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Camp News

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Friday, June 7, 1940

**Stirring Broadcast to People of
N.Z. by the Hon. W. Nash,
Minister of Finance**

NATIONAL MORALE

NO OCCASION SEEN FOR LOSS OF HEART

The necessity for the maintenance of national morale in the present crisis was emphasized by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Nash, in an address last week. He said that if the morale of the people weakened their military and economic power was weakened also. He realized that inevitably initial reverses and seemingly impossible odds were prone to create a feeling in the public mind of temporary frustration and hopelessness. It was imperative that no such feelings should be allowed to emerge, no matter how dark the outlook might appear.

"When I spoke last week I said that in the situation in France and Belgium the British Commonwealth is faced with a crisis as grave as it has ever faced," said Mr. Nash. "That situation continues and probably will continue for some time to come. I do not wish to minimize its gravity; in-



THE HON. W. NASH

deed, it would be foolish to try and do so. I do most emphatically urge, however, that there is no occasion for any loss of heart. Above all, let us not allow anything in the nature of a panic to stampede us into foolish and irresponsible criticism and activity. After all, we have faced and have emerged successfully from many crises in the past. Those who remember the dark days of 1914-18 will recall that

the British Commonwealth faced times no less critical and overcome odds no less great than confront it today.

Confidence in Allies.

"It is absolutely vital if we are to play our part as we are expected to play it, that any tendency toward a feeling of hopelessness should be promptly and relentlessly stifled. That does not mean that we should ignore or minimize the difficulties we are up against. It does not mean that we should lull ourselves into a false sense of security, but it does mean that we should have confidence in the ability of England, France and our other Allies, and above all, in the ability of ourselves, to maintain the struggle with unrelenting vigour and firm resolve till victory is achieved.

"We have a war to fight on three fronts; We must put forward first the maximum military effort of which we are capable. We must mobilize secondly our entire economic resources in order that this effort may be sustained and strengthened. And thirdly—and no less important—is the necessity of maintaining the national morale, because if the morale of the people weakens, their military and economic power is weakened also. This is something which New Zealand and New Zealanders should take to heart at the present moment.

"An Old Country friend of mine has sent me a book by Sir John Orr and David Lubbock on 'Feeding the People in Wartime.' In the first chapter there are two striking sentences, 'the strength of the Home front depends upon the spiritual and physical stamina of our people. The spiritual is even more important than the physical.' Nothing must be left undone in this land of ours that will help Britain and her Allies. All our resources, material, mental and spiritual, must be drawn on to the limit to help. I am affirming that the health line, depending as it does on food, and the spiritual line, are more important than the Maginot Line.

"No sacrifice to help the Mother Country is too great to make. The Prime Minister has pledged all that we have. Our kinsmen at Home are facing difficult times, but with a united country, a united Commonwealth, with all individuals forgetting themselves in the enthusiasm for work and service, we can win through to commence again to build in our country and our Commonwealth the priceless freedom and liberties which can only come if built on the spiritual foundations of sacrifice, determination and selfless love.

Continued on page 3

Ricochets

War puts the din into Scandinavia

Frozen assets: Finland's lakes

This weather makes us feel a lot of mugs.

Neither side attempting to advance on the Western Front—Saar group

Germany's largest underwater "Graf Spee."

Pity Hitler hasn't got a wife to help him up.

Stated that an ally would not accept a victory for Germany. But who will take this Third Party Risk?

News item: "Men of 2nd NZ Division will carry 64lb." And tons of wishes!

Germany has decided to standardize clothing. This idea should go to Goering.

Few car thefts in N.Z. must be deterred by fear of having to buy petrol.

Many people, says a doctor, are faced with the problem of finding a way in which to perform their extra work and also to take enough exercise to keep fit. We hear of one recruit who has solved the problem by trying to himself to walk in his sleep.

At least one optimistic member of the Special Force at Trentham provided for every contingency which he made his will. Should his tent be chosen as the best-kept in the company, he wrote, his share of the prize was to go to his next-of-kin.