

Hark, ye Lazarus. You stood convicted of sickness, hunger, wretchedness and want.

The People's Paper Read by Everybody

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

God so loved the Lazaruses that He sent them His Son. Hence Christmas.

The Guardian, Five Cents. Morning Daily Founded 1887.

CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1951

16 PAGES

FIRE TURNS CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY INTO TRAGEDY

77 Bodies Recovered In U. S. Mine Fire; 15 To 20 Are Missing

WEST FRANKFORT, Ill., Dec. 23 (AP)—Weary rescue workers recovered their 42nd body today from the United States' worst mine disaster of the year and had sighted about 35 more bodies, bringing the known death toll to 77.

State mine director Walter Edie reported that about 35 more bodies had been found in the mine and added "it looks to me like the death toll easily could be 100."

There still is one more section in the mine to be opened, Edie said that one crew of 15 to 20 men remains missing.

The rescue work at the big mine near West Frankfort—a city of sorrow this Sunday before Christmas—moved slowly.

Tough Rescue Job

Volunteer workers, most of them veterans of the pits, labored under intense heat and fought the same deadly gas which caused the explosion two miles back from the shaft and some 550 feet below the surface.

All 42 bodies have been identified. Many of them were mangled by the great blast which shook the mine's 12-mile of tunnels about 8:30 p.m. EST Friday.

Some of the men were roasted alive. Bodies were found pressed to the floor where men had fought for a last breath of air and lost.

Little Hope For Missing

Mine officials had given up all but the faintest hope for the rest of the entrapped men. Deadly gas seeped along the recesses where the explosion knocked out timber and vital air-channel locks.

Even though they might have escaped concussion, most miners and officials felt there was small chance those trapped could have escaped the gas by retreating deeper into the mine, one of the world's largest single-shaft coal operators. It is known as Orient No. 2.

The rescuers were near exhaustion. They had worked all Friday night, Saturday and on through the night into Sunday. A radio appeal went out today for more relief workers.

Canadians Plan Merry Christmas In Germany

HANNOVER, Germany, Dec. 23 (CP)—More than 100 German youngsters—orphans and children of needy families—were guests Saturday at a Christmas party given by non-commissioned officers of the 1st Highland Infantry Brigade.

The party for the German children came in the midst of the brigade's preparations for a home-style Christmas. The brigade is part of the Western World's contribution to defence of Europe against possible Soviet aggression.

Brigade pipers welcomed the happy-faced children, aged between three and nine. The youngsters were served a lunch of turkey, cocoa, cake, candy, fruits and ice cream.

About 50 sergeants and warrant officers adopted the children for the afternoon. It was the first of a series of kids parties to be given in the next few days by Canadian troops here.

Meanwhile, the last unit of the 27th, numbering 700, arrived this afternoon, bringing brigade strength to 6,000 officers and men.

Royal Family In Big Christmas Get-Together

LONDON, Dec. 22 (AP)—The royal family is assembling at the King's great Sandringham estate for its biggest Christmas get-together since the Second World War.

The King and five members of his family left yesterday for Sandringham—his personal estate and favorite residence—which is in the fens of Norfolk County close by the North Sea.

Accompanying the King, whose recent grave illness still is a cause for concern, were the Queen, Queen Mother Mary, Princess Elizabeth and her two children, Prince Charles and Princess Anne.

Londoners cheered the royal party as they boarded the train at King's Cross Station.

A dozen near relatives will join them at Sandringham before Christmas Day.

All the princes and princesses, dukes and duchesses of royal blood will be there—with two exceptions: The Duke of Windsor and Princess Mary, the King's sister.

It will be an old-fashioned Christmas party in the best British tradition. Carol-singing, a yule log blazing in the fireplace, the exchange of gifts around a brightly-decorated tree—all will contribute to the spirit of the occasion.

Christmas Mail Sets Record In U. S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—More than 800,000 postal workers are staggering out from under the biggest avalanche of Christmas mail in the country's history. An estimated 5,800,000,000 pieces of mail will have been delivered between Dec. 1 and Dec. 25—an average of more than 37 pieces of mail for every man, woman and child in the United States.

