

Moscow Christmas Atmosphere Resembles Any Western City

Moscow—UPI—A visitor from outer space landing in Moscow this week would find the same superficial Yuletide atmosphere of any Western capital—Santa Claus to Christmas trees.

There are the same gaily decorated shops, the last-minute rush of shopping, and postmen loaded with gift parcels and congratulatory telegrams.

But there are differences: Santa Claus is really Ded Moroz, the Grandfather Frost of Russian classical mythology. Unlike Santa Claus, he doesn't travel alone, but descends from the North Pole on a reindeer-driven sled with

fellow traveler Snegurochka (his granddaughter snow-maid).

Not Legal Holiday

It's all done in preparation for New Year's Day, which is a legal holiday. Christmas itself is an ordinary workday.

Another difference is that there are no church services on Dec. 25 except at Moscow's lone Roman Catholic church. This is attended by Catholic foreign diplomats.

Russian Orthodox observes Christmas on Jan. 6, in accordance with the Julian calendar, when the capital's 50 churches are thronged to overflowing.

For many years worship has been free and unmolested, contrasting to the early years after the revolution when the "League of Militant Atheists" organized anti-religious street demonstrations.

The league, anti-religious museums and atheists' publications were dissolved at the beginning of the war.

And the Marxist slogan, "religion is the opiate of the people" on the entrance of the Lenin Museum on Red Square has been removed.

But the state and the Communist party are still as fiercely anti-religious as in 1917. The anti-God campaign is continuing unabated, but mostly by non-violent educational propaganda methods.

There are numerous lectures, articles and booklets "exposing" all religions and plugging the inconsistency between Communism and religion and ridiculing religious rites and customs.

On the occasion of the Russian Orthodox Christmas, new editions will reaffirm the thesis that Jesus Christ never existed, but was a myth con-

'Progress' Made in Newspaper Strike

New York—UPI—Federal mediators seemed cautiously optimistic today as they reported "progress" in their efforts to end the 15-day-old strike of newspaper deliverers which has shut down nine New York City dailies, causing losses running into millions of dollars.

For the third successive day, representatives of the publishers and the union assembled this morning in the federal mediation building to resume their discussions in the hopes of reaching an agreement.

Walter Maggilo, director of mediation activities, who heads a three-man panel, reported that, in the opinion of the panel, progress has been made in the negotiations.

He added, however, that "there still remains a number of substantial problems that must be resolved."

Olga Duncan's Husband Sought By Authorities

Ventura, Calif.—UPI—Attorney Frank Duncan, 29, whose mother is accused of master-minding a plot to kill his pregnant wife, was sought today by authorities and a grieving father who will spend his Christmas this year arranging burial for his slain daughter.

Elias Kupczyk, 61, a railroad worker from Benito, Manitoba, Canada, and father of Olga Duncan, 30, who was brutally murdered in a for-hire killing, is on his way here, according to Coroner Virgil Payton.

Kupczyk, whose wife, Jessie, collapsed Sunday of a heart attack and shock when she was informed that Olga's body was uncovered in a shallow grave near here, is expected to arrive Christmas Day.

Smaller Cars With Aluminum Engines Expected in Future

Detroit—UPI—Smaller cars, some with aluminum engines in the rear, are in the auto industry's future.

And these are growing indications that 1959 may be the year in which these cars are introduced.

General Motors appears to have taken the lead in developing an aluminum engine which would allow the industry to make giant strides toward reducing the weight and overall dimensions of the standard production auto.

GM has been increasing its output of news announcements on the advantages of aluminum engines recently and trumping its chest about the first all-aluminum V-8 engine which its engineers developed.

Edward Cole, general manager of GM's Chevrolet division, admitted his company was working on development of a small car with an aluminum engine but he refused to say definitely that the car would be built. However, tools for production of a small car were delivered to Chevrolet this month.

Use of an aluminum engine would do more than merely reduce the weight of the car by the difference in the weight between aluminum and gray iron.

Because of its better properties of conduction, an aluminum engine could be air-cooled, instead of water-cooled. This would mean elimination of the heavy water jacket.

Nor would as much supporting structure be required. And drastically reducing the weight of the car over-all would improve its economy of operation.

