



WINTER MAGIC—Standing in sharp relief as brilliant sunlight followed a heavy snow fall, trees in Calgary's Memorial Park looked for all the world like carefully painted miniature window decorations when this photo was taken. There wasn't a foot print in the fresh snow that turned the park into a decorative but artificial-looking winter setting. (CP PHOTO)

## Blizzard Fails To Stop London Bargain Hunter

By MURIEL NARRAWAY  
Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON ©—London's January sales opened during the worst blizzard since 1947, but bargain-hunters refused to be deterred.

This year's sales crowd had determination and purpose to beat the promised 40-per cent increase in wool prices and to buy a store of household linens and kitchen utensils, in case of shortage.

An Oxford Street store official said that, in 50 years, he had never seen a bigger crowd of bargain-seekers.

Biggest disappointment for most householders was the absence of low-priced blankets. These were snapped up before the special sales following announcement of a 65 per cent price-rise scheduled for January.

Many housewives bought pots and pans at normal prices, scared into panic-buying by metal shortages. There was almost a "war rush" on other articles despite the Board of Trade warning that stockpiling was the only thing likely to cause shortages in kitchenware.

In fashion, the call was for heavy coats, suits and woollen

## Volcanoes Heat Iceland Homes

WINNIPEG ©—Mrs. Sigurdur Sigurdsson, wife of the Lutheran Bishop of Iceland, says Canadian women would be interested in the way modern homes are heated in Reykjavik, Iceland's capital.

"About 80 percent of the homes are heated by hot streams of water that flow from volcanoes and are piped up from the ground," Mrs. Sigurdsson said.

"So Reykjavik is pretty much a smokeless city."

Mrs. Sigurdsson and the Bishop spent the Christmas season visiting friends in Winnipeg. Before returning to Iceland, they are visiting the United States and Mexico.

It is Mrs. Sigurdsson's first visit to Canada, although her husband has been here before.

"You have so much beautiful snow here," she said. "I love it. In Reykjavik, where our home is, it snows, but it generally melts soon after it falls."

Dresses. Every type of woollen garment was in big demand due to the present wool crisis.

This was direct reversal of last year's sales when an abnormally mild winter brought a heavy turnover on summer dresses, beachwear and sandals.

Coats, suits and dresses, during the current sales, were cut to half-price or lower and business was brisk up to the £5 (\$15) bracket. Front-window "draws"—model coats, suits and dresses at £1 and £2—were snapped up within half-hour of opening time.

Store managers reported that among the shoppers were many Canadian visitors, searching for good bargains in heavy woollens to take back home.

One of the biggest sales surprises was the low price in shoes. Good quality suedes and leathers in up-to-date designs sold for anything from 10s to 20s, and real "finds" could be had for 30s.

## SHIPS AND WATERFRONT

Disembarking here Sunday afternoon from Vancouver aboard the steamer Camosun were Mrs. C. Williams, E. E. Keays, J. Kray, M. Collins, L. S. Cameron, Mrs. W. Hale, A. Paulson, F. Wallace, W. Floyd, O. Grenberg, Miss E. St. Pierre, Mr. and Mrs. E. McKenzie and two children, G. LaBella, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Davis and child, Dr. and Mrs. William Edwards, Miss D. Sankey, Miss Kay White.

Alaskan motorship Sidney, Capt. O. Hendrickson, was in port this morning with two cars and a part car of salmon for transshipment by C.N.R. lines to Eastern United States markets.

Although no official reports of herring in quantity in the central sub-district have reached here yet, it has been learned unofficially that about 900 tons were taken Sunday from Surf Inlet. No word of yesterday's fishing had been received here this morning.

Frank Waterhouse freighter Chilliwack, Capt. G. Pengelly, was in port yesterday morning with a ten-ton parcel of freight. She proceeded to Watson Island to unload 15 tons of steel, 27 tons of machinery and general supplies for Columbia Cellulose Company. The vessel is now going to Skagway with 800 tons of coal for the White Pass and Yukon Railway, six automobiles, two trucks and a pre-fabricated house.

