

FEARS OF INVASION MOUNT IN LONDON

British and Greeks Report Slow Gains in Libya And Albania.

(Continued from Page One) shoulder" with the Italians and scoffed at the British triumphs as unimportant.

Greek-Italian War

On the Albanian front, the Greeks were facing blizzards, deep snow and extreme cold in addition to increasingly stubborn resistance by reinforced Italian armies but one report reaching the Yugoslav frontier said that the important inland town of Kilia, which Athens reported in flames under Greek artillery fire, had been captured.

British airplanes were bombing and machine gunning Fascist columns along the coastal road leading to the bomb-splintered port of Valona, but the heavy storms appeared to be slowing down Greek advances on both north and south wings.

Fighting continued in the Tepe-ni and Porto Palermo sectors, although Greeks previously had been reported pushing into both towns and Porto Palermo was encircled by the drive toward Valona.

Egyptian Front

On the Libyan front, the British had circled and sent some forces on past the Fascist base of Bardia on the Mediterranean Coast and were hammering with artillery, infantry, warships and airplanes at the base itself.

London military sources said the fall of Bardia was possible at any time, but Fascist reports were that a strong defense was being maintained there. At Rome it was said that Italian lines were being stabilized and that the British advance might be ended.

The Italian communiqué said that British warships off Bardia had been bombed by Italian warplanes and that a cruiser which yesterday was listed as having been struck by an aerial torpedo had been seen to turn over and sink. Two British and one Italian plane were lost in the fighting, the communiqué reported. British losses in Libya were described by Fascists as heavy.

London continued to take a cautious attitude on the possibility of smashing deeply into Libya, but it was obvious that the British hoped to have Bardia as at least an advance base.

In East Africa, there were hints that the British might be prepared to start an important offensive against Ethiopia if the Libyan drive slowed down but it did not appear likely that operations in that sector could be undertaken soon on a scale comparable to the Libya push.

SETTLE QUILTS FARM COMMITTEE POST

William H. Settle, Indiana farm leader, has announced his resignation as president of the Roosevelt-Wallace Committee for Agriculture, which functioned during the last two Presidential campaigns.

Office records of the committee were moved this week from Chicago to Indianapolis and headquarters will be set up in the Kresge Building, in charge of Miss Dorothy Bleiter Linville, Indianapolis.

Mr. Settle explained that he is leaving active management of the committee because the "present activities are dormant and there is some question whether it will function again."

Records of the committee must be kept for two years in compliance with Federal laws.

ARGENTINA ELECTION DISORDERS SPREAD

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, Dec. 18 (U. P.)—Widespread disorders were reported in Santa Fe province today as a result of disputes over last Sunday's provincial election.

IN INDIANAPOLIS

Here is the Traffic Record

County City Total			
1939	40	52	
1940	50	90	
—Dec. 17—			
Injured	7	Accidents	25
Dead	0	Arrests	66
TUESDAY TRAFFIC COURT			
Cases Convic-Fines			
Violations, tried	27	\$102	
Speeding	30	8	
Reckless driving	11	8	
Failure to stop at	11	11	
through street	11	11	
Disobeying traffic	19	18	
signals	25	60	
Drunken driving	4	3	
All others	136	126	
Totals	211	193	
	\$246		

MEETINGS TODAY

Y. M. C. A. Camera Club, Central Y. M. C. A., 7:30 p. m. Club, Clarendon Hotel, noon.

Young Men's Dissemination Club, Y. M. C. A., 6 p. m. Alumni Association, Hotel Sevin, noon.

Confidential American Legion, Board of Trade, noon.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Board of Trade, noon.

Indiana Real Estate Board, Proprietary Division, Canary Cottage, noon.

Beta Theta Tau, Seville Tavern, noon.

Club of Indianapolis, Co-club Club, noon.

Junior Chamber of Commerce, Canary Club, 6-Plus Club, Chamber of Commerce, 7:30 p. m. Club, Club, Club, noon.

Phi Gamma Chi, Hotel Washington, 7:30 p. m.

Marketing Research Club, Hotel Washington, 7:30 p. m.

Indiana State Wide E. E. C. Meeting, Hotel Sevin, 10 a. m.

E. C. Atkins & Co., Hotel Sevin, 6:45 p. m.

MEETINGS TOMORROW

Indianapolis Real Estate Board, luncheon, Hotel Washington, 12:15 p. m.

Advertising Club of Indianapolis luncheon, Indianapolis Athletic Club, noon.

Young Men's Dissemination Club, Stratford Hotel, restaurant, noon.

Caravan Club, luncheon, Murat Temple, 6 p. m.

Club, luncheon, Hotel Sevin, noon.

Construction League of Indianapolis, luncheon, Hotel Sevin, noon.

