



BIGGEST — Big, bigger, biggest is how the progression goes, and this would appear to be about as far as it can go in tires. The four-ton, 12-foot-high monster, hailed as the world's largest, is manufactured at Topeka, Kan., for use on a 300-ton truck requiring six of them.

Plumbers Rates Decrease Due to 'Popular' Demand

By JUDITH HORSTMAN
News-Journal Staff Service

ITHACA, N.Y. — "The time had come when the ordinary public couldn't afford to have a plumber, and the rates had to come down."

Ithaca plumbers union manager Harry Bowers thus assesses the roughly 25 per cent cut in rates for plumbers here.

Plumbers will now charge a rate of \$11.50 per hour for all work done on homes and on apartment buildings up to four stories high, and for minor repair and maintenance work on commercial and public buildings.

Formerly, their rate was \$15 per hour for all work. The higher rate will remain in effect for new work on all commercial buildings.

Some non-union plumbing contractors have indicated that they will establish a lower residential rate in line with the new union rates.

The contractor's action follows an announcement last week by Plumbers Fitters Local 100 that it has cut its base rate to contractors from \$8.30 per hour plus 95 cents per hour for fringe benefits to \$6 per hour plus 95 cents per hour for fringe benefits.

The new residential rate affects 45 union plumbers in the Ithaca, Elmira, Cortland and Corning area, and was the result of a directive from the international union.

Non-union competition has hurt union plumbers, Bowers said.



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DEODORANT **NOW 77¢**
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Q-TIPS
COTTON SWABS **NOW 69¢**
170's — REG. 89¢

Rising Prices Are Problem

By PETER OSNOS
News-Journal Staff Service

PHNOM PENH — What the people of this city say is bolstering them most these days is not so much the continuing war, which really underlies their troubles, but soaring prices that they blame on Chinese profiteers and corrupt politicians.

"The only price in Cambodia that doesn't go up," said one unhappy worker, "is the beggar's. He still asks for one riel." And the only thing that is less expensive, he added, "is Cambodian money. It is worth less every day."

Even the sweep of global events is being interpreted from the perspective of the pocketbook. An editorial the other day in the city's largest newspaper observed tartly:

"The government's last-minute decision to raise the price of gasoline is most untimely. A few days before the convening of the Paris Peace Conference on Feb. 28, the in-

crease by 80 per cent in the price of gas will cause further perturbations (sic) here and will be looked upon unfavorably by the conference."

The Paris conference of course is on Vietnam, and will have little to do with Cambodia. Lon Nol's government won't even have an official observer. And if Cambodia is discussed it is unlikely much time will be spent on internal unrest.

But that, evidently, is not the way the Cambodians see it.

Nonetheless, the price problem is a very real one. The Cambodian government has been subsidizing fuel sales for years, and the mounting cost has been sapping the country's meager treasury. American economists badgered Lon Nol to do something or face even greater inflation later.

So finally he did make the move, and along with gasoline other price hikes were announced. According to the

Cambodian press, food can go up as much as 10 per cent, textile products as much as 50 per cent, cement, 25 per cent, and glassware, 45 per cent.

The public reaction has been sharp. One leading newspaper angrily charged:

"We hear all the time that our state is running at a financial loss and the government murmurs like pigeons that we are poor. . . (but) our very patriotic leaders are not themselves poor because although the state is broke, they take care not to be. That's one reason the state is broke — the system by which they suck the blood of the treasury with the help of Chinese merchants. Outright public robbery and bribery are commonplace."

"Our so very patriotic leaders are thus able to compete with each other flaunting their nice homes, their cars and their secondary wives."

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Page 6

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1973

Viewpoints

Ours Yours Theirs

World food stocks at 20-year low

As food, especially at today's prices, seems to be an issue almost everywhere, it is interesting to note that the world food reserves have dropped to a 20-year low point.

According to a report in February by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization director-general, world wheat report reserves have dropped to below 50 million tons—the lowest level since 1952. It is important to note, also, that during this same period the world's population has grown by about 50 per cent.

During 1971, the last year with complete statistics, developing countries increased agricultural production by about two per cent, only half of the four per cent annual growth target established for the Second U.N. Development Decade. Per capita food production declined by one per cent overall.

