

The U.S. cost of living index - went up again last month; although the rate of increase, at least - appears to be slackening. This - according to government figures announced today; showing a rise in the cost of living - four-tenths of a per cent during April; an improvement, if such it can be called - reflected mainly in services and non-food commodities.

Across the aisle - Senate Republicans also endorsed the new language. Senator Percy, for one, voiced the hope that the Senate - could thus avoid "a confrontation with the White House;" while at the same time making it clear to House - that Communist membership will not be allowed.

and the Senate agreed to a proposal by Democratic Senators to start night sessions in an effort to clear up administrative legislative proposals held up by the current debate over Cambodia.

The night sessions will begin Monday with two appropriations bills the most important of which

SENATE

In the matter of the long-debated Cooper-Church Admendment regarding Cambodia - a compromise came today on Capitol Hill. Senate Democrats - meeting in caucus - agreed to add a conciliatory phrase offered by Senator Byrd of West Virginia. This reasserts the President's "Constitutional power - to protect the lives of United States armed forces wherever deployed."

Across the aisle - Senate Republicans also endorsed the new language. Senator Percy, for one, voiced the hope that the Senate - could thus avoid "a confrontation with the White House;" while at the same time making it clear to Hanoi - that Communist sanctuaries will not be allowed.

And the Senate agreed to a proposal by Democratic Senators to start night sessions in an effort to clean up administration legislation proposals tied up by the current debate over Cambodia.

The night sessions will begin Monday with two appropriations bills the first order of business.

SAIGON

The fighting in Cambodia continued to see-saw back and forth today. With Communist troops renewing their attack - on the provincial capital of Kompong Sam; also, cutting vital Highway One - between Phnom Penh and Saigon. However, the Cambodian themselves - reopened a second vital roadway - Highway Four; thereby reestablishing - their lifeline to the sea.

Back in Saigon - another weekly casualty report; listing a hundred and thirty Americans - killed in action. One in four of these deaths - occurring in Cambodia.

PARIS FOLLOW SAIGON

At the peace table in Paris - another exercise in futility today. With the Communist side again calling for unilateral U.S. withdrawal - further charging that President Nixon was expanding the war by sending U.S. troops into Laos as well as Cambodia. Philip Habib - for the U.S. - then attempted to initiate a discussion of "the relevant issues" - but got nowhere. Habib later told newsmen: "All I heard today was a denigration and distortion of our position - and the reality in Vietnam."

MOSCOW FOLLOW PARIS

Swedish Premier Olof Palme - who is currently a guest of the Kremlin - conferred today with North Vietnam's Ambassador to Moscow. Palme - who recently visited the U.S. - reportedly carried a message dealing with U.S. prisoners of war; a message which he has now - supposedly relayed to Hanoi. When asked about it though - Palme replied "Even if I did - I wouldn't tell you." He added, nevertheless, the Ambassdor would be returning to Hanoi - "soon" - for consultations.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Voters in Britain turned out in heavy numbers today to elect a new House of Commons. Prime Minister Harold Wilson's Labor Party hoped to retain its control of the government against the challenge of the Conservatives, led by Edward Heath. And first returns have shown unexpected Conservative strength.

**SUGGESTED INTRO TO THOMAS TAPE "WENDY VEEVERS
CARRER"**

They called him Robinson Crusoe, and he had his
Lowell Thomas is somewhere deep in the wilds
of Siberia tonight - which means it's time again for another
special report he left us. And the subject?

A latter-day Robinson Crusoe. Lowell...

Do you remember - I am sure millions of
Americans do - the play that was longer than any other in
the history of the American theater? The name of it, of course
was *Life With Father*, the play in which Howard Lindsay
and Russel Croas starred for years. It made them famous.
The play was written by Clarence Day. He had an attractive
daughter, who was restless and years ago went to Africa
where she married a picturesque Englishman by the name of
Mark Veevers Carter.

Lowell Jr. found them in one of the least known and
most rarely visited cities in the world, the Arabian Nights
city of Makulla on the southern coast of Arabia.

WENDY VEEVERS CARTER

L. J. Reynolds

They called him Robinson Crusoe, and he had his own corral island paradise where he lived with a charming blond who was often referred to as his Girl Friday.

I have just received word from a friend in the Indian Ocean that Robinson Crusoe is dead.

Do you remember - I am sure millions of Americans do - they play that ran longer than any other in the history of the American theater? The name of it of course was Life With Father, the play in which Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse starred for years. It made them famous. The play was written by Clarence Day. He had an attractive daughter, who was restless and years ago went to Africa where she married a picturesque Englishman by the name of Mark Veevers Carter.

Lowell Jr. found them in one of the least known and most rarely visited cities in the world, the Arabian Nights city of Mukulla on the southern coast of Arabia.

Veevers Carter with his bushy bright red beard was an expert on fish along that coast.

Two years ago Mark and Wendy and their three children went to a deserted island in the Indian Ocean to live, the coral island of Astove in the Seychelles. There in their palm fringed paradise they grew coconuts, and had cattle.

Mark Veevers Carter had taken two of their children to Mombasa, where he himself fell ill and died without Wendy knowing. The information, I understand eventually was taken to her by a U.S. Air Force plane.

SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO "WENDY VEEVERS CARTER"

Thank you, Lowell. And no - a final item...

The announcement was simultaneously made at Kentucky
headquarters in Louisville - also, Mitsubishi Zairiai
headquarters in Tokyo. The Japanese are looking to open
hundred fried chicken shops, to begin with - also across
Japan; with a hundred more to be added later - if all works
out as planned.

Incidentally, the Mitsubishi firm is a Japanese
conglomerate owned by the same people who own the
famed Mitsubishi Zero fighter plane. Their interest in fried
chicken apparently stimulated when they noticed the crowds
gathering Kentucky's Colonel Sanders 5-cent at Japan's
current Expo recently.

Coming soon to Japan: Kentucky Fried Chicken.

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Incidentally, the Mitsubishi firm is - a Japanese conglomerate owned by the same people who once built the famed Mitsubishi Zero fighter plane. Their interest in fried chicken apparently stimulated when they noticed the crowds engulfing Kentucky's Colonel Sanders booth at Japan's current Expo Seventy.