

## BIG SEA BATTLE

### British and Germans Sink Ships In Scandinavian Waters

Stockholm, Thursday, April 11.—British warships were reported early today to be ready to shell the Germans out of Oslo after engaging German men-o-war in the biggest naval battle since the British grand fleet limped home from the Battle of Jutland 24 years ago.

First meagre reports of the battle, fought almost within Swedish territorial waters, said the British fleet appeared to be whipping the Nazi warships after forcing its way through the narrow Skagerrak and down into the Kattegat strait between Sweden and Denmark.

Fierce fighting also was raging early today in Oslo Fjord, it was said, with the remnants of Norway's tiny navy aiding the British.

#### British Ultimatum

The British, according to the Stockholm radio, served an ultimatum threatening to turn their guns on Oslo unless the Germans gave up their "protective" hold on the capital by noon today.

The city was being evacuated amid scenes of panic, according to reports at the Swedish frontier, while planes battled overhead and bombs fell on the outskirts.

(In London, reports circulated that Adolf Hitler had served an ultimatum to Sweden demanding the right to transport troops and supplies across Swedish territory to maintain his foothold in Scandinavia.)

In the Skagerrak battle, within sight of people in the Swedish town of Gothenburg, four German cruisers and five heavily-laden troop ships were sunk, according to these reports.

The pit of the battle was a few miles northwest of the Island of Hoppelin.

#### Nazi Ships Down

Hoppelin residents said they saw two ships, believed to be Nazi transports, explode and disappear into the sea with amazing speed.

Hundreds of heads bobbed in the water, but fishermen were afraid to expose their frail craft in rescue work because of the intense firing.

Later several fishing boats left the Island of Roeroe adjoining Hoppelin and returned loaded with dead and wounded German soldiers and sailors.

The detonations of the broadsides shook houses on the Swedish islands and shattered windows.

The German fleet in the battle was reported by Gothenburg eyewitnesses to have consisted of 23 ships, 11 of which were troop transports.

The loss of lives was great and many bodies of German soldiers and sailors were washed up on shore.

Several badly damaged troop ships ran for refuge within Swedish territorial waters.

#### See Fighting

Residents of the Swedish town of Marstrand saw ships go down in flames and watched the flashes of pounding, big-calibre guns.

The naval battle began at 3 p. m., Wednesday and continued until far into the night when part of the British fleet, reported to be 10 ships, pushed back northward into the Skagerrak at full speed and into Oslo Fjord.

Gothenburg reports said there was great loss of life in the sinking of five German troop ships.

Inhabitants of Marstrand reported that the battle began between German armed trawlers and British submarines, and that later warships and bombing planes entered the conflict.

Residents of the Island of Eskeroe said they saw two Nazi warships sink stern first. One was a German cruiser in flames.

A short distance away circles of black smoke rose from a shattered German cruiser.

London, April 10.—British warships, pounding again and again at the German invaders of Norway, were reported tonight in dispatches from the North to have pointed their big guns at Oslo, demanding the surrender of the city by its Nazi garrison, during a proud and bitter day of sea battle from one end of the "Hitler-protected" Scandinavian kingdom to the other.

Two Norwegian cities, Bergen and Trondheim, already were reported, without confirmation, to have been taken by British landing parties after one day of German occupation.

While the navy guns were barking out across the North Sea, British fighting planes defending home shores were credited with shooting down four Nazi planes which attempted a Wednesday

## TO SPEAK



HON. J. M. BROUGHTON

Candidate for Governor of North Carolina will speak in the Court House in Louisburg at 2:00 o'clock on Monday afternoon, during the recess of Court. All are invited to hear him on the political issues of the day.

## CITIZENS OF LOUISBURG REQUESTED TO OBSERVE CLEAN-UP WEEK, APRIL 28 TO MAY 5, 1940

In cooperation with other Agencies of Franklin County who are staging a CLEAN-UP WEEK from April 28th through May 5, 1940, we are attempting to make of Louisburg, N. C., one of the cleanest, neatest, prettiest towns in North Carolina.

