

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

OUR MERCHANTS

Patronize our local merchants and leave your money in your city with the men who are trying to make it go.

The Daily Mail

WEATHER

Tuesday moderate or fresh west to northwest winds fair with moderate temperature.

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Supervision Body To Govern Trade In Canada Planned

Unethical Practices To Be Attacked—No Price Fixing—Dominion Has Authority To Proceed With Plan.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 24—The Price Spreads Commission has not neared the end of its long and laborious inquiry without developing some definite idea as to what should be done about it. While there will be no definite or official decision until the evidence is all in, some of the differences of opinion are said to be more personal on questions of principle rather than on those of politics. The present tendency is towards setting up a regulatory body or system whatever may be its particular name or functions. It would not be proposed to have it usurp the function of Parliament, but rather, to create a board which might investigate conditions, find facts, and make reports through the Government or direct to Parliament.

The situation has become very complicated since the inquiry opened by reason of the mass of evidence which has piled up. There is no thread common to it all but rather a series of inquiries into different industries and subjects with little connection. A remedy applicable to one might not be practical of application to all.

Authority Not Lacking

About the constitutional limitations of Federal authority there is no great concern. The Dominion has a general authority over trade and commerce. While the Board of Commerce was upset, it is recalled that its power was sought to be derived mainly from that part of the B.N.A. Act conferring on Parliament authority in questions of criminal law. The trade and commerce end was little stressed. Moreover, when the Combines Act was attacked in 1931, the judgment of the Privy Council not only sustained its constitutionality but in a way was construed as a sort of disassociation from the previous judgment in the Board of Commerce case.

Somebody is talked of seriously which if not exercising the strict regulatory powers of a commercial court, would be inquisitorial and supervisory and calculated to foster co-operation in ethical practices in business. Difficulties are foreseen in the way of a board which would attempt to fix prices, define what in modern merchandising are improper methods, and seek to apply and enforce penalties.

Many of the abuses which the inquiry has disclosed—shortweighting and also sweatshop wages—can be remedied by tightening up existing laws on the subject and seeing to more rigid enforcement. If necessary the tariff could be changed in places. If such a board were set up it perhaps would not be necessary to go outside of the experts in the Government service. They were available for the Marketing Board.

Resumes Thursday

The Commission, only pausing for Christmas, will be back here on Thursday to resume its hearings, with milling and baking the next subject, and then agricultural implements. While this will conclude the evidence it will likely be the eve of the opening of Parliament before it is done. The report will require careful consideration because it is designed to be the basis of legislation to be passed.

Meanwhile, the authoritative talk of the regulation of business is taken to foreshadow some such organization as is mentioned. The opinion of those favoring this course is that its powers

(Continued on page four)



CHRISTMAS BELLS

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play,
And mild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men!

I thought how, as the day had come
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good will to men!

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep
"God is not dead; nor doth he sleep!
The wrong shall fail,
The right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men!"

TO LINK EMPIRE IN BROADCAST

Extensive Plans Made For Christmas Day Radio Program

LONDON, England, Dec. 24—The Empire Christmas Day broadcast, climaxed as usual by a message from The King, this year will be marked by communication with isolated outposts around the world, as well as with populous cities.

Mis Majesty's message will come from the Royal estate at Sandringham, Norfolk, where the Royal Family is spending Christmas Day. Before the King's voice sounds around the world, however, contact will be established with points in all parts of the Empire.

Canada's part in the Empire-wide broadcast begins at Ottawa with the ringing of the carillon there and a message from the Dominion capital to London. Later calls will be made to a lumber camp in northern Quebec a chalet on Grouse Mountain, which looks down on Vancouver from a 3,000 foot elevation, a hockey game in Toronto, a children's skating party in Winnipeg, and a fisherman in his hut on the Atlantic coast.

The bells of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem will be heard to note the true significance of Christmas. A circle of bells girding the Empire will echo round the globe. Pealing in relay, bells will be rung in Bombay, India; Wellington, New Zealand; Ottawa, Armagh, Northern Ireland, and London itself.

The calls made to various sections of the Empire include one to a native compound in South Africa where 8,000 natives headed by the Chief of

BRITISH TRADE UP REPORTS REVEAL

A Revival of Business Strength Shown by Lord Wakefield

London, Dec. 24—Lord Wakefield, in the course of an interesting speech here today dealt with some concrete facts which indicate the strength of the parent trade revival.

