

Apr 23 - 30 1940

# FOREIGN PRESS REVIEW

DAILY SURVEY OF WORLD COMMENT ON THE WAR

COMPILED FROM TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

No. 84.

.....23rd April....., 1940

## U.S.A: EFFECT ON NEUTRALS OF GERMAN SEA LOSSES.

The view that German naval losses inflicted by the R.A.F. and the Royal Navy are certain to create a deep impression on neutral naval experts is expressed in today's NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE.

Writing in this newspaper Walter Lippmann states that the "hold-up for Hitler in Scandinavia has caused a change in the diplomatic weather to Hitler's disadvantage" in the European capitals, and adds: "It is now clear that Hitler's stroke in Scandinavia is a partial but by no means a complete success. He is not to have Norway without fighting for it. He has suffered irreparable losses in his navy - a circumstance that is bound to impress the Italian and Japanese navies.

"The British navy, which on the theory of a knock-out blow was to be sunk in Scapa Flow because Norway is too near, has actually gone over to Norway where it is still nearer to the German air force and is landing an army in Norway."

Walter Winchell in an article in the NEW YORK MIRROR on the German people's collection of scrap metal as a birthday present for their Leader, declares: "It would have made a lot of people much happier if the gift had been just one little piece of lead."

Referring to the supply of U. S. war materials to the Allies ATLANTA CONSTITUTION stated: "It is the consensus of opinion that the rapid acceleration in American production of fighting planes forced Hitler to abandon his plans for a long war of attrition, which he believed he could eventually win, and risk all on such a daring exploit as the invasion of Norway. There can be no doubt that by opening up a new arena of conflict Hitler gave to the British and French navies and armies the best opportunity they have yet had to strike against Germany.

"Within a year, it is reliably stated, American factories will be turning out fighting planes at the rate of several thousand a month - a production speed which Hitler cannot hope to equal. Even on the cash and carry basis of the United States neutrality law, the Allies, through the use of American securities held in England and France and the component lands of the British federation of nations and through gold production and reserve stocks, can continue for several years to buy all the planes and war materials that America can produce for their needs. Thus any Hitlerian hopes of securing supplies from Russia or the Balkan countries sufficient to hold out against the Allied blockade until his enemies are financially worn out must be abandoned. Instead, he turns to a new policy of ruthless war, lashing out at any spot which he considers might develop to Germany's advantage through surprise and strategic value.

"However, when Hitler challenges the supremacy of the Allied fleets on the high seas he invites disaster. With American planes pouring faster and faster into Allied hands his vaunted superiority in the air is also fast disappearing - if indeed it has not already gone."

The strengthening of neutral resistance to Germany was emphasised in the SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS which wrote: "With British troops in Norway to help that country resist the Nazi invaders, and with Finland's heroic example fresh in their minds, Europe's remaining neutrals are taking heart. Without exception, they have stiffened their economic and political resistance to Nazi encroachment and warned the aggressors that they are prepared to meet invasion with all their guns and resources. Thus it must be clear to Hitler as he counts the cost of his Norwegian venture that the days of easy victory are over. He must pay heavily for any future gains in blood and material."



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## BELGIUM: NAZI PRINCIPLES CONDEMNED.

An unusually strong attack on Nazi principles is made today in VOORUIT, the Socialist newspaper, printed in Flemish.

Though considerable differences of opinion are evident in the Belgian Press regarding Signor Mussolini's attitude - the STANDAARD, the Flemish Catholic newspaper considers that the Duce has not yet reached a decision, and LE PEUPLE emphasises the fact that the Fuehrer's reply to Signor Mussolini's telegram proves that Germany is not satisfied with mere pious hopes for her victory - VOORUIT is convinced that the axis partners are "hand in glove".

Commenting on the MESSAGGERO's statement that the Italian people "sends her greetings to her ally who is fighting for the highest principles of international justice", VOORUIT declares: "What are these principles? It is only a question of might, oppression by force, of slavery, destruction, violation, murder organised by official robbery, inhumanity and barbarism such as the Middle Ages never knew."

Referring to Germany's attempts to blockade Britain, the military correspondent of XXme SIECLE, the Catholic newspaper, states: "There is one blockade which has completely failed, namely the German blockade of Britain. Despite strenuous efforts with various arms, British tonnage destroyed is so insignificant that the threat has completely disappeared."

The writer proceeds to show how each weapon of the German blockade has been met and rendered ineffective by Allied counter measures. On the question of submarines he adds: "The relative inaction of German submarines during the Norwegian crisis proves that their flotillas have suffered heavy losses which have not been made good."

## SWITZERLAND: HITLER'S GOOD TURN FOR THE ALLIES.

Germany made a strategic error when she invaded Norway and did Britain a good turn.

This is the key-note of comment which appears in today's GAZETTE DE LAUSANNE, the Liberal newspaper, which writes: "Hitler's Norwegian adventure has suddenly transformed Germany's favourable situation. Germany has lost at the lowest estimate the greater part of her light cruisers, one-third of her heavy cruisers, both battle-ships, one-third of her destroyers and numerous submarines. Without appreciable loss, the British fleet has decimated her adversary.

"The second consequence is that by occupying Denmark and Norway the Reich has closed neutral territorial waters of which she was the sole beneficiary. With the imminent fall of Narvik Germany loses her chief iron-ore route, and any action against Sweden will completely cut off supplies.

"The third and gravest consequence is the liberation of the Franco-British fleet to intervene wherever necessary. By her own action Germany has turned a really advantageous strategic situation to her own detriment."



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GERMANY: ATTENTION DIRECTED TOWARDS S.E. EUROPE.

The German Press, having written off Scandinavia as a Nazi "success", has in part turned its attention to South Eastern Europe, where the Allies are depicted as plotting against the independence of the Danubian countries, exactly as they were accused a fortnight ago of planning the destruction of Scandinavia's liberties.

The German view is reflected in a leading article in the BERLINER BOERSEN ZEITUNG, written by Karl Megerle, the newspaper's diplomatic correspondent and a recognised mouthpiece of the German Foreign Office.

Liberally sprinkled with typical Nazi allegations against the Allies, the article, which was headed "Now the Balkans?", stated: "The Balkan countries are in a state of terror and unrest as a result of the war propaganda launched by England and France, in order to create a demand for their preventive assistance. In turn, every state is shown to be threatened either by Germany, Russia or Italy. No doubt an attempt will be made to effect a psychological and propagandist short-circuit of South Eastern reasonableness, with events in Scandinavia, and to make capital out of sympathy and fear in order to bring finally into action that process of alliances, guarantees and blockade measures which has not worked up to the present.

Herr Chamberlain attempted in the House of Commons to represent the discussions with the British Balkan Envoys as quite harmless. It is, however, known that these discussions just as in the case of the attack on Norway, were one of the results of the new activity decided upon during the infamous Supreme War Council of March 28. They are intended to promote the sharpening of the Blockade, its geographical extension and the more active conduct of the war demanded of their Governments by the disillusioned Western peoples.

"It was the same Chamberlain who declared four days before his warships violated Norwegian neutrality that the Allies would never sink so low as to do injustice to any neutral. The position, therefore, demands the utmost caution. It is even possible that in M. Reynaud's infamous words the Allies will attempt to support the new phase of diplomatic activity with cannon, tanks and aeroplanes, but the South Eastern countries wish to live in peace - and Germany and her friends can affirm peace in the Balkans all the more sincerely because it corresponds with her own interests."

An example of disavowal of German foreign propagandists - an understood thing in Nazi foreign policy - was given in a message published in the FRANKFURTER ZEITUNG under the headline "Forged Leaflets - Measures of police Authorities in Belgrade"

The message, which was apparently from the paper's own correspondent in Belgrade, stated that the Belgrade police recently discovered that leaflets were being distributed in the city with the intention of discrediting Germany. The leaflets called on the population "not to believe the speeches and promises of Chamberlain and Reynaud, but to believe those of Yugoslavia's great and powerful neighbour, Germany." The people were urged to abandon all resistance to the Reich "which in view of the latter's strength is vain and dangerous."

Concluding, the message stated: "The leaflets were intended to create the impression of a German propaganda directed against the neutrality and even the national independence of Yugoslavia. In the night of April 6, such leaflets were showered out of an aeroplane, the nationality of which has not been established."



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### SWEDEN: CAUTIOUS ATTITUDE OF ITALY AND RUSSIA.

Both Russia and Italy are "sitting on the fence" and are keenly watching events before making any decision as to whether they will enter the war.

This view has been advanced in STOCKHOLMS TIDNINGEN, which began an editorial article yesterday by pointing out the great importance attached by Germany to the exchange of military delegations. Italy however attached far less importance to these exchanges and, added the newspaper: "The impression remains that Signor Mussolini desires to keep all possibilities open, although it is possible the Norwegian campaign may force his decision.

