

## NAMES AND PLACES

### Norway's Second Seaport

Bergen, which, at the time of going to press, was still held by the German invaders, was, until 1397, the residence of Norwegian kings, whose palace was known as the Bergenhus. It is the second largest of the Norwegian towns, with a population of 98,546, and is situated at the head of a magnificent fjord, running 25 miles inland from the open sea. Rocky hills, rising from 800ft. to 2000ft., surround the town, and contribute to the heavy rainfall of 89in. a year. Bergen is the second largest seaport of Norway, and a fortified base. Wooden houses of various colours give Bergen a picturesque appearance, but many of the most historical have been destroyed by fires which have devastated the town periodically since 1189. The museum has a most valuable collection of Norse antiquities. Gloves, tobacco, porcelain, leather, soap and cordage are the principal manufactures, but its principal trade is the export of herrings, fish-oil and roe. Bergen is the birthplace of Grieg, the musician, and the painter Dahl.

### Iron Ore from Narvik

Although Narvik is within the Arctic Circle, it is an ice-free port, because the waters of the Gulf Stream sweep up the Norwegian Coast and contribute to a comparatively mild temperature. It is at the head of a deep fjord, the entrance to which is sheltered by the Lofoden Islands. Narvik's greatest trade is the shipping of Swedish iron ore from the mines at Gellivar, which is just over the frontier. Norway holds only a narrow strip of country in the far north of her territory, about Narvik, consequently, this port is also the port for northern Sweden. It has a population of 6000. In summer, much of the iron can be shipped by the Baltic Sea route, but this is closed in winter.

### Units of 2nd Echelon to Parade

*Units of the 2nd Echelon will parade through the streets of Wellington, Christchurch and Auckland, on the morning of April 27. There will be a full muster from the three camps, similar to the parade of the units of the 1st Echelon.*

*On the afternoon of April 27 the Maori Battalion will parade through the streets of Palmerston North. The Prime Minister, the Hon. P. Fraser, and the Minister of Defence, the Hon. F. Jones, will go to Palmerston North to witness the parade and to address the troops.*

*At Christchurch, Auckland, and Wellington, Ministers of the Crown and leading citizens will address the units.*

### A Democratic King

Haakon VII., King of Norway since 1905, is 68 years of age, and a widower. Queen Maud, who was a daughter of Edward VII., died in 1938. There are three children, the Crown Prince Olav, who married a Swedish Princess in 1929, and two Princesses. King Haakon was the second son of Frederick VIII. of Denmark, and accepted the Norwegian Crown when it was offered to him in 1905 by the people of Norway after they had separated from Sweden. He has been most popular with his people, lives quietly and unostentatiously, and moves about the country rather like a well-to-do business man. Life at the Nor-

of ships, aggregating 550,000 tons, consisted of 13 battleships, 3 battle cruisers, 15 cruisers, 14 light cruisers, 8 monitors, 20 sloops, 26 mine-sweepers, 5 torpedo gun-boats, 69 torpedo-boat destroyers and flotilla leaders, 58 submarines and 81 auxiliaries of all kinds.

### Air Marshal's Career

Air Vice - Marshal E. L. Gossage, C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., M.C., who stated recently that German cities would be bombed if the Germans ordered the bombing of British centres, had a remarkable career during the last war. He served for 3 years and 7 months in France with only 8 months in England during the whole of that time, and was granted a permanent commission in the R.A.F. as a Squadron Leader. Air Vice-Marshal Gossage has been officer com-

### Air Marshal To Command N.Z. Air Force Station

THE Minister of Defence, the Hon. F. Jones, announces the appointment of Air Marshal Sir Robert Clark Hall, K.B.E., C.M.G., D.S.O., to command the Royal New Zealand Air Force Station at Harewood, near Christchurch.

Sir Robert, who will take up his appointment on May 15, will assume the rank of Wing Commander. He retired from the Royal Air Force five years ago, and has been living in Christchurch since his arrival in New Zealand.

