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## BRITISH AND JAPS TRADE PUNCHES AT SINGAPORE

### Canucks Invent Army Medical Equipment Nipponese Make Gains In N.E.I. & Burma Drives

#### Hepburn Cabinet Member Resigns In Protest

Minister of Mines opposes Ontario Premier's support of Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen.

TORONTO, Feb. 5.—(CP)—Premier Mitchell Hepburn of Ontario said tonight that Hon. Robert Laurier, Minister of Mines in his cabinet, had resigned from the cabinet in opposition to the fact that I am speaking in the York South by-election on behalf of the Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen.

Mr. Hepburn made the announcement a few hours before making a radio address over a Toronto station in support of Mr. Meighen's candidature in the York South by-election Feb. 8. The Ontario Liberal Premier announced last week he would resign from the cabinet if the Ontario Conservative Party Leader, Mr. Hepburn did not release a text of Mr. Laurier's letter of resignation, but said: "In his resignation Mr. Laurier makes it very clear that there is no personal animosity toward me."

He said the resignation was from the cabinet, but not from Mr. Laurier's position as a member of the Ontario Legislature for Ottawa East, and added that he would deal with the resignation when he returned to his office next week at conclusion of the York South by-elections.

#### Axis spearheads Are within 50 Miles of Tobruk

CAIRO, Feb. 5.—(AP)—Spearheads of the axis African army tonight were believed to stand within 50 miles of Tobruk in the continuing counter-offensive which has swept the British forces back some 90 miles since German and Italian troops occupied Benghazi.

While the British army command reported only patrol activity and operations of mobile columns "along the whole of our front," the latest high-water mark of the axis advance was indicated in an R. A. F. communique which announced British bombers had been active east and west of Timi.

Situated at the eastern base of the Chrenakun Hump, the town itself is 50 miles west of Tobruk and about 140 miles from the Libyan-Egyptian border.

#### Painted SOS; Wins British Empire Medal

LONDON, Feb. 5.—(CP)—Thomas Muggett, a steward aboard the German-captured 8,000-ton tanker San Casimiro, tonight was awarded the British Empire medal for his feat a year ago in surreptitiously painting a three-foot-high "SOS" signal which enabled British patrols to recapture the ship.

The San Casimiro was taken by the German battleship Gneisenau last March in the western Atlantic when a prize crew under Lieut. Otto Grenz was put aboard her.

"You'll never see through our patrols," British seamen told the Lieutenant who stowed them below deck. As the tanker neared England en route to a German-held port, a Royal Air Force plane spotted the ship.

British crewmen tried to wave battle clothes from the tanker's portholes, but the Nazi crew, armed with machine-guns, put a stop to that.

Then Muggett got his idea. Mixing a paste of flour and water he evaded the prize crewmen, found a bit of uninhabited deck, and painted his big sign.

#### Items shown in Display of all Frontline goods

Detachable Stretcher Carrier Invented By Three Soldiers Is Best Device.

#### Howe tells Of increase in War production

(By George Kitchen) (Canadian Press Staff Writer)

MONTREAL, Feb. 5.—(CP)—Munitions Minister Howe today told members of the Engineering Institute of Canada, in an annual convention here, that Canada's output of merchant shipping this year is expected to total almost as much as that of the shipyards of Great Britain.

Submarine sinkings in the Atlantic have forced Canada to switch her shipbuilding facilities from naval to merchant vessels, Mr. Howe said in an address in which he also revealed that the Dominion's output of tanks to Soviet Russia at a rate of three a day.

In another disclosure, he said that Canada's 1942 production of aircraft is expected to be about 2 1/2 times that of 1941—with still more plants to be built. "We'll really get going. We will have a massed munitions industry,"

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#### War Situation Last Night

(By KIRKE L. SIMPSON, Associated Press War Analyst)

The opening trial by fire on Britain's lesser Gibraltar, the Singapore island keystone of her arch of Empire, holds the spotlight in the war news. Its fate must deeply influence the course of the war, not in the Pacific alone but on all fronts.

Japanese failure to take the Singapore citadel by storm within a reasonable time or to batter it into submission with shells and bombs could mark that name in the history of this war as Verdun was red-lettered in the annals of the First Great War. That was the first disaster German failure of that war. It was the beginning of the end although more than two years were to elapse, years of blood, sweat and tears, before that end came.

Verdun cost the Kaiser losses from which his armies never fully recovered. Singapore, war protected from mechanized land attack, could cost the Japanese relatively greater casualties. Given air equality, its garrison probably could withstand siege for months or years.

There are some signs that the first wave of great Anglo-American reinforcements promised Singapore's defenders by Gen. Sir Archibald Wavell will be an air wave. As Japanese siege lines were manned along the mainland shore of Johore Strait and the preliminary duel of the guns began, the first word that United States army fighter pilots had clashed with the foe over Java stimulated hope of the beleaguered Britons.

