

Tomorrow is "Honor Vietnam Veterans Day" -

and four senators - all veterans of World War Two -
are urging expanded benefits for the Vietnam G.I.'s who
- unlike those of other wars - they say returned home
to an unheroic welcome. ~~Senators McGovern, Dole,~~
Inouye and Mcc. Mathias. ~~Joined~~ ^{ing} in the plea, ^{today was} ~~as did~~
Vice President Gerald Ford. ~~at a news conference.~~

PROTEST

Seven Vietnam war veterans - four of them in wheel chairs - engaged in a scuffle with police today at the top of the Washington Monument. The vets saying they were protesting conditions in VA hospitals. All seven came to Washington from Long Beach, California to file ~~their~~ complaints with VA Administrator Donald Johnson.

Democratic National Chairman Robert Strauss says he believes an impeachment trial for President Nixon will either be underway, or scheduled, by next December. But Strauss declined to tell a news conference in Washington whether he believes the President is guilty of an impeachable offense, saying instead - "that would put a partisan cloud on the issue."

ECONOMY

Bank interest rates - rising for the second time in recent days - since prices sharply downward on the New York Exchange. Although trading was moderate, the Dow Jones dropped sixteen point eight fifty-four, the average loss per share being sixty-four cents.

In Detroit, auto makers say they hope to build more cars this spring than they had planned - despite the slump in new car sales during the winter.

The cost of living council gave the aluminum industry an exemption from Phase Four Wage and Price Regulation in return for a commitment by the industry to maintain moderate prices and supplies.

WAGE

Congress today gave its final approval for legislation ~~that~~ raises ^{ing} the nation's minimum wage from the present dollar-fifty to two ~~dollars~~-thirty ~~cents~~ an hour. - ~~to be achieved~~ ^{This to come about} in three stages between May of this year and January of Nineteen Seventy-Six. ~~In~~ ^{This} addition, ~~the~~ new law ^{to include some} ~~embraces about~~ ten million workers not previously covered. - including domestic employees, government workers and retail chain employees. Earlier today, President Nixon said he will ~~not~~ ^{not} veto this ~~new measure~~ ^{one} as he did a similar one last year, believing it ~~to be~~ inflationary.

Spokesmen for both Moscow and Washington agreed today that Secretary Kissinger has ^{not made} ~~failed to~~ ~~achieve~~ the breakthrough he sought in the strategic arms limitations talks. ^{But a} ~~in the Soviet capital,~~ A joint statement ^{does not say} ~~saying only that~~ both sides are determined to find ^a ~~solutions~~ to the stalemate. [¶] In Washington, Defense Secretary Schlesinger said President Nixon has no intention of trying ~~himself~~ to reach an arms agreement with the Soviets during his forthcoming summit visit to Russia this June. The President - says Schlesinger - will do nothing to compromise U.S. national security.

VOYAGE

Thirty-year-old French yachtsman Alain

*Colas today sailed his trimaran "Manureva" into
port at St. Malo, France - setting a ~~brand~~ new record
for a solo sailing voyage around the world. Colas
made the trip in one hundred sixty-eight days -
~~and that's~~ fifty-seven ~~days~~ less than the time it took
~~the late British yachtsman~~ Sir Francis Chichester ~~on~~
~~a similar voyage some~~ seven years ago.*

WEATHER

The weather outlook ~~for some ski areas~~
of the ~~Northeast is~~ Five below zero ^{in upper} ~~degrees in some~~
~~parts of northern~~ New York and Vermont, ^{today.} - ~~ranging~~
to the teens elsewhere. ~~Increasing cloudiness also~~
~~due tomorrow.~~

And tonight

~~Late today~~ skiers were ^{steaming} North, having
heard this ^{just} may be ~~one of~~ the best ski weekends of the
season, ^{and} with lots of snow, ^{and} hopefully some sunshine, ~~and~~
~~temperatures just right.~~ ~~Many~~ Ski areas that had closed
~~down~~ for the season are ~~now~~ going full tilt as though

it were mid-winter -- the Manchester area in Vermont,

Whiteface in the Adirondacks, ^{and in} Stowe; ^{and in} New Hampshire ^{and}

^{and in} Maine ^{Farther north} ~~also~~, in the Laurentians, at Mont Tremblant

April seems to be tops ^{and} ~~they're coming to the end of what~~ ^{it} for them, ^{has} been just

^{one of} ~~about~~ the best seasons ~~they have ever had.~~ ~~Even Prime~~

~~Minister Trudeau and his wife taking part in the sport~~

I've just come from Tremblant ^{where} ~~and~~ it was interesting to

see how they try ~~and~~ ^{to} guard the ⁱⁿ Prime Minister ~~of a~~

~~country~~ who is an all-out skier. His security people

are supposed to precede ^{Mr. Trudeau and his beautiful young} ~~him~~ and follow him down the ^{with}

mountain. They find this ^{so} difficult with Prime Minister

Trudeau, ^{that} ~~and~~ Stan Ferguson, General Manager at

Tremblant has his patrol ^{skiers on hand} ~~with~~ with rescue toboggans,

^{Billy} ~~handy~~ to pick up security officers who ^{don't quite make it.} ~~sometimes take~~

~~tremendous egg-beater jabs in a vain effort to keep up~~

~~with the head of the government of Canada.~~

GARDENS

The year of the green thumb - that's what the people who run the largest mail order seed house are calling 1974. With food prices constantly rising and the fuel shortage keeping people at home, thousands are cultivating their own vegetable gardens - many, of them young people, who are tending gardens for the first time. ^{One of the major} ~~And for the most part they're getting~~ ~~their seeds from the Burpee Company~~ ^{is reports} ~~in Philadelphia~~ ~~which says~~ the demand ~~is~~ up more than twenty percent and still growing. ^{So} ~~So~~ ^{would you say} the gasoline-conserving hitchhiker's thumb is turning green?