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ER 1, 1998

THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1998

No. 6,246

Price 15c

CONTRACEPTIVES

Letter to Church Sixth Forms

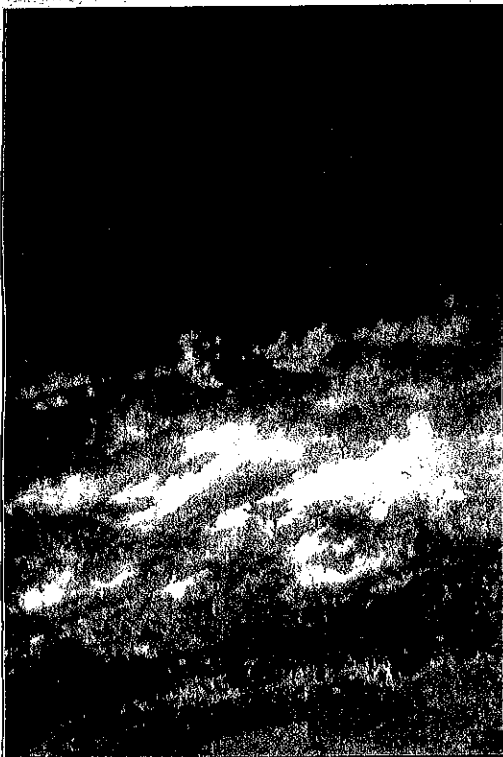
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Lm17m due in tax refunds

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Fire raging inside Australia Hall and (right) MLP general secretary Jimmy Magro surveying the damage. On right is court expert Alfred Vella.

Australia Hall gutted in midnight blaze

Kenneth Xuereb

Australia Hall in Pembroke was gutted by fire in the early hours of yesterday morning in a blaze which police sources said might have been started deliberately.

"The fact that the blaze took place in the middle of the night raises suspicions over whether it was accidental or deliberate," the sources said.

Sources said suspicions were fuelled further because there was no electricity or heating supply to the hall which might have caused an accidental spark.

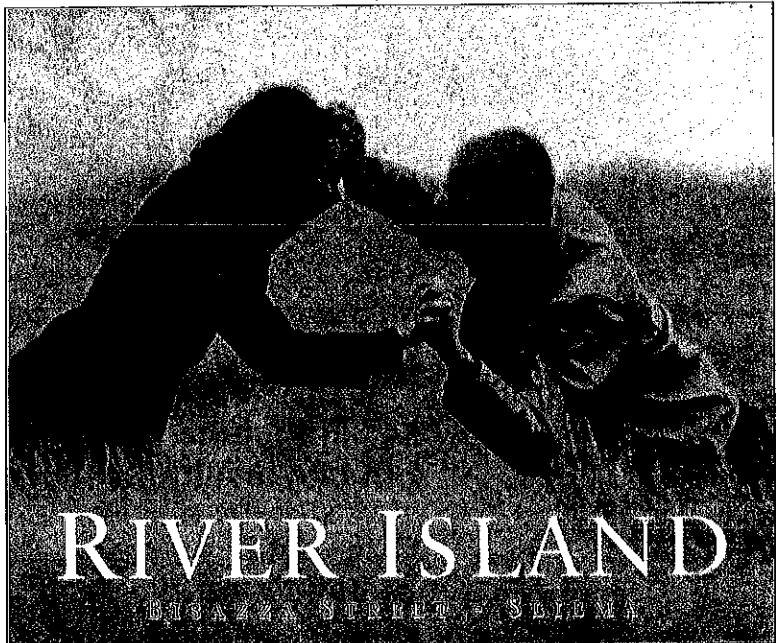
Eyewitnesses said the building, which had been used as a theatre by the British forces, caught fire at about 12.15 a.m.

"I was just passing by when I saw that there was fire inside," said an eyewitness.

"All of a sudden the roof collapsed and a wall of flames erupted into the sky."

The blaze was extremely fierce at times and an orange glow could be

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