"The Soviet wishes to resume trade negotiations with Britain partly because Russia's imports from Germany are closed to a great extent by the British blockade in Norwegian waters, and Viborg is not yet suitable as an import harbour. It is probable that Britain will exploit the situation to stop German imports via the Pacific and Siberia.

"Russia also stands outside the conflict and it appears that neither Russia nor Italy completely share the German optimism regarding the issue of the Norwegian adventure. Neither Rome nor Moscow can entertain a particular desire to see Norway and Denmark under German domination."

A strong tone was adopted by SOCIAL DEMOKRATEN in referring to German air violations of Swedish territory. This journal wrote: "These actions constitute a ruthless violation of Swedish neutrality and will be interpreted in this way by the whole Swedish people and the rest of the world except the Totalitarian states which have a different conception of international law."

Continuing, SOCIAL DEMOKRATEN considered that Sweden's strictly neutral attitude did not justify the German action "which perhaps is an expression of desperation in face of the Allies' threatening action in Norway. Naturally Sweden will protest firmly to Berlin."

### HUNGARY: PRO-GERMAN REPORTS OFFSET.

Though the Hungarian papers generally continue to give Berlin reports of the fighting in Norway front page prominence, P. STER LLOYD wrote in a leading article yesterday: "The increasing activity of the British in Norway will not allow the German forces to continue in passivity."

Emphasis was laid by the Budapest newspapers on the determined tone of the Italian Press, though it was noted that Italy had left the door open for discussion.

MAGYAR NEMZET, the Christian Conservative newspaper, dealt, in an editorial article, with anti-British propaganda which declared that Britain was decadent and the British Empire was doomed to go the way of Rome and Byzantium. The article sought to prove objectively that Britain had always fought for her own aims and ideals with her own methods.

"A people may be good fighters without being professional militarists," it was stated. "A long distance runner may be an equally good athlete as a sprinter."



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### FRANCE: WARNING ON ANGLO-RUSSIAN NEGOTIATIONS.

The possibility of Britain's opening trade negotiations with Soviet Russia has been discussed in the French Press, and a note of warning was sounded by some commentators.

Writing in the OEUVRE Mme. Tabouis declared: "The news that Lord Halifax has resumed contact with M. Maisky, the Russian Ambassador, has raised the greatest interest in the capitals of the Great Powers. According to the opinion of the most authorised circles, this demarche by the Head of the Foreign Office is likely to have far-reaching results in the international sphere.

"By showing her willingness for a revival of Russo-British commercial negotiations, with the aim of adapting the trade between the two countries to war necessities, England has shown her desire to find a basis for the lessening of tension between Britain and the Soviet. Any economic arrangement which would allow the Reich to get supplies from the U.S.S.R. would find Great Britain completely uncompromising. M. Molotov's reply to Lord Halifax's suggestions is awaited in London. In any case, the tenor of this reply will serve to clarify Moscow's attitude towards the belligerents."

In the MATIN M. Fabry stated: "England is ready to discuss with the Soviet the possibility of renewing the commercial negotiations which were interrupted at the time of the Red Army's invasion of Finland.

"An official communique informs us of this and the accompanying commentaries indicate the nature of the precautions which the Foreign Office is taking with regard to this renewal of contacts. It is easy to understand that the memory of other negotiations make such precautions essential. The members of French and British military missions will not easily forget the final session during which Marshal Voroshilov told them plainly that there was nothing further they could do in Moscow. The terrible struggle in which our existence is at stake makes it necessary for us to express with all the necessary moderation, but with the frankness required by the situation, the hope that England and France will not be unaware of the risks of such negotiations.

"Any policy which made of Stalin an arbiter even at the cost of further treachery towards Germany would be full of danger. It would perhaps be a political success. It would certainly be a moral failure."

### HOLLAND: GERMANY'S CALCULATIONS UPSET.

"German calculations have been upset", was the statement made by DE MAASBODE, the Catholic newspaper in comment speculating as to whether Germany intended to draw Britain into a new front by the invasion of Norway.

The chief factors which had upset Germany's calculations were Norwegian resistance and the speedy arrival of British forces.

Referring to Holland's overseas possessions HET VADERLAND, the Liberal organ, stated yesterday: "The Netherlands Empire was built up by ourselves and no efforts or sacrifices will ever be too great to uphold it at home or overseas. Consequently the Netherlands is for any aggressor an indigestible piece of land and so a stabilising factor in surging Europe."



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### CHILE: AGGRESSION A BOOMERANG.

That aggressor nations merely make things worse for themselves when the final reckoning comes was the belief expressed in an article in the Conservative newspaper EL MERCURIO.

"Each day that passes makes more painful the sad situation of Norway - the victim of an unjustified and violent aggression. The methods of the Nazis against Norway are not acceptable to any cultured spirit possessing the elementary notions of humanity and respect for the independence and sovereignty of nations and individuals. Without a declaration of war and using military forces disguised as tourists Germany lays waste with blood and fire an independent nation with the object of utilising her ports.

"In Narvik a fight is taking place between the invaders and the national defenders with the help of the British Army. From no view-point does this aggression constitute a feat. Norway is a country with a small population and weak defences and a peaceful people who never thought that they might fall victim to a regime of violence.

" Universal opinion, appreciating the elementary conditions of liberty and human dignity, felt profound sympathy for Finland in her defence against the brutal Communist aggression. Norway's case is similar. Until now, no success has attended the doctrines justifying abuse and outrage. The extension of aggression only consolidates the cause against this policy. Humanity cannot accept the methodical destruction of all that has helped to build up civilisation."

### EGYPT: RELATIONS WITH ITALY.

The Italian attitude towards the war has occupied the attention of the Egyptian Press, which has taken the opportunity a number of times to point out the liability to attack of Italy's sea communications and her overseas empire.

In an article entitled "Italy and Egypt" AL BALACH referred to comments made by Signor Gayda in the GIORNALE D'ITALIA regarding Italian and Egyptian friendship, and added: "We welcome such a tone at a time when nothing is heard but sabre rattlings and threats. Egypt wants to be friendly with all states, and if her sympathies are with the Democracies it is because she is a democratic power, and because of her religion, and no-one should blame her for that.

"Egypt's attitude is most clear - she is a small independent state in alliance with Britain, but this does not prevent her from being friendly with other states. It is a defensive unoffensive alliance. Egypt needed it because she lacks national defence and Britain is her natural ally because of the similarity of interests. If there had been no treaty the position would have been the same. Egypt's alliance with Britain should not annoy Italy because Britain is no enemy of Italy's, nor desires to be one. It is obvious that if anything evil happens between Britain and Italy it will not be by Britain's action or by her desire."



April 23, 1940.

GERMAN PROPAGANDA UNMASKED.

Goebbels' War in Norway.

I. ON WORLD OPINION.

A. THE LIE.

German broadcast in German (April 11th):-

"One single voice is heard throughout the world from Buenos Aires to Tokio - a voice which expresses admiration for the achievements of the German forces and recognises the necessity of this new historic deed of the Fuehrer, who saved the lives of three small nations and guaranteed that they would continue to exist as states."

B. THE FACTS.

'New York Times' April 10th:-

"Now Germany turns her brute strength against small, established nations which maintained their neutrality in the last war, and to which even the most arrogant Nazi can establish no claim. Here is crime, stark and blood red!"

II. ON NORWAY'S "WELCOME" TO THE GERMANS.

A. THE LIE.

i) German Broadcast in German (April 10th):-

"Germany does not conduct a war against small nations with whom she has been at peace for hundreds of years... Calm prevails in Norway, says the communique of the German High Command. This statement proves that the North is conscious of its rescue."

B. THE FACTS.

German Broadcast in Norwegian (April 12th):-

"The German Command has issued a warning to the population that persons caught fighting the German forces will be treated as franc-tireurs and shot. Some persons have already thus been shot. This is the only and last warning."

or again:-

ii) German Broadcast in German and English (April 13th):-

"The wish of the Norwegians for calm and order is evident from the smooth collaboration between the German Military Command and the Norwegian authorities."

German Broadcast in Norwegian (April 13th):-

"Any resistance will be broken in the most severe and ruthless manner. Every civilian met carrying arms will be shot on the spot. The same penalty will be imposed for sabotage of means of transport or industrial and public utility plants, as well as for damaging vehicles and weapons in streets and roads."

or again:-

iii) German Broadcast in Norwegian (April 19th):-

"Rumours have lately been spread about Norwegian subjects being used as chauffeurs by the Germans and being placed in the front line in dangerous positions. The rumour is not correct, as Norwegian chauffeurs are not placed in dangerous positions, although the Germans use Norwegians to drive lorries containing troops."

Another German Broadcast also in Norwegian. (April 19th):-

"There have been several complaints of Norwegians forced to drive German soldiers in commandeered cars into the firing line. This is not the fault of the German authorities but of the population of Norway, who continued to fire on the advancing German troops"



III. ON GERMAN CHIVALRY TOWARDS KING HAAKON.

A. THE LIE

German Broadcast in German (April 13th):-

"Germany keeps in touch with the King of Norway. The German ambassador to Oslo has paid another visit to King Haakon."

