

Tues. Mar. 18-75.

TAXES

The largest tax cut in U S history - today became the immediate goal of the Senate with President Ford indicating he would accept a far-larger reduction than he had first proposed. ~~Democratic~~ Democratic leader Mansfield says ^{if necessary} the Senate will stay in session over the weekend - ~~if necessary~~ to pass the bill - which ^{could} ~~might~~ cut taxes by nearly thirty billion dollars. Says Finance Committee chairman Long of Louisiana - "the country needs this tax cut, and needs it soon."

ECONOMY

The interest rate for prime business loans dropped to seven and a ~~one~~ half percent today - the lowest level in nearly two years. Home mortgage rates also dropped to nine-point-eleven percent during February. Still - the demand for both is hardly at a peak - due to ^{and,} the number of business conditions. ~~And,~~ building permits issued in February was the lowest on record.

In Washington, a commerce department study indicates our economy is even more vulnerable to a foreign oil embargo than before - saying that oil imports increased by fourteen percent last year while domestic gas and oil ~~production~~ production declined by five percent. The production decline may be reversed by future off-shore drilling for oil along the Atlantic Coast. - maybe!

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INDO CHINA

Hundreds of thousands of South Vietnamese refugees ^{are} stream^{ing} ~~ed~~ Eastward out of the Central Highlands toward the sea. The massive withdrawal - said to have been approved by President Thieu in negotiations with the Viet Cong who want all residents cleared out of the Highland's. ~~Highland's~~

In Cambodia, Communist forces continued to fire rockets on government positions near ~~Phnom~~ Phnom ^{and} ~~as~~ some foreign embassies ~~in the city~~ began evacuating their ~~down~~ diplomatic staffs.

WELFARE

Some sixty congressmen mostly Republicans are pushing for welfare reform - modelled after the program ^{set up} ~~established~~ in California by former Governor Ronald Reagan. A key feature requires women to work for the State at least eighty hours a month if they can't find private employment. Also, income tax records would be closely checked for possible fraud - and identification cards issued to welfare recipients. California officials say the welfare rolls decreased by eight thousand a month after the Reagan plan went into effect.

STRIP MINING

The House has overwhelmingly approved a bill that would mean ^{strict}~~tough~~ environmental and reclamation controls on the strip mining of coal.

The vote was more than enough to over-ride a possible veto by President Ford who last December vetoed an almost identical bill.

DROWN

Two members of a ~~sin~~ college singing course
- touring the California coast - were drowned today
in the pounding surf near San Francisco. Two busses
-- carrying the seventy ~~member~~ member chorus
of Utah's Webber State College - stopped at the beach.
Many in the singing group had never seen the ocean
before and twenty of them charged exuberantly across
the wet sand to the ocean's edge. But as the surf
rolled in - one student ~~became~~ caught in the under-
tow ~~and~~ was carried out to sea. Another - who plunged
to the
~~tried to~~ rescue was also swept from the shore and
lost.

BREZHNEV

Soviet leader Brezhnev - addressing a Communist party congress in Budapest - told his audience that any Middle East peace settlement must give ~~also~~ the Palestinian Arabs their own state - but, ~~it~~ must also guarantee the existence - independence and security of Israel.

VICTORIA

Soviet authorities relented today and finally told Actress Victoria Feodorova that she could go to Florida to see her aged and ailing father - a retired U S navy admiral who was expelled from the Soviet Union before she was ~~she~~ born. It will be the first time the twenty-nine year old actress has ~~seen~~ seen her father Jackson Rogers Tate of Orange Park Florida. ^{He had} ~~who~~ married a Russian girl while stationed at the U S Embassy ^(in Moscow) more than thirty years ago.

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