

Britain Has More Warships But Italy Leads In Air Force

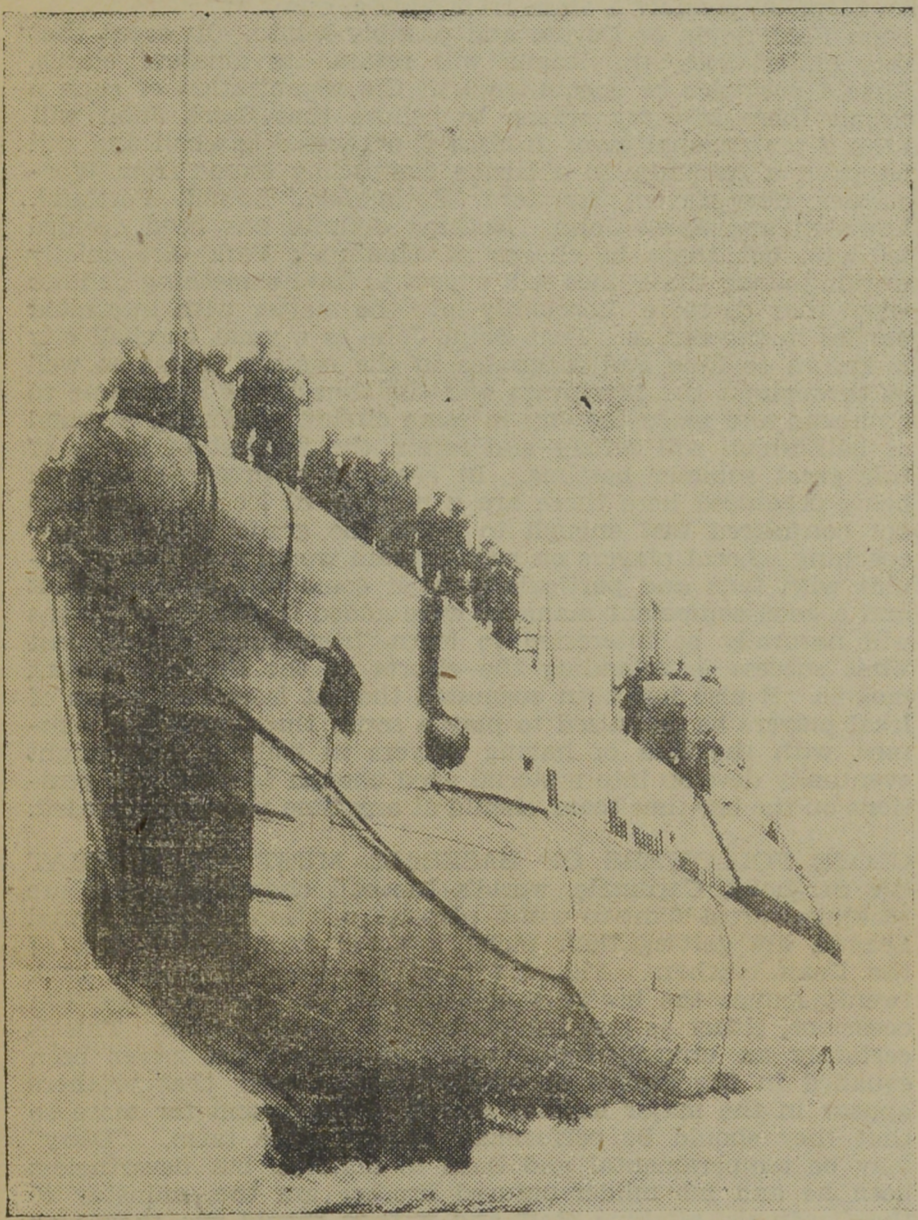
British Navy Numbers 318 Ships to Italy's 204—
Italy Has Some 1600 Fighting Aircraft While
England Said to Have 580.

The strength of the British Navy as compared with that of Italy may be of interest at this time. According to the Statesman's Year Book, Great Britain has a total of 318 ships in its navy, while Italy has 204.

The British navy has 15 battle-ships, Italy has four, and places second to Great Britain in the number of cruisers, having 24

ships, 34 sloops, 24 mine-sweepers, 11 surveying ships and a large number of smaller craft such as gunboats, patrol boats, drifters and trawlers.

However, what Italy may lack in ships of war on the sea, she makes up in ships of war in the air, being far superior, numerically, to Great Britain in fighting aircraft.



The latest addition to Britain's mighty navy is shown sliding down the ways at Barrow, England. Named the Narwhal, this submarine of the Grampus class, with all the latest "wrinkles" in naval design, will be a mighty support to the sea supremacy of England. It has a displacement of 1,520 tons, and a surface speed of 15 knots.

as compared to 50 British ships. Britain outnumbers Italy in the number of destroyers and torpedo boats by 54, having 161 of the speedy "pint-sized" ships while Italy possesses 107. Italy leads in submarines having 69 to England's 51.