Washington said only a few American fighter ships were engaged; but that they traded two-for-one losses with the Japanese. While there is nothing to show that these particular planes represent fresh reinforcements shipped across the Pacific since the war began, it is reasonable to expect the allies will build up land-based air power in Java to meet an intensified Japanese air attack on that central bulwark of allied defence lines.

#### Three Killed, One Injured In Crash

Two Canadians and one American lose lives when plane crashes in Cape Breton.

SYDNEY, N. S., Feb. 5.—(CP)—Two fliers from western Canada and one from the United States were killed and a fourth man from Ontario was injured in the crash of a Royal Canadian Air Force plane on a night flight over Cape Breton, R. C. A. F. officials announced tonight.

Crumpling against snow-covered Skye Mountain, the machine carried to death last night.

P. O. I. V. MacDonald, Edmonton; Sgt. Observer Robert Frederick Varvy, 20, Elstow, Sask.; Sgt. Observer William Rees Dikeman, 27, Seattle, Wash.

The fourth man in the machine, L. B. Ball (initials unavailable) of Brockville, Ont., escaped with little more than a severe shaking-up.

The accident, Cape Breton's worst air crash since the outbreak of war, happened at 7:15 p.m. AST last night. Air Force officials disclosed today, releasing the names of the victims tonight after their relatives had been notified.

Cause of the crash-up, in the sparsely-settled area near Whycomagh, about 58 airline miles southwest of here, was not made public. It was known, however, that the plane had been killed instantly and that the plane had burst into flames shortly after hitting the mountainside.

Farmers of the Whycomagh district, who saw the fire, organized search parties under Royal Canadian Mounted Police and reached the scene after trudging up the mountain in foot-deep snow. They brought down the bodies and the survivor, and they were brought to Sydney around noon today.

The bodies will be sent home for burial, it was announced.

#### Proposes new Slogan for Canadians

Liberal Speaker Attacks Methods Of Ontario "Committee For Total War"

OTTAWA, Feb. 5.—(CP)—A new slogan for Canadians—"Do not sell Canada short"—was proposed today in the House of Commons by W. A. Fraser (Lib. Northumberland) and it was particularly directed to the Ontario "committee for total war."

Mr. Fraser pleaded that the people of Canada, of all parties, get behind Prime Minister Mackenzie King in the same manner that President Roosevelt now was being supported by his former political opponents.

Speaking in the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, Mr. Fraser said "the methods used by the Ontario total war committee embodied subterfuge, deception and hypocrisy."

Mr. King was Prime Minister and leader of constitutional government in Canada "in obedience to the wishes of the people."

Those who were criticizing him and demanding his resignation were "selling Canada short" and were "damning and sabotaging" their own country," Mr. Fraser said.

The House this afternoon cheered Mr. King's announcement that an arrangement was signed in London today for exchange of consular representatives between Canada and the Soviet Union.

During the question period Mr. King refused to enter into a discussion when Conservative House leader Hanson asked him if Justice Minister St. Laurent spoke with government authority when it was reported, he said in a radio speech that conscription would harm the war effort.

"I do not intend to be drawn into controversy by the leader of the opposition," Mr. King said. He was endeavoring to avoid political controversy arising from the current by-election campaigns while devoting his thought to the war effort.

Angus MacIntyre (C. P. Vancouver East) accused the government of ignoring labor and helping to place big business in control of Canada. Class conflict was increasing instead of decreasing, he said.

Norman Lockart (C. P. Lincoln) condemned the conscription plebiscite proposal and demanded immediate action to make available for service anywhere all Canada's manpower and material resources. Compulsory selective service should be applied at once without limit, he said.

(Continued on page 8, Col 5)

#### Nipponese Make Gains In N.E.I. & Burma Drives

Second largest Dutch Naval Base may be in enemy hands; Japs force crossing of Salween River in Burma.

BATAVIA, N. E. I., Feb. 5.—(AP)—Official silence hid the fate of Ambolna tonight and suggested that Japanese landing forces might have gained the upper hand in the bitter fight for the second biggest Indies naval base, midway between the Philippines and Darwin, Australia.

Soerabaja, biggest of the naval bases, was attacked by Japanese bombers during the morning for the second time in three days and a communique said some damage was done.

RANGOON, Burma, Feb. 5.—(AP)—The Japanese invaders have forced patrol crossings of the Salween river above fallen Moulmein in a developing thrust apparently aimed at Thant, 40 miles to the north, and intended to cut off the British garrison at Martaban.

Nevertheless, British troops also were in offensive action in some sectors, patrols having thrust into the enemy lines on the east bank of the Salween.