Although Chevrolet is reported in the lead, the experts say Ford is not far behind in the race to produce the first car with an aluminum engine, presumably a small auto.

The major auto producers said this year they wanted to see what kind of reception they get with their drastically restyled 1959 models before committing themselves on a small car.

Although they still cling to their predictions of 5,500,000 sales for '59 models, there are indications that they are concerned about the portion of the market going to small foreign cars and to the small Rambler and Studebaker Lark.

Disappointed

"If our new models are selling good but the small cars are selling better, we would still be interested in building a small car because this would indicate the market is real," one company official said.

The major auto companies were disappointed not only by the slump in auto sales to 4,400,000 in 1958 but also in their share of the market.

The fact that the Rambler, the only small American car on the market in 1958, chalked up record sales while the rest of the industry was slipping badly has left a deep impression on the Big Three.

Pickup Truck Hits School Bus

Portland—UPI—A pickup truck struck the rear of a school bus loaded with Christmas carolers late Tuesday night in Southeast Portland but only the driver of the truck was injured.

Arthur Lewis Lee, 32, Portland, driver of the pickup, was treated for a shoulder injury at Providence hospital.

Multnomah county sheriff's deputies said the carolers, all teenagers from the Powellhurst Baptist church, were preparing to sing in front of a home and were leaving the bus at the time of the collision.

There were 26 persons in the bus. They had been caroling all evening.

The accident occurred about 11 p.m.

Sweet Home Mill Destroyed by Fire

Sweet Home—UPI—Fire early today destroyed the Oar Lumber Company sawmill and an adjoining broom-handle factory about nine miles east of here.

Cause of the blaze was undetermined. Damage to the lumber company was estimated at \$30,000 to \$40,000 by Ed Reynolds, the owner. Guy Jepson, owner of the broom-handle factory, estimated loss at between \$10,000 and \$12,000. The fire was reported by Mrs. Gail Caswell, who lives near the mill, when she was awakened by a dog barking about 2:30 a.m. The roof of the mill was collapsing when she first noticed the blaze.

The Sweet Home fire department battled the blaze for nearly two hours.

Only the sawdust burner and outlying buildings were left standing.

The mill had been operating only a day after being closed for 10 days to allow machinery installation. It employed 13 men.

Murder Charged In Chico Slaying

Oroville, Calif.—UPI—Authorities said today they would file a murder charge against a 22-year-old college freshman who mutilated and killed a woman in her fancy trailer home.

The slaying took place in a trailer court a half-mile north of Chico, Calif., Monday night when William A. Cameron went berserk and ripped Mrs. Vivian Malone, 50, from abdomen to throat with a 13-inch knife.

Assistant District Attorney Loyd Mulkey said two psychiatrists at DeWitt State hospital in Auburn declared Cameron "perfectly sane" after an examination.

Mulkey also had Cameron undergo a lie detector test in Sacramento, but the results were not immediately disclosed.

Mulkey said he will recommend that Cameron be tried for first degree murder, with the prosecution demanding the gas chamber for the crew-cut former Marine.

Authorities discounted Cameron's story that he slew Mrs. Malone because she made "lewd suggestions" to him and a friend, and that she called him "vile names."

Railway Express May Be Dropped By Eastern Roads

New York—UPI—America's major railroads were expected today to follow the lead of the New York Central Railroad in cancelling their contracts with the financially ailing Railway Express Agency.

The Central, largest stockholder in Railway Express, announced Tuesday that it would cancel its contract effective Jan. 1, 1960. Alfred E. Perlman, president of the Central, said his railroad was losing \$11 million a year on the Railway Express operation. Central owns 14 per cent of American Express's outstanding stock.

To Develop Own Service

Perlman said the Central would develop a "more efficient and satisfactory small shipment service" of its own.

According to industry sources, other Eastern lines probably will abandon the industry-owned transportation service too. Clair Roddewig, president of the Association of Western Railway Executives, said the Western railroads would follow suit if the Eastern railroads withdrew.

Roddewig said the Railway Express' plight was due to a changing pattern of transportation, parcel post and government subsidized competitors, and increased labor and other costs.

