced the Allies' intention of preserving peace in South-Eastern Europe. This declaration is a decisive answer to the Nazi nerve-war propaganda based on false rumour."



4/4/40 - No.1.

FRENCH OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE

(MORNING)

The following official communique was issued this morning from French G.H.Q. :-

ACTIVITY OF THE CONTACT UNITS  
ESPECIALLY BETWEEN THE BLIES  
AND THE VOSGES WHERE WE REPELLED  
SEVERAL GERMAN PATROLS.

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R.A.F. PLANE SCATTERS SIX JUNKERS.

The Air Ministry announces :-

While engaged in patrol duties over the North Sea yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon, a flying boat of Coastal Command, Royal Air Force, encountered six enemy aircraft of the Junkers type. One of the latter was shot down and seen to fall into the sea. The remaining Junkers broke off the engagement and our aircraft resumed patrol.

AIR AFFAIRS.



KING'S GUARD.

Canadian Troops on Duty Buckingham Palace and  
St. James's.  
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The Canadians will mount guard at Buckingham Palace and St. James's Palace during eight days of this month.

One of the Guards will be supplied by the Toronto Scottish, the regiment which won great laurels during the last war, and the other Guard will be drawn from the famous Royal 22nd, the French-Canadian Regiment recruited from the Province of Quebec.

The French-Canadians will be making history, for this is the first time that troops of the British Empire not of purely British descent and not speaking English as their mother tongue have guarded the residences of the Sovereign.

By the King's command each Unit will provide a full Guard for the Palaces for four days. The crack French-Canadian troops will be on duty from April 17 to April 20 inclusive and the Toronto Scottish will then take over.

To-day at Aldershot the two units began a special preparatory course for their Palace duty. Each regiment is providing four or five officers and fifty other ranks.

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No: 4 - 4/4/40.

BRANDY FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

THE WAR OFFICE WILL BE ORDERING SOME.

For some time the Navy has permitted South African exporters to tender for the supplies of brandy needed by the Service. But the Army has continued to insist on French genuine pure grape cognac.

Now the High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa has been informed by Mr. Eden, Secretary for Dominion Affairs, that the British Army is coming into line with the Navy. The specification of brandy required for War Office hospitals is being altered so as to admit tenders for pure ~~pot~~ still brandy from South Africa.

South Africa has been sending vintages, including brandy for use in private hospitals in this country for many years. The Union Government and the Co-operative Wine Farmers' Association exercise a rigid watch to maintain the reputation of this product of the South African grape.

DOMINION AND COLONIAL AFFAIRS.



4.4.40/No.5.

P.N. 1633.

PRESS NOTICE

The Postmaster General announces that air mail correspondence for the Gold Coast Colony is now despatched twice instead of once a week, the latest times of posting at the Head Post Office, London, E.C.1., being 7.30 a.m. on Tuesdays and noon on Fridays respectively.

GENERAL POST OFFICE

4th April, 1940.



TWENTY VIRAGOES.How Nazi Women Repaid South Africa's Hospitality.

South Africa is sending Hitler twenty more mouths to feed - the women passengers and stewardesses brought ashore from the German liner Waitussi, which was scuttled by her crew off Cape Point in December.

The men brought off the ship were interned but the women were allowed to live with friends in Cape Town under the supervision of the control authorities. They repaid this latitude in typical Nazi fashion.

Complaints were soon heard of their subversive activities in the city, and the culminating act of one of the twenty women was an attempt to set fire to the collection box for the Lord Mayor's National Fund.

It was decided to export these Nazi nuisances. An opportunity was found to ship them in a Dutch liner, the Union Government paying their fares. They are being taken to the frontier of Holland and handed over to the German authorities.



IMPORT LICENSING DEPARTMENTNOTICE TO IMPORTERS NO. 54Open General Licence for the importation of  
certain goods from France and French Possessions.

1. As the result of the understanding reached between the United Kingdom Government and the French Government, the Import Licensing Department of the Board of Trade announce that the Open General Licence for the importation of certain goods from France, Algeria or Tunis has been replaced by a new Open General Licence adding a number of other classes of goods to the list of those which may be so imported without individual licences. At the same time the scope of this Open General Licence has been extended to include goods imported from all other French possessions and from Syria. The Schedule attached gives the complete list of goods which may be imported without separate licences if consigned from France, Algeria, Tunis, Syria, French West and Equatorial Africa, French Somaliland, Madagascar and Dependencies, Reunion, French Possessions in India, French Indo-China, French Possessions in the Pacific, St. Pierre and Miquelon, French West India Islands or French Guiana.

This concession is intended to apply to goods originating in France or the French Possessions specified, but for the present, certificates of origin will not be required. It will come into force on 8th April.

2. The Import Licensing Department also announce, with reference to the Notice to Importers No. 43, that the arrangements set out in that Notice for imports from France, Algeria or Tunis, are extended to imports from the other French Possessions referred to in paragraph 1 above.
3. Notice is also given that the following goods are added to the list of those for which the Import Licensing Department are prepared to consider applications for licences to import from France or the French Possessions, from importers with a past trade in these goods from any foreign country (see paragraph 3 of Notice to Importers No. 43):-

Women's and girls' clothing, the following:-

Overcoats, cloaks, coats and the like.

Costumes, two and three piece suits and the like.

Dresses and skirts.

Blouses, jumpers and the like.

Gloves made in whole or in part of leather, and leather shaped for making into gloves, but not including gloves known as astrachan gloves or gloves in which leather is used only as trimming or binding.

Import Licensing Department,  
Board of Trade,  
25, Southampton Buildings,  
Chancery Lane,  
London, W.C.2.

4th April, 1940.



