MIKE AND THE TWO BEARS

Prime Minister Lester Pearson spins a yarn about two bears for the edification of his granddaughter Robin Hannah, 3, during a Christmas visit to the Toronto home of his son-in-law and daughter, Dr. and Mrs. Walter J. Hannah. The Pearsons were to return to Ottawa at noon today. (CP Wirephoto)

Bureau's Adoption Role Is Outlined By Director

By NANCY WHITE

Miss Elizabeth Torrey, director of the Protestant Family Service Bureau, has revealed that the Charlottetown organization has 20 "adorable" babies who are in need of good homes.

The Family Service Bureau recently placed an ad in this newspaper inviting adoption applications.

"A baby needs a mother and father. Do you need a baby to complete your home?" it read.

In explaining the bureau's function as an adoption agency, Miss Torrey said recently that its main task is not to investigate the prospective parents, but to prepare them for the adoption.

"Often people don't realize what is involved," she said. "Intellectually, they want a child, but they have not really faced up to what it is going to mean to them to have a child in the house."

For a couple with no children there are two factors involved in adoption.

The first of these is simply having to care for a baby. This may mean major changes, such as giving up a second pay cheque.

The second factor—and this applies as well to couples who have had children of their own—is accepting the adoption itself.

Miss Torrey said that the most important characteristic of an adopting couple is "the ability to love a child that's not their own" to "give it all the love that a child needs."

"There are some people who can't do this," she added.

EXPECTS GOOD HEALTH

Preparation for adoption begins with the submission of application forms to the bureau. A doctor's certificate is a prime requirement too, for the bureau expects good health in adopting parents.

Then meetings between the prospective parents and the bureau staff begin. The bureau does its best to match the parents with a child and find out if they are able to take care of it.

In the "investigation" of the parents, "the intangible is more important than the tangible", Miss Torrey said.

Bu the bureau has to make sure the couple is in "a secure financial position."

Miss Torrey said that some couples do not realize the cost of supporting a child.

"We must be practical. We can't put a child in a family if there's not enough money to care for it," she said.

DEPENDS ON PARENTS

The length of time the adoption proceedings take depends to a large extent on the parents, Miss Torrey said.

"Ordinarily it takes a few months," she said.

But if the parents want a specific type of baby it may be several years before one comes along who fits their requirements.

Adoption of an older child takes longer, she said, because the bureau must work to prepare the child as well as the parents for this "extremely important step."

THREE TO SIX MONTHS

Miss Torrey said most babies are adopted when they are three to six months old.

When they get to be about a year old "they have a strong relationship with the mother-person and it is damaging for them to change," she said.

The babies are seldom adopted when younger than three months. This is because the bureau needs to find out what type of children they are. Then, to, many of these children are illegitimate, and the bureau feels the mother should be given sufficient time to decide whether to place the baby up for adoption.

The couple rarely knows much about the child's background.

"Most parents merely want to know the characteristics a child is likely to have, and if they have a healthy child," Miss Torrey said.

RESPONSIBLE TO BUREAU

After the bureau finds that the couple is ready for the adoption and places the baby in the home, there is a six month waiting period, while the bureau "helps the baby grow into the home", and the parents are responsible to the bureau for the child's welfare.

When the waiting period is over, the bureau gives its consent and the adoption is legalized in the courts.

Successful placement of a baby in a home is a gratifying experience, according to the director.

"There is real satisfaction in seeing a child going into a home where he's treated as one of the family and feels he belongs," she said.

"And," she added, "I certainly think the greater number of adoptions do turn out happily."

York Pupils Give Concert

The annual Christmas concert of York School was presented to a large audience of parents and friends in York Hall on Saturday afternoon, under the shadow of a huge Christmas tree which dominated one section of the hall.

The master-of-ceremonies was Richard Vessey, who at the close of the program extended congratulations to the pupils for what he termed an "outstanding performance." Mr. Vessey singled out the singing instructors, Mr. and Mrs Raoul Reymond, regarding their skill and patience in coaching the pupils to such a high standard.

Following the close of the stage presentations, Santa Claus made his annual appearance to hand out gifts and treats to the pupils and the pre-school children.

The concert had been originally slated for Thursday night, but the first big blast of the winter forced cancellation and it was rescheduled for Saturday.

O'Leary Nips S'side 7-6 In Exhibition

O'LEARY — The O'Leary Maroons came roaring from behind a 5-1 deficit midway in an exhibition hockey game here Monday night to defeat a combined Summerside team 7-6.

There was a good sheet of ice for the first game of the season in O'Leary and although the game was an exhibition encounter, play was fast and rough.

George Bernard led the Maroons with a hat trick while Pete Green, Louis Poirier, Jack Gorrell and Don Ellis scored singletons for the winners. 'Coke' Grady was the big man for Summerside with four of the combined teams six counters. The Summerside Combine and the Summerside Junior Legionaires supplied the players for the match.