We are asking the citizens of Louisburg to help us in this movement by cleaning up your premises. We will be glad to send a truck to your homes and stores to haul all of your trash without cost to you. When you have accumulated your trash call Telephone Number 427-1, and a truck will be sent to haul your trash as soon as possible. With sincere wishes that you will join the CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN, I am,

Respectfully yours,  
W. C. WEBB, Mayor.

## TWO BRITISH AND SIX NAZI PLANES DOWNED

Eight warplanes, two British and six German, were reported shot down Tuesday in bursts of aerial fighting over the North Sea and the western front.

Perhaps the most spectacular action of the day was told by the official German news agency, DNB, which said two British bombers were shot down about 100 miles north of the fortified German Island of Sylt. The agency said the battle over the sea involved "a swarm" of German pursuit planes and 24 British aircraft but that no German planes were lost.

In London, the air ministry announced that two British planes failed to return after the battle and that one German plane was destroyed in the fight.

## BREMEN RUMORS

Amsterdam, April 9.—A report entirely unconfirmed circulated here tonight that the German liner Bremen had been sunk by British airplanes or had been torpedoed. The reports did not state where the sinking was supposed to have occurred.

It was believed the report originated on the Bourse.

New York, April 9.—Columbia Broadcasting systems short wave station here tonight picked up a radio report from Paris saying that Amsterdam had been sunk while carrying 1,300 soldiers.

CBS said the broadcast was in the Spanish language and that no confirmation had come from London.

## MOTHER KILLS 3 CHILDREN AND HERSELF

Los Angeles, April 4.—A mother beat her three small children to death today with a small hammer and then died in a flaming mattress after setting fire to her own hair.

The dead, officers reported, are Mrs. Lolita Davis, 43; Daphne Davis, 10; Deborah Davis, 7; Marquis Davis, 3. A fourth child, Chloé, 11, was beaten almost unconscious, but officers said she probably would recover.

## LITTLE HOPE ADVANCED FOR IMPROVING U. S. NO. 1

Traffic does not justify betterment of U. S. Highway 1 south of Cary and any widening of the highway north of Raleigh must wait until—adequate funds are available. Highway Engineer W. Vance Baise said yesterday.

The engineer of the Highway and Public Works Department issued the statement in answer to a question from New York, but it indirectly answered recent petitions to the Highway Commission from Wake, Vance, Halifax and Franklin counties. Civic agencies in these counties have clamored for improvement of the north-south artery in North Carolina.

Figures of the highway department show the road to extend 179 miles through this State, 171 miles of this distance being 18 feet wide, six miles (between Raleigh and Cary) being 30 feet wide and two miles (north of Sanford) being 20 feet wide.

Any betterment program, the engineer said, would not be undertaken as a continuous project along the road but would be a sector-by-sector improvement where traffic demands most of the road.—News-Observer.

## Appoints Registrars and Poll Holders

At a meeting of the Board of Elections for Franklin County held in Louisburg on Saturday the following were appointed Registrars and pollholders for the coming primary and election. The first named is the Registrar and the last named is the Republican member:

- Dunn No. 1—J. O. Williams, J. F. Perry, J. R. White.
- Dunn No. 2—C. E. Pearce, A. D. Mills, J. A. Ray.
- Harris—Oscar Hagwood, J. B. Wilder, W. R. Young.
- Youngsville—C. C. Winston, G. E. Winston, E. M. Mitchell.
- Franklinton—M. W. Hardy, J. B. Kearney, B. B. Pruitt.
- Hayesville—A. A. Purnell, J. H. Goodson, G. T. Ayescue.
- Sandy Creek—G. B. Egerton, Morris Bledsoe, Walter Ball.
- Gold Mine—Alston Fuller, T. R. Gupton, Bennie Shearon.
- Cedar Rock—Ira Incoe, Arch Wilson, J. C. Bartholomew.
- Cypress Creek—J. A. Boone, J. M. Harris, A. N. Wilder.
- Louisburg—W. A. Huggins, R. W. Alston, E. H. Hight.