SCHEDULE

LIST OF COMMODITIES FOR WHOSE IMPORTATION FROM FRANCE, ALGERIA, TUNIS, SYRIA AND THE SPECIFIED FRENCH POSSESSIONS AN OPEN GENERAL LICENCE HAS BEEN, OR WILL BE, ISSUED.

Chutney.  
Curry powder.  
Fruit, fresh or raw the following:-  
    Citrus fruit, grapes, peaches and nectarines.  
Fruit juices, including grape juice and grape must.  
Fruit crystallised glaze, Metz or drained; angelica; and crystallised flowers.  
Dates.  
Ginger, preserved in sugar or syrup.  
Honey.  
Mustard.  
Peel, candied or drained.  
Pepper, whether ground or not.  
Shell fish, fresh.  
Turkeys, fresh, chilled or frozen, other than tinned turkeys.  
Tomatoes, preserved in airtight containers.  
Vegetables fresh or raw, the following:-  
    Asparagus onions, red cabbage, gherkins, garlic and horse-radish.  
Walnuts.  
Table waters.  
Anemone corns.  
Glass Bottles jars and tubular containers and glass stoppers and covers for bottles and jars.  
Glass mirrors, shelves, finger plates, table tops and advertisement tablets made wholly or partly of plate or sheet glass.  
Glassware of a kind commonly used for domestic purposes.  
Glass tubing and glass rod.  
Illuminating glassware.  
Rough glass in the mass, waste and broken glass, and crushed glass in powder or chips (other than frits and vitreous enamels.)  
Stationery glassware.  
Pottery and other shaped and fired clay products, but not including (a) laboratory porcelain liable to duty under the Safe-guarding of Industries Act, 1921, as amended and extended by subsequent Finance Acts, (b) articles of translucent or vitrified pottery of a description commonly used for industrial purposes, and (c) artificial teeth, crowns and facings.  
Crochet hooks.  
Iron and steel products the following:-  
    Baths.  
    Bell domes and bell gongs.  
    Pot scourers made wholly or partly of woven or knitted mesh or metal wool, shavings or strip, and woven or knitted mesh of a kind commonly used in the manufacture of pot scourers.  
Wood and timber and articles manufactured wholly or mainly of wood and timber the following:-  
    Furniture manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane or wicker.  
    Furniture of other descriptions and parts thereof.  
    Trunk and suitcase hoops, being battens of wood, bent to shape, whether rounded or otherwise shaped at the ends or not.  
    Wooden heels.  
Electrical goods the following:-  
    Bell apparatus.  
    Connectors, couplings, junction boxes, fuses, fuseboxes and parts thereof.



Bituminous asphalt whether natural or not and emulsions thereof  
 Zinc oxide  
 Distempers whether dry or not  
 Dry earth colours  
 Pigments, including metallic powders and extenders (whether dry or with oil or other medium)  
 Printers' ink  
 Putty  
 Soap - hard, in bars or tablets (other than abrasive soap and toilet soap)  
 Furskins, dressed, including pieces, the following:-  
     mole and antelope  
 Saddlery and harness, wholly or mainly of leather  
 Articles made wholly or partly of ivory, amber, jet, coral, mother of pearl or natural shells, including tortoise-shell.  
 Articles (other than weighing machines, scales and balances) made wholly or partly of jade, onyx, lapis lazuli or other similar stones  
 Artificial flowers, artificial foliage, artificial fruit and parts thereof and articles incorporating them.  
 Baskets and basketware made wholly or partly of straw, grass or rush, (including fitted baskets) other than baskets of the description ordinarily used for the transport of fruit, vegetables, game or similar foodstuffs  
 Beads and bead trimmings and articles manufactured mainly of beads.  
 Books and other printed matter in the French language  
 Book ends  
 Buckles and parts thereof whether finished or not  
 Buttons whether finished or not  
 Cork carpet  
 Felt base floor coverings  
 Linoleum  
 Eyelets of metal, including tubular rivets and boot hooks, whether finished or not  
 Fancy blotters  
 Gramophone records  
 Hairclips, hairgrips and hair curlers, whether finished or not  
 Hair combs, including combs for wear, whether finished or not, and blanks therefor  
 Hooks and eyes, whether finished or not  
 Inkstands  
 Wood wind instruments including:-  
     Flutes, piccolos, recorders, oboes, clarionets, flageolets, cors anglais and bassoons  
 Ornamental articles wholly or partly of base metals  
 Paintings in oil or water colours, framed or unframed, on any material except silk or artificial silk  
 Parts of umbrellas and sunshades and fittings therefor except covers.  
 Perfumed spirits  
 Photograph and picture frames  
 Pincushions in ornamental containers  
 Pins, haberdashery, whether finished or not.  
 Smokers' ash receptacles, cigar and cigarette cases, cigar and cigarette boxes and articles of which such cases or boxes form part, cigarette holders, cigar holders.  
 Sports, games, gymnastics and athletics:-  
     appliances, apparatus, accessories and requisites therefor and parts of such appliances, apparatus, accessories and requisites, the following:-  
         Articles wholly or mainly of leather, except apparel  
         Balls wholly or mainly of rubber  
         Billiard tables  
         Hockey sticks  
         Racquets



Studs, haberdashery, whether finished or not

Tape measures in ornamental containers

Toilet requisites of the following descriptions and parts thereof:-

Denture bowls

Manicure sets

Nail cleaners, nail clippers and nail files.

Nail polishers.

Powder bowls or boxes and powder puffs.

Toys and parts thereof except the following:-

Dolls, parts of dolls and articles containing more than 10% by weight of rubber.



4/4/40. - No. 8.

MINISTRY OF FOOD'S NEW CAMPAIGN.

