

Weather Report

Prince Rupert—Cloudy cool and calm.

The Daily News

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

VOL. II, NO. 297.

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1941.

Tomorrow's Tides

High 3:29 a.m. 21.3 ft. 15:15 p.m. 22.2 ft. Low 9:24 a.m. 6.2 ft. 21:52 p.m. 1.9 ft.

Desperate Message By Goebbels

Axis Retreat in Libya Has Become Rout; Enemy Not Resisting

Derna and Mekili Have Been Entered Now and British Are Within One Hundred Miles of Bengasi.

CAIRO, Dec. 20: (CP)—The Axis retreat in Libya has turned into a rout with Imperial forces chasing General Erwin Rommel's battered army and British air blows taking a staggering toll of his remaining strength, British headquarters announced today.

Hong Kong Siege—

GARRISON KEEPS UP ITS FIGHT

"Operations Proceeding" Says Message From Governor to London.

New Stand In Malaya

In Philippines Japanese Effect Landing on Island of Mindanao.

LONDON, Dec. 20:—After a day's silence, a message came through today from Sir Mark Young, governor and commander-in-chief at Hong Kong, stating that "operations on the island are proceeding."

Tokyo admitted that the defenders of Hong Kong were continuing to offer resistance although the attackers were still advancing.

The principal defence of the British forces appears to be of Victoria city.

In the endeavour to relieve the siege of Hong Kong, Chinese forces were reported to have entered Shumchun, destroying Japanese defence works, blowing up the railway station and an ammunition dump.

In British Malaya the British are making a new stand three hundred miles north of Singapore after bringing the Japanese to a standstill forty miles south of Penang to which point the invaders had advanced up to yesterday.

The Japanese launched a new invasion thrust against the Philippine Islands today when four Nipponese transports landed troops on Mindanao, the second largest island of the group, picking a port where there is a predominance of Japanese residents.

There was a new enemy bombing attack today on vital points in the Manila area.

Major-General Douglas MacArthur, United States commander-in-chief in the Philippines, reported to Washington that there had been increased patrol activity by the Japanese on the beachheads of Luzon Island where previously they had effected a landing.

SYDNEY, N.S.W., Dec. 20:—Ninety percent of Australia's supply of surgical instruments and hospital equipment are now manufactured within the Commonwealth as against 25 percent before the war.

PROVINCIAL GOVT. PARLIAMENT BLDG. 86 31 March 42

SIGNAL PRACTICE



Sub. Lieut. G. E. Fenwick of Montreal, acknowledges the receipt of a message sent to his ship. Sub. Lieut. L. F. Johnson of Ottawa, records the message. The student officers are from a west coast training school and are shown during one of the frequent cruises taken by naval students to acquaint them fully with the tasks of the men who will some day serve under them.

STRIKE AT JAPANESE

Netherlands Fliers Taking Heavy Toll of Nipponese Naval Vessels—United States Subs Hit Transports.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20:—The Department of the Navy reported today that United States submarines had sunk "additional enemy transports."

From Batavia came word that Netherlands fliers had scored direct hits on four more Japanese ships—two cruisers, a transport and another warship believed used as a plane carrier—in fierce attacks on naval concentrations of Miri, Borneo, this being announced today.

KETCHIKAN IS COMING

High School Basketball Team to Play Series Here.

Word has been received from Clarence Henning, principal and coach of Ketchikan's Kayhi High School, that he and his team will arrive here on December 28 to play the local high school in an inter-high school basketball series December 29 and 30.

When Kayhi disembarks here for their series they will have Johnny Ellis, all-Alaska forward and high scorer; Howie Mathieson, all-Alaska guard, to pace them against the Bo-Me-Hi squad. The members of the Kayhi Polar Bears are Clarence Henning, coach; John Ellis, Kead Hannah, Joe Lianos, Don Farstad, forwards; Salvador del Ferra, Cliff Homan, centres; Howard Mathieson, Al Ludwigsen, Stuart Adams, guards.

Though this year the Ketchikan High School boasts of a powerful team, the local high school is going to be hard to beat on their spacious home floor, the Exhibition Hall. The local quintet has an offensive powerhouse in its high-scoring and hard-working forwards, Teddy Arney, Oliver Santurbane, Don MacDonald and Bob Long. While Sidney Alexander and Boyo Gurvich at guards are the stalwarts of their defence, Bob Vuckovich, substitute centre, is also outstanding for the locals.

