

## G.O.P. Work On Platform Will Start 7 Days Early

Week to Bring  
11 States Closer  
To Conventions

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Repulicans will start drafting their platform for the 1940 presidential campaign a week before the June 24 opening of their national convention at Philadelphia.

Chairman John Hamilton announced yesterday that he had taken the "initiative" in assembling the resolutions committee at Philadelphia about June 17. He based his decision, he said, on letters from State chairmen and national committeemen in 36 States, the District of Columbia and Hawaii.

All of these, he said, approved a suggestion he made on April 20, that State delegations caucus as early as possible to select members for the resolutions committee with view to arranging a pre-convention session of the committee.

### Time to Study Planks

By convening the resolutions committee a week in advance of the convention, Hamilton said, the platform drafters would have sufficient time "to hear all those who wish to express viewpoints, to discuss and consider the report of the Republican program committee, to deliberate among themselves and to outline the basis for a party platform."

"Many of those who have written to me," he continued, "expressed the opinion that his plan, if carried out, would result in the formation of a stronger and better phrased platform since the preliminary work could be done with deliberation and without haste. Likewise, it was contended that by meeting in advance the members of the resolutions committee could better weigh all viewpoints within the party than if this group had only two or three crowded days for its deliberations."

The machinery for choosing delegates to the national conventions of the two major parties will grind on in 11 States during the week.

In the Republicans, in a State convention today, will pick eight delegates.

### Maryland Conventions

Maryland voters will hold a primary election also to elect delegates to State Republican and Democratic conventions which will in turn select delegates to the national conventions.

Tomorrow will bring Democratic primaries in Alabama and Florida and primary elections for both parties in California, Indiana and South Dakota.

Republicans in North Dakota and Arkansas will hold State conventions Saturday to pick national convention delegates and the same day to pick their representatives at the Chicago national convention.

The prohibition party begins its national convention at Chicago on Wednesday.

Thomas E. Dewey is the only Republican entered in the Maryland primary. Voters can choose between Dewey or an unopposed delegation. (For Texas political news, see Page 6.)

### Recall Heats Campaign

SAN FRANCISCO, (AP)—Charges that supporters of Vice-President Garner are seeking to use the pending recall movement against Governor Culbert Olson for "political publicity" unfavorable to a Roosevelt-pledged delegation added heat to the California primary campaign yesterday.

The Governor heads the "harmony" slate in behalf of a third term for the President. It is one of four groups contending for democratic supremacy in tomorrow's balloting.

Recall petitions, accusing the Governor of incompetency, inefficiency and violation of election pledges, were filed Saturday in several counties.

### Saved by Father From Fall

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS, (AP)—A 4-year-old girl was snatched to safety by her father, Winfield Kellam, just as wind tore off a door of the plane in which they were flying 2,000 feet above Corpus Christi Bay yesterday. Little Harriett Kellam had been toying with the door a moment before it went whirling into space.



Cavalier Boxing Coach, Johnny LaRowe  
He Trained Team From His Wheelchair

## Death Brings Colorful Career Of Johnny LaRowe to Close

CHARLOTTESVILLE, (AP)—Coach Johnny (John S.) LaRowe, the Grand Old Man of Southern boxing, lost his last bout yesterday. Death came to the 73-year-old veteran of 10 successful seasons at the University of Virginia about noon at his home, where he had been trying to throw off an illness that sent him to the hospital for an operation a month ago and since had never relinquished his hold.

A relapse last week forwarded him to the hospital, the remarkable career of the one-time Marine and billiard parlor operator who turned into one of the nation's most successful boxing coaches might be nearing its close.

### Aneurysms Bring Death

Death was attributed to aneurysms, the enlargement of arteries in the abdomen. LaRowe piloted the Cavaliers to seven undefeated seasons and closed his 10 years here with a record of 78 dual meet victories against 24 defeats and nine ties. His teams won seven out of 10 Southern Conference championships before Virginia withdrew from the circuit, and his individual proteges included 15 Southern Conference champions and four national collegiate titleholders. The soundness of the LaRowe system was further attested in the 1933-34 record of only two dual meet losses on schedules including the strongest teams of East and South.

