

Times of Oman

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PRICE BAIZAS 200

SECOND ROUND TALKS START AT CAMP DAVID PALESTINIAN STATE DEMAND MAY PROVE STUMBLING BLOCK

A fresh round of talks between Egyptian Prime Minister Dr. Mustapha Khalil and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan opened at Camp David in America yesterday (Wednesday).

Qualified observers believe that although both parties have thus resumed their deadlocked discussions, new ground is unlikely to be made.

Dr. Khalil outlined his position when he visited Mr. James Callaghan, the British Prime Minister, on Tuesday en route to the talks.

Yemenis Resent Conscription

Conscription of adults between 16 and 55 is proving very unpopular in South Yemen. Since December, 54 of the refugees who have fled to Oman have given conscription as their reason for doing so.

Other reasons are fear of unjust laws, shortage of food, low wages, and rough treatment by the authorities. One 22 year old fled to the Sultanate when he was told that he must go to the USSR for a five year course of political indoctrination.

The land and property of another's tribe was seized, and his uncle had disappeared after being kidnapped by security authorities.

These are examples from the steady flow of refugees here from South Yemen. The total is now more than 2,500.

On Page 4, an Army Lieutenant who arrived recently describes some of the conditions which make people flee from their homes.

He reiterated the Egyptian demand that a peace treaty must be linked to a wider Middle East settlement.

This has been the stumbling block for the negotiations in the past and observers cannot see how the issues will be resolved.

Cairo has said that the linkage must contain a statement of intent that Israel wants to see a completely new Palestinian state established on the West Bank and in Gaza.

Although Dayan was seen to soften slightly his attitude towards the PLO last week, when he said that the organisation had to be recognised, this cannot be taken as a commitment by Israel to Palestinian self rule.

His Majesty Wishes Iran Well

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos has sent a telegram of good wishes to the Prime Minister of Iran, Dr. Mehdi Bazargan. He expressed pleasure at Dr. Bazargan's appointment.

His Majesty the Sultan also expressed confidence that good relations would continue between Oman and Iran.



Sayyid Thwaini bin Shihab, who opened the annual Scouts camp, inspecting some of the work done by the boys to make it attractive.

NEW BUDGET WILL STIMULATE MORE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

The final draft of the 1979 budget has been submitted to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos for his approval.

The document points to intensified economic activity in the coming months with the starting of several new development projects.

Mr Mohammed Moosa, under-secretary at the Directorate of Finance, released details of the plan on Tuesday.

He said that out of 223 million rials allocated for spending in last year's budget, only 86 million had actually been used. The remaining sum had been incorporated in this year's budget and would be utilised to the full.

The under secretary said that 1979 would be a year of intense economic activity especially in the field of development.

He cited the Nizwa to Thumrait road, the southern road network, extensions to the hospitals, the opening of new schools and the construction of a copper plant as examples of the new dynamic thrust forward of the Omani economy.

Finance Ministers End Meetings

Arab finance ministers have returned home after their three day conference in Muscat

The representatives of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates and Oman concluded their business on Saturday.

During their stay in Oman the ministers visited His Majesty Sultan Qaboos

The ministers met in general session of the Gulf International Bank, approving the 1978 report and re-electing board members for a further three years.

Chinese Quit Vietnam Because Targets Reached

The Chinese have withdrawn from Vietnam and announced that their operation there has finished.

In a terse announcement from Peking on Tuesday the government said that their limited objectives had been achieved.

They had wanted to clear the area of troops which could threaten their territorial integrity, Radio Peking said.

The invasion began on Saturday following a number of Vietnamese-led incidents on the border.

The announcement follows wide pressure on the Chinese to withdraw from the area. President Carter said he would appreciate it if they would return to their own side of the border. His remarks were endorsed by Japan and India.

Later in the week the Soviets warned they might be forced to come to the aid of Vietnam if the Chinese did not end their
(Continued on Page 28)



In uniform and in national dress, the Guides have a happy time at their annual camp which began this week. Photo: Abdulla Karusi.

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HOME NEWS



Administrative under-secretary in the Ministry of Information and Culture Hassan Said pictured at Seeb airport when leaving for Saudi Arabia on Monday. Photograph by Kamel Gano.

Architecture exhibition begins on Saturday

The Minister for Social Affairs and Labour, Mr. Khalfan bin Nasser al Wahaibi, will open an exhibition of British Architecture at the British Council on Saturday.

The exhibition, which will be opened to the public on Sunday for four days, will include models and plans of some of the arts and leisure complexes to be found in the British Isles.

The new National Theatre on the

south bank of the River Thames, the Barbican Arts Centre, the Arts Centre at Chirst's Hospital School in Horsham, the Sainsbury Centre for the Visual Arts at the University of East Anglia, and the British Pavillion for Expo-70 in Osaka, Japan are included.

"All examples presented in this exhibition embody principles adopted by the modern European movement in architecture," said Sherban Cantacuzino, executive editor of Architectural Review and compiler of the exhibition.

CAR RALLY PUT OFF TO MARCH 9

The date of Oman Automobile Association's first rally has been changed due to Queen Elizabeth's visit to the Sultanate.

The association announced this week that the rally will be run over 130km at Bausher on March 9, instead of March 2.

Eighty invited competitors will take part in 40 vehicles in the event, run under FIA rules. Following the rally will be an autotest, sponsored by Rothmans, on March 30.

Ten teams of three cars will go through a series of exercises before an audience at Ruwi football ground at Bait al Falaj. The event is really a test of safe driving for cars of differing engine capacity.

Their best known event is the

Rothmans Middle East Rally Challenge, which starts in Cyprus and is run in various Arab countries. The organisers hope that the last leg of the rally this year may be held in Oman.



Why did I give her such a big tip? Because I didn't have a coat and umbrella when I came in

DARTS

RESULTS

Seeb League

ASL "A"	5
J & P Azaiba	4
Sgts Risail	7
ASL Pirates	6

Kunjar Arms	4
ASL "B"	5
Airwork Buffs	2
Sgts MAM	3

Ruwi League

Lansab	7
Wimpey	2
Qurm Casuals	4
RAHGC	4

R.A.H.G.C.	2
SOAF Sgts	7
Marconi	5
Wimpey	5

SUNDAY'S MATCHES

ASL "A"	v	J & P Azaiba
ASL "X"	v	Airwork Buffs
ASL Pirates	v	Royal Flight
Kunjar Arms	v	Sgts MAM
Sgts Risail	v	ASL "B"
Zubair	v	SOAF Sgts
Lansab	v	Taylor Woodrow
Qurm Casuals	v	RAHGC
Wimpey	v	Marconi
Tarmac	v	Intercon Hotel

First named team is 'Home Team'

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HOME NEWS

LABOUR SECURITY FUND IN OFFING

A labour security fund is likely to be established by the end of 1985, the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Mr. Khalfan bin Nasser at Wahaibi, has said.

Speaking to the Times of Oman, Mr. Wahaibi said that a fund protecting employees against

would not put a date on the completion of the project but said that expatriate labour would be needed for a long time to come.

He saw that any undesirable influences brought in by non-local labour were effectively reduced by the language barrier but were inevitable when the country opened its doors to the expatriates.

In the area of training, while specialist help was needed in the agricultural, petroleum and mining industries building also required special skills.

It was important to train mechanics who could be moved from one section of work to another and who were always in great demand.

Special emphasis was being placed on the needs of the electronics and refrigeration industries and courses would be available in the vocational training centres.

Asked what he thought his major achievements were in the last seven years as a labour minister, he said maintenance of good employee-employer relationships and the free exchange of labour.

Motorists asked to take extra care

Following a series of serious accidents, the police have warned motorists to take extra care when driving through sandstorms.

During the last few weeks, particularly in Rostaq, a number of serious accidents have taken place when drivers have encountered sandstorms.

The police warn that motorists should take much greater care when they are caught up in bad weather conditions. In sandstorms they should drive slowly and carefully with the headlamps on.

Damaged Vehicles

A number of damaged vehicles are lying unclaimed at the Sohar police station. Police warn that Oman registered cars should be collected within 10 days and foreign registered vehicles within 15. Otherwise they will be auctioned.

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Tel. 701633



loss of earnings from illness or redundancy was his main goal for the next five years.

"I hope to look at the establishment of a labour security fund", he said.

Both employer and employee would contribute to the fund which would be held by the government. The government would invest the sums raised to increase the amount payable to the individuals.

The minister said taking into account local conditions, the fund would be similar to schemes operating in western Europe.

In the next year the Minister planned continuation of existing social affairs projects including low cost housing schemes, the expansion of leper centres where required and the opening up of new vocational training centres.

The new centres will offer evening classes in technical subjects.

Turning to the question of the Omanisation of labour the minister



Oman's delegation to the finance ministers conference headed by Commerce and Industry Minister Mohammed Zubair. On his right is the finance secretary Mohammed Moosa.

US energy expert visits Oman

An influential energy advisor from the United States briefed government officials and top industrialists during a brief visit to the Sultanate last week.

Terence O'Rourke, who is attached to the White House anti-inflation team and was formerly with the Department of Energy in Washington, arrived in Oman as part of a regional speaking tour. On Friday he left on a four-day visit to the UAE.

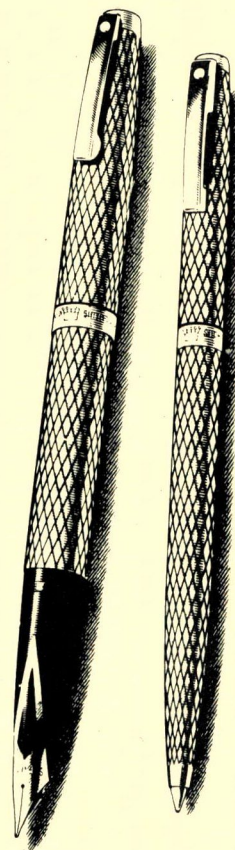
Every year the United States sends out speakers on specific subjects as part of cultural exchange agreements.

Mr O'Rourke put forward the Carter Administration's view of the energy question.

He is an expert on energy and ecological matters and discussed both aspects of current American policy at dinners organised by the US ambassador and his staff.

At these gatherings he spoke to ministers and subsequently went to the offices of top government officials and industrialists to outline his viewpoints.

Some gifts are for the moment.



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HOME NEWS

Grand Mufti Leads delegation to Cairo

The Grand Mufti of Oman, Sheikh Ahmed bin Hamad al Khalili led a delegation to Cairo last week for discussions about the Arab Justice Ministers Conference in Muscat in April.

During his one-week stay in Cairo, he called on the Shaikh of Azhar and the minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.

Last week the Grand Mufti, in an interview said that women should stay at home to give their children religious education rather than go out to work.

This provision of Islam was to safeguard her dignity, he remarked. He quoted verses from the Holy Quran to support his view that women and men have different functions to perform.

ESCAPED OFFICER DESCRIBES CONDITIONS IN SOUTH YEMEN

Russian domination of the South Yemen Army, and East German Communist control of security forces, was described vividly by a South Yemen officer who recently took refuge in Oman. He is 1st Lieut. Salih al-Hamza Mahdi al Marqashi. Lieut. salih who is 30 years old, was company commander, 61 Coy, 21 Battalion, Abood Brigade, located on the borders between South Yemen and Oman.

Describing condition in South Yemen, after he arrived in the safety of Oman, he said that there were two combatant forces there. One was the militia, which came under the direct control of the ruling Marxist party, and

the other was the army.

Although the Russians were now in complete control of the Army, its personnel was regarded with suspicion. All army people were under constant surveillance, morale was very low, and there were regular arrests and dismissals. Desertion was common in areas where people could reach safety.

Lieut. Salih continued that the Militia were hated. The forces was made up of a mixture of South Yemenis, and left-wing political activists who had come over from North Yemen. Their only fighting experience had been in the coup which overthrew Rubai ali, whom he described as a moderate.

Lieut. Salih estimated that there were 10,000 foreigners in PDRY. The Russians, Cubans and East Germans were arrogant and supercilious. They had no relations with the Yemeni people, but only with the regime.

The present ruler of the country, Abdul Fatta Ismail, was completely in the grip of the Russians, and Yemenis regard him, not as one of themselves, but as a person from the USSR. He is hated, but ruled by force supplied by the foreign communists.

This hatred stemmed from a number of causes. Among them was the fact that he was an atheist, opposed to Islam and to Arab traditions. Another was his use of violence, and the imposition of the state security organisation to subjugate the people. Executions were common.

Describing the way the foreign "advisers" had taken over the control of the country, he said there were around 4,000 Russians. They had a naval base in Aden and another in Perim island, and an establishment near Salaah al Deen camp, at Khormaksar, Al Baydha, and Badr camp. The Cubans, who controlled the militia, numbered around 3,500. Some 90 of them were at al Ghaidha, training militia there. They piloted the Air Force planes.

Around 1,100 East Germans were tasked with training the police, controlling the State Security ministry, and searching for minerals. Two

(Continued on Page 20)

Pharmacies

Pharmacies on night duty -

Thursday: Al Waleed, Hamriya main road, Ruwi.

Friday: Muscat, opp. Oman Plaza cinema.

Saturday: Al Hashar, opp. Mazoon Trading Establishment, Ruwi.

Sunday: National, Talib building, opp. Arab Bank, Muttrah.

Monday: Suleiman Gharib, Walja, near the health quarters, Ruwi.

Tuesday: Oman, interior suq entrance, Muscat.

Wednesday: Ibn Sina, Ammar centre, Ruwi.

Pharmacies on day duty

Thursday: Ibn Sina, near vegetable market, Muttrah.

Friday: (From 8am to 8pm) Muscat, interior suq entrance, Muscat. Al Waleed, Hamriya main road, Ruwi.

Saturday: Mazoon, interior market, Muttrah.

Sunday: Oman, Talib building, near Taxi Stand, Muttrah.

Monday: Al Farabi, near Taxi Stand, Muttrah.

Tuesday: Muttrah, interior market, Muttrah.

Wednesday: Ibn Sina, near vegetable market, Muttrah.



OMAN'S OWN

CHILDREN'S ART COMPETITION

1st March 1979
to
31st March 1979

The Competition is open to school going children of all ages.

All you have to do is to make a drawing on any paper of size 30 cms. x 20 cms.

You may use any medium - water colours, crayons or colour pencils.

The subject of the drawing is to be chosen from the following three subjects:

- Milk Products
- Yoghurt Products
- Ice Cream Products.

You may enter *one drawing only* on any one of the subjects chosen by you.

Below the drawing, please write in one sentence the reason for your choice of subject and also give the following information:

Name:

Age:

Name of School:

Address:

Your entry may be

delivered to Oman National Dairy Products Co. Limited, P.O. Box 3610, Ruwi, or handed over to the Dairy at Al-Ghobra. Opposite the Royal Guest House or you may hand it over to your school for forwarding to us.

The entry must reach us not later than 5th April, 1979.

Entries will be judged by a panel of 3 judges and the decision of the judges will be final.

Four prizes will be awarded - one for the over all best entry and one each for the three subjects.

Names of the winners will be announced by 15th April, 1979. The winners will be advised personally and a list of the name of the winners will also be given to all schools and supermarkets.

The best 50 drawings will be exhibited at the Oman National Dairy Products Co. Limited at Al-Ghobra.

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business times

18-MAN UK TRADE TEAM COMING

A group of 18 businessmen from Great Britain will visit Oman at the beginning of April.

The trade mission, which includes delegates from companies based in London and the provinces, is organised by the City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce.

The group, on a Gulf tour, will fly

YIBAL POWER STATION TO BE READY SOON

A new power station for the Petroleum Development (Oman) operation at Yibal is expected to be opened within the next month or so.

Engineers are reluctant to give a finishing date but the work is expected to be completed shortly.

Included on site will be two 14-megawatt turbine generators, station control, electrical equipment and plant buildings.

The electrical distribution supply will include 11-kilovolt and 6.6 kilovolt switchboards and transformers, an 11-kilovolt earthing system and an auxiliary generator.

The station, which will serve Yibal and other PDO oilfields, is being built by GEC Gas Turbines of Whetstone, Leicestershire in England. The company has sold 79 similar units throughout the Middle East.

FINNISH TEAM TO STUDY OMAN'S FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Oman's current five-year plan will come under scrutiny when a delegation from Finland arrive in Muscat shortly.

They will also investigate the success of projects in the orbit of the Ministry of Electricity and Water.

The visit follows agreements reached by Finland's non-resident ambassador Kai Williams who made a short trip to the Sultanate at the end of last week.

He held discussions with the Minister of Electricity and Water Sheikh Hamoud al Harthy. They talked about matters of mutual interest and bilateral importance.

in from Dubai on April 4. They will stay in Muscat for four days.

Companies represented will bring a wide range of products from language tuition records and cassettes to plastic tableware.

