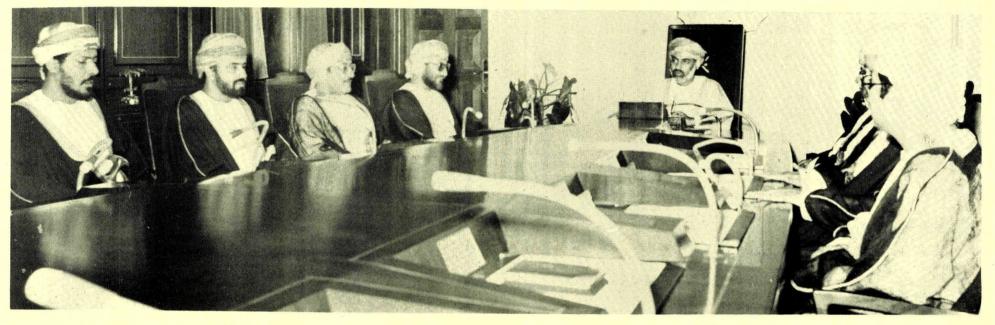
## Times of Oman

YOL. 8, NO. 50

MUSCAT, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1983-JUMAD AL-AWAL II, 1403

PRICE BAIZAS 200



**Youth Year** 

talks

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos presiding over a meeting at the Higher Council for Youth at al Hisn Palace, Salalah, on Monday.

His Majesty spoke of the great significance of Youth Year which would give the role of youth a great boost in developing the country. It would help their talents and prepare them for their responsibilities towards a better future for Oman. His Majesty

was keen to stress the need for a comprehensive Youth Year programme to cover all spheres of youth activity. The programme should have adequate resources should be capable of inspiring Omani youth, training them and according them the importance they deserve in participating in the building of a firmly-based Omani community.

Picture: Mohammed Mustafa

'Bad food'

## HEALTH: OMAN'S RAPID STRIDES

Oman spent 13.2 per cent of its budget on the maintenance and expansion of health services during 1982. In 1980 the figure was 13.3 per cent.

The statistics were revealed by Dr. Murtadha Jaffar, Director of Planning and Statistics while presenting a paper on health

services in Oman at the Arab Gulf Health Planning Seminar at the Inter-Continental Hotel this week.

According to the statistics the total amount spent in the health sector was R.O. 28,398,666 in 1980. This increased to R.O. 45,639,627 during 1982.

Of the amount spent in 1982, R.O. 17,967,547 was paid as salaries; R.O. 3,699,330 was spent on purchasing medicines; R.O. 1,215,690 on equipment and furniture; R.O. 95,000 on prevention activities and R.O. 10,781,263 on miscellaneous accounts.

There has been a tremendous increase in the number of hospital beds. Compared with 12 beds in 1970 there were 2,041 in the hospitals last year. The number is expected to reach 2,661 by 1985.

### Blood money rate

The Deputy Director General of Insurance has sent a circular to insurance companies giving the amounts of compensation to be paid for accidental death. They are:

Muslim male, R.O. 5,000.

Muslim female, R.O.
2,500.

Non-Muslim male, R.O. 1,666 Bz 666.

Non-Muslim R.O. 833 Bz. 333.

The circular refers to the Ministerial Order No. 3/1983 dated 1-1-1983 and says that the value of compensation has been revised and the new rates have been fixed.

It will be recalled that the Ministry of Justice, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs issued an order in the first week of January in which the amount of compensation was revised from R.O. 2,500 to R.O. 5,000.

Sources at the Ministry

said that the previous amount of "blood money" was fixed several years ago and has now been revised because of the increase in the cost of living.

It was also indicated that the next-of-kin of a pregnant woman would be eligible to claim compensation for the unborn child. In cases of accidential deaths of minors the Shariah courts will decide the amount.

A source at the Ministry of Justice, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs said that the blood money for Muslim males and females has been fixed in accordance with the Islamic Law of Inheritance which puts more value on a male in view of his financial responsibilities as head of the family.

For non-Muslims, the source added, the Ministry has fixed amounts in accordance with their religion and traditions.

#### by Muzaffar Mohammad

In 1970 there were only 10 dispensaries. There were 59 in 1982 and will by 87 by 1985. As compared with seven mini-health centres in 1982, there will be 29 such centres by 1985. Health centres will rise to 16 by 1985 from the existing 12.

There were two district hospitals in the country in 1970. They increased to eleven in 1982 and a further increase of eight has been estimated by 1985. The number of regional hospitals will increase to five by1985 as compared to the existing three.

On the preventive side the number of public health units rose to 31 last year from 13 in 1980. There are 17 malaria units and two mother-and-child health care units.

The statistics revealed that the process of "Omanisation" has been rapid in the Ministry of Helath and its hospitals.

Of the 11 consultants Omanis med a preentage of 9.09. There

• Contd. on Page 3

## swoops in Ruwi

The Public Health Department of the Capital Municipality last week inspected warehouses in the Ruwi area.

A large quantity of food and drink was found to be unfit for human consumption and was confiscated and destroyed.

The campaign was launched following complaints from regional municipalities that outdated items of food and drink were being sold at food shops in various areas.

Director of Public Health Mr. Said Amer Ali Omeir said that the department decided to start the campaign from the godowns as they are the basic centres of supply.

The team which checked about 22 godowns in the Ruwi area consisted of two inspectors from the Ruwi Municipality and one from the Public Health Department.

The food confiscated included custard powder (244 cartons); orange squash (20 cartons); Suntop (158 cartons); baby food (64 tins); canned fish (46 cans); biscuits (24 tins); vegetable oil (70 tin); cereals (10 bags); salt (six cartons) and miscellenous items (18 cartons).

Cases for breaking public health regulations have been prepared against the owners of some godowns storing bad food. Punishment in such cases can be fines or warnings.

The Public Health Department plans similar campaigns in all regional municipalities. Muttrah will be perhaps next week.

#### Water show

The second Arab Water Technology fair will open in Dubai on March 6. The show will close on the March 10.

#### New in your Times

Starting this week in the Times is a bargain for advertisers — Times Noticeboard. Turn to page 35 for details.

#### **Boycott list**

The latest Israeli Boycott Office list is given on page 5.

#### INSIDE

- Computer students' success page 6
- Army competitionpage 8
- Travel pages 20, 21,22
- Car Talk page

Your TV and radio programmes are on page 24

## Contract for barrier

The Government on Monday concluded an agreement with Stanley Consultants for supervisory work on the Wadi al Khoud re-charge barrier.

The OR845,637 contract was signed on behalf of the Sultanate by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Abdul Hafiz Salem Rajab.

The contract also includes the completion of tender procedures and the contract period is 18 months.

The barrier is being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

in conjunction with the Omani-American Joint Commission for Economic and Technical Co-operation.

The length of the barrier will be 4.7 kilometres, height eight metres and width five metres.

Also present during the agreementsigning were Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yousuf al Alawi Abdallah, co-chairman of the Omani-American Commission, and Agriculture and Fisheries Under-Secretary Hassan Abdallah al Morazza.

#### Official bulletins Tw

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos on Wednesday last week sent telegrams of greetings to King Birendra Bikram of Nepal and President Daudo Jwara of Gambia congratulating them on the national days of their respective countries.

His Majesty received a reply telegram from the Governor General of New Zealand thanking His Majesty for his congratulations on his country's National Day.

Oman's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Yousuf al-Alawi Abdallah returned home on Wednesday last week at the end of visits to Djibouti and the Yemen Arab Republic.

During his five-day tour, the Omani Minister delivered letters from his Majesty Sultan Qaboos to Presidents Hassan Gouled and Ali Abdallah Saleh.

He also discussed with officials of the two countries co-operation in political areas. The Minister was received at the airport by his under-secretary, Saif Hamad al-Battashi and other officials of the Ministry.

## Oil price talks

Oil Ministers of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council states met in Riyadh on Tuesday to discuss the oil market crisis.

According to Gulf oil sources the meeting was trying to work out a plan to deal with the stalemate over oil prices within OPEC.

There is no confirmation yet a report published by a Saudi newspaper that the Gulf states had already agreed on a cut of 5.50 to seven dollars a barrel for different grades of crude.

## Two new buoys

In conjunction with the Director General of Meteorology the Al Munassir of the Sultan of Oman's Navy has placed two meteorological buoys off the coast of Oman, one six kilometers out to sea in the Mina Qaboos area and the other off the coast of Sur.

The purpose of these buoys is to send back all meteorological data to inland monitoring stations. All this maritime information is then available from the Ministry of Communications.

Each buoy is 2½ metres in diameter and weighs about 1500 kilos. An anchor chain weighs a further 1,000 kilos. A further three buoys are programmed for the future in the areas of Khasab, Sohar and Salalah and the Ministry of Communications will once again require the assistance of SON.

Earlier on in the week the Al Munassir berthed alongside the jetty at the new port in Khasab for the first time and unloaded cargo.

## Youth talks in Riyadh

The Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, Mr. Yahya Mahfoodh al Mandhri, left for Riyadh on Sunday to participate in the AGCC's first Ministerial meeting on youth welfare.

The two-day meeting was discussing different aspects of youth welfare programmes in the region.

Present at the civil airport in Salalah was Mr. Hammad Hamed al Ghaffry, Under-Secretary, Youth Affairs.



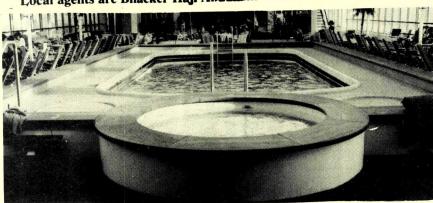
### 'Europa' here today

The 34,000-tonne luxury cruise vessel "Europa" sails into Mina Qaboos this evening carrying 400 passengers on its maiden voyage.

The tourists will spend a day in Muscat on a rapid sight-seeing tour before the liner sails on to Pakistan, India, the Far East, the US, and back to its starting point, Genoa, —Italy— on June 4.

Our pictures show an aerial view of the Hapag-Lloyd vessel with (below) its luxurious swimming pool and elegant restaurant.

Local agents are Bhacker Haji Abdulletif Fazal.



#### **UAE telegram**

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos received a reply telegram from President Shaikh Zayid bin Sultan al-Nahyan of the U.A.E. thanking His Majesty for his condolences on the death of Sheikh Khalifa bin Tannoun who died following a car accident on the Dubai-Abu Dhabi highway.

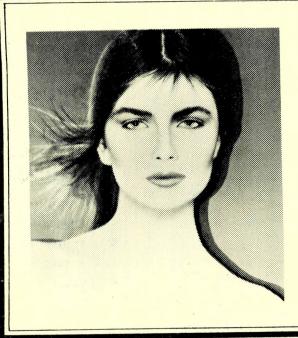


### New product in Oman

A new product – Andron – from the House of Jovan was introduced to the Oman market at a dealers' seminar at the Al Falaj Hotel on Wednesday.

Local agents for the new range of men's and women's toiletries are Capital Stores.

The seminar was organised by Beecham of the UAE who are Middle East distributors for the US perfumery.



The Beauty Consultant from

Christian Dior

PARIS

will be pleased to advise you on your skin care and your make-up.

between 5pm and 8pm at

Capital Stores

Muttrah High Street. Phone: 734700.



The Minister of Land Affairs and Municipalities Mr. Ahmed Abdalla al Ghazali chairs a meeting of the Central Land Committee at the Ministry building in Ruwi.

### **Applications** for land being sorted

Land Central Committee which met under the chairmanship of the Minister of Land Affairs and Municipalities, has begun sorting out applications for land in six new communities being planned in the Capital Area.

The committee is checking the Ministry's entitlement prepared on a basis that ensures people in various parts of the country would have equal opportunity in land allotment.

It is believed that a large number of applications has been pending with the Ministry since

The meeting reviewed what has been accompilished so far in the planning of six new communities.

The residential communities are Qurm Beach, Airport Heights, South Khuwair, South Ghubra, Azaiba and Medinat al Nahda.

The Minister briefed the committee on the measures taken in co-ordination with other Ministries to ensure the provision of essential services to the new communities

He commended the efforts the committee has made in the land

The Central Land Committee was set up under the Ministerial decision No. 11/80. It consists of representatives from the Ministry

of Royal Diwan Affairs, the Diwan of Royal Court affairs, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities and the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The planning of the six communities was started last year by the Ministry to meet the increasing demand for land in the Capital Area. A Ministry study showed that there are several areas in the Capital which could be developed.

A structural plan was then prepared for 16 areas to accommodate 5,800 families. In these areas the Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities set priorities for development and six communities were chosen as complexes residential accommodate 2,600 families.

The planning of the six communities has now reached the final stage and the designs of the infrastructure in co-ordination with other Ministries has been

The new communities which will mostly consist of two-storey apartments will have Schools, health centres, public parks playfields, community halls, shopping areas and mosques.

#### formation accord

An agreement for strengthening co-operation between the Sultanate and Egypt in the field of information will be signed in Muscat today.

Oman's Minister of Information, Abdul Aziz al Rowas, will sign the agreement on behalf of Oman while Minister of State for Information, Safwat El-Sherif will sign for the Egyptian Government.

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, it may be recalled here, issued a Royal Decree on 13 February authorising Mr. Rowas to sign the protocol for information between the two Governments.

Mr El-Sherif arrived in Muscat on Tuesday for a three-day visit to the Sultanate. He is accompanied by an eight-member delegation.

In the evening, Mr El-Sherif was the guest of honour at a dinner hosted by Oman's Information

Minister at the Al Ghubra Guest House. Present were senior Information Ministry officials and Oman newspaper editors.

#### Health

• Contd. from Page 1

are 13 Omani specialists out of a total of 126 making a per centage of 10.3

In general practitioners Omanis have a percentage of 12.15, 30 out of a total of 217. Of the nine dentists in the country five are Omanis, giving a percentage of

Of a total of 1,187 nurses, 136 are Omanis a preentage of 11.4.

In para medical staff Omanis outnumber expatriates. Of the 1,972 para-medical staff, 720 are Omanis making a percentage of

## **Public** Works signing

The Minister of Land Affairs and Municipalities Mr. Ahmad Abdalla al Ghazali signed a contract on Tuesday for the construction of the Directorate of Public Works headquarters building at Al Khuwair.

The R.O. 1.4 million contract has been awarded to Bin Omeir Establishment. Sheikh Nasser Mohammad bin Omeir signed on behalf of the contractors. Also present was Mr. Dickran J. Arakelian of George Staten Associates who designed the

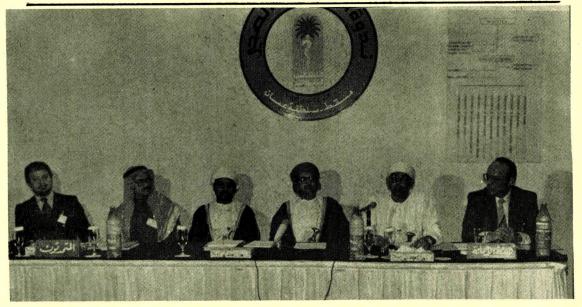


Mr. Ahmad Abdulla al Ghazali, Minister of Land Affairs and Municipalities signs the contract for the Public Works building. Also in the picture are Mr. Abbas Jaffar and Sheikh Nasser Mohammed bin Omeir.

The two-storey building to be constructed near the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour will have two office sections on the upper floor. On the ground floor will be technical departments for the four engineering units of the Directorate General of Public

The building will also have an auditorium for 100 people, a technical library and a landscaped exterior.

The construction work which starts immediately will take 16 months to complete.



The Minister of Health Dr. Mubarak al Khadouri opens the Arab Gulf Health Planning seminar. Also in the picture are Dr. Salem Hamdan, Dr. Murtadha Jaffar, Dr. William Sodeman and Dr. Samir

#### Gulf health seminar The Arab Gulf health planning ends today

seminar will end in Muscat today after five days of extensive deliberations on techniques of planning for health projects in the region.

The seminar was opened on Saturday at the Inter-Continental Hotel by Dr. - Mubarak al Khadouri, Minister of Health with a call for proper planning of health

The talks began with a paper presented by Dr. Murtadha Jaffar on health data of Oman which later served as model for discussions.

The papers presented at the seminar included Basic Concept of Health Care Systems" by Dr. Zohair Sebai; "Health Planning Process", by Dr. Samir N. Banoub; "Basic Information Required for Health Planning", by Dr. William A. Sodeman; "Alternatives to Cover Gaps of Information," by Dr. Banoub; "Health Manpower Planning", by Dr. Sebai; "Establishing Policies and Strategies for National Programmes and Projects"; The Decision-Making Process" by Dr. Sodeman and Dr. Hamdan; "Health Facilities Planning by Dr. Banoub and Dr. Bu-Ali"; Health Care Delivery Models by Dr. Sodeman.

The lectures were followed by panel discussions to formulate recommendations.

The delegates had a break on Wednesday for a visit to Nizwa where they were shown round.

On Tuesday the delegates paid a visit to the Institute of Health Sciences at Wattayeh.

The seminar which was organised by the Secretariat General of Health was attended by planning experts from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE, Iraq and Oman.

The main speakers at the seminar were Dr. William A. Professor Sodeman. and Chairman of the Department of Comprehensive Medicine of South Florida University; Dr. Samir N. Banoub, Director of Planning Kuwait and the seminar coordinator; Dr. Zohair Sebai, Dean, Abha faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Saudi Arabia, and Dr. Ali Matar, Consultant psychiatrist and chief system analyst of Bahrain.

WHO representative in Oman Dr. A.B. Paltrinieri, Unicef resident programme officer Dr. Qussay M. Al Nahi and Dr. **WHO** Mumtaz Hussein, programme coordinator in Saudi Arabia and staff of Health Secretariat also attended.

#### The Key

Opening the seminar Dr. Mubarak al Khadouri said that proper planning is the key to success of any service programme or project. It is all the more important for the success of health programmes which are directed at the whole population, he added.

The aim of this seminar is to add to the experiences of brothers in the Gulf states who are involved in planning.

He said the best way to promote knowledge was to exchange experiences and skills with each other and with specialists and professors in such a joint scientificmotivated seminar.

Dr. Mubarak said that the Council of Health Ministers top priority to health planning and during one of its periodic meetings it decided to convene this seminar to clarify the concept, principles and means of sound health planning.

#### 118 take job tests

Over 100 Omani youths sat for a pre-selection test for employment with the Oman Refinery Company on Tuesday last week at the Gulf

Around 30 candidates will be called for a personal interview in about three weeks' time, when the results are declared, out of which 10 to 12 will be selected.

#### **Bahrain visitors**

A delegation of Girl Guide leaders from Bahrain paid a week's visit to the Sultanate to exchange views with Omani guides and see places of historic and cultural interest.

The delegation was received at the airport by Mrs. Sameera Mohammad Amin and other leading guides in Oman.

During their stay in Muscat the Bahraini guides were received by Sayyid Thuwainy bin Shihab, Personal Advisor to His Majesty and Governor of the Capital.

The delegation also visited offices of the National Organisation of Scouts and Guides in Ruwi where Mr. Hameed al Musawai, Secretary General of the organisation, presented gifts to the guides.

The visiting guides were taken on sightseeing tours of Nizwa and Rustaq where they saw forts and date factories. They also spent two days in Salalah.

## Smithsonian chief in Oman

Mr Sidney D. Ripley, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC, spoke to Oman Press and radio reporters on Sunday on the American institution's latest project.

This is the Smithsonian Centre for Middle Eastern, Asian and African Cultures a series of new pavilions and galleries which will be devoted to the cultures of these areas. The project is expected to cost 75 million dollars with 36.5 million dollars coming from the United States Government.

So far an additional 27 million dollars has been pledged by other sources. The remaining funds are expected to come from domestic and foreign contributions.

### Passing out ceremony

A new batch of recruits passed out from the Sultan's Armed Forces Training Regiment at Ghallah.

A function to mark the occasion was attended by the Under-Secretary at the Ministry of National Heritage and Culture, Mal Alla Ali Habib.

After taking the salute, accompanied by SAFTR Commanding Officer Colonel Yousuf Khalfan al Busaidi, the Under-Secretary distributed presents to the graduates who distinguished themselves.

#### Commerce teams to visit the Interior

The Directorate General of Commerce has announced a programme of visits to wilayats by special ministry teams for commercial registration.

Mr. Zaher Tayseer, head of the Commercial Registration Section at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said this week that visits to the Interior by a special team is aimed at providing the people of the Interior with facilities for commercial registration and other business formalities.

The visits will be: Wadi al Maawal from March 12 to 16, Rustaq (March 19 to 23); Al Awwabi (March 26 to 30); Quryat (April 2 to 6); Bid Bid and Fanja (April 9 to 13); Quryat (April 2 to 6); Bid Bid and Fanja (April 9 to 13); Sumail (April 16 to 20); Izki (April 23 to 27); Nizwa (April 30 to May 4); Al Hamra (May 7 to 11); Bahla (May 14 to 18); Manah (May 21 to 25); Adam (May 28 to June 1); Ibri (June 4 to 8); Dhank (July 16 to 20); Yanqul (July 23 to 27); Bahla (July 30 to August 3).