The Union steamer Camosun, Capt. W. McCombe, returned this morning from Stewart and Alice Arm and sailed at noon for Vancouver. While here she loaded 5,000 cases of salmon from Nelson Bros. at the ocean dock for delivery in Vancouver. She also loaded a freezer full of frozen fish for Canadian Fishing Company for delivery in the south.

## More Tourists For Province

VANCOUVER.—The number of tourists coming to British Columbia in 1950 totalled 681,945, despite flood publicity and the rail strike, a report of the Vancouver Tourist Association says. This was an increase of 12,503 over 1949.

## Fifty Years In Australia

By LOUIS L. LECK  
Canadian Press Correspondent

SYDNEY, Australia ©—Australia this month starts big celebrations of 50 years of Federation.

The six states of Australia after years of agitation, banded together in a Commonwealth in 1901. They were jealous of each other—for years each state had had customs houses on its borders collecting duties on goods from other states. But they realized that individually they could not tackle problems which could only be solved by a federation.

So after years of conventions and negotiations and referendums they agreed on a Commonwealth based on that of the United States.

The new Commonwealth was to have certain defined powers—defence, customs, navigation, post office, foreign affairs—and all others were to remain with the states.

Originally the Commonwealth was intended to be a minor factor in Australian life. It was to rely on the customs tariff for its revenue but the first world war changed that.

The Commonwealth levied income tax during the war to finance that war and the servicing of the war debt.

After the first world war the states borrowed abroad in the "boom and bust" era of the middle '20s.

At the end of that period the people at a referendum made the first important change in the constitution. Both internal and external borrowing became the function of a loan council in which the Commonwealth acquired a dominating partnership.

During the depression the Commonwealth assumed a growing importance in internal affairs and then came the second world war.

Acting under its defence powers the Commonwealth became

## 400 Dolls In Collection

MONTREAL ©—There's a huge, rambling house in suburban Westmount in which any small girl would be delighted to get lost.

It holds a collection of 400 dolls from more than a score of countries gathered over many years by Mrs. Norah MacDowell.

They vary in size from four nautically-dressed flea dolls to a large earring beauty of the 1880's made of beeswax which must be shielded from both cold and heat at all times.

The collection was gathered by Mrs. MacDowell in travels through Africa, Mexico and other countries and by her friends who added to it.

The collection often goes on exhibition in children's libraries here.

The 400 dolls include many dressed in various religious costumes of different countries. Some, dressed in national costumes of various European

the important factor in Australian life with the states mere appendages. It organized the national war effort.

Almost as an incident and for the sale of easier administration it became the sole authority levying income tax.

Before the war each state and the Commonwealth levied separate income taxes. In 1942 the Commonwealth became the only taxing body and re-imposed the states in accordance, roughly, with population and pre-war tax yields.

That system continues despite state protests that it makes the Commonwealth no longer a federation.

Originally it was planned to open the Jubilee Year celebrations with a bang on New Year's Eve. But that fell on Sunday and lest the churches take offence the idea was abandoned.

In Sydney jubilee celebrations begin on Jan. 29—anniversary of the beginning of the first settlement in Australia at Sydney Cove in 1788.

## Barbara Ann Tells Story

Barbara Ann Scott, recently voted second top woman athlete of the half-century by Canadian sports writers, tells her life story intimately and revealingly in her book "Skate With Me." (Double-day). Answers are given to such questions as "Why did Barbara Ann turn professional?" "How much credit is due Mrs. Scott for her daughter's success?" and "What are Barbara's plans for the future?"

For the skater with aspirations, the last two chapters are devoted to the technicalities of school figures and free skating, and contain explanatory diagrams

countries, were made up by displaced persons.

Two of the most beautiful are a pair of Chinese dancers while among the most interesting is a family of Chinese with humorous faces.

Two of the flea dolls are dressed in tuxedos, two in white gowns. All four are kept in two boxes the size of a child's finger nail.

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## BLONDIE

—The Mutt's a Genius!

—By CHIC YOUNG



"I'm perfectly aware that I'm on your foot, sir."

that make the entire procedure seem like child's play.

With expository manner, Barbara Ann allows glimpses of a personality that has helped in achieving ultimate success from the time she received her first pair of skates at the age of six to when she won the world championship in Stockholm.

Photographs throughout the book pass without comment in the main writing, but nevertheless account for a good percentage of the book's merits.

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