In addition to this, in many developing countries per capita food production is now below the level of the early 1960s. Preliminary U.S. Department of Agriculture figures indicate a further decline for per capita food production during 1972. Serious food shortages exist or are threatening 23 developing nations.

"There must be some sort of convention among producing countries under which they would undertake to hold certain minimum levels of food stocks to meet emergencies. . . . should participate in concerted policies for actively building up food reserves," the U.S. director-general contends.

During the present food situation, American farmers have been called upon to aid serious food situations in Russia and to some extent in China. After contending with overproduction for many years, it does sound unusual that our reserves, too, are running low so a crop failure could have a drastic effect on the world food supply.

While the population growth has slowed in the United States, and in a few other countries, the birth rate is still higher than ever. In the United States, the birth rate, and the fertility rate for 1972 were nine to 11 per cent lower than 1971. The 1971 rates were, in turn, four to six per cent below 1970 rates.

However, in spite of the lower birth rate in the United States, several decades of continued population growth are projected. The U.S. Census Bureau now projects U.S. population between 250 and 300 million in the year 2000. This is 30 million lower than earlier estimates but it leaves a lot of mouths to feed in addition to the millions in other countries where food supplies are far below needs.

This isn't a pleasant picture but it is one we must face in an effort to avoid world starvation. American farmers have demonstrated they can produce an abundance of food but there is a limit to what they can do, G.E.D.

By Sydney J. Harris

The only truly ungrateful person who ever lived was Helen Keller, because she alone was not prejudiced in her early years.

The communist imagines that all profits are immoral; the capitalist imagines there is no such thing as an immoral amount of profits; it is the persistence of the latter delusion that gives strength to the former delusion, and makes ideological conflict inevitable.

Charm without sincerity is the view of the politician; sincerity without charm is the view of the reformer; but it is an unequal battle, since the public has more faith in the politician than in the reformer.

A "social climber" is called one because he knows who to step over, who to step around, who to step on, and to step behind.

Lon Nol vital to U.S. Indochina plan

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News reporters find job difficult in South Vietnam

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8 The Boston Globe Tuesday, January 23, 1973

Kissinger returns to Paris talks

Continued from Page 1

★ CEASE-FIRE
Continued from Page 1
The same day also was marked as the initiating date for Communist high-command documents reported captured in South Vietnam (Sunday) — including peace proposals and acceptance of the agreement.

There were among the signs of evidence coming up at times and ahead to reinforce — reports by sources that President Nixon plans to conclude a Vietnam agreement this week.

Kissinger's current trip to Paris is his 24th mission in search of peace in Vietnam. He said he has been there 21 times for a total of more than 100 hours since Kissinger said on Oct. 28 that "peace is at hand."

They last meeting on Jan. 13, concluded their most intensive week of bargaining, when they were said to have established the broad outlines of an accord.

Today's talks at the conference center — the old Majestic Hotel building — will be the first meeting of the two negotiators on neutral ground. Previous sessions have been held at sites provided for one side or the other.

Kissinger's visit ended and he was seen standing in the rain at Andre Aron Field Base as he boarded the jet from the presidential fleet at mid-morning after conferring for an hour with McNamara. He made no departure statement, and the White House continued to refuse to discuss any aspect of the Vietnam situation.

As Kissinger was firing across the Atlantic, experts from both sides continued their technical talks in Paris, presumably working out language of the final accord, preliminary to a cease-fire, arranging for the exchange of war prisoners and setting up machinery to replace the South Vietnamese government.

White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said details he could at this time discuss the progress to be followed in concluding any peace agreement, but said, "We will have appropriate news coverage of the proceedings."

Ziegler also gave out the news about Kissinger's plans to meet with the South Vietnamese foreign minister.



THE PAIN OF WAR—South Vietnamese soldier who was wounded, captured and later escaped during fighting in the U. S. Main Force units further south. Soldier's unit was ambushed by Viet Cong forces controlling area 100 miles southwest of Saigon.

US officials say Thieu to bar refugees' return

By Peter Onor Washington Post

DA NANG, Vietnam — The South Vietnamese government will not permit hundreds of thousands of refugees from Communist-ruled areas to return to their homes after a cease-fire is declared and will punish those who try, according to US officials here.