The Ministry team is now busy disposing of commercial registration matters in the Sohar region. The team will be in Liwa from Feb. 26 to March 3 and will proceed to Shinas to be there from March 5 to 9.







### The Society of Petroleum Engineers

## 3rd Middle East Oil Show

#### 14-17 March 1983

The region's major oil industry exhibition and conference once again features more than 350 of the worlds leading manufacturers and suppliers showing the latest products, equipment and services.

Plus a 75 paper technical seminar programme with eminent speakers from U.S.A., Europe and the Middle East, who will discuss regional oil and gas engineering problems and solutions.

Both the exhibition and the conference will be housed in Bahrain's new Exhibition Centre in central Manama.

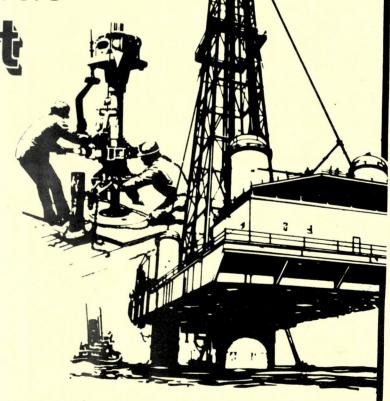
#### Travel and Accommodation

For assistance please contact Miss Carole Bailey, Kanoo Travel, P.O. Box 45, Manama, Bahrain.
Tel. 259938/48 254081, Tlx. 8215

For further information and advance registration forms contact:

#### **Exhibition Centre Bahrain**

P.O. BOX 20200, MANAMA, BAHRAIN, TEL: 250033, TELEX: 9103 EXHIB BN





o Exhibition فرکزر پنالم Centre البحريان Bahrain

## The latest boycott list

Here is the latest list of companies blacklisted by the Israeli boycott office. There will be no import or export trade transactions with these companies.

#### **United States of America**

Garland Commercial Ranges.
Appliance Industries Inc Garland
Commercial Corporation. Welbilt
Square New York GTE International
Inc. (subsidiaries: GTE Syluania Light
GMBH; GTE Credit Corporation,
Connetticut, USA).

Gulf and Western Industries
Incorporated (subsidiaries: Fifth
Century Co., Gulf and Western Group
Ltd — UK; International Elco —
France; Elco Varicircuit — UK).

Control Data Corporation, 8100 - 34th

Avenue, Bloomington Mn. 55420 USA (and its subsidiaries: Commercial Credit Company; Aflc Incorporated; C.C. **COMCO** Corporation; Leasing International Corp; City Loan Savings Co; Commercial Credit Corp; Commercial Credit Industries Corp; Commercial Credit Business Loans Inc; Commercial Credit Equipment Corp; Rediscount International McCullagh Leasing Inc; Computer Financial Corp; Commercial Credit Development Corp; Commercial Credit Capital Corp; Countryside Communities Corp; R.A. Auto Fleet Leasing Ltd (Canada); Commercial Credit Corp Ltd (Canada); American Credit Indemnity Co of N.Y.; American Health and Life Insurance Co; Calvert Fire Insurance Co; Central Information Processing Corp; Derotest Manufacturing Corp; Transtock Corp No 2; Autocan Industries Inc; H.A. Rogers Co; CDC International Finance Corp; Industrial

Market Associates Inc; Control Data Far East Inc; Control Data Indo Asia Inc; Control Data Canada Inc; Precision Data Co Ltd; Control Data Pan American Corp; Control Data Holding A.G.; International Control Data A.B.A.; Control Data Australia Pty. Ltd.; Control Data (Holland) N.V.; Control Data Ltd (England); Control Data Norway A/S; Control Data (Propietory) Ltd; Waltek Ltd; Control Data Inalia SPA; Control Data A/S (Denmark); Control Data Portuguese SARL; Control Data Belgium SA; Control Data Thailand Ltd; Computing Devices of Canada Ltd; Cedro De Mexico SA De CV; Control Data Iberica SA (Spain); Control Data Europe Inc; Elektrofact BV (Holland); Elektrofact GMBH (West Germany); Elektrofact Belgie (Belgium); Elektrofact Italiano (Italy); De Wit Fabriek Van metal Werktulgen (Holland); The Service Bureau Corp; Syntonic Technology Inc; Magnetic Peripherals Inc; Control Data Middle East Inc (Greece); ROM Control Data (Romania); Data Control Systems Inc, USA; CDC Japan Ltd; Ticketron Inc, USA; Computer Peripherals Inc, USA).

Travenol Laboratories Inc.

Fenwal Laboratories.

#### West Germany

Kalmar Kochkum GMBH.

Triumph International Aktiengesellschaft, and its subsidiaries, Triumph International Aktiengesellschaft (Austria), Triumph International Holding GMBH (West Germany), Triumph Universa AG (Sweden), Triumph International Vertriebs GMBH (West Germany), Triumph International (Hong Kong) Ltd, Triumph International SA (France).

Bank Fur Gemeinwirtschaft AG, and its subsidiaries — Brake and Company GMBH

#### Sweden

Kalmar LMV BH.

#### Australia

Kalmar Pty. Ltd.

#### France

Club Mediterranee, (subsidiary): Compagnie de Village de Vacance dela Mer de Chine Ltd, Hong Kong).

Compagnie Technicon, with its subsidiaries under the same name in: France, Sweden, Germany, Ireland, Austria, Belgium, Poland, Italy, Scandinavia, Spain, UK, Brazil, Japan, Mexico, Venezuala, Australia.

#### India

Herbertsons, Limited, Bombay Breweries Limited, Mysore Wine Products Ltd, Maltex Malsters Limited, Nalanda Breweries Limited, Cardboard Industries Limited, Carew Company Limited, Consolidated Investments Ltd, Darlco Cannings Limitd, Endeavour Investments Limited, East Coast Limited, Golden Investments Investments Limited, High Range Breweries Limitd, Kalyani Breweries Limited, Kesarval Beverages Limited, McDowell and Company Limited, Phipson and Company Limited, UB Investment Limited, United Breweries Ltd. M. Manubhai and Co, New Oriental Silk Mills Private Ltd.

#### Sri Lanka

Gestetner of Ceylon Ltd.

#### **New Zealand**

Gestetner Manufacturing Ltd.

#### United Kingdom

Francis Caird Ltd.

#### Riyadh GCC meeting

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Yousuf al Alawi Abdallah, returned home on Monday from Riyadh where he led the Sultanate's delegation to a two-day meeting of the Arab Gulf Cooperation council's Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

He said the council discussed the 29- month-old Iraq-Iran war and the council stressed renewed efforts for a peaceful end to the war.

Replying to questions on oil prices, following Nigeria's cut in its crude prices, the Minister said the Gulf ministers were due to meet to discuss the situation. He said they are expected to discuss a plan, within the framework of the Gulf Cooperation Council, aimed at stabilizing prices and production.

Speaking on defence matters, the minister said coordination among



## Ministry official killed

Mr. Abdalla Hamad Khalfan al Mukheni, Deputy Director of Public Relations at the Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities died in a road accident last week. He was 46.

Mr. Mukheni was driving to his home town, Sur, at the week-end when his car was in an accident with a stray camel. The camel fell on top of the car and crushed it.

The Minister of Land Affairs and Municipalities and staff of the Ministry have expressed condolences at the death of Mr. Mukheni. the states was continuing and there were studies underway. The Minister also referred to the comprehensive security agreement among the Gulf States and said the agreement was still pending.

#### SCC committee meetings

Fishing, information and the cost of electricity are some of the topics which have been discussed recently by committees of the State Consultative Council.

The Economics Committee discussed ways of keeping fishermen and their sons in the business.

It also discussed reports from a subcommittee which visited the Batinah, the Capital Area and the Southern Region to talk to fishermen and larn about their problems.

The Committee on Services has completed the draft of its recommendations on TV transmission, and has assessed the roles of various means of communication.

The Committee on Utilities continued its meeting to discuss electricity charges, but decided to adjourn its discussions until a consultants' study is completed.

It also discussed a request from the people of Sarouj and Khuwair for their homes to be connected to the electricity supply.

The committee decided to submit a report on this to the executive office of the Consultative Council.

## Training talks

The Council of Education for Vocational Training, headed by the Minister for National Heritage and Culture, Sayyid Faisal bin Ali al Said, met at the Ministry of National Heritage and Culture on Saturday. They discussed the strategy for training of the Omani workforce in Oman.

#### Greetings

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos on Monday sent a telegram of greetings to Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani, the Emir of Qatar, congratulating him on the eleventh anniversary of his accession.





Computer course students with NCC senior consultant Rosemary O'Connell.

# First computer course successes

Awad Salim al Shanfari President of the port Services Corporation, presented certificates last Thursday to successful students of the first computer course held at the British Council.

Fifteen students received two certificates each- a joint British Council/National Computing Centre certificate and a separate NCC one – at a ceremony at the Al Falaj Hotel. The NCC certificate registers the students on their global list of students.

"I did an assesment myself and I found the students very good," Mr Brinley Platts, of NCC's International Division told the "Times of Oman" at a reception following the presentation.

Mr Platts was on a brief visit to Oman as part of a tour of the Gulf Similar courses are being held in other countries in the area.

#### Demonstration

After presenting certificates, Mr. Shanfari was shown what the students had learned and was given a practical demonstration of their capabilities.

Among the students who passed were three from the Port Services Corporation (which is in the process of computerising its work). The British Council and WCC of UK has awarded one scholarship to a student, Zu hra Yahya Said al Kindy, of the Public Authority for Water Resources, Miss Al Kindy was the most outstanding student from the first batch.

Others were sponsored by the Government, Petroleum Development Oman, and private organisations. The first batch included three women and all three scored distinctions.

A second batch of 12 students are receiving training at the British Council, on computer awareness and basic computing concepts. A thrid course is planned for later this year.

#### Results

The successful students were: Zu hra Yahya Said al Kindly; Azza Hilal

Khalfan al Harthy, Jamilla Salim Said al Battashy; Yousef Dadallah Mohamed al Zidjaly; Said Musallam Salim; and Seif Salim Issa al Harrasy.

Abdulrahman Ahmed al Rawahy; Salum Saleem Suleiman; Rashid Salim Rashid al Falahy; and Abdullah Nassir Rashid al Harthy.

Mahmood Khamis Sumar; Ali Khamis Khassayib al Siyaby; Ali Salim Hamed al Masroury; Saleh Suleiman Seif El Ismaily; and Akhtar Haji al Mohammed al Zadjaly.



Mr. Al Shanfari presenting one of the certificates.



Mr. Awad Salim Al Shanfari (left) and Mr Duncan Slater, the British Ambassador watch as a student demonstrates his skills.

# Testing day for Muscat Regt.

The Commander, Northern Oman Brigade, Brigadier Hamid Said Mohammed al Aufi, on Sunday inspected the Muscat Regiment with an emphasis on testing them on their fitness for their role.

This is an annual event and it is customary for the Brigade to give no prior warning to prevent the regiment from carrying out any rehearsals.

However the Commanding Officer Lt Col Suleman Musabah Rashid al-Kilbani had previously carried out his own exercises in testing the regiment in every possible aspect of their training.

The technical inspections, consisting of vehicles, weapons, documents and control stores had already been carried out by members of the Brigade staff during the weeks prior to the Brigadiers' visit

This year the Brigadier tested the regiment by sending a signal deploying the 30 minute standby platoon to the Rusail area, followed by the Reserve Company commanded by Major Hilal Hamad Hamdan al Busaidi. Their reaction time was outstanding and on arrival the Coy Commander was given orders by the Brigade Major to search a wadi as information had been received that possibly there were "Some Terrorists" hiding in the area.

The Brigade had previously deployed



two soldiers dressed incivilian clothes to act as terrorists. The company's operation proved successful in every way. And the "Terrorists" were captured.

After the operation the Brigadier congratulated 'C' Company on their efforts and, especially, on their fitness.

The Brigadier, accompanied by the Commanding Officer then inspected Bid Bid Camp, the headquarters of the Muscat Regiment. This included visiting education courses, seeing engineers, making a sports field and watching the building of a new canteen by Ministry of Defence engineers.

The Brigadier and members of his staff were entertained to lunch by the officers of the regiment which this year is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

### Yemen envoy leaves

Abdel Malik al Tayyeb, the Envoy of President Ali Abdullah Saleh of the Yemen Arab Republic, Deputy Prime Minister, and members of the Consultative Council left Oman for home on Saturday after a five-day visit to the Sultanate.

During his stay he delivered a message from the Yemeni President to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos.

At the airport to bid him farewell were Khalfan bin Nasser al Wahaiby, Chairman of the State Consultative Council and the Yemeni Ambassador to the Sultanate.

#### Loan facility

A loan facility was signed last week, in the Manama head office of the Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait (BBK) for Al Bougary Trading & Contracting Establishment of Jeddah.

The facility is for SR 55 million over a term of four-and-one-half years. The funds will be used to finance construction of a residential complex for the use of University medical personnel at the King Abdul Aziz University Hospital in Jeddah. Contractor for the project is S. Al Amry Establishment for Trade & Contracts.

BBK arranged the facility and acted as agent bank. Funds were also provided by ALBAAB,

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### SULTANATE OF OMAN

## MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

Further to our announcements in this news paper regarding applications from the private sector for the implementation of Industrial Projects, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry announces that due to requests from various investors for an extension of the closing dates for the submission of the applications, it has been decided to extend the closing dates for the submission of the application forms for various projects as follows:

24.3.1983

#### **Projects**

- I. Window Air-Conditioning Assembly Plant
- 2. Agricultural Pumps Assembly Plant
- 3. Fish Filleting & Processing Plant
- 4. Marble Extraction & Processing Plant

10.5.1983

#### **Projects**

- I. Electric Distribution Transformers
- 2. Electric Panels & Distribution Boards
- 3. Perfumery & Cosmetics Plant
- 4. Metal Furniture Plant
- 5. Steel Structures Plant
- 6. Drilling Muds
- 7. Car Exhaust Systems
- 8. Copper Down-stream Products
- 9. Poultry Slaughtering Plant

13.5.1983

#### **Project**

Gypsum.

#### Note:

In order to clarify all querries regarding the projects and the application forms, the Consultants who will evaluate the applications will be available during the following period of time at the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, telephone 745301 Extn. 155.

"25th February 1983 to 10th of March 1983."

All investors who have enquiries could reach them at the above mentioned address and date.

## Northern Frontier Regt. wins march and shoot competition



A team on the climb up the Jebel Akhdar.

The annual Northern Oman Brigade March and Shoot Competition was won by a team from the Northern Frontier Regiment, exceeding the previous year's winning total by more than 100 points.

There were seven major unit entries and the same number of minor units also competed for a prize. The winners being the Mussandam Security Force.

The competition consists of a march from the Wadi Maydin up the Jebel Akhdar via the villages of Salut and Saiq. The total distance is 11 kilometres.

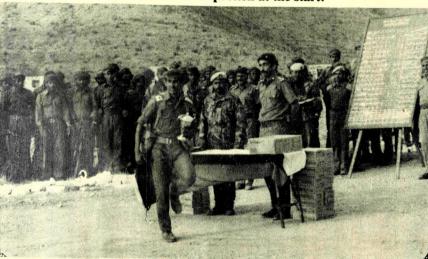
At the end of the march each team is inspected to ensure that equipment is in working order and then they take part in a falling plate competition.

This year most of the units were using the new Steyr assault rifle which proved an outstanding success.

The northern Oman Brigade Commander, Ameed (Rukn) Hamed Said Mohammad al Aver Wkhm (G) presented the prizes to the winning teams, and congratulated the participants for their high standards of fitness and shooting.



A team awaits inspection at the start.



Presentation of prizes by Ameed (RUKN) Hamed Said Mohammed al Aufi Wkhm (G).

## 24 UK firms at Cairo fair

Twenty-four companies from britain will be exhibiting in a British Pavilion at the Cairo International Fair (12-26 March 1983). The pavilion is being organised by the British Overseas Trade Board.

An area of 525 m2 net will be occupied

inside the exhibition hall, while seven companies will occupy 500 m2 outside. Exhibits will cover products and services for civil engineering and the construction industry, agricultural equipment and food industry machines and products, lifting equipment and vehicles, generators and other items for general industrial use. The BOTB will be prviding an information stand to answer inquiries from visitors to the exhibition.

# Training for Omanis in Saudi Arabia And Egypt

The Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities is to send Omanis to Saudi Arabia and Egypt for training in technical and administration jobs.

A Ministry delegation has returned to Muscat after a visit to these countries for talks. The delegation consisted Mr. Abdul Rahman al Raisi, Director General of Regional Municipalities and Mr. Yahya Sami, the Municipal Advisor.

In Saudi Arabia the delegation visited the Technical Assistance Institute and the Town Development Institute owned by the Arab Towns' Organisation.

During talks with officials of these institutes the delegation discussed the possibility of more places for Omani municipal workers. The delegation was told that at present 20 Omanis are taking courses at the two institutes in Riyadh and there was scope for enrolling more Omanis for different courses.

The delegation also visited the UN Centre for Municipal Training in Egypt and discussed with the management training of Omani workers. The Centre officials welcomed the Oman proposal and expressed their readiness to provide training facilities to Omanis.

The courses for which Omanis will be sent to Riyadh and Egypt include public

health, sanitation, water resources, building control, rural development, road maintenance and administration of regional municipalities.

It is expected that the first batch of Omanis will be sent to the UN centre in Egypt this year. The Omanis now at the Riyadh institute will complete their training in six months and another contingent will be sent to the next session

## Agricultural bank meeting

The Administrative Council of the Oman Bank of Agriculture and Fisheries held its first meeting of the year with the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Abdul Hafedh Salim Rajab in chair.

The council reviewed the bank's auditors' report for 1982, and its activities during the year. The Council also studied its Secretariat's resolutions and achievements during the year.

## UK medical courses for overseas specialists

Four medical courses are being introduced in Britain by the British Council for overseas specialists.

Recent advances in medical immunology – from 13 to 25 March - is for those with experience in the diagnosis, management and control of immunologically-based diseases in paediatric and adult clinical practice. It will be directed by Professor D C Dumonde, of the Department of Immunology at St Thoma's Hospital Medical School, London.

Many applicantions have been received to attend "Human genetics: present and future," which Professor P E Polani and Dr M Adolfini of the Paediatric Research Unit at Guy's Hospital, London, will lead in Oxford from 20 to 31 March.

Industrial diseases have been studied in Britain for a long time and from 17 to 23 April a course, "The Industrial Cancer and its Epidemiology," is to be run by Professor E D Acheson, director of the Medical Research Council Environmental Epidemiology Unit at Southampton's General Hospital.

British specialists have played a pioneering role in developing diagnostic techniques associated with oral pathology.

Among the 16 other courses included in the British Council's programme for 1983 are Recent Advances in Renal Medicine at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, from 13 to 24 March, The Clinical Medicine of Old Age at Cambridge from 17 to 25 March and Head Injuries at Glasgow from 9 to 21 October.

## British missions to Oman

Forthcoming British trade missions to Oman are: Kent and Sussex Exporters' Club, March 7-11, Leeds Chamber of Commerce, May 15-19; Federation of Sussex Industries, October 14-16; the British Furniture Mission sometime in November, and the Manchester Chamber of Commerce in February 1984

#### **Hyatt offer**

The Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dubai, will sponsor non-GCC visitors to the UAE for up to two weeks as part of a promotional programme, according to Mr. Kafafy K. Kafary, sales manager, who was in Oman recently.

The package costs Dhs 310 per day - a special rate - and the hotel offers as options trips into the desert, overnight safaris and barbecue evenings.

#### Invitation to Omani farm experts

Omani agriculture experts have been invited to an international course on agro-industry at the Hague (Holland) from 16 May until 18 June.

The course is being organised by the Netherlands Universities Foundation.

Participation in the course is open to Government officials and other qualified candidates with some year's experience problems

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1. The Ministry of Defence invites tenders for the supply of following commodity:

S/NO. DESCRIPTION TENDER CLOSING DATE

1. IRON MONGERY 549 26.3.83

2. Tender documents may be obtained on payment of RO. 5.000 (Rials Omani Five only) each in cash, from the Secretary to the Tender Board, Bait-al-Falaj, between 0800 AM and 1100 AM on WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY.

## Prize day for the tidy towns

A prize distribution ceremony for the winners of the third Municipalities Week held in November last year will be held in Nizwa on March 25.

The ceremony which will be presided over by the Minister of Land Affairs and Municipalities Mr. Ahmad Abdalla al Ghazali has been arranged to coincide with Arab Towns' Day.

The Minister will give the winning cups to Municipalities of Nizwa, Masnah and Jalan Bani bu Hassan for keeping their towns clean. The cups will be accompanied by a cash prize of R.O. 10,000 for each municipality.

Apart from cups and the money, there will be shields, and gold and silver medals for municipal workers, officials and private enterprises for outstanding performances during Municipalities

Week

The Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities has given a great deal of attention to celebrating the week which has now become a regular annual feature.

Municipalities Week has been found very successful in enhancing capabilities and efficiency of the towns and has stirred enthusiasm among the people to keep their towns tidy.

The Ministry has also published a book on the week which has generated interest among other Gulf states. Bahrain sent an observers' team last year.

