BIG FREEZE OVER STATE

Coldest snap for years

Winter kept its icy grip on Sydney and most of the State today.

Parts of the state are having their coldest weather for years.

Below normal temperatures are expected again today and the Weather Bureau usees little chance o fthe freeze ending for several days.

In Sydney last night temperatures dropped gradually from 47 degrees at midnight to 45.6 degrees at 6.55 am, which was half a degree below normal.

But it was not as cold as yesterday when the minimum reading was 41.8 degrees—four degrees below normal.

Yesterday's maximum was 1.3 degrees below today's expected top reading of 59 degrees.

Many forced indoors

A Weather Bureau spokesman said low temperatures could be expected at this time of the year.

"Unfortunately, the really low reading are coming at the time when most people are getting out of bed and going to work," he added.

A sudden cold snap yesterday afternoon drove many Sydney people indoors.

The temperature fell to 53.6 degrees at 6 pm — 2 degrees below normal.

More severe frosts likely

Canberra had its coldest day for five years yesterday with a minimum reading of 19 deg — 14 deg. below freezing point.

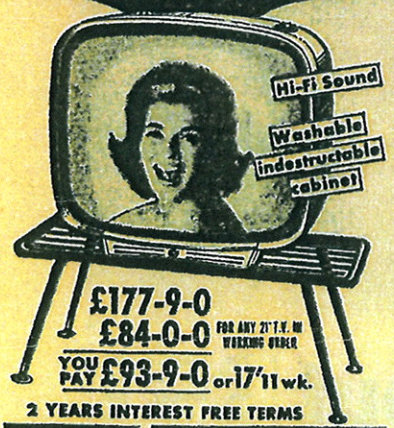
At Bathurst it was 17 degrees and at Spencer's Creek 16, the lowest in the State.

Severe frosts have been experienced in many country areas and are forecast again tonight.

Forecast for Sydney today is fine and cool, with a cold night and frosts in inland suburbs.

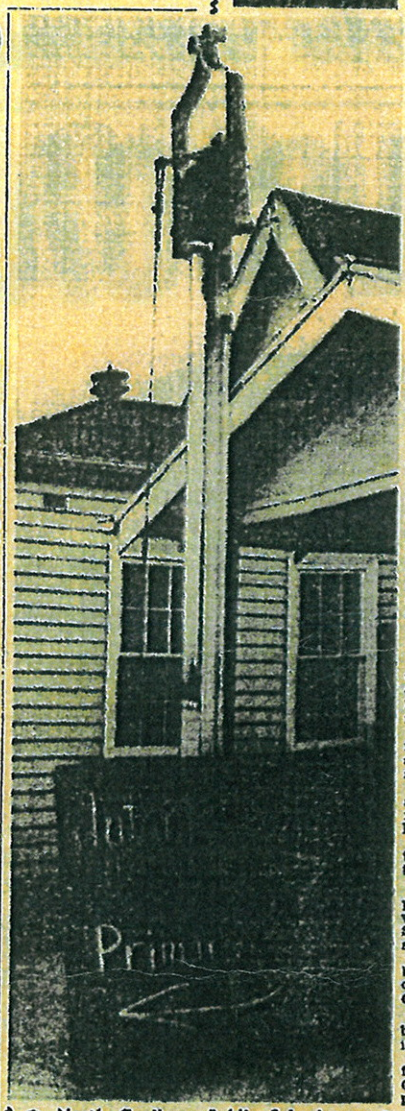
The Weather Bureau expects the cold nights to continue for several days but says the days will become warmer.

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● North Goulburn Public School was prepared for a rush of new pupils today. A blackboard notice pointed the way to various classes.

Inquiry on SP betting resumes

The chairman of the VRC, Sir Chester Manifold, continued his evidence when the SP Royal Commission re-opened in Sydney today.

The State Government appointed the Commission to decide if SP betting should be legalised and, if so, what system should be used.

The Commission, headed by Mr Justice Kinsella with Mr C L D Meares QC assisting the commission.

In previous evidence Sir Chester Manifold said church opposition to off-course tote betting faded when they realised the aim was to remedy a social evil rather than create one.

Mr Meares said that more than 12 SP bookmakers were prepared to give evidence if their names and photographs were not published.

And so the bell tolled...

Reports on schools to Minister

● Continued from Page 1

The Minister for Education, Mr. Wetherell, will receive reports throughout today on the enrolment of Roman Catholic schoolchildren at State schools in Goulburn.

Mr. Wetherell said today that he would arrange correspondence courses for children who could not be admitted if parents asked for this.

"In some way or other most children can be catered for by correspondence school authorities," he said.

The decision to shut down the Roman Catholic schools was made initially last week at a meeting of the leaders of the Roman Catholic Church in the Canberra - Goulburn diocese and about 40 leading lay members of the Roman Catholic community.

A steering committe of six laymen was appointed to form the resolution which was put to a public meeting on Monday night and carried by a big majority.

School ballots

At Goulburn High School today all the Roman Catholic children were handed the normal enrolment form.

They had to fill in their names, ages, school last attended and the last class attended.

At Bourke Street primary school parents and children assembled in a large hall.

They were addressed by the school headmaster but the Press was excluded.

It is understood that primary school children will be enrolled at Bourke Street on a first-in-first-served basis.

Two hundred and fifty boarders from St. Patricks' college marched to the Goulburn High School.

They were accompanied by a lay teacher and were in charge of school prefects.

About 70 girl boarders from Our Lady of Mercy College were also accompanied by lay teachers.

How they voted

THE BALLOT PAPER

Are you in favor of State aid for church schools?

YES 10,332 NO 7365

A total of 17,697 people voted in the Daily Mirror's snap poll on State aid to church schools.

Of these, just over 58 per cent voted in favor of State aid.

The figures were: Yes —10,332. No—7365.

Thousands of entries arrived at the Daily Mirror office today but could not be included in the ballot, which closed at noon on Saturday.

The Mirror launched the poll on Thursday to test public opinion on this controversial issue.

Votes came from all parts of the State, from the Queensland border to the Riverina and from every city and suburban area of Sydney.

HOTELS DRY TODAY

Dozens of Toohey's hotels in Sydney, Newcastle and country districts are out of beer today.

All Toohey's hotels would be dry by the end of the week if the carters' strike was not settled within a few days, publicans said today.

The hotels are remaining open to sell spirits and limited supplies of other brands of bottled beer.

Tooth's and Miller's breweries have agreed not to supply Toohey hotels.

DUTCH SILENCE ON NG

THE HAGUE, Sunday. —The Dutch Government will not reveal whether any progress is being made in the Dutch-Indonesian talks in Washington.

Reports of the preliminary talks were received here over the weekend a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

"We are studying them," he said.

He declined to comment on a statement by the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Dr Subandrio, that the talks were proceeding satisfactorily.

"I understand the delegations are meeting again on Monday," the spokesman added.

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S209/42