

南太平洋週報

東京通信

陛下御不例

吉例宮中

御歌始めは去る廿八日
御催ふしの御豫定の處
陛下御風の氣にわたる
せらるゝため俄に取止
となり此爲三万八千に
上る詠進は只御手元一
差し出すに止めた。且つ
今年海外からの詠進
は一千を出でず戦線將
兵からのものも七百餘り
とも。去年より減じて
居る。宮内省では今全國
を悩まして居る風邪が
宮中へ迄も入り込み遂

大相撲春場所の成績

ひに至尊に迄も及
んだ事についで恐
懼して居る。

九日を初日に廿三日千
秋樂、毎日大入客止の盛
況であつた本場所は結び
の一番照國には双葉山
照國の勝で終り之で双
葉は十三勝二敗同じく
十三勝二敗はほかにも
三四人あり優勝力士は
佐賀の花成績は東が百
五十二点、西が百六十四
点で優勝旗は双葉山が
出て之を受けたが双葉
山ほか二三は東側にま
はる事になつた。

樂聖エッケル逝く

四十七年前來朝以來實
に一日の如く上野の音
樂學校に又武藏野音樂
學校にたえざる努力を
捧げて來たエッケル氏
は本年に入り七十六才
の高齡を以て逝去され
た。去年七十五才の誕生
日には勲三等に叙せら
れ又ヒトラ大總統から
は終身年金の趣き通知
があつた。因にエッケル翁
が文化勲章でなしに勲
三を與へられた理由は
同氏が外人である事且
つ同氏が陸海軍側諸種
作曲に大命お托傳申上
げて居た關係からであ
ると。

第八十四議會概言

今

議會衆議院通過の豫算は行政並びに軍需糧食増産運輸改善等の準戦費を含む歳出と戦費三千七百四十億計五百九億六千七百四十三万四千円で推定國民所得六百億に對し實に八割五分弱の支出であるが一口に五百億と云ても物價のあがて居る今日果してそれ計りの支出で此の大戦争を賄ふに足るであらうかとすむきが相當にありしかし之以上の支出は國民収入が許さないと云ふ所まで来たのである。それはあらぬか東條首相は議會開会前には近衛公廣田岡

田若槻米内の前首相等の參集を求め重臣合議を開いた。又首相の議會での今や航空機其他兵器の生産は充分である。これがらには國民生活の方へ少し力を配ると云ふ事は何となくわざとらしく響き山崎農相の朝鮮における稲作増加も約五年後でなければ効果を期待し得ぬ事國民は米偏重の主食習慣をいも米半々に改むべき事外米の輸入は之を算用に入れ得ざる事だ。し目下の一人頭三合弱配給額は決してへらさぬとの言葉も國民には失望の種をまいた。

〔全國主要警察官會議〕

廿一日議會が議事開会に入るまへ六日政府は全國主要警察官會議を東京に開きともすればこんな無謀な戦争を云々の砂中、偶語取締りを嚴にする事を下命パラムシルの又空襲された事にかんがみ防空の強化又新增税による脱税の防止等を求めた。今圓議會を通過した案では所得其他の直接税は廿二億(廿年度)は廿五億間接税は八億八千三百万円を増し税による歳入は百七十億に上る。豫定で貯蓄目標は昨年の二百七十億から三百

五十億に躍進罰金は脱税の廿倍ラムネ十才が十五才にサイダ才が五十才にたり税務署の役人は夜中でも人の家には踏込める権限を與へられ等してゐるので内閣でも少し無理との懸念かう此会議の日集を見てもものとされて居る。[輸送破壊戦] 水艦の失敗逼塞に引かへ米國潜水艦の東亞及太平洋に於ける活躍は引續き戦果を擴大して居り本年に入つて一月十四日歸還某戦隊の報告に於て拾隻廿一日歸港のものにより更に拾隻の日本側船舶も沈

が報ぜられこれに開戦以來の米國潜水艦隊西方(アメリカ)から見て戦場は於ける戦果は日本側船舶も沈没三百四十八隻(日本側)発表は昨年十月十七日迄の二百廿二隻となつた。又マラカ海峽に於ては英國潜水艦が日本側五千百トン級巡洋艦を沈没したが日本側潜水艦は南方戦域に於て糧食其他の輸送任務にいとそがしく去年中頃アデン港外にありはれたを最後に全く戦闘的活動を停止して居る。又昨年十二月米國に於ける造船量は一日七隻トシ数は二百四万