Lord Woolton, the new Minister of Food, will speak at the meeting to be held to-morrow, Friday afternoon, at the Queen's Hall, to launch the Ministry of Food's new campaign on "The Right Food".

Mrs. Neville Chamberlain will take the chair. The Rt. Hon. H. Ramsbotham, O.B.E., M.C., M.P. (President of the Board of Education), Dr. Margaret Deas (Hon. Sec. Women's Liberal Federations) and Miss Florence Horsbrugh, M.B.E., M.P. will speak and Mr. Kenneth Lindsay, M.P., Mr. J.H.F. McEwen, M.P., and Mr. A.T. Lennox-Boyd, M.P., will be present on the platform.

The campaign is planned to show housewives how to make the best of the food available in wartime.

MINISTRY OF FOOD



ONE R. A. F. FLYING BOAT BEATS SIX JUNKERS.

(Not to be quoted as an Air Ministry Announcement)

Six German aircraft, attacking a convoy, were routed over the North Sea near the Norwegian Coast yesterday by one Sunderland Flying Boat of the Royal Air Force Coastal Command. It shot down one German in flames and so damaged another that it landed in Norway where the crew were interned.

This was one of the most spectacular air battles that has taken place over the North Sea and it was the first time that a British Flying Boat had been in combat. The Sunderland, weighing 25 tons, was facing a mass attack by six Junkers 88 Aircraft which are among the latest, fastest and most manoeuvrable types in the German Air Force. While the Sunderland fought out one action one hundred feet above the sea, other Junkers climbed high above and bombed it without success.

Earlier in the day another Flying Boat had found that the convoy was being shadowed by an enemy aircraft, the Sunderland searched the area and found the German sometime later flying 1000 feet above the sea. The Flying Boat engaged it but the German made off.

An hour later four Junkers 88 appeared flying in formation which was soon broken up by accurate anti-aircraft fire from the convoy. The enemy aircraft then tried high level bombing but the gunfire from the ships again frustrated them and their bombs fell wide. At the end of the attack, the convoy was unbroken and the Germans made off towards the East.

It was then that the six Junkers 88 appeared and the second combat began.

Two of the Junkers attacked the Sunderland, whose Captain took it down to 100 feet above the sea to avoid attack from below. The Germans followed him and the British and enemy aircraft flew on parallel courses. The Sunderland's midships gunners stood at action stations, their guns spitting and the rear gunner brought his four guns to bear.

Inside the Sunderland there was a continuous blare of sound as the tail gunner revolved in his huge turret, swerving his four guns from beam to beam while the midships gunners swung their guns to keep the enemies in their sights.

Two or three minutes of these tactics and unceasing intense fire from the Sunderland was too much for these two Junkers. They climbed high and circled at 1500 feet to watch the attacks on the Flying Boat by the rest of their formation.

The other four Junkers came in swiftly. They attacked from the rear and sent a hail of bullets whizzing past the Sunderland. The Flying Boat's tail gunner, an N.C.O. held his fire until the Junkers were 100 yards away, then he let go with all his four guns. The leading Junker turned swiftly away and spun down to the sea in flames.

Another came on but also served away after receiving a cascade of bullets in one of its engines. This aircraft later appeared in difficulties over Norway and signalled to a Norwegian aircraft which approached that it was in distress. It landed in Norway and the crew were interned after setting fire to their aircraft.



The Junkers circling above the fight had also taken a hand, one of them began to bomb the Sunderland as it fought below, but all four bombs fell wide (British aircraft have on a number of occasions bombed enemy machines over the North Sea, but this was the first time that a German aircraft had used these tactics.).

Soon the rest of the Junkers withdrew, having felt the full sting in the Sunderland's tail. All four made off.

Now the Sunderland faced a 200 mile flight home. Some of its controls had been shot away and the Captain, a fair-haired young man of 25 had an eye lid cut by flying chips of metal. The second Pilot, aged 20 received a slight injury to his ear.

Two hours afterwards the Flying Boat made a perfect landing at its base.

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AIR AFFAIRS.



NOTE:-

Mr. H. Ramsbotham, who has been appointed President of the Board of Education, has expressed the hope that Lord De La Warr will not allow his change of office to interfere with his programme in Paris.

It is assumed, therefore, that the attached speech, which is issued in advance for the benefit of newspapers, will be delivered.

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEFORE 6.30. p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5th, 1940.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND: THE COMMON TASK.

Speaking today (Friday, April 5th) at the Sorbonne, Paris, Lord De La Warr, President of the Board of Education, said:-

It is impossible for any son of Oxford standing within these walls not to have in the very forefront of his thoughts the debt which his own Alma Mater owes to this ancient, illustrious University. For it was from Paris that, in the twelfth century, a band of Englishmen returning home with the influence of the Sorbonne still powerfully moving in them imported into Oxford fresh life and vigour and a firmer outline and richer content of study than had hitherto been known there. From its earliest days the Sorbonne has fostered the life of the spirit and has radiated learning, culture, tolerance and intellectual integrity. I can find no fitter words in which to pay my tribute to your University than these of William Hazlitt:-

"There is an air about it resonant of joy and hope: it speaks with a thousand tongues to the heart: it waves its mighty shadow over the imagination: it stands in lowly sublimity on the hill of ages and points with prophetic fingers to the sky."

But I must come to the immediate occasion of my being invited to address you. To have received such an invitation I look upon as one of the highest honours which has befallen me. And the occasion is a special one. For I am bold to take the invitation extended to me as one direct result of the French determination to give immediate effect to those words in last week's declaration "to maintain after the conclusion of peace community of action in all spheres", and as showing also that in your view Education, for whose direction I have the honour to be responsible in the British Government, is not the least of the spheres in which community of action is important.