One organisation, Astral Recruitment, which specialises in finding the right men and women to work in the Middle East is keen to establish local contacts.

Another company Foster Refrigeration is promoting its refrigerated cabinets and R.Perry and Co will be selling lifejackets.

Linguaphone, the international language tuition firm which has just launched a new series of Arabic lessons is hoping to make inroads into the local market.

Also represented are the famous potteries china company Royal Doulton, well-known carpet manufacturers and British Aluminium.



Any vacancies for a food-taster?

Tenders

Number 14/79: Suppliers are invited to tender for the provision of a cesspit emptier for Qaboos Hospital, Salalah. The capacity of the emptier required is 5,000 gallons.

Submissions should reach the Tender Board office in Muscat before 10am March 20.

Tenders for Greek projects

International contractors in Oman have been invited to tender for two projects in Greece. Bids for the first, the execution of the outlet and road network in the zone IB of Thessalotis Karditsa district project, close on March 1.

The project is worth 64 million drachmas.

The second is for the Bassiliki Irrigation network in the Trikala district worth 90 million drachmas. Submissions should reach the authorities by March 8.

EXCHANGE RATES

The most recent exchange rates, issued by the National Bank of Oman, include:

Foreign Currency per One Rial Omani		Rial Omani per one unit of Foreign Currency	
Selling	Buying	Selling	Buying
1.09	Bahraini Dinars	0.896	0.910
43.48	Ceylonese Rupees	0.225	0.230
14.64	Danish Kroners	0.0669	0.0683
5.31	Deutsche marks	0.1856	0.1885
5.74	Dutch Guilders	0.1717	0.1743
23.53	Indian Rupees	0.0419	0.0425
217.68	Irani Rials	0.004525	0.004594
570.45	Japanese Yen	0.001718	0.001753
0.838	Jordanian Dinars	1.175	1.193
0.785	Kuwaiti Dinars	1.255	1.274
9.04	Lebanese Pounds	0.1089	0.1106
28.17	Pakistan Rupees	0.0348	0.0355
10.94	Qatari Rials	0.0896	0.0914
9.62	Saudi Rials	0.1030	0.1040
1.43	Sterling Pounds	0.689	0.700
10.99	UAE Dirhams	0.0896	0.0910
2.87	USA Dollars	0.342	0.348

SHIPPING NEWS

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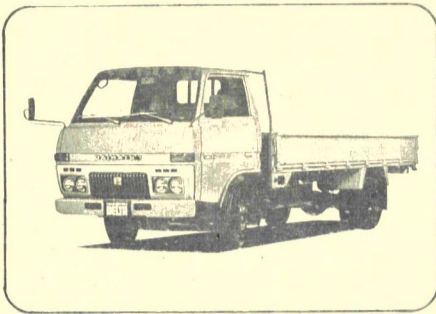
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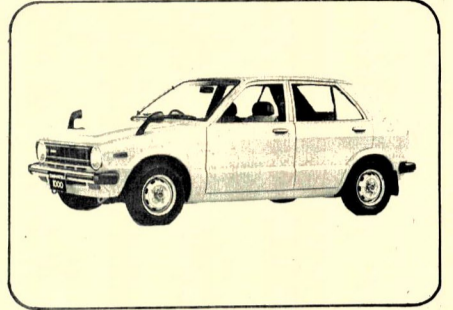
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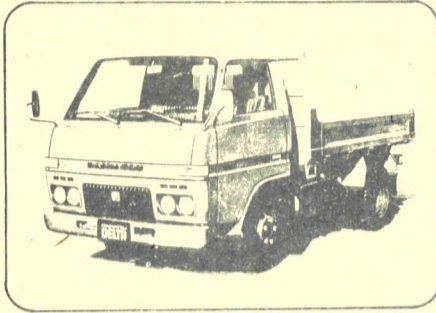
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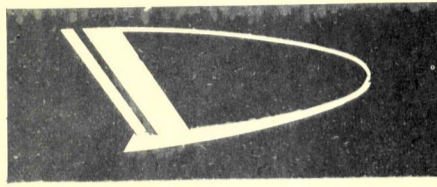
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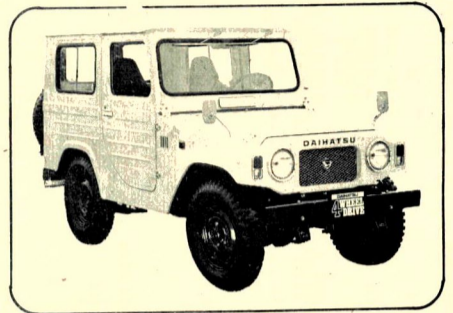


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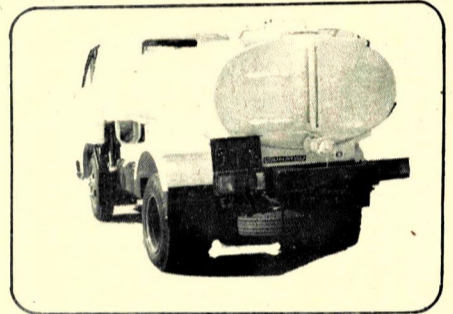
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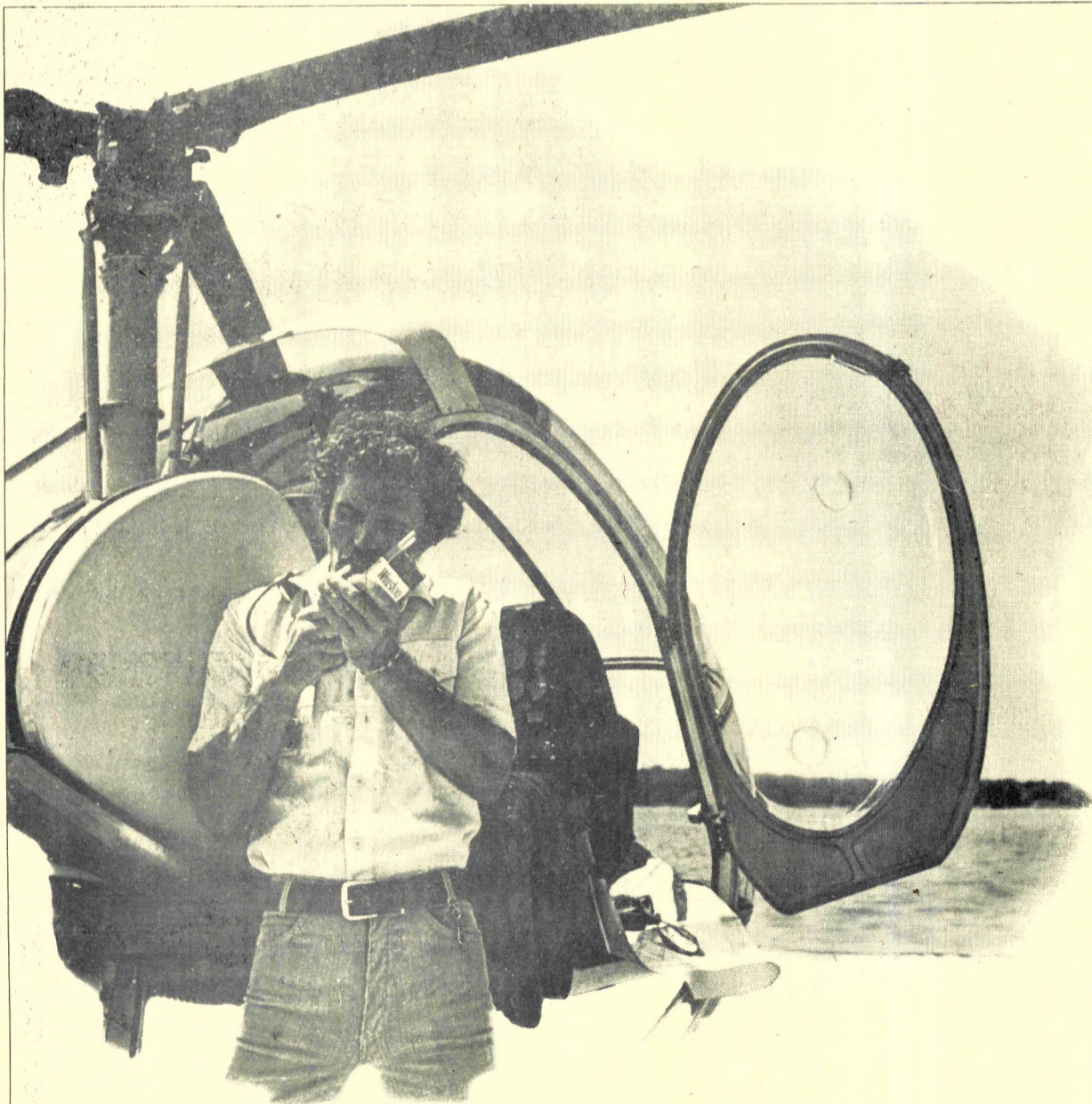
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business

Fall in US exports to UAE

The United States may find it difficult to maintain the level of its exports to the United Arab Emirates, according to the US ambassador in UAE Mr. Francois M. Dickman. He said in 1978 US exports to UAE declined to a little under \$500 million.

But imports from the UAE rose and were nearly \$2 billion. This figure, he said, may be exceeded this year. He said this in an interview on the 'Business week in Abu Dubai' programme on the Voice of the UAE.

US exports to the UAE achieved its highest level in 1977. After that it has been declining slowly. Mr. Dickman said there were several reasons for this including legislation in the United States, the very competitive market in the UAE, the slowdown in UAE economic activity and the fact that Americans are still unfamiliar with the UAE market.

He felt that there would be a greater demand for services of all kinds particularly maintenance, vocational training, hospital management facilities and recreational and leisure facilities.

He asked American businessmen to work "a lot harder to penetrate the market." There are about 50 American companies in Abu Dhabi including banks and another 85 in Dubai.

US tops in gold purchases

The United States had the highest volume of gold purchases among its 123 members, according to the International Monetary Fund. Of the 6.1 million ounces of gold sold by the agency, 1.4 million was bought by the US.

The report said Saudi Arabia and the Yemen Arab Republic purchased far less in comparison while Latin American countries bought heavily, the IMF noted. Saudi Arabia bought 28,672 ounces and the Yemenis bought 2144 ounces while Brazil and Argentina each purchased 94,142 ounces.

Other major buyers included Germany, France, Japan, Italy, and India.

EEC ECONOMIC OUTLOOK BETTER

The Common Market's economic outlook has improved over the last year according to the annual report published by the Brussels Commission last week. Economic growth gathered momentum during the second half of 1978 and unemployment seemed to have passed its peak at the end of the year, the report said.

It said "there is no reason to take an unduly pessimistic view of the situation and the outlook has definitely improved." Looking ahead to 1979 the commission said the new European Monetary system, the launching of which was delayed last month by French insistence on first solving a problem involving farm support payments, must be established early this year.

The commission said it would seek to safeguard jobs in the community and re-deploy workers while working for the restructuring of the troubled steel industry. It said the success of efforts to reorganise "crisis" industries will depend in part on the community's ability to promote the

Renault extends warranty period

The Federal Trade Committee of the United States has announced that France's Renault company will have to extend the warranty period of most of its cars sold in the US since 1975. Under an agreement with the FTC Renault has been asked to inform the owners of these cars that the initial warrant of 12 months or 12,000 miles covering engine or transmission faults will be extended to four years.

According to the agreement, the company will have to write to individual motorists that it had wrongly reduced the warranty period and that it undertook to replace faulty components

growth of new industries which would help create new jobs.

The report said foreign trade contributed appreciably to growth only in Denmark and Italy, while government spending provided strong support for the economies of the Nine. Inflation slackened to about seven per cent down from nine per cent in 1977. The improvement was noticeable mostly in countries with the highest rates but inflation still raged between 2.8 per cent in West Germany and 12.5 per cent in Italy.

The Commission recorded appreciable progress in external payments so that the Nine had a current surplus in 1978 of eight million European units of account. (EUA). This compares with 1.7 billion EUA (\$2.3 billion) surplus in 1977 and 6.3 billion EUA (\$ 8.6 billion) deficit in 1976.

Dairy unit for Egypt

Negotiations between the Swiss dairy firm Nestle and Egypt for a milk powder factory in the Nile Delta are well advanced, according to Egyptian Minister of State for Economic Co-operation, Mr. Ali Gamel Nasser.

Iraq Begins Pumping Oil To Syria


Iraqi crude oil will start flowing to Syria again from Saturday. An official spokesman in Bagdad said the crude will be pumped through a joint pipeline extending from northern Iraq to the Mediterranean for Syria's own requirements.

The spokesman said the two countries had agreed to exchange technical know-how on matters concerning oil with the aim of establishing joint projects. He said the agreement had been reached after assessing requirements of by-products by the two countries so as to avoid the setting up of dual projects.

The two neighbouring countries signed an agreement recently covering Iraqi oil shipments through Syria. The accords are part of moves designed to establish close co-operation and eventual unity following reconciliation between the two states consecrated in a national charter for joint action sealed last October.

Oil export

During January 8,171,926 barrels of oil were exported from the Sultanate in 16 shipments.




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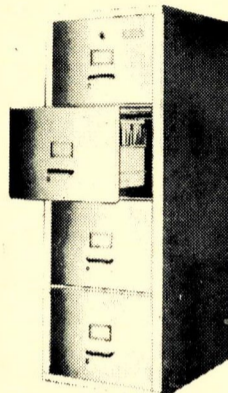
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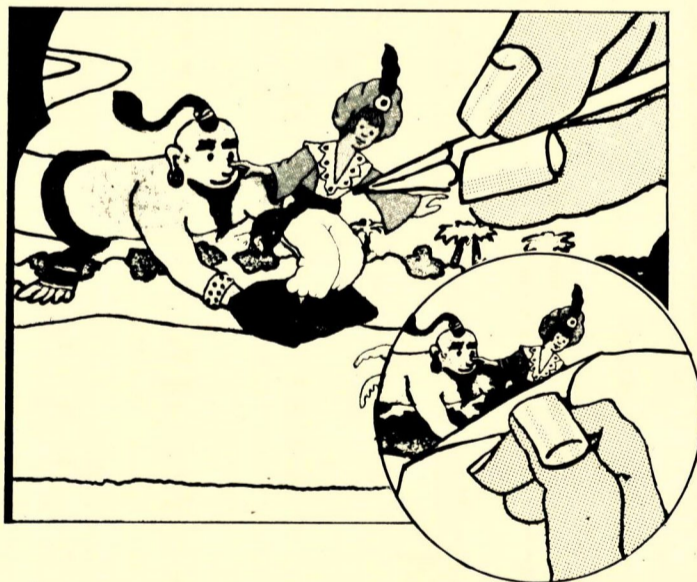
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FOREIGN NEWS

Additional US arms aid to Israel resented

Dr Mohamed Mehdi, director of the association for Arab-American relations and secretary-general of the Union of Arab-American organisations has protested against the reported US move to provide additional arms to Israel.

In a strongly worded cable sent to the White House he said there were reports that Israel had submitted to Defence Secretary Harold Brown a list of arms worth around \$ 7.5 billion in addition to the previous demand of \$ 3.3 billion as a price for the transfer of its military equipment from Sinai in accordance with the articles of the Camp David accords.

Mr Mehdi said any new military aid to Israel would increase the danger of war in the middle east and would worsen the US position in the area and its relations with the Arab countries. If the US government approved additional military aid to Israel it will mean that the American tax payer will have to pay \$ 30 million daily to Israel.

Such a move, he said, would create enmity and hatred towards America in the Arab world. He appealed President Carter to reject these Israeli demands in the interest of the American people even if he had no regards for the Arab interests or the Palestinian rights.

Blumenthal to Visit Peking

The US Treasury Secretary, Mr. Michael Blumenthal will leave for China on Friday on an 11-day trip to help open the US embassy and pave the way for increased trade.

It will be the first visit to China by a US official since the two nations established full diplomatic relations on January 1. Mr. Blumenthal and Chinese officials are expected to hold talks about ways to release Chinese property seized by the US and US property seized by China when the two nations were at odds with each other.

US ambassador in Kabul killed

The American ambassador in Kabul, Mr. Adolf Dubbs was killed last week after being kidnapped by three persons described by the Afghan authorities as terrorists.

Earlier the kidnapers held the envoy prisoner in a hotel in central Kabul and sought the release of several prisoners in return for the release of the envoy.

Soon after that, Afghan troops are reported to have besieged the hotel and opened fire at the kidnapers. The shooting led to the killing of the four kidnapers and serious injury to the 50-year old ambassador, who later succumbed to injuries in the hospital.

A New Delhi report said the envoy, who was travelling in his car in the morning was stopped and dragged out to the government - owned Kabul Hotel by three persons. Mr Dubbs was then locked in room.