Sir Robert Clark Hall joined the Air Service in March, 1913, and was appointed to Eastchurch Station of the Naval Air Service. His early work, which included special armament duties, was concerned with the design of efficient bomb-dropping gear and a study of the flight of bombs. For his services during the war he won his D.S.O., the Legion of Honour, and was mentioned in despatches. When the Royal Air Force was reconstituted after the war, Sir Robert was appointed group captain in command of No. 29 Coastal Area Group. In January, 1922, he was appointed Air Commodore, and shortly afterwards he went to the Staff College, No. 7 Group, Andover.

At the end of 1924, Sir Robert was appointed Chief Staff Officer of the R.A.F. Middle East Command, with headquarters in Cairo, and a year later he went to Malta as officer commanding the R.A.F. Mediterranean Command. After his return to England, he was appointed Director of Equipment at the Air Ministry with the rank of Air Vice-Marshal.

From 1931 to 1934 Sir Robert assumed command of the Coastal Area Command, and was appointed Air Marshal. He retired in August, 1934, and came to New Zealand to live about four years ago, bringing his wife and family with him.

His great knowledge and wide experience should be invaluable to the Royal New Zealand Air Force.

## ALLIED LEADERS (21): General Sir F. Pile



At 20, General Pile gained his commission in the Royal Artillery, and he has been in the Army ever since in various branches of the service, including the Tank Corps. When the last war broke out, he was 40, and he gained his captaincy when he went across to France. There he did well, gaining the D.S.O. and the M.C., and being mentioned several times in despatches.

Back in a peace-time army, promotion came slowly, and he did not become a colonel until 1928. By that time, his interest in the mechanical side of warfare qualified him for the job of assistant director of mechanisation at the War Office. In 1932 he was promoted Brigadier, and sent to command the Canal Brigade at Ismailia, Egypt. When he returned from Egypt, General Pile spent some time with the Tank Corps, and in 1937 he went back to his first love—guns—in command of the Anti-Aircraft Division. Since war broke out, he has had the awful responsibility of protecting Britain from enemy air raids.

THE man who has the heavy responsibility of commanding the Anti-Aircraft Defences of Britain is General Sir Frederick Pile, C.B., D.S.O., M.C. His father was a Lord Mayor of Dublin.

wegian Court is very simple. The Crown Prince and the Princesses of Norway all took courses at the University, and have been taught to understand the people. The two Princesses of Norway are also trained nurses.

### Naval Losses in Last War

In the sea battles which have raged off the coast of Norway and on the storm-swept reaches of the North Sea, the British Navy is playing a part even more gallant than that of the Great War of 1914-18. It is interesting to recall the losses of the Royal Navy during the last campaign. They were: Killed, 2061 officers, 20,197 other ranks; wounded: 813 officers, 4035 other ranks; missing 15 officers, 8 other ranks. The total loss

manding the No. 11 Fighter Group since 1936. He was trained for the army, and gained his commission with the Royal Artillery in 1912, but joined the R.A.F. in 1915 while serving in France. After the war he rapidly rose to commanding positions with the Royal Air Force, and from 1925 to 1927 he was attached to the Staff College at Camberley. From 1930 to 1931 he was on the British Embassy staff in Berlin, and from 1935 to 1936 he commanded the Air Branch of the British Forces at Aden.

### Germany Needs Bauxite

Bauxite, which German ships have loaded at Yugoslav ports for transport to Germany, via Trieste, on the Adriatic,

is the principal ore of aluminium, and takes its name from Les Baux, near Arles, in France, where it was first found. It is a clay, and is the most convenient source of aluminium. During recent years it has been used extensively in ship-building and in the manufacture of airships and airplanes. It is for this purpose that the Germans have most need for it. Torpedo boats and other ships for use on the lakes of Africa in recent years have been made of aluminium and transported in pieces to their destination. Aluminium is also used extensively in the manufacture of a gold-like alloy, aluminium bronze. This bronze, which can be made with a tensile strength equal to that of steel, has certain advantages for field guns, and its anti-friction and wearing qualities make it valuable for bearings of shafts. Aluminium is also associated with the manufacture of the high explosive, ammonal.