

# Laborites Hit Tax On Tea In House Debate

## Simon's Budget Measures Are Denounced By Labor M.P.'s

LONDON, May 4.—(Reuters).—Labor members of Parliament delivered an onslaught on the tea tax in the House of Commons yesterday.

Moving a reduction in the duty on non-Empire tea to four pence, instead of eight pence, they described the tax as "mean and contemptible and hitting at the very poor."

Mr. Dan Chater, Labor member for North East Bethnal Green, said that the workers were compelled to buy cheaper tea, which meant foreign tea.

Sir Henry Page Croft, Conservative member for Bournemouth, regretted that the proposal made by Sir John Simon, Chancellor of the Exchequer, had narrowed Empire preference.

It was supremely important, he said, to maintain a proportion of tea coming from India, especially in view of negotiations for better facilities for Lancashire products to enter India.

In reply, the Chancellor of the Exchequer emphasized the democratic principle of all contributing for common defense.

An increase of 2d per lb. in the duty on Empire and foreign tea was one of the measures included in Sir John Simon's first Budget, announced in the House of Commons on April 26.

## Douglas Young, "Japan Chronicle" Proprietor, Dies

TOKYO, May 3.—(Reuters).—Mr. Douglas George Young, proprietor of the Japan Chronicle, whose death occurred in Kobe yesterday, was only 44 years of age.

He was a cousin of Mr. Douglas Mortimer Young, the founder of the Far Eastern Advertising Agency.

Owing to the similarity of the two cousins' names, it was believed for a time that it was Mr. Douglas Mortimer Young who had died. It is now established that this was not the case.

## France To Construct 500,000 Tons Ships; Subsidy To Be Raised

PARIS, May 4.—(Reuters).—Another stage in the recovery and rearmament program of M. Edouard Daladier, Premier and National Defense Minister, is announced in the form of a plan to construct 500,000 tons of merchant shipping in three years.

It is also planned to raise the subsidy from 5,000,000 to 30,000,000 francs annually.