The US, in a formal protest has said Soviet advisers in Kabul had failed to heed repeated appeals by American embassy staff not to sanction an attack on the hotel by Afghan police.

In Washington, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance described the killing of Mr Dubbs "a brutal act of violence". In a communique he said, "it only confirms our determination to work to eliminate the mindless violence which threatens the world community."

The Soviet Union has told the US that Soviet representatives in Afghanistan can in no way be held responsible for the murder. A statement delivered to the State department from the Soviet embassy in Washington said the Soviet representatives arrived at the hotel where the envoy was

Peace talks

Uganda and Tanzania will discuss ways of ending their border war in Nairobi at a meeting specially arranged by the organisation of African unity. President Idi Amin has already ordered his troops not to attack except in self-defence.

being held to protect the lives of Soviet citizens who were also threatened by the terrorists.

They had nothing to do with the decision of the Afghan authorities to deal with the terrorists.

Koreans hold talks on reunification

Representatives of North and South Korea have held their first talks on reunification since discussions were broken off six years ago. A further meeting was arranged for early next month.

During Saturday's meeting the South Koreans objected to the composition of the delegation from the north. They said it did not legitimately represent North Korea.



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VOL. 5, NO. 1 MUSCAT, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1979

Real Dangers In the China Border Clash

The situation on the China-Vietnam border is, at this writing, far from clear. To what this conflict will lead is equally obscure. Yet there are possibilities which few can view with equanimity. Undoubtedly the tense situation, with China driven to sending her forces into Vietnamese territory, has arisen from Vietnam's policy of expansion, inspired and supported by Russia. China has been forced to take action, in the final event, by repeated Vietnamese incursions into China, with damage to Chinese property and loss of Chinese lives. This must have been the proverbial straw which broke the camel's back. But the resentment was earlier built up by Vietnam's illtreatment of ethnic Chinese, and then added to by her invasion of Kampuchea. As was pointed out in this column recently, Vietnam's dependence on the Soviet bloc is such that she would not have dared undertake these actions without having first been given Soviet encouragement. It can be assumed that USSR foresaw that under such pressure, China was bound to react as she has done. It is reasonable to ask, therefore, why it was encouraged, if not actually planned in the first instance, by Moscow.

Did Moscow intend to set a trap? Although China has, from the start of her military campaign, declared that it has only limited targets, and that Chinese forces will withdraw to their own territory when these are achieved, the USSR has already invoked her treaty of friendship with Vietnam in most threatening terms. In the border conflict, however limited, there may hide the spark which could set off a major war. It is almost certainly because of this risk that the United States has advised China to end her military moves at once. If the USSR were to give military support to Vietnam, the war might soon spread beyond South East Asia, but it is probable that Moscow believes China will end her punitive action soon. When this happens (and it may well have done so by the time this is read) the least Soviet reaction which can be anticipated is a massive propaganda campaign to claim that China should become so involved that withdrawal is no longer easy, then the consequences could move out of the field of propaganda into that of big power war.

Who Fired the Shot?

The death of the American Ambassador in Kabul, in what has been described as "a rian of lead" in which no one could survive, has led to a pious propaganda exercise by the USSR. The ambassador was being held hostage for the release of prisoners opposed to the Russian-controlled Government. His death came in a premature attack, on the hotel in which he was held, by Government forces "advised" by Russians. The Russians rejected American appeals for delay and negotiations, and sent in the attackers without waiting for the kidnappers' ten minute deadline to end. One eyewitness reports them as actually leading the shooting. The kidnappers were killed, but so was the American ambassador. When the US Government protested strongly to Moscow about the role of the Russians present with the attackers, Moscow blandly replied that although the "advisers" were present, they did not give orders. Yet four of them were sent and heard to do just that, and one of them was a known KGB agent. There are unconfirmed reports that the kidnappers were Moslems acting against the atheist Government. If this was so, they would have been better advised to have seized a Russian. The man killed, Adolph Dubbs, was working to detach Afghanistan from total reliance on the Communist USSR. That he might have been making headway gives credence to one report that the whole affair had nothing to do with Moslem dissidents, but was a put up job by the KGB to get rid of a man whom Moscow saw as a threat to its domination of Afghanistan. And we must remember that such domination is part of the plan to control the Arabian Gulf.

Please Ring 734863

If this editorialist were in the travel agency business, he would be on to a good thing. Unhappily, as he is not, he is being driven up the wall by a telephone which sits on the desk in front of him. It rings at all hours, summoned to life by people who want Saudi Arabian Airlines. Despairing of anyone else doing anything, this writer has now tracked down that: (a) the number 701486, which sits on his desk, is wrongly listed in the telephone directory as Saudi's; and (b) the correct number for Saudi Airlines is 734863. He will be greatly obliged if people seeking to fly by that friendly service would from now on ring the latter number and not his. This does not mean that, as a result of the directory's misdirection, he has not enjoyed many of the talks he has had with unknown travellers-to-be. But time is important in this business, just as it is in the flying trade, so he must beg to put out on further chats not connected with his own line of work. He hopes also that Saudi Airlines will take the hint.

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USSR CENSUS MAY SHOW WEAKNESSES

By a Vienna Correspondent

A state which occupies about one-sixths of the earth's land surface has just completed a census among its 260 million people, drawn from almost 120 different nationalities.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is widely regarded as the world's largest surviving empire, in that it consists of all the dominions over which Tsarist Russia held sway until 1917, as well as the considerable extra territory acquired since then.

In theory the other nationalities have the right to secede from the State ruled from Moscow by the dominant Russians. In practice, however, not one has been able to do so during the 61 years the Soviet Union has been in existence.

Officially this was the sixth Soviet census although in reality it was the seventh. The results of that conducted in 1937 so displeased the then dictator, Stalin, that he ordered the organisers to be executed by firing squad. Even today the data remains unpublished.

This time the leadership's reaction is not expected to be so extreme although expert observers of the Soviet scene think that the census findings will confirm a number of unpalatable trends which have been causing increasing concern in Moscow for some years.

The most worrying of these is the continuing slowing down in the population growth rate - mainly due to the decline in fertility in the European parts of the USSR. From this basic factor a number of highly intractable political problems will flow.

For example, the labour force is expected to grow much more slowly for the rest of the century, with the added embarrassment that what growth there will be the wrong places, the least industrialised areas.

These are in Moslim Central Asia where the population growth rate is much higher than in European Russia. A voluntary migration of labour from Central Asia in sufficient numbers is considered unlikely because of the continuing cultural gulf between the Moslims and Slavs, while an attempt to tap this source of labour by coercion would create as many difficulties as it would solve.

One way to ease the problem would be to achieve a more economic use of labour. But here again political difficulties would first have to be overcome, and so far in all attempts to improve the efficiency of Soviet industry and agriculture, economic reality has failed to make any real headway against ideology.

Another possible solution would be to reduce the physical size of the Soviet military machine, currently absorbing almost 4,000,000 of the population.

As the number of citizens reaching working age falls the competition between the military and civilian sectors for their manpower needs will sharpen. It is estimated that after

1983 the armed forces cannot be maintained at their present strength without denuding industry of its needs.

Thus the Kremlin may be forced to reduce its military strength numerically by cutting the intake of conscripts or by shortening the two-year period of service. Another worrying trend will be the fact that a growing proportion of conscripts will be from Central Asia while their officers will remain overwhelmingly Slav.

One question which most observers are asking is whether the data released about the latest census will include an admission that Russians now form a minority of the USSR's population. Contrary to expectations, the 1970 census found that they made up just over 53 per cent of the population.

It is not expected that being a minority will lead to any real diminution in the concentration of power in Russian hands throughout the USSR in the foreseeable future. But it might have some psychological impact on both the rulers and the ruled.

Alcoholism a serious social problem

Alcohol is a growing threat to developing countries, and the World Health Organisation (WHO) is examining ways of doing something about this serious social problem.

A recent report by WHO director-general Halfdan Mahler suggested that nations consider a wide variety of counter-attacks, including raising prices, limiting imports, enlisting the aid of traditional healers and village elders and even, where possible, total prohibition.

Dr Mahler noted that in the years 1960-1972 the amount of wine produced in the world jumped by 20 per cent, distilled beverages by 60 per cent and beer by 80 per cent. In 25 countries with good statistics annual per capita consumption of alcohol increased by between 30 and 500 percent over this period.

"Some countries report that 50 per cent of their crime is alcohol-related," wrote Dr Mahler. Excessive drinking increases traffic, home and industrial accidents, as well as resulting in industrial absenteeism and low productivity.

In Chile 30 per cent of the budget for medical and psychiatric care is spent on care for alcoholism and its consequences. Even Moslem nations are at risk. Road accidents in Kuwait trebled over 1965-75, "with alcohol very clearly implicated." Alcohol problems are a warning bell that things are going wrong in a society," said an expert recently.

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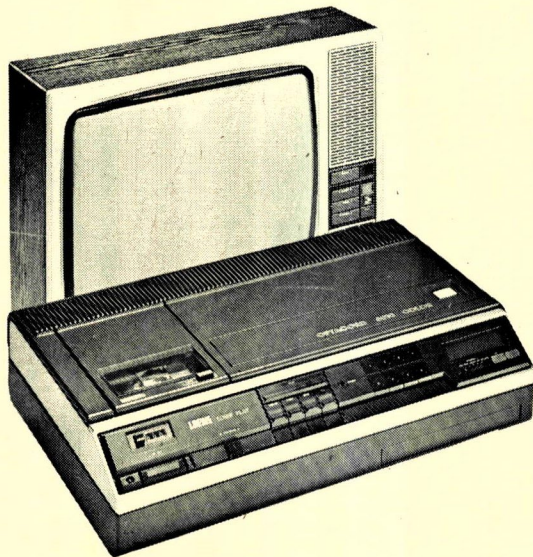
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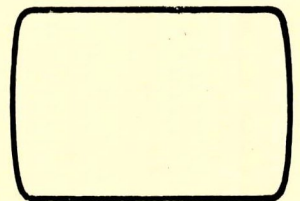


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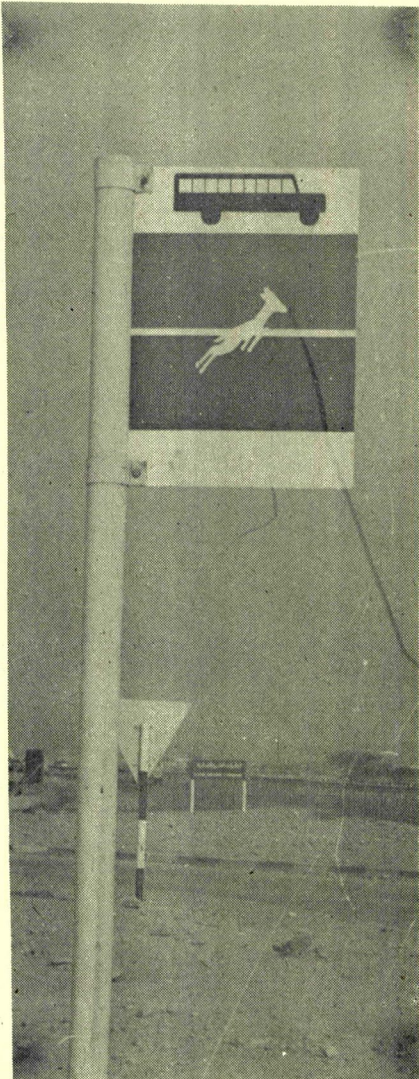
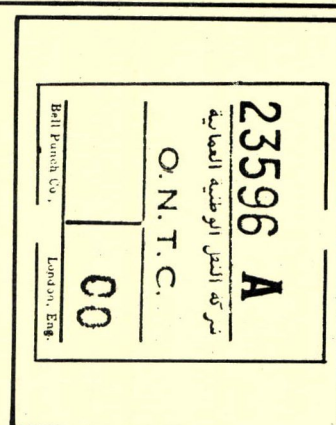
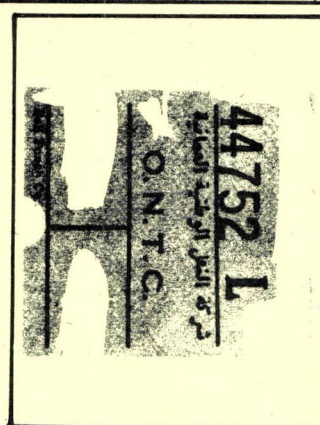
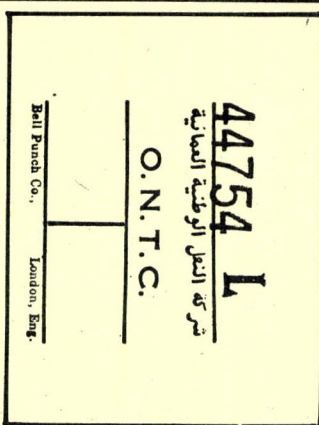
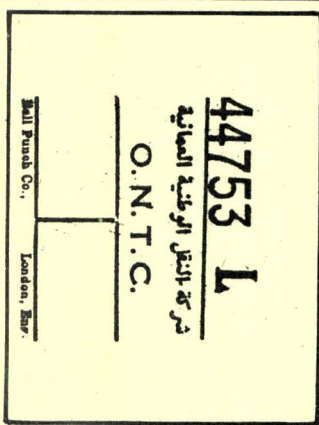
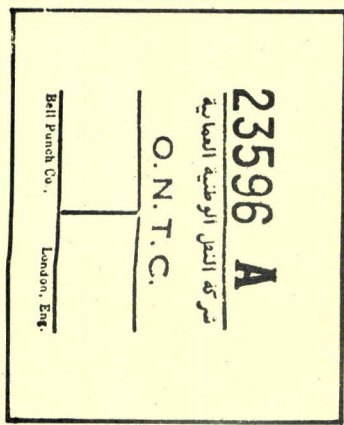
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FOCUS ON OMAN



NO GRIPES ABOUT THIS SERVICE

One of the constant sources of gripes in most countries is the buses. Not only their frequency – or lack of it – but the exorbitant price of the tickets.

In Muscat the picture is completely different. It costs only 250 baizas to travel the 60 km from Muttrah Corniche to Seeb. During the day there is bus every five minutes or so.

Though a relatively new phenomenon in Oman, the buses have established themselves as a useful force in the community.

"At first the local community were uncertain about using the bus service, but now most of our customers are Omanis," said Graham Fletcher, general manager of Oman National Transport.

The company is owned by the

government and Zubair Enterprises.

It started operations back in early 1974 when His Majesty Sultan Qaboos decided that the country needed a public bus service.

The Oman National Transport Company was founded and a fleet of 64 Dodge buses, manufactured in the United States, was purchased.

Thirty-nine of the 64 buses seat 32 persons and the other 25 seat 55 people.

In June 1975, ONTC ran its first charter service for the Port Services Corporation. It collected port workers from all over the capital area and took them to Mina Qaboos.

On September 25, 1975, the first regularly scheduled public bus service in the Sultanate was inaugurated. "Very quickly we

realised that we would have to run services from Muttrah to Seeb and up the main road to Sohar and along the road to Nizwa which had only just been tarmaced," said Graham.

So the services started, and very soon the big white buses with the red and green stripes became a familiar sight in the Capital and out in the interior.

At first the passengers were mainly Indian and Pakistani expatriate workers who were used to buses in their home countries. But the services established themselves and before long the Omanis took to them as well.

