

The Daily News

PROVINCIAL LIBRARY VICTORIA, B.C.

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1939.

Tomorrow's Tides

High 5:46 a.m. 18.2 ft. 17:34 p.m. 16.8 ft. Low 11:50 a.m. 9.0 ft. 23:55 p.m. 7.0 ft.

Weather Forecast

Prince Rupert and Queen Charlotte Islands—Strong east winds, cooler with rain before night.

Vol. XXVIII, No. 293.

PRICE: 5 CENTS

German Captain Praises British

HARD FIGHT WITH RUSSIANS

Continue Advance in North of Finland to Find Everything Destroyed—Defenders Hold Karelia.

Finns Want Peace

New Bid Is Made By Foreign Minister Tanner—Red Destroyer Is Sunk by Guns

SVANVIK, Norway, Dec. 16: (CP)—Possibility of a decisive battle in northern Finland appears likely near Pitkajärvi with the Finns digging in on the river bank there and the Russians rolling towards them with motorized equipment.

HELSINGFORS, Dec. 16: (CP)—Finland's defenders retreated on the Arctic front yesterday but held fast on the vital Karelian Isthmus and were reported driving the Russians back north of Lake Ladoga on the central fighting front.

The Arctic retreat, westward across Finland's narrow corridor to the ocean, was systematic with the Finns destroying property potentially useful to the Russians such as the Canadian-owned nickel mines near Salmijärvi. The mines were being dynamited and the towns and houses burned in the withdrawal, nothing being left that might be of any use whatever to the invaders. Southward above Lake Ladoga a Finnish communiqué reported "our forces are pursuing the retreating enemy."

The Finns were reported today to be showing astonishing resistance against the Russian drive from the Leningrad-Murmansk railroad with a view to bisecting Finland to the Gulf of Bothnia. The defenders have cut the Soviet line of communication and have left the Russians in a precarious state, it is said.

Foreign Minister Tanner appealed in a broadcast to the Russian foreign commissar, Molotov, for a suspension of hostilities and resumption of negotiations. He said the Finns were still willing to negotiate peace and placed responsibility for the continuation of the war squarely on the shoulders of the Soviet. Negotiations should be based on the right of small nations to self-determination. However, if Russia demanded all of Finland, the Soviet would find the Finns ready for a fight to finish.

Poorly equipped Russians are suffering from exposure and the conflict is proving costly to the Soviet in the matter of casualties. Destruction of a Russian destroyer by coastal batteries was reported last night by the Finnish high command.

RENOVATING RUPERT CLUB

Extensive Alterations and Improvements Being Made Preparatory to Occupancy as Officers' Mess

Extensive improvements within and without the old Prince Rupert Club building are now in progress in preparation for the occupancy of the premises as an officers' mess for the local militia units. The work outside as well as redecoration inside are being carried out by the city while alterations inside are being carried out by the Department of National Defence.

The inside changes include the converting of the old bar into a kitchen and the billiard hall into a dining room. Upstairs the large card room is being divided into bedrooms. The large sitting room at the front of the second floor is being retained for that purpose.

Western Nations Are Concerned Over Sea Fight

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16:—Twenty-one republics of the western hemisphere are concerned over the sea battle which took place off the Uruguayan coast on Wednesday within Pan-American declared neutrality zones. Secretary of State Cordell Hull states, and exchanges are already under way with a view to taking diplomatic action.

IN ACCORD WITH REICH

Italy Staying Out Of War By Pre-arrangement With Germany, Count Ciano Discloses

ROME, Dec. 16: (CP)—Foreign Minister Ciano declared today that Italy is staying out of the war by agreement with Germany and reaffirmed Premier Benito Mussolini's readiness to help restore peace in Europe.

In a lengthy explanation of Fascist foreign policy to the Chamber of Fasces and Senators, Ciano disclosed that Germany and Italy had agreed last May at the Munich conference to avoid raising any questions which might arouse any new disputes in at least three years while both countries were completing rearmament.

WAR ORDERS ARE PLACED

Expenditures For Week Are Placed At \$5,500,000 By Hon. C. D. Howe

OTTAWA, Dec. 16: (CP)—War orders valued at \$5,500,000 for the week ended December 12 are announced by Hon. Clarence D. Howe, minister of transport. Most of the orders were for aircraft supplies and accessories.

Four Killed And Three Injured On Cruiser Achilles

LONDON—Dec. 16:—The British Admiralty announces that four were killed and three wounded on the cruiser Achilles in the battle with the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee off the coast of Uruguay. No other figures were given.

GERMAN IS CAPTURED

Duesseldorf Is Taken by British Cruiser Off Coast of Chile

SANTIAGO, Chile, Dec. 16: (CP)—The German freighter Duesseldorf was captured yesterday by a British cruiser off the Chilean port of Caldera.