A serious illness in 1936 left the coach crippled, but he continued to direct his boxers from a wheelchair.

His success as a boxing instructor from the time he organized the Cavaliers' first intercollegiate boxing squad in the South in 1921 made him one of the nation's best-known coaches of the sport. He was honorary president of the National Interscholastic Boxing Coaches Association, organized at Charlottesville in 1938.

### Developed Boys Into Men

The coach was noted for turning novices into winners, but always contended that the development of men was more important than the making of boxers.

LaRowe spent 11 years in the Marine Corps, where he gained early experience in boxing in private bouts and from associates. Before coming to Charlottesville in 1904 as a billiard parlor operator, he was bugler and drummer at V. M. I., where he organized and directed boxing classes for the cadets.

He was a native of Alexandria, though his family moved to Washington while he still was of elementary school age.

Funeral arrangements had not been completed last night, but services were not expected to be held until Tuesday or Wednesday.

Surviving are his wife, one son, John H. LaRowe of New Mills, Mo.; one daughter, Mrs. Alton Stephens of Quinque, and several grandchildren. A brother, Frank LaRowe, died at Hillside, Mo., last week.

### France Honors Joan of Arc

PARIS, (AP)—The French government and some of the army took time out from the war yesterday to observe a national holiday honoring Joan of Arc. The holiday is observed annually in honor of Joan of Arc's liberation of Orleans in May, 1429, from the British.

## Committees To Examine 'Blitzkrieg Defenses'

Senators to Quiz  
Edison, Others  
On New Changes

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Army and Navy officials, headed by Secretary of the Navy Edison probably will be asked to explain to two Senate committees this week what measures have been taken to overhaul the United States military machine to keep abreast of war developments in Europe.

Edison, who said last week that aircraft appeared to have achieved a temporary superiority over battleships, may face some critical questioning when he appears before the Senate Naval Affairs Committee tomorrow. He will testify in behalf of House approved legislation to expand the Navy by 11 per cent.

Some committee members said that Edison's conclusions seemed to be at variance with previous testimony by Admiral Harold R. Stark, chief of naval operations, and other high-ranking Navy officials. Senator Johnson (R., Cal.) is expected to take an active part in questioning Edison on his findings.

### Stark Cited Strength

Stark told the committee the Scandinavian campaign had strengthened the Navy's conviction that the battleship still ruled the sea. That, however, was before Germany had achieved her spectacular successes in Norway. The Navy's claim to have sunk or badly damaged nine British warships or transports by air bombing off Namsos and Narvik during a day of fighting, vessels sunk, he said, included a 30,000-ton battleship.

Edison said last week that designs of future battleships would be altered to provide better safeguards from bombs and shells for men and antiaircraft guns above decks. The Navy, he also asserted, would study the possibility of providing better protection of superstructure of present vessels if it could be done without "patch-work."

In view of Edison's remarks the Republican leader, Senator McNary of Oregon, predicted that most Senate Republicans would urge that naval expansion legislation be delayed until the Navy's experts could agree on the changes that would be needed.

### Fleet Approval Expected

The House-approved measure, authorizing future expenditures of \$655,000,000 to build up the fleet, is expected to win quick committee approval.

McNary said that the majority of Republicans appeared to favor "reasonable" increases in next year's outlay for the Army.

The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee, considering the \$785,000,000 military supply bill, arranged to hear testimony by Brigadier-General George V. Strong, in charge of the war plans division.

The Senate will resume consideration today of a measure by Senator Townsend (R., Del.) to terminate the Treasury's authority to purchase foreign silver.

Chairman Byrnes (D., S. C.) said he would call the Senate reorganization committee into session Wednesday to consider a resolution by Senator McNary (D., Nev.) to override President Roosevelt's order transferring the Civil Aeronautics Authority to the Department of Commerce.

### Martin Calls for Veto

Meanwhile, Representative Martin of Massachusetts, Republican leader, called upon Congress to veto the President's order.

