

Oslo again supplies giant tree in London

By M. McINTYRE HOOD
LONDON — Once again, for the 17th consecutive years, the citizens of Oslo, the capital of Norway, have provided the 60-foot high Christmas tree which makes Trafalgar Square the centre of London's Christmas celebrations.

This tree is a freewill gift of the people of Oslo to the children of London as a token of gratitude for Britain's assistance to Norway in the second world war, and it has been the means of making Trafalgar Square the rendezvous for thousands of people every evening during the festive season, when children drawn from all over London

U. K. Christmas described basically family occasion

By M. McINTYRE HOOD
LONDON — Here in Britain, people will be spreading Christmas fun in many different ways. Some will be going to seaside or country resorts for the holiday celebrations held in hotels.

For the great majority, however, the English Christmas is essentially a family occasion. Where there are young children, they always come first. Father and the ban on the import of confifers, as the tree does not pass through any rural area. It is brought direct from the London docks to Trafalgar Square. There, the tree is erected by the ministry of works, but the people of Oslo pay the bill for the work, this being sent on to the Norwegian city when it is completed.

The city of Oslo also provides the hundreds of lights which brighten the tree, and the public address system which enables the succession of choirs to sing under it.

Up to three years ago, the city of Oslo also paid the heavy bill for the electricity used in illuminating it. But in 1950, when there was a heavy increase in electricity charges, the London Electricity Board decided to supply the current free in that year and in future years. At the time the gift of a tree was originally made, the city of Oslo made it clear that it did not wish this token of friendship to cost the recipients anything. And they always paid all the bills faithfully until the London Electricity Board decided to make the reciprocal gesture of goodwill by supplying the electricity without charge.

blue and green in color. With sharp, almost spiny points. In that case, it would be a Sika spruce, a tree introduced from Canada.

There are many degrees of Christmas trees, even among the smaller ones grown in pots. Some are neat and shapely, a rather broad-based pyramid.

Others are longer and narrower, straggling, as if they had been forced thinners. Others have an array of small dead branches around the bottom, so that they are broader some way up their rather thick, perchance knobby stems.

This last type of Christmas tree, however, is becoming less prevalent, due to a long-term program of research which is being carried out by the United Kingdom Forestry Commission. This research is concentrated on the problems of growing spruce trees, and particularly into what is known as "check".

This was the name which was given to what is now known as a deficiency disease, caused by lack of either potassium or nitrogen. These deficiencies for a long time held up afforestation of some of the most difficult soils on which the Forestry Commission was hoping to plant.

A "checked" spruce, and at one time there were thousands of acres of them, hardly seems to grow at all, even by the usual standards for such trees. They are notoriously slow starters, so that not all the small, dense Christmas trees are ones that have suffered from malnutrition. In fact, they might grow only a foot or so in 20 years, apparently standing still for long periods at a stretch.

Through this research, however, the Forestry Commission is increasing its available supply of choice Christmas trees, and it is now ready to allow over half a million ready to hand the homes of the British people.

White Christmas abnormal in U. K.

By M. McINTYRE HOOD
LONDON — In spite of the fact that Christmas scenes usually depict the ground, five degrees below freezing, when all Britain shivers.

On the other hand, Christmas Day in 1913, after an abnormally dry fall season, blazed in sunshine and several apple orchards in Dorset were reported to be in blossom.


Another Christmas heat wave was recorded in 1920, when the temperature on Dec. 25 rose to 56 degrees.

Recordings kept from 1910 to 1953, a 25-year period, show that of these 25 Christmas days in London, four were described as "fine"; seven were "rainy and wet"; three were "foggy"; three were "froxy and foggy" and only two on Christmas days during that period did London have any snow. These years were 1916 when "snow in thaws" was recorded and in 1925, when the record shows "snow to rain".

So it seems that, in spite of the tradition helped along by Charles Dickens's "White Christmas" is the exception rather than the rule in London.

DESIGNS BUNGALOW
PERTH, Scotland (CP) — A Scottish company has designed a new type of bungalow suitable for antarctic conditions. The six-apartment, centrally heated bungalow, assembled in 1,200 parts, stands on concrete stilts six feet above the ground.

FAMILY ASPHYXIATED
CADILLAC, Mich. (AP) — Car-bomb explosion from a furnace wiped out a family of four persons in their one-story home on Lake Michigan here, state police said Wednesday. Discovered in their beds Tuesday evening after futile attempts by a relative to call them by telephone throughout the day were Jerry Tuttle, 21, his wife, Bonnie, 20, and their sons, Robert, only two on Christmas days during that period did London have any snow.



GREETINGS

What's a happy holiday made off? Tinsel and holly, music and merry-making, love and laughter... we wish you an abundance of all these and more throughout this most festive and inspiring of all the seasons in the year.

HOTELS RE-OPENED
To cater for this increased tendency to celebrate Christmas outside the home, this year scores of additional seaside hotels are re-opening for the Christmas season. More people than ever will be seen eating their Christmas dinners in hotel dining-rooms and in restaurants which cater specially for the day.

Taking with the growth of the office or factory Christmas party, the Christmas trees outside town halls and the street

ly has its Christmas tree, even if it be only a small one resting on a table. If the head of the house has been wise, and lucky, it will be a small Norway spruce or perhaps the top cut off a large one.

Its needles have blunted points and are rather bright green and short. Others, however, will find their tree has longer needles,

Sincere Christmas Wishes



Our heartiest greetings to all our friends and neighbors. May you enjoy a very Merry Christmas.

FORM FIRE-BREAK
FAWLEY, England (CP) — Sheep are being encouraged to graze around the giant storage tanks at a Hampshire oil refinery to form a fire-break. But the sheep are leaving patches of unpalatable scrub and a company employee has suggested goats be used instead, on the grounds they eat anything.

SELLS WORMS
BOURNEMOUTH, Eng. and (CP) — Anglers soon will be able to buy worms from a vending machine at a sports equipment store here. The store is converting a cigarette machine.

Gallant Moving & Storage Ltd.

310 Water St. S' Side



Peace to All this Christmas

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Alberton



Greetings

To all our many friends we send this heartfelt greeting... May Christmas fill your heart and home with all its brightest cheer and may you share your joy with all those dear to you.

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GREETINGS

Best holiday wishes and sincere thanks to you all!

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PRODUCE DEPARTMENT
SUMMERSIDE



BEST WISHES

...for a Merry Christmas for You and all those Dear to You... May this Holiday Time be one of great Joy and Happiness...

GAUDET'S SAVE-EASY

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GREETINGS

May you enjoy Christmas as much as we have enjoyed the opportunity to serve you. Our hearty thanks!

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