SINGAPORE, Feb. 5.—(AP)—Behind the moon-like protection of Java still British imperial artillerymen traded punches today with Japanese batteries pointed at Singapore Island and, one after another, silenced an unspecified number of enemy guns.

The Singapore gunners scored this triumph despite the enemy's continued aerial bombing and strafing from the air.

High-flying enemy bombers attacked shipping in the Singapore harbor while lighter planes dove-bombed and strafed other areas of the island in the face of determined opposition from a number of Hurricane fighters.

The artillery fighting opened last night.

(Continued on page 8, Col 4)

#### New Zealand To Call Men With Children

AUCKLAND, Feb. 5.—(CP Cable)—The New Zealand government announced today that men with children will be called up by age groups for military service following the calling up of all childless married men. The system is applicable to both overseas and territorial service.

Robert Semple, minister of national service, said the government is adopting this method because the army wants younger men who take more easily to modern warfare while industry needs the more skilled and experienced type who are usually older.

(Continued on page 8, Col 5)

#### Famous British Subs Is Lost In Action

Admiralty gives brief glimpse of bitter give and take submarine warfare.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—(CP)—The admiralty today lifted the curtain momentarily for a brief glimpse of submarine warfare in both the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, disclosing a bitter give and take with the axis which cost Italy several of her undersea craft but took from Britain one of her most famous submarine raiders, the Triumph.

The Triumph, a 1,000-ton patrol type submarine carrying a normal complement of 33 men, was lost after gloriously sinking four axis patrol units, including a U-boat, and nine axis supply ships in a "succession of successful patrols" in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

The vessel also was credited officially with having "probably" sunk an armed trawler, a cruiser, a supply ship and a tanker.

In announcing the Italian losses the admiralty said "at these several craft had 'paid the ultimate penalty' after having been sent to the bottom by the German submarine campaign in the Atlantic.

One of the Italian victims, the admiralty said, was the 800-ton Ferraris, sunk late in 1941 after an "eventful but unsuccessful" history which ended soon after an attack by a Catalina flying boat had damaged her. One of four Italian submarines which escaped from Massaua, Eritrea, in Italian East Africa, she made a 14,000-mile journey back home with the help of a German supply ship which was sailing under the stars and stripes."

The admiralty said.

One of the submarine Triumph's more spectacular feats was reaching home after striking a mine in Scandinavian waters in December 1939 when she was elected president of the Canadian Institute of surveying.

Provincial councillors for 1942-43 include: D. W. Hudson, Edmundston, N.B.; R. J. Milgate, Halifax; and H. E. Miller, Charlottetown.

#### Churchill to Clarify new post

LONDON, Feb. 6.—(Friday)—(CP)—The London Daily Mail in a special interview quoted Sir Stafford Cripps, former British ambassador to Moscow, as saying he had declined to become minister of supply because the post did not carry war cabinet rank and that he preferred to return to the House of Commons "with an open mind."

Sir Cripps had been mentioned prominently as a possible successor to Lord Beaverbrook who has become minister of war production, Prime Minister Churchill told the Commons today he would clarify Lord Beaverbrook's duties in a statement at the next meeting of the legislative body.

#### Plight of Greece Is growing worse

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—(AP)—Greece is suffering a terrible famine, reports reaching Washington through various channels indicate, and the situation in that axis-occupied country is growing more desperate daily.

At a press conference today Sumner Welles, under-secretary of state, described the plight of the Greeks as utterly appalling. He said the state department had been receiving famine reports from there for some time from Americans returning from Greece or neighboring countries and from the Greek government through the Greek legation here.

Welles said the department's information indicated that the Germans had ruthlessly stripped the Greek people of their food reserves and left them to starve. He added that the rapidly increasing death rate among infants was particularly shocking.

Asked if he thought a recently reported British decision to send food relief into Greece through the Turkish Crescent (Turkish Red Cross) might alleviate the situation, Welles replied he certainly hoped it would.

Reports from Greek and neutral diplomatic sources recently have told of the hunger weakened people dying by the hundreds in Athens and in similar distress in other areas, with bread being unobtainable at any price in some districts, and the supply of fish from the waters around Greece is so far from adequate, according to these reports, that even the heads and entrails of fish—formerly used for fertilizer—are eagerly sought as food.

#### Hero of sinking Goes shopping For new suit

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—(CP)—Percy A. Kelly of Halifax, N. S., hero of the Lady Hawkins sinking, arrived in New York today and set out on a shopping tour for a suit.

Then the 38-year-old chief officer of the torpedoed Canadian national cruise ship was ready to talk about the five days he and 71 survivors of the Jan. 19 torpedoing spent aboard a lifeboat. Five persons died during the five days.

