

DESPATCH FROM ROME SAYS ITALY HAS NO AMBITIONS TOWARD THE BALEARIC ISLANDS

Communistic China is Feared By the Japanese

Nippon Watching Sian-Fu Coup With Serious Concern

Chiang is Safe

Confers With the Chinese Ambassador to Tokio

TOKIO, Dec. 18—Foreign Minister Hachiro Arita has informed the Chinese Ambassador, Hsu Shih-Ying, that Japanese security and the peace of the Far East will be menaced "if China turns red." Domei News Agency sources said today.

The Ambassador, formally calling upon Arita, informed him of word from W. H. Donald, Nanking adviser, to the effect that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, in captivity of Marshal Chang Hsueh-Liang, was alive and well.

Arita expressed gratification, but added:

"Pending clarification of the situation, the Japanese Government is watching developments in the Sian-Fu coup with serious concern."

"According to the press, Chang Hsueh-Liang favors the adoption of Communist toleration. If the young Marshal's programme is carried out and China turns Red, it will seriously endanger Japanese security and the peace of the Far East."

He said he hoped the Chinese Government would take rigorous measures to cope with the situation.

Given Fresh Hope

NANKING, Dec. 17—Nanking officials seized fresh hope today for an end to China's civil war and release of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek after conferences with rebellious

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SANTA COMES THRICE TO DIONNE QUINTUPLETS

TORONTO, Dec. 18—Christmas comes thrice to the five little sisters of Callander, and two of their Christmases already have passed. Dr. Allan Roy Dufee, their bespectacled and happy ambassador and physician revealed during a visit to Toronto last night.

First glimpse of Saint Nicholas comes to the famous "quints" six

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Government Meeting Success in Advance Southwest of Madrid

(Special to The Daily Mail)

MADRID, Dec. 18—The government has started another advance southwest of Madrid and after several hours of fighting advanced over two and a half miles. They are occupying certain heights that threaten insurgent communications. There are fresh activities along the northeastern coast and insurgent bombers and ships are bombing villages along the coast.

WHOLESALE OF THE MARITIME MERCHANTS' ALLIANCE CONFIDENT PROGRAM WILL AID MARITIMES

SAINT JOHN, Dec. 18—Pleased with the success of their sessions and confident that the programme which they have instituted will be of benefit to the Maritimes as a whole, the wholesalers of the seven zones in the Maritime Merchants' Alliance concluded the second of a series of 'service' meetings here, yesterday afternoon.

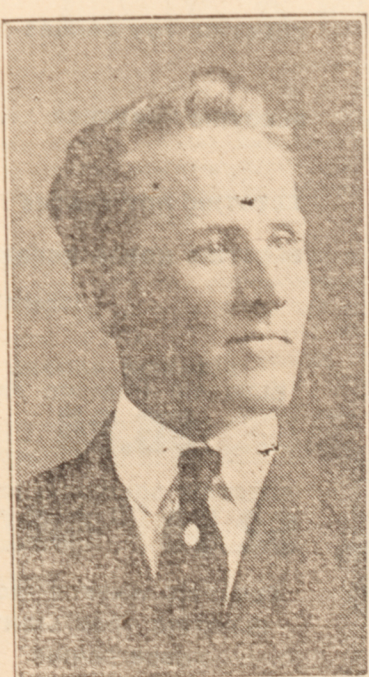
C. R. Manning, managing director of Hants' Wholesalers, Windsor, N.S. presided over the meeting, which first opened Wednesday evening. Yesterday's session commenced at 9.30 a.m. and continued until 6 p.m. A. Pierce Paterson, Saint John, was secretary.

The meetings will be continued next year, with the first one to be held toward the middle of January. It was stated by P. S. Watson, Devon, managing director of M.M.A. Limited. Mr. Watson organized the new type of conference, the first of which was held in November.

The sessions were held in the office of Baird and Peters, this city.

The 'service' meeting is defined by the managing director as a study group of the wholesalers and their buyers. They discuss ways and means of effecting better co-operative buying and merchandising and devise methods of pooling purchases from outside points. Intensive work is directed toward a detailed comparison, article by article, of goods manufactured in the Maritimes and elsewhere.

This comparison starts at the types of containers and labels used. Mr. Watson said, and concludes by sampling the product contained. Both appearance and quality are taken into consideration. During each session,



P. S. WATSON Managing Director M.M.A., who has organized trade conferences

the group compiles recommendations, criticisms and comparison schedules for the guidance of the Maritime manufacturers.

The seven zones in the alliance are those with wholesale distributing centres at Saint John, Fredericton, Moncton, Woodstock and Campbellton in New Brunswick, and Amherst and Windsor, in Nova Scotia.