四千三百廿九重量トンで又昨年内油輸送船は二百五十二隻一昨年は比し百九十隻の増加である。[南方戦況概要] 昨年末上陸引續き戦果擴大中のブルガンビル方面米軍は同島に二大飛行場を建設ラバウルの爆撃は本年に入り頓に増加去年十二月中の延機数二千二百廿六に對し一月十五日まで一千八百廿八機をかぞへ其為港内には於て艦船拾四隻を失ひ日本側は全く守勢に終始しかして一月中の艦船喪失は廿八隻大発百五十七隻に及

んで居る。ラバウル・ウエ
ク其他に於ての日本側
航空機喪失は七百十七
機でラバウルでは四四
六機、大発其他による日
本側補給は殆ど停止し
た。地上戦でし補給路を
確保、機動の自由を有し
且戦略基地を手に近に有
する聯合軍に對しては
日本軍は頗る不利で、グ
ロスタ岬方面では六六
〇高地を失ひ一月十四
日死傷三千餘を出して
逆襲に失敗、フロン半
島ラム河地域作戦でも
敗退をつゞけ此方面で
は時々投降者も出て居
員傷疾病又は極度の疲
勞のため野戦病院等に

收容されて居る。又日本
軍の堅守して居るマー
シャルの爆轟も殆ど毎日
で廿日朝米軍は大艦隊
を以て之に迫り上陸を
敢行した。
【ヨロバ方面戦況】南
部中央方面に於て大に
進出ポラランド國境を
突破した露軍はその進
出に呼應すべき北部レ
ニングラード及南部ク
リミヤ方面新攻勢展開
を待て又前進を開始す
るの大勢にありイタリ
アではローマ南方廿哩
に上陸した英米才五軍
の打た王が利いて面
白い場面を見せ居る。
一方英國よりする聯合

軍の航空作戦は益々苛烈
を極めベルリンの如き
こゝ五月間には二万三千
トンの爆弾を見舞はれ
大航空機製作所のある
ブランズウィック、クルップエ
場のあゝるマクデブルグ
の如き最近の爆轟では
廿三介間に二千トンか
らの爆弾でやられて居
る。之に對し十千側は全
く各方面とも専守防禦
に墜して居る。
二月の旬ニ三
初午や地口に興がる嫁御寮
雪消えて冬三寸の野面哉
大川に小川落ち合ふ雪濁り

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TOKYO NEWS: Illness of H.M. the Emperor.

1. The ceremony of reading New Year poems was scheduled to be held in the palace on January 28th, but it was suddenly decided to postpone the function owing to H.M.'s indisposition on account of a cold. For this reason more than 38,000 senders of New Year poems will not be honoured by having their creations read out to His majesty, as they will merely be submitted for perusal. The number of poems sent by overseas Japanese do not exceed 1,000, whereas compared with last year, there is also a considerable decrease in the number offered by members of the fighting forces at the fronts this year, which number only a little over 700.

The Imperial Household Department voiced consternation at the fact that the Imperial Palace has been invaded by a seasonal disease from which many people in the country are at present suffering and that the Emperor himself has also been afflicted with it.

2. Spring Wrestling Results: Wrestling bouts were held from January 9th to February 23rd, drawing a full house day after day. In the last bout the wrestler Terukuni came out as a victor over Futabayama. The latter had to register two defeats against 13 victories. There were three or four other wrestlers who attained the same record of two defeats against 13 victories. The best record holder in this tournament was Saga-no-hana.

The comparative scores for the two groups were 152 for the East Group as against 164 for the West Group. The banner of victory was received for the West Group by Futabayama, who has now been shifted to the East Group with a few other colleagues.

3. Notes on the 84th Session of the Diet: The total of the budget for the fiscal year 1944, as passed by the Lower House, amounts to 50,967,434,000 yen. This includes roughly 38,000 million yen for direct war expenditure, whereas the balance represents the budget for administration and for subsidiary war expenses as outlay for increase of food production, increase of production of war needs and for improvement of the transportation systems. The intended disbursements represent about 85 percent of the estimated national income of 60,000 million yen.