British Plane With 12 Aboard Crashes

Bournemouth, England—UPI—A four-engined Bristol Britannia carrying 12 persons on a routine test flight crashed into a fog-bound field near here today and disintegrated as it hit the ground.

Nine bodies were taken to Christchurch hospital near the crash scene, police said. There were three survivors.

All the dead and injured were British Overseas Airways personnel, BOAC announced.

The prop-jet Britannia had been on a 90-minute flight from London Airport 100 miles north of here and apparently was coming in for a landing at Hurn Airport outside Bournemouth.

It had given no indication of trouble in a routine radio message a few minutes before the crash.

Christmas Holdups Carried Too Far

Portland—UPI—The Christmas season usually produces a number of holdups but Mrs. Bill Linden said today she believed it was being carried too far.

She was held up twice Tuesday night.

She said a man came into her store about 7:30 p.m. and escaped with \$50 after displaying a pistol. About 9 p.m. a masked man showed a pistol at her and forced her to open the cash drawer while two men with stockings over their faces remained outside. They got away with about \$56.

She closed up after the second holdup and told police "I'm going home where things are nice and quiet and the holdups are on television."

Body Recovered From Punch Bowl

Portland—UPI—The body of Frances Edward Foss, 42, was taken from the Devil's Punch Bowl east of Bonneville Dam Tuesday afternoon.

Foss, who was reported missing by his wife when he failed to return home Monday night, became the object of a search after his car was found parked near the Eagle Creek fish hatchery early Tuesday.

Mrs. Foss told officers that Foss had left home about noon Monday.

Multnomah and Hood River county deputies recovered the body from the 100 foot deep Punch Bowl with the use of ropes.

Court Records

MUNICIPAL COURT

Stel Andrew Whitson, Klamath Falls, driving under the influence of alcohol, \$100.

Robert Otis Greb, 18, Butte Falls star route, box 28, Eagle Point, illegal possession of alcoholic beverages, \$25.

Mae Crystal Schroeder, transient, drunk in public, 20 days.

Jesse Frank Graham, Applegate, drunk in public, 10 days.

Ira Virgil Broxson, general delivery, Medford, vagrancy, 3 days.

Noel William Rafter, transient, drunk in public, 10 days.

ACTRESS DIVORCED

Los Angeles—UPI—Actress Elinor Donahue, 21, who plays the teen-age daughter in the television series "Father Knows Best," was awarded a divorce Monday from her husband, Richard T. Smith, 27. Miss Donahue charged that Smith, a film soundman, drank to excess in their home and ignored her. The couple married May 5, 1956.

Noted Lumber Brothers Succumb

By United Press International

Two brothers, both well-known in lumber circles on the Pacific coast, died Monday within hours of each other.

Henry J. Mackin died of a heart attack in Vancouver, B.C., at 4:30 a.m. Monday. Mackin, 73, was a member of the board of Crown Zellerbach Corporation and was retired president of Canadian Western Lumber Company in Vancouver, one of the world's largest lumber firms.

Henry's brother, Raymond A. Mackin, about 61, died suddenly in San Francisco office of Mackin Lumber Company about 2:30 p.m. Monday. He was president of the firm.

Both men were born and raised in Portland.

QUICK SHAVE

Bury, England—UPI—A department store Santa learned about occupational hazards Tuesday. The mechanism of a toy automobile became tangled in Santa's beard and tore away part of it before store employees could come to the rescue.

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and a Happy New Year!

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Attend Your Church on Christmas Day

"O, COME LET US ADORE HIM"

Let us remember and observe the true meaning of Christmas... the birth of the little Child in Bethlehem, and all that is good in the world. Christmas belongs to everyone, for it expresses all that is happy and peaceful in the human heart. Enrich your appreciation of Christmas by planning to attend the church of your choice.

Medford Mail Tribune

Season's Greetings

Each year, when the Yuletide rolls round, we treasure even more our many friendships, enriched by another year of pleasant association. These friendships are, indeed, our richest possessions.

And so, as we extend a warm and cheery "Merry Christmas" to our neighbors and friends, we express the heartfelt hope that your holiday season will be filled with much joy and happiness and contentment.

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