Our Christmas Shopping

THE shopping season of the Fredericton merchants got underway to a good start last night when all the stores were open for business. With the nicely decorated windows and every store resplendent with Christmas decorations and Christmas gifts, Queen Street certainly presented a fine appearance. Strangers have often remarked that there is no city of its size in Canada where the merchants make a better display or have nicer window-dressing than is to be seen right here in this little capital city.

Last evening the different stores were busily engaged attending to the wants of the early Christmas shopper. Many people recognize the fact that there is an advantage in purchasing Christmas goods while the stocks are yet complete and while the crowds are not so thick. It gives a variety to select from.

Even with the condition of the roads in fairly bad shape during the past few days, there has been a large number of visitors from outside points. Owing to the efforts recently put forth by the transportation committee of the Board of Trade, the Canadian Pacific Railway is now providing a very creditable service on the Gibson branch between Devon and up-river points. Starting tomorrow the Saturday morning Shopping Train from the Chipman and Minto district will arrive in this city. People coming up on this train will have several hours to do their shopping. This should prove of great advantage to residents of Chipman and Minto and intermediate points, just as the Gibson branch train will prove of great advantage to shoppers and sellers who come in from points between here and Woodstock. With the train and bus service this year as well as the chance of good Christmas roads, Fredericton should experience one of the best Christmas seasons in its history.

Fredericton shoppers as well as those who come to us from outside points would do well to remember that the Fredericton merchant is here to serve you. He has imported the most modern of Christmas goods and you have a really fine variety to select from. More than this their prices are right, as you will see by calling on the local merchants in almost any line. There is absolutely no need of pursuing a short-sighted policy which has in the past been practiced by many people, that is, of sending their money away by mail for goods which are oftentimes not satisfactory when they arrive. It is then too late to rectify any errors or omissions in time to make your Christmas purchases of any good to those whom they are intended to serve.

REMEMBER THE HOME-OWNED MERCHANT AND SHOW YOU GOOD WILL THIS CHRISTMAS BY GIVING HIM YOUR PATRONAGE.

Amongst the finely decorated stores this Christmas we notice beautiful displays in the windows of J. S. Neill & Sons, Colwell & Jennings, Mavor Bros., McMurray Book and Stationery, C. W. Hall, J. H. Fleming, R. L. Black, Royal Stores, Ken Staples, Nu-Palms, Maritime Electric Co., Ltd., E. M. Young Ltd., Ross Drug Company, J. Stanley Delong, Coy's Electric Store, and Harvey Studio. Other windows which are very creditable are Mrs. Jennie Johnston, Eureka Grill, Medjuck's, S. Locke & Co., Mrs. Walker's Beauty Salon, Keay's Fruit Store, Shute & Co., Leslie's Grocery, Fred Barnes, and Miss Edna Gilmore.

THOUSANDS OF EXTRA MEN FOR XMAS RUSH

OTTAWA, Dec. 18—In the city of Toronto 2,000 additional men are being engaged to help with the Christmas rush this year; in Ottawa 350 to

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Mussolini Says All African Accounts Are Now Paid For

(Special to The Daily Mail)

ROME, Dec. 18—In a speech delivered yesterday Mussolini said that during the past twelve months, Italy had settled many old accounts. This includes all African accounts and all other accounts would be looked after in the near future.

Il Duce said that Italy was desirous of a long period of peace. He referred to the Italian column that are occupying territory on the Sudan border near Abyssinia where there is trouble with the Jews. Two hundred and fourteen Jews who have been arrested for closing their stores on Saturday, last week kept their stores open but refused to serve customers.

R. B. BENNETT IS ON HIS WAY TO ENGLAND

OTTAWA, Dec. 18—Right Hon. Richard B. Bennett, the Conservative leader, is on his way to England, after visiting Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. After spending the New Year's holidays in London, Mr. Bennett will sail for Canada to be in his place in the House of Commons on Jan. 14. In Johannesburg he delivered an address at the Empire Exhibition and told them something about the great Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto.

ATTENDED FIRST PRIVY COUNCIL MEETING

(Special to The Daily Mail)

LONDON, Dec. 18—King George VI today attended his first Privy Council meeting where approval was given to the accession of His Majesty King George VI to the British Throne.

"GOD-SENT" GROUP MUST FACE TRIAL

Japanese Accused of Plotting Massacre of Cabinet Members

TOKIO, Dec. 18—Fifty-four self-styled "God-sent" army and navy men were held today for trial, charged with plotting three years ago to massacre all Cabinet members by an air bombardment and re-establish an ancient system of direct rule from the throne.

They were ordered to be tried by the Supreme Court, which for the first time in Japanese history will hear a case which has not gone through a lower court.