Increased bank clearings, ten per cent above last year, retail trade three times as great as last year, postal traffic many times greater. Other significant signs of better times, said Lord Wakefield, are found in the index figures of industrial production, which, in the September quarter increased 9 per cent.

Production of coal, pig iron and steel increased eight per cent. British exports for the eleven months ending November 30 were the highest since 1930 at £361,873,000. Bankruptcies in the same period were 672 fewer. The favorable situation of Britain is reflected in Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain's optimistic recent speech in the House of Commons.

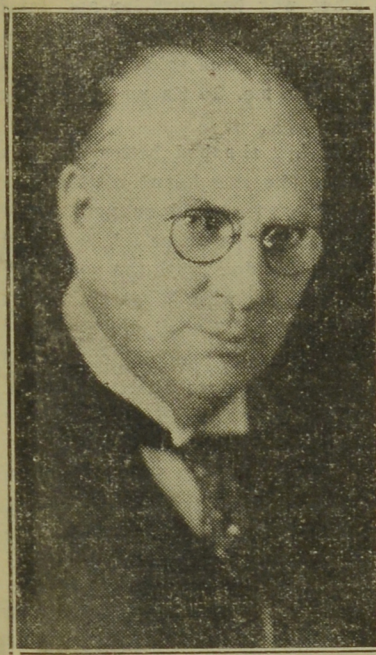
The Xosa tribe will offer greetings to the King. Communications will be made with a whaler on an island in Tory Channel, New Zealand; to a fisherman in his hut on Canada's eastern seaboard; and to a tea planter in the blue mountains of South India. From a fort in the Khyber Pass an Indian officer, who serves with Indian troops, will be heard.

The special broadcast is scheduled to start at 9:55 A. M. (A. S. T.). The King's message is timed for 11 A. M. (A. S. T.).

PRIME MINISTER BENNETT ISSUES XMAS MESSAGE

To Spend Christmas with His Brothers In Sackville

OTTAWA, Dec. 24—Prime Minister R. B. Bennett today issued the following message to the people of Canada:



"At this season of the year Canadians are able to look back with satisfaction and thanksgiving upon 18 months of continuous business and economic progress. The notable improvement of conditions within Canada has aroused Canadians to a renewed appreciation of the immensity of their national heritage. The practical experiences of the difficult years, which happily are now past, has resulted in a more profound sense of our moral responsibility as a people for the equitable and efficient organization of our human and physical resources.

"Christmas will bring a greater measure of happiness to every Canadian community. We will rejoice in the knowledge that the rest of the world is likewise enjoying a more abundant Christmastide.

"To my fellow Canadians, I sincerely wish every possible joy and happiness for the brightest Christmas our country has seen in years."

PLAN ARRESTS IN BIG RUM CASE

R. C. M. P. To Pick Up the Wanted Maritimers Who Have Not Yet Surrendered.

Montreal, Dec. 23—Royal Canadian Mounted Police tonight had under close observation in the three Maritime Provinces and in British Columbia 14 out of the 18 persons who had failed to surrender voluntarily under a blanket warrant charging them with conspiracy to defraud the Dominion and Quebec governments of \$5,000,000 through illicit movement of alcohol.

The men, Montreal headquarters stated, had had the warrant served on them since the deadline for voluntary appearance ended Saturday and would be brought to Montreal for arraignment immediately after Christmas.

They are in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and one in British Columbia. Today a constable from the Montreal division left for Prince Edward Island. Another constable was to join him at Rimouski, Que., and the two would pick up those from the island provinces and return via Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, to secure suspects there.

Pilgrims Visit Manger, Bethlehem

YULETIDE DINNERS CAUSE A NEAR RIOT

Five Thousand Needy In Newark Make a Wild Scramble For Christmas Baskets.

Newark, N. J., Dec. 24—The distribution of free Christmas food baskets to Essex County's poor caused a near riot here yesterday when an estimated throng of 5,000 men and women all tried to get their baskets at the same time. Before police reserves succeeded in restoring order nine persons, including Police Lieutenant Arthur Collins, fainted and required treatment by ambulance surgeons.

