the World Congress in Vienna in Eighteen Fourteen

- was officially convened today in Helsinki. More than

thirty world leaders - mage assembling to sign a new

all-European security agreement; but, the highlight

of the first day's activities - a personal, private

summit between President Ford and Russia's Brezhnev.

Secretary of State Kissinger says "progress has been made" - toward a new nuclear arms control agreement; with chances good for a Phase Two Salt pact to be completed and ready for signing when Brezhnev visits Washington in October.

Dr. Kissinger also telling of preliminary discussions concerning U S efforts to achieve a break-through in the Arab Israeli impasse, and promising more on this, soon.

Minister Harold Wilson in effect, challenge to

continuing Soviet and domination of the European Security

Europe. Wilson saying the new European Security

agreement - must apply equally on both sides of the

Iron Curtain. "No excuse can henceforth be found"

- said he - "for any participating state attempting

to prevent any other from exercising its sovereign

rights - or to intervene in its internal affairs."

Here at home - President Ford today

won half his battle with Congress - over oil prices.

The Senate rejecting an attempt to kill the President's

proposal - for a gradual phasing out of price controls

on "old" oil. The price plan now goes to the House

-- where, if similarly unrejected - it will

automatically assume the force of law.

In the House by a single vote final passage today of a new cost fifty million dollar of living pay incommunes increase. This to apply to members of Congress - who will get an extra thirty-six hundred a year; also, to the Vice President, federal judges and other top employees - none of house whom has had any pay increase connected since nineteen sixty nine.

After months and months of bitter controversy the Senate today declared the disputed New Hampshire

Senate seat - officially vacant. This clearing the
way for a new election - probably in September 
Democrat John Durkin and Republican Louis Wyman

-- again to battle it out at the paints polls where
hopefully, the better two man will win and this time
by enough to make it stick.

The main witnesses today at hearings on the pending Watergate reform bill - special Watergate Prosecutor Henry Ruth and his predecessor Leon Jaworski; Both of whom opposed the creation of a permanent special prosecutor's office 4 to ferret out government crime. Ruth clong adding: "As. special prosecutor now I take directions from no report tox directly on dn-going investigations to no one - and I could easily apuse my power with

A former key aide to billionaire Howard Hughes today completed his testimony before the Senate C I A committee. Robert Maheu then meeting with newsmen - telling how he was "ordered" by the CIA to recruit two underworld figures for an attempt to assassinate Cuban director Fidel Castro. Said Maheu: "The plan was always subject to a "go" signal - which never came."

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In the latest issue of Money magazine,

just out - a catalogue of the state and local taxes

people pay in the various fifty states. At the head

of the list - and a bit af a surprise, to me at least

the Badger State, Wisconsin; where the average

family pays about thirty-two hundred a year - or

some three hundred more than second place Minnesota.

Next - New York; and then - Massachusetts.

At the reverse end of the spale - the state
of Louisiana; where the average family tex is only
six hundred and maximum sixty-two bucks but the
main reason for that - axhauxa state tex on gas and
oil which means, we are told, that parts of the bill
- is being passed along to the rest of us.

The discovery of two underwater "domes"

believed to contain huge quantities of oil - is reported today from the so-called Baltimore Canyon off the coast of New Jersey. The domes pin-pointed by a Shell exploration ship, the Phaedra. - which has been erwising the Atlantic coast@ne for seven weeks, taking sonax measurements.

Shell export Wittiam Scaife adding that the That arger of the two domes - may alone contain as much aims oil as there once was in all of east

Texas. But the emphasis there—on the word.

"may". Scaife conceding we can't really know.

"until as dold".

At Zion National Park in Utah - a series of thunder storms leading to flash floods - and then massive mud and rock slides. One of these smashing into a car bearing a young couple, Mr. and Mrs. John Quinlon of Nebraska City, Nebraska; the car plunging over a three maintains hundred foot precipice - rolling hundreds of feet through a heavily wooded area - finally ending up on another section of the same road far below. Whereupon the Quinlons were pulled from their car - virtually unhurt.

A state trooper saying: \*\* Apparently

the mud that saved them. \*\* Addition \*\* The saved that much mud inside the cary \*\* Appendix four four \*\*

\*\*\*\* "it cushioned their bodies."

For the first time in its fifty four

year history - the Miss America pageant will allow

its contestants to wear two piece swim suits this

year. The announcement today - from pageant Chairman

Albert Marks; who stressed, however, the two piece

suits will be allowed - only during pre-pageant photo sessions; and even there - no bikinis.

Marks explaining: "We are not going into,
this thing whole hog we're just hind of backing into,

the Harrison town the room.