The Ministry of Justice, in publishing a summary of the alleged plot which had been suppressed since the arrests in 1933, declared the so-called "God-sent" group wished to alter the existing Japanese governmental and social system because the men believed it was poisoned by Western

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HOUSE COMMONS ADJOURNS UNTIL JANUARY 19

(Special to The Daily Mail)

LONDON, Dec. 18—The House of Commons adjourns today for the Christmas season. Their next meeting will be held on January 19.

The most important speech of the day was made by Sir Anthony Eden, Foreign Minister, who spoke, on non-intervention. He said that it was the duty of all European nations to keep out of the Spanish affair and to let the Spanish people settle it among themselves. The speaker said that

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Understanding Being Sought Between Italy and Britain

A Mutual Freedom of Communication in the Mediterranean

Troops, Air Forces of Africa and Asia Discussed

Report is Contradicted by Certain Official British Authorities

REPORTS OF BIGGEST SHOPPING IN SEVERAL YEARS

(Special to The Daily Mail)

OTTAWA, Dec. 18—The biggest Christmas shopping season since 1929 is now in progress throughout the Dominion, according to reports from Ottawa. The general economic recovery gets the credit for this increase. The gain is said to be in all lines from toys to expensive motor cars.

No Change in Chinese Revolt Situation

(Special to The Daily Mail)

NANKING, Dec. 18—There is no noticeable change in the situation in Chinese revolt. All Chinese governments have pledged their support to Nanking. It is officially reported that all prisoners taken and held as hostages are safe.

ROME, Dec. 18—So far as can be unofficially ascertained here, says a correspondent, Italy has formally renounced any intention of modifying the territorial or military equilibrium of the western Mediterranean.

That means she has gone on record as having no ambition toward the Balearic Islands of Spain.

Reciprocal guarantees also were exchanged for the freedom of communications lines throughout the Mediterranean and beyond Suez to the East, Italian reports said.

The two countries, it was further reported, agreed to seek a further undertaking concerning troop concentration in Libya and Egypt, and to examine the question of air force concentration in Africa and Asia Minor.

The agreement was reported to have been reached in London. It was described as a step forward along the lines of the 'gentlemen's agreement' which eased Italo-British differences concerning the Mediterranean during the fall.

Definite points of the accord will be ratified by an exchange of letters informed persons said.

Scotland Yard to be Enlarged, Present Plans Call for Extension of Building

EMPEROR OF BRITAIN STARTS WINTER CRUISE

The Empress of Britain will start the winter cruise season from New York Dec. 29 on a nine-day voyage to the West Indies and Cuba. It will carry its own night club of Broadway entertainers and a smart dance band. The Empress of Australia between January 7 and March 25 will make six cruises of eight, nine, ten, 16 and 18 day duration to the West Indies, all from New York.

Turret-Granite Structure Overlooking the Thames Has Become Too Small.

LONDON, Dec. 18—More elbow room for "The Yard" is now to be provided, not because of an expected increase in crime, but because the world-famous police organization has long since outgrown the turreted granite structure overlooking the Thames, which has been its home for forty-five years.

Plans for an extension to the existing building are being prepared by Sir James Grey West, chief architect of the Office of Works, and it is expected that the new building will be ready for occupancy next year.

It has been the plaint of police commissioners for many years that the work of crime detection was being hampered by overcrowding at headquarters. Many foreign police chiefs and sleuths who have visited the place have been surprised at the

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SKI-ING SEASON STARTS EARLY THIS YEAR

Opening three weeks earlier this year with a 15-inch snowfall on Dec. 2, the skiing season in Quebec province was off to a flying start with special Canadian Pacific trains as well as regulars crowded with enthusiasts on the first weekend thereafter from Montreal to the Laurentians.

Powers Fighting In Spain For Own Cause

(Special to The Daily Mail)

LONDON, Dec. 18—The report of the M.P.'s from London who have returned from Spain where they studied conditions in the war stricken areas is to the effect that their belief is that the war is not a civil war but a war of European powers fighting for their own cause.

In regard to bombardments the committee reported that until December 1st between one-quarter and one-third of the houses of Madrid have been destroyed. Their report in regard to foreign troops said that there were no Russian soldiers fighting in Madrid for the government but they had several reports of Russian soldiers who were aviators and tank drivers. There were further reports of German and Italian soldiers active there as aviators, tank drivers and artillery men.

MANY LIVES LOST IN BENGAL EXPLOSION

(Special to The Daily Mail)

BENGAL, Dec. 18—It is believed that a hundred and fifty people lost their lives in an underground explosion. Few details have been received in London but little hope is held out for those who are trapped in the mines.