Survivors of the liner, sunk in the Atlantic with loss of 251 lives, said at Puerto Rico that those rescued would not have lived had it not been for Kelly and his Canadian crewmen, Eddie Brown, 25-year-old passenger from Revere, Mass., echoed other survivors' stories here today when he said "everybody owes his life to Kelly and his crew."

But the ruddy-faced chief officer dismissed the acclaim with a shrug of the shoulders. "It was the help of God that got us through," he said. "I never tried to raise the bodies or the passengers—they all kept their spirits up and my cheering up I could do wasn't necessary."

Twenty-four other survivors, including eight of the 13 Canadians who were landed at Puerto Rico, arrived here aboard a rescue ship.

#### Canada, Russia To exchange Consuls

OTTAWA, Feb. 5.—(CP)—Prime Minister Mackenzie King announced and applause in the House of Commons today the signing in London of an agreement between Canada and Russia for the exchange of consular representatives.

The Prime Minister said this arrangement would greatly facilitate relations between Canada and the U. S. S. R.

#### Candidate Withdraws From By-Election

QUEBEC, Feb. 5.—(CP)—Ernest Godbout, chief returning officer announced tonight that Paul Latouche, "liberal anti-conscriptionist" candidate in the Quebec east Dominion by-election Feb. 9, had signed a declaration saying that he was withdrawn from the field.

Latouche's withdrawal leaves two candidates, Justice Minister St. Laurent, official Liberal candidate and Paul Bouchard, Canadian party candidate.

#### FATALITY INJURED

SYDNEY, N. S., Feb. 5.—(CP)—Struck by a Canadian National Railways freight train, Ronald McSweeney, 48, was fatally injured late today near Boisdale, 30 miles from here. He died on way to hospital.

#### B. C. Soldiers to Train on skis

DEBERT CAMP, N.S., Feb. 5.—(CP)—The entire British Columbia regiment will have to learn to ski at this big military camp, and a "ski-school" has been established with Capt. L. J. Hope as chief instructor.

Other instructors are Lieut. George C. B. Kellett, Lieut. A. Laungley, and Lieut. L. D. Stevens, with Opl. J. Tonelli, Rfm. R. A. Cleaveland and Rfm. J. B. Richardson as assistant instructors.

L. Opl. L. Havig, acting quartermaster, has 60 pairs of skis and about 50 pairs of snowshoes and equipment for the men of the regiment.

#### Brig. W. W. Foster Takes Over Command

HALIFAX, Feb. 5.—(CP)—Brig. W. W. Foster, D.S.O., V.D., recently appointed to command military district No. 6, Halifax, arrived here last night. He succeeds Brig. C. E. Connolly D.S.O., who is retiring because of ill health.

Brig. Foster, a native of England, was D. O. C. at Regina previous to his new appointment, and before that was director of auxiliary services.

#### War Leadership Badly needed Hepburn says

TORONTO, Feb. 5.—(CP)—Ontario's Liberal Premier, Mitchell Hepburn, said tonight in a radio address over a Toronto station on behalf of Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen and the Ontario Conservative Party, that no one had fought Mr. Meighen harder in the past "so far as matters of fiscal policy are concerned, but with his war policy I am in agreement."

"Canada can make any sacrifices to hold her place among the democracies. All we need is leadership and facts. One thing essential which Mr. Meighen can do, is debunk the press releases issued by Ottawa's army of publicity agents. Why should our war effort need so many paid propaganda pages of half-truths and untruths?"

Mr. Hepburn said it was "disgraceful, humiliating" to see these industrious young men of Ottawa fighting this war to the last drop of printers' ink.

#### Canadian Surveyors Elect New Slate

OTTAWA, Feb. 5.—(CP)—CH Fullerton of Toronto, surveyor general of Ontario since 1935, today was elected president of the Canadian Institute of surveying.

Provincial councillors for 1942-43 include: D. W. Hudson, Edmundston, N.B.; R. J. Milgate, Halifax; and H. E. Miller, Charlottetown.

#### Borden - Cape Tormentine Service

Leave Borden 9.25 A.M. 1.00 P.M. Leave Cape Tormentine 11.00 A.M. 3.20 P.M.



Summary: The weather has been comparatively mild today in Ontario and the western provinces with light snow in many districts.

High tide this afternoon at 2:19 and tomorrow at 2:30. Sun sets this afternoon at 5:14 and rises tomorrow morning at 7:13. Last quarter moon Feb. 8, 9:52 A.M.

Summerside tide 18 minutes later than Charlottetown.

Borden - Cape Tormentine Service

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WIN BAKING LAURELS  
use  
**BLOSSOM**  
OF  
CANADA  
THE ALL PURPOSE FLOUR