#### 'Invest in Sudan'

The Union of Arab Federation of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture has called on members to invest in agricultural projects in Sudan which has a large agricultural potential.

The call was made during the Federation's meeting in Khartoum recently.

Oman's delegation to the meeting consisted of Sheikh Ahmad Mohammad bin Omeir, President and Mr. Khamees al Hashar, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The conference also called for greater use of modern implements to boost agricultural output in the Arab region.

## SOAF report

The heavy rain that fell on 11 and 12 February has continued to create problems for many villages in the North and South of Oman.

In particular, the Sur area was badly affected by flood damage, and Seeb-based helicopters have been busy flying in supplies and rendering assistance to many villages.

The Wali of Sur has flown to several villages by SOAF helicopter to reassure the inhabitants that help is at hand, and that as much aid as possible will be given to them.

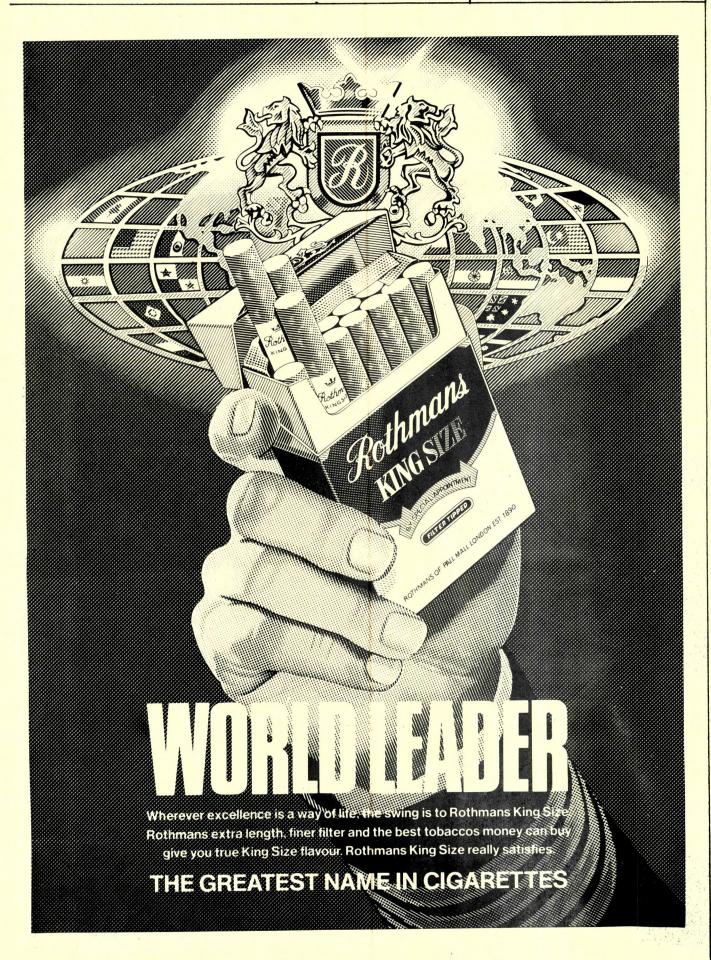
In the South, Mirbat was affected by flood waters and SOAF helicopters flew the Naib Wali of Mirbat on an inspection of the damage suffered by villages.

As the floods gradually subside, so the extent of damage to many villages will become more obvious. SOAF helicopters and fixed wing aircraft are already prepared to meet the expected heavy demand for materials and supplies that will be necessary for repairs.

Despite the very poor weather conditions, the Salalah-based helicopters braved high winds and torrential rain to bring several sick villagers to Qaboos Hospital for urgent medical attention.

On Feb 13 a wife with pregnancy complications was flown out of Aydim, and a sick man was evacuated from Juffa.

A soldier with malaria was flown by a helicopter from Arfit the next day, and the standby Skyvan called out to fly a woman suffering from high fever from Liqbi to Salalah. On Feb, 15 the standby helicopter was airborne again, and flew to Hasik from where a woman with a broken leg was flown to Qaboos Hospital.



Government Warning Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries

### PDO gets new equipment to aid desert searches

A reminder on what to do if men are lost in the Interior has been issued by P.D.O. operations manager Bob Stor.

At the same time, PDO's air operations staff together with Oman Aviation Services' pilots have been testing new equipment to help organise air searches for missing men.

The reminder reaffirms the rule that a man should be considered 'lost' two hours after failing to return at the expected time from an Interior trip. It is, it states, the responsibility of his immediate supervisor to check whether there is cause for concern and, if so, to alert the emergency services through the 7555 emergency telephone number (or in the case of contractors through their PDO link-men).

"I cannot stress too highly the importance of getting the earliest alert that a man may be lost," Bob Stor said. "The incident last summer when two men nearly died has proved the need to get a search underway as soon as possible.

As well as an early alert, the supply operations staff, who are in charge of organising a search, need certain essential information.

Bob's reminder states that a 'man lost' report must include: the names, or Company numbers, of the missing men; their time and place of departure; their planned route; the time and place of their expected return; the type and colour of their vehicle (including the fleet number, which is painted on the roof of PDO vehicles for pilots to see, if applicable); the quantity of water being carried and whether the vehicle carries a

Another vital bit of information is whether or not the vehicle was carrying a desert survival box. These boxes, issued by Fire and Safety, contain a radio beacon which allows search aircraft to directly home-in on the vehicle.

Up until now, receivers for these beacons have only been fitted on aircraft of the Sultan of Oman's Air Force which, of course, co-operates fully in any emergency. However, receivers have recently been ordered for the Fokker F27s and the Kingair B200 used by PDO.

'Knowledge of the route taken is absolutely essential. Looking for a vehicle in a vast expanse of desert is like looking for a needle in a haystack," Bob emphasised. "Nobody should travel off road in the Interior without having left behind details of his route, and having done so, must stick to it."

PDO and Oman Aviation Services have recently obtained new programmes

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The Kingair B200.

both before the flight and during it.

With the new computers, all that has to be done is to punch in a start point for the search together with the desired pattern. The machine then quickly calculates the latitude and longitude for each turn the aircraft must make. These positions can then be fed into the Omega navigation system in the aircraft.

In the Fokker F27s, the system will then automatically fly the aircraft along

the search pattern at the required height giving the pilots more time to help search the ground. The smaller B2000 has a less sophisticated autopilot and the pilot has to make the turns.

"It will be much quicker now to organise a search," Gordon stressed. "Aircraft can take off with one of these hand-held computers abroad and can work out the search pattern en-route to the search area."

# International

for handheld computers which will

enable search patterns to be worked out.

search pattern, depending on the

information you have about where the

missing men might be found," Gordon

Bretag, the OAS chief pilot, explained.

"Previously, working out the navigation

for a pattern took a considerable time,

"There are several different types of

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Large quantity of Fuller and Rockwell Transmissions Rear Ends, Tires Break Drums, Axles, Challenge Cook and Fruehauf Trailers, GMC Trucks, Auto Car, Caterpillar, Lincoln, Williams & Lane Generator spare parts. New and rebuilt Cummins, Detroit Diesel and Perkins Diesel Engines and much more

#### **Construction Equipment**

#### Asphalt and Crusher Plant & Accessories

Astec model Brute 40, 8000 lb. plant includes : Cold feed system, scavenging and draft system. Dust collector aggregate dryer and Astec Spare Parts. Hot material Elevator, Screens bins, Pug mill, Surge Bin with Load system 150 ton, 2-30,000 Asphalt Heaters, Control Van, 2-trailmobile 40FT Van Trailers. Large Number of Marco 24" Conveyors (New)

1 - Complete 200 Ton per hour Crusher and Hewitt Robin 30" x 42" Primary Jaw, El Jay 54" Standard Cone, El Jay 54" Fine Cone, El Jay 5" x 15" Screen, Marco Converyors, and Radial Stackers, Electric Powered with Control Van.

2 - 80 Ton scales and portable controle building

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- 32 Kenworth C 500A 6x4 Truck Tractors
- 2 Mercedes 2624 6x4 Truck Tractors 26 - Autocar 8 yd Concrete Mixer Trucks
- 15 GMC 7500 10 yd Dump Trucks
- 3 GMC 7500 Water Distributor Trucks 3 - GMC Mechanic Service Trucks
- 1 Chevrolet Asphalt Distributor Trucks
- 5 Euclid off Highway Dump Trucks

#### **Building Materials and Spare Parts** Construction and Marine Equipment

### Dhahran Saudi Arabia

- 2 GMC 2-5 Ton Tire Service Trucks
- 20 Challenge Cook 40 Ton Bottom Dump Trailers
- 9 Trailmobile 985 CF Bulk Cement Trailers
- 3 Etnyre 10,000 Gallon Asphalt Tank Trailers
- 3 Polar 10,000 Gallon Tank Trailers

- 1 Clark Model 700-HC 80 Ton Crawler Crane 1 - Link-Belt Model LS98A 40 Ton Crawler Crane
- 2 Grove Hydraulic Rough Terrain Cranes (RT58S and RT60S)
- Gallon 150A Hydraulic Rough Terrain Crains

#### **Crawler Tractor**

- 1 Caterpiller D9H Dozer with Rippler
- 2 Caterpiller D8K Dozers with Rippers
- 1 Caterpiller 583 Pipelayer

- 4 Michigan 275B Rubber Tires Loaders
- 9 Michigan 75B Rubber Tire Loaders
- 2 Melroe Clark 825 16 Cubic Ft. Wheel Loaders

#### **Motor Graders**

Caterpiller 12G Motor Graders

Clark and Hyster 11/2 to 7.5 ton Diesel and Electric.

Ross and Eric Strayer Concrete Batch Plants, Mixers, Diesel welders, Light Plants, 6KW to 650KW Generators, 160 CFM to 250 CFM Air Compressors, 18,000 Gallon Water Tanks, Pumps, Pipe Threader and Band Saws

- 3 Ingersoll Rand 18' Compactors, 3-Tampo steel wheeled Rollers, 1-Asphalt Paver, Blown Knox.
  1-Ferguson 30Ton Pneumatic Tire Roller, 1-Rosco Sweeper,
  2-Rock Drills and 1-Complete Bibble Building.

#### Marine Equipment

- -Rimthan I work boat, built 1970 100' length 35' beam, 12 1/2 draft, 2-Cat D-398 850 H.P. Diesel Engines, 10 Ton Crane Oil Pollution and Foam Fire Fighting equipment. ABS class and load line.
- 2-Zuluf I and Zuluf II Crew Boats Built 1968, 84'9" Length, 21' Beam, 9' 6" Draft, 2-GM 16V71, 1400 HP Diesel Engines.
- 1 Jana I Mooring boat, 72, length, 22' beam, 8' draft, 1-Cat D-353 375 H.P. Diesel Engine.
- 1 Tarut II work boat built 1975. 23 1/2 ' length 6' 4" beam, 1' 4" draft, 106 H.P. inboard & outboard drive. 1-120'x41'x10' flat deck welded steel hull Cargo Barge

The site of auction is at Dhahran, Saudi Arabia north of Ramada Hotel on the Dammam Highway.

This sale will be held in arabic using Saudi Arabian Riyal valuations. Interpreters will be available to assist buyers. All sales will be to the highest bidder. Payment will be in Saudi Arabian Riyals or United States Dollars at the conversion rates specified by Aramco on the date of the sale. Acceptable forms of payment are cash and or certified cheque. Payment by a company or personal cheque must be accompanied by proof of identity and an irrevocable letter of credit or bank guarantee acceptable to the auctioneer. All negotiable instruments including irrevocable letters of credit or

bank guarantee shall be written in Arabic and English after each bid award and will be required to make 100% payment the last day of sales. If the succesful bidder pays the bid deposit but does not subsequently complete the transaction by making full payment and and executing the required sales documents, the item will be reoffered for sale and the bid deposit will be forfeited by the bidder, Detailed terms covering the auction may be obtained by contacting the office. Any changes will be covered by auctioneer on date of sale

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## Books

## The Omanis: Sentinels of the Gulf

The Omanis: Sentinels of the Gulf, by Liesl Graz, Longman Group Ltd. UK price: £ 12.00.

It has now become very evident that Oman has ably absorbed the shock of change, all the pressures that have beat upon the country during the past decade, after its emergence of years of isolation. With modest oil revenues, the Oman government has been able to plan and execute development programmes successfully without the pitfalls of extravagance which was seen in the other countries where oil boosted state treasuries.

In the course of the book, Ms. Graz, a Swiss journalist who spent several months living and travelling in Oman, captures the essential nuances of Oman. Her canvas is wide- the farmers of the oases watering their crops by means of irrigation channels built two thousand years ago; the fishermen of the Kuria Muria Islands whose main problem is a shortage of women; the bedu whose only tent is the sky; the varied groups of townspeople, the jeballi of Dhofar, long feared by their Arab neighbours; the women and the decision-makers and His Majesty Sultan Qaboos - all, Guardians of the Gulf.

#### The modern days

In modern times, says the author, the world has realised that it is Oman who is the protector of the Strait of Hormuz and all he western world's oil that passes though it. And the Sultanate her performed its task ably with a confidence that was unexpected of a country which for centuries was considered a sleepy land.



An Omani falaj system

## CRAVEN Per pack MADE IN **ENGLAND** Quality-flavour-CAPRERAS UTO satisfaction

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## 'The Call of the Wild'

The Call of the Wild by Jack London. Puffin Books, Penguin Books, England.

A heart-warming tale of a dog's fight for survival in the harsh and frozen Yukon, this classic is considered one of the greatest animal stories ever written.

Buck is a dog born to a life of luxury on an estate in California and "he was kingking over all the creeping, crawling, flying things of Judge Miller's place, humans included". He is then betrayed by a gardener and sold as a sled dog. It was the time of the famous Klondike Golf Rush in 1897 and dogs like Buck, when suitably toughened, were in great demand.

But Buck refuses to cower; strong and defiant he fights his way because "mercy did not exist in the promordial life. It was misunderstood for fear, and such misunderstandings made for death. Kill or be killed was the law; and this mandate, down out of the depths of Time, he obeyed. And Buck was merciless. He had learned well the law of club and fang, and never forwent an advantage or drew back from a foe he had started on the way to Death."

At last he escapes from civilization to become the leader of an Arctic wolf-pack and becomes a legend in the north.

The "Call of the Wild" was first published in 1903.

Illustrations are by Martin Gascoigne. Price: 85p in the UK.

### Report on the invasion

"The Israeli Invasion of Lebanon", by Yousuf Duhul (Avicenna Press) a Somali living in Djibouti writes about one of the major events of 1982. He details the backgrounds and the roles of America and the Western press.

A second section looks at American relations with Israel, Russian-Arab relations and takes a searching look at Lebanon itself.

## Retiring abroad

Deciding to retire abroad is the easy part, probably prompted by memories of an enjoyable holiday, the desire for a new life or a distaste for cold, damp winters and high taxation. But, however the reason, emigration requires lengthy and detailed planning.

Retiring Abroad has been compiled to assist in this planning. Providing guidance on buying property abroad, overseas removals, financial planning, pensions, social security benefits and private medical schemes.

Detailed country profiles of the traditional destinations of the British emigrant provide information on the problems involved in obtaining residence, the type and availability of property, taxation, and social security and welfare.

Concise and readable, Retiring Abroad is a companion for those intending to spend the remainder of their life away from Britain.

Retiring Abroad is published by The Financial Times Business Publishing Limited, and is available from the Promotion and Development Department, Greystoke Place, Fetter Lane, London EC4A IND. Telephone: 01-405 6969. Total price: £10.00 UK/£11.0 overseas (£8.50 plus £1.50 p & p UK/£2.50 p & p overseas airspeeded).

# Thrilling Wattayeh horse contests

A thrilling display was put on at the second inter-mounted unit exercise competitions at the Wattayeh Police Stables on Wednesday afternoon last week.

Altogether 45 riders on horses belonging to the Royal Stables, the Royal Guard Brigade, Royal Oman Police, Sayyid Fahr bin Taimour al Said and Sayyid Thuwainy bin Shihab took part in the exercises.

There were six events -

The winners in each event were presented with prizes by the Inspector General of Police, Said Rashid al Kilbani, at the end.

The placings of the winners in each event with the horses' names in brackets:

Novice jumping: (1) Mohammed Salem (No.43), (2) Saad Hamed (Najat), (3) Mafooz Hamed (Rajan), (4) Samir Marzook (Amor).

Intermediate jumping: (1) Obaid Markoot (Dhahab), (2) Ali Mohammed (No. 23), (3) Said Talib (Amer), (4) Manzoor Ali (Turkia).

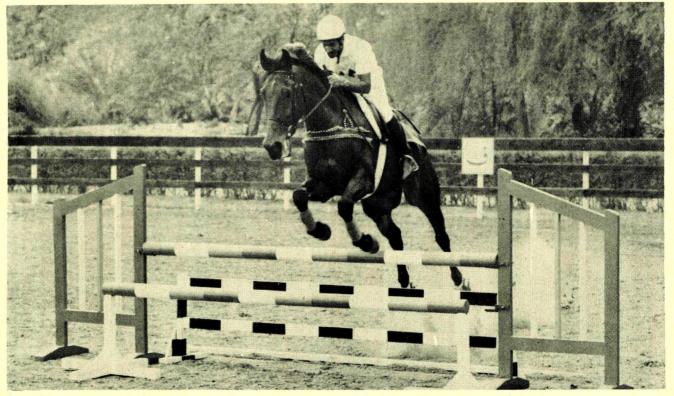
Open jumping: (1) Christine West (H al Wadi), (2) Sabir Ahmed (Jupiter), (3) Hamood Sultan (Gold Trick), (4) Sulem Hadeeb (Arjun).

Tent pegging: (1) Suleiman Khamis (Maekisma), (2) Abdullah Saad (Kanti), (3) Saad Hamad (Master), (4) Ahmed Khatim (Shamsa).

Cross country: (1) Said Adam (Jonathan), (2) Rashid Hamid (Khedam), (3) Saad Hamad (Master), (4) Ahmed Khatim (Shamsa).

Cross country: (1) Said Adam (Jonathan), (2) Rashid Hamid (Khedam), (3) Sabir Ahmed (Jupiter), (4) Christine West (H al Wadi).

Musical sacks: (1) Hamid Rashid, (2) Awadh Said (Akbar), (3) Abdullah Sulaiman (Diam), (4) Ali Mohammed (No 66).





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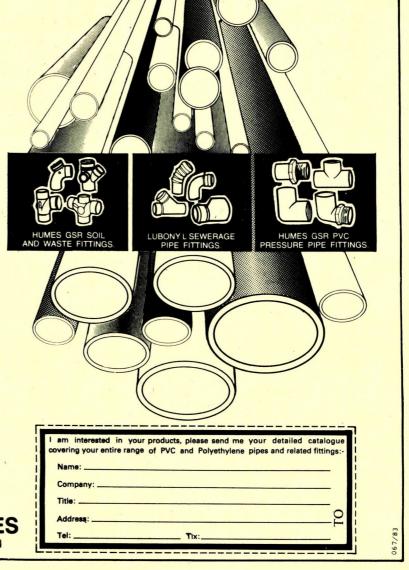
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## Microbes in agriculture

"Microbes - so often portrayed as the simplest, humblest vestiges of life - are in fact some of the most versatile and talented products of evolution. They can thrive in habitats extremely hostile to human life, and are infinitely more skilled than any human chemist in their synthetic activities. They thus represent a richly diverse resource, the abundant potential of which we are just beginning to recognize". - Dr. Bernard Dixon writing in the Unesco periodical Impact of science on society.

by Rex Keating

In Kenya a farmer can buy a packet of microbes for a small sum and provided he follows the instructions on the label he will be rewarded with a profitable increase in his crop-yield of leguminous plants; he has put to work a micro-organism known as rhizobium, just one of many such invisible allies of mankind. Biologists call the process biological nitrogen fixation, or BNF.

Nitrogen is a key element in the amino-acids which are the building-blocks of life, the proteins. There is, of course, an abundance of nitrogen occuring naturally in the air we breath -78 per cent is nitrogen - but it is not in a

form that plants can use directly. It must first be converted into ammonia either artifically in inorganic form or naturally, through the BNF cycle. Which brings us back to the Kenyan farmer and his crop of legumes. The family of legumes, the Leguminosae, consists of about 13000 known species which embrace trees, shrubs, herbs and a whole group of food plants most important among them being peas. All the plants named are widely cultivated in the developing world which must rely mainly on plants rather than animals for its protein needs.

Of the two sources of protein, plant and animal, the former is by far the more efficient and easier to produce, and consequently cheaper in cost to the small farmer. Thus, leguminous plants can produce 10 to 17 kilograms of protein per hectare per year whereas poultry, beef or pork would yield only 0.6 to 1.5 kilograms of protein content, but they are unique in the plant world in that many of them establish their own special form of BNF through a symbiotic relationship with rhizobium microorganisms that form and colonize the tumour-like growths called root-nodules which are a feature of the Leguminosae.

