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Weather Forecast
ENGLAND, S.E.—Moderate or fresh north-east
wind; mainly cloudy, wintry showers; cold.
Further Outlook—Continuing cold. (p. 16)

TO-DAY'S NEWS

HOME
The Army Estimates for 1937, published
yesterday, amount to £63,120,000, an in-
crease of £7,239,000 on the year. In
addition, it is proposed to meet Army

FINANCE AND COMMERCE

In "City Notes" comment is made on:—
The Franc: Polish Bond Proposals; Nun-
nery Colliery Financing; Colour Photo-
graphy Issue; County of London Electric
Progress; Cement Dividends; D. Napier's
Accounts; and Clerical, Medical and
General Life Assurance Developments.
(p. 20)

Francs and sterling were weak in terms of
other currencies. Forward francs were
offered at increasing discounts. Gold rose
1½d. to 142½d. per oz., £148,000 being sold.
Silver advanced 11-16d. to 21½d., but after
the fixing India sold and the market became
easier in tone. (p. 21)

The Stock Markets yesterday were quiet and
as a whole rather dull. Exceptional strength
was shown by Rubber and Base Metal
shares. (p. 21)

ARMY ESTIMATES AND THE ARMY'S ROLE

While the obvious necessity for the modern-
ization of the Army had prepared the public
for a considerable increase in the Estimates, the
measure of the increase may come as a surprise.
It is larger even than that in the Navy
Estimates. The net total is £63,120,000, a figure
which accords with expectations; but a further
£19,054,000 is being provided from the Consoli-
dated Fund under the Defence Loans Bill, so
that the real total is £82,174,000. When the
usual non-effective charges are deducted, the
total cost of the Army comes to more than
double what it was in 1935. Some £2,000,000
of the increase is due to the construction of
factories other than those of the Royal
Ordnance; a similar amount for the construc-
tion and modernization of barracks; a little
less for the better provision of the Territorial
Army; and slighter additions under other heads.
But by far the largest proportion is caused by
a rise of expenditure on "warlike stores" to
£30,326,000, compared with £12,358,000 last
year and with £5,856,000 in 1935. A consider-
able part of this is doubtless entailed by the
provision of guns and equipment, as well as
ammunition, for the new anti-aircraft units for
the defence of this country, and also for the
coast defence. As a whole it is the measure of
the obsolescence into which the Army's equip-
ment for war was allowed to fall. Nevertheless
the actual increase of units is trifling compared
with the increased number of air squadrons and
ships provided by the new outlay on the other
Services. Thus the size of the Army Estimates
shows us what a burden we might expect if we
should attempt to create a large army, as well as
a navy and air force, with a view to Continental
warfare.

Last summer and autumn there were occa-
sional hints of conscription, while prominent
soldiers, if mostly retired ones, were advocating
the expansion of the Army on a national scale
with a view to unlimited participation on land
in a Continental war. Even from authoritative
spokesmen the assertion was heard that we could
not be content to leave the bulk of our man-
power out of the fight on land when other

suffice for the fourth depends on the geographical
situation of the particular naval base as well as
on the nature of the enemy's defences. For the
fifth and seventh an armoured mobile force may
be of predominant value, which implies
that mechanized cavalry and tank units should
be preponderant. The composition of the forces
sent overseas should vary with the conditions
if they are to fit the purpose.

At present the available forces at home con-
sist of five infantry divisions now in transfor-
mation to a modern basis, and one mobile division
now in process of formation. If we are to profit
by the lesson of the Palestinian and Egyptian
emergencies, at least one infantry division, but
preferably more, should be always ready for
dispatch overseas at short notice, without having
to drain the other divisions to fill up its ranks.
That need can hardly be reconciled with the
maintenance of the Cardwell System, by which
the units at home provide drafts for those
abroad; but the need should decide a pattern
instead of an old system dictating a pattern
which does not fit the needs of to-day. This
reinforcement for Imperial "fire-extinguishing"
should be separate from any field force that is
maintained to fulfil our international obligations
and to meet the contingency of a major war.
Such a contingency may well arise, or even be
provoked by an enemy's deliberate choice, at a
time when we are occupied in dealing with in-
ternal trouble in our overseas territories. Un-
less we keep the two "expeditionary" forces distinct
we may find that the "major war" one is main-
tained by the "expeditionary" forces, and the
"expeditionary" forces are maintained by the
"major war" forces. In contrast, if we allotted two
or, perhaps better, three—modernized infantry
divisions to the Imperial fire-extinguishing force,
it would be able to undertake not only this pur-
pose, but also the war duties of protecting our
overseas territories and naval bases and of
amphibious action against hostile naval bases.

The role of the major expeditionary force
remains to be considered, especially in regard
to possible intervention in a Continental war.
The type of force that would serve, and best
suited, the duty of direct protection to air bases
established abroad would not be adequately
fitted to more active operations. Beyond such
direct protection, since any Continental coun-
try to whose aid we might go is likely to have
ample trained reserves of older men available
for such defensive roles. And beyond this is
the doubt whether it will be necessary, or wise,
to move our operational air bases across the
narrow sea, in view of the ever-extending range
of aircraft. On the other hand, if we contin-
ually taking any part in active operations
infantry divisions are not the most effective con-
tribution we could make. We have few, while
any likely allies would have plenty of their own.
They would value far more the dispatch of
highly mechanized divisions. Two such divisions
—say, one of mechanized cavalry and one
of heavier tank units—would be likely to
have much more weight in the scales, since
such divisions are few in any of the European
armies. They would combine high mobility
and concentrated fire-power with economy of
men—a mere 12,000. The diminution of bulk
would simplify the problem of transporting
them across the sea, and maintaining them
there, in face of modern air attack—a bulk
dozen ships should suffice to carry them. The
question would still be left whether such a force
could arrive in time to affect the crucial opening