B. THE FACTS.

King Haakon to a Swedish journalist (April 13th):-

"Since leaving Oslo on Tuesday I have not taken off my boots and have scarcely had a wink of sleep."

IV. ON THE BRITISH SUCCESS AT NARVIK.

German Transocean News cable (April 18th):-

"The British did not succeed in sinking a single German destroyer in the operations of April 13th."

Extract from the same Transocean cable:-

"Reports of rescued officers in this attack show that the British opened fire with artillery and machine-guns on members of German destroyers who were swimming to land or climbing up cliffs."  
(The italics are ours.)

V. ON THE BOMBER AS AN EFSATZ FOR THE LOST NAVY.

German Broadcast in German (April 18th):-

"The American Naval Minister at a meeting of the House of Representatives Commission declared that the latest encounters between the Allied warships and the German bombers clearly show that the German bombers are more effective than the warships."

'New York Times' April 17th:-

Admiral Stark stated to the Naval Affairs Committee that "air power has not seriously affected British control of the sea lanes of the world. After seven months of war in which the immediate major objective has been the reduction of British sea strength, relatively small damage has been done by air attack from the German advance bases allocated 480-560 miles from the British Fleet bases. It is the British preponderance in Naval power that has gained control of sea-borne trade and denied this trade to Germany."

VI. GOEBBELS SINKS THE BRITISH FLEET.

German Official News Agency (D.N.B.) (April 22nd.):

"The '12-Uhr Blatt' today publishes a list of the British losses on the Norwegian coast within the last twelve days. This list, which the '12-Uhr Blatt' has based on private calculations, includes:

- 4 battleships
- 2 battle cruisers
- 7 aircraft carriers
- 4 heavy cruisers
- 10 cruisers
- 12 destroyers
- 13 submarines
- 15 transport ships
- 29 planes.

TOTAL LOSSES: 90 Fighting Units.

U.S.A. Broadcast by Elmer Davis, Columbia Broadcasting System's commentator on the news given opposite, (April 22nd.):

"If the German story is true, the Allied fleet must be about wiped out. Yet the Allies still command the sea and are able to land troops in Norway without opposition except from the German air force, so it looks as if these German stories contain a large element of optimism, if not of plain fiction."



ENEMY AIRCRAFT OFF THAMES AND HUMBER

The Air Ministry announces:

A number of enemy aircraft appeared off our east and south-east coasts last night. These aircraft were apparently engaged in attempting to lay mines in the approaches to the Thames and Humber estuaries.

Anti-aircraft batteries and naval units opened fire at several points, searchlights were exposed and Royal Air Force fighter aircraft were sent up to try to intercept.

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AIR AFFAIRS



P R E S S   N O T I C EMercantile Losses due to Enemy Action for the 33rd week  
ending Sunday/Monday midnight 21/22nd April, 1940.

British	3	}	TOTAL = 3
Allied	Nil		
Neutral	Nil		

List of British Ships

17/4	"SWAINBY"	4,935 tons
20/4	"MERSEY"	1,037 tons
20/4	"HAWNBY"	<u>5,380 tons</u>
		<u>11,352 tons</u>

The tonnage loss for the week is about one half the average weekly tonnage loss for the 33 weeks since commencement of hostilities.

GERMAN SHIPS CAPTURED, SUNK, ETC.

The S/T "RHEIN" 254 tons was intercepted and captured by one of H.M. Ships on 20/4.

The "TORGEN FRITZEN" 4465 tons reported sunk S. of Stockholm, possibly by mine.

H.M. Submarines report having sunk the following German transport or supply ships:-

- 13/4 One Ship of about 3,000 tons
- 14/4 One Ship of about 6,000 tons
- One Ship in a Convoy
- 15/4 Four Ships in a Convoy

The following German Ships which were at Narvik on 9th April are believed to have been sunk:-

"JAN WELLEM	11,776 (Oil Refinery Ship)
"NEUENFELS"	8,096
"AACHEN"	6,388
"ALTONA"	5,892
"HEIN HOYER"	5,836
"BOCKENHEIM"	4,902
"MARTIN HENDRIK FISSE"	4,879
"FRIELINGHAUS"	<u>4,339</u>
	<u>52,108</u>

/Assuming



Assuming the above tonnage sunk by our submarines to be about 30,000 tons, the total German losses may be summed up as about 450,000 tons to date, viz:-

Captured to 20/4	=	114,500 tons.
Sunk or scuttled to 13/4	=	250,000 tons.
Reported by H.M. Submarines since 13/4	=	30,000 tons.
Presumed lost at Narvik	=	52,000 tons.
Sunk off Sweden possibly mined	=	<u>4,500</u> tons.
		<u>451,000</u>

Note. The sinking of the "RIO de JANEIRO" last week was attributed to a British Submarine but it now appears this feat should have been credited to Polish S/M "ORZEL".

Convoys:-

Up to noon Wednesday 17th April, 17,746 British, Allied and Neutral Vessels had been escorted in British Convoys with a loss of 29 Ships that is a loss ratio of one in 612. During the week no ships were lost in convoy. Of 2,830 Neutrals conveyed to date only 3 have been lost being one in 943.

CORRECTIONS TO LAST WEEKLY REPORT.

In list of Neutral Ships the "INEZ" (Swedish) 310 tons has since been corrected to "INES" of 48 tons.

The "STANCLIFFE" 4511 tons (British) was sunk by U-boat on 12/4 but information concerning this loss was not received until Tuesday 16th after issue of last week's list.

ADMIRALTY,  
S.W.1.

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23/4/40 - No. 3.

FRENCH OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE (Morning.)

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

NOTHING TO REPORT.



P R E S S   N O T I C E

It is now possible, from the preliminary reports of surviving officers of H.M.S. HARDY, to give in some detail the account of the attack on German forces in Narvik by the Second Destroyer Flotilla on April 10th, 1940.

On the afternoon of April 9th, 1940, the Second Destroyer Flotilla consisting of H.M. Destroyers HARDY, HOTSPUR, HOSTILE, HAVOCK and HUNTER were between the south-west end of the Lofoten Islands and the mainland of Norway. The sea between the Lofoten Islands and the Norwegian coast is called West Fiord. It is nearly 60 miles long. Wide at the entrance it narrows to a channel less than two miles wide. West Fiord leads into Ofot Fiord, towards the head of which lies Narvik, with the small but deep Rombaks Fiord beyond the harbour. From West Fiord to Ofot Fiord ships have to pass through a channel nearly fifteen miles long and less than two miles wide, with high land on either side. It is an approach which is easy enough in daylight with good visibility, but a passage not lightly to be undertaken at night in a heavy snow-storm, with strong enemy forces in the vicinity.

At 4 p.m. on April 9th H.M.S. HARDY, the Flotilla leader, (Captain Warburton-Lee) approached Tranoy, a Norwegian pilot station near the head of West Fiord, and landed two officers to seek information. Thus it was learnt that Narvik was strongly held by the Germans and that there were in Ofot Fiord at least six German destroyers larger and more powerful than H.M.S. HARDY and her consorts. This intelligence was communicated to the Admiralty. The Admiralty thought an attack on Narvik by the Second Destroyer Flotilla in face of these strong German forces so hazardous that at 1 a.m. on April 10th Captain Warburton-Lee was told that he must be the sole judge of whether to attack or not, and that the Admiralty would support him whatever happened. Captain Warburton-Lee replied that he intended to attack at dawn high water.

At 3 a.m. on April 10th, H.M. Destroyers HARDY, HOTSPUR, HOSTILE, HAVOCK and HUNTER ceased their patrol in West Fiord and proceeded into the narrow channel leading into Ofot Fiord. There was a slight East wind. It was misty and snowing heavily. Visibility was so low that fog lights had to be used to enable the ships to keep in touch with one another. H.M.S. HARDY led the flotilla. The narrative of one of her officers states: "We never saw either side of the fiord at all, except early, when we nearly hit it once".

The passage was, however, successfully accomplished, and about 4.30 a.m. the flotilla was off Narvik. With the other destroyers patrolling outside, H.M.S. HARDY entered Narvik harbour alone. At first nothing but a merchant ship near the entrance could be seen. When H.M.S. HARDY had passed the ship, however, a mass of other shipping came into view including a large German destroyer. H.M.S. HARDY at once turned to port and fired torpedoes, at the same time increasing speed to 20 knots. As H.M.S. HARDY was swinging under helm two more large German destroyers came into view. Torpedoes were fired at them and H.M.S. HARDY opened fire with her guns. At that moment there was a loud explosion and a sheet of red flame from the first German destroyer, and thousands of rounds of tracer ammunition began to go off in the air, looking like bright stars. One of H.M.S. HARDY's torpedoes had found its mark and one of the enemy ships had been accounted for.