The fuel for the process is provided by

the plant. First one group of bacteria converts the nitrogen into ammonia after which another equally specialized group turns the ammonia into the nitrate form needed by the plant for its growth. So efficient are the bacteria that they produce more nitrate than they and the plant can use and the residue remains in the soil, permanently enriching it. Here is a spin-off especially valuable in soils deficient in the need for organic fertilizers which are usually imported and are correspondingly expensive, and a marked increase in the crop yield.

When the Kenyan farmer introduced his little packet of rhizobium into the roots of his legumes he is, so to speak, plugging into a biological factory which in world terms produces an immense quantity of ammonia soil fertilizer annually. Contrast the 54 million tonnes of chemical nitrogen manufactured in 1980 with the 175 million tons "fixed" (captured and concentrated) by microorganisms in one year.

In Kenya the rhizobium is embedded in sugar-plant waste and distributed in the form of 150 gramme packets labelled with instructions for application in Swahili and English. Currently 900 or so farmers are benefitting from this service, but the demand is increasing at a rate that threatens to outstrip the production capacity of the Nairobi Microbiological Resource Centre — MIRCEN. The year 1975 saw the creation of the first MIRCEN jointly sponsored by Unesco and the International Cell Research Organization (ICRO) and today MIRCENS are to be found in every continent, fostering the development of inexpensive technologies. encouraging the applications of microbiology to rural economies and training specialized personnel. Some, like the MIRCENS in Kenya and Brazil, specialize in rhizobium technology for their respective regions.

#### **Economic potential**

Until now rhizobium research has been largely directed towards foodproducing legumes but the biologists may soon cast a speculative eye on the economic potential of leguminous trees which could hold the key to reforestat ion schemes in the developing world where forest denudation is increasing at frightening rate. In some countries twothirds of the forest cover has been removed. Fast-growing tree legumes would relieve pressure on the virgin forests, supplying not only nitrogen, but protein, fibre and, above all, the wood consumed in cooking, heating and the production of wood-pulp for industry.

Rhizobium bacteria are at the small end of the size-scale of earth's micropopulation. At the top end are the algae, fungi and protozoa, some of the latter just large enough to be seen by the naked eye. Algae come in almost unlimited varieties, some having the property of "fixing" atmospheric nitrogen, others drawing directly on the sun's rays for their energy needs. They can be cultivated continously and may be grown in arid and agriculturally useless lands.

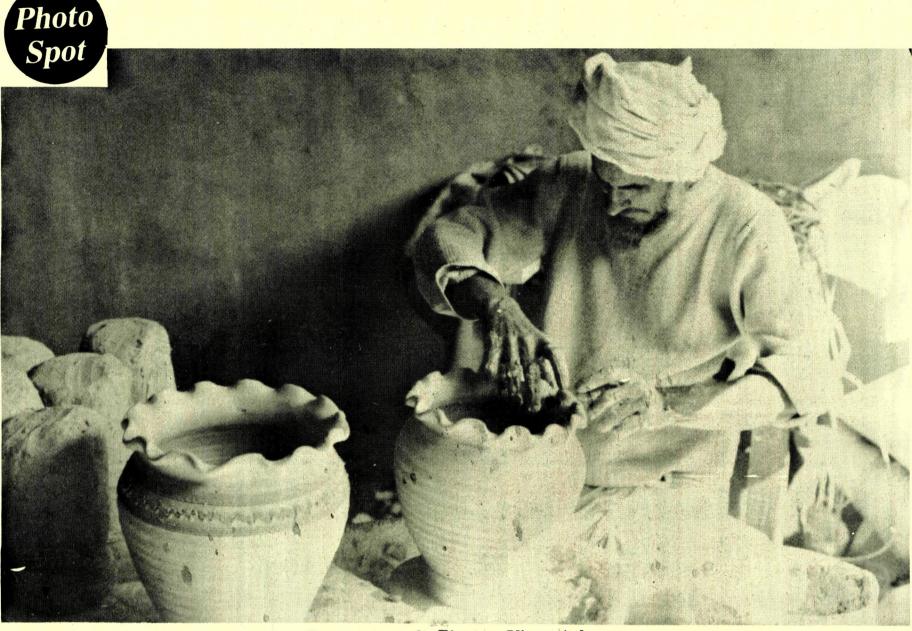
Blue-green algae, which use the sun's energy for nitrogen fixation, are useful in land reclamation and in enriching agricultural soils generally. In Egypt and India where dried preparations of blue-green algae are available, farmers use them to increase rice yields, their cost being about a quarter that of inorganic nitrogen fertilizer.

A report recently published by the World Bank draws the conclusion that Third World farmers have improved food production to a level that makes wide-spread starvation no longer inevitable, despite population growth. Contributing to this encouraging result must surely be the new biologically-engineered cereal strains coupled with the increasing use of microbial fertilizers.

**Unesco Features** 



Stands out for taste in low tar



Potter at work. Picture: Vinay Asher.

## Tamil drama to be staged next month

'Kalapriya' which staged a Tamil Drama titled 'Kannamoochi' last November, is to stage yet another Tamil comedy 'Crazy Thieves in Palavakkam' during the last week of March. The organisers are Mr. M. Natarajan and Mr. S. Rajnarayan.

In view of wide public demand, 'Kalapriya' is enthusiastic to come forward with variety of programmes in the future with the main objective of entertaining the South Indian community of Muscat in general.

## Sea exercise for soldiers and airmen

Soldiers from the Muscat Regiment and the Oman Coastal Regiment and airmen from SOAF went to sea in HMNZS Canterbury on Thursday. They were taking part in an exercise in which the Omani and New Zealand forces cooperated.

During the exercise Jaguars of the Sultan of Oman's Air Force simulated air attacks on "Canterbury".

At the end of the exercise, Bravo 4 Al Waafi, of the Sultan of Oman's Navy, came alongside Canterbury to take off the Omani servicemen.

HMNZS Canterbury then sailed for Karachi where she is to pay a visit.



A Public Works delegation headed by its Director General Mr. Abbas Jaffar visited Saudi Arabia recently to draw up a site plan for the building of an Omani Embassy in Riyadh. The picture taken at the site shows (from left) Oman's Ambassador in Saudi Arabia, Mr. Abbas Jaffar, the consultant and Mr. Othman Hashem.

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## What's new?

## This safe is very An ingenious, Norwegian designed mini-safe, for use in hotel rooms has met safe. Safe I

An ingenious, Norwegian designed mini-safe, for use in hotel rooms has met with considerable international success, and since its introduction about two years ago, more than 30,000 of the safes have already been sold.

The firm behind the invention, Elsafe, cooperated with the Foundation of Scientific and Industrial Research in Trondheim, mid Norway. The small steel safe, which is firmly bolted to the floor, is equipped with an electronically controlled lock, with a micro processor incorporating a memory and a digital panel on the front on which the user can himself programme the code which opens the safe. The code can be altered as often as desired, and the lock can be opened by any of one million combinations.

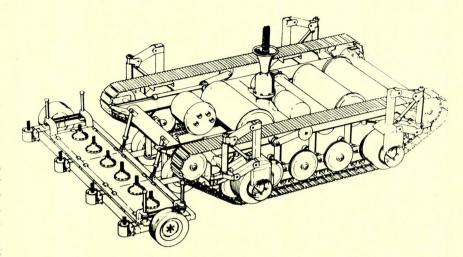
The hotel guest who wishes to use the safe, leases an activator from the hotel reception. This consists of plug which

opens the safe. When it is open the user programmes the code by selecting a six-

digit number

The safe is virtually impregnable to attempts at breaking in. If any other person than the user makes an attempt to open it by a trial and-error method, a blocking mechanism is activated for a period of 30 minutes.

This means that the total time needed to attempt the one million possibilities is 19 years-enough to discourage the most determined safe-breaker. A number of other mechanisms ensure the safe against break-in. If the rightful user is unfortunate enough to forget the code, Elsage has a service office in the vicinity which quarantees to open the safe within half an hour.



The storm surge barrier in the Eastern Scheldt estuary - the final and most complicated phase of the Delta works in the South Western part of the Netherlands - is under full construction.

This extremely advanced, multi billion guider project attracts attention from all over the world.

The 66 monolithic piers which form the backbone of the barrier, will each be placed on two foundation mattresses. The mattresses consist of stand and gravel enfolded by synthetic fabric.

The 132 mattresses, measuring 42×200 metres and weighing approximately 5,500 tons each, will be placed on the sea bottom by a specially adapted vessel. After the mattresses have been positioned on the sea bottom it is necessary to check whether they are in the right position in undamaged condition and if no sand has been deposited due to water movements.

The turbid water will allow barely more than 10 cm visibility in currents which can easily reach 2.5 m/sec. or more. Under such conditions a normal visual inspection is impossible.

To be able to carry out these very important checks on the 132 foundation mattresses, a special vehicle was developed and built. The underwater "crawler" (above) will be used in the Eastern Scheldt estuary for approximately three years. The vehicle is connected to a support vessel by a special cable.

This cable conducts the electrical power supply and electronic data to the crawler and manoeuvres it in any desired pattern over the foundation mattresses. The crawler is equipped with numerous sensors such as sonar, sandlayer detectors, cameras and positioning devices. The data obtained by these sensors, are transmitted to the control room on board the support vessel. After being checked by the operators the information is stored in a computer and on video tape.

The whole underwater inspection system was designed and engineered by NeCOS, a joint venture of five Dutch companies under management of CINTAC, a division of Internationale Navigatie Apparaten (INA) B.V. in Rotterdam. CINTAC also developed the telemetry system of the crawler. Never before has this technology been applied in tidal area such as the Eastern Scheldt.

Canadian and American companies and the Bangladesh government have already shown great interest

#### New Kodak films

Eastman Kodak Company recently announced three new 35 mm colour negative films embodying breakthroughs in chemical technology that allow for improved speed, grain, and colour reproduction as well as increased sharpness.

The new films, which incorporate their ISO speeds in their names, are Kodacolour VR 100, 200, and 400. They join previously announced Kodacolour VR 1000 film, which is the fastest color negative film in the world, "to give Kodak a new family of colour print films for every picture-taking need or situation," said J. Phillip Samper, Group Vice President and General Manager of the Photographic Marketing Group of Eastern Kodak Company.





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- Adhesive

Controls

- Controls

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### Power scene

## UK oil output record

Britain's annual oil production has topped 100 million tonnes for the first time.

Provisional statistics published by the Department of Energy show that 103.4 million tonnes of oil were produced from British oilfields last year - 15.7 per cent more than 1981's record figure.

Overall, the statistics show that the United Kingdom used 2.0 per cent less energy in 1982 compared with 1981, the third successive year that the annual energy consumption rate has fallen.

Total inland consumption of primary fuels during 1982 was equivalent to 310.9 million tonnes of coal, 6.2 million tonnes or 2.0 per cent less than in 1981. Coal consumption fell by 6.3 per cent and natural gas consumption fell by 1.8 per cent. Consumption of petroleum rose by 0.2 per cent.

During the three months October - December 1982 consumption of primary fuels was equivalent to 85.3 million tonnes of coal, 5.1 per cent less than in the same period a year earlier. Coal consumption fell by 9.8 per cent, petroleum consumption fell by 5.9 per cent and consumption of natural gas was down by 3.1 per cent.

Total use of petroleum, including nonenergy use, during 1982 was 75.6 million tonnes, 1.0 million tonnes or 1.3 per cent more than in 1981.

Total petroleum production in the three months October - December 1982 was 27.8 million tonnes. This was 4.4 million tonnes or 18.7 per cent more than in the same period a year earlier.

Petroleum product deliveries for energy uses were down by 3.4 per cent during October - December compared with the same three months a year earlier, with deliveries for non-energy uses down by 10.6 per cent were up by 5.8 per cent.

### New modular buoy

A new modular buoy system which, it is claimed, has unique advantages over conventional rigid buoys, has been introduced by Avon Industrial Polymers in conjunction with Single Buoy Moorings (UK) Ltd. Tests in the North Sea are said to have confirmed the manufacturer's claim.

The "softy buoy" consists of a rubber toroid mounted on a steel core. The toroid is a continuous cord reinforced rubber membrane which is tough and durable, but relatively light, giving the buoy good weight and payload ratio.

As the toroid yields under impact, there is excellent damage protection in the event of a collision. During the North Sea tests, a trawler was made to collide repeadedly with one of the new buoys at varying speeds and angles. No damage resulted to either trawler or buoy. The robust structure, shape and light weight all combine to make handling easy and existing launch and recovery techniques can still be used, Avon states.

The soft buoy system is modular, allowing for a number o different options. For example, one unit may be used as a navigational aid buoy and two or more units coupled together form a most effective deep water anchor pendant buoy.

All parts are resistant to oil, water, ultra violet light and abrasion and the complete system has been designed to comply with Department of Energy and Norwegian maritime requirements for large buoys used offshore.



#### Work soon on solar plant

As part of a European plan to asses the potential of solar energy, an experimental 30-kilowatt solar power plant is to be built near Southampton in southern England.

Construction will start in June on an array of 960 light-sensitive solar panels covering 500 square metres at a conventional UK power station at Marchwood. The £900,000 project is being carried out by a wholly-owned British Petroleum company called BP Solar Systems. Completion is due at the end of this year.

Each of the solar panels will measure one metre by half a metre and be arranged in banks of 16. Each panel will contain 36 solar cells of about one watt and will be adjusted to one of three different angles according to the season of the year.

At peak, each panel is expected to generate 33 watts which will be fed, via a system to convert direct current to alternating current, into the Marchwood distribution network. The solar plant will also incorporate a computerised monitoring system to collect operating information and to measure the plant's performance according to the variable weather conditions.

Half of the cost of the project is being paid for by BP with the remainder shared equally by the UK department of industry and the European Community.

Solar photovoltaics, which is the direct conversion of light into electricity using semi-conductors, is a promising source of alternative renewable energy which is expected to make a worthwhile contribution to energy needs of the future. As part of its solar energy research and development programme, the European Community is sponsoring selected pilot projects. BP has undertaken to assess the potential for solar power generation in the UK and the new plant to be built will be the largest of its kind in the UK.

A solar car that recently crossed Australia in a marathon 4,000 kilometre trek powered solely by the sun was fitted with solar panels supplied from Britain by BP Solar Systems. The first Westland 30 civil helicopter is ready to lift-off from a gas rig in the North Sea during an arduous 14-hour operation ferrying workers from the mainland. Operated by British Airways, the aircraft can carry 17 passengers with their baggage stowed in a 74 cubic feet (2 cubic metre) luggage bay built into the rear fuselage.

Powered by two Rolls-Royce Gem

41 series turboshaft engines, each delivering 1120 shp (shaft horse power), the Westland 30 is a development of the Lynx helicopter. Its Lynx rotor and transmission system requires less servicing than conventional rotor systems due to its semi-rigid design, using a one-piece titanium forging for the rotor head instead of various interlocking components.



## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL COMPANIES AND ESTABLISHMENTS IN SULTANATE OF OMAN

The Directorate General of National Statistics, Development Council is in the process of collect statistics for 1982 on all Economic activities in order to compile the National Income Accounts of the Sultanate of Oman to assist in monitoring the progress of the Five Year Development Plan.

These surveys and studies will be covering the following activities:

- I. Construction
- 2. Manufacturing
- 3. Engineering Consultants
- 4. Real Estate Agency
- 5. Hotels
- 6. Public Accountants/Auditors
- 7. Restaurants
- 8. Travel Agencies
- 9. Insurance
- 10. Trading
- 11. Transportation

We would appreciate the assistance and co-operation of all the firms and establishments related with these activities and would like to assure you that all the information provided would be utilised only for statistical purposes and will remain strictly confidential.

## Spotlight -

## Oman's first fertiliser plant

Switching on the power in the glass-fronted control room overlooking the garbage pit, HH Sayyid Thuwainy bin Shihab, Personal Advisor to His Majesty and Governor of the Capital, last Thursday set on stream the Sultanate's first fertiliser plant at Bausher.

As the plant came to life, Sayyid Thuwainy and other distinguished guests watched a demonstration of the huge grabcrane's capablities, and later was taken on a stage-by-stage inspection of the facilities.

Earlier, Sayyid Thuwainy unveiled a commemorative plaque and cut the ribbon to mark

the formal opening of the Oman Organic Fertilizer and Chemical Industries plant at Bausher.

Also present at the ceremony were the Minister for the Interior and Chairman of the company, Sayyid Badr bin Saud bin Hareb; Minister for Communications, Salim bin Nasser al-Busaidi; **Under-Secretary** Interior Mohammed Ali al Katabi; Land Affairs and Municipalities Under-Secretary Suleiman bin Hamad al Vice-Chairman and Managing Director Shaikh Nasser Amier; and directors Inspector-General of Police and Customs, Sayyid Rashid al Kalbani, Sheikh Hamed Salim al

Rawahy, and Sheikh Ahmed Nabhani.

Oman Organic Fertilizer and Chemical Industries was started to provide an indigenous supply of compost and organic fertiliser to farmers and make the country self-sufficient in this agricultural input.

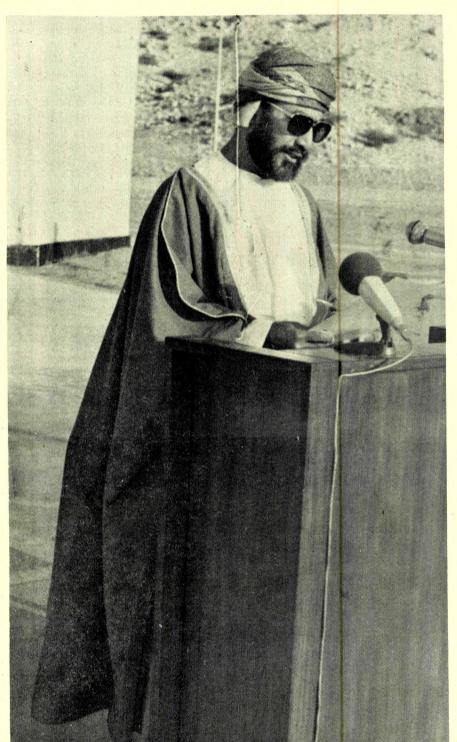
The project was originally conceived by Al Hmeyyid Establishment, who later became one of the promoters of the scheme which took shape as an Omani joint stock company with shares offered to the public.

One of the aims was to untilse organic matter contained in city garbage to derive compost

through aerobic fermentation, and assist the municipality to dispose of city garbage effectively using the French Hydromer process.

Apart from making compost, the company will also manufacture other formulations to suit agricultural and horticultural requirements. A production target of 10,000 tonnes a year is expected to meet a substantial part of the present requirement for organic ameliorants and fertilisers.

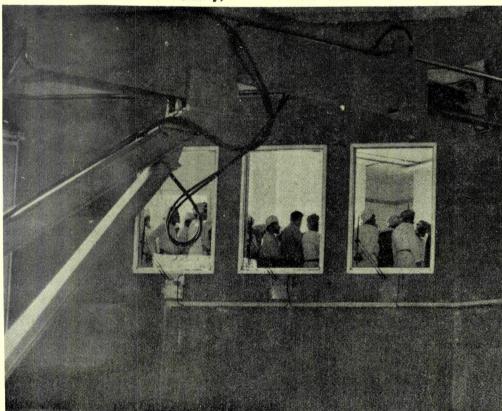
The plant will initially process 100 metric tonnes of garbage a day but has an inbuilt capacity to go up to 300 tonnes.



Sayyid Thuwainy addresses the gathering.



At the reception...Sayyid Thuwainy (right), Badr bin Saud bin Hareb (left) and Kh Nasser al Wahaiby, President of the State Consultative Council.

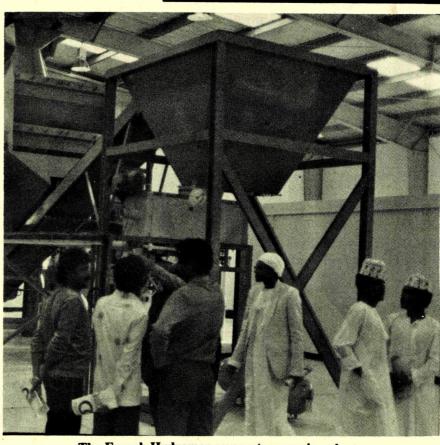


The process begins with the grab-crane

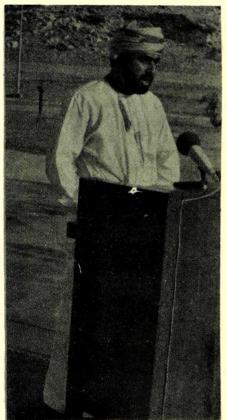
## Spotlight



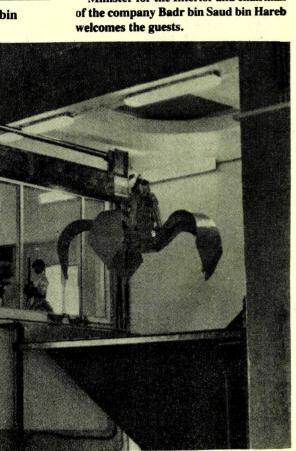
Sayyid Thuwainy starts the process in the control room.



The French Hydromer compost processing plant.



Minister for the Interior and chairman of the company Badr bin Saud bin Hareb



End of the line — the bagged product.

