

Australia Suffering From Necessities Because Miners Avoid Stockpiling Of Coal

SYDNEY, June 21.—(AP)—Australia is no land of plenty on this mid-winter's day down under. Take a look at Sydney, a city of 1,500,000—one-fifth of all the people in Australia.

There is no household gas for cooking or heating. Electric power is on only part of the time. You can't buy coal or coke to heat your house.

You get only one-third of your normal order of milk.

Fresh vegetables are scarce. Later in the week it's going to be just about impossible to buy all the bread and meat you want.

Hundreds of factories are closing. Tens of thousands of men are being paid off.

Train service is running at half schedule or less.

The position is much the same in other big towns of New South Wales. Cities in other states will be affected almost at once.

In Melbourne, for instance, gas can be used only for cooking and only for three and a half hours a day.

There are three reasons for these shortages: Not enough coal, too much rain, too much wind.

Australia's coal shortage is a long story. There is plenty underground but for years there has not been enough to go around up top.

Miners Responsible

Miners' policy is to prevent stockpiling of coal on the surface. They reason that lack of reserves strengthens their bargain position, and it does.

Result is that one day's stoppage at the mines sometimes brings rationing of gas and electricity to eke out available coal.

Last Thursday coal miners all over Australia stopped work for a day. They decided at meetings to begin a general strike June 27 if their claim for more pay and less work is not granted.

They seek 30 shillings (\$7.80) a week more pay and cut in working hours from 40 to 35 a week.

On top of that, heavy rain flooded coal fields and there was a big production loss on Friday. Gales stopped colliers taking coal to Sydney and Melbourne from fields.

The government, trying to conserve coal, ordered transport and public utilities to cut consumption by 50 per cent. Industry us-

Harvard Won't Hunt For Communists On Faculty

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., June 21.—(AP)—Harvard, the nation's oldest university, will not hunt for Communists on its faculty.

To do so, the university says, might endanger its American freedom, its academic integrity.

The university's views, as expressed by a spokesman chosen by President James Bryant Conant, is:

"There will be no harassment of professors for engaging in open and legal meetings. There will be no apparatus of inquiry and 'closer watch.'

"The harm done by the effort necessary to discover even a single clandestine Party Member would outweigh any possible benefit."

Harvard's stand on the Communist-hunting subject was made public in response to a question raised by an alumnus.

It answered a Harvard man, Frank E. Ober, class of '13, prominent Baltimore, Md., attorney and chairman of his state's commission which recently drafted legislation against Communism.

AWOL Soldier On Trial In Slaying Of Trooper

YELLVILLE, Ark., June 21.—(AP)—A 24-year-old AWOL soldier, who admitted slaying an Arkansas state trooper and a retired railroad man in this North Arkansas mountain country, began a fight for his life today.

Charged with first degree murder, Kenneth D. Speegle went on trial here for the policeman's death. Prosecutor Eugene W. Moore said he would ask the death penalty.

State Patrolman S. V. Pavatt was wounded fatally last Sept. 25 by a rifle bullet fired from a lonely mountain cabin. He was investigating a series of farm burglaries in the area.

While hunting for the killer, authorities found the body of Zue

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