Leroy Clow and Dave Martin were the other Summerside snipers.

Three penalties were called by referees Raynall MacNeill and Allison Stilker in the first period and two in the second.

LEAVE CANADA

The last British troops garrisoned in Canada left the Imperial naval bases at Halifax and Esquimalt, B.C., in 1906.

KC Athletics Looking For New Pasture

KANSAS CITY (AP) — The general manager of Kansas City Athletics, according to owner Charles O. Finley, spent Christmas Day surveying flat pasture lands—for a possible new home for the American League baseball team.

Finley is embroiled in a squabble with the city over renewal of the Athletics contract for Municipal Stadium.

Talks broke off Tuesday and a few hours later Finley announced the Athletics would move out of their offices in the stadium today to make their home in bank premises loaned to them.

Finley said:

"I have been advised that if we are in the stadium on Jan 1, the day after the lease expires, we will have committed ourselves to maybe another four-year lease or at least a one-year lease. That's the reason we are getting out.

"My general manager, Pat Friday, will be surveying the area for some good flat pasture land to erect temporary seats in order to play ball in the Kansas City area in 1964."

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"Christmas Carol" Is Program Feature

ALBERTON — Charles Dickens' "Christmas Carol" was featured in a Christmas program presented in Alberton recently under sponsorship of the Retarded Children's association.

The play was under direction of John H. Barrett.

The cast was as follows: Edenezer Scrooge, Ronald McKinnon; Bob Cratchit, Gary Black; Fred, Leberte Pridham; Marley, John O'Malley; The Ghosts, Irving Broderick; Scrooge as a boy, Bobby Barrett; Scrooge as a young man, Keith Campbell; Scrooge's fiance, Alice Faye Barrett; Robinson Crusoe, Milton Barrett; Ali Baba, Robert Broderick; The Boy, Charles McKinnon; Tiny Tim, Keith McKinnon; Mrs. Cratchit, Mrs. Ronald McKinnon; Bob Cratchit's children, Patsy McKinnon, Debbie Ramsay, and Garth McKinnon.

Other selections on the program were vocal solos by Mrs. Ruth Sommers, Miss Sandra Brennan, Miss Alice Faye Barrett, Miss Linda Barbour and Garth McKinnon.

A piano solo by Miss Barbara Matthews; vocal duets by Miss Marion McEwen and Beck Jordan, Miss Patsy McKinnon and Owen Oliver.

A group of songs by the school choristers were rendered under direction of Mrs. Sommers.

Accompanist for the evening was Mrs. E.E. Larter. During the intermission Beck Jordan was heard in several violin selections and there was a sale of fudge.

Child Cancer Victim Receives Many Gifts

BOWLING GREEN, S.C. (AP)—Little Vicki Wray has lost one eye because of cancer and may lose the other, but her mother says "there are more unfortunate children in the world.

The two-year-old child had piles of new toys this Christmas from people across the country. Her favorite gift is a live Dalmation puppy named "spot."

Mrs. Doris Wray arranged on Christmas Eve for the Salvation Army to receive many of the toys not needed by Vicki and her four brothers and four sisters.

Dolls, coloring books, stuffed animals, toy trucks, toy cars, games, a hobby horse and another live puppy were among Vicki's gifts found in almost every corner of the Robert Wray home. The family of 11 moved into the remodelled three-bedroom home on Monday next door to their former four-room house, with only two beds.

A Vicki Wray fund had grown to $11,000 even before Tuesday's 200 letters and cards were opened.

"It just doesn't seem to be true," the little girl's 39-year-old father said as he shook his head and stared at the piles of toys. The $50-a-week textile worker will be unemployed for at least two weeks because the mill has closed down for the Christmas holidays.

In the Wrays' kitchen, canned goods and fresh fruit were in abundance.

A Christmas turkey dinner with all the trimmings was sent by an unidentified woman in Charlotte, N.C.

It was 10 days ago that Vicki's story of a probable dark Christmas received nation-wide attention.

The little girl was scheduled to have her left eye removed because of the cancer. Her right eye was removed last July because of a similar condition.

"I didn't want the operation on her left eye done before Christmas," Mrs. Wray said. She added that doctors decided against the operation after an examination last week and they plan to continue radiation treatment for the time being.

"I think there's hope," she continued. "But we just don't know."

Car-Tractor In Collision

SUMMERSIDE — The only major accident in the Eastern Prince County area during the Christmas holiday was investigated by the Borden detachment of the RCMP.

At approximately midnight Christmas Eve a late model car driven by Thane Bell of Borden and a tractor operated by George Curtis of Mt. Tryon were in collision at Albany.

The vehicles, travelling in opposite directions, were extensively damaged. No injuries were sustained by the occupants.

The Summerside RCMP detachment and town police investigated a number of minor accidents

The town fire Department responded to two fire calls.

