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# The Daily News

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

Tomorrow's Tides

High ..... 9:25 a.m. 17.0 ft.  
22:34 p.m. 15.8 ft.  
Low ..... 2:32 a.m. 10.7 ft.  
16:10 p.m. 7.0 ft.

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Roosevelt Confident—  
**IS LARGE OPERATION BUT JAPANESE WILL BE OVERCOME**

United States Chief Executive Reviews Situation and Tells of Great Tasks to Be Carried Out to Bring Victory

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24:—"We, not they, will soon have the offensive. We, not they, will win the final battle. We, not they, will make the final peace." So declared President Franklin D. Roosevelt last night in a radio broadcast to the United States and the united nations on the progress of the war. Stressing the importance of maintaining uninterrupted production, the president exhorted his people to not stop production on any pretext for one single day until the war was won, not to seek special gains, privileges or advantages one over the other and to cheerfully give up conveniences and comforts if their country asked. Dealing largely with the Pacific situation, Mr. Roosevelt said it would be a large operation but, eventually, the united nations would overwhelm Japan by land, sea and air. Meantime, it had been necessary to yield ground, as had been expected and planned, but this, he promised, would all be regained. Already, in spite of the enormous distances, reinforcements in quantity were reaching the Pacific theatre to make themselves felt. The chief executive, optimistic throughout this discourse, although admitting difficulties, odds against and reverses, predicted an early turn in the tide.

Washington's birthday was an appropriate time to talk of how things were and how they would be. Mr. Roosevelt commented in opening. For eight years Washington had faced heavy odds and recurring reverses. He had had the problems of lack of equipment. He too had had his fifth columnists. But he had set a model of moral stamina which might well be emulated even in this day. Every continent, every island, every sea, every airline in the world were involved in this war. The broad oceans, which had once been looked upon as a protection, were now an endless battlefield. The job today was to fight at distances extending all the way around the world. "We must strike whenever and wherever we can." Although ground had been yielded and was still being yielded, a heavy toll of the enemy was being taken every day. The object of the Nazis and the Japs, Mr. Roosevelt declared, was to separate Great Britain, the United States, China and Russia, isolate them one from the other, cut off their supplies and reinforcements—in short, the old Nazi technique—divide and conquer.

**Japan's Opening Advantage**  
President Roosevelt described the tremendous advantage which Japan had at the outset in the Far East theatre of war with short stepping stones and many bases. Even before the war started, the Philippines were surrounded on three sides. Under the Washington Treaty of 1921 it had been agreed not to add to the fortifications of the Philippines. Encirclement by the Japanese had prevented sending reinforcements. The intended strategy in connection with the Philippines had been delaying action with a view to applying a policy of attrition to Japan herself. "Eventually we can overwhelm Japan by land, sea and air but it will be a large operation." Nothing had happened since the war began to cause a revision of the plan in regard to war with Japan. General McArthur's resistance, however, had far exceeded the estimate of endurance. In Malay, Burma, the East Indies also Japan was being forced to pay an enormous price.

The surprise attack on Pearl Harbor had not been responsible, as many said, for the situation on the Philippines, declared the President. That would have been the same no matter what had happened at Pearl Harbor. The consequences of Pearl Harbor were, indeed, greatly exaggerated. Axis propaganda in this regard, unfortunately, repeated by Americans themselves. Despicable had been the whispering campaign that the fleet had been destroyed, that more than 1000 planes had been destroyed, that the government had withheld the real extent of the casualties. Some Americans had served enemy propagandists. Axis broadcasts from Berlin, Rome and Tokyo had put out "damnable misstatements" of Americans themselves.

The government had confidence, went on the president, of the ability of the Americans to hear the worst without flinching or losing heart. The people must have confidence that the government would not withhold anything except such information as might be useful to the enemy. There must be discretion not only on the part of the government but on the part of its critics. The people wanted to know and would be told of the real progress of the war. He warned, however, against "rumor mongers" and "poison peddlers."