The County Emergency Relief Administration sent out postcards on Wednesday announcing the distribution of baskets to 25,000 families on its relief rolls. Although the doors of Centre Market, the principal distributing centre in Newark, were not scheduled to open until 9 a.m., several thousand relief recipients were in line at 6 A.M. and by opening time their number had grown to 5,000.

When the doors opened, all semblance of order disappeared. The crowd made a concerted rush into the market, bowling over three door attendants, pushing and shoving in every direction. Some in the crowd had been helping themselves to the food in sight when 35 policemen arrived to help the three policemen regularly assigned to the place in restoring quiet. No violence was necessary and the police soon had the applicants back in orderly lines. After 11 A.M. the distribution of baskets proceeded smoothly, 14,000 in all being passed out during the day.

LATE FLASHES

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 24—The Canadian cruiser Fleur de Lis reported yesterday that she had found the missing schooner Shirley B. Corkum at sea. The cruiser put a line aboard and started towing the ship to Lunenburg.

STUTTGART, Germany, Dec. 24—Six persons were killed yesterday and several were injured in a collision of passenger trains between Murrhardt and Stuttgart.

LONDON, England, Dec. 24—Sir John Gilbert, eminent Catholic educator, is dead in his 64th year. He had been ill for two weeks.

LONDON, Dec. 24—Four persons were dead and many were suffering from injuries as the result of the most widespread fog in recent years—the second in a month.

LE BOURGET, France, Dec. 24—Sir John Simon arrived here yesterday from London.

TOKIO, Japan, Dec. 24—Reports from Manchukuo yesterday said that the Russian forces have built a barbed wire fence around a newly formed beach on the Wushekou River. This gave rise to rumors of further controversy between Russia and Government of Manchukuo.

OTTAWA, Dec. 24—Arrangements have been practically completed to put into effect an emergency rate on low grade feed wheat by the Canadian railways it was learned on good authority.

Wars, Quarrels and Distress Forgotten as Pilgrims From the Four Corners of the World Visit Manger in Bethlehem.

(Special to the Daily Mail)

BETHLEHEM, Palestine, Dec. 24—(B. U. P.)—The wars and quarrels and economic distress of the world were forgotten here tonight in the sublime peace of another Christmas Eve.

Pilgrims from the four corners of the earth gathered to worship the Prince of Peace and Savior of mankind who was born in a manger in the hills "because there was no room for them at the inn".

The great influx of pilgrims seemed to indicate the growing desire for peace on earth good will to men. Truly there was no room for many of them at the inn here or in Jerusalem and many found accommodations at hotels in Tel Aviv on the coast.

For the first time millions throughout the world who have not been fortunate enough to make the pilgrimage to Christ's birthplace will hear the ceremonies in the spacious raftered church of the Nativity in the center of which stands the sacred grotto built on the legendary spot of the manger. Wireless will carry the singing of the choir and the ringing of the bells of adoration to many lands.

All day there was an unending stream of pilgrims from Jerusalem in centuries past they came afoot and on mule back. In more recent times tumble down cars and horse vehicles brought them along the paths trodden through centuries into wide roads. Today they sped in modern busses and shining motor cars along two wide macadam roads wide fenced and electrically lighted leading straight from Jerusalem to Bethlehem.

But the spirit remained the same. The tiny hill town was crowded today with pilgrims from all over the world. They came by thousands. Abyssian Christians, Anglo Saxons, Armenians, Roman Catholic, and innumerable other sects, worshipping Christ dressed in a myriad of colors and costumes and speaking as many languages as were heard in the tower of Babel.

All hoped to be admitted to the sacred grotto but it is so small that it barely holds six people at a time so that many of them may be disappointed.

In the church there was a hushed rustle of activity as the pilgrims paused momentarily before the grotto, knelt for a brief moment of prayer in the time worn pews of the church and passed out into the bright glittering coldness of the Palestinian winter.

Until midnight and long it they will press forward for a brief glimpse of the grotto where the son of man first saw the light of day lit by dim jeweled lanterns which throw a soft glow over the ancient paintings and frescoes and the metal star emblazoned in the floor reading in Latin "Here" of Mary the Virgin was Jesus the Christ born.

The ceremonies start at midnight 5 P.M., E. S. T., when they are finished the pilgrims under the same stars that guided the three wise men will flow back to Jerusalem carrying with them the peace of Bethlehem.

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The Daily Mail Will Not Be Published Tomorrow