War News

ATTACK ON BURMA ROAD FAILS

CHUNGKING—Ten Japanese planes, attempting to raid Kunming on the Burma road, were heavily engaged for the first time today by an international air force and four of them were shot down without loss to the defenders, said reports to high Chinese quarters.

PACIFIC COAST DEFENCES

VICTORIA—Air Vice Marshal L. S. Breadner, chief of staff of Royal Canadian Air Force, states that all steps are being taken to effectively protect the Pacific Coast from attack. The air force has been greatly strengthened in aircraft and equipment.

CANADIANS SCORE HIT

LONDON—A Royal Canadian Air Force plane, manned by Sergeant M. S. Schneider of Brandon, Sergeant B. L. Brice of Chilliwack and Sergeant G. Savage of Toronto, scored a direct hit on a German warship at Brest.

WITHDRAWAL DEMANDED

LONDON—The Portuguese government demands that British forces be withdrawn from the Island of Timor northeast of Australia. "We will not budge" is the authoritative answer here. All consequences were carefully considered before the step of occupation was taken, it is stated.

AXIS IN LATIN AMERICA

WASHINGTON—There has been dangerous Axis infiltration in Latin America, says a special committee in its report. Some of the republics are honeycombed with air bases, secret radio stations and war supplies. There are five Axis-controlled air bases in Guatemala alone, it is declared. Also in Brazil and Chili there has been infiltration.

GAS MASKS FOR STATES

NEW YORK—Fifty million gas masks may be ordered for protection of people on the Atlantic, Pacific and Caribbean Sea Coast, says Mayor LaGuardia.

BETTER ARMY UNIFORMS

OTTAWA—It is hinted that Canadian army uniforms may be remodelled to provide better appearance. A better material may also be used.

NAZIS IN ESTUARY

Heavy Anti-Aircraft Fire and Machine Gunning Heard Along Thames Tonight.

LONDON, Dec. 20:—Heavy anti-aircraft fire against air raiders broke out along the Thames estuary early tonight. Machine gun fire could be heard plainly.

Miss Averil McKechney of the Booth Memorial High School teaching staff left on last evening's train for a trip to Saskatoon.

BODIES ARE EXTRICATED

Royal Canadian Air Force Plane Gives Up Dead at Nanoose Bay.

NANAIMO, Dec. 20:—Bodies of seven members of the Royal Canadian Air Force, whose Stranraer bomber crashed in Nanoose Bay, north of here, earlier in the week, were removed from wreckage of the machine yesterday. An eighth man, Sergeant J. C. Gunn of Scotland, in addition to those already named, was on the plane, it has been announced.

ANGOTT IS NOW CHAMP

Issue of World's Lightweight Championship Settled Without Doubt

NEW YORK, Dec. 20:—Sammy Angott won the undisputed world's lightweight boxing title at Madison Square Garden last night by winning a fifteen-round decision over Lew Jenkins. Angott had been recognized as the champion by the National Boxing Association while elsewhere Jenkins was called the champion.

There was no doubt of the issue. The rugged Angott was always fresher than Jenkins who did not seem to have his old-time zip. He hit Jenkins hard with flailing rights and lefts and had the Sweetwater, Texas, boy in real distress in the latter rounds. Jenkins lost the fourteenth round on account of low blows. There were no knock-downs.

NAZI VENGEANCE

LONDON, Dec. 20:—Free French authorities in London claim that the Germans bombed a public alms house in Brest, killing 200 people, as a reprisal for the loss during a British raid of a hotel where Germans were killed.

Only 3 Shopping Days Until Christmas.



ICELAND'S FIGHTER

LONDON, Dec. 20:—Iceland's first fighter pilot, who came to Britain in a trawler to enlist in the R. A. F., was posted to an operational squadron and his first sortie was a flight over Northern France to attack barges in a canal.

Nazi Propaganda Chief Admits Russians Have More Men - Material

Appeals by Radio to German People for Warm Clothing For Hitler's Soldiers—Great Red Counter-Offensive Continues.