## Travel

## Old favourites still on top

A handful of old favourite holiday destinations which have proved the most popular among Gulf travellers in recent years look set to continue their success for the coming year. A number of new markets have opened up and are being actively promoted by airlines and tourist offices, but agents see little change in the travellers' choices, at least for 1983.

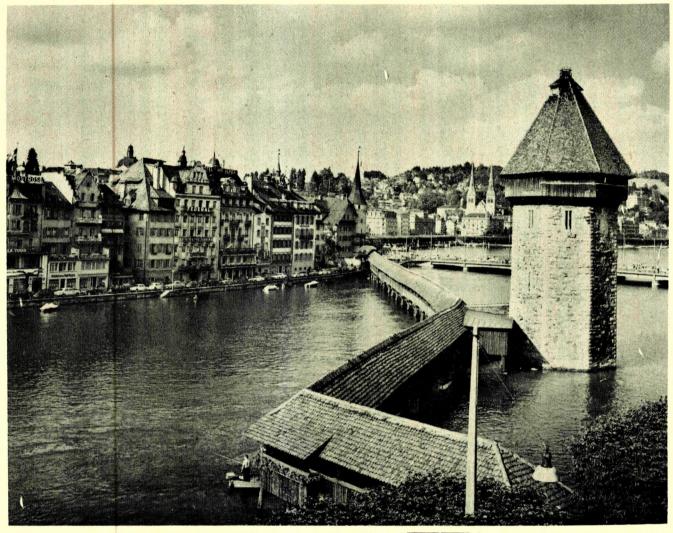
Cyprus was uniformly high throughout the Gulf on agents' lists of most popular destinations, followed closely by individual destinations in the Far East and combined package tours of that area.

Britain and Europe figured strongly as did traditional destinations from the Gulf such as Egypt and India.

Not surprisingly, round-the-world tickets were nominated by some agents as some of the most popualr buys, with travellers choosing a multitude of destinations. The RTW packages were likely to continue in popularity, most agents said.

New destinations such as Turkey, Spain, Japan and Jordan are starting to make their mark but the volume is still quite minimal and significant perentage growths do not fully indicate the gap between top and bottom of the list.

Cruises and Scandinavian destinations look like promising choices for the coming year, and several Eastern bloc countries have been promoting themselves recently particularly their health resort facilities.



The Chapel bridge (14th century) joins the two banks of Reuss River at Lucerne in Central Switzerland.

A spokesman for the Gulf's largest travel agency - Kanoo - which pioneered package tours from the area, indicated that travel patterns for 1983 were not likely to change dramatically but tipped RTW packages and Europe to be more popular.

He added that fixed tour dates

were becoming less popular; travellers prefer more flexibility.

The continuing strength of the Gulf currencies indicates an increased trend in northbound travel to European destinations, said the spokesman. But he stressed this was only as long as ground prices remained competitive for tour operators here.

The Indian subcontinentcontinued to be a middle-of-theroad destination, but Indian Ocean holiday islands should continue to be popular.

With the ending of direct

## World air traffic up 3 per cent

Figures released for 1982 by the International Civil Aviation Organisation show an increase of three per cent from 1981 in total scheduled world air traffic.

International and domestic traffic in the ICAO's 150-member states was 139,000 tonne-kilometres. The airlines carried 765 million passengers about two per cent more than in 1981 and flew 1,152,000 million passenger kilometres, a three per cent increase from 1981. Air freight and air mail grew by two per cent, with air freight totalling 31,000 million tonne-kilometres.

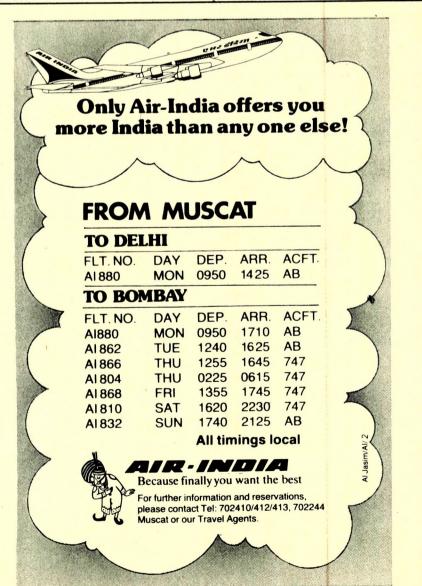
#### **Quantas service**

The North of England will have its first direct link with Australia from April 1, when Quantas will operate two direct services a week from Manchester International Airport.

scheduled air links between the Eastern side of the Gulf and Seychelles, the Maldives are tipped to be likely contenders for the most popular choice in the region.

Destinations which should prove most popular on the RTW trips are expected to be the United States and the Far East, and the Kanoo spokesman named Hawaii as an upand-coming destination.

Courtesy: Gulf Travel Trade.



#### From the top for popularity Cyprus Kenya Far East **Thailand** India **Philippines Egypt** Singapore Britain Europe Greece Seychelles Hong Kong Sri Lanka France Austria Morocco Tunisia **Round the World** Bali/Indonesia Turkey Spain Japan Jordan Scandinavia Compiled by Al Hilal Research from information supplied by travel agents

## Travel

### Lashko branch at Bidaya

Lashko Travels has opened its fifth branch - at Bidaya, 175 km from Muscat. The man in charge is Mr. A.K. Surendran.

The IATA agency now has offices on the Corniche and at Muttrah, Ruwi and Seeb.

## Gulf Travel Fair '83

Gulf Travel Fair, a major exhibition and conference for the world's travel industry, to be held at the Dubai International Trade Centre, from the 27/30 March 1983 has attracted a wide range of exhibitors from all over the globe.

Companies and organisations so far confirmed include: Swiss International Travel Trade Gazette: Hotels: Department of Tourism, Sharjah; McDonnell Douglas; Kenya Tourist Office; Gulf Air; Dutco (Jebel Ali and Hatta Fort Hotels); Interrent; British Airways; British Tourist Authority; British Caledonian Airways; Chicago Beach Hotel; Middle East Travel Magazine; Saudia; Singapore Tourist Promotion Board; Trust House Forte; ABC Travel Guides; Thomas Cook; Dammam Hotel; State Art; American Express; Avis; Kanoos; Dnata; Yugoslav Airlines; Hilton Hotels; Gulf Company; Tourist International Arabian Consumer Company; Warwick Post Oak; Holiday Inns; Greek National Tourist Office; United Arab Emirates, India Tourist Office; Khaleej Times; Desert Inn, Las Vegas; Trade Wings; Pan American; Zambia National Tourist Office; KLM/Dutch Tourist Office; Al Ittihad; Official Airline Guide.

With many other organisations showing strong interest in participating the organisers expect the Fair to be the biggest travel event yet held in the Middle East.

Associated with the Exhibition is the Gulf Travel Conference, bringing together speakers from all over the world. Holding strong, forthright and sometimes provocative views on a wide range of travel topics, the speakers are also open to in-depth questioning during the afternoon workshop session, enabling delegates to obtain the very best benefit from their attendance at the conference.

## 9-day guided tour of England

A nine-day guided tour of England and Scotland with travel arrangements organised by the hotel at each of four centres, could help visitors who don't want the worry of driving while on holiday in Britain.

The hotels are at Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire, where a three-night stay is booked; Ambleside in the English Lake District (two nights); Perthshire in Scotland (two nights) and the city of York. Transport is by private car in each area, and travel between hotels by British Rail, first class.

The tours are arranged by Stratford House Private Travel, 18 Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon and prices are from £538 per person.

#### Bavaria increasingly popular



Bavaria is best, visitors to the Federal Republic of Germany agree, especially in the winter sports season when Alpine resorts such as Berchtesgaden (photo), Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Oberstdorf enjoy international renown. Last year the number of bednights and the foreign exchange spent by tourists in Germany were both up by an estimated three percent. Business travel may be important, but the Federal Republic is the fifth most popular holiday destination with Europoeans, third with Americans and first in Europe with Japanese tourists.

### NEW YORK by MEA

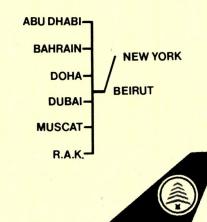
Effective March 1st, 1983

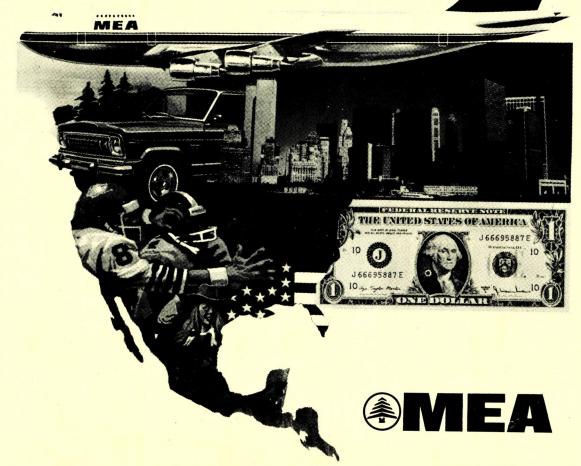
Now we can take you all the way to New York in our luxurious 747's, offering for your convenience three alternatives: First Class (with sleeperettes), Cedar Class and Economy Class. Our new service \* departs Beirut at 13:10 hours every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. The return flights are scheduled on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

At Kennedy Airport (New York), the American Airlines terminal offers excellent direct connections with domestic flights in the U.S.A.

For your reservations, please contact your IATA Travel Agent or the nearest MEA Sales Office.

• Via Par





## Travel

## The wonder of Disneyland

Among the amusement parks in the United States, the undisputed champions would have to be Disneyland, in Anaheim, California. Millions of visitors from all across the United States and around the world have visited this park. Many visit more than once.

Mark Gottdiener, of the University of California, visited the park 12 times during a two-year period. His visits were part of a research project. He wanted to learn why Disneyland is so popular — and what he found is that the park's mass appeal may lie largely in its emphasis on the small town experience. Furthermore, he finds that "the organisation of Disneyland itself requires people to experience, both physically and emotionally, the conditions of living in a small town."



Big Ben and Boadicea's statue, London.



## Pakistan International's Pakistan. It's just like coming home, there's nothing better.

45 times a week we fly you to Pakistan. 18 flights a week from Dubai to Karachi, Rawalpindi, Lahore and Peshawar. And a total of 27 flights to Pakistan from Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Doha, Kuwait, Muscat and Sharjah.

We take you to your destination with a lot of caring. The feeling begins when you step aboard our big friendly aircraft. Our big birds. B747s, DC10s and now, the much applauded wide-bodied A300, powered by whisper-quiet General Electric engines.

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When next you fly to America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa or Asia, fly Pakistan International Airlines.

You will feel like you're coming home.



## 'UK Farm and Country Holidays'

Groups of farmhouses in 10 different parts of the country have joined forces with the British Tourist Authority to produce 'British Farm and Country Holidays', a colourful brochure now available from BTA offices. Farmhouse holidays are becoming increasingly popular with visitors to Britain, and the 300 farms in the groups offer dinner, bed and breakfast at an average cost per person of £10-£14.

'British Farm and Country Holidays' gives descriptions of each area, and an address from which the prospective visitor can obtain individual group brochures with full details of each farm. Some farms also have self-catering accommodation, with the cost of a cottage for four ranging from £60 to £160 per week.

The areas covered by the brochure are: Northern Ireland; North Yorkshire; the Peak District; Herefordshire; the Thames Valley; Somerset; Dorset; and three parts of Wales - Breconshire, the Heart of Wales (mid-Wales), and Ceredigion Country Comforts (west Wales).

## Gulf Air leases plane to Cathay

Gulf Air has leased a Tristar aircraft to Cathay Pacific to operate scheduled services between the UAE and Bangkok/Hong Kong via Bombay. The flights are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The airlines have agreed to accept each other's tickets on the above routes without endorsement.

Twice a week - on Mondays and Sundays there are convenient connections to Bangkok and Hong Kong via Bombay.

### First step into Thailand



The Peninsula Group's first hotel in Thailand and third hotel outside Hong Kong is well under construction on Bangkok's Rajadamri Road.

The hotel is to be completed by the end of next year, and a special feature of the 400-room property will be the series of landscaped atrium courtyards interlinking the hotel buildings.

### Leisure

#### Quiz 40 results

The following are the winners of Quiz 40:

- 1. Salem Suleiman Salem, TTI, P.O.Box 897, Ruwi.
- 2. M.L. Veetus, United Services Centre, P.O. Box 6356, Ruwi.
- 3. Moh'd Ali Moosa, P.O. Box 7290, Muttrah.

In our quiz we had asked:

- 1. What was the colour of the flag of Oman before 1970?
- 2. What does the green colour in the present flag stand for?
- 3. What does the white colour stand for?

The correct answers are:

- 1. Red. 2. The Faith of Islam, Dhofar and the green cultivated areas of Oman.
- 3. The Imamate, peace and purity.

The Quiz was sponsored by Crusty Patisserie, P.O.Box 5312, Ruwi. Tel 704911.

#### Cinema Guide

REX: Thursday and Friday — Gandhi, Saturday — II Mio Corpo Con Rabia, Starring: Peter Lee Lawrence, Antonia Santilli, Sunday — And Give Us Our Daily Sex, Starring: Laura Gemser, Barbara Rey, Monday — And Give Us Our Daily Sex/Big Zapper, Starring Linda Marlow, Gary Hope, Tuesday — Big Zapper/Amity Yille Horror, Starring: James Brolin, Margot Kidder, Rodsteiger, Wednesday — Superman II.

Al Falaj: Sunday:— An outstanding performance "GYRO CITY" Starring GLENDA JACKSON

Wed: — Tribute to the great Peter Sellers "TRIAL OF THE PINK PANTHER" Starring PETER SELLERS

Friday: — Never before has there been such a show "NIGHT OF 100 STARS" Starring 100 Various Artists.

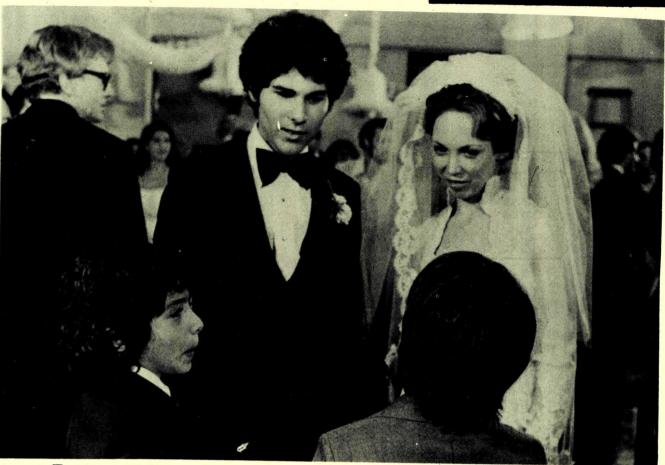
#### **Penfriends**

Name: Miss Anna Bright Boppey, Age: 21 years, Address: Madam Mary Benutn, P.O. Box 370, Cape Coast, Ghana. Hobbies: Exchanging of Gifts, Volley Ball, Basket Ball and music.

Name: Mr. Nobleman King Amman, Address: P.O. Box 370, Cape Coast, Ghana, Age: 19 years, Hobbies: Travelling, Dancing, Music, Football and Writing.



I don't know her to talk to - only about



Two scenes (above and below) from the great classic "The Amityville Horror".





Still from Morziali

## Leisure

#### Oman Television

News in Brief.

Holy Quran Reciting.

9.00 Arabic Series.

11.00

12.00

12.05

10.30 English News.

Studio 3

THURSDAY
3.00 Royal Anthem,
3.02 Holy Quran Reciting.
3.12 Religious Class.
3.25 Secondary Maths.
4.10 Cartoons.
4.35 Children's programme.
5.00 Drama for Children.
5.30 General Cleanliness/Adult
Education.
6.00 Arabic serial.
7.00 Local news.
7 15 Teaching Art.
7 30 Lefe and Science
8.00 Health Guidance.
8.30 Badawi Series.
9.00 Arabic News.
10.30 News in English.
11.00 Arabic Drama Film.
12.00 News in Brief.
12.05 Holy Quran.
12.15 Closing.
FRIDAY
10.00 Royal Anthem
Holy Quran, Religious
Class.
10.30 Cartoons.
11.00 Children of the World.
11.45 Songs for children.
12.00 Religious talks.
12.05 PrayerBroadcast from

Qaboos Mosque

2.00 Football Famous Five. 4.00 Hindi Film. Cultural Programme. Arabic Film Omani Folk Dance. Arabic News, Songs. Wrestling. English News. 9.30 10.30 11.00 Brothers. News in Brief. 12.00 Holy Quran Reciting. SATURDAY 3.00 Royal Anthem Holy Quran, Reciting. 3.02 Religious Class. 3.12 Secondary Maths. Cartoon 4.10 Children's Programme. Drama for Children. General Cleanliness/Adult Education. Arabic Series. Local News.

'Do It Yourself'

Health Guidance.

Bring'em Alive.

Motor Report.

Your Safety.

7.00

12.30 Religious Programme.

Arabic Historic Film.

Closing. Religious Programme. 12.30 SUNDAY 3.00 Royal Anthem Holy Quran, Reciting. 3.02 Religious Class. 3.12 Prep. Maths,-English. 3.25 4.10 Cartoon. Children's Programme. 4.35 Drama for Children. General Cleanliness/ Adult education. Arabic series. Local News. 7.00 Cultural Programme. 7.15 Health Guidance. Arabic News. Arabic series. 9.30 10.30 English News. 11.00 English Film. 12.30 News in Brief. 12.15Closing. MONDAY Royal Anthem Holy Quran Reciting 3.02 Religious Class Secondary

Children's programme. Drama for Children. General Cleanliness/Adult Education Arabic serial. 7.00 Local News. 7.15 Modern Technique. Army and Police. 8.00 'Simon and Simon' **Arabic News** 9.30 Arabic serial 10.30 News in English. 11.00 Arabic film. 12.00 News in brief. Holy Quran 12.05 TUESDAY Royal Anthem Holy Quran, Reciting. 3.02 Religious Class. 3.12 Prep. Maths/Sec. Biology. 3.25 Cartoons. Children's programme. 4.35 Drama for Children. General Cleanliness/Adult 5.30 Education. Arabic serial. 6.00 Local news. 7.00 Al Hassa. 7.15 Magazine/Our 7.30 Health Physics, Land

Chemistry.

4.10 Cartoons.

8.00 Health Guidance. Hart to Hart Arabic News Arabic serial 10.30 News in English. 11.00 "It Takes Two' 12.00 News in Brief 12.05 Holy Quran. Closing. WEDNESDAY Royal Anthem Holy Quran, Reciting Religious Class Secondary English/Maths. Cartoons 4.10 4.35 Children's programme. 5.00 Drama for Children 5.30 General Cleanliness/Adult Education. Arabic serial. 6.00 7.00 Local news Medical Report. 7.15 7.30 Sports Health Guidence. 8.00 8.30 Chips. Arabic News. 9.00 Arabic Serial 10.30 New in English. 11.00 Best Seller 12.00 News in Brief. 12.05 Holy Quran Reciting. 12.15 Closing.

#### **BBC World Service**

## The story of UK's Coastguards

When disaster strikes at sea, coastguards, long-range reconnaisance aircraft, helicopters and other ships can be involved in giving assistance. A network of special aerials, listening for distress signals at sea, can deliver a Mayday distress call from a ship into the headphones of a coastguard on watch at the very moment a ship realises it is in serious trouble.

This feature tells the story of coastguards at Falmouth on the Cornish coast (south west England) who have a special responsibility for search and rescue over thousands of square miles of the North Atlantic.

BBC World Service visits the new Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre which acts on the recipt of distress signals which can today be relayed by satellite. Sunday 1830, Friday 2230.

My Word, a new series of the word game played by people whose business is words, returns to BBC World Serivice this month. The series has retained its popularity ever since it was devised 25 years ago. Among its most popular features are the fantastic stories told at the end of each programme to illustrate a particular quotation. Saturday 1430, Sunday 0730, Monday 2115.



COME VISIT US AT THE TAJ RES-TAURANT AND DISCOVER THE LEGENDARY CUISINE OF INDIA WE OFFER THE CHOICEST INDIAN VEGETARIAN AND NON-VEGETARIAN SPECIALITIES SERVED IN A TRULY AUTHENTIC SETTING.

> Near Muttrah Roundabout Ground Floor

For Reservations ring: 734880 Timings: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Play of the week, Barry Bermange's witty and unusual comedy "Scenes from family life" focuses on the institution of marriage - what happens when people fall out of love and find a new partner. Saturday 2230, Sunday 1600.

Gerald Priestland reaches half way in his eight-part pilgrimage through the landmarks of the faith. Monday 1530, Tuesday 2015.

Two Cheers For January is the second in a monthly report by the BBC World Services satirical team who look at the month and the people who made it impossible to raise three cheers. Wednesday 1230, 1830, Thursday (3rd)

Concert Tchaikovsky



Gerald Priestland was a BBC foreign correspondent from 1954-1969, first in Paris, then India and Pakistan, Washington and the Middle

opportunity for listeners to join concertgoers in London's Royal Festival Hall in a live relay of concert which includes Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture and the Variations on a Rococo Theme in which Karine Georgian is the cello solosit with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Yuri Temirkanov. Sunday

Maritime England consists five programmes which look at some of the interesting, historic and occasionally curious corners of the English coastline, from the sea-side resort of Scarborough in the North-East to Cornwall in the South West. This week: Dover and the Cinque Ports. Monday 0715, 1815, Thursday 1415.

