

The church-bells of Innsmouth...

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EUROPE KNOWS NO BORDER "AT CHRISTMAS"

LONDON, Tuesday. This was the Christmas Eve picture at midnight on Monday: Trains were leaving Paddington...

The crowds sang carols and danced, whiling the time away to band music. At Smithfield market workers had been moving into the night to keep working the steam of lorries, vans, and private cars...

In Czechoslovakia there was erected a 60 foot illuminated Christmas tree in front of the damaged town hall in Prague. In household kitchens lay the traditional carp from ponds in Southern Bohemia...

At the children, who on the first Sunday in December light four candles to count the weeks to Christmas had blown out the last one. To-morrow night each household will place a Star of Bethlehem in its window.

REBELS FLEE IN INDO-CHINA

PARIS, Tuesday. The Vietnamese (Nationalist) Government in Indo-China has fled, and the French, using loud-speaker vans, are calling on the inhabitants of Hanoi to surrender.

RECALL DEMANDED OF SUDAN GOVERNOR

CAIRO, Tuesday. The resignation and punishment of the Governor-General of the Sudan (Major-General Sir Hubert Huddleston) were demanded in the Egyptian Senate by the Leader of the Wafdists (Sabri Abou Pasha).

ZIONISTS WANT CHANGE IN U.K. POLICY

Basle, Tuesday. The Zionist Congress carried a resolution against participating in the London talks, with a proviso that, if the situation should change, the General Council should decide whether or not to participate.

JEWISH TERRORISTS BLAMED FOR ATTACK ON BRITISH EMBASSY

Rome, Tuesday. The full extent of the Jewish terrorist penetration of Italy was revealed by investigations which were conducted by the police of the Italian political police (C. Bolchini) following the bombing of the British Embassy on October 31.

HOBART TRAM STRIKE CONTINUES

Hobart, Tuesday. No trams will be running in Hobart over Christmas and there appears to be little prospect of a settlement.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS FORECAST

Warm to hot and sultry with scattered rain and thunderstorms. Moderate north-east to north-west winds at first, cooler south-west to south change with further showers on the far south-eastward over the State and reaching the north coast districts during the Thursday afternoon.

SUMMONSES AS "PRESENTS" FOR SYDNEY BUTCHERS

Sydney, Tuesday. Nine wholesale butchers have received "Christmas presents" in the form of summonses for black marketing in meat, said the Commonwealth Crown Solicitor (Mr. G. A. Watson) today.

MINISTER SAYS COMPLAINTS ARE JUSTIFIED

Melbourne, Tuesday. The Minister for the Army (Mr. Chambers) who is touring British occupation areas in Japan, is satisfied that troops in some parts have grounds for complaints.

FIRE DESTROYED RADIO STATION

Parkes, Tuesday. Station 2PK was destroyed by fire last night, believed to have been caused by an electrical fault. The plant was insured.

The Canberra Times extends to all men and women goodwill and its sincere wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Prime Minister Calls for National Goodwill

"At this Christmas period, I ask all Australians to take stock of their individual position and of their obligations to the nation. It is inevitable, after six years of war, that dislocation and unrest should be manifested in all countries. That is true of Australia, but the remedy is at hand. Employers and trades unions, businessmen and consumers, in fact, all sections of the community, must exercise patience and understanding in dealing with the day-to-day problems as they arise.

"Ample facilities are provided for the settlement of differences and every possible avenue has now been opened up by the Government to ensure that the processes of law may be readily available for any disputants in any walk of life in the Australian community.

"Failure to employ arbitration can end only in harm to those who ignore it, and, more importantly, inflict grievous setbacks upon the nation.

"No other country has been able to effect such a smooth transition from war to peace. British, Canadian and American industrialists have expressed confidence in Australia in a tangible fashion by expanding existing operations or by planning new activities.

"Plans have been laid for great economic development, on both governmental and private planes. We must plan our economy so that we will be prepared, as far as possible, to meet any economic changes that may arise overseas.

