

南太平洋週報

東京特電

東京帝大

總長工学博士海軍中
 將平賀氏の逝去は氏
 が軍艦建造の權威で
 あり陸奥長門等の考
 案者であつただけに其
 逝去は目下の時局重
 大且つ海軍海運の狀
 勢思はしからぬ今日
 の日本にとり一大損
 失であると思はれて
 いる氏は行年六十五
 であつた。

全電

東條首相は今

を發揮ガダルキナル
 とバブアの澳武に關
 しては頗る巧みに之を
 云つてのけ米濠連絡線
 攪乱には同島を必要
 とせずと云つた然し一
 般民衆は最初米團海
 兵の如き不日全滅と
 きかされ且つガダル
 キナルの重要性を教
 へられ之に對し僅半
 歳にして戦艦巡洋艦
 等合計廿五隻將兵滿
 載の輸送船廿七隻航

期の議會に於
 て約十二万言
 を費し大に戦
 時の首相ぶり
 空機七百四十
 陸上のみの戦
 ら一萬七千と
 き犠牲を拂ひ
 更同島は必要
 よつて撤退と
 頭に今後の戦
 し一種不吉な
 ンと来ておる

全電 ガダルキナル
 撤退についで一般民
 衆の氣が、りは口シ
 アに於ける獨軍敗亡
 並に北アフリカに
 る樞軸軍の敗退で東
 京新聞界もゲルベル
 のベルリンに於ける大
 演説を掲げ其七問即

ち、此の勝利の信念猶あり
 や戦にあきたりや、總
 力戦の爲どりし手段
 に不服ありや猶ヒトラ
 總統を支持するや、銃
 後の前線支持全きや
 戦時勤勞を免がれん
 とするもの^及不當利得
 資本家連を銃殺すべ
 きや、経済的に恵まれ
 ざるものも富者同様
 の負擔をなすべきや
 を大見出しで書きた
 てた、然し毎日のベル
 リン特派員は二月廿
 日の此大演説會を報
 ずるに旗り附記して
 曰くドイツ國民は今

迄戦争は軍に任せて
 おけば大丈夫と思つて
 ゐたものが今度は國
 民も必死にならなけ
 ればならぬと思ふ様
 に變つてきたと。
 ベルリン特電 ウク
 ライナに於けるロシ
 ア軍の進撃之がもた
 らすドネツ盆地ナチ
 軍全般にわたるドニ
 ペルの線への後退に
 先立ち敗らるゝの危
 険之等に目覚めたド
 イツの新聞界は其論
 調極めて悲觀的で又
 ロシア軍のバブログ
 ラード突破の如き猛

烈果取たる進撃はド
 ニーペル方面進出の
 正面を拡大今や時間
 の問題となりおる才
 レルの陥落によりナ
 チ軍の中央翼は全く
 包圍さるべく其結果
 はロシア方面ナチ軍
 の全面的崩壊となり
 有史以來の大敗をナ
 チが喫する事になる
 ものである。
 カイロ特電 長驅
 エジプトよりロメル
 軍に追接の英帝國第
 八軍はチュニシア防禦
 の最重要部マレスの
 線を攻撃、ロメル軍は

兵を中央にシニアよ々と國民に警告を與へておる。へておる。あり其該方面における緒戰的成功も英國近衛兵にくつがへさる。れ口メル軍の兵力は各方面に備ふるには足らずがべス塩湖に上る隘路を英第八軍により破られんが戦況は又々樞軸側にとり逆轉すニス市は聯合軍により占領さるゝの危険にさらされる。伊太利の有力新聞たども北アフリカに於ては敵側が優勢たる兵力を有してあり云

買メ會社を設立、買業者を合同養蠶業の合理化を計ると云ふのだが相變らずみじめな目を見るのは小さな業者で大者はますますふとるばかりである。國庫の支出は四百七拾四億と云ふ未曾有な巨額に上り、うち臨時軍事費は二百七拾億、又主として利率課税による増税を企て

ておるが政府は日本は財政的にはまだ行つまつておらぬと言明した。賀屋大藏大臣は衆議院において財産税を課するの意志政府に示しと言明、個人財産の大部分は有價證券であるからとつけ加へた。

海運界 海運のゆきづまりはとうとう商船学校練習船海洋丸日本丸神徳丸ほか一隻を使はねば間にあはぬ迄になつてきた。右四隻は帆船で輸送力は

云ふに足らぬ程のも
の亦れ等をしりつか
はねばとはよくくで
ある事を示し居り又
一方高船学校生徒に
とり練習船がなくな
ることは甚々繁重大
問題として当局の頭
を悩ましておる

筆のしづくうるは
しの大和島根にふる
里の親しき人と共に
まち共に見し春
うぐおきの

谷よりびづる聲あは

春くる大や誰か知らましも

今は只思出たる懸軍
万里の異郷故郷をな

つかしむものいふの
心古里にあるものは
一抹云ふ可うざるさび
しみに花ありて目に
入らず入って見えぬ鳥
なきで其声耳に入ら
ざるものである四圍
みたる異一寸先はやみ
おの聞きなれた言葉

も外征將兵にとりて
は現実で門閥に我子
の歸りをまつおぐな
おみたる其身門閥に至
らざるも心之による

もの父をまちよるひ
るわかず兄の君をこ
ひわぶるつまし由切
名にたるを知らぬ者

共のためにあたらん
世をだいたしにされ
てしまひ悔いてかへ
らぬことかを限りな
く出で、おるものは
事のしげくいとがは
しきに心まぎれんも
なほ望郷の念うた
切なるものあらん况

んや内にもつもの
身においおやである
さめてはまぼろしい
わては夢四六時中わ
すれる時はない夢の

世に夢の浮き橋にた
つうき世とは言へ実
に恨み永へたるもの
がある

Tokyo reported the death at the end of last week of Vice-Chancellor Dr. Yuzuru Hiraga, President of the Tokyo Imperial University. Dr. Hiraga died in the Imperial University Hospital at the age of 65. The deceased is known as an outstanding authority on shipbuilding and has designed many major warships for the Japanese Navy, including the battleships "Mutsu" and "Nagato".