## Recorder's Court

Franklin Recorder's Court held a short session on Tuesday morning and disposed of cases as follows:

Thomas Hunt plead guilty to motor vehicle violations, prayer for judgment continued.

Bully Dunston was found guilty of unlawful possession of whiskey, and given 60 days on roads, suspended upon payment of costs and not to violate any liquor laws of the State for a period of two years.

Tom Williams, Jr., plead guilty to larceny and receiving and was given 4 months on roads.

The following cases were continued:

Mary Lee Alston, motor vehicle violation.

George Ragland, motor vehicle violation.

Archie Bell, unlawful possession of whiskey.

## CURRENT LITERATURE CLUB

The Current Literature Club was entertained by Mrs. A. Paul Bagby at her home, on Tuesday afternoon, April 9. The subject of the program was "The East," Mrs. L. F. Kent spoke on "Sinking, Afghanistan, Baghdad"; Mrs. M. S. Davis reviewed the book "In the Steps of Moses, the Lawgiver"; and Mrs. C. M. Watkins spoke on "India Reveals Herself." Following the program, refreshments were served by the hostess, assisted by Miss Elizabeth Lassiter.

Members present were: Mrs. L. F. Kent, Mrs. C. M. Watkins, Mrs. M. S. Davis, Mrs. T. C. Amick, Mrs. V. R. Kilby, Mrs. J. G. Phillips, Miss Mary Yarborough and Mrs. Bagby. Miss Elizabeth Lassiter was a special guest.

## MILLS P. T. A.

Mills P. T. A. will hold its last meeting Thursday, April 18th, 3:30 in the auditorium. Please everybody come.

Mrs. Earle Murphy, Pres.

## BAND CONCERT

Mills P. T. A. will sponsor the Henderson High School Band, April 26, Friday night, at 8:00. Go out and make this entertainment a big success.

A car traveling at 60 miles an hour strikes a stationary object with an impact equal to that it would have if dropped off a 10-story building.

## Roosevelt Bars U. S. Shipping In North

Washington—President Roosevelt barred United States shipping Wednesday from a 11 waters around the Scandinavian peninsula.

The President signed a proclamation extending the European combat zone, in which American vessels are forbidden to operate, from Bergen on the west coast of Norway entirely around the Scandinavian peninsula to the Russian mainland just south of 44 degrees east longitude and 70 degrees north latitude.

The newly added area extends for several hundred miles to sea along the entire west and north coasts of Norway and closes some Russian ports to United States shipping also.

The zone extends around the Kola peninsula of Russia and thus prevents United States' vessels from going into the White Sea or from visiting the Russian ports of Archangel and Murmansk.

The administration adopted Wednesday a "stop, look and listen" attitude with regard to permitting Scandinavian countries to make use of credits extended by the Export-Import Bank for financing purchases of non-military goods in this country.

This was reported by Jesse Jones, federal loan administrator, after he conferred at the White House with President Roosevelt and Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles.

Applying the term "stop, look and listen" to the course the government will follow for the immediate future, Jones said that "we want to wait and see how things go" before deciding on a permanent policy.

## Wait On Policy

"I think the whole situation in regard to the Scandinavian countries," Jones told newsmen, "is one that requires that we look a little further before we determine upon a policy or a change in policy. Naturally we will look to the President and the State Department for guidance in that respect."

The loan administrator explained that even after credits are granted money is not actually advanced for purchases until the goods are bought and shipped, so that this government retains control of the money as long as possible.

## Status of Credits

Here is the status of credits to the Scandinavian countries as Jones outlined them:

Denmark—\$10,000,000 allocated by the Export-Import Bank, none of which has been expended or obligated for purchases.

Norway—\$10,000,000 allocated of which \$226,000 has been expended and \$180,000 obligated for purchases not yet shipped. If the goods should be shipped, Jones said, the money would be advanced under the commitment but he considered it unlikely that ships would be available.

