

Fri. Mar. 5-71.

NABLUS

In the Middle East - with barely two days to go in the present truce - an apparent attempt today at conciliation. Israeli Deputy Premier Yigal Allon - traveling to occupied Nablus on the west bank of the Jordan River. There calling for another extension - of the current standdown. Adding that Israel's "heart is open - for a generous solution of the Mid East crisis; not as victors - but as equals among equals."

UNITED NATIONS FOLLOW NABLUS

At the United Nations - Secretary General U Thant was also calling for another truce extension. ~~U Thant~~ urging the Arabs and Israelis - "to withhold fire, to exercise military restraint, to maintain the quiet."

WHITE HOUSE

From President Nixon today - the third of six promised federal revenue sharing proposals. Number three - dealing with urban development. The President calling for expenditures of two billion a year - spread over two-hundred-and-forty-seven metropolitan areas; but focusing chiefly - on an attempt to restore decaying big cities.

The President going on to say that existing federal grant-in-aid programs - have been "plagued by delay and duplication, by waste and rigidity, by inconsistency and irrationality." And he added: "the time has come for us to stop merely giving more money to these programs - and to begin giving more thought to them."

SEPONE

On the other side of the globe - a major battle was shaping up tonight - for control of the Communist supply center of Sepone in Laos. South Vietnamese troops continuing an advance - which has already carried them within actual sight of the town; while Communist defenders were said to be massing anti-aircraft missiles - also, fifty tanks, at least - in a last desperate bid to turn back the ~~offensive~~ ^{South Vietnamese} offensive.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The U. S. unemployment rate - down again last month; dropping another two-tenths of a percent - the same as it did in January; ending up at five-point-eight percent - according to government figures announced today.

Labour Secretary James Hodgson promptly calling this - "~~rather~~" heartening." ~~and~~ It shows - said he - "the economy is moving in a favorable direction."

PRICES FOLLOW UNEMPLOYMENT

A related item: the U. S. wholesale price index - jumping nine-tenths of a percent last month; the biggest monthly increase - since the tailend of the Korean war. But this is said to reflect a shortage of livestock, more than anything else - due, in part, to winter storms that have isolated many herds. Whereas industrial commodities - were increasing only three-tenths of a percent.

TRANSPORTATION

Elsewhere in Washington - another bold step today in the direction of improved auto safety. Transportation Secretary ~~John~~ Volpe ruling that 1974 ~~model~~ cars - must come equipped with new front seat safety devices; ~~these~~ ~~must be~~ capable of protecting passengers from injury ~~in~~ in head-on collisions at speeds up to thirty miles an hour.

As for what type of device ~~that~~ ^{See,} Volpe didn't say.

However, the one mentioned most often, to date - also, the most controversial, as you perhaps know - ~~that~~ ^{is} air bag that inflates automatically on impact.

CALCUTTA

The focal point of election violence in India -
was again centered today in the ^{vast, sombre} ~~great~~ city of Calcutta;
where two more were killed by roving gangs - including
a top leader of India's ruling congress party. This
making the nationwide death toll so far - nearly fifty.

DACCA FOLLOW CALCUTTA

More bloodshed was also reported - at Dacca in neighboring East Pakistan. The violence there - over the cancellation of national elections. Some reports -

indicating the ~~wholesale~~ machine-gunning of raging mobs.

- in West Pakistan - has
But the central government at Rawalpindi - ~~has now~~

(that geographically divided)
imposed complete censorship throughout the nation. ~~and~~

we don't know,
So what's really happening ~~with, we'll just have to wait~~

~~at 500-~~

BELFAST

At Belfast, ~~in~~ Northern Ireland, - ^{another} a pitched battle ~~was~~ between Roman Catholic rioters and British troops. The former - hurling paving bricks and gas bombs. The latter - answering back with tear gas and rubber bullets. At one point, a young British lieutenant rallying his men - crying out: "Hold this ground for the Queen!" Then: "Charge!" The troopers eventually rounding up a number of the rioters - including several said to be just youngsters.

SPEECH

The White House again - an announcement that President Nixon will travel to Newport, Rhode Island, next Friday, ~~there~~ to address a graduating class of ensigns - at the Navy's Newport Naval Officers Candidate School. The new grads - including one David Eisenhower.

~~Or did you guess?~~

HOUSTON

At the U. S. manned space center in Houston - a preliminary analysis of those ^{latest} moon rocks brought back by Apollo Fourteen. Doctor Robert Brett calling the lunar specimens - some of the oldest and most complex ever seen by man. Adding that many appeared to be "kreep" - meaning a combination of potassium, rare earth elements and phosphorus. ^{Says} ~~Ising~~ Doctor Brett ~~observing that~~ some of these samples - "look extremely kreepy."

AZERBAIJAN

The province of Azerbaijan in Soviet Central Asia - long noted for the longevity of its inhabitants ^{These} including ^{an} one old timer - who is said to be ^{age} one-hundred-and-sixty-five, ~~years of age.~~

Now - the results of a ten-year study - among the farmers of Azerbaijan. Soviet gerontologist Shykhyur Gasanov - studying the life styles of more than a hundred centenarians, ^{Coming} to the conclusion that they all share one trait: "They are not envious of their neighbors."

In the same vein, a report today that a Syrian farmer - age a hundred-and-thirty-six - has just added a third wife to his present household. Abdul Bikh Bir Abdul - a Moslem - explaining: "I had been married only thirteen times before - and that's an unlucky number," ^{so} just had to take on one more! *Warren!*

VANCOUVER

You may recall - I had a story yesterday about Canada's Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau; who had just given his full endorsement - to equal rights for women, and then some. And I ~~noted at the time he was~~ ^{mentioned his being} ~~still~~ a bachelor.

Ah, but it turned ^S out now - ~~there was a method to~~ ~~his address~~ ^{that} The fifty-one year old Prime Minister ^{is - or has} ~~since~~ ^{en} taking as his bride - the former Margaret Sinclair, aged twenty-two, of Vancouver, British Columbia; according to those who know here - a "real stunner."

Perhaps most surprising of all though - the fact that Trudeau was able to keep his wedding plans a secret. But friends note that he always was - a stickler for personal privacy. As Canada's Minister of Justice, Trudeau once saying: "The state has no place - in the bedrooms of the nation."