Especially in view of the importance of shipbuilding as one of the greatest problems arising for Japan from the war, the demise is considered to be a great loss to the Japanese.

It is reported from Tokyo that this year before the Diet Prime Minister Tojo has broken all records for the number of times and words spoken by any Japanese Premier in Diet sessions. In spite of this verbosity, an opinion seems to be held by well-informed people to the effect that the Premier could have spoken to better purpose in giving something better than the poor excuses offered by the High Command for the loss of Guadalcanal and Papua. Last year Japanese propaganda spoke frequently of the vital part to be played by Guadalcanal in the plan to cut American connections with Australia. It said that the American Marines on the island were sure to be annihilated. The new explanation offered is that the loss of Guadalcanal and of other bases in the Solomons and New Guinea does not prevent the Japanese Navy striking at the American supply lines. But serious-minded people are asking themselves how this statement can possibly be reconciled with the great sacrifices made by the Japanese in their attempt to hold these positions. The Japanese side in this half year lost 55 warships, 27 fully manned transports, and 741 planes, while those killed and died on the shore alone numbered over 17,000. If they had no strategic value, as is now claimed, then the sacrifices were an utter waste.

Furthermore they feel that the nation has not been informed of the adverse influence which the terrible reverses of Nazi Germany in Russia, and of Germany and Italy in North Africa, will have on Japan's future war position.

Tokyo newspapers report at length Dr. Goebbels' speech in Berlin. Dr. Goebbels put a series of questions to the German people. Have they, he asked, lost their faith in victory? Are they tired of battle? Are they opposed to measures taken for the effort of total war? Have they lost faith in Hitler? Is the home front supporting the fighting forces? Should more drastic measures be taken against dodgers and exploiters? Should burdens fall equally on rich and poor?

Mainichi on February 20 published a report of this meeting from its Berlin correspondent. He said that the German people had previously trusted entirely in the strength of the German Army. However, the people now know that the war is the desperate concern of all.

Berlin. Owing to the latest Russian advances in the Ukraine which threaten to make the whole of the Don basin one gigantic trap, the tone of the German press grows more sombre than ever. Taganrog is threatened and may have fallen before these words are printed. The chief aim of the Red Army is now to reach the Dnieper before the Germans can get back to it from the Donetz basin. The break through at Pavlograd was an astonishing feat, and it enables the Russians greatly to broaden the front along which they are pressing to the river. There is no doubt that with the fall of Orel, which is expected in the very near future, the whole German centre flank will be uncovered. With the fall of Orel a disaster of unpredictable consequences is bound to follow on the recent bitter German defeats.

Cairo. In Africa the British 8th Army continues to approach the Mareth line. The operations elsewhere in Tunisia are secondary to those in the south. Rommel knows this and is making a desperate bid for elbow room in order to meet the 8th Army's advance. The attempt he made to follow up the thrust in central Tunisia last week has met with no success, British Guardsmen having broken it. Rommel cannot afford to use up his troops in these subsidiary operations since if he has not enough men to hold the neck of land between Gabes and the Salt Lakes, the 8th Army will smash its way through.

towards Tunis. The Italian press recognises this and warns its public that the Allies have a great numerical superiority in North Africa.

Economic Notes.

A Cocoon Buying Company with a capital of 100 million yen, half paid up, is to absorb cocoon buyers to rationalise sericulture. This is felt to mean another step in the elimination of the small man in favour of the big monopolies.

Japanese war expenditure has reached the unprecedented amount of Y47,400,000,000, of which Y27,000,000,000 are for extraordinary military expenditure. The Government is introducing large increases of taxes, chiefly of interest taxes. The Government spokesman denies that the Japanese economy is exhausted.

Finance Minister Kaya said in the House of Representatives that it would be improper to apply the property tax to valuable securities in the possession of individuals.

The Shipping World.

The shortage of army transports and supply ships has now necessitated the requisitioning of training ships as an emergency measure. It has been announced that the "Kosho Maru", "Kaiyo Maru", "Nippon Maru" and "Shintoku Maru" have been put into transport service. These old ships, known to all residents in the port cities for their picturesque appearance, are propelled by sails in a fashion employed in England some eighty years ago, and have only an auxiliary engine for emergency purposes.

The loss of these vessels for the training of young seamen constitutes a serious problem for nautical schools. This is a matter for serious consideration of the authorities.

A Drop from the Brush.

If you were in your home country enjoying life amongst your beloved ones, living in the unsurpassed beauty of the scenery of Yamato, so dear to your hearts, you would find additional delight in the coming of spring with its plum blossoms, pure like snow, and nightingales singing its praises:-

"Were it not for the voice of the nightingale issuing from the valley, who would know of the coming of spring?"

You will not hear the voice of the nightingale of Yamato as you are fighting in a strange country, not knowing what the future will bring to you. As it is said in the proverb "Issun saki wa yami" (one inch in front, utter darkness). To those who have stayed behind, there will be a note of melancholy even in the nightingale's song, as they are thinking of the fate of those who have gone to war and may never return.

You would like to go back to them and welcome spring in the company of your dear wife and children, but you cannot because there is no limit to the covetousness of those who have sent you to fight far from home. (Yoku ni wa itadaki nashi). It is indeed a sad uncertain world (not more certain than the floating bridge of a dream). There are things inevitably causing eternal resentment.