

Tues. Dec. 28-71.

President Nixon is expected to soon ^{to} ask Congress for more than five hundred million dollars to help states meet the cost of welfare programs.

Welfare costs, last year, rose nearly thirty percent -- to sixteen billion dollars - with the Federal government paying about half.

The ~~1971~~ Christmas shopping season, just ended, set new sales ~~max~~ records in most ~~of~~ big cities - and retail ~~and~~ merchants feel the buying momentum will carry well into the new year. A ^{Nationwide} ~~survey~~ survey shows Christmas sales were up as much as eleven percent over last year - with some stores reporting gains of ~~perhaps~~ fifteen and twenty percent. ~~And in Washington,~~ Commerce Department officials say the barometers of economic ~~health~~ health moved upward again in November, which they say may be ~~perhaps~~ the harbinger of further economic expansion for the months ahead.

As if bouyed by all this, prices on the New
York stock market staged a big rally - finishing the
day with sharp gains ^{and a} fairly ~~heavy~~ heavy turn over.

SENATE

I
A survey shows that the Senate wing of the Capitol Building in Washington is slowly sinking - already down by one fiftyth of an inch in the past forty-five years. On the other hand, say Army engineers, the House wing has remained stationery. A spokesman refused to speculate on why the Senate - now with one hundred members - should sink while the House - with four-hundred-thirty-five members - stays ~~no~~ in place. ~~But~~ One observer ~~did~~ offer ^{at the} a theory ~~could~~ ^{maybe} ~~it be, could be,~~ that [^] Senate speeches carry more ~~the~~ weight than those in the House?

VIETNAM

~~Again today~~ ^{and} with even greater intensity -
American war planes, ^{today} bombed wide areas of North
Vietnam and again they returned to their bases to
reload for another strike tomorrow, the fourth day
of a massive air offensive. Radio Hanoi ^{is} calling
~~the act~~ ^{all this} a "criminal act of war"; ^{also it} ~~claims~~ another
plane was shot down - the sixth since the strike began.
No comment from the U S command. As the bombs
fell across the North, Communist ~~the~~ troops captured
the town of Paksong in Southern Laos - verifying
American claims that an enemy offensive is ~~under way~~
under way. In denouncing the air raids Hanoi warns
it will imprison more American airmen and continue
the imprisonment of those already captured.

In Paris, both sides exchanged protests over
the air war- then cancelled a session of peace talks
scheduled for Thursday. In Washington, the Pentagon
called the current bombing "limited"; ~~To~~ ^{To} be sustained
for only a short time.

VIETNAM 2

At Pennsylvania Avenue,

In front of the White House - a group of Vietnam

veterans, protesting the bombing raids, ~~threw~~ threw

bags filled with blood on the sidewalk - and also

staged a sit-in at the Lincoln Memorial. Park police

arrested ~~some~~ ^{some} seventy-five.

Also, in the Capitol, Democratic hopefuls -

Senators Muskie and McGovern, both urged the President

to halt the bombing immediately. And farther ~~in~~ south

in sunny Miami, New York Mayor John Lindsay - a

Republican until four months ago, ^{as predicted} announced his

candidacy for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

INDIA

An Indian news agency reports that Pakistani forces opened fire on Indian military ~~pos~~ positions along the ~~new~~ truce line some two hundred miles northwest of New Delhi. At least five Indian troops reported killed - thirty wounded. If confirmed, it would be the first cease fire violation since the current truce began ten days ago.

MALTA

The island of Malta in the Mediterranean is apparently the target of a determined Soviet plan to establish a naval base there for the growing Russian fleet. A report from London says the Maltese government has just signed a new commercial accord with Moscow - perhaps the first step to a naval accord. For ~~many~~ years, Malta has been a British naval base and more recently also a base for Nato. But Malta is facing an economic crisis, and Premier Don Mintoff says Britain and Nato must pay more rent or the Russians may move in.

BOAT

An Egyptian tourist boat - with one hundred
forty ~~men~~ ^{today} aboard, caught fire and sank in the Nile,
~~It occurred~~ ^{It occurred}
~~today~~ ^{today} nearly four hundred miles south of Cairo.

One person reported killed some fifty injured. None
of the foreign tourists on board were injured.

ICE WORMS

One day in Alaska some seventy years ago, a newspaperman in Dawson City couldn't find any news nothing it seems, ~~what~~ was happening in Dawson City, and, in those days what happened in the rest of the world hardly mattered. So he did the next best thing - he created ^{his} a news story. "The current cold spell of seventy below weather is so frigid," he wrote, "that ice worms are surfacing on the glaciers."

"And he went on, "the worms are so happy in the invigorating cold air, they're joyful chirping is keeping ~~all of Dawson City~~ ^{including the Dangerous Dan McGrew and} awake". ~~Soon somebody wrote a~~ Also, soon someone wrote a ~~popular~~ song about "when the ice worms nest again."

And Robert W. Service gave us a poem called "The Ballard of the Ice Work Cocktail." Saloon keepers - while serving green horns - would ~~mix~~ mix the drinks with small strips of spaghetti calling them

IP Then one day ice worms. ~~But~~ all the fun came to an end ~~one day~~

The Lady who was known as Lox!

when it turned out there really were ice worms.

Dr. Mal Miller of Michigan State and other
~~almost from the time they were identified, a number of~~

scientists reported actually seeing them on ~~the~~ glaciers

and snow fields, ~~sometimes a mile high~~ ^{The} National

Geographic ^{vouches for this, and tells us} They resemble pieces of thick dark

thread about an inch long. - ^{Their menu? They} ~~and~~ feed on reddish colored

algae often ^{dining} in company with their neighbors - the

snow fleas.

HOT SUIT

Sia Mosk -

We've heard all about hot pants - and now
at Novosibirsk, Siberia, or maybe the deteline,
Russian scientists - doubling as fashion designers -

have come up with the hot suit. It's an electrically
heated light weight suit - just the thing - say the

Russians - for a morning stroll ^{beyond} along the Arctic

circle; ^{Or for that matter on a January day in Moscow,}
The hot suit, deriving power from a dry storage

battery, ^{is designed to} ~~weighing up to six pounds~~ protecting the body

from temperatures as ~~low~~ cold as fifty-six below.

Huh - in Canada and Alaska ^{but} the thermometer
often drops to 70 below - and in Siberia it
even goes down to 90 below.

DISNEY WORLD

~~If this keeps up,~~ ^{Florida} Disney World ^{seems to be} ~~might start~~
~~booming,~~
~~bursting at the seams.~~ For the second straight day-
officials at the ^{new} ~~big~~ tourist attraction ^{near Orlando} ~~in Florida~~ closed
the gates because of overflow crowds and a massive
traffic jam. When the gates were closed at ten this
morning fifty thousand people were inside ^{with they say} ~~and~~ at least
that many ^{more on the} ~~were~~ outside, trying to get in, ^{with} ~~with~~ traffic tied
~~on the~~ (interstate highway) ~~that runs by the entrance.~~
^{up on the} ~~was backed up~~ for a distance of thirty miles, ~~away.~~