The services expanded and the direct route from the Corniche to Ruwi, which experienced

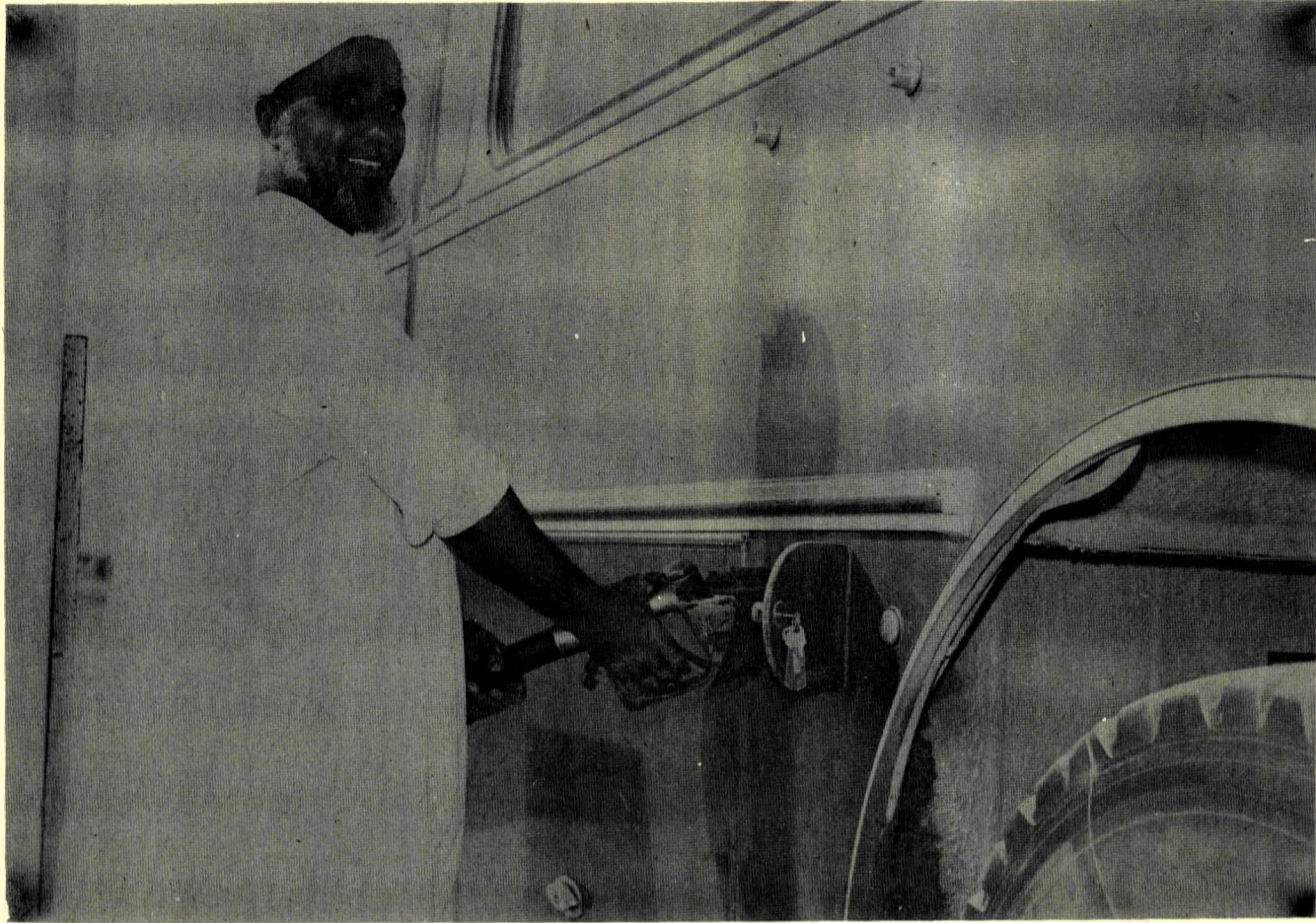
Ruwi, which experienced considerable traffic, was more fully

(Continued on Page 15)

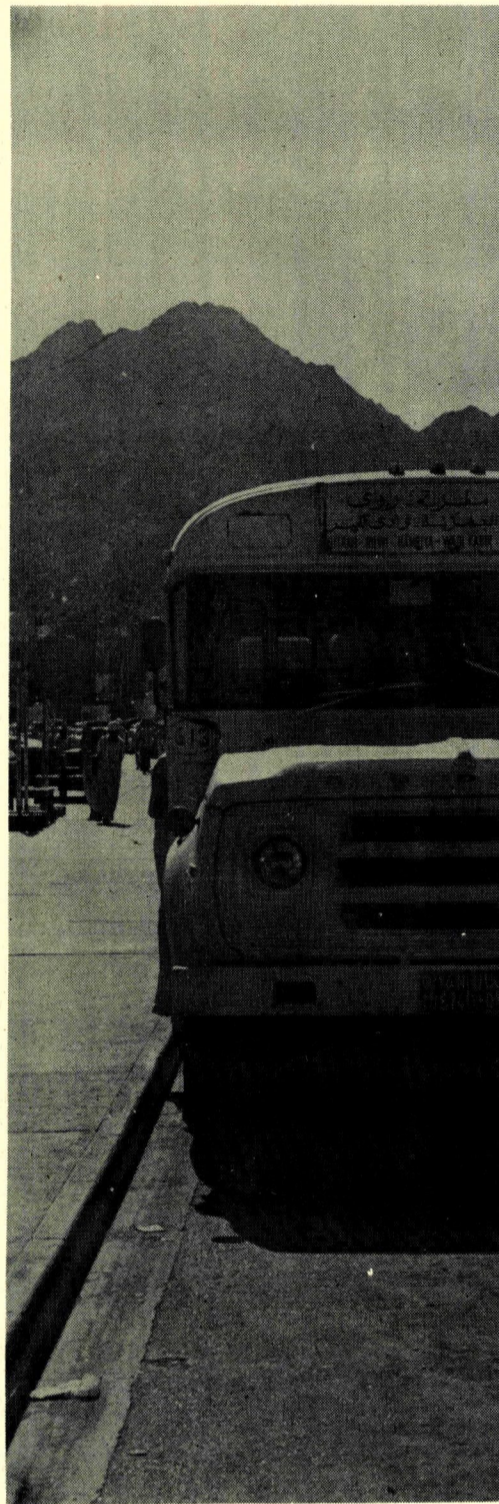


Buses line up for customers on the corniche.

FOCUS ON OMAN



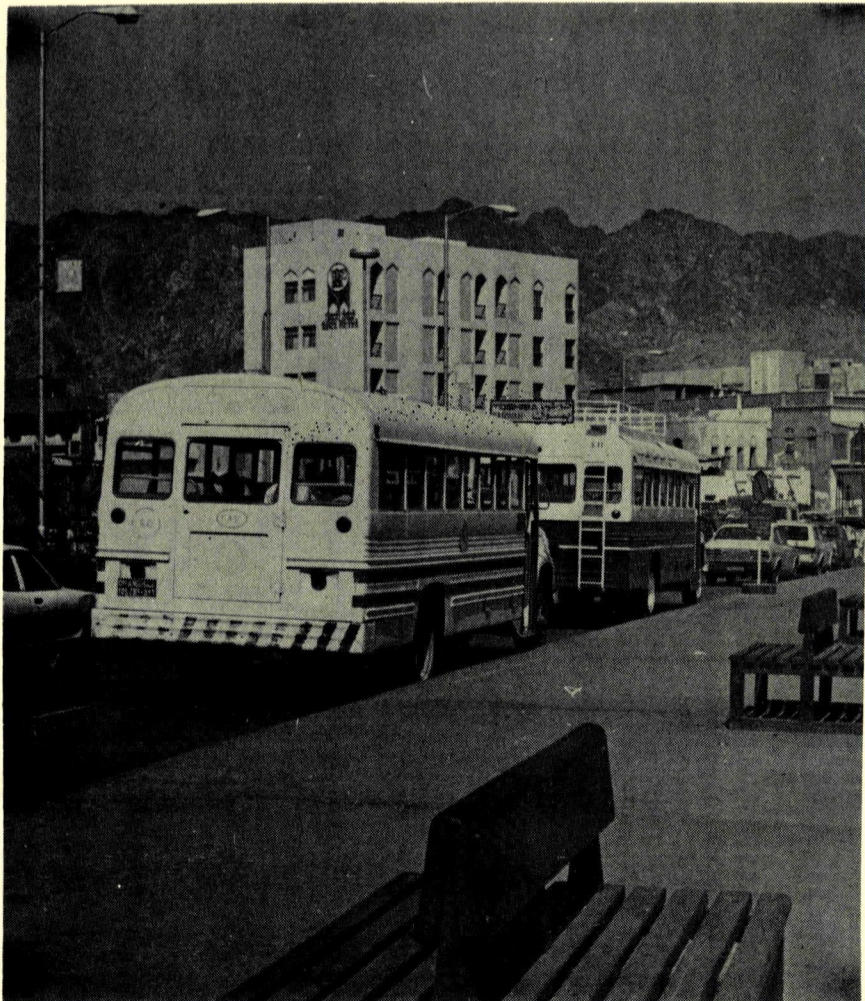
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Ready on Muttrah Corniche

He's The Man Behind The Wheel

The man behind the wheel at ONTC is Graham Fletcher. For the last three years this enthusiastic but easy-going Englishman has been the general manager.

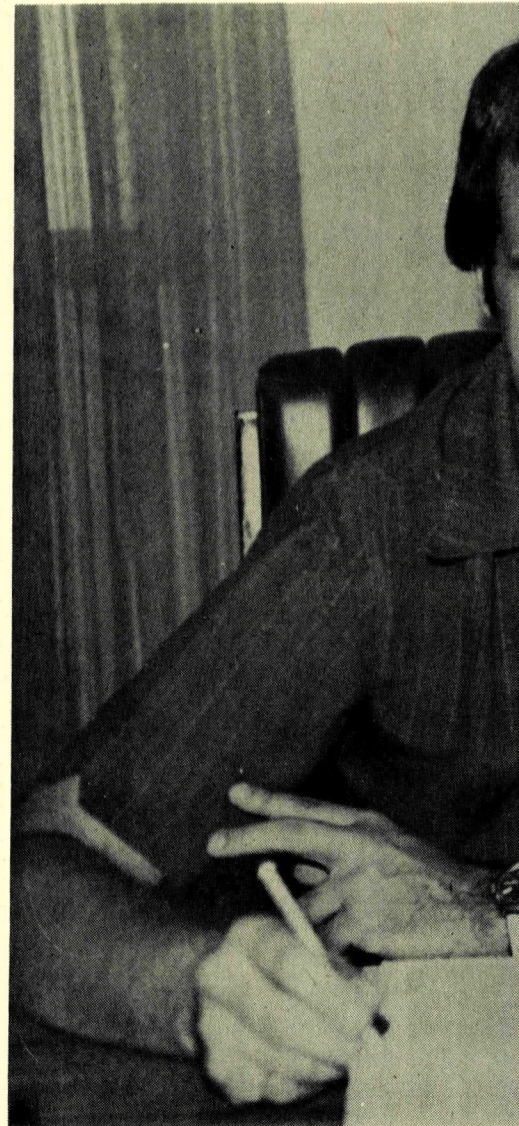
Born in Southampton, this well qualified busman has spent more than 11 years in developing countries.

He was trained as a busman in England, but worked for several years in Uganda before President Idi Amin gave the bus company staff five days to leave the country.

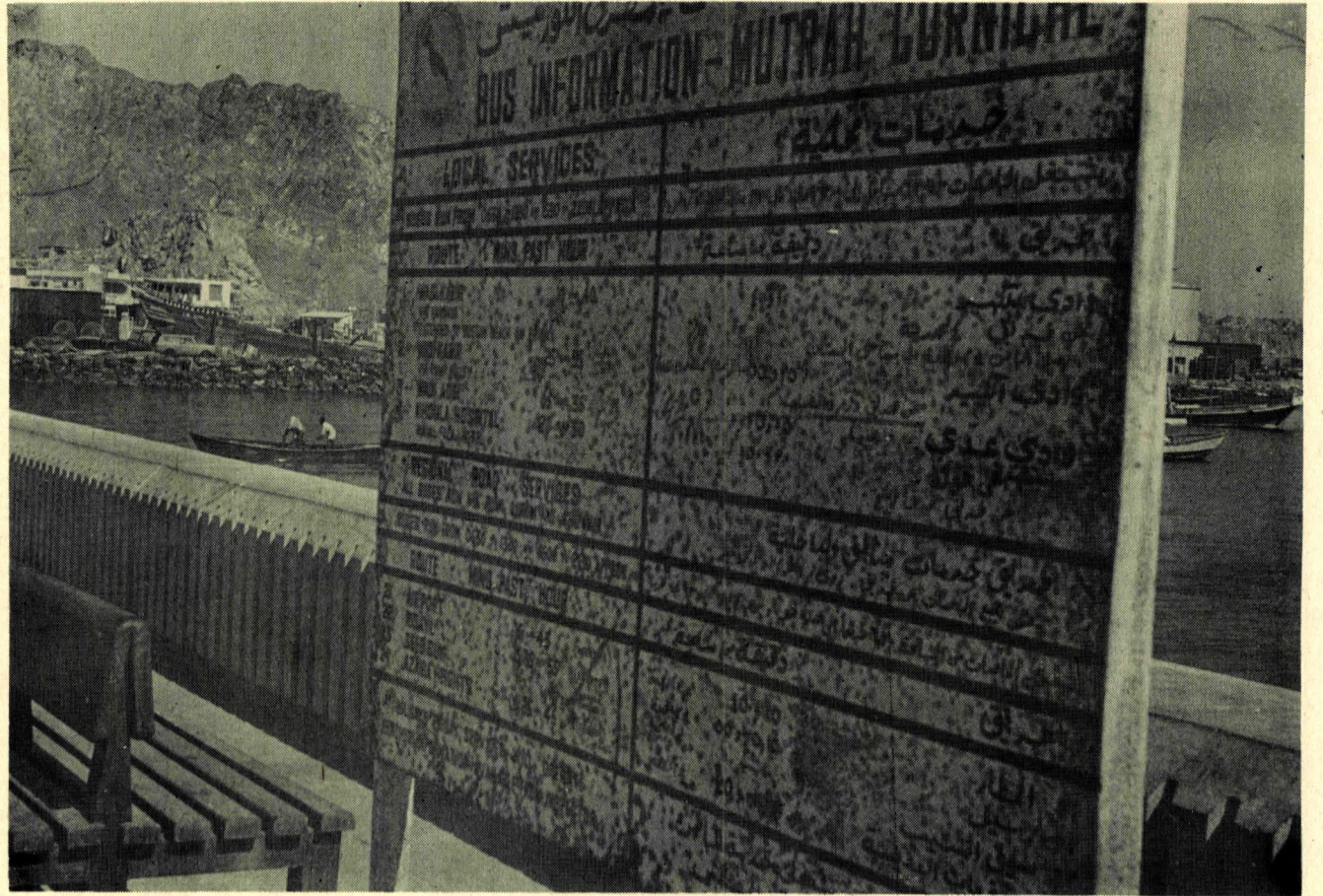
Graham easily found work in Jamaica, where he stayed for two years, before replying to advertisement for the traffic manager's post in Oman.

After about 18 months in the job, and watching the formation of the company, he took the general manager's chair.

As an assured, but quietly firm, boss he has shaped the development of ONTC and brought it to where it is today.



FOCUS ON OMAN



Weatherworn, but still at your service

Kings of The Road

(Continued from Page 13)

covered. In fact it has reached a stage now where during the day you can catch a bus every five minutes from the harbour to Ruwi.

"As people realised that the business were quick, cheap and reliable they began to depend more and more on us and so the services expanded," Graham added.

Sur, Rostaq and Burka began to receive their own regular services and trips for Khoula Hospital and Wadi Adai were provided.

There was intense competition with the taxi drivers and the pick-up operators. ONTC knew from the start their fares were more economic and their mode of transport more comfortable than pick-ups and their charges were far less than the taxis.

But the pick-ups and taxis had been there since cars and wagons had been imported in bulk, so initially it was a hard fight.

Despite that the buses have carved out a market for themselves. They have stuck mainly to the arterial roads and generally left the less accessible villages to the smaller men.

In spite of that, the buses have pushed into new areas when the road surfaces have been good enough and there has been sufficient demand to warrant the extension.

Presently ONTC is conducting a campaign to make people aware of the economic and ecological worth of buses over cars.

They maintain that per head of population moved, the bus is cheaper, causes less congestion and less pollution.

Expansion plans for the future are limited but the company wants to offer services further into the interior as soon as tarmac roads are completed.