The amount of this budget of more than 50,000 million yen sounds very big indeed but there are many people who ask themselves whether even this large amount will suffice for carrying on the present war, the more so as the value of money is increasingly influenced by the inflation of prices of goods and materials. However, this budget is definitely up to the limit of the financial spending power of the nation.

Whether for this reason or not Premier Tojo has seen the necessity of convoking a meeting of ex-premiers before this session of Parliament at which Prince Konce, and other ex-Prime Ministers, such as Hirota, Okada, Wakatsuki and Yonai were present.

One could not help feeling that the Prime Minister's assurances in his reply to interpellations in the Diet, that production of planes and armaments in Japan was now sufficient and that more energy could now be diverted to amelioration of the living conditions of the people, did not ring quite true. Furthermore, the people were disappointed at the announcements of the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Yamasaki, to the effect that good results of the attempts at improvement of the rice crop in Korea cannot be expected within the next five years, that the nation must change from its habitual overweighing rice diet to a

fifty-fifty diet of rice and potatoes, that importation of foreign rice cannot be expected with certainty, but that the present average rate of rice distribution of approximately 3 GO per capita (per day) will be maintained (3 GO equivalent to about 1 lb).

4. Conference of Chiefs of Police in Tokyo: Six days before the Diet started its session on January 21st, the Government called a national meeting of the Chiefs of Police in the capital.

They were ordered to be very strict in dealing with people who "give voice to discontent with war-life conditions in private talks," thereby setting up the people against what they consider an ill-advised war, to further the strengthening of A.R.P., in view of recent repeated raids on Paramushiro, and to take measures against evasion of the newly instituted taxes. The additional revenue as the results of the increase in income and other direct taxes provided for in the tax increase law which passed the Lower House is estimated at 2,200 million yen for the coming fiscal year and at 2,500 million yen for the following fiscal year. The levy of indirect taxes is to be increased by 883 million yen. This will raise the total proceeds from taxes to 17,000 million yen. The national savings aim has also been sharply raised from 27,000 million yen for last year, to 35,000 million yen for the coming year. Fines for tax evasion will be thirty times the amount due for the tax which has been evaded. The price of lemonade, heretofore 10 sen per bottle, is raised to 15 and that of a bottle of sweet champagne cider from 30 sen to 50 sen. The tax officials have been authorised to enter private houses for inspection even in the middle of the night and the government apparently aware of the harshness of these measures, seem to have felt the necessity of special exhortation to the Chiefs of Police in the present Conference.

5. Decease of the well-known composer Junker in Tokyo: The well-known music teacher of the Ueno and Musashino Music Schools in Tokyo, Mr. Junker, who had worked in music educational circles in Japan since his arrival in the country 47 years ago, died in the beginning of this year at the great age of 76. On his 75th birthday he received a Japanese Order and a life pension from the German Government. Ordinarily the old artist should have received the medal for cultural achievement, instead of only the third class of the Rising Sun Order. At the time it was rumoured that the decision to grant this order instead of the medal, was made partially because he was not a Japanese and partially because he had assisted to a great extent in the composition of various Japanese army and navy marches.

6. War of shipping Destruction: In contrast with the increasing evidence of the failure of the Nazi submarine war are the good results attained by American submarines in East Asia and in the Pacific. On January 14th, the U.S. Navy announced the sinking of ten more Japanese ships in Pacific and far eastern waters, on January 21st, the sinking of twelve more by submarine action was announced. This brings the total score of U.S. submarines in the western theatres of war (as seen from U.S.A.) up to 378 (Japanese reports up to December 7th last year mentioned only 220 ships sunk). It has also been announced that a British submarine sank a 5,100 ton Japanese cruiser in the Straits of Malacca. As the Japanese submarines are engaged in the transportation of supplies etc. in the South, nothing has been heard of their warlike activities since one of them appeared off Aden in the middle of last year. In December 1943 in America an average of nearly seven ships were delivered daily. The total tonnage was given as 2,044,329 deadweight tons. In 1943, 252 ocean going tankers were produced in America as against 62 in 1942.