"I am hopeful," he said in a statement, "that by prompt non-partisan action this week our great civil aviation industry may be spared further disruption and embarrassment at the hands of political bureaucrats."

Both houses must disapprove the transfer, keep it from becoming effective.

Commissioner Lynn G. Adams of the State motor police hurried from his capitol office at Harrisburg to take charge of the investigation.

The killing of Miss Taylor, chubby 17-year-old home economics freshman at the Pennsylvania State College, occurred at Lemont School near State College on March 28. Police still are trying to solve that case. Miss Taylor's body had been mutilated and her skull crushed. Coroner's physicians said it was never determined whether she had been attacked criminally.

### Footprints Found

The body of Miss Gates lay several hours at the scene of the crime until police completed an investigation for all possible clues, including the taking of footprints.

Miss Gates was described as about 25, blonde, weighing about 110 pounds, and was popular among the young folk of her community. She was a graduate of Bellefonte High School, and lived with her parents and four sisters. Her father, William Gates, is a mechanic.

# Another British Battleship Hit In Narvik Raid, Berlin Claims; London Denies Loss Off Namsos

Two Ministers  
From Norway  
In England

LONDON, (AP)—Great Britain last night officially denied Germany's claim that Nazi warplanes had sunk a 30,000-ton British battleship and a heavy cruiser in concentrated air attacks off the Norwegian coast.

The admiralty broke its silence of more than a day since Germany jubilantly announced that her aircraft had sunk or badly damaged nine British warships and transports off the Norwegian ports of Namsos and Narvik last Friday.

"The German claim to have sunk a British battleship and a cruiser of the York class in the operations off Namsos is untrue," said the admiralty communique.

### Other Reports Ignored

It made no reference to the other triumphs officially reported by the Nazis but well-informed British sources on Saturday night had described the German claims as "of the fantastic character to which the public is fast becoming accustomed."

In Berlin, authoritative German sources met the British denial with insistence that their report was correct.

A message to the Norwegian people not to lose "patience" and counseling them to put their trust in the Allies was broadcast from London by Dr. Halvdan Koht, Norwegian foreign minister who last month defied Germany's demand that Norway submit to the Nazi occupation and then fled with his king and government before the gray-clad Nazi warriors.

### Koht Reaches London

Dr. Koht arrived in London yesterday with the Norwegian defense minister, Colonel Birger Ljungberg. They came to a Scottish port on a British warship for conferences with Allied leaders.

The foreign minister said in the broadcast after the conferences that the Allies had promised Norway "full aid" and that it was a point of honor for them to fulfill that promise.

"We must trust in them and on our side we must not lose patience," he said.

Dr. Koht told the Norwegians that he will go to Paris and thence back to Norway, where King Hakon VII and his fleeing government are in hiding from the Germans.

With the two Norwegian ministers, was the British minister to Norway, Sir Cecil Dormer, who had been with the Norwegian regime since it fled Oslo a jump ahead of the Germans at the start of the Nazi invasion April 9.

### Government Faces Inquiry

Meanwhile, strong demands for a "grand inquest" in Parliament on the government's conduct of the Norwegian campaign were heard throughout gloomy Great Britain.

Press criticism of the British government's handling of the Norwegian campaign which saw the Allies abandon southern and central Norway to the Nazis preceded a torrid meeting of Parliament tomorrow for a two-day debate.

But in the midst of the editorial and oratorical furor, the British admiralty, war office and air ministry remained silent on the war.

The average Briton appeared more concerned over the strategic reverse in Norway and the potentialities of German domination there than any danger in the Mediterranean, where the Allies

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Army Photo.

EGYPT HASTENS DEFENSES—With all army leaves canceled indefinitely and a blackout ordered, Egypt is demonstrating to the world that she's ready to fight if the war spreads to the Near East. Here is a recent picture of an Egyptian antiaircraft listening post.

## Pharaoh's Plague of Darkness Returns as Egypt Blacks Out

ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT, (AP)—Backed by thousands of Allied troops and the largest Allied fleet yet assembled in the European war, Egypt last night declared her readiness to fight against attack from any quarter and ordered the first country-wide blackout in the history of the land of the Pharaohs.