LONDON, Dec. 20: (CP)—Nazi Propaganda Minister Goebbels, appealing by radio to the German people today for warm clothing for Hitler's soldiers in Russia, told them bluntly "we are up against an enemy superior in numbers and material" on the eastern front. The Soviet counter-offensive is continuing westward without let-up.

MARITIMES KEEP BUSY

In Employment Nova Scotia Led All Canada in September.

By GORDON MCKEAN Canadian Press Staff Writer

HALIFAX, Dec. 20:—Business is good in Canada's Maritime Provinces. Indices for September show the Maritimes at 183.9 is only .6 behind Quebec, which tops the Canadian provinces. Ontario stood at 173.6, prairie provinces at 156.1, and British Columbia at 152.9. These indices, from the Financial Post, are based on 1926 equals 100.

The Maritimes index stood at 147.9 in September, 1940, and has climbed an average of three points a month. Construction shows a gain of 122.7 percent; employment 31.9 percent and building permits and life insurance also show small increases.

In employment, Dominion Bureau of Statistics figures show Nova Scotia led all Canada in September, with 181.9 against the Dominion figure of 162.7. New Brunswick was sixth with 143.7 and Prince Edward Island ninth with 130.2. The Maritime figure was 164.0 (1926 equals 100).

Seasonal Decrease

But even with these high figures there was a seasonal decrease from August in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, while New Brunswick showed an increase.

The bureau reports a decided improvement in manufacturing, particularly in iron and steel, with smaller increases in pulp, paper and edible plant products. Logging, transportation, highway construction and maintenance services and trade all showed curtailment.

Various retail lines also showed increases and the Maritimes led all Canada in several of them. Department store sales, for example, gained 31.2 percent over September, 1940, while the Dominion increase was 21.3 percent.

Business turnover has naturally increased to the greatest extent in and around military or industrial centres, but smaller communities are receiving indirect benefit from the expansion in many instances.

In other districts enlistments in the armed forces and demands for workers in defence industries have caused a decided increase in population with consequently lessened business activity.

Good As a Unit

But, as a unit, business is good in the Maritimes. While the last figures available are for September, R. M. Hattie, editor of the Maritime Merchant, only trade journal in the three seaside provinces, says that a further increase will take place with the closing of navigation on the St. Lawrence.

Dock work at Halifax and Saint John, N.B., and transportation fa-

LIFEBOATS DEFY SEA

Dunkerque Their Great Achievement But They Still Do Big Things.

LONDON, Dec. 20:—Night and day around Britain's wind-lashed coasts the men of the lifeboats are ready to carry out their work of mercy and rescue. Their greatest achievement was during the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force from Dunkerque in the spring of 1940. Nineteen small boats, none longer than 51 feet or weighing more than 27 tons with crew and gear aboard, rescued nearly 50,000 men from the beaches.

Since the war began, more than 4,000 sailors and airmen have been saved from sinking ships and airplanes, an average of more than 35 a week.

Into the making of lifeboats—sturdy little craft able to live in seas which have crippled big ships—goes wood from many parts of the British Empire. English oak is used for the stem and stern. Canadian rock elm provides the framework, white deal and red cedar from the Dominion the vital air cases and Honduras mahogany the decks.

Rights Itself

Thanks to the ingenuity of a singing teacher, William Woodhave, the lifeboat of today is self-righting. Woodhave was awarded a guinea (\$4.75 these days) for his design a century-and-a-half ago. As a result, a fully-manned and equipped boat, even if it goes completely over, will come right way up and empty itself of water in 25 seconds.

A heavy keel—it may weigh as much as one-third of the craft's entire weight—is the main factor in the self-righting principles. The keel is made of teak from the forests of upper Burma.

"There's no magic about a lifeboat," said a skilled boat-builder. "Her vital qualities are the power to empty out water as fast as she ships it, great buoyancy, the ability to go on with her work when she has been badly damaged and enormous strength in every part."

Salvation Army Christmas Fund

Previously acknowledged \$48.00 G. W. Nickerson 25.00 Paul Olsen 1.00 Mrs. Wicks 1.00 W. O. Fulton, fruit.

ilities will benefit particularly from the St. Lawrence closing. Regarding business in general, Mr. Hattie writes, "Without confirmatory statistics we think it is safe to say that... all the fundamental conditions in the Maritimes (are) in a still further improved state."