

War Assets Denies Extension on Warehouse Lease

Million Dollar Fire Sweeps City in East

Dozens of Persons Forced Into Bitter Cold From Apartments In Early Hours

CORNWALL, Ont. (CP)—Fire in the heart of the business district of Cornwall early today destroyed stores, several offices and some 24 apartments with property damage estimated at \$1,000,000. One person, a policeman, was reported injured. He suffered a leg injury when struck by a tumbling store front, one of several walls which collapsed during the raging inferno. Many other persons had narrow escapes.

Relief headquarters for dozens of men, women and children, who were forced into the cold, ice-covered street below their apartments, were temporarily housed in the city hall.

Meanwhile, normal business and transportation were strangled in this city of 15,000 persons, about 70 miles west of Montreal on the St. Lawrence River.

The fire raged for 11 hours before being checked. It started in a store, but the cause was not immediately determined.

Kinsmen and Santa Claus Entertain 580 Children

Five hundred and eighty children, together with a number of adults, gathered in Civic Centre Auditorium last night to share entertainment and fun provided at the Kinsmen Christmas party for kiddies.

Comics and informative films made the major part of the entertainment and between the films several presentations were made. First of these was to the Kinsmen Club, which presented a letter guaranteeing him an expense-free trip to the Kiddie Kamp at Lake Umbagog next summer and a ring bearing the Kinsmen logo in recognition of his brave deed.

May Queen and Princess Honored

May Queen Alice Nickerson, Princess Doreen Bateman, Margaret Giske, Christine Macdonald and Arlene Pope each received a gold ring with the Kinsmen crest from Stan Saville, who made the presentation on behalf of the club.

Yvonne Neilson, who won top honors in the Hallowe'en shell-out campaign was presented with a silver cup by Wes Manning.

To start off the evening R.E. Montador led the youngsters in carol singing. Then came the showing of the animated cartoon, "Parrotville Post Office," the film "Return of the Buffalo," illustrated how close the monarch of the plains came to extinction before the Dominion Government took steps to save dwindling herds. Another animated cartoon in color, "The Early Bird Gets The Worm," was followed by an outdoor picture, "Listen to the Wind." The words to popular songs were shown on the screen and the children sang.

Santa and Helpers Distribute Candy

For many of the children, the highlight of the evening was the appearance of Santa Claus. After addressing them from the stage, St. Nick stood at the rear of the hall and listened to many Christmas wishes expressed by the smaller children. Several club members helped Santa hand out bags of candies and nuts.



Christmas 1947

IF EVER THE WORLD was in need of the spirit of Christmas—peace and goodwill—it is this time.

There is no general conflict of arms, it may be, but neither is there peace and the lasting peace seems ever further away than ever.

And while the nations snarl at each other, there are those which find themselves as houses divided with ideological warfare destroying their unity.

So peace and goodwill, in some ways, may be even more deteriorated than even in times of war when brother was united with brother at least within the nations as they fought in common cause.

And the cure of it all is simple enough. It is brought more fully into our hearts on this great annual day. It is the acceptance of the spirit of peace and goodwill as was exemplified and expounded by the Carpenter of Nazareth and the Man of Galilee those 1900 years ago.

Yes, it is simple enough. It is in the grasp of us all for the taking.

Maybe we ourselves are not contributing to the attitude which, becoming universal, would make us truly rejoice and be glad at this great season.

If each of us could learn the real lesson of Christmas, assimilate its meaning and govern our thoughts and actions accordingly we would be contributing to a collective frame of mind that must be developed among all mankind if the hope of the world is to be rekindled.

If ever the gift of peace and goodwill was needed it is this Christmas. In comparison with these all other aspects of the season fade into insignificance.

Without them "Merry Christmas" is an empty greeting—a mere parrot-like repetition which have become so time-worn that true implication has been forgotten. It should be the earnest Yuletide hope that the hearts and minds of men may soon be so governed that the old meaning will have been restored.

NO PEACE TODAY FOR BETHLEHEM

BETHLEHEM —One Jew and two Arabs were killed today in strife over the partition of Palestine. Four Arabs and three Jews were wounded.

Since November 29 there have been 310 deaths in Palestine and 431 throughout the Middle East.

Scattered sniping and skirmishes in Haifa were reported broken up by Jewish Hagana forces. One Arab was wounded by bullets from a speeding taxi cab in the suburban town of Romena.

GOV.-GENERAL SENDS CARD TO MAYOR ARNOLD

Prince Rupert and Mayor Arnold have received a large number of Christmas greeting cards from individuals, towns and companies throughout the province and Dominion.

Leading Mayor Arnold's list is a personal card from Canada's Governor General, Viscount Alexander of Tunis, who visited the city last year.

There also is a card from Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Charles Banks bearing the season's greetings to the mayor and citizens.

The city councils of Vancouver and Vernon have extended Christmas wishes to their counterparts in Prince Rupert, and there is a host of greeting cards from individuals and companies with which the city had business dealings during the year.