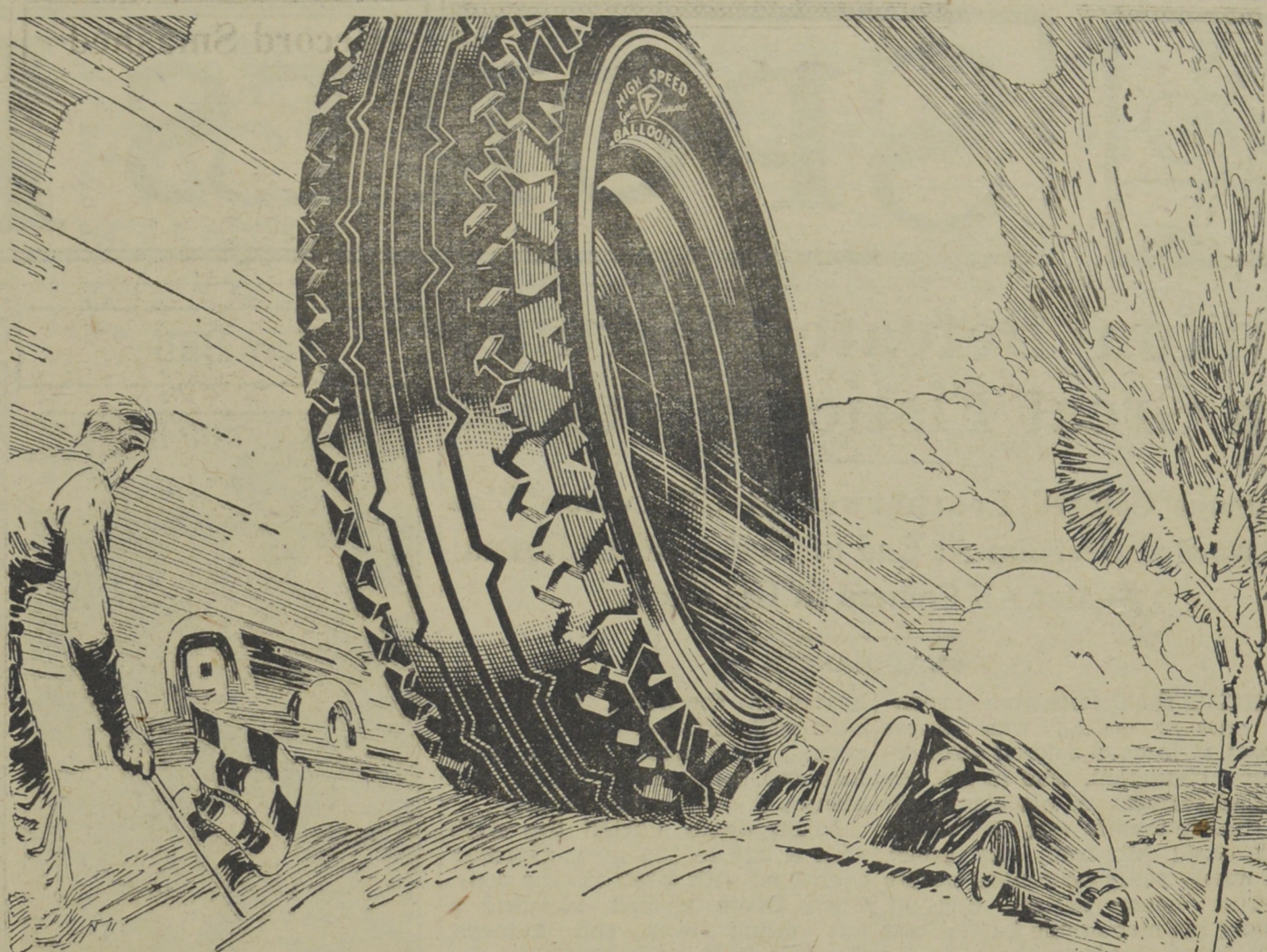
Italy, however has no aircraft carriers, having so far been forced to transport aeroplanes to Eritrea in a dismantled state aboard troop and transport ships. Great Britain boasts seven of the up-to-date aeroplane carriers.

Britain also has three monitors, ten sea-going depot and repair

Statistics at the end of last year gave Italy 640 first line fighting aircraft and 800 reserve machines. In May of this year, the British House of Commons was told by Sir Phillip Sassoon, undersecretary of air, that the strength of the British Air Force was 580 machines, 2,700 pilots and 29,800 men.

At the same time, however, Great Britain announced that by stimulated building, the air force would be trebled with an objective of 1,500 first line machines including naval aeroplanes. The huge air program, however, will not be completed until the early part of 1937. It was also announced at that time that there were to be 2,500 new pilots added, and 20,000 enlisted men, as well as five air training schools and 13 new military aerodromes. This program is already well under way, but Italy has also many rapid increases in her air strength.

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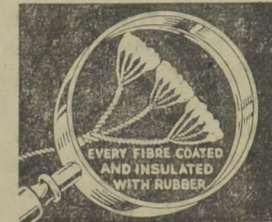
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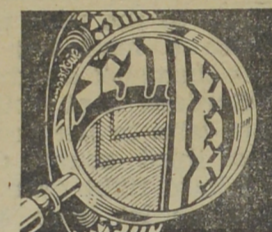
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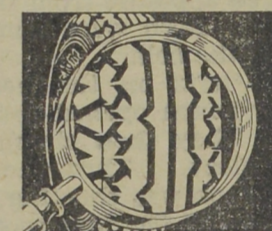
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