Winnie Ruth Judd Again Recaptured

YUMA, Arizona, Dec. 16: (CP)—Winnie Ruth Judd, insane murderer, who escaped from the Arizona State Hospital December 3, was recaptured yesterday and said that she had walked almost two hundred miles across the desert from Phoenix.

Bulletins

TRIPLE SHOOTING ORION, Alberta—Irene Bogin, aged 21, and Ivan Ridley, a girl companion in an automobile, were shot to death near here last night. The body of Ernest Brodine, 35, farmer, who called on the girl after she had gone out, was found in another automobile nearby, apparently a suicide victim.

FUEL FOR GERMANY BERLIN—An agreement is about to be signed between Germany and Roumania whereby the latter country will deliver one million tons of petroleum annually to the Reich. This would be more than three hundred carloads daily. It would represent one-fifth of the Roumanian petroleum output.

PREMIER KING IS 65 OTTAWA—Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King will celebrate his sixty-fifth birthday tomorrow. In good health despite the heavy activities of the past year including the present strain of war responsibilities, he will spend the day quietly at his country home in the Gatineau Hills.

Poles Executed In Ruthless Way

WARSAW, Dec. 16.—Wholesale executions have been made of Poles in whose homes weapons were found by Nazi invaders. There were no warnings but they were summarily put to death.

TODAY'S STOCKS

Table with columns for Vancouver, Toronto, and Oils, listing various stocks and their prices.

Prefers Boredom To Bombing, He Tells Newsmen

PARIS, Dec. 16:—Newspaper correspondents, conversing with Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain at the front, expressed dissatisfaction at the lack of action in the war. "Personally I would prefer to be bored than bombed," the Prime Minister commented. It was very quiet when the Prime Minister visited the front lines. He lunched at general headquarters with the British commander-in-chief, Viscount Gort, and, in bitter cold, inspected British and French guards of honor.

NORWAY IS BEING USED

Naval Authorities Charge German U-Boats With Operating in Territorial Waters

LONDON, Dec. 16: (CP)—High naval authorities charge Germany with sending submarines into Norwegian territorial waters to attack ships.

The British tanker Athel Templar, 8,939 tons, was seriously damaged by "enemy action" off the east coast. The trawler Ludford was sunk by a mine. There were casualties in both sinkings, but the exact number of those who lost their lives was not immediately made known.

HAMPERS NEEDED

Salvation Army Ready To Act If People Wish Them To Do So

Already there are 25 applications to the Salvation Army for Christmas hampers but only a small amount of money has been collected so far. Interviewed today, Capt. Ivan Halsey stated that the Army simply acted as intermediaries for the people of the city and that, if the people did not wish to donate the money, those in need would have to go without their hampers.

Captain Halsey said that there was a considerable drain on the Army these days for funds to keep up the huts for the use of the troops in France. That made it increasingly difficult for the Army to finance its work at home but it was doing the best it could with the money available. If the local people wished the Army to carry on with the Santa Claus work in the city it would be glad to undertake it. He hoped the local people would not be wholly neglected this year.

Previously acknowledged, \$2.00. Hon. T. D. Pattullo, 25.00. H. M. P. L. \$10.00.

War Effort To Be Main Theme

Will Come In For Discussion At Forthcoming Session of Parliament

OTTAWA, Dec. 16: (CP)—Canada's war effort will be the main theme of the coming session of Parliament, opening of which is announced for January 25. It is expected much attention will be paid to contracts, a report on which the government is expected to table immediately after the opening.

IS GIVEN 72 HOURS TO LEAVE

German Pocket Battleship Must Be Either Interned or Quit Montevideo By Sunday Night

LONDON, Dec. 16:—Great Britain having sent a second demand that the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee be either interned or ordered to leave refuge in the port of Montevideo, the Uruguayan government last night, following inspection by a naval board, gave the ship seventy-two hours to make a choice. The naval board's report, accepted by the government, found the Graf Spee to be seaworthy.

It is believed that the Germans will not submit to loss of prestige which internment would involve but will choose to make a run for it despite the increasing British fleet which lies in waiting to dispatch her.

The deadline expires Sunday night at 12:30 p.m. (noon) Pacific Standard Time. The Admiral Graf Spee suddenly shifted her position in Montevideo, and was a hive of industry, apparently in readiness to leave and make a dash for it past the British blockade.

What Will She Do?

One report was that the Spee might endeavour to reach Buenos Aires in Argentina for another respite. She would undoubtedly endeavour to hug the shores of the South American republics for as long a distance as possible in order to keep within the protection of territorial waters. She might either go south or north or make a dash straight out to sea. The mouth of the Rio de la Plata outside of Montevideo is seventy to eighty miles wide. Running across to Buenos Aires would involve going through seventeen miles of international water where she would be subject to attack.

The German ambassador to Argentina arrived from Buenos Aires by airplane today in connection with the case of the Graf Spee.