If our two great democracies contrive to give life and reality to this declaration, to carry on the unity of the days of war into the days of peace, then I venture to assert in this ancient centre of learning that March 28th, 1940 is a date that will take its place with 1215 and 1769 as one of the crucial dates in the history of European liberty. But this can only be so if every one of us sees that real co-operation is established in any and every section of work for which we are responsible. It is as a contribution to this general policy of co-operation that I have come to Paris to discuss with my colleague M. Sarraut matters affecting the schools of our two countries.



In the military and naval spheres we have in six months of war attained a degree of unity of command which in the last war it took us four years to reach. In the financial sphere we are already far ahead of anything ever contemplated during the last war and the same applies in the field of economy and trade, whether it be a question of purchases from one another, joint purchases from overseas or the planning of supplies of raw materials, of oil, food or shipping, and all this in addition, of course, to actual manufacture of armaments. Hardly a week now passes but some new French or British Minister is announced as paying a visit to his opposite number.

All this co-operation has such direct bearing on the conduct of the war that it could, if we so desired, be justified on that score alone. But of almost greater significance from the point of view of post-war action are our contacts on such subjects as the administration of the colonies and Education - which by virtue of the very smallness of their contribution to the immediate war effort must imply the fixed intention of our two nations to carry over the same close co-operation in times of peace.

In the schools one of our tasks is to teach History. Today we have an opportunity of making it if we can secure a union of our peoples as well as of our Governments. Hitler and Stalin, who take no account of the peoples over whom they rule, can pass in a day from deadly hatred to partnership in crime. M. Reynaud and Mr. Chamberlain, as the leaders of democracies, have to rely on the slower process - but a process more deep and more lasting - of establishing community of interest and feeling in the hearts and minds of the peoples. Where can the foundation of this mutual understanding and lasting friendship be laid save in the schools? That is why I say that you and I who are responsible for the schools can now help to make as well as to teach History. It is for us to see that Frenchmen and Englishmen understand one another and appreciate each other's history, each other's culture and ways of living.

How can we bring this about? I believe that the foundations must be truly laid if we are to erect a structure that will endure. To assist me in this task I have appointed a permanent committee composed of my advisers in the Board of Education and of leading teachers, who are being assisted by two distinguished Frenchmen from the Institut Français in London. I am asking them not to make just one report for immediate action but to keep this question under constant review. Their work has already begun.

Arrangements are being made for the exchange of documentary films. A series of leaflets giving advice and instruction to teachers, of which the first is already in proof, will be prepared and sent out. Special lecturers will be sent round the country to schools - and equally important - to teachers' training colleges. Exchange visits and short courses for teachers and students will be organised between the two countries, even during the war. Exhibitions of French art, craft and handiwork will be organised.

/And in



And in addition to what we are doing in the schools parallel action is being considered by those responsible for adult education. Finally, on the all-important question of language, already over 500,000 children are learning French and this is a figure that I hope to see considerably increased by our efforts.

These are some of the proposals that I have been discussing with M. Sarraut. He, for his part, has been good enough to tell me of what his plans are and we will, of course, be keeping in continual contact - both personally and through official channels. I hope that you will feel that this is a good start. Our system of education is largely decentralised, and it is inevitable, therefore, that progress should depend on exhortation and advice rather than on definite instructions. But such is the keenness and interest of everyone concerned that I doubt very much if we could advance more rapidly even if we were in a position to issue orders.

Propaganda in the schools is part of the system we are fighting against. But I would strongly contest any idea that what we are doing is propaganda. The greater understanding of the thought and habits of another great nation is an enrichment of life that properly belongs to education, and I believe that the more genuinely we pursue what is educationally sound the sooner in fact shall we attain our ultimate goal. What is that goal?

It is to give a new foundation to security in Europe. European and World co-operation are great ideals. But what hope is there of bringing together the discordant elements of Europe unless we first bring closer to each other those who speak the same language - I mean the language of Democracy. I know very well how different we are. But if I may give a rather commonplace example of something very deep - the Frenchman will not forego his right to go to the cafe and criticise his Government - nor the Englishman his right to do the same in the public house.

But there is one last point that I would venture to put forward as my deep personal conviction on this all-important question of Franco-British unity. Let us never be afraid to recognise our differences: our different ways of living, of thinking, of working, of playing, yes, even of laughing - for what is more important in life than that great solvent of human trouble, a sense of humour? The more we recognise those differences the better for the true friendliness of our relations. It is when a people pretend to be the same knowing they are not the same, when they smooth each other down and become, if I may say so, over-diplomatic, that misunderstandings arise. Let us, therefore, clearly assert that we are British and you French and that the more different we are the more we have to give one another - for instance, that our methods of improvisation and your more logical mental processes, both of them estimable in themselves, are even more estimable when brought into combination. Mathematicians tell us that two and two make four, but I hope that you will not think me too British if I say that I believe there are occasions when two forces complementary to another two forces added together sometimes give us the strength of five.

Can we succeed in this attempt to marry England and France - or is it just another illusion like those to which we have clung through the last 20 years? I notice some reference in the "Petit Parisien" to the nervousness of Marianne about her wedding to John Bull.

/But.....



But nervousness on either side is unnecessary if Marianne tells John Bull from the beginning that she intends to retain her personality and if John Bull makes no attempt to change his. All I say of the marriage is that human progress is only made as the result of trying, and if humanity had never attempted to achieve the difficult and even the apparently impossible then humanity would still be in the Stone Age. History does not happen, it is made, and made by the efforts, the sacrifices and the beliefs of men and women, whatever their calling in life. Whether the task allotted to them is great or small, that doesn't matter. What matters is that we should have the conviction that we are not the children of chance. History does not happen: it is made.