#### **Top Of The Pops**

SINGLES

Down Under .....Men At Work

Sign Of The Times ... Belle Stars Change ..... Tears For Fears Up Where We Belong .....Joe

Cocker & Jennifer Warnes Wham Rap (Enjoy Whay You Do ...Wham

Electric Avenue ....Eddy Grant Oh Diane .... Fleetwood Mac

Gloria .....Laura Branigan 10 Last Night A DJ Saved My Life

**ALBUMS** 

1 Raiders Of The Pop Charts ..... .....Various Hello! I Must Be Going ..... Phil Collins

Pearls II .....Elkie Brooks Rio ......Duran Duran Dig The New Breed .... The Jam Heartbreaker .. Dionne Warwick

Lionel Richie ....Lionel Richie The John Lennon Collection ... .....John Lennon

Friends ......Shalamar 10 The Singles ......Abba

Compiled by Vincent Rodricks 'Grease' band leader and resident D.J. of the Al Falaj Hotel.

#### Radio Qman

SATURDAY

Opening Review+Headlines.

Top of the Pops.

Arabic by Radio.

Weather Forecast & Television Programme.

2.00 Lifespan. News.

Stories of Islam. 2.40

Light Music. SUNDAY

1.00 Opening Review+Headlines.

1.03 Popular Music.

Arab Traditions & Customs.

Pick of the Week. Weather Forecast & Television

Programme.

2.00 World of Sport.

2.30 News

Spotlight on Oman. 2.40

MONDAY

1.00 Opening Review+Headlines.

1.03 Story Time.

1.15 In Concert.

Oman: A Seafaring Nation. 1.58

Weather Forecast and Television Programmes.

2.00 Clasical Collection.

2.30 News.

2.40 Pops.

TUESDAY

1.00 Opening Review+Headlines.

1:03 Woman's World.

Waves. Weather Forecast and Television

Programmes. Dateline Oman.

2.30 News.

2.40 Music.

WEDNESDAY

1.00 Opening Review+Headlines. 1.03 What The Papers Say.

1.15 Country Time.

1.30 Women In Islam.

1.45 Instrumental Music.

Weather Forecast and Television Programme.

2.00 Be My Guest.

2.30 News.

2.40 Music.

THURSDAY

1.00 Opening Review+Headlines.

1.03 Discoman.

Merry-Go-Round.

Weather Forecast and Television

Programmes.

2.00 Jazz Club.

2.30 News.

2.40 Light Music

1.00 Opening Review+Headlines Weather Forecast &T.V. Programmes.

1.03 Request Show. 2.30 News.

2.40 Light Music.

## Leisure

## Dining

Al Falaj: French Corner — The elite Restaurant in Oman open daily from 12.30 to 15.00 hours and 19.00 to 23.30 hours. The French Corner Restaurant offering French and International Cuisine at most competitive prices in Town.

Al Makha Coffee Shop: Daily Lunch Buffet 12.00 to 15.00 hours Popular Buffet Lunch at R.O. 4.000. Also superb Buffet Dinner every Thursday from 19.00 to 22.00 hours for R.O. 4.500. Special reduction for children under 12 years.

Mandarin Panorama Club: Traditional Chinese food. Chinese Cooks, Chinese Waiters. Open daily from 12.30 to 15.00 hours and 19.00 to 24.00 hours.

Gulf: Thursday — The Coffee Shop, Italian style buffet, RO 3 per person (1 pm); Al Fahal Restaurant, B.B.Q. disco, on the pool terrace. RO 6 per person (8pm — midnight).

The Thursday Barbeque, 8 pm, swimming pool terrace, RO 9 per person.

Friday — The Coffee Shop, International hot and cold buffet, RO 4 per person (1pm).

Saturday to Wednesday — Al Fahal Restaurant, a la carte, (8 pm to midnight).

Saturday — Thursday — House pianist Walt Zacheary plays in the lounge bar (7pm - 9pm); Al Fahal Restaurant, except Thursday/Friday, (9 pm to midnight); Thursday and Friday — in the Coffee Shop during lunch.

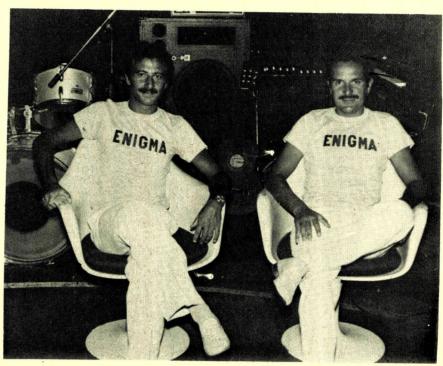
Muttrah: Thursday — Lobster feast. A memorable dinner with lobster dishes specially prepared to suit every taste.

Ruwi Hotel: Trading Dhow Restaurant — Lunch 12.30pm to 3.30pm, Dinner 7.30pm to 11.00pm, Offering set menu from RO 3.500 to full a'la Carte with European, Indian and Chinese dishes.

Every Friday: The Ruwi Reviver Breakfast 8.00am to Noon; Curry Lunch 12.30 to 3.30pm.

Every Thursday The Ruwi Pub Lunch 12.30pm to 3.30pm. The place to meet all your friends to start the weekend.

Inter-Continental: Friday — Family Brunch Buffet (noon to 3 pm); Saturday — Jazz Night at Al Ghazal Bar, Creole Buffet, a New Orleans speciality; Sunday — Weekly beach B.B.Q. Wednesday — Country and Western in the Al Ghazal Bar with ranch house buffet. Dinner-theatre "The Unvarnished Truth", 23rd, 24th, 26th, 27th.



### Say it in Arabic

linato us
SaHndish
Talabaatorders, requests
bayruutiBeiruti
maSriEgyptian
ingiliiziEnglish
qaaimatthe menu
Tabaq ilyoomthe speciality of the day
muqabbilaathors d'oeuvre
idhanso, then

## The Enigma Duo at the Gulf

Entertaining nightly in the Gulf Hotel's Lounge Bar is the Enigma Duo – Mario and Enzo - from 7 pm to 9pm, followed by music in the Al Fahal Restaurant.

#### **Penfriend**

Name: Mr. Bernard Acquash Mensah, Age: 20 years, Address: P.O. Box 936, Cape Coast, Gnana. Hobbies: Football, sport, reading, film-show, stamps collecting, correspondence and music.

## AL FALAJ HOTEL-KHIMJI RAMDAS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

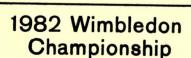
### ROLEX

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THE 1982 WIMBLEDON TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

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1982 was the Diamond Anniversary of Wimbledon and the players put on the best show. Conners and McEnroe play the longest final in history. Lloyde and Navratilova play a fantastic final, nostalgic footage of Godgree and Borotra 1924–1926 show legends in their life time.



#### 1982 British Open Golf Championship

Oosterhuis, Lyle, Nicklaus, Ballesterous, Falmer, Price and Watson Battle for the British Open Championship.

Wath the novice set course records and achieve a mammoth lead and his final downfall. Watch the legendary Watson show, he is still a champion's Champion.

Admission Free. General Public Welcome Refreshments Available

## Woman's world

## Women dramatists come to

## the fore

By Michael J. Bandler

One recent month, in Baltimore, Maryland, audiences filled a well-known resident professional (noncommercial) theatre night after night during the world premiere engagement of a sensitive play about reconciliation among the somewhat estranged members of a family.

Around the same time, in New York City, playgoers at another noncommercial theatre watched 11 performers offer an equal number of individual monologues fleshing out a diverse series of credible characters.

And on New York's Broadway, a drama about a strange reunion of members of an eccentric Mississipi family opened for a brief engagement, heralded in advance by the fact that the young playwright was the winner of the 1981 Pulitzer Prize in drama—one of the stage's most prestigious honors.

In all three cases, the playwrights involved were women.

Indeed, despite the spareseness of women on the playwriting scene in the course of the history of drama in the United States, a healthy, creative, and unmistakably promising contingent has come to the surface. These women — many of whom have been discovered through the growing number of drama contests and play festivals across the

United States — write for both the commercial and non-commercial wing, and even for public television. The result is an exciting ferment, and, for audiences, a broader awareness of regional idiosyncracies.

Traditionally, a handful of women such as Betty Comden and Jean kerr have written unabashedly commercial dramatic material for Broadway. The precedent in serious dramatic writing, though, was established in the 1930s and 1940s and on by Lillian Hellman, among a few others, whose seminar works—"Watch on the Rhine," "The Little Foxes" and "Another Part of the Forest," to name only three—have inspired a generation of dramatists, male and female alike.

In the past half-decade or so, such farsighted noncommercial theatre impresarios as Joseph Papp of the New York Shakespeare Festival, Arvin Brown of the Long Wharf Theatre (in New Haven, Connecticut), Jon Jory of the Actors Theater of Louisville (Kentucky) and Gordon Davidson of Los Angeles' Center Theater Group have taken chances on numerous heretofore unknown talents. And no matter how much has been accomplished by these four, their peers around the United States are being equally attuned to worthwhile female talents - Anne Tyler, Mary Gordon, Cynthia Ozick, Toni Morrison, Gail Godwin and scores

The lion's share of attention these days is focused on Beth Henley, a puckish, offbeat Missippi-born playwright and former actress whose irreverent



'Crimes Of The Heart,' Beth Henley's first major work, established the young Mississippi writer as a force to be reckoned with in American drama. She won the Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1981 for the piece, which she now is turning into a screenplay. Photo by Martha Swope.

treatment of her fellow Mississippians entertained thousands theatergoers. She struck gold with her first play, "Crimes of the Heart," a portrait of a zany yet unfortunate Deep Southern family – three sisters who band together when one of the trio brings trouble upon herself. The surprisingly uproarious series of events was first staged as part of the Actors Theater of Louisville's annual festival of new American plays. Soon afterwards, it was unveiled in New York City at the Theater Club, Manhattan noncommercial institutional theatre. It was during that engagement that it caught the attention of the Pulitzer panel that recommended it for the prize it subsequently won.

Two other Henley comedies, "Am I Blue?" and "The Miss Fire-cracker Contest," saw the light of day at several regional theaters. A fourth major work, "The Wake of Jamey Foster," had a tryout engagement at the Hartford (Connecticut) Stage in early 1982, in preparation for Broadway. In October 1982, "The Wake" opened in New York City.

Grace McKeaney's "Last Looks," staged as the opening work of the 1982-1983 season at Center Stage — a resident professional theatre in Baltimore, Maryland — had a more successful launching. A comedy-drama about quiet turmoil within a contemporary American family, it strongly resembles "On Golden Pond," Ernest Thompson's play of several years ago that was made into a widely viewed 1981 movie starring Henry and Jane Fonda and Katharine Hepburn.

The resemblances are two, in particular: first, the events of the play revolve around a weekend on which the family is shutting down its Maryland home after more than 30 years so that the parents, now retired, can move to the Sunbelt — the southwestern United States.

Unlike "On Golden Pond," the treatment of those tensions is anything but sentimental. Guy, the Morrows' son, has engaged in an adversary relationsip with his father for years. Val, the divorced daughter, still thinks about a reconciliation with her ex-husband.

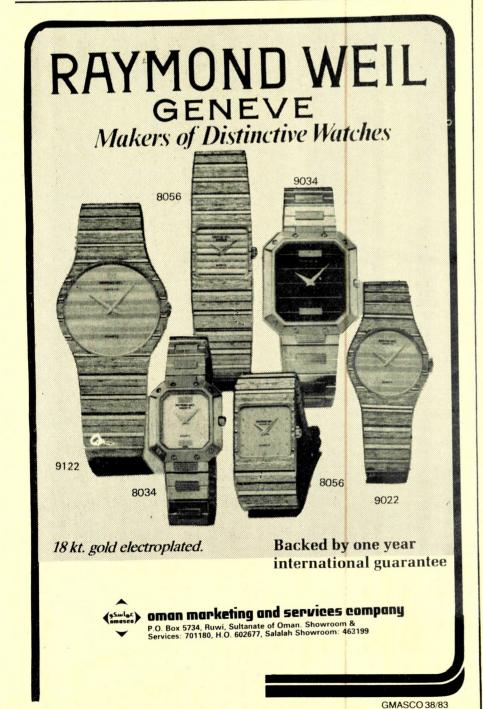
Clair, gunshy when it comes to marriage, hides behind a facade of intellect. The parents — the tough-as-nails father, ostensibly thick-skinned, and the mother, gentle, easygoing, occasionally flighty — seek only the best for their children, even if, to an extent, they have given up on an aspect of each of them. Surrounding the principals are Val's two children — an adolescent daughter and an eight-year-old, impressionable son — and Howard Benson, the one outsider, a local boy who made good in the grocery business and who has never stifled his infatuation with Val.

Jane Martin's "Talking with" falls in the same category. During October and early November 1982, this play — imported from the Actors Theatre of Louisville to the Manhattan Theatre Club (a noncommercial institutional company in New York City, less than three kilometers from the lights of Broadway) — is impressive, and quite different from standard commercial fare.

Basically, it consists of a series of 11 interchangeable monologues by actresses portraying a variety of women

The fresh voice of Jane Martin (reportedly, yet unproven thus far, a pseudonym), when coupled with the creations of Henley and McKeaney, offers unexpected pleasure for theatergoers across the United States. And there are other such voices, (Late in October 1982, a passionate critique of the contemporary education scene, "Open Admissions," by Shirley Lauro, was unveiled at the Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven, Connecticut, to mixed, yet respectful reviews. "Night, Mother," by Marsha Norman (like Martin, a discovery of the Actors Theater of Louisville) was to receive its world premiere at the American Reportory Theatre in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Its subject is suicide, and, according to ART's managing director, Robert Orchard, it is the most powerful American play since Eugene O'Neill's "Long Day's Journey Into Night."

That remains to be seen. What is unmistakably clear, however, is that women dramatists are beginning to make their collective mark on a theatrical landscape that constantly yearns for new blood.



## -Woman's world

## Cooking — the Wok way

About 2,000 years ago, an unknown Chinese invented a frying pan with a rounded bottom and flared sides, resembling an inverted coolie's hat. For centuries, the Wok, as it was called, was used inside old Chinese solid fuel cookers, but now its merits are being recognised internationally so that it can be found on top of the most modern cookers with the aid of a metal stand to stop it tipping over. Even electric models are now available.

The work has become increasingly popular among those keen to experiment with Chinese cooking in their own kitchens. With its domeshaped lid, it can be used for steaming, braising, shallow or deep-frying, as well as for stirfrying.

Stir-frying is the most usual method used in domestic kitchens, and in the dishes thus prepared vegetables predominate. Only small amounts of meat are used, merely enough to get the flavour. Equally, only a little oil is needed, but the heat required is higher than usual.

This fast way of cooking retains the goodness and freshness of food better than any other method. The fish, meat or poultry in the wok should be tossed until it is tender and suculent.

Cooking time for stir-fried dishes is very short - usually no more than three to five minutes.

The food should be cut into wafer-thin slices or small cubes. Meat is usually cut across the grain so that it quicker. All chopping should be done before cooking begins, so that everything hand. is to Occasionally it may be necessary parboil ingredients that take a long time to cook.

The oil used for stir-frying is all-important. The peanut variety is excellent as it does not absorb the taste of the food, while soya, sunflower or corn oil are also suitable. But

butter, olive or margarine should not be used

All stir-fried dishes should be served immediately they are ready. It is best to have everyone seated at the table before you start cooking. As the Chinese proverb says: "Better a man waits for his meal than the meal waits for the man".

Meat is used extensively in

Chinese cooking, probably because it combines better with other ingredients than any other item. Here is a recipe:

## Stir-fried meat with pepper and celery

400 gr meat, 3 teaspoons cornflour, 1 red or green pepper, 1 tsp castor sugar, 1 tablespoon soya sauce, 1 tsp salt, 2½ tbs vegetable oil, 4 stalks celery, 1 tsp chilli sauce, pepper to taste.

Cut the meat into thin slices, about five cm long. Sprinkle with the salt,

cornflour, ½ tablespoon of oil and pepper. Remove the seeds from the pepper and cut into three cm pieces. Cut the celery into silimar sized pieces.

Heat the remaining two tablespoon of oil in a wok or large frying pan. When the oil is smoking hot, add the meat and stir-fry over a high heat for 2½ minutes. Add the chopped pepper, celery, sugar and chilli sauce. Mix together with the meat and continue frying for a further two minutes. Sprinkle with the soya sauce and fry for another minute. Serve immediately with rice or noodles.

## Pampers protect your baby from wetness much better than cloth diapers You can feel the difference



As you know when a cloth diaper gets wet it stays wet and clings to the baby's skin thus causing irritation.



Pampers comes with a special stay dry topsheet which absorbs wetness and keeps it deep within the absorbent quilted lining....

And so keeping your baby drier and happier.

Pampers with quilted lining keeps your baby drier and happier

## Business

#### CMC's "Light Giraffe"

## Mobile lighting system for night building jobs

The versatile operation possibilities of a sophisticated, mobile lighting system for night construction work was demonstrated at the Cement Marketing Company's headquarters at Al Khuwair on Sunday.

The unique Polyma "Light Giraffe" mobile lighting system has been developed by the West German firm Polyma Maschinenbau Dr. Appelhans and Company and has been introduced in Oman for the first time.

The "Light Giraffe" is equipped with a fully hydraulic telescopic mast extensible up to nine metres and the six quartz halogen projectors each have a 1500 watt output giving a total output of 200,000 lumens.

Powered by an air-cooled Deutz diesel engine, the unit is operated on dual use — day power as a generating set-night-light.

The "Light Giraffe" is available trailer mounted or self-propelled on truck or van chassis and its wide field of application includes operation at construction sites, for all kinds of emergencies in the police, army, civil defence, fire brigades, for television and a number of other applications.

At the introductory demonstration, a film was shown demonstrating the unit in action during fire fighting with the Hamburg fire brigade.

Polyma Light Giraffes are already in use in the Middle East since 1965 with the armies, police and fire brigades of Saudi Arabia, Iraq, UAE, Kuwait, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, as well as a large number of construction companies. It is also used throughout Europe and the Far East and the American continent.

A few years ago Polyma won an order to airfreight 100 unis to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, to illuminate rest places for pilgrims.

Apart from lighting units, Polyma is the leading German producer of generating sets — especially super silenced units — from 20 to 5000 KVA.

Local agents CMC group of Companies, appointed late last year, stock the units.

## Max Hellstern executive

Mr. Sigmund Schroeder, Technical Director of Max Hellstern GMBH & Company KG, West Germany, paid a three-day visit to Muscat last week at the invitation of Al Hassan Electricals — sole agents for Max Hellstern products in Oman. The range includes bimetal clamps, lugs and mechanical and hydraulic compression tools.

During his visit, Mr. Schroeder held discussions with clients



CMC general manager Salim Azhar, Polyma export manager Jochen Muller and Polyma service engineer Grunwald Wilfried with the Polyma Light Giraffe in the CMC showroom at Al Khuwair.

## Taiwan show invitation for Omani businessmen

Omani businessmen have been invited to the ten-day Taiwan Machinery Show on metal working machines to be held at the CETDC Exhibition Complex, Taipei Sungshan Airport Terminal, Taiwan, in April.

From this year on, the machinery show will be divided into two international shows, each specialised in category. The metalworking machinery show will be held on odd-number years and the industrial machinery show on evennumber years.

The first exhibition from April 6 to 15 presents a large selection of metal working machines, originating not only

## Directories from the US

The Automotive Exporters' Club of the United States have just announced that their two 1982-83 Membership Directories (manufacturers/exporters of automotive and related products) are ready for distribution.

Details are available from the Automotive Exporters' Club, c/o James P. Mostyn, Automobile International 6659 N. Avondale Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60631, United States.

in Taiwan but also from other technically advanced countries.

An estimated 150 local exhibitors will participate as well as nearly 40 leading manufacturers from countries such as the United States, Japan, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Swedish, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Those interested can contact the Far East Trade Service representative's office on 704815.

Last year machinery topped the list of imports from Taiwan to Oman, according to Mr Ming-Chi Pan, FETS local representative.

#### Kiln for Iraq

An electrically-heated bogie kiln complete with two bogies recently despatched from the UK to the Northern Cement State Enterprise in Iraq will shortly be commissioned.