/Hotly



Hotly engaged by two German ships of superior gun-power, and also by guns mounted ashore, and having fired her torpedoes, H.M.S. HARDY withdrew, and the other British destroyers went in to the attack. Their torpedoes made havoc among the German supply ships and transports, and the German destroyers were hit by gunfire. Then H.M.S. HARDY attacked again. She was at once heavily engaged by the shore batteries and the heavier guns of the two remaining German destroyers in the harbour. Again H.M.S. HARDY withdrew, and the other British destroyers attacked in turn, hammering at the German destroyers and batteries, which quickly ceased fire, so that it was thought that all opposition had been broken. This time, as H.M.S. HARDY withdrew, six torpedoes passed close to her.

H.M.S. HARDY led a third attack, but, as she withdrew from this she sighted three large German destroyers steaming towards her from the direction of Rombaks Fiord. The signal to withdraw was at once made, and speed was increased to 30 knots. At the same time H.M.S. HARDY opened fire on the leading German ships. The German ships were firing at H.M.S. HARDY.

As H.M.S. HARDY, leading the flotilla, turned down the fiord, two more large German destroyers were sighted ahead. Action was at once joined. H.M.S. HARDY was hit almost immediately by the heavier shells of the German ships. (The German destroyers of the ROEDER class mount five 5 inch guns as against the five 4.7 inch guns of H.M.S. HARDY and the four 4.7 inch guns of the other British destroyers engaged.)

The bridge of H.M.S. HARDY was hit and reduced to a shambles. Captain Warburton-Lee was mortally wounded. The only man on the bridge who was not killed or rendered unconscious was the Captain's Secretary, Paymaster Lieutenant Stanning, and his left foot was useless. Aft, the First Lieutenant, Lieutenant-Commander Mansell, was keeping the remaining guns in action.

Realising that the ship was still steaming fast and without anybody at the helm, Paymaster Lieutenant Stanning dragged himself to the wheelhouse. It was a shambles and there was nobody alive, so Paymaster Lieutenant Stanning took the wheel himself and steered the ship, looking through a shell hole.

Soon afterwards an able seaman appeared. Paymaster Lieutenant Stanning turned the wheel over to him and made his way back to the bridge, where he took charge of the ship. He had no idea of what was happening aft, but he has reported that he had a vague idea of ramming the enemy, who were now abreast of H.M.S. HARDY and firing almost point blank. At that moment, however a shell struck H.M.S. HARDY in the engine room. Steam escaped and the vessel at once began to lose way. Paymaster Lieutenant Stanning then put the helm over to beach the ship in order to save life. By the time H.M.S. HARDY grounded she was practically stopped. One gun was still in action, and the ship was under heavy fire at short range.

Meanwhile H.M.S. HUNTER had been sunk and H.M.S. HOTSPUR and H.M.S. HOSTILE had suffered damage. The Germans, however, were by no means unscathed. In addition to six supply ships sunk in Narvik harbour and the German destroyer torpedoed by H.M.S. HARDY, three of the other German destroyers had been heavily hit and were seriously on fire. The enemy made no attempt to pursue the remaining British destroyers, and these sank the German ammunition ship RAVENSFELD on their way down the Fiord.



The ship's company of H.M.S. HARDY, under the command of Lieutenant-Commander Mansell, the first Lieutenant, were endeavouring to abandon ship under fire. This was no easy matter, as the only remaining boat proved unseaworthy, and there were many badly wounded. The German destroyers, however, soon drew off.

Captain Warburton Lee was lashed in a stretcher and lowered into the water. He was towed ashore by Mr. McCracken, the Gunner, and one rating, but he was dead when they reached the shore.

There were several wooden houses about half a mile from the shore, and the survivors distributed themselves among these for warmth and shelter. The majority went to the house of a Mrs. Christansen, where about eighty men huddled together trying to restore their circulation. Mrs. Christansen and her daughter distributed food and all the clothes they had. Surgeon Lieutenant Waind, himself wounded, did what he could for the wounded, the bearing of whom was very courageous. Particularly was this so in the case of Able Seaman Bailey, who, half frozen with cold and with one hand shot off, sat for one and a half hours and never once murmured.

The first consideration was to get help for the wounded. A Norwegian succeeded in getting an ambulance from Ballanger, a small town fifteen miles away on the south side of Ofot Fiord, which took some of the wounded. Others were lashed on to a sledge and dragged into Ballanger. For the greater part of the way the road was nothing but a rutted track full of holes. It must have caused great pain to the wounded, but they bore their sufferings with the greatest fortitude. Able Seaman Clark was particularly courageous. Chief Stoker Styles, who had been very seriously wounded and had been brought ashore by Lieutenant Commander Mansell and Stoker Petty Officer Carey, died of his injuries and was buried under the snow.

On their way to Ballanger the survivors of H.M.S. HARDY fell in with British merchant seamen from the NORTH CORNWALL. This ship had been captured by the Germans the day before and the crew made prisoners on board a German supply ship in Narvik harbour, but they had been released during the action, when the supply ship, among others, was sunk.

At Ballanger the British survivors made contact with the Norwegians, re-organised, and consolidated. They were taken off by H.M.S. IVANHOE on April 13th, after H.M.S. WARSPITE and other British naval forces had accounted for the whole of the German naval forces in Narvik and Rombaks Fiord.



23RD APRIL, 1940, NO.5.  
M.A.F. 205.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ANNOUNCEMENT

GROW VEGETABLES TO STORE

Occupiers of allotments and private gardens are again reminded of the importance of growing, as far as possible, crops that can be stored for use next winter, such as onions and carrots. It has to be remembered that every year we import into this country some  $4\frac{1}{2}$  million cwt. of onions - about twelve times the quantity we grow ourselves - and from 3 to 4 thousand cwt. of carrots. These supplies cannot be relied upon in war-time, and the matter should receive immediate attention. The time is already late for sowing onions for storing, and carrots should be sown this month. Choose late-keeping varieties in each case and the flat types of onion, which are the most suitable.

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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE NO.33.

Two Million Acres And The Men Who Ploughed It.

Two million acres of additional ploughland are now a virtual certainty. The objective may even have been reached already. It has been an astonishing achievement on the part of the farmers and ploughing contractors, all things considered, but, in the hour of triumph, special thanks must be given to the farm workers and tractor drivers.

Without their never failing goodwill, their readiness to work long hours, often in bitter weather and in the darkness and on Sundays in many cases, the ploughing campaign could never have succeeded. Representatives of all political parties paid tribute to them when Lord Denham moved the second reading of the Agricultural Wages Bill in the House of Lords last week. It was a tribute fully earned.

Lord Denham made an important point when speaking on this Bill which, in principle, all the political parties have endorsed. He pointed out that not only have representatives of the Agricultural Workers' Union often emphasised their willingness to help in any scheme to secure the farmers a square deal; they have gone farther and stood always for fair prices for the farmers. They have pressed this policy upon the Trade Union Congress with eventual success.

Speaking later in the week at the annual Conference of Rural Community Councils, Lord Denham again referred to the wages question and said: "If our grow more food campaign is to be a success, we must give our agricultural workers better wages."

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MEND THE MACHINERY BEFORE IT BREAKS.

As the implement trade knows only too well, the opening of the hay-making season usually synchronises with a sudden and urgent cry for "spares". Even in peace time such demands often cannot be met by return of post. In wartime, of course, the position is much worse.



It is therefore more necessary than ever that farmers should really carry out the good resolutions they made last year and look to their implements without delay. Any machine that breaks down is a nuisance, but a broken mower or binder can be a tragedy, and these machines need more careful inspection than most.

The following are some of the points to check up with mowers. Loose, worn or broken sections of the knife bar should obviously be replaced by new blades and the fingers tightened and aligned. The knife bar should have a forward rake, for if it lags back it will not cut properly. This can be adjusted at the hinge. See that the connecting rod bearings are sound.

Replace worn pawls in the wheels, for if they are allowed to go too far they cause excessive wear of the teeth inside the hub, and a new hub is expensive. See that the gear wheels mesh properly, especially the bevel wheels. Where the bearings are worn, the wheels can be made to mesh properly by the judicious use of packing and washers. It pays also to clean off the caked oil and dust with paraffin, for this often hides a cracked casting that might break during use.

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#### LABOUR CLUBS FOR THE LAND.

Labour is the most essential factor limiting food production and in spite of the very low age for agriculture as a reserved occupation it is inevitable that farmers will have to make use of a certain amount of labour less skilled than they would wish.

Much voluntary help was forthcoming last harvest and was appreciated by farmers. In this respect the activities of the Voluntary Labour Club, formed at Altrincham on 27th September last, are worthy of public notice. Up to the end of March the Club was responsible for 340 man-days' work.