Another possibility suggested was that the Spee might be taken out to sea and scuttled as an alternative to internment or capture. The vessel, badly damaged above the water line, one hole ten feet in diameter and with much of her fighting equipment supposedly out of commission, would now be at a considerable disadvantage in combat with Allied naval forces which by this time are undoubtedly reinforced. Reports persisted today that the British battle cruiser Renown and aircraft carrier Ark Royal and the powerful French battleship Dunkerque had either reached or were now near the point where the Ajax and Achilles are waiting to renew battle with the Spee. The possibility of further German warships showing up is also considered.

Late yesterday it was denied that Foreign Minister Guani of Uruguay had announced that the Spee could remain in Montevideo harbor until her wounds were repaired. Today the decision to give her seventy-two hours to leave was announced.

Weather Forecast

General Synopsis—The pressure is low off the Queen Charlotte Islands. A disturbance off Vancouver Island has caused rains and gales there. The weather has been mild and showery in the interior. West Coast of Vancouver Island—Strong southeast winds shifting to southwest or moderate gales, mild and showery.

Their Seamanship And Marksmanship Almost Incredible, He States

Tells of How He Was Nearly Forced Ashore In Battle of Uruguay on Wednesday—Admits Heavy Damage

MONTEVIDEO, December 16: (CP)—Depleted fuel and daring British seamanship which was "more than seemed credible" forced the German warship Admiral Graf Spee into a running fight with the British cruisers on Wednesday dangerously near shore. Capt. Hans Langsdorff told port authorities today. Capt. Langsdorff praised the accuracy of the British marksmanship and admitted that his ship had been very seriously damaged by the smaller shells of the British.

War News

JAP DESTROYER SUNK

SHANGHAI—A Japanese destroyer is reported to have been sunk by Chinese artillery in the Yangtze River, 120 miles southwest of Hankow, by Chinese artillery. One hundred officers and men are reported to have lost their lives.

USE OF MUSTARD GAS

BERLIN—Germany renews the charge that mustard gas was used by the British against the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee in the Battle of Uruguay on Wednesday. This is despite the findings of Montevideo doctors that there was no evidence of such gas having been used.

HEAVY GERMAN RAID

PARIS—Germany staged one of the heaviest raids of the war on the Western Front today, patrols being supported by strong artillery fire. French automatic rifle and hand grenades were, however, effective in driving off the enemy. There was patrol activity along the entire front.

MANION IS CRITICAL

Does Not Think Much of Canadian Government's War Effort—Exhibition of Unpreparedness

OTTAWA, Dec. 16.—Hon. Dr. R. J. Manion, Leader of the Opposition, issues a statement declaring Canada's war effort thus far "has been a continued exhibition of unpreparedness." He made specific charges, referring to the lack of proper clothing for the troops. He said that the January 25 opening of Parliament, announced by Premier King, was "at least two weeks, if not three, later than it should have been."

B.C. Elections On Thursday

Seventeen Cities Had Polling—Prince George Mayor Is Re-elected

VANCOUVER, Dec. 16: (CP)—Civic elections were held on Thursday in seventeen British Columbia cities and towns including Victoria, where Mayor Andrew McGavin was re-elected by acclamation, and New Westminster, where Mayor Fred Hume was also returned unopposed. Voting in eight other places was made unnecessary with officials returned by acclamation. A. M. Patterson was re-elected mayor of Prince George, defeating Martin S. Caine.

HONORED IN DEATH

Impressive Burial Given Admiral Graf Spee Victims at Montevideo

MONTEVIDEO, Dec. 16.—Full German naval honors were accorded at the funeral of thirty-six Admiral Graf Spee sailors in Montevideo cemetery. The Uruguayan government permitted 330 officers and men ashore for the services. They ranged around the common grave and a volley was fired. Flowers included a personal wreath from Chancellor Adolf Hitler.

MORE SHIPS DESTROYED

War at Sea Continues With Losses By Various Nations—Another German Ship Scuttled

LONDON, Dec. 16: (CP)—Two Norwegian steamships, 1,907-ton H. C. Flood and 1,264 ton Raubi, were sunk by mines off the northeast coast of England today. Ten are missing, seven injured and thirty rescued.

Further losses in the war at sea yesterday included the Swedish freighter Ursus, 1,499 tons, nine missing, and the Greek freighter, Germaine, 5,217 tons, crew of which was rescued. Another German steamship, Tenorife, 2,436 tons, was scuttled when British warships approached.

NAZI LOSS IS HEAVIER

Four Percent Of Its Shipping Either Sunk or Captured Since War Began

LONDON, Dec. 16:—Four percent of Germany's shipping has been so far captured or sunk in the war. Eighteen Nazi ships have been sunk and twenty-one captured. This is double the proportion of Allied shipping losses in the war at sea.

Dr. Amyot New Health Officer

Succeeds His Former Chief, the Late Dr. Henry Esson Young

VICTORIA, Dec. 16: (CP)—Premier T. D. Pattullo announces the appointment of Dr. George F. Amyot as provincial health officer succeeding the late Dr. Henry Esson Young. He was formerly Dr. Young's assistant.