The kiln, manufactured by Monometer Manufacturing Company of Leigh-on-Sea, south-east England, has been installed at the Oarchinar Cement factory at Suldaimaniyah in Iraq. It is rated at 75kW on an electrical supply of 400/440 3 Ph 50 Hz and will be used for the electric drying of meters

# with Lombard in Jersey

1 Year Fixed Period 2 - " 1 3,4 & 5 - " 1  For deposits of £1,000 to £100,000. Interest paid The rates quoted are correct at time of going to p	10½%p.a. 11%p.a.
These are some of the benefits of a Fixed Time Deposit  *Your funds will earn a good rate of interest which is deposit.  *All interest is paid without deduction of tax at source  *Your account is confidential.  *As Exchange Control does not exist in Jersey your fund anywhere in the world in Sterling or in any other cur  *We are part of one of the largest banking groups in the Other rates are available for 1-5 years with interest paid month and for deposits at 3 months and 6 months notice of withdrawdeposit facilities and current rates, simply post the coupon tod Lombard Banking (Jersey) Limited is a member of the National Westminster Bank Group. The most recent audited accounts of Lombard Banking (Jersey) Limited are available on request. Director Geoffrey Fenton.	ixed for the period of  c.  unds can be repaid  rency.  ne world.  nly, quarterly or half-yearly  tl. For further details of our
ST. HELIER, JERSEY, CHANNEL ISLANDS	Please send me a copy of your deposit booklet and current rates of interest without obligation.  (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)



oman national transport co.

#### INVITES QUOTATIONS

For any or all of the following general services:

- I supply of water
- 2- clearance of sewage
- 3- manufacture of uniforms
- 4- minor civil and plumbing works
- 5-sale of scrap including tyres, oil drums etc.

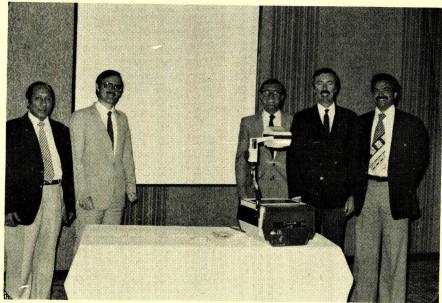
Details are available during office hours at the Company's offices at Azaiba: offers to be submitted in sealed envelopes by 10.03.83 addressed to:

The General Manager

Oman National Transport Co.
P. O. Box 620, Muscat
Sultanate of Oman.

## Business

### SFO-3M seminar on micrographics



At the 3M seminar (from left) Mr S.N. Bhatia, Mr J.D.H. Stubbs (SFO general manager), Mr G. Armendinger, Mr G. Gallagher, and Mr D.R. Kamath.

two-day seminar micrographics and electronic file management was held at the Ruwi Hotel last week to make people involved aware of the greater applications of microfilm systems which is still in its infancy in Oman.

"This seminar programme is intended to increase the application knowledge of microfilm systems in related areas," SFO sales manager Sundar Bhatia said.

The seminar was jointly organised by Sharikat Fanniya Omaniya (SFO) and 3M Middle East.

"We are hopeful that through this type of programmes and seminars more offices will recognise the many benefits of using micrographic systems," SFO microcilm specialist D.R. Kamath added.

During the seminar, queries relating to the engineering aspect of microfilming and computer-aided retrieval on microfilm systems were clarified.

Representatives from Government, and from prominent business houses in Oman were present at

The seminar was addressed by Mr G. Gallagher, group manager and Mr G. Armedinger, micrographics product supervisor from 3M's Middle East headquarters who visited Oman as a part of their programme of seminars throughout the Middle East.

3M is a large multinational organisation employing over 87,000 people worldwide. Its 1982 sales for all the products exceeded US\$ 6.5 billion. The company is generally recognised as a world leader in micrographic systems.



An attentive audience at the Ruwi Hotel.

#### Food show in Hamburg: **Omanis** invited

Omani businessmen have been invited to the Second International Fast-Food Forum, which will be held as part of the supporting programme for InternorGa '83, the International Trade Exhibition for the hotel, catering, baking and confectionary trades, to be staged at the Hamburg Exhibition Centre from March 11 to 16.

The Fast-Food Froun will be on March 16 at the Hamburg Congress Centre.

This year's Fast Food Froum is being staged under the title: "Systems and strategies for tomorrow's catering

The Forum offers vital information to managers of fast-food businesses, frenchised operators, experts from the and wholesale trade, industry resturanteurs and managerial personnel from the mass-catering business.

InternorGa' 83 presents a varied, wide range of products and services from around 700 direct exhibitiors and 300 firms represented by their agents from a total of 25 countries covering all possible areas of the gastronomic trades.

More information on the event can be obtained from the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Ruwi. Telephone: 702164/702482.



### SULTANATE OF OMAN

#### **COUNCIL FOR CONSERVATION OF** ENVIRONMENT AND PREVENTION OF POLLUTION

require the following Staff:

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEER

Applicants must be graduate in Civil or Public Health Engineering from a recognised University and have 10 years post graduate working experience of which minimum 5 years should be exclusively in the fields of sewerage, sewage treatment and it dustrial effluents.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL/LAND USE PLANNER

Applicants must have a degree in Planning from a recognised University with background in Regional Development and have 10 years post graduate working experience of which minimum 5 years should be with large planning agencies on multidiciplinary and environmental planning.

#### AIR POLLUTION CO-ORDINATOR 3)

Applicants must be graduate in Science or Engineering from a recognised University and have 10 years post graduate experience in air pollution sciences with special emphasis on air pollution cont-

Salary for the above posts will depend on qualification and experience.

Applicants to send full details to:-

The Secretary General Council for Conservation of Environment and Prevention of Pollution, P. O. Box 5310, RUWI,

Sultanate of Oman.

#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION.....

## Where you can get your 'Times'

Ramniklal B. Kothary & Co. (Supermarkets) Br: M. Qaboos, Ruwi, Star Cinema, P.O. Box 66, Muscat. Tel: 703863, 703086 (Ruwi), 722257 (Muscat), 602515 (M. Qaboos), 460507 (Salalah).

Family Bookshop. P.O. Box 3376, Ruwi - Tel: 702850. Br. Ruwi, M. Qaboos, Intercon., Salalah.

Matrah Cold Stores P.O. Box 4158, Ruwi — Tel: 704333/ 704539. Br. Ruwi, M. Qaboos.

Muscat Pharmacy (Gulf Hotel) P.O. Box 438, Muscat — Tel: 600100.

P.O. Box 1436, Muttrah — Tel: 701767/702018. Br: Ruwi, Al Falaj.

Abu Mohammed Supermarket
P.O. Box 4551, Ruwi — Tel:

603985.

The Consumers Co-Operative Society of the Capital Ltd.

Al Daser Cold Stores, Ali Hassan Building, opp. Al Shajra restaurant.

Capital Stores Bookshop, Al Falaj Hotel, P.O. Box: 570, Muscat. Tel: 702311 ext 019.

Khimji General Stores (Muttrah High Street) P.O. Box 19, Mûscat — Tel: 734762, 734061

Ruwi Hotel - Bookstall

P.O. Box 5195, Ruwi — Tel: 704244.

Mutrah Hotel P.O. Box 4158, Ruwi — Tel: 734401 Purshottam Naranjee Gandhi &

Co. P.O. Box 185, Muscat. Tel: 704124/ 745374

Br: Ruwi & Muscat

Al Arabi Supermarket

P.O. Box 7142, Ruwi — Tel: 703050

Sabir Supermarket P.O. Box 4029, Ruwi — Tel: 704365, 703258

Br: Ruwi, Honda.

Khalid Information Bookshop -Ruwi Br.

P.O. Box 901, Muscat.

Haridas Nensey, Qurm Shopping Centre, P.O. Box 152, Muscat.

Valoo Supermarket P.O. Box 5812, Ruwi. Tel: 772551/ 703281

Ever Ready Trading Co. P.O. Box 3717, Ruwi — Tel: 703275

Mahboob Bookshop P.O. Box 5716, Ruwi

Al Firdous Bookshop P.O. Box 326, Muscat

Three Star Bookshop P.O. Box 4834, Ruwi- Tel: 772630.

Al Bahin Supermarket P.O. Box 3596, Ruwi. Tel: 772348.

Bookshop - Star Cinema P.O. Box 6429, Ruwi.

Sharikat Fanniya Omania LLC. P.O. Box 4949, Ruwi. Tel: 704400.

Catering & Supplies Co. LLC P.O. Box 311, Muscat

Tel: 607696.

Seeb Airport Trd. & Cont. Est P.O. Box 3014, Sepb Airport. Tel: 610498, 704576.

#### **Exchange rates**

The most recent exchange rates, issued by the Central Bank of Oman include:
Rial Omani per one unit
of Foreign Currency

	Buying	Sening
U.S. Dollar	0.34505	0.34574
Saudi Rial	0.1002	0.1005
Qatari Rial	0.0947	0.0950
U.A.E. Dirham	0.0939	0.0941
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.185	1.188
Bahraini Dinar	0.9157	0.9183
Jordanian Dinar	0.9665	0.9739
Egyptian Pound	0.410	0.416
Indian Rupee	0.0347	0.0349
Pakistani Rupee	0.0268	0.0270
Australian Dollar	0.3346	0.3355
Canadian Dollar	0.2817	0.2824
Singapore Dollar	0.1666	0.1674
Pound Sterling	0.530	0.532
Belgian Franc	0.00726	0.00728
French Franc	0.0504	0.0506
Swiss Franc	0.1717	0.1722
Italian Lira	0.000248	0.000250
Netherlands Guilder	0.1294	0.1297
Deutsche Mark	0.1429	0.1432
Swedish Krona	0.0465	0.0467
Norwegian Krone	0.0487	0.0489
Danish Krone	0.0404	0.0406
Japanese Yen	0.001467	0.001471
Jupunese 1 1.		

#### Pharmacies

#### CAPITAL AREA (Day Duty)

Thursday — Mezoun, Taxi stand, Muttrah; al Khaleej, opp. Nahda hosp.

Friday — Al Jabri, Seeb souk; Muttrah, Muttrah souk; Suleiman Ghareb, opp. Min. of Health residences, Walja.

Saturday — Al Farabi, Taxi stand, Muttrah; Muscat, Medinat Qaboos shopping centre.

Sunday — Mezoun, Muttrah souk; Ibne Nafees, nr. Housing Bank, Ruwi.

Monday — Muttrah, Muttrah souk; Ibn Rushd, opp. Housing Bank.

#### (Night Duty)

Thursday — Ibn Rushd, opp. Bahwan centre, Gr. Muttrah; Al Hashar, opp. Mezoun trading, Ruwi.

Friday — Oriental, Walja entrance; Al Waleed, opp. Ruwi Post office.

Saturday — Muscat, opp. NBO, Gr. Muttrah; Al Khaleej, opp. Nahda hospital.

Sunday — Ibn Rushd, opp. Housing Bank, Ruwi; Muscat, nr. Qurm souk.

Monday — National, opp. Masjid Qaboos; Muscat, Medinat Qaboos shopping centre.

#### SOUTHERN REGION (Day Duty)

Thursday — Ibn Imran al Ansi, opp. Shanfari mosque.

Friday — Muscat, Nahda street nr. Police centre.

Saturday — National, Salam street nr, Fairtrade. Sunday — Khaleej Oman, Salam

street, Region No. 5.

Monday — Mezoun, Nahda

street, opp. Fire station.

#### (Night Duty)

Thursday — National, Salam street, nr. Fairtrade.

Friday — Khaleej Oman, Salam street, Region 5.

Saturday — Mezoun, Nahda street, opp. Fire station.

Sunday — Ibn Imran al Ansi, opp. Shanfari Mosque.

Selling

Monday — Muscat, Nahda street, nr. Police centre.

#### Tenders

The following general tenders were announced by the Tender Board and should be submitted by the date in brackets.

2/83 Supply of medicines (8.3.83)

3/83 Construction of staff accommodation for Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities at Sohar. (8.3.83)

4/83 Construction of sports club at Al Buraimi. (15.3.83)

5/83 Supply of 33 KV 1500 MVA switchgear and 11 KV 350 MVA switchgear and 16 MVA 34.5/11 KV transformers. (29.3.83)

6/83 Supply and installation of machines and equipment for technical secondary school at Sohar. (29.3.83)

7/83 Supply of medicines (22.3.83)

8/83 Seeb Airport Hotel furniture and fitments. (22.3.83)

9/83 Construction of low cost housing at Khabura (5.4.83)

10/83 Construction of dispensary at Dhala (5.4.83)

11/83 Construction of dispensary at Liwa (5.4.83) 12/83 Design and supervision for low

cost housing in the Interior (5.4.83) 13/83 Construction of low cost housing

13/83 Construction of low cost housing at Saham (12.4.83)

14/83 Supply of meat during Ramadhan month 1403-1983 (5.4.83)

#### Holidays

Public and Religious Helidays in the Sultanale of Omanduring 1983.

Ascention of the Prophet (27 Rajab). Tuesday, 10 May

Eid al Fitr (Holiday last day of Ramadhan\* and first three days of Shawwal). Monday, 11 July to Thursday, 14 July

1983. Eid al Adha (10 Dhu'l Hijja) Holiday from 9-13. Saturday 17 September to Wednesday, 21 September 1983. Hijra New Year 1404. Saturday, 8 October 1983.

National Holiday (HM the Sultan's Official Birthday)
Friday, 18 November to Saturday, 19 November 1983.
Prophet's Birthday (12 Rabia al-Awal). Saturday, 17
December 1983.

It is expected that the first day of Ramadhan will fall on Sunday, 12 June 1983.

\* This and all the above AD concordances are approximate.

\*This and all the above AD concordances are approximate and are calculated from 1 Muharram 1403 (Hijra New Year) on Tuesday, 19 October 1982.

#### Weather

Scattered light to moderate rain showers fell over North-West Oman and the Capital Area in the first half of the week. Mina Qaboos recorded a total of 2.7 mm of rainfall while Seeb airport, Buraimi and Khasab each recorded traces.

Dry weather prevailed over the rest of the Sultanate.

Average day maximum temperatures were appreciably below normal during the first half of the week and nearly normal during the last half of the week, while night minimum temperatures averaged near normal over the Capital Area. These averaged as 26 degrees C (79F) and 18 degrees C (64F) respectively. Dry weather is likely to pevail over the Sultanate in the next few days.

	Max.	Min.
Seeb	32C (90F)	15C (59F)
Khasab	27C (81F)	15C (59F)
Buraimi	29C (84F)	08C (46F)
Sohar	26C (79F)	10C (50F)
Saig	15C (59F)	01C (34F)
Sur	30C (86F)	14C (57F)
Masirah	27C (81F)	14C (57F)
Thumrait	29C (84F)	06C (43F)
Salalah	27C (81F)	11C (52F)

#### **Emergencies**

Fire	600
Police	July.
Al Rahma hospital	7722.
Khoula hospital	600455
Al Nahda hospital	701255
Muscat hospital	745036
Police hospital	600435
Force Base hospital	618334
Assada hospital	722088
Water	772724/702732
Electricity	773140/701821
Telephone Faults	192
Flight Information	619223
Telex faults	703344
Directory information	198
Operator	195
Times in English	140
Time in Arabic	141

#### Shipping

		24.2
Rashida	Otherm	24.2
Hapaglloyd Wien		25.2
Wakataki Maru	Boat	26.2
Jin Yang	Cement	26.2
Rossana	General	26.2
Willine Taro	Containers	26.2
Odyssius	Reefer	27.2
African Highway	Vehicles	27.2
Ujung Raja	Plywood	27.2
Alps Highway	Vehicles	27.2
Baltic	Timber	27.2
B. Gwinnett	Barges	28.2
Stephen Rechmann	nGeneral	28.2
Bribir	Containers	28.2
Kuwait Express	Containers	28.2
Strinda	Cement	1.3
Arafat	General	1.3
Carmen	Vehicles	1.3
Cementia	Cement	2.3
Ulanga	Containers	2.3
Willine Tysla	Containers	2.3
Ibn Al Kadi	Containers	3.3
Kazukawa Maru	Containers	4.3
Hellenic Star	General	5.3
Strathconon	Containers	6.3
Yin Kim	Containers	6.3
Target	Vehicles	6.3
Hual Tracer	Vehicles	6.3
Muscat Bay	Containers	7.3
Mald. Navigator	Cattle Feed	
Shojin Maru	Vehicles	8.3
Gem Transporter	Containers	8.3
Eastern Summit	General	8.3
Mercy Lake	General	9.3
Barber Perseus	Containers	9.3
Mahmoudi	General	10.3
Nedlloyd Tasman	Containers	10.3
Kyushu Maru	Vehicles	11.3
Ever. Ascendant	General	11.3
Nedlloyd Moji	General	11.3
Floria	Cement	12.3
Torbay	Containers	13.3
Dubai	Containers	14.3
Hellenic Patriot	General	15.3
Toneme I diriot		

#### New lab at MIRA

The world motor industry now has the benefit of the latest computer-based development in engine test technology following the opening of a new £1.2 million engine laboratory at the Motor Industry Research Association (MIRA) premises at Nuneaton in Warwickshire.

The facility, built in one year, will be used in development programmes on new engines aimed at improving performance, fuel economy and reliability and the reduction of exhaust emissions. Six separate test cells each give security for prototype work. The control of engines, collection of data and calculation of results are performed by three computers, monitored by engineers and technicians.

Equipped with dynamometers ranging up to 220, 400, and 650 hp, each cell is supplied with four different fuels covering the range of petrol and diesel fuel. Special fuels can be supplied where necessary.

Gravimetric fuel consumption measuring equipment is fitted to each cell and exhaust gas analysis equipment covers carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides. Diesel smoke measurement is also available.

MIRA became an independent contract research and development operation in 1971. Sine then its contract turnover for motor companies worldwide has risen from £50,000 to £3.1 million a year.

Serious research and development programmes at the new engine laboratory began in January.

## Cas talk. The Hawk arrives in style



The elegance of vintage design is combined with modern Jaguar technology in this new hand-built British sports convertible - the Hawk - capable of speeds up to 140 mph (225 kph). Reminiscent of the Jaguar SS100 of the 1930s, the eye-catching two-seater has an aluminium body with a luxury hide covered interior featuring Australian mahogany facia panel and door cappings. A telephone and miniature television can be fitted as optional extras.

Powered by a six-cylinder twin overhead cam Jaguar engine, available in 3.4 and 4.2 litre versions, the car has power-assisted steering and a turning circle of 11 metres (36 feet). It has all-round independent suspension with wishbones, coil springs and telescopic shock absorbers. An anti-roll bar is built into the front suspension.

The Hawk has been developed by a Welsh company to give modern performance with classic looks free from the limitations of vintage engineering. Jaguar mechanical components are used to ensure reliability and ease of servicing.

Initial production is aimed at 14 cars a year for mainly overseas markets, particularly in Europe. Outlets are being sought in France, Italy, Switzerland, Monaco, the Middle East and the USA. Faye Caerleon Limited, Units 14/15, Lantarnam Industrial Cwmbran, Gwent, Wales.

## **BMW** computer

BMW, known world-wide for their research in advanced car technology, is strengthening its reputation with new their information systems that have been introduced in BMW top models in recent years.

These systems make it much easier for the driver, either before starting or while on the road, to check the current operating condition of the car. A typical example of this is the **BMW Check Control.** 

The BMW On-Board computer was designed with very specific objectives in

- 1. The On-Board computer was intended to complement the existing large range of instruments and controls.
- 2. It was designed to provide useful and improve driving safety.
- The On-Board computer was designed for easy and simple
- It was intended to operate perfectly with a minimum of peripheral sensors and output units.
- It had to be small and fit perfectly into the instrument panel of all of BMW's production models.

All of the buttons have a dual function: each button can be used to put in an order, to retrieve information or to feed in a digit. The system switches over automatically to the correct function. Here is an example of some of the functions performed by the computer.

Button 1: Temperature: If this button is pressed the outside temperature will be displayed. The display will show the outside temperature for eight seconds,

after which it automatically switches back to the time. By pressing the lock button, you can keep a constant watch on the temperature (or any other indication). As soon as the outside temperature falls below 3 C (37.4F) the driver is warned by an acoustic signal, and the red light-emitting diode marked TEMP comes on. This warning is always provided if there is a risk of icy roads, even if the driver hasn't pressed the button #1.

By pressing button 2 (arrival) the On-Board computer indicates the expected arrival time. This is calculated from the remaining distance to the destination and the average speed so far.

Button 3: Speed: The driver can feed in any desired speed limit in km/h. Anytime you exceed the limit, you will be warned by an acoustic signal and flashing light. This well help the driver economise on fuel. This button can also be used to indicate the average speed at which you have been travelling so far.

Button 4: Fuel Consumption: This indicates current fuel consumption, and after switching over automatically 4 seconds later, your average fuel consumption since the start button was

By pressing button 5 (range) you can find out how many kilometres you can still cover with your remaining fuel supply. This allows you to drive economically, and to stop for fuel in good time.

Button 9: This allows you to input any desired 4 digit code to protect your car against unauthorised use: Whenever three times in a row an incorrect code is entered, or starting a car is attempted the computer will lock the ignition and start blowing the horn.



#### **OMAN** INTERNATIONAL GROUP COMPANY **'CIMEX'**

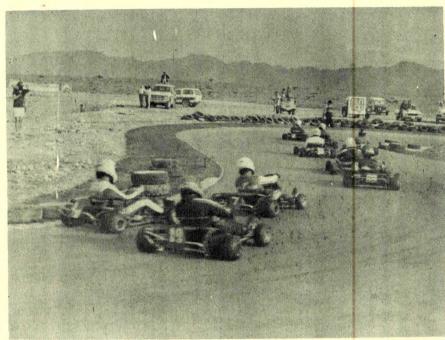
Has moved to new office and showroom premises in the Capital Area.