Egypt's highest defense council began daily sessions as reports were received that Italian warships and thousands of troops were being concentrated in the Dodecanese Islands, about 400 miles north-western coast of the Mediterranean.

Allied troops—about 60,000 British soldiers are said by neutrals to be in Egypt alone—stood ready to board transports and their commanders scanned reports that Italy has landed 55,000 soldiers in the Dodecanese Islands.

### Naval Might Reinforced

The Allies are reported rushing naval reinforcements to bolster the huge fleet in Alexandria harbor.

Count Serafino Massoloni, Italian minister to Egypt, meanwhile told Egypt's Italian colony of 60,000 not to believe that Italy intended to attack any of her neighbors.

He said they could send their children to Italy as usual this year for youth organization exercises without any fears for their safety.

The count urged the colony, composed mainly of workers, to keep calm and to stay on their jobs.

### Public Buildings Guarded

The Egyptian national defense ministry issued instructions for a one-week blackout beginning tomorrow. All public buildings already are under guard.

Egypt's minister of national defense, Mohamed Saleh Harb Pasha, in a statement declared Egypt never would be taken by surprise.

"Military preparations for the defense of the country have reached today a maximum point of perfection," he said.

"There is no need of saying we do not want to attack anybody

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## Germans Find Allied Troops Moving North

BERLIN, (MONDAY) — (AP)—The German air force yesterday attacked a British naval unit off Narvik, Norway's Arctic port, and scored a direct hit on an English battleship, reliable German sources asserted.

Heavy smoke rising from the warship showed the effect of the bomb, it was reported.

British troops at Narvik also were subjected to the force of the German airmen, Germans said, and bombs dropped on an enemy encampment in that region exploded a munitions dump.

The German high command's communique of yesterday repeated its assertion that a British battleship and a heavy cruiser were sunk by German flyers on Friday off Namsos.

Authorized German sources last night stuck to the claim of success for their air force, despite flat denials by the British.

### Other Sinkings Claimed

Other sinkings announced by the command included:

A large British transport off Namsos on Friday, two enemy merchantmen on Saturday, and a Polish destroyer off Narvik on Saturday.

Detachments of British and French troops, apparently left behind in the Allied withdrawal from Namsos, are hurrying northward, it may be an attempt to launch an attack on Narvik from the south, DNB, official German news agency, reported yesterday.

The movement of the Allied troops, it said, was discovered in scouting operations while the main force of the German army of occupation pushed its hold on Norway as far as the railheads of Namsos and Grong, north of Trondheim, and continued "mopping-up" action in Central and Southern Norway.

Detachments of the British and French detachments had been cut off from the main expeditionary force by German aerial attacks on the embarkation operations at Namsos last Wednesday and Thursday.

### Germans Speculate

German military quarters speculated whether the British and French would attempt to reach Narvik, the ore port north of the Arctic Circle, where a German garrison is holding out against Allied attacks supported by planes, warships and artillery.

To do so, these isolated Allied troops would have to make their way through more than 300 miles of the most mountainous, difficult terrain in Norway. A single highway runs north as far as Bodo, on the coast. But there is no road for the 100 miles from there to Narvik, and the intervening country is dotted with mountains and rendered even more difficult to negotiate by numerous deep-running fjords, streams and lakes.

At Narvik itself, the high command announced, repeated attacks by "strong enemy forces supported by flyers" on German "security units" north of the town "were repulsed by co-operative action of our own land forces and airmen."

### Nazis Move Northward

German troops moving north from Steinkjer, above Trondheim, marched into Namsos and Grong, where the Norwegian commander of the area surrendered unconditionally, its communique said.

"Mopping-up" of scattered Norwegian units still offering resistance were reported chiefly in the Trysil area east of Lillehammer, and around Roros, southeast of Trondheim.

At the same time the high command, reiterating its claim of having sunk a British battleship, heavy cruiser and large transport on Friday, set the figure for Allied merchant shipping losses through mines and U-boats at close to 2,300,000 tons for the eight months of the war. (The Associated Press "box score" of mer-

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