LOCAL TIDES

Thursday, December 25, 1947		
High	11:10	21.3 feet
Low	4:56	8.6 feet
	17:59	3.5 feet

Lynn's Eye Saved—Griffiths Get Real Present At Christmas

Mrs. Len Griffiths last night received the best possible Christmas present—word that her five-year-old daughter's eyesight will be saved.

Lynn pierced her eye when she fell on a pair of scissors almost two weeks ago and was rushed to Vancouver by air by her father.

She was operated on by a Vancouver specialist a week ago Friday and since then it was not known whether or not the vision or the eye itself could be successfully saved.

"I received word from my husband last night that both the eye and vision will be all right," Mrs. Griffiths said this morning. "Lynn is out of danger, which is a wonderful relief. We have been almost frantic for the last week."

"It's the best Christmas present we could possibly get," she added.

Lynn, however, must remain in Vancouver for observation by Dr. Bowles, the specialist who succeeded in saving her eye. Mr. Griffiths and the child are expected back after the New Year.

Miss Evelyn Bussey arrived in the city on the Prince Rupert this morning to spend Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Bussey.

Dec. 31 Is Deadline for Purchase Dock Facilities

KENNETH MEEK'S SHIPPING PROJECT IS JEOPARDIZED BY REFUSAL TO EXTEND PURCHASE PERIOD

Despite an attempt by Prince Rupert citizens to obtain an extension to his sale agreement with War Assets Corporation, Kenneth Meek's control of the former American warehouse and dock facilities here will lapse on December 31, unless he puts up the \$225,000 balance required to purchase the installations.

The December 31 deadline was affirmed in a telegram received by Mayor Arnold last night from War Assets. It stated: "Your night letter received December 18 re resolution adopted at public meeting concerning port installations.

"This matter entirely in hands of Kenneth Meek who has until December 31, 1947, to complete his agreement with this corporation."

The telegram was signed by G. H. Dinsmore, director of lands and buildings, War Assets Corporation, Montreal. Copies of it also were sent to the Chamber of Commerce and the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

KENNETH MEEK PAID DEPOSIT OF \$25,000

It means that Mr. Meek, who has paid down \$25,000 under agreement of sale for the warehouse, administration building and ocean dock, will have to pay the balance of the \$250,000 sale price by December 31, or they will revert to the corporation.

The city and the two Chambers of Commerce asked the

NO CANADIANS IN HONOR LIST

OTTAWA —For the second time since the end of the war, the government has made no recommendations for awards to Canadians in the King's New Year honors list. It was learned here Tuesday night.

Next Paper Saturday

The Daily News will not be published either Thursday, Christmas Day, or Friday, Boxing Day. The next regular issue will appear Saturday afternoon.

Delivery Boy's Christmas Eve—Gets Through on Dark Nights

Will Reader heaved a sigh of relief as he settled himself in his car and swung it onto Third Avenue bound for home and his evening meal. As he closed the garage doors and headed for the streamer of light that shone from the front door of his home, Will wondered what the weatherman was brewing for this Christmas Eve, he had handed out plenty of variety the last few days. But why should I worry thought Will, it can rain, snow or freeze, I'll spend a comfortable evening at home.

Inside the house the air was warm and flavored with the aroma of roast beef and hot apple pie. Hanging his coat in the hall Will called a greeting to his wife. "Hello, dear, dinner sure smells good. You know one really appreciates home on a dark winter night and especially on Christmas Eve. I'm glad we can stay close to our fireside tonight."

Will was just settling himself in his special chair when there was a rattle at the front door. Going to the door he opened it and found his evening paper and saw a small figure disappearing into the dark.

Lighting up his pipe Will sat down and unfolded the paper. On the front page he learned what was going on in the world at large, politics, industrial expansion, crime, accidents, cost of living and several stories with local angles. Inside he looked at the editorials, noted who was leaving town, who had arrived and read an account of his club meeting. He was just browsing through the back pages when his wife called him to supper.

Meanwhile Jack Carrier had dropped his paper off at Reader's and continued along his route. With a hundred customers to keep happy Jack had to hustle along and remember a number of musts that some of his customers demanded. Mrs. Smith always wanted her paper put in an apple box at the back door. Mrs. Jones wanted her paper put under the front door mat so it wouldn't blow away.

(Continued on Page Two)

MR. PATTULLO'S MESSAGE

After these many years, may I again convey through the Daily News my hearty wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

No one has been happier than myself to see the expanding interest in civic affairs in Prince Rupert and the important industrial developments.

There is good reason for optimism.

T. D. PATTULLO.

THROUGH the courtesy of the Daily News, I would like to extend to my constituents of Skeena riding sincere greetings for Christmas and hearty best wishes for the New Year.

H. G. ARCHIBALD, M.P.

FROM MR. BRETT . . .

My sincerest best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to my constituents of Prince Rupert provincial riding. May goodwill and co-operation go hand in hand with progress and prosperity to us all.

W. H. BRETT M.L.A.