This is equally true whether we speak of Anglo-French union after the war, or of the conduct of the war itself. We will neither be able to make the most of victory when it is achieved, nor indeed even achieve it, unless we exercise both energy and initiative. The Germans are a great and powerful nation. They fought until the end of the last war and we have no right to assume that they will not do so again. Blockade and propaganda can be useful in preparing the ground for fighting. They can be useful also in driving home the effects of fighting - the exhaustion of material and morale. But this war is not going to be won without a real struggle, without bitter personal tragedy and loss of lives and materials that civilization can ill afford to lose. The gathering forces of our two great countries and, let us not forget, our two great Empires, give us confidence - but confidence in an ultimate rather than an easy victory. It is not for me to speak of the French war effort, except to express my respectful admiration for it. It is easier, I think, for France to realise the meaning of war - totalitarian war - than it is for us. There are so many of you alive whose parents, even yourselves, have twice seen your homes destroyed by invasion. We, on the other hand, have not been seriously invaded since 1066 - in days, incidentally, when the identity of Franco - British war aims was not quite so obvious as today.

Every day our forces are increasing. Our Navy, the largest the world has ever known and still growing every week, has hundreds of ships patrolling the seas day after day and month after month, keeping its ceaseless watch. Our Air Force, already with feats of heroism to its credit, but with many more of which we never hear - is growing in its hundreds every week, with new pilots and new machines. Our Army is fast expanding and the number serving under General Gamelin is increasing every day.

I look forward, incidentally, to the hour of trial when you, as an historic military power, will feel able to pay the same tribute to the strength and efficiency of our Army, as we, the great naval power, can today pay to the magnificent work of your Navy. Our Dominions, India and the Colonies, one by one, with troops, with pilots, with schemes for training yet more pilots and with finance, are all adding their strength to ours - a strength that is impressive and effective in itself - but also an immense moral justification of an Empire based on freedom. Our workers, whose leaders are in constant touch with your Trades Unions, are making their contribution in longer hours, harder work and the sacrifice of safeguards that it has often taken than generations to secure.



Our factories are turning over in their hundreds to war production on a scale that is perhaps well illustrated by the simple figure that we are today producing ten times as many shells as at the corresponding period of the last war. And finally, the taxpayers, without a murmur are accepting new burdens without complaint but simply with the comment: "Yes, Life may be different in future, but what we are fighting for means more than money."

In every class there is the same spirit. Why do we accept it all so readily? Just because we feel that everything we care for, and makes life worth living, is at stake. We talk of Democracy, but we are fighting for so much more than a system of Government - a way of life, a way of feeling, things that words such as culture, civilization, honour, law and order only in part express - for they are simpler and more intimate than that. They belong to depths of our nature so deep that they are universal - they are in fact the human values for which our fathers have struggled through the centuries.

The Germans did not know what they were doing when they invented the phrase "totalitarian warfare." To them it means the concentrated effort of a rigidly organised state. We France and England - reply by something far more complete and more powerful - the concentration of the energies and conviction of a free people.

In the past we have all put far too little emphasis on the strength of Democracy. We have seen it as being desirable, something good but not sufficiently as something strong. Nor, indeed, has it always been so. Yet that surely is, or should be, its very essence, that unity by conviction must be stronger than unity by compulsion. This is what is now being reasserted after the lapse of the last twenty years. Lack of lead, imagination and initiative have been too much in the saddle of democracy. Wishful thinking and illusions have been allowed to take the place of ideals. The war has put an end to all this. The Democracies are now gathering their strength. We must be ruthless against our enemies, ruthless with ourselves and, if need be, with those who stand by hoping that England and France will save their freedom for them.

Neither Germany nor the neutrals must rely on our keeping one hand tied behind our backs by sticking to the letter of the law while they spurn, or allow to be spurned, not only its letter but its spirit. No effort and no sacrifice must be permitted to stand in the way of complete victory. We in Great Britain are in this war with you until the end. Not only our signed word but the million dead we left behind us last time is a guarantee of our bond. We are not helping you as an ally - we have joined you as comrades. We are throwing everything into the struggle - our country, our empire, our men, women, money and material - and when together France and England have won the war, together they must continue in order to maintain the peace.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.



PRICES OF IMPORTED POTATOES.

Maximum retail prices for imported new potatoes have been prescribed by the Minister of Food at 4d. per lb. from April 5th to May 25th inclusive and at 3½d per lb. from May 26th to June 15th inclusive. Maximum wholesale prices for the same periods have been fixed at 29/- per cwt. and 25/4d. per cwt. respectively.

The above prices do not apply to potatoes imported from the Channel Islands. The Ministry hopes to make an announcement on these and on prices of home-grown new potatoes in the near future.

The prescribed wholesale prices include the cost or use of containers and free delivery where usual.

These provisions are contained in the Imported Potatoes (Maximum Prices) Order 1940 made by the Minister of Food.

MINISTRY OF FOOD.

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AS THIS SCRIPT IS ISSUED IN  
ADVANCE IT SHOULD BE CHECKED  
AGAINST THE ACTUAL BROADCAST.

4/4/40 - NO: 13.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEFORE  
9.35. p.m. 4/4/40.

WAR COMMENTARY by

GENERAL SIR HUGH ELLES, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.

Home Service: Thursday, 4th April, 1940: 9.20. - 9.35. p.m.

Three weeks ago I talked to you about the German Army, and gave it, as my own opinion, that the German Army of 1940 certainly suffered in some respects in comparison with the old Germany Army of 1914.

I had the great satisfaction of reminding you that the old German Army was in the long run very effectively defeated in the field, and that in that operation the British Dominion Citizen Armies took no inglorious part.

Tonight I want to say a few words about the British Army. Any opinion I express is, again, my own opinion.

