



# Nazi protocol for sale... (from page 1)

The protocol does not offer any earth-shattering new light on the Nazi period in Norway. The large book only contains brief references from meetings, lists who spoke on what subject, and so forth.

Much more interesting is the present ownership of the document and why it is suddenly for sale after all this years. But that is something that has been impossible to find out. All attorney Collins will say is that it has been in the United States for "a very long time."

The items for sale also includes the party membership book of Oslo police general Karl A. Martinsen. Martinsen was a particularly hated swine, who was assassinated — on orders from London — in a hail of gunfire during the war. Martinsen was carrying his party book at the time, and it is smudged with something resembling blood.

There are also some notes of indebtedness, from a period when the party borrowed money from an Oslo bank.

Of some interest is the protocol's reference to a party meeting on April 7, 1940 — the day before the Germans overran Norway. The protocol quotes party chief Vidkun Quisling telling his subject about the importance of sticking together in "the difficult times ahead."

**Genuine**  
There is no doubt about the authenticity of the book. Representatives from the Norwegian government and from Nazi paraphernalia dealers have visited the attorney's office to examine the tome. Copies of the pages have also been given to the

man who was the party's recording secretary, and he verifies his own handwriting.

As for the value of the bok, it is anybody's guess. Collins says they have had one offer of \$10,000, but they refused it. Since the book contains no information of any historical interest, it is only valuable as a collector's item — for someone who would like to have the signatures of the largest collection of lowlives ever gathered under one banner in Norway.

Collins speculates that the volume may have some value to someone who is not interested in having the book made public. But the names of all Norwegians who actively fought for Hitler's visions are on the public record.

There has been a great flood of mementos of the war years arriving on the Norwegian market in recent months. The book is probably on the market now so the owner(s) can benefit from the refueled interest in Quisling and his ruffians.

## Wagnerians mark 50th anniversary of Flagstad's Metropolitan Opera debut

By Else Hvistendahl

From the stage of the Alma Gluck Concert Hall in Manhattan comes the unforgettable singing of Kirsten Flagstad. It is the music from her debut at the Metropolitan Opera, February 2, 1935, as Sieglinde in Wagner's Die Walkure, that so strongly fills the hall this Saturday afternoon, when New York's Wagner Society is commemorating the landmark day in the history of opera, fifty years ago. The anniversary is celebrated not only on the very day, but exactly at the hour of her debut!

Flagstad's debut was broadcast on radio, and it is this recording we hear now.

The commemorative program, directed by Donald V. Mehus, offers imaginative variation, using recordings of her performances over a period of forty years. Norwegian songs and mighty

Wagner roles, happily varied, are interspersed by reminiscences by people who knew her.

One highlight is an interview with Flagstad aired by BBC in 1950, that gives an insight into what is required by a singer in order to become a great Wagnerian performer.

The finale is Kirsten Flagstad as Brunhilde. While the last strains of Gotterdammerung fade away, New York's Wagner disciples break into affectionate applause, accompanied by the applause that met Kirsten Flagstad when the recording was made with the New York Philharmonic 33 years ago, under the baton of Bruno Walter.

The Norwegian Consul General in New York was represented at the commemoration by the head of the Norwegian Information Service, Consul John Bjørnebye.

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