**Pearl Harbor Losses**  
Mr. Roosevelt disclosed that there had been 2340 killed and

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## Victory May Be Sudden

DESTROYERS ON ESCORT DUTY TAKE SEVERE POUNDING



For days on end during December, violent gales swept across the North Atlantic. For 48 hours the weather maintained a slashing, pounding blitzkrieg. Five Canadian destroyers returned to their ports, their men telling with pride stories of overcoming grave danger and damage. Seaboats were stove in and wrecked, big life rafts were torn loose by giant seas that poured inboard, stores were ruined, compartments below decks throughout the ship in which Sub-Lieut. Moore, cited for heroic conduct, served, were awash with four to six feet of water. Repair parties worked in gas masks in one section where calcium flares burned under water for 48 hours, releasing dangerous fumes. —Official R.C.N. Photo.

### PRESSURE ON BURMA

Drive on That Country by Japanese Appears to Be Nearing Maximum Power.

LONDON, Feb. 24: (CP)—London military quarters said today that the Japanese drive into Burma appears to be nearing maximum power with the invaders throwing fresh troops against British positions along the Sittang River, twenty miles from the Rangoon-Lashio Railway. Empire troops have been forced to withdraw but fresh Chinese reinforcements are reported streaming into Burma to stem the Japanese onslaught.

A Mandalay dispatch today said that fighting raged for 100 miles along the lower Sittang River to which the British forces withdrew after abandoning the Bilin River line thirty miles to the east.

Civilian evacuation of Rangoon was carried out February 20 and depots containing supplies which could not be carried away were fired by the authorities.

Royal Air Force bombers attacking roads at the rear of Japanese positions say troops and transports are thick as ants and cannot be missed.

Meanwhile, Netherlands and Allied troops are reported to be still resisting fiercely in Sumatra and Bali.

## Churchill Also Admits Possibility Of Longer War Due To Difficulty

Prime Minister Tells Commons That Japan Rules Air in South Pacific But Naval Command Is Waning—To Start Plans for Post-War Reconstruction

LONDON, Feb. 24: (CP)—Prime Minister Winston Churchill told the House of Commons today that Japan rules the air and is exercising temporary and "waning command of the sea" in the area of her operations but he predicted final victory which he said might come unexpectedly. The Japanese are also employing numerically superior land forces of about twenty-six divisions, probably 390,000 combat troops and 100,000 additional supply and auxiliary forces—in the south Pacific area, he added, and their command of the air "makes it costly and difficult for our air reinforcements to establish themselves and secure dominance." Efforts to reinforce the area are further complicated by Britain's heavy shipping losses and Britain must reckon with "evident prolongation of the war" perhaps until 1943 or 1944.

### TWO NAVAL SHIPS LOST

United States Destroyer and Stores Vessel Pounded to Pieces Off Netherland With Heavy Toll of Crew.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24: (CP)—A United States destroyer and a naval stores ship have been pounded to pieces off the rocky east coast of Newfoundland in a "roaring gale," the Navy Department announced today, with loss of at least 139 officers and men. Among the dead is Lieut. Commander Ralph Hickox, who commanded the destroyer—the Truxton, an old four-stacker of first Great War vintage. The stores ship was the Polux whose commander is safe. The heavy loss of life is attributed to the fact that the ships, constituting a portion of a convoy, were torn to wreckage under the battering of a storm soon after they ran aground.

## WAR NEWS

**PACIFIC SITUATION**  
MELBOURNE—There is little change today in the war situation in the southwestern Pacific. The Japanese are continuing to press against Java and Burma. The Australian Air Force staged another raid on Rabaul, capital of occupied New Britain, today and lost one plane while shooting down one and possibly two more of the enemy. One thousand miles to the south of Port Darwin in Australia trenches are being dug. Prime Minister John Curtin has promised a full inquiry into all the circumstances of the recent air raid on Port Darwin with particular reference to fifth column activities.

**SUBS OFF CALIFORNIA**  
SAN FRANCISCO—Enemy submarines are again off the California coast. One attempted to shell an oil station north of Santa Barbara, the missiles landing in a field. There were blackouts last evening, radio stations also going off the air. Astoria, Oregon, had a forty-five minute blackout but it was of local initiative, not having been ordered by the authorities.

**MUST EXPECT HARD BLOWS**  
LONDON—A spokesman for the British government said today that the Allies must expect hard and difficult blows yet but confidence was expressed in ultimate victory.

**KAI-SHEK JOINING COUNCIL**  
LONDON—Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek of China has accepted an invitation to join the Pacific war council, it is reported here.