At approximately 9.30 Tuesday night a truck rushed out to 131 Summer Street where a fire in a small shack was extinguished. Christmas afternoon firemen responded to a call from Oliver's Service Station, Water Street East, when an oil burner flooded

CHRISTMAS DAY MARCH ON EAST BERLIN

West Berliners, young and old, stream into East Berlin at the Invalidenstrasse control point for a Christmas Day visit with relatives. A uniformed member of the East German army, center, aids an aged West Berlin woman. (AP Wirephoto)

Church Loses Shingles In Big Blow

GEORGETOWN — No great amount of damage was reported as the result of last week's storm which hit Georgetown with a fury not experienced for many years.

A large section of the west side of the roof of St. David's United Church had the asphalt shingles blown off. The large glass sign at Irving Service Station on the corner of Water and Kent streets was blown down and smashed. Tree branches littered the streets in many areas of the Town.

A number of residents reported water pipes and hot water heating systems as freezing and bursting due to absence of electric power from Thursday evening to Friday afternoon.

No fires were reported and luckily no persons were taken seriously ill, as road transportation was cut off and removal to hospital would have been impossible except by helicopter.

DISCOVER SITES

NORTHAMPTON, England (CP)—More than 100 Romano-British, iron age and bronze age sites have been discovered by amateur archeologists who formed the Upper Nene Archeologist Society in 1962. They were discovered on both sides of the Nene Valley from Northampton to Thrapston.

FINISHES MODEL

BOSTON, England (CP) — Johnnie Johnson recently finished a three-foot matchstick model of the parish church in this Lincolnshire town. The job took seven months and he used 37,000 matchsticks and 48 tubes of glue.

Uneasy Lull In Hot Spots As Christmas Celebrated

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Christmas tree gleamed on the frozen Korean front and U.S. soldiers standing guard hoisted an electric sign pointed toward the Communist north saying "Merry Christmas." Back came Christmas music from Red loudspeakers.

At the grim Red wall dividing Berlin tragedy marred the Christmas passes given West Berliners to visit relatives in the Eastern sector of the city. Two young East Berliners vaulted the wall to escape to the West. One made it, the other was shot—managing to get over the wall only to die hours later.

Incongruously, Communist loudspeakers blared Bing Crosby's recording of White Christmas to West Berliners as they crossed at five assigned wall points.

In the bloody jungles and rice paddies of South Viet Nam, the Communist guerrillas called a Christmas Day cease-fire in their fight against the Vietnamese soldiers and their U.S. advisers.

And so the day honoring the Prince of Peace came to a world that has found little peace since the dawn of history.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

Barriers dividing mankind, from the Berlin wall to the hostile frontiers of the Holy Land, opened for Christmas uniting in Yuletide joy and prayers for peace.

More than 65,000 West Berliners with Communist permission poured through the Red wall for Christmas reunions with relatives isolated for 28 months since the wall went up.

Thousands of other pilgrims crossed the fortified Israel-Jordan frontier to kneel at the Bethlehem shrine where Christ was born.

Queen Elizabeth noted a lull in the cold war in her annual Christmas message to the British Commonwealth and added: "Let us remember the many undernourished people, young and old, scattered throughout the world.t

Dr. Arthur Michael Ramsey, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Britain's ranking Anglican prelate, injected the hope that Pope Paut's pilgrimage to the Holy Land will stimulate Christian unity and discussion of "those matters concerning baptism and mixed marriages where there is injury and trouble."

POPE DISTRIBUTES TOYS

Pope Paul celebrated mass in a poor workers' quarter of Rome, distributed toys and candies to the unfortunate, and reminded Roman Catholic worshippers: "Christmas is the feast of the needy and the poor."

Like most Americans, President Johnson spent Christmas with his family, at their ranch outside Johnson City, Tex.

Western Christians in the two citadels of atheistic communism, Moscow and Peking, improvised services as Christmas went by almost unnoticed around them.

The Russian Orthodox Church celebrates Christmas Jan. 7, according to the Julian calendar. But, in a rare sign of warm inter-church relations, Metropolitan Nikodim of the Orthodox Church attended midnight mass with Russian Roman Catholics in Moscow.

The relatively few practising Russian Catholics, mostly older persons, attended services at the Church of St. Louis of the French, the only Roman Catholic church in the Soviet capital.

Premier's Family Gather At Hotel

Joined by the immediate members of their family Premier Walter R. Shaw and Mrs. Shaw spent Christmas in the suite at the Charlottetown Hotel.

Joining the Shaw's will be their daughter, Nancy, and son-in-law, Hugh Simpson, and their six children, as well as the premier's sister, Mrs. Jean Horton, and Mr. Simpson's mother, Mrs. Fern Simpson.

Premier Shaw was about town yesterday, the first since recovering from a motor vehicle accident that occurred several weeks ago.

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