Members are recruited chiefly from men with indoor occupations who visit farms at the invitation of the farmers to do necessary work. They meet on Sundays, with bicycles and sandwiches, in the Old Market Place, Altrincham, at 8.55 a.m. Work generally ceases at 5 p.m.

It is hoped to arrange work on Saturday afternoons also in the summer. Farmers are asked to make reasonable payment, but all money earned is given to charity after deducting expenses. Previous agricultural experience is not necessary, but the club has an expert honorary advisor.

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#### ORDER RICK COVERS NOW.

Farmers are urged to place their orders NOW for any additional covers they may require for hay and corn stacks. The usual supplies of covers may not be so readily obtainable as in peace time; so, to avoid disappointment later in the season, farmers are strongly advised to overhaul existing covers and make immediate arrangements for replacements and additions. Apart from water-proofed cotton and jute covers, sisal paper, properly held down, may meet some requirements under existing conditions; the value of old sail cloth, often available at fishing villages, and similar second hand material should not be overlooked.

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#### MAKING THE MOST OF ROOTS.

This year is likely to see a considerable increase in the acreage of roots. We should make the most of them, for they will be replacing imported feeding-stuffs that money cannot buy. To do so on a large scale liberal all round manuring is essential.



Forty tons of mangolds per acre are not an exceptional crop and greater yields can be obtained by going all out for the maximum and cultivating a small rather than a large acreage and doing it thoroughly well.

Dung should have been ploughed in, 10 to 20 tons per acre. It not only provides a continuous supply of plant food from itself, but also liberates still more by promoting decay of the turf. If no dung or only a light dressing has been applied, the following mixture of artificial fertilisers is suitable:-

3 cwt. sulphate of ammonia	}	per acre
3 " super phosphate		
2 " potash salts 3%		

With a heavy dressing of dung, half the above quantity would suffice and in all cases rather less nitrogen for swedes and turnips than for mangolds. Fertilisers should be harrowed in to the seedbed before drilling. Basic Slag (4 - 5 cwt) can take the place of the superphosphate but then the sulphate of ammonia would have to be applied separately or replaced in the mixture by nitrate of soda.

There is another crop worth consideration by those who can spare a bit of land - carrots. They are likely to be in demand for human consumption and stock will revel in any left over. They can be grown without much manure and 10 - 12 tons per acre is an average crop. Seed is drilled thinly, 4-6 lb. per acre in May and June and thinning is now usually dispensed with. Incidentally, late sowing and no singling are safeguards against carrot fly.

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#### CREDIT FOR FERTILISERS.

Farmers are reminded that the nitrogenous fertilisers, which it is so important that they apply to corn crops not



later than the middle of May, come under the Agricultural Requisites Assistance Scheme, and so in suitable cases they may be obtained on credit through the County War Agricultural Committees. Payment for fertilisers acquired under this scheme would be expected at a reasonable time after the resulting corn crops have been harvested and sold.

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#### REMEMBER THE HORSE.

Horse versus tractor is a favourite argument for agricultural debating societies. But on the farm horse and tractor are more often allies.

While the demands of the ploughing-out campaign have necessitated the immediate use of more tractors, simultaneously there has been an increased demand for the horse. Nor is this demand confined to the farm; military requirements and that of general hauliers and distributors of goods must also be satisfied. It is desirable, therefore, to mate as many suitable mares as are available.

In many parts of the country Horse Breeding Societies, the subscriptions to which are more or less nominal, serve the demands of farmers by hiring suitable sires; Masters of Foxhounds and Hunts also play a valuable part by putting sires at the disposal of farmers in their county.

Although at the moment the provision of grants by the Ministry of Agriculture to approved societies has been suspended, all stallions travelled for service, whether of light or heavy breeds, are still licensed by the Ministry.

#### Duty On Farm Tractors To Be Removed.

The import duty on track-laying tractors will shortly be lifted. The President of the Board of Trade announced in the House of Commons yesterday, 23rd April that arrangements are about to be made to enable track-laying tractors for agricultural use to be imported free of customs duty, subject to certain conditions.



TO NOT BOILING SWILL - £10.

Farmers are reminded of the necessity of boiling swill before feeding it to pigs. Not only is this in their own interest, as a safeguard against the transmission of disease, but it is the law. A farmer was recently fined £10 and costs in a local court for feeding unboiled swill to his pigs.



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23/4/40 - No. 9.

MR. KENNETH LINDSAY on "THE PROBLEMS OF YOUTH"

Mr. Kenneth Lindsay, Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education, and Chairman of the National Youth Committee, this morning addressed a conference of the Industrial Welfare Society on "Problems of Youth". The Chairman was the Rev. Robert Hyde.

Mr. Lindsay said that there were 3,000,000 young British citizens in industry and commerce between the ages of 14 and 20. Less than 50,000 attended any part-time day education, and these were mainly in engineering, printing, building and allied trades. For hundreds of thousands of young people work was mechanised and monotonous and of no educational value. Shorter hours and better welfare conditions had generally been attained. But much more was wanted.

The National Youth Committee was appointed by the Government to tackle this problem. In five months some 200 Local Youth Committees had been formed. It was their task to bring together all the agencies and forces working for the welfare of youth.

It was idle to think that training or education could be dove-tailed into the actual work as far as thousands of young people were concerned. They needed above everything else correctives; they needed physical recreation and games, creative and imaginative outlets, contact with the elemental forces of nature, some community life and also the chance to be alone. In addition they were growing citizens.

Any movement for youth in this country must re-create a love for the soil, the tongue and the traditions of our land: it must, therefore, be firmly rooted in local genius and patriotism. Young people must feel that they belong: this means that we must take youth more seriously. We must make far more social provision for them and also make much greater demands on their service.

It is painfully true that thousands of young people can grow up, without any real knowledge of our own history and with no faith in Christian civilization. This is not the fault of the schools, it is the result of devitalised leadership, city life and cheap, soft amusement. We might well borrow something from the training of a young sailor or airman and incorporate it in the social training for all our youth. Every democratic country in the world would rejoice to know that this had happened.

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R.A.F. BOMB NORWEGIAN AERODROMES.

The Air Ministry announces:

R.A.F. aircraft carried out further attacks on enemy air bases in Norway and Denmark during last (Monday) night.

Aerodromes at Kjeller and Fornebu near Oslo were bombed.

Incendiary bombs were seen to start a large fire at Fornebu.

Aalborg was also further attacked.

The German claims that four British aircraft were shot down during last night's operations are false one British aircraft only has failed to return.



For Information.

GALLIPOLI AND ANZAC DAY, APRIL 25TH, 1940.

List of times allocated for official representatives to attend at the Cenotaph on 25th April, for the purpose of laying wreaths.

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- |    |                            |   |
|----|----------------------------|---|
| 1. | 10.10 a.m.                 | Hon. W.J. Jordan, High Commissioner for New Zealand on behalf of the New Zealand Forces.  |
| 2. | 10.20 a.m.                 | Field Marshal Lord Birdwood, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., C.I.E., D.C.L., LL.D., on behalf of the Indian Army.         |
| 3. | 10.30 a.m.                 | Rt.Hon. S.M. Bruce, P.C., C.H., M.C., High Commissioner for Australia on behalf of the Australian Forces.                       |
| 4. | 10.40 a.m.                 | General Sir Ian S.M. Hamilton, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., on behalf of the British Empire Service League.                  |
| 5. | 10.50 a.m.                 | General A. Lelong, C.V.O., French Military Attache on behalf of the French Army and Navy of the Corps Expeditionnaire d'Orient. |
| 6. | 11 a.m.                    | The Officer representing the Merchant Navy.   |
| 7. | 11.10 a.m.                 | The Officer representing the Royal Navy.  |
| 8. | 11.20 a.m.                 | General Sir Beauvoir de Lisle, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., on behalf of the 29th Division.  |
| 9. | Time to be notified later. | General Sir Walter P. Braithwaite, G.C.B., on behalf of the Army Council and the British Army.                                  |

THE WAR OFFICE.  
LONDON.S.W.1.  
23rd April 1940.



23/4/40 - No. 12.

PRESS NOTICE

The Depot for Knitted Garments for the Royal Navy is moving to larger premises, at 97 Eaton Square, S.W.1.

Will those helpers who have parcels ready to post to the Depot please retain them until after Monday next, April 29th. This will avoid confusion while the offices are being moved to the new address.

ADMIRALTY,  
WHITEHALL,  
S. W.



23/4/40 - No. 13.

BUDGET SPEECH  
by SIR JOHN SIMON, CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER  
in the HOUSE OF COMMONS, April 23rd, 1940.

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The following summary of points in the Chancellor's Speech is placed at the disposal of the Press by the Press Bureau: -

Sir John Simon said: -

Seven months ago in the abnormal conditions which existed at that time, it could not be expected that figures of expenditure could be very precisely foretold.

As regards expenditure, all I could do was to add to the total of expenditure already approved a round sum of £500,000,000 vote of credit.