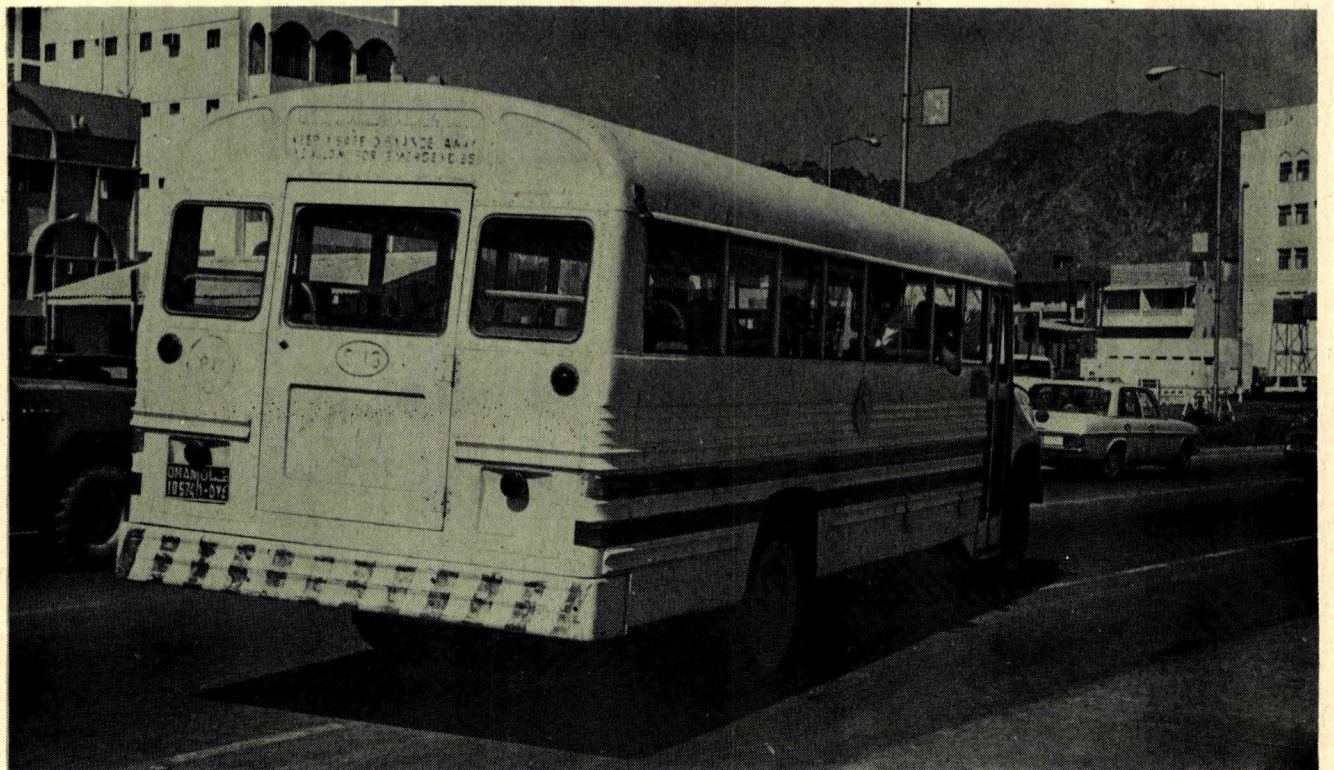
Also it wants to extend its charter facility, which has been available from the beginning. Their five 51-seater coaches are Spanish Dodge models with a higher standard of comfort than their buses.

The company runs charters for high class customers like the embassies in Oman, hotels, clubs of repute and tourists.

Expansion in this area is a key to financial success. Already there are charters to Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

One of the facilities which enables ONTC to offer such a sound and economic service in the repair section at the company headquarters in Azaiba.

It has one of the biggest repair workshops in the country where skilled staff service the buses and coaches. Each bus receives regular and qualified attention, with the accent on safety.



They pull out with care.

JUNIOR TIMES

When Beauty Becomes A Burden

Written by
USHA FERNANDO

The little baby deer had grown into a handsome strong young stag. All the forest animals called him Arrow.

He was stronger and swifter than all the other stags in the wood. They would tire after running swiftly for half a mile, but not young Arrow. No leopard could pursue and catch him up, because Arrow could race swiftly for a long while.

"He is so sturdy" the other forest creatures would say.

The other stags envied him.

"He is so strong, and has so much stamina. His antlers are so beautiful and big and so symmetrical - and look at ours so short and stunted and twisted, the other stags would say when ever

Drawn by
CHARMAINE HALL

they got to talking of Arrow.

"He is so strong and well built. He is really very very handsome."

All this praise and admiration turned Arrow's head. He became very very vain.

Now Arrow became so vain that he spent long hours at the pools which had clear water, where he could see his reflection well in their depth. He would gaze at himself, change positions and gaze again.

He viewed himself holding his antlers up. Then with his neck stretched into the water so that he saw his antlers fully.

The older stags, who had shed their antlers, were amused and disapproving.

"How happy we are without our antlers. Arrow seems to think he will never lose his."

The others shook their heads.



... Arrow became so vain that he spent long hours at the pools.... "

He will lose his life because of his vanity", they thought. "When the time comes his antlers will drop. It can't be very far off, it is time really, said an old hind.

The does felt sorry for Arrow.

"He has become a fool, a vain fool, but I feel sorry when I think of a forest fire and we have to run through the dense undergrowth without getting entangled", said one.

"One day he will curse his beautiful antlers", agreed the others.

Time passed on. Arrow continued to live the same way. Becoming more and more vain, he ceased to be friends with others. He was becoming a 'loner'.

He did not feel the weight of his heavy antlers. He thought only of their beauty. The herd chose another leader for themselves because they felt that Arrow, though strong and swift, had no qualities of leadership.

One day, unexpectedly, something happened. A hungry young tiger, who had noted the long hours spent at the waters edge by the vain stag, stalked him

and marked him for his quarry.

While Arrow gazed at himself the tiger moved up quietly, stealthily, silently, through the grass. Just as it was about to spring on Arrow, he scented the tiger. His nostrils quivered as he panicked and plunged into the forest and sped away.

He forgot to run into the grasslands. He moved deeper and deeper into the forest, heedless of the bushes the creepers and undergrowth in its heart.

Suddenly he was entangled in it. His antlers were caught in the

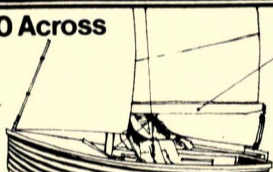
Suddenly he was entangled in it. His antlers were caught in the undergrowth. He fought vigorously, struggling desperately,

Suddenly he was entangled in
(Continued on Page 20)

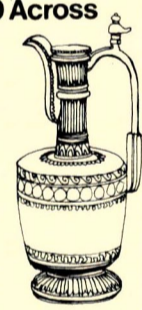
PICTURE PUZZLE SOLUTION

Down: - 1 Antler, 2 Recorder, 3 Telescope, 4 Spearman.
Across: - 1 Apricot, 5 Tack, 6 Boom, 11 Surgeon.
Flap, 7 Acre, 8 Asia, 9 Ewer, 10

10 Across




9 Across



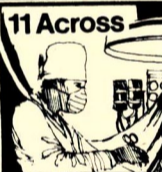
7 Across

4840 square yards


6 Across




11 Across




8 Across




1 Down



3 Down

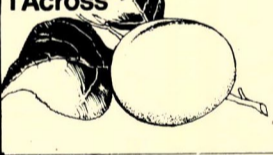


2 Down




Picture Puzzle


1 Across



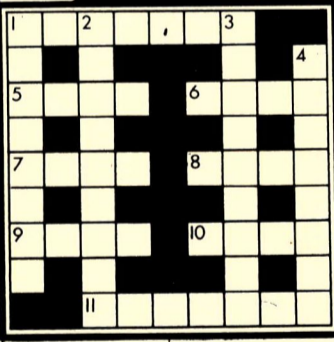
5 Across



4 Down



45

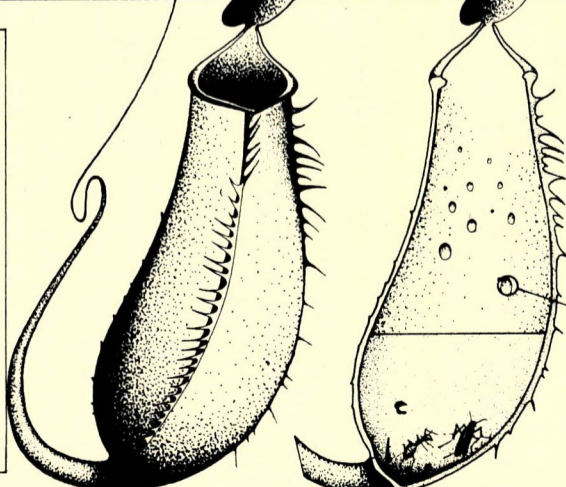


11 Surgeon

© First Features

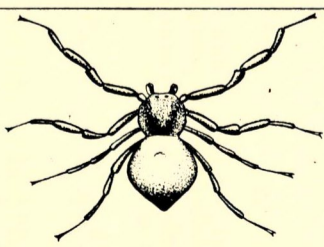
Isn't Nature wonderful!

Pitcher Plants rely on insects for much of the nitrogen they need. This one, **NEPENTHES SANGUINEA**, is one of 67 species in the East Indies. There are 20 species in America. Insects venture on to the pitcher's slippery edges to drink nectar, and fall into a bath of fluids similar to those in an animal's digestive system. The cup, formed by the plant's leaves, has a flower-like lip.



Small glands in the waxy walls secrete fluid which digests the victim's nitrogen and phosphorus. Pitchers vary from half an inch to twenty inches long.

One animal proof against the Pitcher Plant is a **CRAB SPIDER**, which lives just above the digestive fluid. Its web acts as a net to catch falling insects. Apparently unharmed by the fluid, the spider eats what it needs before leaving the victims' remains to the plant.



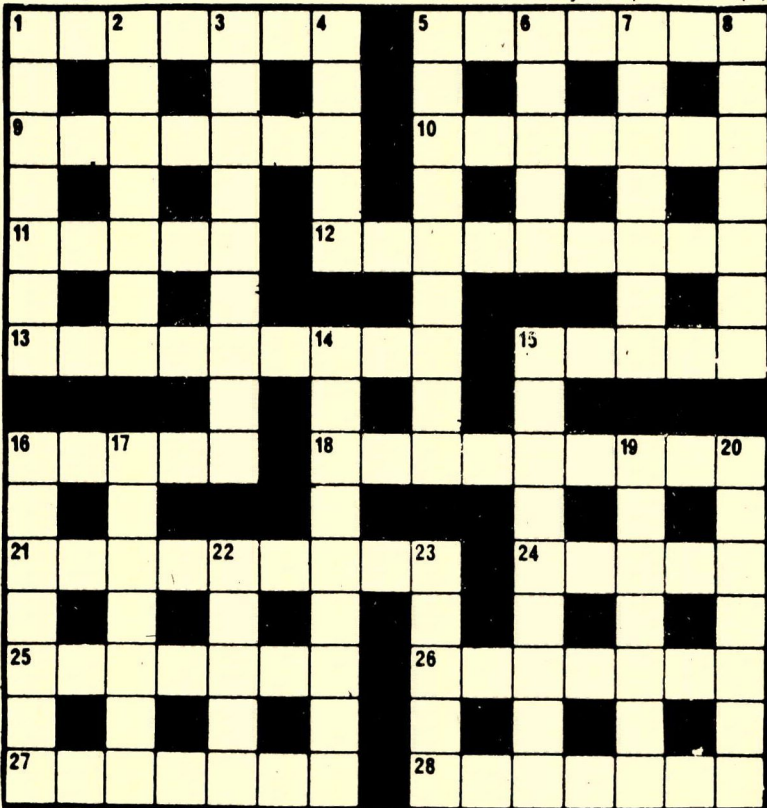
51 © First Features

LEISURE

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- In the first place she is not allowed freedom of movement (7)
 - It's beastly being a long time in one job (7)
 - Modern poetry is unfavourable (7)
 - Porridge going round at breakfast? (7)
 - Turning point (5)
 - Watchman? (9)
 - They live by the pen (9)
 - Talk or possibly eat (5)
 - Strips being about to get some rest (5)
 - They drop a line, hoping for some response (9)
 - The one you keep under your hat? (3,6)
 - It supports progress with conscious pride (5)
 - You'll find prices constantly rising at it (7)
 - U.S. soldier in a pub? That's reasonable (7)
 - Take a liberty? (7)
 - Dip in the road is a problem for the tinker (7)

- DOWN**
- Heartily dislikes a hotel's re-organisation (7)
 - Go-ahead pawnbrokers may give you one (7)
 - One of those animal crackers? (9)
 - Put on something saucy? (5)
 - There's less noise from such animals (9)
 - Suitable group to play an eightsome reel? (5)
 - You can't do a thing with it (7)
 - Gleaner prepared to expand (7)
 - The sort of book to consult, to be sure (9)
 - Supervision? It would seem to have been lacking (9)
 - It's to be found in the estate agent's brochure (7)
 - Has prospects? (7)
 - Hide in N. Africa (7)
 - Part of S. Africa that is enough for a girl (7)
 - Girl I care about (5)
 - Possibly lit up a bulb (5)



QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Authorise (7)
 - Enmity (3-4)
 - Roved in search of prey (7)
 - Environment (7)
 - Smooth and glossy (5)
 - Sharp-eyed (9)
 - Lecture (9)
 - To correct (5)
 - To flood (5)
 - Unrivalled (9)
 - Preferred above others (9)
 - Superior (5)
 - Categorised (7)
 - Put to sea (3,4)
 - To shield (7)
 - Incessant (7)

- DOWN**
- Unprotected (7)
 - Valour (7)
 - Famous (4-5)
 - Wireless (5)
 - Urgent (9)
 - Subsequently (5)
 - To copy (7)
 - Illuminated (7)
 - Residue (9)
 - Worn out (9)
 - Shortcomings (7)
 - Forestall (7)
 - Atone for (7)
 - Excess amount (7)
 - Overturn (5)
 - Follow as result (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

QUICK SOLUTION

Across: - 1 Priest, 4 Boastful, 9 Engine, 10 Becoming, 12 Annulled, 13 Rental, 15 Earn, 16 Apparently, 19 Half-witted, 20 Oral, 23 Let Off, 25 Duration, 27 Allocate, 28 Intact, 29 Done Down, 30 Cheeky.

Down: - 1 Preface, 2 In general, 3 Single, 5 Open, 6 Showered, 7 Faint, 8 Legally, 11 Despite, 14 Careful, 17 Terminate, 18 Two-faced, 19 Holland, 21 Lengthy, 22 Launch, 24 Talon, 26 Stow.

CRYPTIC SOLUTION

Across: - 1 Moment, 4 Antidote, 9 Silent, 10 Agnostic, 12 Engaging, 13 Agenda, 15 Year, 16 Traffic Jam, 19 Out of Sight, 20 Isle, 23 Damson, 25 Underfed, 27 Eardrums, 28 Winnow, 29 Traverse, 30 Stayed.

Down: - 1 Mastery, 2 Malignant, 3 Nonage, 5 Nigh, 6 Iron Grip, 7 Often, 8 Exclaim, 11 Inertia, 14 Offhand, 17 Just Fancy, 18 Of course, 19 Oddment, 21 Endowed, 22 Depict, 24 Maria, 26 Amos.

Seven-day Stars

For week beginning Sunday 25 February



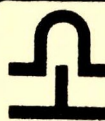
Leo
July 24 to Aug 23

You'll be an onlooker this week rather than an active player. One episode makes you pleased you kept out of trouble. Specially favoured are those who are planning a journey. Lucky colour green; lucky number 2.



Virgo
Aug 24 to Sept 23

Children will produce problems this week, and there are signs of lost tempers and tensions all round. A better influence prevails later, and the week-end promises to be enjoyable. Lucky colour blue; lucky number 2.



Libra
Sept 24 to Oct 23

You're likely to be drawn into some kind of group interest and this could annoy someone else who isn't interested. Single people will enjoy a mild flirtation, but shouldn't take it seriously. Lucky colour yellow; lucky number 6.



Scorpio
Oct 24 to Nov 22

You may meet a flamboyant personality and discover an empty life behind the glitter. Take an opportunity to meet a stranger of the opposite sex. An important letter is due. Lucky colour orange; lucky number 1.



Sagittarius
Nov 23 to Dec 20

There is a kindly influence at work this week, and it's a good time for making up differences and tackling difficult people. A personal problem is getting easier and should soon disappear. Lucky colour green; lucky number 1.



Capricorn
Dec 21 to Jan 20

A friend may be in considerable distress and you'll be a great comfort and a practical help. Something occurs within the family which could make you take serious thought about future plans. Lucky colour white; lucky number 9.



Aquarius
Jan 21 to Feb 19

Single people of all ages are favoured this week. Older people and the widowed may see the beginning of a new romance. Parties are favoured if small and kept very quiet. Lucky colour violet; lucky number 9.



Pisces
Feb 20 to Mar 20

This is an important time and could involve changes in family routine. Others should be in co-operative mood. Take a new person under your wing and you'll find a firm new friend. Lucky colour red; lucky number 1.



Aries
March 21 to April 20

You should find you're becoming more and more popular and there'll be many calls on you. You'll find you have little time for personal jobs and letter-writing. Romance is favoured. Lucky colour green; lucky number 8.



Taurus
April 21 to May 21

You may meet an old friend of the opposite sex whom you haven't seen for a long time. It's likely you won't wish to become emotionally disturbed, and will keep things light-hearted. Lucky colour green; lucky number 3.



Gemini
May 22 to June 21

Married people may find themselves getting into arguments with parents. Tolerance is called for, plus a sense of humour. Conflicting influences ought to disappear by Thursday. Lucky colour brown; lucky number 5.



Cancer
June 22 to July 23

You'll have to fight against a shut-in feeling. Home entertaining gives promises of fun and laughter this week. Romance is in the doldrums just now, but changes are due soon. Lucky colour blue; lucky number 9.

The low tar cigarette.

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- * Eastern Trading Co., Post Box No. 103, Muscat (Sultanate of Oman)
- * Ebrahim Bin Hussain, Commercial Agencies, Post Box No. 1681, Doha (Qatar).