Indiana Camera Club, meeting, 110 E. Ninth St., 8 p. m.

MAXIMUM WAR AID TO BRITAIN SOUGHT BY FDR

Explores Program of Leasing All Types of Armaments Except Naval Craft.

(Continued from Page One)

In France, the power of the Nazis was felt more acutely than ever as a result of the dismissal of Pierre Laval as Vice Premier after he had co-operated with the Nazis "new order" in Europe.

Laval was released as a result of the hurried visit of Otto Abetz, representative of Hitler, to Vichy and the ousted Vice Premier returned with Abetz to Paris, where it was hinted he might have an important role in the future. For the present, however, he was said to be in Paris as a private citizen.

Abetz, who conferred briefly with Pierre Etienne Flandin, successor to Laval in the Foreign Ministry, was said to be satisfied that France would continue a policy of collaboration with Germany.

Sea War

The British Admiralty claimed that a large enemy supply ship of from 6000 to 7000 tons was sunk off the Belgian Coast early today by British motor torpedo boats.

The German official DNB News Agency meanwhile said that British shipping losses for the week Dec. 2-8 totaled 221,047 tons instead of 101,193 as reported by the British.

COUNTY PRINTING CONTRACTS ARE LET

County Commissioners today let contracts for approximately \$35,000 worth of county printing supplies in which three separate contracts were awarded to the highest bidders.

The contract for record books, the largest single printing item, went to the Sentinel Printing Co. on a bid of \$14,333. This was \$31 over the bid of the Burford Printing Co.

The Burford Co. also underbid the Gray Printing Co. \$262 for the contract for papers and pads. The Gray company received the contract on a bid of \$14,330. The Burford bid was \$1168.

The Mark Gray company was itself the low bidder on another classification with \$844.60 but Commissioners placed the contract with the Sentinel Printing Co. with a bid of \$923.

Commissioners said contracts were awarded to the higher bidders in the three cases for two reasons. One was, said, because a new system of bid calculations had been established and that they "felt the business should be spread out among Indianapolis firms within a certain bid range."

SETTLE QUILTS FARM COMMITTEE POST

Mr. Roosevelt's remarks did not commit him to the lease-loan program. He said merely that it would be possible to proceed that way. It seemed evident, however, that if the popular reaction were not unfavorable the lease-loan method probably would be proposed to Congress.

The 50-50 rule of thumb division of existing armament production between the United States and Great Britain still prevails, Mr. Roosevelt said. Repeatedly he emphasized that our fate is linked with that of Great Britain. He said the thing necessary for the United States is additional productive facilities, plants and factories and that British orders are a tremendous asset to United States defense because they create additional facilities.

Awaits Popular Reaction

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American crews and the American flag would not go into the trans-Atlantic munitions convoys, Mr. Roosevelt explained, indicating that the registry of any merchant vessels loaned or leased to Great Britain would be transferred before they joined a Europe-bound convoy.

What Great Britain is seeking, it developed, was assurance that the flow of munitions would be uninterrupted and Mr. Roosevelt decided that the dollar sign as symbolic of the traditional loan or credits transaction should not figure in future munitions developments.

He did not indicate his intentions regarding a further proclamation of national emergency, explaining that there was a great question whether that would speed up rearmament.

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OFFICIAL WEATHER

U. S. Weather Bureau

INDIANAPOLIS FORECAST—Cloudy to night and tomorrow; somewhat warmer tomorrow with occasional light snow in afternoon; lowest temperature 25° to 30°.

Sunrise—7:02 a. m. Sunset—4:28 p. m.

TEMPERATURE—Dec. 18, 1940

6 a. m.—43 1 p. m.—32

BAROMETER TODAY

6:30 a. m.—30.53

Precipitation 24 hrs. ending 7 a. m.—0.00

Deficiency since Jan. 1.—10.21

MIDWEST WEATHER

Indiana—Cloudy tonight and tomorrow; occasional light rain or snow tomorrow.

Illinoian—Cloudy; occasional rain or snow tonight; rain or snow tomorrow.

Michigan—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Wisconsin—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Ohio—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Pennsylvania—Cloudy; rain or snow.

West Virginia—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Virginia—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Tennessee—Cloudy; rain or snow.

North Carolina—Cloudy; rain or snow.

South Carolina—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Georgia—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Alabama—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Mississippi—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Louisiana—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Texas—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Arkansas—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Oklahoma—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Colorado—Cloudy; rain or snow.

New Mexico—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Arizona—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Utah—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Nevada—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Wyoming—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Montana—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Idaho—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Washington—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Oregon—Cloudy; rain or snow.

California—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Hawaii—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Alaska—Cloudy; rain or snow.

Death Valley—Cloudy; rain or snow.</p