

During this season of twinkling lights, Sweden celebrated Lucia Day.

And this year, girls from many lands joined the procession, in Stockholm, held ^{TOWARDS} the longest night. They visited houses with the joyful news that the darkest part of the winter had passed - and the lighter days would soon come.

The girls are called "Lucias" and one from Toronto, with her head-dress of candles, visited an Infantry Cadet School.

In Britain, the new town of Stevenage received a goodwill visitor - the Swedish Ambassador who switched on the lights of a monster tree.

The ^{tree} gift came from ^{Sweden's} the new town of ~~Vespa~~ Vallingby, near Stockholm - and Stevenage gave, in return, a nine foot arch of holly and mistletoe. With the tree came another glimpse of ~~the~~ Swedish custom...a Queen of Light - a charming courier of goodwill.

In Trafalgar Square, the meeting of the Mayor of Westminster and the Norwegian Charge d'Affairs recalled an expression of gratitude that has become a post-war tradition.

Just after the war, the people of Oslo presented a tree to London - a token of ~~their~~ gratitude for their war-time deliverance.

This year, the first tree snapped ^{in unloading} at the docks: but ~~it was soon~~ ^{Norway} replaced ^{it} and London had its glowing symbol of friendship and goodwill.

At London Airport, Miss Sandra Christmas (no relation to Father Christmas) was chosen to light a giant 15 foot candle...^{to} burn well into the New Year. A gift from Aer Lingus and the Irish Exports Centre, it ~~was~~ greets holiday travellers.

Now we come to an odd sort of party.
~~By the way, this is not a shaggy dog story - but you're watching guests arriving for a party.~~

A bumper blow-out given every year for ^{its} patients by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals, at Ilford.

The party cake was just what the doctor ordered for poor appetites. Two of the guests were famous horses "Time" and "Tide" ~~and~~

~~Somehow...~~
Just in time and feeling peckish was a new arrival at the Dispensary... A Thames swan that had got covered in oil.

So to Washington, where children from the many Embassies..added the right note to ~~and~~ this joyous season that fosters international goodwill.