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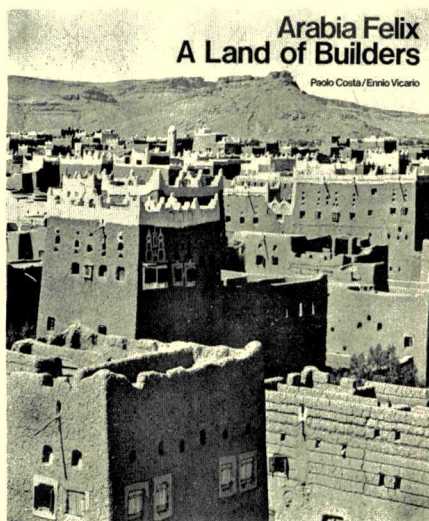
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A BIRDSEYE VIEW

BOOKWORM



Arabian Bookshelf

It is pleasant to be reviewing a book written by someone who lives here; it is even more so to be able to give it unrestrained praise, since nothing more quickly puts an end to a beautiful friendship than having to knock the author's writing.

Dr. Paulo Costa's book on Yemen: "**Arabia Felix, A Land of Builders**", is now available in Oman. With his co-worker, photographer Ennio Vicario, he has made in this book an excellent record of the Yemen's remarkable buildings.

That in itself would be a work of great value, because of the character and beauty of indigenous architecture throughout the Yemen is a survival from the past not equalled anywhere in the Middle East. It is only now that the urge to progress is starting to threaten the homogeneity of which this work provides a lasting memorial.

The value of the book lies beyond, as well as in, this quality, because it is also, both in writing and photographic illustration, a complete work of art. The text and the photographs combine admirably to present a rounded and complete picture, and both are placed in such a way as to attract and satisfy the sensibilities as well as the interest of the reader.

That the book is timely can be judged when the scene it records is compared with many parts of the Middle East, where buildings of great antiquity, and equal architectural value, have been swept aside in the rush to modernise. No doubt some of this, at least, will happen in Yemen, but the past will have been admirably recorded.

This is not specialist, although doubtless it will be of great interest to both architects and archaeologists. It has been written and presented in such a way that it is attractive reading for people with only a layman's interest in the things around them. The reader is led from stage to stage very comfortably, and the interest is sustained throughout, largely by ones being able to see, through the pictures, while understanding at the same time through the text.



"Local" Girl Who Made Good

Kristine is coming to town ... and is Mum excited! For Kristine, star of cabaret at the Gulf Hotel soon, has a father, mother and sister living in Medinat Qaboos.

If not a local girl who made good, at least a "local" girl.

Kristine, who is well-known in British theatrical and television audiences, and indeed to audiences all over the world, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Hodgson. Mr Hodgson is general manager of Oman Air-conditioning, a member of the Zubair group of companies.

Mrs. Hodgson, known to her friends as Audrey, told me that she was immensely excited and pleased that her daughter was coming to give a show in Oman. "It will be wonderful to see her in cabaret here", she said, "after having seen her in so many other types of show."

And, she continued, all the family here were looking forward to her arrival. That included Kristine's 23-year old sister, Helen, who works for W.J. Towell.

We talked about Kristine's career, about which I had received a full, and as it turned out, not entirely accurate run-down from the gent who acts as agent for stars visiting the Gulf area.

When I said I understood Kristine had had her first professional engagement at the age of 13..... "What!" said her Mum, "she was at grammar school then. What nonsense!"

It turned out, however, that the blurb was not all that far off. Kristine did perform in Birmingham when she was 13, but it was with a pop group which got together in her school as a

break from the grind of studying for exams.

And not that bad a pop group either, because, in addition to the lovely Kristine, it included present day stars Bev Bevan, formerly of "The Move" and now of the Electric Light Orchestra, and Denny Laine of "Wings". Quite a scholl.

In these days, Kristine not only had her nose to the scholastic grindstone, but was hard at it practising the violin and the piano, both of which she started to learn to play when her family moved to Manchester, England, from County Antrim, Northern Ireland (a good place to move from, considering conditions there nowadays).

Love of music has been a driving force in Kristine's life and career. Nowadays it certainly pays off, for she writes her own songs, and composes for others also.

So she's not just a pretty face. But that pretty face, and the voice and personality that goes with it, has carved out a career which does not depend on the ability to write songs... handy bread-winner though that may be.

Her first big success was when she played Charlie Girl in the London West End musical of that name. It ran for five years and other stars in it were Anna Neagle, Joe Brown and Derek Nimmo.

When she auditioned for the job, and got it out of 300 applicants, Mrs. Hodgson told me, Kristine had not had very long or wide experience. But talent told, and she got a real start on the road to success.

More about the show, as a show, on the Entertainments page.

FRYING PAN CORNER

The reason for the heading above is that the woman in charge of this page has gone on leave, so that mere males are having to patch up as they can. It has often been said that, despite the role of the woman as the family manager, cook and queenpin of the household, when it comes to big time cooking, the chefs are nearly always men.

So perhaps we will manage to muddle through. If not, out of the frying pan, into the.....

First of all, something which makes a fine standby when you expect people to drop in, but are not sure. Serve it on salty crackers, or toast croquettes.

Farmhouse Pate

You Need: 3 bay leaves; 15 gms (½ oz) butter; 175 gms (6oz) chicken liver; 100 gms (4oz) calf's liver, or beef liver if calf's is unobtainable; 1 small clove of garlic crushed; 1 egg; 45 ml (3tbs) single cream; salt; black pepper; 150 ml (¼pt) boiling water.

What To Do — Butter a 15 cm (6 ins) round cake tin. Place the bay leaves in the bottom. Heat the butter in a frying pan, and gently fry the liver until lightly coloured and stiff. Cool. Put the liver, garlic and egg into a liquidiser, and blend until smooth. If you do not have a liquidiser, get to work with grandma's mortar and pestle, which is just as good, if harder work. The liquidising or pounding done, blend in the cream and seasoning, and then pour the mixture into the cake tin. Cover with foil.

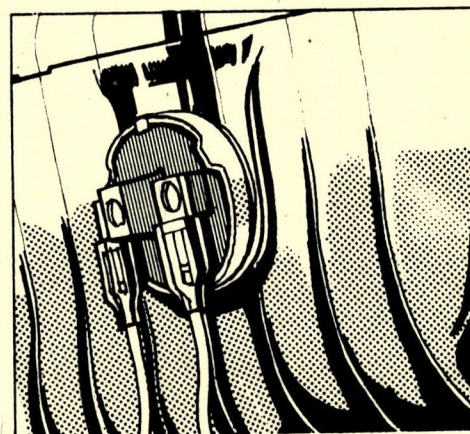
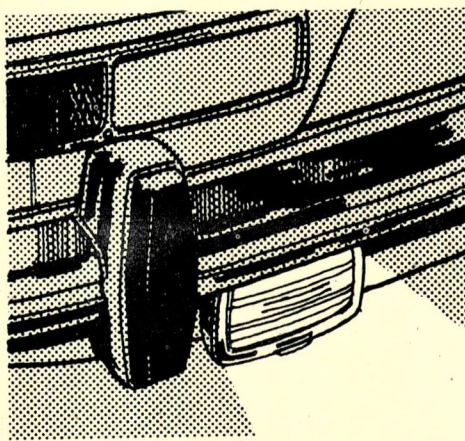
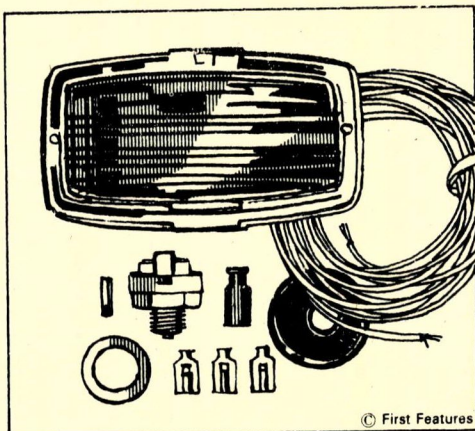
Now here may be where our ways divide. I would do the rest in a slow cooker, the modern version of the old farmhouse hay box. It is the ideal helper for working chefs, who would rather hang all day over a hot stove, but are forced by economic circumstance to go to the office.

If you have a slow cooker, put it on hot for 20 minutes. Then put a jam jar lid in the bottom and stand the cake tin on it. Now pour in the boiling water. Switch to low heat, and cook for three hours.

With no slow cooker, you can finish the pate in the oven in the normal way, but the slower the better, or you devise a large double boiler of some kind and use that, although it can be a bit tricky.

Whichever way you use, the pate should be firm to the touch when it is ready.

It should be a great success. If, however, you discover that none of your guests like liver (and you yourself are none too fond of it) you can always throw the whole thing away.



Reversing at night's not easy if you can't see where you're going. Make sure your reversing light's in good order: if you haven't got one you can buy an easy-to-fit kit.

Position the light so that you're not likely to smash it if you bump into something. Make sure it's adjusted to point downwards so that it won't dazzle other drivers.

The automatic switch fits into a special housing on the gearbox, covered with a plug that unscrews. The light will come on only when you have engaged reverse gear.

(Continued from Page 4)

hundred Bulgarians, were working in agriculture.

While these foreigners were well looked after, and faced no shortages, the lieutenant reported, there was rationing of food and other essentials for the Yemeni people. At the most, a

Low wages, food rationing for South Yemenis

person was allowed three pounds of sugar and a small quantity of rice each month.

Wages were very low, especially in the Army, and this caused added grievances now that conscription had

been imposed on all adults. There were limitations on travel, imprisonment without trial and widespread unemployment.

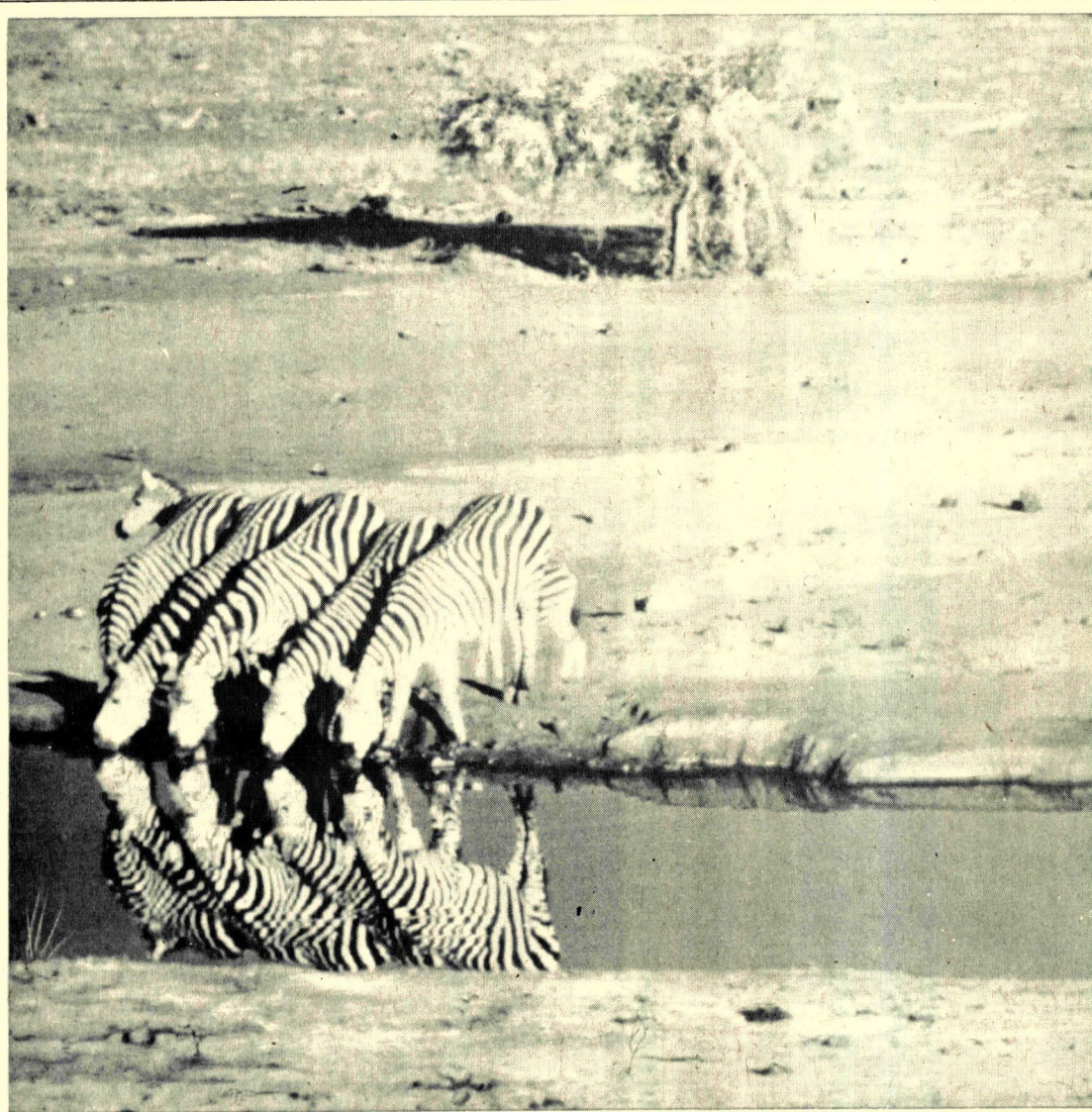
People who went to mosques and prayed were looked on with ill-favour.

To protect themselves from persecution, people were staying away.

The result of this was that, when they could, people fled the country. He estimated that as many as 80,000 had done so.

Arbitrary arrests were common, on the slightest suspicion. He himself, in June last year, was in Badr Camp, Aden, on his way back to his unit from leave. He was arrested and imprisoned in Mansoorah Prison, on suspicion of being a supporter of the former president.

He was released three months later on the authority of Defence Minister Ali Antar, and sent home, suspended from duty until December. He was then returned to duty.



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I want my son to work his way up from the bottom, even if it takes a month

Beauty becomes burden

(Continued from Page 16)

it. His antlers were caught in the undergrowth. He fought vigorously, struggling desperately, kicking wildly. Then he realized that his legs were free, but his antlers were entangled.

He could get very faintly the scent of the approaching tiger.

He cried bitterly in his mind. "I have been so stupid and vain. I prized my antlers above everything else and this is the cause of my death."

He thought as he struggled. "My antlers - they have been my death trap. How fortunate are the stags with stunted, twisted antlers. The old stags were right. It is a "burden".

He struggled violently heaving his body and jerking his head.

Suddenly he felt light and free as a bird. He sped on and on. When the tiger came up to the spot there was only the pair of beautiful antlers caught in the branches of a bush.

HEALTH

Do you ever feel like your nerves have grown thorns that are scratching against every single person and thing your life brushes past? When sleep finally comes, is it more often than not the work of a bottle of pills begged from your doctor? And does your alarm clock summon the strength of a new day or just reawaken the fatigue, the fears and the frazzled nerves of all your yesterdays?

Maybe just thinking of all those unpleasant sensations makes you feel like crawling into a hole in the ground. If you did just that — crawled into a hole in the ground — you'd have more chance of finding relief than by crawling into a bottle of tranquillizers, because that hole in the ground might contain *dolomite*, a naturally-occurring combination of the minerals calcium and magnesium — both of which are necessary to keep the nerves tranquil.

August F. Daro, M.D., clinical professor of obstetrics and gynaecology, Stritch School of Medicine, writes in the May, 1976, *International Surgery*: "Too many people rely on drugs, tranquillizers and alcohol to see them through their lives. Would not improvement of the diet be better? We often use magnesium or magnesium with calcium as a tranquillizer. Patients who complain of nervousness or insomnia are treated with magnesium or magnesium plus calcium instead of harmful habit-forming drugs."

Dr. Daro mentions a very interesting experiment which demonstrates that rats, like humans, can be malnourished into a nervous frazzle. A group of 20 rats living together in a large cage thrived and adjusted well to each other when fed a diet that supplied key nutrients. But a similar group of 20 rats, when fed low-nutrient, high-calorie junk food, developed irritability, bit each other and the attendants, and in a short time became cannibalistic and killed three of their own kind.

Dr. Daro notes, "Many factors affect behaviour: however, the observations in this experiment give dramatic evidence of the influence of nutritional factors."

Dolomite Does Double Duty

Among those nutritional factors, the two minerals supplied by dolomite, calcium and magnesium, are crucial.

If blood levels of either mineral get too low, controlling signals between nerves and muscles become scrambled and convulsions occur. This condition is known as tetany, and it can be fatal, especially in newborn babies. One of magnesium's specific functions in the body is to keep the muscles in a normal state of relaxation. Too little magnesium in the system makes the muscles irritate and, you might say, *too ready* for action.

