

TRAITORS ASSAILED BY SIGRID UNDSET

Novelist Demands Punishing
of Pro-Nazi Norwegians Who
Would 'Sell This Land'

LILLEHAMMER, Norway, April 19 (Delayed) (UP)—Sigrid Undset, novelist and Nobel Prize winner, today called for punishment of pro-Nazi Norwegians who "think they can sell this land in order to be a dictator's lap dog."

In an appeal to her countrymen, Mme. Undset said the pro-Nazi Norwegians "must be taught a lesson."

Norway had shown she could fight if necessary, she said, and would prove it again.

"We proved we could fight in the days when we formed a considerable part of the land and sea forces of brother nations," she said. "We proved it in our years of struggle for freedom and independence in 1814 and we shall prove it now."

Lion of Coat-of-Arms

"The old lion in the Norwegian coat-of-arms may have given the world the impression that it was a very tame and peaceable creature. But when men, whom we are ashamed and disgusted to admit are Norwegians, think they can sell this land to be a dictator's lap dog, they must be taught a lesson, for they have made the mistake of their lives."

"Fellow-countrymen, our good intentions—it seems to all our too good intentions—to preserve our neutrality, proved unavailing. Our men and boys have had to go forth at a moment's notice to face the haughty attempt to end Norway's existence as a sovereign State.

"God knows—you all know—we are a peace-loving people. Our love for peace for centuries has been a virtue of necessity and with the years it has become a virtue after our own hearts. But after all is said and done we have given the world no ground to regard us as a nation of cowards, merely because our smallness and our position have led us to become an unwarlike people.

"Let us call to mind the daring of our seamen in the rescue of human lives; let us remember the feats of Norwegian officers and crews in the teeth of Winter gales out in the North Sea when ships in distress call for help; let us call to mind the Norwegian sailors who dived overboard with life lines around their waists and struck out across the water to save another's life or lose their own.

Nansen's Work an Example

"Let us remember Fridtjof Nansen's stubborn endurance and self-sacrifice when he set to work to save the victims of the last war. And God grant it may ever be so, that only heroism called forth to rescue and defend life may fill us with happy pride.

"But for all that, we can greet with sad and bitter pride our soldiers who are fighting today for honor and freedom of our country, for our right to maintain what we have been so long—a people who love life and all that sanctifies it, a people who hate loathsome catch-words about 'blood and iron', 'blood and race' and 'nerves of steel' and all those concepts which revolt the very depths of our being.

"God grant peace in our time to all people of peace which can lead us to greater justice and more lasting peace here on earth."