I warned the Committee that it was uncertain whether this first vote of credit would be sufficient to cover all our new expenditure to the end of the year.

This first vote of credit has been underspent by £91,500,000.

This was a saving under various heads in last year's expenditure amounting as a whole to £116,500,000.

THE REVENUE ESTIMATE OF £995,000,000 ODD HAD BEEN EXCEEDED IN FACT BY £54,000,000 - OVER £1,000,000 A WEEK.

THIS WAS A MOST HEARTENING RESULT.

The estimate of last September both for Income and Surtax, had been fulfilled practically precisely.

I know from many letters I have received on this subject that these direct tax-payers have made a very special effort to comply with the request for payment.

An invalid tax-payer, living in the North, in the snowy days of January sent his tax - in this case it amounted to some £13 - by the hand of his wife, in the rough weather, on foot, to the office of the collector in a town several miles away. He wrote to me the next day in a state of some distress as he had found, in spite of his efforts to pay, the lady arrived after the office was closed.

£390,000,000 HAD BEEN PRODUCED BY INCOME-TAX IN A SINGLE YEAR.

THIS WAS THE LARGEST AMOUNT THAT INCOME-TAX HAS EVER YIELDED IN A SINGLE YEAR.

In the first year of the last War the total was £59,000,000.



Last year's Surtax produced £69,750,000: Surtax in 1914-15 produced £10,000,000.

Customs and Excise produced £400,000,000 - £27,500,000 more than the estimate.

The surplus was chiefly due to exceptionally large yields from articles on which duty was increased in the last budget.

Tobacco had produced £9,700,000 more Revenue, spirits £1,700,000 more. Sugar £4,600,000 more. Beer £750,000 more.

When a year ago I ventured to increase the licence on the motor car horse-power, there were many who prophesied that I should suffer.

In my war budget, I put down as my estimated yield from the horse-power tax £22,000,000. In fact it has produced £34,000,000.

On private motor cars the receipts for the first three months of this year were over £10,500,000.

The net receipts from the Post Office had shown a drop.

WE HAVE SPENT IN THE YEAR £1,817,000,000.  
WE HAVE FOUND OUT OF REVENUE £1,049,000,000  
AND WE HAVE BORROWED THE REST -- £768,000,000

The national debt had increased to £8,931,000,000.

£122,000,000 was received last year for the new Savings Certificates and Defence Bonds.

Amounts received from Certificates and Defence Bonds exceeded the amount to be repaid by £109,000,000.

Of the loan of £350,000,000, £245,000,000 was converted in the Two Per Cent Conversion Loan and £105,000,000 is to be repaid in cash.

I enter this new financial year with all its difficulties with the prospect of nearly £100,000,000 as the joint result of the issue of the previous Loan and the dealing with the  $4\frac{1}{2}$  Per Cent Loan.

#### WAR COST TO DATE.

IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THE WAR EXPENDITURE FOR WAR PURPOSES WAS £905,000,000.

At that pace, something over £1,500,000,000 would be proportionate for twelve months.

I estimate that, by March 31 next year, expenditure for war purposes only, would be £2,000,000,000.



Apart from the Service Departments, the Ministry of Supply and the Ministry of Shipping, there is no reason, even in war time why a fairly complete analysis of expenditure of other Departments should not be given.

It is a very noteworthy fact that we were able to raise our war loan at the rate of three per cent. I am assuming that in future loans we shall not exceed the levels already established.

The figure to be provided for expenditure in the present year is £2,667,000,000.

The people of this country, facing the demand which this Budget is bound to make, will be ready, for the sake of victory, to accept its burdens provided they are satisfied that every effort is being made to reduce waste.

Huge as this sum is, which I have to provide, it would have been substantially greater had it not been for the strenuous and largely successful efforts in different Departments to keep expenditure down.

I have to ask myself what contribution towards this total of £2,667,000,000 can be provided by the continuance of existing taxation at the present level.

Also how much should be contributed by additional imposts which I find it my duty to propose.

IF THE STANDARD RATE OF INCOME TAX REMAINED AT LAST YEAR'S FIGURE HE ESTIMATED THAT IT WOULD YIELD IN THE CURRENT YEAR £408,000,000.

The yield of stamp duties I put at £19,000,000.

From National Defence contribution and Excess Profits Tax I estimate a total yield of £70,000,000.

Other Revenue duties are expected to produce £1,000,000.

The total Inland Revenue I therefore estimate at £658,000,000.

On the present basis of taxation, on Customs and Excise, I estimate £420,000,000.

From motor vehicle duties I estimate a revenue of £35,000,000.

In view of war conditions we must postpone the General Revaluation of properties for assessment under Schedule A.

The rates at present charged by the Post Office should be made to bear some increase as a contribution to war expenditure.

I shall propose legislation to assist the Export Trade by improving the conditions under which drawback is payable on exported goods.



A second proposal will relate to the margin of preference on Empire sugar.

The object of the legislation will be to make it clear that the present Preference will continue until the end of August 1942.

The concession, under which members of H.M. Forces home on leave are exempt from motor licence on their own cars or motor cycles for a short period, on payment of a fee of 10/- for a car and 2/- for a motor cycle, has already been put in force.

If, after the war, there emerged a minority of individuals to whom the war had brought nothing but colossal fortunes that would be a situation which Parliament could not pass by without effective and appropriate action.

This is essentially a post-war project and it is the Governments intention to deal with this matter when the time comes.

I consider it necessary, by means of additional taxation, to increase the Revenue.

I must look therefore both to direct and indirect taxation.

I PROPOSE TO RAISE THE STANDARD RATE OF INCOME TAX FROM 7/- TO 7/6.

These changes in income tax would mean a very substantial contribution throughout the scale from one end to the other.

It was the heaviest burden of direct taxation that tax payers had ever been called upon to bear.

The standard rate of tax would have been raised within a single year from 5/- to 7/6.

When Surtax was added, the maximum rate would run up to 17/- in the £.

Nothing on this scale had even been approached before whether in war or peace.

These changes in income tax will increase the yield in a full year by £61,750,000.

I PROPOSE TO PROVIDE IN THE FINANCE BILL THAT SURTAX FOR THE YEAR 1940-41, THE RATES FOR WHICH WILL NOT BE LAID DOWN UNTIL 1941, CAN BE CHARGED ON INCOMES IN EXCESS OF £1,500.

He proposed to add to the existing duties on beer, spirits, tobacco, and matches.

In the case of beer the increase would be roughly equivalent to a penny a pint.

New duty would take effect from tomorrow.

He proposed also to increase the duties on spirits by 15/- per proof gallon.

This would increase the price of a bottle of whisky by 1s. 9d.



Tobacco would be increased by 4/- as from tomorrow.

HE ESTIMATED A YIELD IN A FULL YEAR OF £70,000,000 FROM THE INCREASE IN THE SPIRIT DUTIES AND £23,000,000 AS A RESULT OF THE INCREASE IN TOBACCO.

The letter rate would be increased by 1d. to 2½d.

I must call the Post Office to my aid. I propose to increase certain initial Post Office charges which will leave the excess rate untouched.

The postcard rate would be increased from 1d. to 2d.

I propose to make a change in the poundage on Postal Orders.

Inland telephone service will be increased by fifteen per cent.

These increases will yield £10,400,000 and £11,400,000 in a full year.

Boxes of matches will be increased by ½d. and booklets of twenty, sold at ½d, will be replaced by booklets of thirty, sold at 1d.

The charge for inland telegraph services would be increased by 3d. The additional charges would operate as soon as possible.

I do not propose to increase the overseas telegraph and telephone charges.

The increase in Post Office charges, taken together, were estimated to yield £12,500,000 this year and about £14,500,000 in a full year.

#### NEW FORM OF TAX

I also propose a new form of tax which will bring in substantial additional revenue.

I propose to call it the Purchase Tax.

The new tax would be a percentage on the price which would be made at the stage when the wholesaler is selling to the retailer.

There will be no purchase tax on food or drink or foodstuffs, whether for human or animal consumption.

A register will be created which will include producers and manufacturers.

The registered seller would charge the Tax to the buyer and would be accountable for the Tax.

The date and percentage rate of the Purchase Tax would not be decided now.

The Tax would put no sort of obstacle in the way of export trade.

The very large sums of money which had to be found to meet the expenses of war necessitate a widening of taxation.



This form of tax, if boldly applied, is capable of producing a larger additional sum towards our revenue than appears to me to be likely to be drawn from any other individual tax.

The estimated total contribution from revenue is £1,234,000,000.

The question was - could the very large gap of £1,133,000,000 be bridged by borrowing on existing lines, or were there other means?

The National Savings Campaign has had a remarkable success. Already, in the first twenty-one weeks of the movement, a sum of no less than £131,149,599 has been invested in Savings Certificates and Defence Bonds.

In some quarters there has been hesitation in making full use of opportunities for small saving.