"The industrial troubles that have been arising are very disturbing to all those who have the interests of Australia at heart. The weapon of direct action—though it may at times appear to achieve some temporary benefit—can only, if persisted in, lead to ultimate chaos, resulting in inflationary prices and economic instability as is now being suffered in some other countries.

"I am fully aware that there are defects in the arbitration system but, as far as the Constitution will allow, early efforts will be made to make the system more flexible. I ask trades unionists to desist from taking action which imposes great hardships on the community and particularly on their fellow workers and which, if continued, could easily lead to unionists becoming an undisciplined rabble.

"I ask employers—and this applies with greater force to large industrial undertakings—to take a greater personal interest in the claims submitted to the courts for determination. There is, I fear, too great an inclination to leave the conduct of cases before the court to their industrial advocates who, in many cases, feel it their duty to make no concession—no matter what are the merits of the claim.

"We all owe a duty to our fellow citizens and that duty can be best discharged in the coming year by the determination of all to display a spirit of toleration and conciliation in the troubles that arise.

Greetings from Ottawa

In a letter to The Editor, "The Canberra Times," Mr. Justice T. C. Davis, former High Commissioner for Canada, extends on behalf of himself and Mrs. Davis, their best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to their host of friends in Canberra.

BROADCAST TO RUSSIA TO BE CHALLENGED

LONDON, Tues. The broadcast to Russia by the B.B.C., which preceded a friendly talk by the Foreign Secretary (Mr. Bevin) is likely to be raised in the House of Commons when Parliament reassembles.

EMPLOYERS WANT ITALIAN P.O.W.'s TO RETURN

Sydney, Tuesday. Twenty per cent of the Italian P.O.W.'s who left by the Ormonde-to-day for Italy, want to come back. Former employers of nine of them are prepared to pay their fare back. There were 2000 on the ship and most carried goods in short supply in Italy bought out of their pay of 1/3 a day. Australian guards bid them a

THOUSANDS SING CAROLS ON PARLIAMENT GREEN

More than 2,000 people gathered before the King George V. Memorial last night to participate in the impressive Carols by Candlelight ceremony. Burning torches held aloft by youthful torchbearers, and stars wistfully glimmering in the inky heavens, combined to provide a memorable setting.

A children's procession led by bears with torches wended its way through the crowd to the Memorial. Members of the public ignited candles and occasionally a hurricane lamp was seen.

The combined choir under the baton of Mr. W. Hunt, sang carols which included "O Come All Ye Faithful" and "While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks."

With one voice, the public joined with the choir in singing carols. A highlight of the evening was the singing of the visiting tenor, Lorenzo Nolan, who rendered "Star of Bethlehem" and several other carols. An impressive Christmas page-

EARLY CHRISTIAN ERA RECALLED BY DR. BURGMANN

In a Christmas message, Dr. E. H. Burgmann, Bishop of Goulburn, said that all through the ages men had expressed their joy by singing and dancing. "There are few things that can more quickly bring us together in fellowship and goodwill than singing together on some glad-some occasion. Indeed, if there is any theme about which we can agree to sing, we soon find ourselves forgetting the cares and trials of life, laying aside the things that divide and anger, to rejoice together in the experience that we are after all one people, members of the one great human family, slowly learning to live together as children of the one God and Father of all. As we sing together the praises of the kindly feelings that are within us take possession of us, and we feel that we wish them to remain with us at all times.

"The birth of the Christ Child is the hope of the world, and we know it better to-day than ever before. Jesus Christ is a dream struggling painfully out of the mazes and insanity of war, that it must sing of the Little Prince of Peace; it must sing them till they take possession of the human heart everywhere, and begin to bring in the only peace that will ever abide, the peace of the angels, the peace that is in the hearts of men of goodwill.

JEWIS ARRESTED FOR BOMBING OF BRITISH EMBASSY

Rome, Tuesday. Italian police have arrested five Jews in connection with the bomb outrage at the British Embassy in Rome, at the end of October.