### TWO MINES VERY BUSY

Two Collieries Near Telkwa Turning Out Product at Increased Rate

Both the Bulkley Valley Collieries and the Aveling mine, coal producers near Telkwa, have been turning out coal at increased rates during the past year. While the former is the older mine and enjoys long established markets, the latter mine has received some big orders for its coal at coastal points such as Vancouver and Prince Rupert.

**LOCAL TEMPERATURE**  
Maximum ..... 35.5  
Minimum ..... 23

### Statement To Lull Allies?

LONDON, Feb. 24: (CP)—The Vichy radio was heard today broadcasting a statement attributed to the German radio that the Russians had launched the biggest offensive of the war and relief of Leningrad was expected at any moment. (No such German broadcast was heard in New York and the Vichy version may be propaganda designed to lull the Allied peoples.)

### Bus Line Buys Dyer Garage

The property known as the Dyer Garage on First Avenue just beyond the Knox Hotel was sold by the city today to the Arrow Bus Line for \$1250, this being the highest bid. The bus line has already been in occupation of the place for some time.

### DETAILS OF PLEBISCITE

Voting Will Be Conducted Along Lines of General Election

OTTAWA, Feb. 24:—Parliament was given details yesterday of the forthcoming plebiscite to relieve the government of its anti-conscription pledge. The voting will take place in individual ridings as in a general election and the result will not be lumped together on popular vote as it was thought by some might have been done.

Hon. R. B. Hanson, Conservative leader, asked the government for a forthright statement as to what it intended to do in the matter of conscription if the plebiscite passed.

J. W. Nosworthy, C.C.F. for York South, who defeated Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen in the recent by-election, demanded an all-out war effort.

### TODAY'S STOCKS

(Courtesy S. D. Johnston Co.)

Vancouver	
Grandview	14
Bralorne	7.15
Cariboo Quartz	1.28
Hedley Mascot	25 1/2
Pend Oreille	1.40
Pioneer	1.70
Premier	43
Privateer	35
Reno	17
Sheep Creek	72
Oils	
Calmont	15
C. & E.	97
Home	2.40
Royal Canadian	.04
Toronto	
Beattie	75
Central Pat.	1.10
Cons. Smelters	38.00
Hard Rock	48 1/2
Kerr Addison	3.60
Little Long Lac	1.11
McLeod Cockshutt	1.36
Madsen Red Lake	.40
McKenzie Red Lake	.85
Moneta	.27
Pickle Crow	2.15
Preston East Dome	2.56
San Antonio	1.50
Sherritt Gordon	.80

Hugh McDonald, road superintendent for Atlin district, after a brief visit here on official duties, sailed by the Catala yesterday morning on his return to his headquarters at Stewart.

### Victory Loan Is Mounting

Subscriptions to the Second Victory Loan in Prince Rupert up to last night totalled \$521,250 of the objective of \$600,000. Individual subscribers up to then had totalled 1204, the objective being 1800.

### Protection Is Taken Against Mercury Poison

The prevalence of mercury poisoning at the Inchi Lake cinnabar plant of the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. in the Omineca district was the subject of questions asked at the recent session of the Legislature by E. E. Winch, C.C.C. member, and answered by Hon. George S. Pearson, minister of labor. Mr. Pearson said that necessary measures had been taken to prevent this type of injury. Extensive searches and tests had been conducted to determine whether there was free metallic mercury in the mine and none was found, an examination of the mine atmosphere also proving negative for mercury vapors.

### BULLETINS

#### RESIGNATION DEMANDED

VICTORIA—The Victoria city council, indignant at the way the Japanese situation is being handled on this coast, yesterday wired Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King asking that Hon. Ian Mackenzie, minister of pensions and British Columbia's cabinet representative, be called upon for his resignation.

#### FURTHER CHANGES

LONDON—Further changes in the British war administration are expected to be made by shifts in undersecretaryships but the major cabinet shuffle is now believed to have been completed by Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

#### ROOSEVELT'S PLEDGE

WASHINGTON — President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his address last night, pledged that the united nations would take the offensive soon and declared that United States forces in the far Pacific were steadily growing. Thousands of Americans are today in that area.

**CANADA'S SECOND VICTORY LOAN**  
COMING EVENTS  
Tuesday, 6:45 p.m.—G. R. S. Blackaby, CFPR.  
Wednesday, 6:45 p.m.—T. W. Brown, CFPR.  
**BUY VICTORY BONDS**