The ground for this was that if an individual lost his employment and applied for Unemployment Assistance his war savings might be taken into account in determining the amount of assistance to which he would be entitled.

I am so concerned to encourage War Savings that I am prepared to see the existing rules governing the application of the Means Test modified so as to remove these objections altogether.

The statement I have just made is in line with the advice I have received from both sides on the National Advisory Council.

I propose to provide for the limitation of dividends paid by public Companies during the war period.

A Bill would propose that public companies should not distribute a greater dividend on ordinary shares than was distributed in one of the three pre-war years.

In order to make this plan watertight, I propose to prohibit the issue of bonus shares during the War.

This total of £1,234,000,000 which I am seeking to get from revenue this year is a larger figure drawn from taxation than has ever been raised in twelve months in the history of the British Nation.

Our financial front will hold as firmly as every other front in the fight for Victory.

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NAVAL CANADIANS.

OFFICERS IN TRAINING.

Somewhere on the South Coast a party of young officers of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve is undergoing training with the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve.

They are members of the R.C.N.V.R., and as such their pay and allowances are being paid by Canada. They are eager to take their part in the present conflict, and will remain with the Royal Navy until the war is over, after which they will return to their duties in the Dominion.

Further batches of young men from Canada are following for similar training.

Those now in training are drawn from various walks of life in many parts of Canada, and their offer of service, which was accepted with alacrity by the Admiralty, reflects the comprehensiveness of Canada's response to the call for volunteers - a response that has already produced impressive totals in air and military personnel.

The training of Canadian naval officers with the Royal Navy does not introduce any new principle. All Canada's permanent naval officer personnel has undergone training in the Royal Navy as a matter of course ever since the early days of the Dominion's Navy. Not only so, but many of the officers return periodically to this country for "refresher" courses, while each year a considerable number of Canadian naval ratings is sent to this country for general instruction and sea service, if necessary, to gain practical experience - a striking evidence of the close collaboration between Dominion and British Services.

The first selection of the young men now undergoing training with the R.N.V.R. was made from many applications by the Canadian Department of National Defence, which has been responsible also for selecting those who will shortly arrive.



The War Office,

London, S.W.1.

23rd April, 1940.

The following is the latest list of German Prisoners  
of War:-

Prisoners of War.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Christian Name</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Where from</u>	<u>Age</u>
Ober Leutnant	Harold	Vogel	Offenbach on Main	30

Enemy Dead

			<u>Place and Date of Burial.</u>
Ofel	Ernst	Rost	Wick Public Cemetery, South Road, Wick. 11.4.40. Section O. No.480.
Ofel	Kurt	Geerds	Wick Public Cemetery, South Road, Wick. 11.4.40. Section O. No.479



C O M M U N I Q U E.

The 8th Meeting of the Supreme War Council was held in Paris on April 22nd and 23rd.

Great Britain was represented by Mr. Chamberlain, Lord Halifax, Mr. Winston Churchill and Sir Samuel Hoare, who were accompanied by Sir Ronald Campbell, Sir Alexander Cadogan, Sir Cyril Newall, Sir Dudley Pound and Sir Edmund Ironside.

France was represented by M. Paul Reynaud, M. Edouard Daladier, M. Campinchi, M. Laurent-Eynac, who were accompanied by M. Leger, M. Baudouin, General Gamelin, Admiral Darlan, General Vuillemin, M. Corbin and General Koeltz.

Poland was represented by General Sikorski and M. Zaleski.

Norway was represented by M. Bachke, the Norwegian Minister in Paris.

There was a general exchange of views at the meeting on all the political and military problems requiring the close attention of the Allied Governments at the present time in order to ensure the due and timely fulfilment of the undertakings of the Allies and the common defence of their interests against any hostile action. After having considered all questions relating to the general conduct of the war the Council reached new decisions designed to guarantee the effective co-operation in all circumstances of the Allies.

The Polish President of the Council assured the Supreme War Council of the determination with which the Polish Government, Army and people would continue to struggle with all their resources, which are at this moment in process of active reorganisation and development. The Council expressed great appreciation of the spirit inspiring these efforts and welcomed the effective contribution that Poland is making to the common cause.

The French President of the Council, the British Prime Minister and the Polish President of the Council invited the Norwegian Minister to express to his Government their admiration for the heroic resistance which was being offered to the invader by the people of Norway under the inspiring leadership of their Sovereign, King Haakon VII. The Norwegian Minister conveyed the thanks of his Government for the speed and effectiveness of the help given to his country by the Allied Governments.

10 DOWNING ST.



23/4/40 - No. 17

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED IN ANY COUNTRY BEFORE THE MORNING  
NEWSPAPERS OF WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1940, OR BROADCAST  
BEFORE 7 a.m. ON THAT DATE.

CANADIANS IN NORWAY

Reports have appeared in the Press that Canadian units  
are fighting in Norway.

It is authoritatively stated that these reports are  
incorrect, although there may be individual Canadians  
serving in the B.E.F. in Norway.

SOURCE NOT TO BE QUOTED

Military Affairs Section,  
Press and Censorship Bureau.  
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MORE ATTACKS ON NAZI AIR BASES

(Not to be quoted as an Air Ministry Announcement)

The Royal Air Force made its first raid on German Air Bases near Oslo last (Monday) night, when aircraft of the Royal Air Force Bomber Command attacked Fornebu and Kjeller Aerodromes, on the outskirts of the Norwegian capital. While these raids were in progress, another force of bomber aircraft was carrying out an attack on the Danish aerodrome at Aalborg, which was heavily bombed for a third night in succession.

The attacks on Fornebu and Kjeller were made in the early hours of this morning. The Fornebu air base, a recently completed civil aerodrome to the west of the city, was covered with snow.

High explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped on both aerodromes, and a large fire was left blazing opposite the Hangar buildings at Fornebu.

The Aalborg raiders met with the most severe opposition yet encountered from the ground defences at this aerodrome. The gun batteries had obviously been reinforced since the previous night's raid, and opened intense fire, concentrated over the target area, as each aircraft came in to launch its attack. One of our aircraft was hit by a small calibre shell which struck between the fuselage and one engine nacelle, but was able to complete its attack and return safely.

Despite the intense opposition, all attacks were pressed home and a large number of heavy bombs were seen to burst on the aerodrome surface and runways. One of our aircraft has failed to return from the night's operations.

AIR AFFAIRS.



23/4/40 - No 19

The War Office issues the following communique:-

Operations in Norway are proceeding in co-operation with the Norwegian Forces.

In the South our troops, in conjunction with the Norwegians, are resisting the enemy pressure.

North of Trondheim our troops have been counter-attacked and a sharp engagement has ensued.

WAR OFFICE  
WHITEHALL,  
S.W.1.



THE SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING RESULTS OF THE  
PASSING-OUT EXAMINATION OF CADETS FROM THE ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE,

DARTMOUTH.

MARCH, 1940.

RESULTS.

<u>ALPHA CLASS.</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>PRIZE</u>	<u>TIME GAINED.</u>
Kane, J.	1.	(King's Medal (Robert Roxburgh (French (Alpha) (English (Alpha)	
Deane, C.E.N.	1	(Science (Alpha) (Engineering (Open)	
Pooley, J.D.	1		
Buller, R.F.	1		
Scrymgeour-Wedderburn, I.A.	1	(History (Alpha) (Scripture	
Coulson-Davis, P.F.C.	1	Mathematics (Alpha)	Four months
Houston, D.A.	1		
Duff-Still, P.	1	German	
Burdett, A.J.D'A.	1		
Acworth, P.C.G.	1		
<u>DIVISION II.</u>			
Greenlees, R.C.C.	1	(History (Div.II.) (English (Div.II.) (Seamanship (bracketed with Cadet Oram)	
Page, P.H.	1		
Foster, L.R.R.	1		
Davies, J.M.P.	1	(Mathematics (Div.II) (Science (Div.II)	
Forrest, R.S.	II		
Evans, M.D.	II		
Cox, D.N.A.	II		
Edwards, P.B.	II		
Kennedy, R.	II		
Prescott, J.R.	II	Navigation (Open)	Two Months
Benson, M.G.W.	II	French (Div.II.)	
Holloway, D.R.	II		



<u>DIVISION II(Contd)</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>PRIZE</u>	<u>TIME GAINED</u>
Johnson, A.G.	II		
Learmond, P.A.	II		
Lawrence, P.R.	II		
Wilson, P.S.	II		
Keith-Wright, J.A.	II		Two Months.
Lane, J.R.	II		
Mocatta, J.M.	III		
Helps, T.D.P.	III		
Milburn, F.M.H.	III		
Howard, H.E.	III		
Oram, J.S.K.	III	Seamanship(bracketed with Cadet Greenlees)	
Woodhouse, R.W.	III		
Cunliffe-Owen,D.H.	III		
Beavor,J.M.P.	III		Nil.
Littledale,A.J.	III		
Cardew,J.B.	III		
Greenwood,A.H.	III		
Cowlin, J.R.J.	III		
Carey, D.H.	III		
Holloway, A.G.W.	III		



THE FOLLOWING NOTES OF A SPEECH BY MR. A. DUFF COOPER, D.S.O., M.P., AT THE LUNCHEON OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE, IN LONDON, TODAY (TUESDAY, 23RD APRIL) IS PLACED AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE PRESS BY THE PRESS BUREAU.