Dolomite Can Take the Edge off Nerves

Why turn automatically to drugs for relief of tension when nature's own "tranquillizers" — calcium and magnesium — can gently help the body to heal itself?

According to Jerry G. Chutkow, M.D., "Neurologic symptoms and signs are the most prominent and

frequent manifestations of disturbances in the metabolism of magnesium." (2nd International

Symposium on Magnesium, Montreal, 1976.)

Outlining those symptoms and signs at the same symposium, Edmund B. Flink, M.D., Ph. D., said, "Neuromuscular manifestations (of magnesium deficiency) particularly muscular twitching and tremor of any or all muscles including the tongue, with waxing and waning intensity and often with abrupt onset, are the most common findings. Convulsions occur in severe depletion and are the common sign of trouble in infants and young children. Mental symptoms, which are equally important, include apathy, poor memory, mild to severe delirium (confusion, disorientation, hallucinations, paranoia) and coma."

Magnesium's importance in keeping our nerves on a smooth track is well documented. A 1960 (Continued on Page 22)

Kent

Come for the filter.

You'll stay for the taste.

Great tobaccos smoothed by the white Micronite filter for the world's most satisfying flavor. Kent. America's quality cigarette.

HEALTH

(Continued from Page 21)

experiment found that cattle whose blood levels of magnesium were low became apprehensive and excitable. Muscular tremors and convulsions followed. An earlier study with people found that such symptoms as confusion, disorientation, delirium, delusions, hallucinations, and wild, combative behaviour ended within six to 18 hours of injected magnesium. (*New York State Journal of Medicine*, February, 1976).

And a group of doctors have found low blood levels of magnesium to be a common factor in patients with anxiety, depression, weakness, and psychosomatic disorders. (*Diseases of the Nervous System*, August, 1975).

Why Rely on Tranquillizers?

When we view these facts in the

light of Dr. Flink's statement that, "Unfortunately, magnesium deficiency often is undetected," we can only wonder how many tons of tranquillizers are swallowed in vain efforts to hide such symptoms – and how many people are buried under a legal drug habit as a result. A simple, safe, and inexpensive supplement like dolomite could soothe so many nerves left jagged by low dietary levels of calcium and magnesium.

Dr. Daro revealed some of the successes he has had using magnesium to soothe jangled nerves. "Some people drink a lot of coffee or they use diuretics – both of which rob the body of vital minerals. Then they come in and complain of nervousness. They want something to quieten their nerves. I give them magnesium and calcium. It's not habit-forming. They feel quite good

afterwards. It's amazing to see how these patients are so very happy, how much calmer than they were before. About two weeks ago a woman came in – very nervous and apprehensive – complaining of pre-menstrual headaches. I gave her a combination of magnesium, vitamin C, and niacinamide. She was so pleased when I saw her afterwards. She said it was the first time in her life that she had been free of these headaches and pre-menstrual troubles."

A nutritional habit, though looked down upon as faddism by doctors who don't know any better, could free many people living from one drug to the next, seeking relief from what they have been told are the "normal strains of modern life."

A Better Night's Sleep

Unfortunately, though, we take

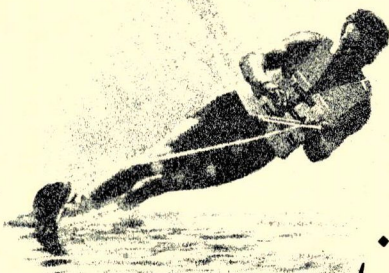
too many of the wrong things – without a second thought. Like sleeping pills, for instance. Many people think nothing of popping a sleeping pill or two into their mouths before retiring. There may have been a time when they thought twice about it, but they decided not to lose any sleep over it. You can't blame someone for wanting sleep badly enough to take a drug to get it. The way "normal everyday tensions" build up, the value of a good night's sleep – or even a bad night's sleep (which is what sleeping pills usually provide) – increases tremendously.

A study performed by W.H. Davis and F. Ziady, at the University of Pretoria, Republic of South Africa, found that magnesium did the job of providing sleep quite well. As reported at the International Symposium on Magnesium in Montreal, magnesium supplements that supplied 500 milligrams of magnesium (about as much as five or six dolomite tablets supply) were given to more than 200 adults. "Sleep was induced rapidly, was uninterrupted, in 99 per cent of the subjects. Anxiety and tension decreased during the day."

Another thing many people take for granted is sugar. Doctors Davis and Ziady of the University of Pretoria administered a heavy load of sugar to a group of volunteers to test the effects of it on mineral balances in their bodies. They found that in people in whom sugar reduced blood levels of magnesium, insomnia, tension and anxiety were the obvious symptoms.

And when "reactive hypoglycaemia" was found – when the person's body overreacted to the sugar loading by shifting most of it out of the blood into the tissues in too short a time – the symptoms were worse. "Prevention of hypoglycaemia and the replenishment of deficient minerals could abolish the symptoms," say Drs. Davis and Ziady. But when most people eat more than 100 pounds of sugar a year and many doctors won't acknowledge that hypoglycaemia affects so many people, it looks as though all those symptoms aren't going to cause "second thoughts", just as with the sugar and the drugs.

The elements of modern life that "get on our nerves" can't be avoided. If there ever was a time or a place that didn't have its share of trouble and tension, it's too far back to retrieve. But that doesn't mean our nerves have to meet the 20th century head on and get derailed in the collision. We can't eliminate the junk food which has had all the nutrients processed out of it, nutrients we need to keep our nerves-as well as the rest of our bodies - on top of everyday problems. And we can keep dolomite nearby - for the days that never end and the nights that seem all too short: **Published by arrangement with Prevention Magazine.**



نزوات الزمن

هناك أناس يسهمون في تحديد النزوات والميول الشائعة وممن يتصرفون ويتخذون القرارات ولا يقلدون عامة الناس. أناس في الطليعة، يقررون الأمور المتعلقة بهم وبالأخرين غالباً. لمثل هؤلاء، أبداع رادو جيلاً قائماً في حد ذاته من الساعات المقاومة للخدوش والرقيقة المسطحة جداً. طراز لا تجده الا عند رادو، مبدع هذه التصميمات الفردية التي لا تخضع للمواصفات الشائعة والموجهة إلى أصحاب الميول المائلة.



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BANK OF OMAN AND THE GULF (S.A.O.)

SULTANATE OF OMAN

" INVITATION "

The Board of Directors of Bank of Oman and the Gulf (S.A.O.) have the pleasure to invite the shareholders to attend the Extraordinary General Meeting and the Annual General Meeting to be held at the Bank premises at Al-Harthy Building - Greater Muttrah - as from 6.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 9 March, 1979.

The Articles of Association of the Bank stipulate that the shareholders have the right to nominate someone to attend the meeting by proxy.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CAUTIONARY NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that "MASCHINENFABRIK AUGSBURG - NURNBURG AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT" a German Company located at Dachauer Strasse 667, 8000 Munchen 50, Federal Republic of Germany is the sole owner and proprietor in OMAN of the invention titled:

"PROCESS FOR THE RECOVERY OF WATER FROM ATMOSPHERIC AIR AND PLANT FOR CARRYING OUT the PROCESS"

an application for which has been filed in Federal Republic of Germany on August 29, 1977 under No. P 27 38 874.5.

The invention relates to "a process and a plant for the recovery of water from the atmospheric air are disclosed. At night a fan takes in an air flow which is divided into two partial flows of which one is passed through adsorber beds in which a water adsorbing agents extracts moisture from it by adsorption. The other partial flow is passed through heat accumulators whereby the heat accumulating agent cools down or solidifies. During the day an air flow circulates in the plant which flow of air passes alternately through the adsorber beds and solar energy collectors positioned between the adsorber beds whereby the air flow absorbs the moisture adsorbed by the water adsorbing agent and is heated in the solar energy collectors by solar energy. Subsequently, the water vapour containing and heated air flow passes through the heat accumulators whereby the water vapour condenses, the accumulating agent absorbs heat and the air flow cools down. The condensate is collected and may be drained off.

The above owner claims all rights in respect of the above patent and will take all legal steps against any person or company infringing the said rights of the owner.

CAUTIONARY NOTICE IN OMAN

NOTICE is hereby given that C. ITOH & CO. LTD., of 68, 4-Chome, Kitakyutaro-machi, Higashi-ku, Osaka, Japan

is the sole Owner and Proprietor of the Trade Mark:

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which relates to: Canned foods, especially canned fish and canned fruits.

The said Owner claims all rights in respect of the above Trade Mark and will take all legal steps against any Person, Firm or Corporation infringing their rights in the said Trade Mark in OMAN.

CAUTIONARY NOTICE IN OMAN

NOTICE is hereby given that CO-RO FOOD A/S, a Danish Joint-stock Company, of Ellekaer 1, DK-3600 Frederikssund, Denmark

is the sole Owner and Proprietor of the trade mark:

SUN LOLLY

which relates to: Non-alcoholic beverages, juices and preparations for making non-alcoholic beverages, as well as confectionery and water-ice.

The said Owner claims all rights in respect of the above Trade Mark and will take all legal steps against any Person, Firm or Corporation infringing their rights in the said Trade Mark in OMAN.

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NOTICE is hereby given that CO-RO FOOD A/S, a Danish Joint-stock Company, of Ellekaer 1, DK-3600 Frederikssund, Denmark

is the sole Owner and Proprietor of the following Trade Marks:

- 1) SUN-C
- 2) JEP
- 3) PROVITA
- 4) SUNSPOT

These trade marks relate to: Non-alcoholic beverages, juices and preparations for making non-alcoholic beverages.

The said Owner claims all rights in respect of the above Trade Marks and will take all legal steps against any Person, Firm or Corporation infringing their rights in the said Trade Marks in OMAN.

CAUTIONARY NOTICE IN OMAN

NOTICE is hereby given that THE JAY ENGINEERING WORKS LIMITED, an Indian Company of Calcutta, India, is the sole owner and proprietor of the Trade Mark

USHA

in respect of Sewing Machines, Fans, Pumps and Electric Motors and parts thereof.

The said owner claims all rights in Trade Mark "USHA" in SULTANATE OF OMAN and will take all legal steps against any infringement thereof.

ENTERTAINMENT

World
Radio

A musician, a film director and a former police commissioner all face the microphones of BBC World Service this week.

The musician is Stan Tracey. He is a pianist and composer of international standing and has worked in bands of Ronnie Scott and Ted Heath.

He talks to Charles Fox about his long, distinguished career in jazz and plays some of his recordings in Captain Adventure on Sunday at 00.30am, Monday at 5am and Tuesday at 5.45pm.

The film director is Dick Lester. Iain Johnstone turns the spotlight on him in Take One on Monday 9.15pm, Tuesday at 2.15pm and Wednesday at 3.15am.

The former police commissioner is Sir Robert Mark, who resigned from the Metropolitan Police in 1977.

His fight against corruption in the London police force is legendary and his campaign against Irish terrorism in the British capital even more spectacular.

In Off The Record he discusses his career and plays some of his favourite records. The programme is broadcast Monday at 4.15pm, Tuesday at 3.30am and 10.30am and Friday at 10.30pm



Victor Burnett and June who appear at the Gulf Hotel on March 1 as part of package tour of the Gulf. This Dunhill sponsored show includes the magical act, pop singer Kristine (who is featured in this week's 'Birdseye View'), comedian Ray Martine and headliner Eric Delaney.

YOUNG PAIR GIVES A
CLASSICAL CONCERT

Two young professional musicians flew into Muscat on Thursday to give a classical concert at the British Council.

Radio Oman

SATURDAY

1 p.m. Just a Minute. 1.30 Outlook. 1.45 Pops. 2 p.m. News. 2.40 Pops.

SUNDAY

1 p.m. Folk Festival. 1.15 Comedy Half Hour. 1.45 Book Club. 2 p.m. Young Sounds. 2.30 News. 2.40 Press Review. 2.50 Pops.

MONDAY

1 p.m. Top of the Pops. 1.30 Peter Ustinov. 1.45 All Star Piano. 2 p.m. Dateline. 2.30 News. 2.45 Pops.

TUESDAY

1 p.m. Science Journal. 1.15 Val Doonican Show. 1.45 Arab Civilisation. 2 p.m. Time for the Classics. 2.30 News. 2.45 Pops.

WEDNESDAY

1 p.m. Music Magazine. 1.30 Sci Fi Theatre. 2 p.m. The Tony B Show. 2.30 News. 2.45 Pops.

THURSDAY

1 p.m. Pops. 1.15 Merry-Go-Round. 1.45 World of Sport. 2 p.m. Jazz Beat. 2.30 News. 2.45 Orient to Occident.

Oboeist Robin Canter and his wife pianist Elizabeth Routier made a two-night stop in Oman towards the end of a Gulf tour.

They flew in from fog-bound Dubai and humid Baghdad and said that they were relieved to be in such a quiet, peaceful place.

In fact the travellers go on to Bahrain and Jeddah. It is the latest stop in a joint career which has taken them to Czechoslovakia, Paris, Germany, west Africa and southern Europe.

"It's exhausting work travelling from country to country," said Elizabeth, who met Robin when they were both studying at Dartington College of Art.

Their present tour of the Gulf has been sponsored and arranged by the British Council. Last year they did a similar tour in Africa where they both visited their favourite country Sierra Leone.

Their trips have proved stimulating, musically. "In Prague we discovered some hitherto unpublished piano and oboe works," said Robin. They took the works back to London and have

investigated the possibility of publishing them.

Elizabeth started her career in Jersey where she began playing the piano at the age of 10. Then she went to Dartington where Robin was also a student and was awarded a scholarship to study the piano in Germany.

Robin started the oboe when he was 14 having previously learned the recorder. He studied for two years at Dartington and went to the Royal Academy. Then he too gained a scholarship in Germany.

After a joint tour of West Germany, they went to Paris where Robin played oboe in Pierre Boulez modern orchestra.

"It was a great deal of fun for a year but it left Elizabeth little to do," said Robin. They went back to London, where they now live, to do radio and play individual or joint concerts.

In the spring of this year they appear in a series of lunchtime concerts on the British classical music FM Radio 3 and they hope to do a series of appearance at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. Arrangements are also being completed for the duo to play in New York.



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What's On

Star Cinema: Thursday, Friday — Live and Let Die with Roger Moore as 007, Yaphet Kotto and Jane Seymour; **Saturday** — Arabic film; **Sunday** — Birds Do It ... Bees Do It and The Kid starring Charlie Chaplin; **Monday** — The Secretary featuring Ornella Muti, Philippe Leroy and Curro Summers; **Tuesday** — Ding Dong starring Antonio Sabato and Aldo Giuffre; **Wednesday** — Making It with Kristoffer Tabori, Marlyn Mason and Bob Balaban.

Al Falaj Hotel: (free to hotel guests and members of the swimming pool complex) **Friday** — Marathon Man starring Dustin Hoffman and Laurence Olivier.

sporting times

SULTAN'S CUP HOCKEY

MUTTRAH REACH SEMI-FINAL

Muttrah2

Sidab1

In a tense and hard fought match Muttrah beat Sidab in a Group A Sultan's Cup match last Saturday at Muttrah ground.

It was the last group match for both teams and this defeat puts Sidab out of the running. Muttrah go through to be semi-finals.

Muttrah were quick to go on the offensive and in the fourth minute of the match they were one up when Hamin Shambey scored with a well placed shot from a penalty corner.

Sidab did not let this early goal unsettle them and the match tempo gradually slowed down with both teams producing some very good hockey in spite of a very difficult pitch.

Muttrah still had a slight edge and moved the ball about well, particularly in midfield where Turamah had an outstanding match. Some good defensive work by the Sidab fullbacks however, kept the Muttrah forwards at bay.

Sidab scored in the 24th minute against the run of the play, when a long hit upfield found Zahran completely unmarked and all he had to do was to round the advancing keeper and score the equaliser.

The second half found neither team prepared to give anything away and the match developed into a very tense game till the 52nd minute. Then a brilliant run down the middle by Turamah resulted in Muttrah's winner, scored again by Hamin.

Sidab tried to fight back but to no avail. In fact Muttrah were slightly unfortunate when the umpire disallowed a Maitham goal for 'sticks'.

The other team to join Muttrah in the semi-finals should be the winners of the Oman and Altalia match, as both are at present on equal points.

HOCKEY RESULTS

Navy 0 - Oman 5
 Army 0 - Mutra 0
 Seeb 2 - Sidab 0



The victorious Muttrah side.

ZUBAIR LEAGUE HOCKEY

OMAN ARE STILL UNBEATEN

Oman3

Altalia0

Oman kept their unbeaten run when they beat Altalia last Sunday at Muttrah Club ground.

In spite of the fact they had only nine players for the whole of the first half. Oman still managed to do well, and were rather unfortunate when they had two goals disallowed.

