

November 9, 1971

ECONOMY

Here's an item that may mean less in Alaska than in the other forty-nine states. In Alaska you lay in a supply of meat by shooting a moose, or maybe a caribou.

The meat cutters union is calling for a general nationwide strike - to protest the Pay Board's decision to place a ceiling of five and a half percent on pay increases and make retroactive raises illegal. The Union - with membership of half a million - also wants George Meany and other labor leaders to resign from the Pay Board. Meanwhile, in Washington the U P I quotes our old friend "Informed Sources" as saying that most longevity and merit pay raises in existing contracts will be allowed after the present freeze expires later this week - provided such raises fall within the general five and a half per cent ceiling.

POLITICS

Presidential candidates - both avowed and unavowed - made a few moves today. President Nixon in a way launched his still unannounced campaign for re-election by speaking of Republican fund raising dinners in New York and Chicago. His speeches in both cities were heard in some twenty other cities coast to coast via closed circuit TV - with party leaders expecting the five hundred dollar a plate dinner to raise about five million. In New York, Mayor Lindsay took what he himself called "clearly a step" toward becoming an active contender for the Democratic Presidential nomination. He announced that deputy mayor Richard Aurelio will resign his post to travel the country - making a grass roots assessment of the Lindsay Presidential chances.

CASTRO

More than two thousand five hundred security police will protect Cuban Premier Fidel Castro in Chile tomorrow - when he visits in the capital city, Santiago, on this Castro's first absence from Cuba in seven years, since Russia in Sixty Four. While in Chile he is expected to visit four cities - including Punta Arenas - the southernmost in the western hemisphere some fifteen hundred miles south of Santiago.

CRASH

A British Air Force transport plane - with fifty two British and Italian service men aboard - crashed into the Tyrrhenian Sea off Italy's western coast today and sank - apparently leaving no survivors. Forty-six of the victims were Italian paratroopers - six were British airmen - flying to the island of Sardinia to take part in ~~exercise~~ joint military maneuvers.

SHIP

Another disaster at sea - in the Atlantic, southwest of France. A French cargo ship, the Maori. French maritime officials say only one of the thirty nine crewmen survived. Heavy seas are hampering rescue.

TEST

~~Sources in Washington say last~~ Saturday's nuclear
test ^{at} Amchitka ~~island~~ in the Aleutians may have been
~~there~~ the most powerful underground explosion ever -
even ~~so~~ greater than the ~~big~~ Russian last October.
This is indicated by seimic ^{seismic} readings from earthquake
recording instruments around the world. The Amchika
blast some ~~where~~ twelve hundred miles West of the
Alaska mainland - was designed to yield energy
equivalent to about five million tons of T N T.

OIL

The American petroleum institute says there's nothing to ~~these~~ reports that large deposits of oil have been discovered off the southern coast of Alaska. Only yesterday, Senator Proxmire of Wisconsin made public the report - suggesting that oil deposits in the Gulf of Alaska may be even greater than those already discovered on Alaska's north slope. ~~But, the petroleum~~ *However the* *Institute expects* *Petroleum* says there's no known oil in the Gulf area - *what they call* with the exception of the old Katalla field that was abandoned some forty years ago.

BIG BEN

Big Ben - the one hundred twelve year old clock above London's House of Parliament - one of the world's most accurate time pieces - stopped for more than an hour. For Sixty-seven minutes to be exact. Clock watchers couldn't believe it. Office workers worked over time without meaning to and telephone calls jammed the newspaper switchboard.

What happened? A careless worker had left a cable hanging in the wrong place causing the hands to stop moving.

Big Ben has been keeping time in London since Eighteen Fifty Nine. And since then the huge clock has stopped fifteen times. Ten years ago instance, Queen Elizabeth was five minutes late for the annual trooping of the colors on her birthday - and somebody with authority decided that while Big Ben might be slow, the Queen could never be late. So Big Ben was stopped - intentionally.

CHINESE

That six man advance party from Peking showed up at U N headquarters in New York today - to arrange for arrival of their forty-six member Communist Chinese delegation on Thursday. The advance group - headed by Kao Liang, a former newsman - stayed overnight at the Hotel Roosevelt within easy walking distance of the U. N.

We hear the Chinese Reds have established a reputation for being big on one hundred dollar bills. While flying into New York from Paris on board an airliner one member of the group offered a hundred dollar bill to the stewardess in paying a two dollar fee for ear phones to hear recorded music. The stewardess couldn't change it - so there was no charge. Again this morning at the Hotel Roosevelt, the group leader took a hundred dollar bill from his wallet to pay for breakfast. This time, the cashier made the change - and the waitress said - "they left a good tip." As one observer put it "the Chinese came, tipping like

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BING

In the ceremony at Buckingham Palace, Queen Elizabeth conferred Knighthood upon Rudolf Bing, the sixty-nine year old General Manager of New York's Metropolitan Opera honoring him for more than forty years of service to the arts. He is a British subject. Said Sir Rudolf: "A wonderful climax to a hard working career," said Sir Rudolf. As for me it's time to say - so long until tomorrow.