You will find us at the Al Rawahy Building, on the left hand side of the dual carriageway going towards Seeb, midway between the Wadi Adai and Wattayeh Roundabouts.

For cleaning, pest control and gardening services or the supply of cleaning equipment and chemicals contact us at our new telephone numbers: 603326 or 602286

Our postal address remains the same: P.O. Box 3217, Ruwi, Muscat.

#### International Grand Prix a roaring success





## Van Wilpe zips away with Goodyear Trophy



A stunning driving performance by Dutchman Gerrit Van Wilpe of Oman enabled him to get the better of the world number five Harm Schuwramm from Holland in the Middle East Kart Championships organised by the Seeb-ROP Kart Club on Friday at the track near Seeb.

Altogether, 33 drivers competed for the Goodyear Trophy - 14 from Dubai, one from Holland and the rest from Oman. Six Thumrait drivers could not participate after they were involved in an accident while on way to the Capital.

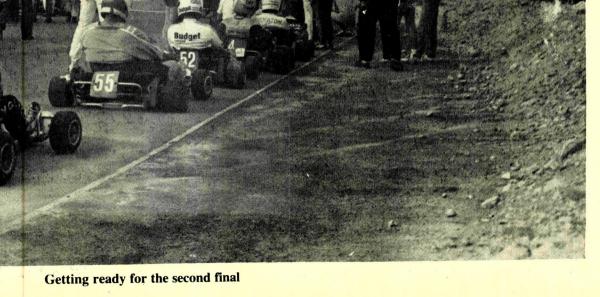
It was a day of brilliant performances with Harm Schuuwram living up to his reputation of producing breathtaking manoeuvres at the hairpins and split-second negotiations of chicances.

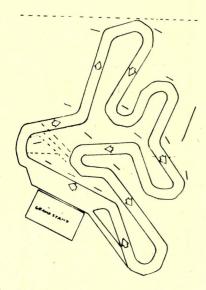
But it was not too good a day for the ace. Schuuwram was at the head of the grid for the first final and stormed off into the lead. He opened up a formidable

See next page









lead before making an error which forced him off the track. Gerrit Van Wilpe seized the opportunity to take the flag.

There were three finals and the top 16 after the heats secured places on the grid. Before the finals could begin there was a repechage final for those who made the top 16. The first six in this final tagged onto the back of the grid for the Goodyear Trophy.

The repechage final was won by Gilbert Nilsen of Dubai and the only woman of the meeting, Mrs. Barbara Cullam, also of Dubai, was second.

The second final was dominated all through by Van Wilpe who lead from flag to flag by a large margin.

In the third final, Shuuwram began sixth on the grid and by the fourth lap was in the lead. He raced past the flag about 200 metres ahead of David Harvey of Dubai. Herman Pracher of Oman was thrid followed by Augh Hayden and Rudy Deppe also of Oman in the fourth and fifth place, respetively.

With two successive wins in the first two finals, and assured of the prize, Van Wilpe did not participate in the third

Prizes were presented by the Inspector-General of Police and Customs, Said Rashid al Kalbani, who is President of the Seeb and ROP Kart Club.

The presentation ceremony was followed by a team race with two teams of four drivers from Oman and two from Dubai. The race was won by the Muscat A team, comprising Gerrit Van Wilpe Gordon Maclean, Rudy Deppe and Ken

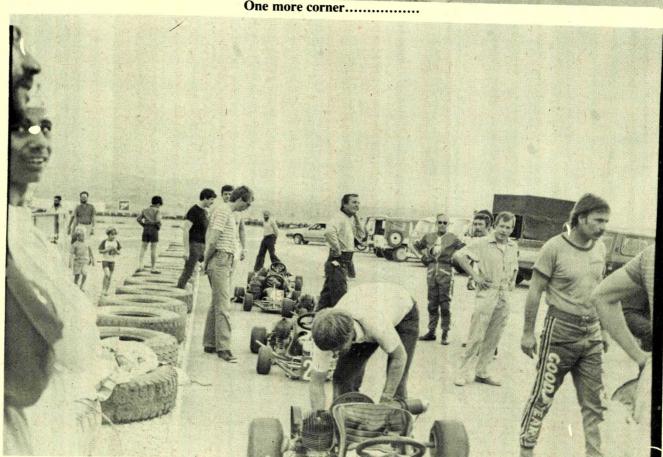
#### Results this season

18	Gerrit Van Wilpe	102
19	Toni Georgiou	76
4	Ken Hewins	61
6	Hugh Hayden	54
7	Gordon Maclean	52
22	Rudi Deppe	51
21	Hemon Pracker	35
14	Paul Blackiston	. 28
9	Mike Reod	26
5	Nigel Charles	11

This then is the position of the top 10 drivers after five rounds and with two more to go Van Wilpe is an uncatchable position. The fight for 2nd and 3rd though is still wide open with 5 drivers still in contention. The championship is decided on the best five out of seven rounds so that last two individuals on the 25th March and 8th April should really see more fire works.

In the team event the Oman Overseas Trust Bank team of Van Wilpe, Hewins and Miller looked definite favourites at the start of the season, but as usual favourites do not win. The winners are in fact the Good Year team and Maclean, Hayden and McClennan with OOTB second and the Putsukke Eckler team in third place.





Tuning up before the third big race



**Photographs by Bala Menon** 

#### Film treat for lovers of tennis and golf



McEnroe ... toppled

Al Falaj Hotel and Khimji Ramdas in association with Rolex have laid out a treat for lovers of golf and tennis on Saturday (26th) and Sunday.

The bumper sports attraction is the screening of the 1982 British Open Golf Championship on Saturday at 8 pm in the hotel's banquet hall. The film features leading world golf players competing for the prestigious title.

On Sunday at the same time the Wimbledon Tennis Championship will be screened featuring Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe in the longest tennis final in history.

Admission to both shows is

## **Muscat Sevens**

#### TWO DAYS OF THRILLS

This weekend, rugby in Oman moves into the final stage of the 1982/83 season when the Muscat Rugby Football Club annual international Seven-a-side tournament takes place today and tomorrow, at Wattayeh.

Matches begin at 2 pm on Thursday (24th) and continue all day on Friday ending with the finals at 4.25 pm.

Added attractions for the event include a freefall parachute display by Oman's parachute display team at 1.30 on Friday; music by the Royal Oman Police band; and a raffle draw with the first prize a Mazda 626 car.

The tournament is sponsored by Matrah Cold Stores and Spinneys

#### Wimpey scores

Wimpey scored their third victory in three weeks when they overcame Al Nawakdah CC in their CC in their 'C' Division fixture of the Oman Cricket Association tournament on the OAS Grounds.

Batting first, Al Nawakdah scored 105 with Dipala top scoring with 52. Wimpey in reply rattled the required runs for the loss of two wickets. Sarath and Jayawardena remained unbeaten at the close with 28 and 35 respectively.

#### Sinha triumphs

Sinha defeated MCC 'B' by 49 runs in a 'B' division match at the MOD Ground on Friday in the Sayyid Abbas Tournament.

In 23.1 overs, Sinha made 137, the top scorer being Dabre with 34 runs. Janz made 27, Nawa 20 and Nandana 25.

Main wicket takers were Kirti Jasrani (3 for 22), Shroff (2 for 23)

MCC 'B' could in reply score only 88 for seven in 25 overs. Top scorer was Tyron (24) and Shroff (17).

#### Since its inception in 1973, the Muscat Sevens have been dominated by the Dubai Exiles who have won it more times

For the last four years in a row, Muscat have won the trophy. Abu Dhabi have won the trophy once.

Programme:

Thursday 24 February:

than anyone else -five.

1400 hrs Muscat 'A' v Magan; 1420 hrs Muscat 'B' Oman Club; 1440 hrs Bahrain 'B' v Dubai 'B' 1500 hrs Muscat 'A' v Dohfar; 1520 hrs Bahrain 'A' v Oman Club; 1540 hrs Kehya v Bahrain 'B'; 1600 hrs Dharan v Muscat 'B'; 1620 hrs Al Khobar v Dhofar; 1640 hrs Al Ain v Sharjah; 1700 hrs Abu Dhabi v Dubai 'B'; 1720 hrs Bahrain 'A' v Dhahran; 1740 hrs Magan v Al Khobar; 1800 hrs Dubai 'A' v Sharjah.

Friday 25 February:

0900 hrs Dubai 'A' v Al Ain; 1000 hrs Sharjah v Doha; 1020 hrs Kenya v Dubai 'B'; 1040 hrs Magan v Dohfar; 1100 hrs Dharan v Oman Club; 1120 hrs Doha v Al Ain; 1140 hrs Abu Dhabi v Bahrain 'B'; 1200 hrs Muscat 'A' v Al Khobar; 1220 hrs Bahrain 'A' v Muscat 'B'; 1240 hrs Dubai 'A' v Doha; 1300 hrs Kenya v Abu Dhabi; 1330 hrs Oman parchute display team; 1400 hrs Semi-finals plate; 1440 hrs Semi-finals - main competition; 1530 hrs RoyalOman Police band; 1600 hrs Plate final; 1625 hrs Main final.

#### Muscat Inter-Con **Tennis Tournament** from Mar.3

The Muscat Inter-Continental Hotel Open Tennis Championships, jointly sponsored by UTA French Airlines, Supa Sports and Pepsi Cola, will commence on March 3. Matches will be played at the hotel and at the PDO.

The finals will be played on March 30-31 and April 1.

Entry fee is RO 3.500 per person, per event. Entries close today at 9.00pm.

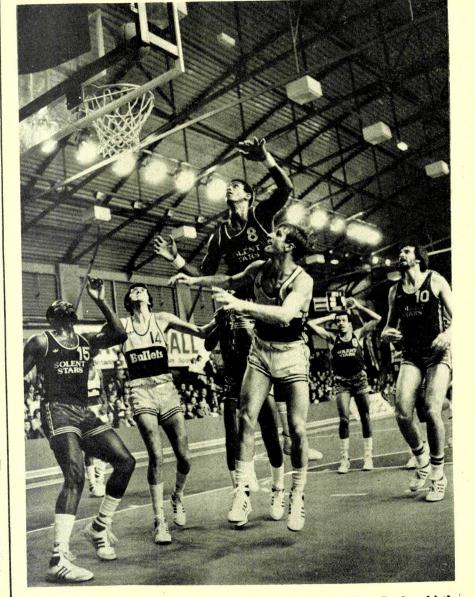
The draw will take place on Monday at

All matches will be best of three sets with a 12-point tie-breaker when games in a set are in Doubles.

It is the responsibility of the players to check the dates, time and place of their matches. This information will be posted at the hotel pro-shop at the PDO

The following events will be held: men's open singles and doubles, women's open singles and doubles and mixed doubles.

The singles winners will be presented with a return ticket to New York.



#### THIS WEEK'S BRIDGE BY SH

The following deal was played at rubber bridge session.

rubbei biid	ge session.			
	A105 642 AKQ AQ73			10 — — Q
QJ94 QJ5 1096 KJ10		K A10973 J4 98652	Q9 	
				_
	87632			
	K8			87
	87532			_
	4		Now t	he declarer lec

The bidding

N	E	S	W
1C(i)	1H	P	2H
dbl	P	2S	P
4C	D	D	P

West led HQ. East won and returned the suit, the declarer won and ran S8 to east's king. East persisted with a heart, ruffed by south. A low heart was led from the hand, west covered with SJ and won in dummy with SA. At this stage West showed his spade holding of SQ & S9 and claimed one trick defeat. The declarer refused to accept this and the play proceeded as follows. CA was cashed and a club ruffed in hand. The three top diamonds were cashed and another club ruffed in hand. The two card ending was

ruffed in fland	. I He	two can	u chumb
	10		
	_		
	_		
	Q		
Q9			_
_			10
_			_
	_		
	87		

led D7 and the two sure tricks west thought were his, were reduced to one. This line of play is called 'coup en passant'.

#### Bridge results

Results of the Weekly Bridge Tournament held on 18th February at the Indian Cultural Association; 1st: Mr. Anwar Zubairi & Mr. Sharif 81 pts (67.50%) 2nd: Dr. S.P. Mathur & Mrs. Sarvesh Mathur 751/2 pts (62.92%) 3rd: Mr. Sukesh Hoogan & Mr. R. Krishnan 69 pts (57.50%) 4th: Mr. M.A. Mansoori & Mr. Sajjad Ali Khan 69 pts (57.50%)

The next tournament will be held on Friday (25th February) at 2.15 pm.

This basket by T.J. Robinson scored two of the 98 points that won the Asda Cup recently for Solent Stars in the most dramatic final in the five-year history of the competition - one of the highlights of the British basketball calendar.

The Solent team, cup winners in 1982, clinched a one point victory in the dying seconds of the match against Birmingham's Barratt Bullets who led until three and a half minutes from the final whistle. Birmingham's strong challenge was led by diminutive guard Russ Saunders with 43 points — a record score for the final - but the team just failed to withstand continuous second-half pressure from Solent that culminated in the five points by experienced Mark Saiers (No. 10, far right) that finally won the silver

#### OHI beats CBO in friendly encounter



Mr Roger Drysdale, General Manager (5th from right) with the OHI team.

A jampacked PDO pavilion comprising staff and families of OHI and Commercial Bank of Oman witnessed an interesting annual friendly cricket game on Friday at the PDO Grounds.

The General Managers of both organisations Mr. Roger Drysdale (OHI) and Mr. Shamim Ahmed (CBOL) were the chief guests.

OHI won the 30-over match by 23

runs. Qadeer of OHI Electronics was declared Man of the Match for his all round performance and was awarded a Rado wrist watch.

A novel feature of the match was the valuable prizes being awarded to spectators every 15 minutes, to the lucky seats.

The match was supervised by Afzal Chowdhury and Shakoor Rana.



Mr. Shameem Ahmed, General Manager of Commercial Bank of Oman Ltd (SAO), presenting the prize to Mr. Abdul Qadeer the Man of the Match.

#### Times Noticeboard

#### Pssst.....

There is something new in the Times! A notice board for both readers and advertisers. From this week on.....

These columns are open only for small advertisements. The Times of Oman is offering a very special rate - only RO 5.000 per 5 cm x 1 col panel advertisement. This is the maximum size permissible.

So if you have anything to tell - be it a special clearance sale, a bargain offer, a gift idea or even personal announcements - you are welcome to use the columns. Call at the Times office today!

## Winall, Mukherjee lift hotel title



# PRIZES FOR NOVICES NMSC night rally on March 24

The National Motor Sports Club is organising a motor rally on March 24.

Entry forms are available from the Clerk of the Course - Mr. Stuart Gray, Room 111, Sultan Building, during office hours.

There will be a night rally in the Hajar and Hillo area towards Quryat. The insurance will be included in the entry fee of RO 15.000. Newcomers are exempted from the fee.

The rally will start and finish at Al Hajar and is expected to be 250km long. Road books will be issued on 11 March at the Clerk's office at noon. There will be special awards for newcomers to the rally scene

D.J. Winnall and Chandan Mukherjee trounced Grandidge and Dempsey 6-4, 6-4, to lift the Muscat Inter-Continental Hotel's Pool and Racquet Club men's doubles trophy, in the finals at the hotel's court on Friday last week.

Liz Rayson and Janet Stroud took the Ladies Doubles trophy beating Marianne Willink and Hector 2-6, 7-6 (7-5 tie breaker) after a tough battle.

Mixed doubles winners were Rob and Marienne Willink team who beat Vincent and Vincent 4-6, 6-4 (7-3 tie breaker) in another hard fought match.

Our picture shows the winners and sponsors following the prize giving last Friday. From left, Mounir Tadros, executive assistant manager of the hotel; Gerhard Schmidt, general manager; Rob Willink; Marianne Willink; Liz Rayson; Janet Stroud, D.J. Winnall; Chandan Mukherjee; co-sponsor Peter Belke, general manager, Oman Refreshment Company.

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## Oman joins action call to help the Third World

Oman has joined other developing countries to express concern over the economic recession faced by the Third World Nations.

The concern was voiced at the fifth ministerial meeting of the Group 77 held in Baghdad last week. Oman was represented by a five-man delegation headed by Mr. Ahmad Macki, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The meeting was to prepare for the UNCTAD meeting due to be held in Belgrade in May.

The international economic situation was reviewed and it was felt that the economic crisis faced by developing countries seemed to be as grave as the one in 1932.

Considering the total of 600 billion dollars debt of the Third World countries, the conference called for the international economic system to be re-structured

Delegates felt that the constant decrease in the rate of economic progress and fall in per capita income in the Third

World call for an urgent remedy.

The Ministers expressed concern over tendency to protectionism by developed countries which has badly affected exports from the Third World.

The conference decided to submit a programme of action at the next meeting of the Asian Group scheduled to be held in Buenos Aires in April.

In resolutions on Lebanon and Palestine the conference called on international monetary organisations to grant long term loans to Lebanon to help rebuild her economy

It also urged the member countries to make loans to Lebanon and allow customs exemptions on goods from that

The conference set up an economic committee to study the effects of Israeli occupation on the economies of West Bank towns.

The price of Britain's North Sea oil has slumped to its lowest level in four years on the open market in Rotterdam, apparently in anticipation of further cuts in official world prices.

Britain's crude oil is now selling in Rotterdam, which handles releatively small quantities of oil, at just over 27.5 dollar a barrel.

Oil dealers in Rotterdam said the price had slumped because the traders feared a price cutting war between the major oil producers.

On the London Exchange, the pound sterling fell against other major currencies.

Meanwhile, oil ministers from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States are meeting in Riyadh to discuss the recent oil price cuts announced by Nigeria and Norway as well as Britain.

The UAE Oil Minister, Dr Oteiba, said Saudi Arabia's current base price of light crude oil of 34 dollars a barrel is now irrelevent.

United States President Ronald Reagan said he is prepared to take all necessary measures to guarantee the security of Israel's northern border in the aftermath of a complete withdrawal of the Israeli army from Lebanon.

In a speech in Washington Mr Reagan said the continued occupation of Lebanon could only serve the interests of those who sought to undermine the cause

He also said he was again calling on the Arab world to accept the reality of Israel and peace and justice could only be gained through direct negotiations.

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt had a meeting in the Sudanese capital with President Nimeiri. The two leaders are believed to have discussed last week's tensions after the reported Libyan military build-up near the borders of Egypt, Sudan, Chad and Libya.

President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya has decided not to press charges against more than 400 former servicemen and 61 university students who were arrested in connection with a plot to overthrow the

### **Police** hangar complex opened

The Minister of Communications Salim bin Nasser al Busaidi on Tuesday formally opened a new hangar complex of the Royal Oman Police Airwing at

The complex is the latest milestone in the development of the ROP Airwing which was formed eight years ago to support the rapidly expanding police

The Minister was welcomed by Inspector General of Police and Customs Said Rashid al Khalbani.

Later, with the ROP Band providing music, the Minister inspected the guard of honour and was then taken on a tour of the complex.

The five types of aircraft used by the police were on display, including the Boeing 727 personnel carrier. The other aircraft were the Buffalo, the Bell 205 the Bell 206, the Bell 222, and the Pilatus

#### Learjet

The ROP Airwing began operations in September 1974 with one Pilatus Porter aircraft which was operated from the Sultan of Oman's Air Force airstrip.

Over the years utility helicopters and Learjet 25, for fast transport of VIPs, were added to the fleet. In 1979 a Buffalo aircraft was added to provide operational support to the Royal Guard Brigade.

Later, in September 1980 a Bell 222 aircraft was introduced for VIP transport.

In 1981, a major event was the addition of the Boeing 727 to ferry personnel between Seeb and Salalah. The aircraft is also used in support of official delegations abroad.

The third Buffalo aircraft was added in May last year. The Buffalo has an executive interior to carry VIPs.

All members of the Airwing are fully serving members of the ROP. They are responsible for operations, maintenance, and movements of all aircraft under their command.



Unvarnished Truth' which opened vesterday at the Inter-Continental Hotel) due to an accident in Abu Dhabi.

Gabrielle Hamilton, who plays Cartwright, Annabelle's Mrs mother, in the dinner-theatre production, was hit by a car in Abu Dhabi and sustained a broken arm.

But as "the show must go on", Gabrielle swapped roles with Barbara Bolton (who played Mrs Stewert Dubony in the play) and the play did go on. Gabrielle's new role demands less movement.

Derek Nimmo's dinner-theatre production continues till Sunday in the hotel's Jabrin ballroom. Tickets are on sale at the theatre desk in the

The cast, who flew in on Tuesday, were looking forward to the opening night in Muscat, a new place for most of them, when they met newsmen at a reception held in the hotel's boiler room the same day.

Playwright Royce Ryton, who also has a role in the play, felt it would be a 'hit' in Oman judging from the enthusiastic reception it received elsewhere in the Gulf.

David Jason, who plays Tom, the leading character in the play was equally enthusiastic. David has been twice to the Gulf, though the first time to Oman. His other plays include 'No Sex Please, We're British' and 'Not Now Darling'.

Above: the cast at a reception on Tuesday night.

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