Coming Events

- *Auction and Dance, Vernon Hall, December 26th. Orchestra.
- *North River Rink, skating Christmas night.
- *Victoria Rink, Tuesday, Christmas night. Special skate.
- *For Snapshots that will not fade mail your films and Negatives to Garnham Photo Studios Charlottetown.
- *Dance Sunnyside Ballroom, Christmas night commencing at 8:30.
- *Farmers, ask about the Shur Gain Feed Finance Plan. For particulars contact your local feed mill.
- *Buying live fowl and chicken daily. We weigh and pay at farm. Write or phone collect for pick up service. Smith Bros., Pownal.
- *Come to the card party in Emerald School, Thursday, December 27, prizes, lunch served. Sponsored by the Home and School.
- *Loading hogs for Canada Packers on car Souris to St. Elizabeth on Thursday, Dec. 27th. Instead of on Wednesday as advertised last week. Also loading following week on Thursday, Jan. 3rd. For remainder of winter we shall be loading on Tuesdays as usual. C. C. Pratt & Sons.

Traffic Death Toll In U. S. Reaches Million

NEW YORK, Dec. 23 (AP)—The motor vehicle claimed its 1,000,000th victim in the United States Saturday.

The traffic toll was run up in 52 years, three months and nine days. The grisly milestone was reached and recorded at 11:27 A.M. EST.

Dave Dawson, 25, of Danbury, Tex., was the last person to die among the final 10 victims recorded by the Associated Press in a country-wide spot check that began Wednesday. He died at 9:20 A.M. EST Saturday from injuries suffered in an automobile accident seven hours earlier. Two others were fatally injured in the same crash.

The total reached the 1,000,000 mark with the report of the death of Miss Elma Wischmeier, 52. She died in Cleveland at 7:20 P.M. EST. Friday. News of her death reached AP

Merry Christmas



Death On Saturday Of Mr. Chas. H. Chandler

Mr. Charles H. Chandler, for many years one of Charlottetown's best known businessmen and widely known throughout the Maritimes as an owner of standard bred horses, died Saturday at his home on Pownal Street after a long illness. He was eighty-eight years of age.

Mr. Chandler had been associated with the hardware business for approximately seventy-five years and is believed to have been the oldest active hardware merchant in the Maritime Provinces. Until his final illness he had been in his Queen Street store every day taking charge of all the details which arose.

Mr. Chandler began his career as a boy with Stone and Boyer in 1878 and later with the business.

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Churchill Has Grim Forecast Of Hardships

LONDON, Dec. 23 (CP)—Prime Minister Winston Churchill had a grim Christmas message for Britons this week-end when he told them that hardships are ahead of Britain if it is to avoid national bankruptcy.

Churchill's radio address from his country home at Westminster Saturday night was reminiscent of his "Blood, sweat, toil and tears" speech of the early war years. He told Britons:

"I have nothing to propose to you that is easy."

He told the British people they cannot go on counting on American aid to make them comfortable.

Apart from aid for defence and rearmament, "you must not expect the Americans to solve our problems for us," he said.

He warned that his coming visit to the United States and Canada should not give rise to "any exaggerated hope."

"Unless Britain puts her house in order, she will not only lose her chance to participate in international defence but will not even be her people alive, he said."

"We have no assurance that anyone else is going to keep the British lion as a pet."

He forecast for the domestic scene further "unpleasant proposals" to follow the "certain number of unpleasant things that have been done already."

41 Lose Lives At Tijuana In Mexico

TIJUANA, Mex., Dec. 23 (AP)—Fire at a community Christmas tree party for poor children killed at least 41 persons here Saturday night. Authorities said that many bodies had been recovered. One was reported still missing. There was fear there might be others.

Dr. A. D. Alberto Rojo, under-director of the Miguel Aleman Hospital, said 88 persons were treated for burns.

Thirty-two of these were in serious condition, he added.

Most of the dead and injured, Rojo reported, were women and children.

Up To 400 At Party

An estimated 300 to 400 persons were at the party in the third-floor meeting hall of the building, which was five stories in front and dropped to three in the back.