For a second time in a generation we are faced with the task of raising an Army on the Continental Scale, and that means, in one way and another, we are faced with a larger or smaller degree of expansion of existing resources, or the creation of new resources; it means not only the raising and training of men but the building up of Factories and Industrial processes which can supply the necessities of War.

All these things require time and somehow or other the time has to be gained.

Now in 1914, we had to fight for time. You know the story of how the old Expeditionary Force, reinforced as time went on by Regular Troops from overseas and by some splendid Territorial Battalions formed the wall behind which the Territorials were expanded, the Dominion forces were formed and the New Armies were assembled. The old Army had to fight hard and by the Spring of 1915 there were not many left of those who had formed its original members. It is indeed true to say that the New Armies never saw the old.

Today the position is quite different. The Regular Army, albeit smaller, is intact. The Citizen Armies at home and in the Dominions are forming behind the wall of the French frontier defences.

I go back again to 1914.

You must remember that in those days, until a much later period in the War, there was no such thing as Conscription and the Citizen Armies were formed entirely upon a Voluntary basis. There was a Territorial Force which was considerably below strength and which had to be made up both in Officers and men, but it was very early in the day that Lord Kitchener, who, with his uncanny flair, was convinced, against all contemporary opinion at home and on the Continent, that the War would be a long one, and he startled the country by coming down to the House of Lords and demanding an increase for the Regular Army of five hundred thousand men; eighteen Divisions of new Armies were very rapidly started, and there was an immediate rush to the colours of some of the finest flower of the Nation. But they were formed on nothing at all. Such officers as could be collected, a few old non-Commissioned Officers - there was no accommodation - there was nothing but an enthusiasm and goodwill. One hears of a battery that was raised and trained by a retired Major of Volunteers and a Band Sergeant.



The Infantry drilled and marched in bowler hats with walking sticks for weeks and months. But, the wonder was performed and it is a fact that fourteen months after the Declaration of War, no fewer than seventeen out of these eighteen divisions had left this country for overseas. Some people would call that "muddling through," I should prefer to say that it was a 'Miracle of Improvisation.'

But miracle or no, the process had very grave defects. To begin with, there was no selection of the men themselves, and a very large number of square pegs inevitably got into round holes, and there enlisted in the ranks a very high proportion of potential officers, a very large number of skilled mechanics, of specialists whose services would have been far more valuable to the State in other capacities. It was an expensive and wasteful process and finally it put the strain far too great on the resources of Staff Officers and Commanders that were at our disposal. All the time that the new Armies were being formed a parallel effort was being made with the Territorial Force and all the time the old Army was fighting for its life out in Flanders.

Today our effort is being made on lines which one may describe as far more orderly. The expansion of our Citizen Armies is being made upon the machinery that exists in the Territorial Army and it is a year since that Territorial Army was doubled, and it is nearly a year since the Militia Act, now the National Service Act, became law. This Act, as you know, enables the registration of men between certain ages and their calling up as and when required. This does not mean that all the Volunteers necessary are not forthcoming by any means, but it does mean that the Army can be formed and carried on with the least possible dislocation to Industry and that the civil life of the country can go on as uninterruptedly as other circumstances allow. Already an orderly flow of troops has begun from this country to overseas.

I want to say a few words about the question of supply. By supply I mean the provision and the actual delivery of weapons, guns, of shells, of tanks, and vehicles, of hutting, of signalling equipment, of engineering stores, and the whole of the paraphernalia which is necessary for a Modern Army.

In 1914 it never had been contemplated that we should send to the Continent more than the original Expeditionary Force and it was very soon clear that the scales on which equipment had been calculated were inadequate even for that Force. Again, a hasty improvisation had to be made, but it is common knowledge how short the old Army was in these difficult days, of guns, and of shells, and how hard put to it it was on that account. It was not until June of 1915 that the Ministry of Munitions was begun - after ten months of war.

Again/



Again it was formed on very little and it was not for another year that its output became really effective. Today, we have had in existence the Ministry of Supply for some time, but, as it has not started from nothing, but with a lot of very good spade work done for it, before it came into existence, it has at its disposal men whose names are very well-known in the Industry of this Country. Industry itself, both as regards the management or the work people has inherited experience of its predecessors in the last war and the whole science of Munition making is no new thing as it was in 1915. On the other hand the equipment of an Army is a very much more complicated business than it was twenty-five years ago. There are too, in comparison with the last war very much heavier burdens in the claims of Anti-Aircraft Defence and of an enormously expanded Air Force. But in spite of these additional burdens we must surely be many months ahead of our last experience - I hope so, for it is upon supply that depends as much as upon anything else firstly the rate of our expansions and secondly the fighting power of our armies.

I want to talk now a little about men, first of all about the men themselves, the new young entry to the Army, the Militiamen. Well, they are just the young men of our race. They will sing when it rains like many generations of British soldiers before them. I don't think I need say more. And the young officers? Here a new system is already in practice and to my mind it is an admirable system. The future young officer goes with all the other Militia boys to the Depot where they are trained and at the end of two months a certain quota of young militiamen are nominated to be trained as officers, and they are picked on a system of marking, without favour or affection, and quite regardless of what they were before. Boys look very much alike in battle dress. The particular quality to which weight is given is that of Leadership. The results I am told are very interesting - in one Training Unit the boy who was the first choice had been a Farm Labourer and in another the first choice was the son of a small Contractor who employed five. I do not know whether this is what is called the Democratisation of the Army, but I am quite sure as an old soldier that it is a very sound way of discovering leaders.