The Italian News Agency says police discovered that the Palestine terrorist organisation, Irgun Zvai Leumi, had established a sabotage school in Rome in the same street as the Allied military plainclothes police.

The school was a meeting place for Jews of various nationalities, especially Poles and Rumanians. Propaganda material, including anti-British leaflets and books, were seized there.

Italian police have identified about 20 Jews who arrived in Palestine to help in the attack on the Embassy. There appears to be another branch of Irgun Zvai Leumi terrorists at Milan.

FLOGGING SENTENCE

Jerusalem, Tuesday. British Commander in Palestine (Lieut.-General Barker) has confirmed the sentence of 18 strokes with the cane and 18 years' gaol recently passed on a 16-year-old terrorist.

RUSSIA ASKED TO EXPLAIN DARIEN ORDERS

New York, Tuesday. The State Department is seeking full details from Russia of the orders which had been issued for a U.S. warship to leave Darien and also for an explanation.

The ship was on a courier mission, carrying diplomatic mail and supplies to the Consulate in Vladivostok. The Russian authorities refused to allow an American company representative to go ashore and delivered an ultimatum that unless the ship left within 20 minutes they would not be responsible for the consequences.

SAAR CONTROL TO CURB BLACK-MARKET

LONDON, Tuesday. Black-markets and currency manipulations were one of the causes of the setting up of a French Customs system in the Saar basin on Sunday.

Cashing-in On Christmas

Sydney, Tuesday. All sorts of people are cashing in on the Christmas season.

Two men on the North Shore line were seen walking along lifting tins of garbage tins and collecting coins which housewives had left for the garbage men. They pleaded guilty to theft when brought before North Sydney Court and were placed on bonds to be of good behaviour for two years.

The magistrates ordered that a bottle of beer in their possession be handed to the garbage man.

EARLY CHRISTIAN ERA RECALLED BY DR. BURGMANN

"So Christians have sung down the years since Christ was born. So will they ever sing, and more and more people will hear and feel the power of the message, and join in the song. When Europe was struggling out of the dark ages it was a joyful Christian, St. Francis of Assisi, the apostle of love, and the friend of simple people, who taught them once again to sing carols, especially the carols of Christmas. And if he were in Canberra he would sing of our trees and flowers, of the berries that ripen in spring and of the glory of the leaves in the autumn. It is with hearts full of love and trust that we to-day must learn to sing of all good things, to feel them as gifts of the most high God, who holds not back any good thing that we can receive, and who has given to each of us the gift of Himself in His Son, who came to us on that first Christmas day as the Little Prince of Bethlehem.

MIDNIGHT MASS

Midnight Mass was celebrated at St. Christopher's Church last night for the second time since the early war years.

Large crowds gathered early in the evening to attend the Mass, which was offered by the Rt. Rev. Monsignor P. M. Hayden.

BURMESE NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT TALKS

LONDON, Monday. The vice-president of the Burma Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League told Reuters a correspondent that the Burmese Nationalists are not usually optimistic about current talks on Burma's future.

"It will be nothing short of a miracle if a British Government succeeds in translating its good intentions into actions satisfactory to themselves and to the Burmese," he added.

"We are determined to wage a struggle to the finish, regardless of the outcome of talks. What is happening in India and Egypt reminds us of the British helplessness against powerful vested interests."

The vice-president added that if the talks proved abortive, they would still tread the path that was before them. "We know we are weak against guns, planes, bombs and bayonets, but our faith in the justice of our cause is a source of ever-increasing strength," he added.

LIQUOR LICENCES

Sydney, Tuesday. Two city cafes, which had been refused liquor licences because they had fixed seats, were granted licences to-day by the Licensing Court.

Licensing Inspector Nunn drew a distinction between restaurants having wall settees and those having cubicles. He said some of the latter class were unsuitable for liquor permits.

English Gift of Tulips

The Parliamentary gardener (Mr. Charles May) yesterday took delivery of 6,000 tulip bulbs sent from Britain to the Prime Minister (Mr. Chifley). They will be planted in the Parliamentary gardens.