The second half saw them at full strength. With the half only three minutes old Shafiq scored a good goal to give Oman the lead they deserved.

Altalia could not put their game together and consequently their defence came under some extreme pressure and Oman's second goal was not long in coming.

In the 42nd minute Altalia's goalkeeper gave away a penalty from which Khalifa scored.

For the rest of the half most of the traffic was one way, but Oman

failed to capitalise on some of the opportunities that came their way.

The third Oman goal eventually came in the 65th minute, when Khalifa ended a solo run down the middle with a very good goal.

Altalia turned to exert some pressure in the remaining minutes of the match, forcing two penalty corners in rapid succession, all to no avail and the game ended in a three nil win for Oman.

LADIES SQUASH

A Ladies Squash Open Championship is to be staged in the very near future, depending on what type of response the organisers get. R. C. Cola who, are co-sponsors of the Men's Open have agreed to sponsor it. If you are interested phone Mrs. Kathy Gill on 600492 as soon as possible.

CRICKET

Skanska v Sinha at P.D.(O) at 08:00 am.
 Skanska cup semi-final.

RUGBY UNION

Big Entry For Muscat Sevens

This weekend on today and Friday at the Centre, Wattaya, Muscat R.F.C. hold their annual international sevens tournament sponsored by British Airways and Rothmans.

This year the tournament has attracted a record entry of 28 teams from the UK, throughout the Gulf and Oman.

An encouraging aspect this year has been the entry of four all-Omani sides who will compete for the Rothmans Darwish Omani challenge trophy in addition to participating in the main competition for the British Airways Trophy.


Due to the Omani interest being shown in the sport, Times of Oman have also donated a special trophy to be competed for annually, for the Best Omani player in the tournaments.

Dubai are sending strong representation in an effort to win the tournament for the fourth successive year. Muscat, however, have other ideas and hope to repeat their win in the Dubai sevens last December.

Play commences at mid-day today, Thursday, and continues tomorrow with the opening game kicking off at 10.30am.

SOCCER

Teach-in

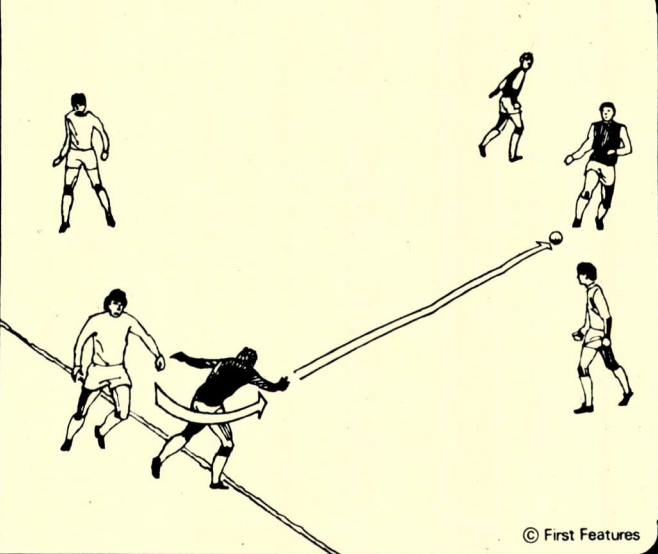
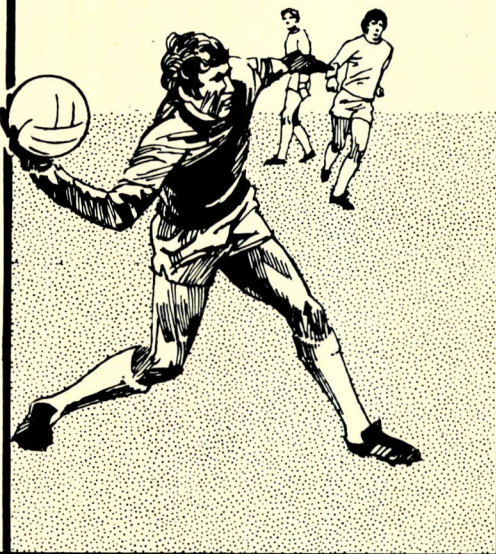


Goalkeeping: throwing short distances

26

Once he wins the ball, the 'keeper must make the best possible use of it. A long punt is often wasted. So is a long over-arm throw which can be inaccurate. The best method of throwing distances up to 30 yards, and the most accurate, is this basket-ball-type-throw.

The goalkeeper has come to the edge of his area and set up an attack with a quick, low throw to his winger.



SPORT

SQUASH

DRAW FOR 1ST ROUND OF OPEN

The following is the draw for the first round of the Oman Open Squash championships.

The completion date for the round is March 9. Matches not completed then will be declared void.

Akbar Khan	v B. Zaman
Patricia Neill	v J. Smith
M.J.Stone	v P.Fletcher
G. D'souza	v P.Everard
P.I.D.George	v A. Campbell
M.Hughes	v J.G.Flinton
J.Merry	v Bob Harris
C.G. Cuff	v M. Howells
Dees Rees	v G.Lowton
R.C.Deacon Elliot	v S.A.S. Al-Shikary
J. Trelawny	v D. French
M. Hameed	v J.Spencer
A. Bhacker	v De La Grandville
D. Sutton	v Gavin Peck
M. Bear	v Helen Robertson
R. Hurles	v S. Riley
R. Cocksedge	v Dr. Hamid al Riami
J.X. Rodrigues	v D. Wynne
P. Llewellyn	v M. Naeem Khan
J.T. Kellie	v J. Watts

Winner of J. Martin & R. White v M. Peacock
M. Caton v Winner of R.S. Watson and M. Cassim
Mohd Masood v Winner of P. Button and L. Bear
Winner of C.R. Harker and G. Mercier v N.IIman
Winner of A. Scott and C Brooks v A. Growcott
Zaffar Siddique v Winner of M. Martin and S. Hutcheson
A. G. Quinlan v Winner of S. Esprey and K. Obeid
Winner of J. Perry and P.I.F. Adams v Davis
Richard Dean v Winner of P. Carson and N. Franheskou
Winner of A. G. Carson and N. Obeid v D. Whiteman
Winner of J.Bum and C. Wyss v E. Mcdonagh

First named players are responsible for the match and ensuring that a signed scoresheet is sent to the Open Secretary, The Squash Box, Ruwi Hotel.

RESULTS

"A" League

Airworks "A"	4	Nomads	1
M.O.D.		Al-Falaj (postponed)	

"B" League

RAHRC "B"	4	Skanska	1
Al-Ahli "A"	1	J & P "A"	4
Al-Falaj "B"	5	Def Engs	0

"C" League

Qurum Tarmac	3	Wimpey	2
Airworks "B"	4	Khunjar Arms 1	1
Solfive	4	J & P "B"	1

"D" League

RAHRC "D"	5	Pioneers	0
Brit Aero	4	B.B.M.E.	1
Al-Ahli "B"	5	S.O.N.	0

MONDAY'S MATCHES

Al-Falaj "A"	v	Nomads	at	Al-Falaj Hotel Ruwi
Airworks "A"	v	M.O.D.	at	Khunjar Arms MAM
RAHRC "C"	v	Skanska	at	Skanska Camp Areej
Al-Ahli "A"	v	Defence Engs	at	Al-Ahli, Qurm
Al-Falaj "B"	v	J & P "A"	at	J & P Camp Azaiba
Costains "B"	v	Wimpey	at	Wimpey Camp, Ruwi
Airworks "B"	v	J & P "B"	at	Airworks MAM
Solfive	v	Khunjar Arms	at	Ariworks MAM
P.S.C.	v	Pioneers	at	A & P Camp Seeb
Brti Aero	v	S.O.N.	at	Airworks MAM
Al-Ahli "B"	v	BBME	at	B.B.M.E. Ruwi

GOLF

Jahnel Is The Champion

Twenty-two competitors took part in this years R.G.W.G.C. Club Championship which was played last Friday at Royal Ghallah.

The competition, a Medal Play off scratch over 18 holes to decide the top two golfers in the Club, was won by Klaus Jahnel with a gross 76. Runner up was Alan Roderick with a gross 79.

A mystery prize was presented for the highest number of strokes played at one hole and this was awarded to John Hewitt, after a countback with Bill

Melling, for 20 strokes on the 2nd hole. The Trophy and the prizes, which had been donated by the Club President, Col J. Cooper, were presented to the winners by Mrs. Cooper.

Prizewinners

Club Champion: Klaus Jahnel 76 Gross
 Runner-up: Alan Roderick 79 Gross
 Best Nett: Alan Bourne 67 Nett
 2nd Best Nett: Brian David 70 Nett
 3rd Best Nett: Bill Fleischli 72 Nett
 Nearest the pin on the 9th: Jim Treloan 18"
 Nearest the pin on the 18th: Klaus Jahnel

FOOTBALL



Action from the qualifying match between WAHDHA and MUDERAB which MUDERAB won 2 - 1.

MUDERAB GO UP WITH WAHDA

The four top teams of the 2nd Division, Al Wahdha, Army, Birka and Muderab, played off in a league last week to determine which two teams will get promoted to the 1st Division.

In an exciting last match which was played last Saturday Muderab drew 1-1 against the Army to go up with Al Wahdha, who had already made sure of their promotion.

Final Positions:

	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	PTS
1 Muderab	3	2	-	1	6	2	5
2 Wahdha	3	2	1	-	11	4	4
3 Army	3	1	1	1	6	4	3
4 Birka	3-	3-	0	13	0		
4 Birka	3	-	3	-	0	13	0

QUALIFYING MATCH RESULTS

Muderabd	2	Wahdha	1
Wahdha	7	Birka	0
Muderab	3	Birka	0
Wahdha	3	Army	2
Army	3	Birka	0
Muderab	1	Army	1

National Team Train Hard

National Team XI2

Capital Select XI0

As part of their preparations for the Gulf Cup the National Football Team played a Capital XI at the Police Stadium last Thursday.

The first half was pretty average, with most of the game being played in the midfield and very rarely was either defence under any extreme pressure.

The highlight of the half was the spectacular goal scored by Mohammed Mussadeh when he connected well with a great cross from the right wing.

The second half was a lot better with the National Team players moving the ball about well and taking play out on the wings.

In the 75th minute a good one-two play between Abdur Rahim Salim and Ghulam Khamis resulted in the latter scoring the second goal for the National Team

Officials: Abdul Hamid Baluchi,

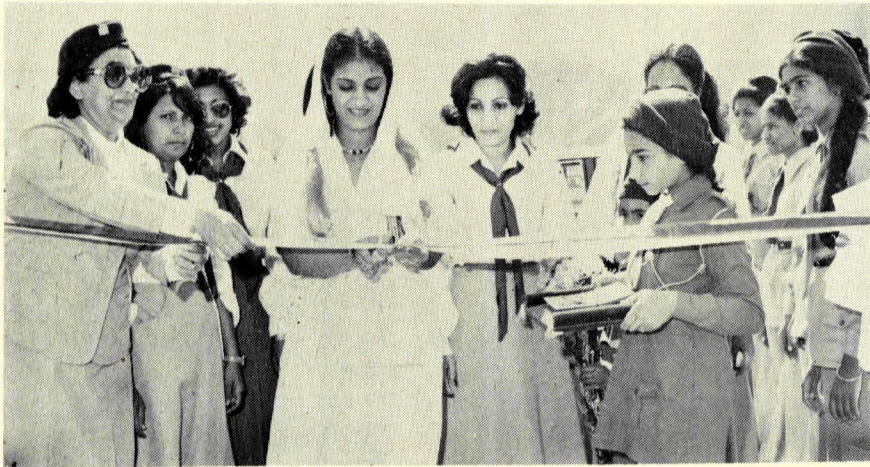
(More sport on page 2)

Mohd Abdur Rasool, Ahmad Abdur Razak.

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HOME NEWS



The annual Guides camp was opened by Mme Ahmed Abdullah al-Ghazali, wife of the Minister of Education, and here she is cutting the ribbon. Photo: Abdulla Kharusi.

Queen Elizabeth Touring Qatar

Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip are in Doha this morning midway through their highly successful tour of the Gulf.

The Royal Yacht Britannia docked in Doha early yesterday morning, the seventh anniversary of the Amir of Qatar's accession.

Yesterday they joined the Amir, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamed al Thani for a bedouin lunch.

They leave tonight for a day at sea to arrive in Abu Dhabi on Saturday and Dubai on Sunday.

The royal couple are expected to arrive in Oman on Wednesday.

Ghazali to open conference

Everything is now ready for the conference of Educationists which opens at the Muscat Inter-Continental Hotel on Saturday.

A final total of 16 countries will be taking part - with Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates adding their names - and the Education Minister, Mr Ahmed Abdulla al Ghazali, will open the event.

The six-day conference will discuss the role of the teacher in society and the first day will be observed as the annual teachers day in the Sultanate.

MUSCAT TO HOST AIR MEETINGS

Civil aviation ministers from Gulf states are expected to arrive in Muscat this morning for a meeting to discuss aviation security.

The meeting will be attended by representatives from Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Oman.

It follows yesterday's meeting of the board of Gulf Air where the administrative council discussed the company's plans for the future.

Today (Thursday) the ministers will be exchanging views on improved co-operation in the interests of aviation security prior to a meeting on Monday.

Chinese Quit Vietnam

(Continued from Page 1)

invasion. They might invoke the mutual aid section of the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Treaty signed in November last year.

Vietnam claimed that chemical warfare had been used during several skirmishes. It also charged that Chinese troops had committed large scale atrocities against civilians.

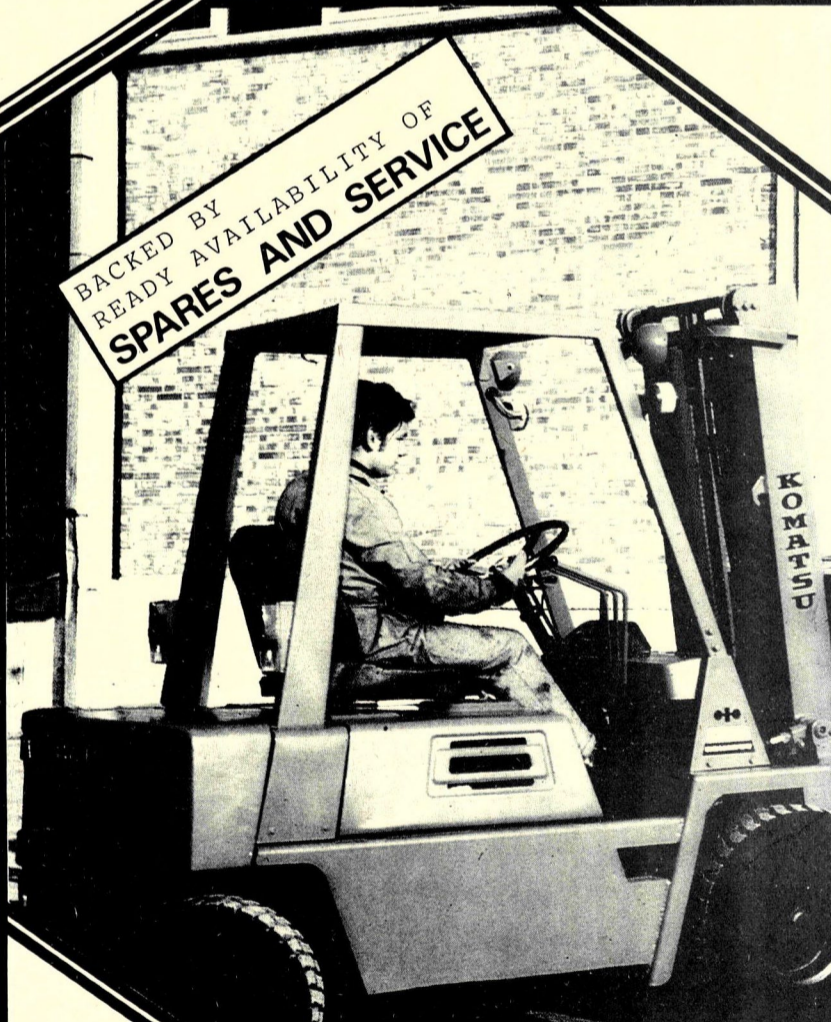
(See Editorial - Page 10)

At Monday's meeting, which is the regional gathering of IATA - the International Air Transport Association - the same states will discuss matters of mutual interest.


The Gulf Air board, which met yesterday talked about the company's budget proposals and the success of the flights to Bangkok and Hong Kong which were started recently.



Salim Habib Sloom who received a refrigerator from C.J.Batten, general manager of Sharikat Fanniya Omaniya, after winning in a scheme organised by the company to introduce a new brand of powdered milk called Rainbow. Mr. Sloom bought the milk powder from Lucky Cold Store in Ruwi High Street. Inside was a gift coupon which he exchanged for the first prize.




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