I come to the class of Officer, that which is called 'The Middle Piece', that is Regimental Subalterns, Captains and Majors. The Middle Piece in every Army is a difficult thing to get really level, and it is no use blinking at the fact that in a Citizen Army, as in all other Armies, you will have inevitable inequalities, there will be weaknesses and there will be misfits. There is only one thing for that, and that is a rigid selection for promotion and a system of infiltration from units that are efficient, of officers into Units of those that are not quite so good. The whole question is delicate, it is difficult and sometimes it is unpleasant, but surely these things must be accepted, for it may be a question of lives; and personal feeling and personal preferences must give way.

/I come



I come to the Higher Commanders, and staffs, and here I am full of hope; some comparisons are odious, and I am not going to make comparisons between the Higher Commanders that we have today and those under whom we had the honour to serve many years ago, but not one of the latter will I am sure grudge my saying this, that their successors today have one enormous advantage which was denied to them in 1914. The Higher Commanders of today were so to speak bred and born on the theories and practice of Continental Warfare, of Warfare on the Grand Scale, they know their Boche already. That is the only comparison that I am going to make, but I am going to say something more.

In the Commanders and Higher Staff Officers of today we have a body of men brought up in the same school of thought, they have worked together for years, they have held since War responsibilities all over the World, and they are physically fit and mentally alive. They live simply and they live hard. They are quite young enough. And to those who like to talk about "Brass Hats" I will just say that almost without exception, these men have in their youth, been decorated for Gallantry in the Field. Some of these twice, three or even four times. They have been well shot over.

There is just one more comparison that I want to make between 1940 and 1914, and this is in regard to our relations with our Allies - the French. You will remember that in the last War it was not until three and a half years had passed that Unity of Command was conceded and that Marshal Foch was appointed "Generalissimo". We have started this War with Unity of Command, and we have started this War with great confidence in the French High Command.

The relations that exist between our Commanders and their French Comrades in France are so close, that when one recalls the misunderstandings and disagreements which occurred in the last War, these seem almost unbelievable. I think that any French General will tell you the same thing. There is more to it than that. The sentiment of belonging to one Army goes right down to the rank and file of the Army, and to the people of France, with whom they lodge. The Army has gone back to France not as Foreigners, but as friends.

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BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION.



4/4/40. - No. 14.

PRESS NOTICE

The King has been pleased to approve that the dignity of a barony of the United Kingdom be conferred upon Major Rt. Hon George Clement ~~Try~~ on, M.P; and that the Lord Woolton be sworn of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council on his appointment to be Minister of Food.

10, DOWNING STREET. +++++++





# MINISTRY OF LABOUR & NATIONAL SERVICE

## Press Notice

NATIONAL SERVICE (ARMED FORCES) ACT, 1939.

Registration on 6th April, 1940.

The Ministry of Labour and National Service announces that to-morrow, Saturday 6th April, is the date which has been fixed by the Government for the next registration of men under the National Service (Armed Forces) Act. Posters setting out the classes of men required to register and the times at which they should attend for registration are displayed at all Ministry of Labour and National Service Offices, Municipal Offices, Post Offices and Police Stations.

The men required to register are those not already registered who were born between 1st January, 1914 and 6th April, 1920, both dates inclusive. They should attend to-morrow for registration at a Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service and should take with them their National Registration Identity Cards. Seamen and fishermen, while they may register at a Ministry of Labour and National Service Office, are asked instead to register at a Mercantile Marine Office, if there is one within reasonable distance. This also applies to marine engineer apprentices who intend to go to sea as engineer officers and to students at wireless telegraphy schools in training for the Post Master General's certificate of proficiency in radio telegraphy with the object of going to sea as radio officers.

Men are advised to read the posters carefully and to keep to the times of attendance allotted to them according to the initial letter of their surnames. The address of the nearest Ministry of Labour and National Service Office may be obtained on enquiry at a Post Office. The normal times of attendance are as follows:-

Men whose surnames  
commence with the  
letters -

(A to B should attend between 12.30 p.m. and 1 p.m.)  
(C to E should attend between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.)  
(F to J should attend between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.)  
(K to O should attend between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.)  
(P to S should attend between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m.)  
(T to Z should attend between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.)

Press Office,  
Ministry of Labour and National Service,  
Montagu House, Whitehall, S.W.1.  
Telephone: Whitehall 6200.  
4th April, 1940.



MAKING CANADIAN TROOPS AT HOME.

Hospitable Surrey is living up to its reputation. The Canadian soldiers who are in training near Woking are loud in their praises of the generosity and thoughtfulness of the local inhabitants. Hundreds of residents of Woking and neighbouring villages have thrown open their doors to the Dominion troops, organising for them concerts, dances, and afternoon teas.

These gestures, which are matched by invitations from almost every part of the United Kingdom, have gone to the heart of the Canadian Army Service Corps, whose commander, Lt. Col. F. Shields, has declared: "The way the people over here have treated us has been simply grand; they have made our stay in their midst so pleasant that most of us will find it a wrench to leave them. He certainly has taught us all the true meaning of real friendship."

Elsewhere in Surrey, Mrs. Ernest Bigland, known as "Mother" of the Canadian Army Service Corps, every night entertains a crowd of the C.A.S.C. men. This hostess has a special link with the Dominion, which she has traversed several times. As she travelled in Canada she painted, and her series of pictures of the Canadian Rockies so impressed the late Lord Strathcona that he bought them on the spot and had 130,000 copies made and distributed.



4/4/40 - No. 17.

For Morning Papers Only.

UNEMPLOYMENT DROPS IN ULSTER.

The number of unemployed in Northern Ireland on 11th March, 1940, was 72,046, which was 9,738 fewer than on the 12th February, 1940, and 15,012 fewer than in March, 1939. The total of 72,046 comprises 50,941 men, 2,427 boys, 17,378 women and 1,300 girls. The decrease in the numbers unemployed has occurred in practically all industries but more particularly in agriculture, building and other outdoor work and in tailoring, light clothing and distributing trades.