public and voluntary effort to the proper pro-
vision and utilization of all the available services.
They are encouraged to study the plan of the
social services with the object of suiting them
to local requirements and applying them to the
circumstances of the whole community, and not
only to those whose needs are their primary
care. Many of the members of the committees
are also members of local governing bodies;
others are experienced in social service and
welfare work. Together they are well qualified
to see that the circle of help for the unemployed
is made complete. In the Board's communica-
tion, which is outlined to-day by our Labour
Correspondent, are suggestions of how this may
be done. But clearly in matters of this kind it
is the local people alone who can map out the
right ways of working force. The vital initiative
must be in the localities; and whether or not
the committees will realize the enormous contribu-
tion they can make to the public well-being by
the efficient development and direction of social
services depends on the local capacity for leader-
ship and organization.

Two items may be chosen from the Board's
suggestions for emphasis. One is the public
service of training and instruction maintained by
the Ministry of Labour mainly for the young
men of the distressed areas. This free gift of
opportunity is, in a considerable number of
cases, refused. The instructional centres are not
so successful as the training centres in placing
men in employment; they do not handle such
good material; but they add a great deal to the
likelihood of finding a job and at the same time
they raise a man's physical fitness. Anyone
accepted for the training centres is nearly certain
of employment at the end of six months' course.
Yet some men are ignoring training
committees may be able to correct the wrong
views of this shortsightedness, and if they can
also put heart and will into the provision of well-
organized occupational and recreational centres
for the older men, whose chance of re-employ-
ment is slight, they will have done another very
good thing. The committees have it in their
power, with the good will of the Board, to give
a new meaning to unemployment assistance.

"Work-Worn" Horses

The Bill to put further restrictions upon the
export of horses, for which a number of private
members will ask a second reading in the House
of Commons to-day, is the latest of a long
line of efforts to eliminate all possible suffering
from traffic in animals traditionally cherished in
British hearts. These efforts have resulted in two
Acts of Parliament, passed in 1910 and 1914,
which prohibit the export of horses unfit for
travel or for work; and there is every reason to
believe the statement made by the MINISTER of
AGRICULTURE on January 25 that the regulations
are admirably observed—while they are in
course of export. Such was also the conclusion
of the Departmental Committee which investi-
gated allegations of continued barbarities in the
traffic in 1925; and some people—including, it
is suggested, the Ministry of Agriculture—have
concluded that further legislation is superfluous.
It should be added, in fairness to those who take
this view, that one gap in the protection of
horses—namely, the possibility that horses and
transport animals which become disabled en

THE ANTARCTIC

WHO FIRST FOUND THE CONTINENT?

EDWARD BRANSFIELD AND HIS VOYAGE

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—This season's work of the British
Graham Land Expedition, described in *The
Times* of March 2, is of great interest and value
to all students of Antarctic exploration; and
there is one part of it which, I suggest, deserves
particular attention. By proving that Graham
Land is continuous throughout its whole extent,
Mr. Rymill and his colleagues have definitively
re-established the fact that the first explorer
sight and chart any portion of the Antarctic
Continent was an Englishman.

On some of the earliest charts of the Graham
Land region its northern extremity is shown as
"Palmer Land"; and this was long thought to
have been first discovered by the American
sealer, Captain N. B. Palmer, in 1821. But the
result of some research work done exact-
ly a century later, I was able to show that "Palmer
Land" had been discovered and charted (Palmer
himself made no recorded chart of it) a year
earlier—in February, 1820—by Edward Bransfield,
Master R.N., commanding the hired ship "Plover".
Williams. Bransfield's chart of his discovery
—which he named "Trinity Land", in compli-
ment to the "Trinity Board" (Trinity House)—still exists, and an abstract of the
voyage is also extant; but the log of the Williams
has been lost. On the ground of the data avail-
able, I ventured to claim for Bransfield the
discovery of any portion of the Antarctic
Continent.

But in 1929 Sir Hubert Wilkins's great flight
over Graham Land seemed to show that Trinity
Land was separated from the Antarctic Con-
tinent by at least two channels—Cane Channel
and Stefansson Strait—running transversely
across Graham Land. In consequence—as
pointed out in your columns at the time—
honour of first sighting the continent passed the
French explorer Captain J. S. C. Dumont
d'Urville, who discovered Adelle Land, a
questionably continental in character, on
January 20, 1840. Actually, Enderby Land
discovered in 1831 by the English sealer Brans-
field, was also a part of the Antarctic Continent, and
this fact was not definitely established until 1931
(by Sir Douglas Mawson).

Mr. Rymill's survey of Graham Land, which
particular attention was directed to proving or
disproving the existence of the channels reported by
Wilkins, has shown that these are only fjords, and do not separate
Trinity Land from the mainland of Antarctica.
The honour of first discovering any part of the
continent therefore reverts—no doubt, finally—to
this country in the person of Edward Bransfield.

Details of his life are not easy to come by, but
he was Irish by birth and joined the Navy in 1803.
It was while serving as Master of the *Andromache*, on the South American station,
that he was sent in the Williams to explore
newly discovered South Shetland islands, and
fell in with "Trinity Land"—a name which
is to be hoped, will always be given priority to
any other in that region. He retired in 1831
after tendering—unsuccessfully—his services
as leader of a second naval expedition to ex-