South troops and police have been ordered to restrain the refugees — forcibly if necessary — American sources say. American sources say some refugees from government-held areas will be allowed to go back to their villages only a few thousand at a time.

All as examples of the government's position, an elderly man at a refugee camp just outside Da Nang said police had warned him that if any number of refugees were to return, they would be shot.

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B52s pound battle area near Saigon

United Press International

SAIGON — Communist and South Vietnamese troops continued to battle yesterday throughout the country. There were early cease-fire reports.

Air Force B52s dropped more than 540 tons of bombs during the 24 hours ending at 8 a.m.

SAIGON — About 50 wounded South Vietnamese soldiers have been released from Communist-controlled areas north of Saigon despite official denial.

South Vietnamese government said officers on the main front between here and the Communist border said some of the troops had come back to government lines with safe conduct papers apparently signed by Viet Cong commanders.

They said it was difficult to give an accurate figure of how many had been freed because they were in several hospitals and villages, and more than 100 still in prison.

SAIGON — About 40 miles north of Saigon and other US warplanes continued their saturation raids throughout the country. There were early cease-fire reports.

On the northern front of Quang Tri Province, South Vietnamese Marines and paratroopers killed 11 Communist but lost 24 of their own men killed and wounded 40 wounded.

The wounded men came from two battalions of troops which sustained heavy losses last Friday when they went into the Michelin rubber plantations near Da Nang Town, about 40 miles northwest of Saigon.

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24-A THE MIAMI HERALD Fri., Jan. 26, 1973

Cambodia Calls Unilateral Offensive Halt

PHNOM PENH — (UPI) — Cambodia will unilaterally suspend all offensive operations after implementation of the Vietnam ceasefire, Prime Minister Hang Tin Hak said Thursday.

The Cambodian government's goodwill gesture came despite force attacks by guerrillas in the north and despite a Laotian move to bolster its positions against anticipated large-scale North Vietnamese attacks in other parts of Indochina after the ceasefire in Vietnam.

Hak told UPI that the government of President Lon Nol would suspend all operations "to prove our

good will and to allow the North Vietnamese to withdraw in peace."

He said the government would continue to take "defensive operations" and troops will continue their attempts to persuade Cambodian rebels to come over to the Phnom Penh regime.

Military sources said Cambodian guerrillas launched force attacks against five bridge positions along Highway 7, about 21 miles northeast of Phnom Penh. Seven government soldiers were killed and 24 wounded. One guerrilla was captured.

The attack was preceded by a 12-hour mortar barrage that killed at least two persons and wounded 15,

all wives and children of soldiers.

Field reports said the five bridges were still in government hands.

High command spokesman Col. Am Rung said fighting also broke out west of Battambang, 25 miles north of Phnom Penh, while sporadic fighting raged north of the famed temples of Angkor Wat, 150 miles northwest of this capital.

Government troops responded Highway 2, meeting no serious guerrilla resistance, but normal traffic on the road was not expected until deep trenches on the sides had been filled in.

Hak said the peace accords initiated in Paris does

not forbid continued American military aid to Cambodia either in the form of war supplies or fighter jet support. But he added the Americans would not be added to bomb in support of government military operations "unless the North Vietnamese do not respect the spirit of the accords."

One Western diplomat said, "The Americans will probably have to make at least a show of discontinuing air strikes in Cambodia for the first few weeks. That is probably the reason the Cambodians are making this goodwill gesture and suspending offensive operations — They couldn't possibly conduct an offensive operation without American air support."

Truce Agency 'Useless, Helpless'



Soldier Holds Rifle He'll Keep As a Souvenir of the War
...chapter gunner will be leaving Vietnam only because of ceasefire

Gunships Are Stripped For Peacekeeper Role

From Page 1

Under the 20-year Indochina truce, gunships have been stripped of their combat role and are being converted to peacekeeping duties. The new role will be to provide fire support for the ground forces in the event of a ceasefire.

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Thieu: Strong Army Best Peace Guarantee



South Viet President Nguyen Van Thieu Briefs Aide
...as way to tell others of ceasefire plans

President Nguyen Van Thieu said Thursday that the best guarantee for peace in Vietnam is a strong, unified South Vietnamese army.

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