It was the annual party given for the needy children by various private groups.

The Christmas tree, on the stage of the hall, was knocked over by two hoodlums who started fighting, survivors said.

Electric lighting on the tree apparently shorted and started the fire.

The flames spread to a heavy curtain and then roared to the ceiling.

There were screams and walls and a mad rush.

As the panic spread, the lights went out.

Only One Exit

There was only one exit, down stairs to the front.

Firemen said no one had bothered to take locks off the fire escape doors.

"It was horrible, horrible, horrible," said Louis Alarid, one of those who escaped with burns.

The fire started about 11:45 p. m. within a couple of hours it had reduced the building to ruins.

Tijuana's only fire-engine company was unable to make progress as the fire quickly spread.

Americans Give Aid

A call for help went out to American authorities from this city on the U. S. border and the state's mobile forestry department.

(Continued on Page 8 Col. 5)

News In Brief

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—President Truman is believed ready to invoke the emergency provisions of United States labor law to avoid a New Year's Day steel strike unless the workers agree to delay the walkout.

VATICAN CITY, Dec. 23 (Reuters)—Pope Pius tomorrow morning will make his 13th Christmas eve radio address to the world and at night he will celebrate for the first time in history a special radio midnight mass—to be relayed over all of Europe and the Americas.

TEHRAN, Dec. 23 (CP)—Twenty-one persons died in an airplane crash just north of Tehran during a blinding snowstorm last night. The dead include Dr. Henry G. Bennett, director of President Truman's Point Four Program and seven other Americans.

Political Leaders Plan Christmas With Families

OTTAWA, Dec. 23 (CP)—Canada's political leaders, weary by a long series of battles in the Commons, plan to spend Christmas at home with their families.

Most of them, including members of the Federal cabinet, will spend the holiday season in Ottawa but a few, including Prime Minister St. Laurent, will be away for a few days.

The Prime Minister left Saturday for Quebec to spend Christmas with Mrs. St. Laurent and their children.

The three opposition party leaders in the Commons—George Drew, M. J. Coldwell and Solon Low—will celebrate Christmas with their families in Ottawa. All of them, along with Mr. St. Laurent, make their homes in the capital.

Virtually all cabinet members will spend Christmas week with their families in Ottawa.

Defence Minister Claxton will be here for Christmas, but will take off Thursday next on a flight to Japan and Korea to visit Canadian troops at the fighting front. He recently returned from a visit to the troops in Europe.

Only four of the 20-odd Cabinet Ministers will be at home away from the capital. Postmaster-General Rinfret will be at Ste. Adele, Que. State Secretary Bradley at Bonaville, Nfld., Fisheries Minister Mayhew at Victoria, and Revenue Minister McCann at Renfrew, Ont.

External Affairs Minister Pearson and Mrs. Pearson will celebrate Christmas Day in Ottawa with their family, but will be in London, Ont., the following day for the marriage of their son, Geoffrey, to Miss Landon MacKenzie of London.

O, Hand of Christ, reach out! reach out!
To touch each heart so cold,
Then each poor child may truly feel
The Christmas joys unfold.

—John Robert Lamont Campbell
John of "The Lilacs".

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."
Acts 20:38.

Celebrates One Hundredth Anniversary On Christmas

A message of congratulations from Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent has been received by Mr. Alexander Cameron of Elmsdale who is preparing to observe his 100th birthday tomorrow, Christmas Day.

Still spry and active despite his advanced age, Mr. Cameron walked to the polls on the last election day to record his 19th vote in a Dominion election. As recently as last Spring, he split a cord of tough spruce he had bought from a neighbour.

One of twelve children born to two pioneers of this Province, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Cameron (Margaret Pickering), of New London, he was married to Flora Ellison of Princetown in 1885 by the Rev. M. Patterson of Beedeque.

His wife died on January 11th, 1938 at the age of 88 years. Of two children born to them, a son, John, died in 1937 and Mr. Cameron now lives with his only daughter, Mrs. Annie Bell of Elmsdale.