An analysis of the claimants for insurance benefit and applicants for unemployment allowances according to the length of the last spell of registered employment shows that 27% had been unemployed for less than six weeks and 15% for twelve months or more.

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DOMINION AND COLONIAL AFFAIRS.



4/4/40. - No. 18.

PRESS CONFERENCE

Monsieur Georges Monnet, the French Minister of Blockade will receive and address members of the press at the Ministry of Economic Warfare, Berkeley Square House, W.1., on Friday April 5th at 6.30 p.m.

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC WARFARE



R.A.F. RADIO MECHANICS WANTED

NOT TO BE QUOTED AS AN A.M. ANNOUNCEMENT

There are still vacancies for radio mechanics in the ranks of the Royal Air Force.

Recruiting for this new trade category was inaugurated in February, and the response both in quality and quantity has been excellent.

Hundreds of men, between the ages of 18 and 50 who have general working knowledge of radio telegraphy have seized the opportunity to put their amateur or professional knowledge of radio at the service of the country.

"Hundreds have already passed the tests of the Trade Test Boards".

But the signals organisation of the R.A.F is so important a part of the direction of modern air warfare that it expands continually.

Thus there is still a call for men keen on radio to undertake the maintenance of the highly complicated modern apparatus.

Full information can be obtained from the Air Ministry Information Bureau, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, or from any combined recruiting centre. Those who pass the tests will be reclassified on the day after enlistment to leading aircraftmen at 5/6 per day.



The following is issued to the Press  
by Naval Affairs for such use as they  
may wish to make of it.

Contraband Control in the Mediterranean.

Facts and Figures

288 ships boarded in two months for inspection of papers. 698 ships communicated with by signal. That is the record of one patrol area alone in the Mediterranean.

Of the 288 ships boarded some were diverted to contraband control bases but most were allowed to proceed direct on their journeys without delay. In the control base of this one patrol the cargoes of 101 ships were considered - these included ships entering the Mediterranean from the Far East which were not boarded by units of this patrol.

The Mediterranean is some hundreds of miles from England and the work of these distant control bases is not much in the public eye. Their work is every bit as necessary to the Allied system as that of the Home Patrols.

Last month alone the cargoes of 498 ships exclusive of vessels coming in from the Far East were considered in contraband control bases in the Mediterranean.

German propagandists have made desperate efforts to stop neutral shipping from accepting the safety of convoy; in the same way they seek to cause friction in the working of the Allied system of contraband control.

Great was Dr. Goebbels' indignation when the Danish ship BIRGITTE, was detained at Gibraltar for a few days.

In a broadcast in Portuguese from Zeesen on March 25th it was said that the steamer BIRGITTE with a cargo of coffee destined for Turkey had been detained in Gibraltar by the British control since the beginning of March.

Any statement made from a German broadcasting station has a purpose. It is propaganda - not news.

The facts of the detention of the Danish ship BIRGITTE are as follows:-

The BIRGITTE with a cargo of coffee for various Mediterranean countries was brought into Gibraltar on the 8th March. Since it was possible to obtain details and "hold back guarantees" for certain items she was allowed to sail on the 17th of March. Not a single item of her cargo has been seized.

When the Norwegian ship STEINSTAD, reported as carrying a cargo of copper from Turkey to Norway, was sunk by a U-boat on February 15th the German propagandists were significantly silent.

The Norwegian Government have lodged a protest against the sinking of this vessel.



4/4/40 - No. 21.

Not to be published in this or in any other country  
before the morning (B.S.T.) of Friday, 5th April.

Not to be broadcast before 6 a.m. April 5th.

AGREEMENT ON WEST AFRICAN COCOA.

Agreement has been reached between the British and French Governments on the marketing of West African Cocoa.

It will be recalled that, in the course of their recent conversations in Paris, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald and M. Georges Mandel laid the foundations for a close co-operation between their two Departments in matters concerning the production and trade of the two Colonial Empires. The agreement on cocoa is an important outcome of this co-operation. Representatives of the Colonial Office and Ministry of Food have this week had discussions in Paris with their French colleagues, which have resulted in the adoption of a joint selling policy for West African cocoa in foreign markets. This arrangement involves permanent co-operation between the two Governments through the British Cocoa Control and the Syndicat Général des Importateurs de Cacaos Coloniaux.

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COLONIAL OFFICE,  
4th April, 1940.



4. 4. 40 - No. 22

NOT FOR PUBLICATION IN ANY FORM BEFORE 7 a.m. TO-MORROW  
5th APRIL, 1940

For Press and Broadcast

The King has approved the appointment of Sir Harry Haig, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., to be Regional Commissioner for Civil Defence in the North West Region in succession to Sir Warren Fisher, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., whose term of office will shortly expire, in accordance with the understanding arrived at when he accepted the appointment. The change will take effect early in May.

MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY

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4.4.40 No 23.

FRENCH OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE  
EVENING

Paris, Thursday, April 4, 1940

The following official Communique was issued this evening  
from French General Headquarters:-

Local infantry and artillery actions  
in the region to the East of the Moselle.

Some activity along the Rhine.

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AIR MINISTRY BULLETIN.

4/4/40. - No. 24.

AIR MINISTER'S APPOINTMENTS.

The Air Ministry announces:-

The Right Hon. Sir Samuel Hoare, Air Minister, has appointed Mr. F.H. Sandford to be his Principal Private Secretary and Mr. F. Wood, and Mr. R.W.N.B. Gilling to be his assistant Private Secretaries.

AIR AFFAIRS.

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