Mr. Duff Cooper said that the crimes of Germany in Europe were not only the crimes of a small band of criminals.

"These are the crimes of a whole people and a whole nation" he added.

Mr. Duff Cooper commenced his speech by saying that Mr. Churchill's voice had been that of one crying in the wilderness until the time of trouble struck England.

He continued by a reference to our young soldiers, sailors and airmen.

"When I see the young men going out to fight today", he said, "I am reminded of young men twenty-five years ago going out to battle but I think they are going now in a different mood.

"The character remains the same but the mood is changed.

"For the second time in one life they have seen one country drive the whole world into war.

"Their mood is of bitter rage, of grim defiance, and of unalterable determination. One slogan springs to the lips: 'Never again shall one nation be allowed to plunge the whole world into war'.

"Never again shall the whole of Europe tremble before the frowns and menaces of a single man. Never again shall one people be allowed to build up great armaments - a people who have given so many proofs that they are not to be trusted with their use.

"Not even the wildest and most fantastic mendacity can lay a particle of blame for this war upon the shoulders of England or France.

"The whole guilt is on the shoulders of Germany.

"They had hardly ceased to protest their guiltlessness of the last war when they rendered themselves guilty of another.

"They objected to the war guilt clause in the Treaty of Versailles. How much heavier will the indictment be when the next Peace Treaty comes to be written!

"The spectacle of Europe today is alone sufficient to give some measure of the weight of that indictment.

"We see the whole of Europe trembling under the terror of the Swastika. Throughout the lands that have been conquered, throughout the lands that are still neutral, there steals the stealthy horror of the Gestapo and from every country where the German has entered, there arises to heaven the cries of torture from the concentration camps."

/Mr. Duff Cooper



Mr. Duff Cooper mentioned the small countries which suffered during the last war, and the small countries which have suffered in this war, and when he spoke of Finland's magnificent resistance there were prolonged cheers.

Of these small countries he said:-

"They are now learning to their bitter cost what German domination means. But Norway (whose representative I am proud to be sitting by) - now not the least gallant of our Allies - is fighting side by side with us at this very hour to maintain her freedom against the menace that besets her.

"Now these series of crimes, which have made a horror of Europe, are not the crimes of one man; nor are they the crimes of a small band of criminals. These are the crimes of a whole people - a whole people and a whole nation.

"On the last occasion when we defeated the Germans in the field they came grovelling and whining to us afterwards, and protested that the fault was not theirs but that of the Princes who had fled before the storm.

"It may well be that when once again they are defeated they will come with the same tale and say it was only a small number of unrepresentative politicians who committed these crimes.

"I hope we shall not be deceived again.

"Hitler claims that the German people are behind him. I am prepared to take him at his word and to remember it.

"It is dangerous thinking to believe we can drive a wedge in between the German Government and the German people.

"When the German people begin to realise they are being defeated they may resist and turn against their government.

"But that day will not be brought nearer by soft words or specious promises.

"No, we have got to defeat them in battle. It is going to be a formidable, a fearful task.

"How long it may take to accomplish no man can say but victory is certain in the end".

We started the war (continued Mr. Duff Cooper) with a command of the sea and no nation with a command of the sea had ever been defeated in a great war. That was eight months ago, and now our command was even more assured. We could get our raw materials.

Mr. Duff Cooper added:-

"Most important of all, we have our own stout hearts and our own strong arms. Once more St. George is mounted on his charger, and his adversary, his quarry, is the most vile he has ever gone out to destroy - never has the face of Germany assumed so venomous or vile a shape as under the Leadership of this little gang of blood-stained, money-making murderers".

We had (concluded Mr. Duff Cooper) recognised St. George in the city and the countryside, and at the present moment he was going out to battle on sea, on land, in the air, and deep under the oceans; and he would either return with the laurels of victory on his brow or he would sleep well in duty well done with "England" graven on his heart.



no 22 msg

23/4/40 - No 23

MR. LEWIS CASSON TO ASSIST NEW COUNCIL

The first meeting of the Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts (C.E.M.A.) was held to-day at the offices of the Board of Education.

Mr. H. Ramsbotham, President of the Board welcomed both the new Council which, in addition to those originally announced, now included Sir Kenneth Clark, and the panel of expert advisers to the Council:- Mr, Lewis Casson, Honorary Adviser in the field of professional drama; Dr. George Dyson and Dr. Reginald Jacques, Music; Mr. du Garde Peach, Amateur drama; and Mr. W.E. Williams, Art.

Lord Macmillan, the Chairman outlined the policy of the Council and emphasised the emergency nature of the work as a war time measure, and expressed the belief that in these dark days and the darker days to come we should find strength through the enjoyment and practice of the arts. He also expressed the gratitude of the Council to the Government for its generosity in making the grant.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.



24 or 25 ?

The War Office,  
London, S.W.1.  
23rd April, 1940.

MILITARY APPOINTMENT.

The War Office announces that His Majesty The King has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Lieutenant-General Sir Ronald Charles, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., retired pay, Colonel Commandant, Royal Engineers, as Chief Royal Engineer of the Corps of Royal Engineers, with effect from the 23rd April, 1940, in succession to General Sir Bindon Blood, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., retired pay, who has resigned the appointment.

NOTE:-

The creation of the Office of Chief Royal Engineer in October, 1936, restored to the Royal Engineers an old military appointment, originally styled "Chief Engineer of the Kingdom", which had existed from the Restoration down to its abolition in 1802.

The holder of the appointment is titular head of the Corps, and thus speaks with authority on questions of regimental importance as does the Master Gunner, St. James's Park, in the case of the Royal Artillery. General Sir Bindon Blood has been associated with the Corps of Royal Engineers since 1860. He is the senior Colonel Commandant of the Corps.



23/4/40 - No. 26

FRENCH OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE (Evening)

Paris, Tuesday, April 23, 1940.

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

Fairly brisk activity of the artillery on both sides between the Moselle and the Blies. Enemy patrols have been repulsed to the west of the Vosges. Exchange of rifle fire along the banks of the Rhine.

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Air Ministry Bulletin No.590.

23/4/40 - No.27.

AIR ACTIVITY NEAR VERDUN.

Headquarters British Air Forces in France announces:-

Today British and German fighter patrols fought an indecisive action in the neighbourhood of Verdun. One Messerschmitt 110 is believed to have been shot down. One of our aircraft was set on fire by enemy action. The pilot escaped by parachute.

AIR AFFAIRS.



Not to be broadcast before 7 a.m. April 24th.

DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE VISITS NEWFOUNDLAND LOGGERS.

Pit Props as Valuable as Rifles.

Many of the 2145 Newfoundland loggers brought over to cut pit props in Scottish forests have expressed the desire to enlist in the Army when their contracts come to an end, but so vital to the country is their present work that the Government are endeavouring to persuade them to change their minds.

There is at present a serious shortage of pit wood in this country, owing to the reduction of supplies from Scandinavia and the Baltic and shipping difficulties in the way of bringing timber from Canada and Newfoundland. The work of these loggers is essential to the development of home resources as skilled labour in this country is scarce.

The Duke of Devonshire, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Dominions, returned to-day from a three day tour of the Newfoundland Forestry Unit in Scotland, during which he explained to the loggers how vitally important was their work to the Empire War effort.

In each camp he visited the Duke thanked the loggers personally for the magnificent and prompt way in which they had come to the aid of the Government.

He pointed out how supplies of pit wood, so essential to maintain the coal output, had fallen off owing to the war and how Great Britain had to fall back on her own resources.

He said that while they were all perfectly free to join up or go back to Newfoundland according to the terms of their contract, yet he hoped they would all stay on.

"In war time it is up to each man to do the work for which he is best fitted" the Duke pointed out. There were plenty of men for the army, but they - and only they - could do this vital work which was of the greatest value to the nation at a time when timber was sorely needed for war purposes and labour difficult to obtain.

There could be no more serious blow to the Empire war effort than if British coal mines had to work on short time owing to shortage of timber. The Duke said it depended to a large extent on them if this danger was to be averted.

The Duke spent much time chatting personally to the loggers and inspected their quarters. He complimented them on their excellent relations with the local people.

The loggers came over in five batches, the first of which sailed on December 11th. The men are quartered in some twenty or thirty operating camps, mostly in Scotland. The officer in charge of the unit is Captain Turner, known to every woodsman in Newfoundland and to whose work the Duke of Devonshire paid special tribute.

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