Sweden—\$15,000,000, of which none has been spent.

Finland—\$30,000,000 allocated, of which \$7,000,000 has been spent and more than \$3,000,000 made subject to commitments.

## Work on Proclamation

The Export-Import Bank also has approved a commitment of \$1,000,000 to Iceland. No purchases have been made, but Jones said that if Iceland needed the money to buy American goods it would be available.

State and Justice department experts were at work on a proclamation for submission to the President, extending neutrally provisions to Norway and Denmark, but lack of diplomatic word from Norway slowed up a decision on exactly what steps would be taken.

At the State Department it was reported that the last official word received from Oslo was at 11 a. m., E.S.T., Tuesday. That was left incomplete when the telegraph operator broke it off with the explanation "air raid. Have to run away."

We need not feel too badly about the kind of mistakes that can be corrected. The ones that cannot be are the ones that hurt most.

## Blind Flight Successful

First Totally "Blind" Flight Made From Mitchell Field To Langley Field

Langley Field, Va., April 6.—The first totally "blind" flight in the history of aviation was completed today by a United States Army air corps bomber as it landed at Langley Field from Mitchell Field, N. Y.

Major Carl B. McDaniel, a native of Texas, took off, flew and landed entirely by instruments.

The giant four-motored plane touched its wheels to the ground at the big army base here two hours and two minutes after leaving Mitchell Field.

The instrument landing was no bumpier than a landing under normal conditions when the pilot can see the ground in front of him.

Major McDaniel, in charge of a crew of six men, was shut off from all outside contact by a canvas screen around his side of the cockpit.

## GREEN HILL GOLF CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS

The yearly meeting of the Green Hill Golf Club was held at the club house on the 4th of April, at which time officers for the coming year were elected.

They were as follows: Napier Williamson, President; Coy Cox, Vice-President; L. M. Word, Secretary-Treasurer. Directors: Frank Wheeler, Jr., Arch Wilson, G. M. Beam, J. S. Howell, Maurice Murphy, Bill Boyce. Executive Committee: President, Secretary, and Chairman Fairways Committee.

The meeting was most interesting and some very necessary business was taken up. The monthly dance was held following the meeting.

## SPREAD OF WAR BRINGS U. S. DIPLOMATIC PROBLEMS

Washington, April 9.—The explosive spread of Europe's war to Scandinavia confronted the administration with three urgent problems today:

1—The safety of some 3,000 American nationals in Europe.

2—The question of a new presidential proclamation formally designating Norway and Denmark as belligerents.

3—The matter of protecting American shipping interest in the invading countries and possible action on extending the combat zone to include the waters around the north coasts of Norway.

Decision on the steps the government would take awaited the return of President Roosevelt from Hyde Park and Secretary of State Hull from Atlantic City.

The first official word of the Reich's swift hammer blows on the Scandinavian front reached the capital shortly after midnight from Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, United States minister to Norway.

High state department officials headed by Assistant Secretary Berle were quickly summoned to the State department building near the White House and lights burned on toward dawn.

## MORRISON GIRL IS ACQUITTED ON MURDER CHARGE

Wilmington, April 6.—A verdict of justifiable homicide with accompanying complete acquittal was returned at the trial of Zella Deloris Morrison, charged with murdering her father, was completed late yesterday afternoon in New Hanover juvenile court.

The maximum sentence that could have been imposed under North Carolina juvenile statutes had the court found otherwise would have been incarceration in a reform school for an indefinite period.

The defendant took the stand late in the trial and stated without reservation she shot her father because, she said, "he threatened to cut my mother's tongue out."

J. B. Webb, of Chowan County, was highly pleased with the results of the sulphur dusting demonstration he conducted with peasants last year, reports N. K. Rowell, assistant farm agent of the State College Extension Service.

YOU CAN ALWAYS COMPLIMENT A MAN BY ASKING THE TIME AND THEN SETTING YOUR WATCH TO CORRESPOND WITH HIS.