With the exception of five years spent in the Canadian and American West, Mr. Cameron has lived on the Island. On his return from Winnipeg about fifty years ago, he and Mrs. Cameron operated the Albion Terrace Hotel in Alberton, now part of the Western Hospital.

Local Man Fatally Injured At Hunter River

Samuel Boulter, 38, of 23 Oriabar Street, Charlottetown, was fatally injured about midnight in an accident at Hunter River. He died about 2 a. m., 10 minutes after reaching the Prince Edward Island Hospital.

Boulter was injured when a panel truck in which he was riding went out of control on the cross roads in Hunter River Village. Another man in the truck was not seriously injured. He summoned assistance.

It was not learned immediately who was driving the truck. It was believed the vehicle was Mr. Boulter's, used in his electrical shop business in Charlottetown.

Coroner Dr. L. E. Prowse ordered an inquest. It will be held this morning at the Cutcliffe Funeral Home.

No Progress

MUNSAN, Korea, Dec. 24 (Monday) (AP)—Armistice negotiators, farther apart than ever on Korean war prisoners, meet this day before Christmas at 11 A. M., (9 P. M., Sunday, E. S. T.), with little prospect of getting down to discussion of any actual exchange of captives.

Libya Rejoices As Day Of Independence Nears

BENGASI, Libya, Dec. 23 (Reuters)—A holiday spirit of rejoicing spread throughout this vast North African desert area as its 1,000,000 Arabs awaited the dawn of a new and independent kingdom, to be proclaimed Christmas eve.

War-torn Bengasi, once the bastion of Mussolini's North African empire, was festooned with flags, slogans and bunting for the inauguration ceremonies to be conducted here by the new king, Sayed Mohamed Idris el Senussi, the Emir of Cyrenaica.

National colors of the new state—orange, green and black, inset with crescent and star—flutter in the wintry breeze as city dwellers give over to feasting and revelry.

Green palm leaves cover battered shop fronts and bomb-riddled rooftops. Banners strung across the streets proclaim "Long live liberty, long live independent Libya."

Libyan politicians from Tripoli and other centres rub shoulders in over-crowded teashops with Bedouin chieftains from distant

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HALIFAX, Dec. 23 (CP)—Official forecasts issued tonight by the Dominion Public Weather Office here and valid until midnight Monday, with an outlook for Christmas Day.

Synopsis:

A disturbance in Ontario is causing a little light snow. This weather is forecast to move down the St. Lawrence Monday, giving snow flurries to the northern regions. There seems to be little chance of this disturbance increasing in intensity, and sunny weather is forecast for the remainder of the district.

Colder air, flowing into the district behind the disturbance, will result in fine, cold weather for Christmas.

Regional forecasts:

Prince Edward Island: Clear, with a few cloudy intervals. Little change in temperature. Light winds. Low early Monday morning and high in the afternoon at Charlottetown 10 and 30.

Outlook for Christmas—Sunny and colder.

High tide today at 6:40 A. M. and 6:13 P. M.
Sun rises today at 7:49 A. M. sets at 4:35 P. M.

MCA AIR SERVICE

DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY

Leave Charlottetown for Moncton 5:30 A.M.; 11:20 A.M.; 4:50 P.M.
Ar. Charlottetown from Moncton 7:25 A.M.; 1:35 P.M.; 6:55 P.M.
Leave Charlottetown for New Glasgow - Halifax 7:40 A.M. - New Glasgow 1:50 P.M. - New Glasgow & Halifax. Arrive Charlottetown from New Glasgow and Halifax 11:00 A.M. from New Glasgow 4:35 P.M. from Halifax.

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY ONLY

8:10 A.M. Arrive Sydney from New Glasgow. 2:40 P.M. Arrive New Glasgow from Sydney.

SUNDAY ONLY

Leave Charlottetown for Moncton 11:20 A.M. Arrive Charlottetown from Moncton 5:55 P.M.

BORDEN - CAPE TORMENTINE FERRY SERVICE

Daily (Including Sunday)

Leave Borden	Leave C. T.
9:10 A.M.	10:35 A.M.
1:00 P.M.	2:40 P.M.
4:50 P.M.	6:00 P.M.
7:30 P.M.	9:00 P.M.

