

Their main troubles behind them - their big challenge just ahead - the men of Apollo-Fifteen continued to rocket through space today; closing in on the moon - calmly and accurately, with their planned lunar landing - now less than two days hence. And Al Worden - as he looked out his window - observing simply: "The moon's getting bigger."

Along the way - the three astronauts also donning blindfolds; the better to observe mysterious cosmic flashes - occurring within their eyes; a phenomenon - apparently common to space travel. Dave Scott later explaining: It's like "sitting high in the stands at the Ice Capades - with the arena darkened and some single figure on the ice, like Peggy Fleming, doing a nice thing; and you look across at the other side - and somebody shoots off a flashbulb." Not exactly painful, it seems - just irritating.

CAPITOL HILL

On Capitol Hill - a second attempt today to end debate - on that bill intended to bail out financially-troubled Lockheed Aircraft; same as before, failing to attain the necessary two-thirds majority - but picking up a surprising seventeen votes over the previous effort. The bill's supporters promptly announcing - they'll try again come Friday.

AGNEW

For Vice President Spiro Agnew - a triumphant return today following his month-long, around-the-world tour. The Vice President heading straight for the White House - where he was warmly greeted by President Nixon: The President telling him: "Welcome back, you did a fine job." Whereupon the Vice President observed: "I had a good trip."

CASPER MOUNTAIN

In the search for nine-year-old mentally-retarded Kevin Dye - at Casper Mountain, Wyoming - success at last, as no doubt you've heard by now. The youngster found by a lone searcher - after eluding his pursuers for eleven days. The boy's doctor later saying: "They got him in the nick of time - another day would have been too late."

Best of all - Kevin's mental state; which was said to be "beautiful" - everything considered. The youngster even conceding - it was great fun, up to a point. But when asked if he "wanted to see his Mommy and Daddy" - his response, we are told, a "magnificent" yes. The doctor adding, what's more - "he acted as though that was the dumbest question he had ever heard."

VIETNAM

In Vietnam - U.S. helicopters were ordered evacuated today - from two big bases guarding the Cambodian border north of Saigon. This because of lax security - on the part of South Vietnamese troops assigned to guard the two bases; as evidenced by two recent Communist commando attacks - blowing up six helicopters and wounding six Americans.

Nevertheless, South Vietnamese forces launching another offensive today - in the Parrot's Beak section of Cambodia; a drive aimed at breaking the enemy's key infiltration route - into the Mekong Delta. At the same time, the U.S. Command announcing a pullback - of four big engineer units and a signal company; the biggest single U.S. withdrawal - in more than a month.

HONG KONG

From Peking by way of Hong Kong - a report today that Red China's Premier Chou En-Lai - has already laid out a tentative itinerary for his forthcoming talks with President Nixon. And his top priority - we are told - a settlement of the Indochina War.

This according to fifteen American members of the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars - just back from a month-long visit to China. The returnees adding that Chou had also told them - Peking would never recognize Nationalist China; and further would not join the United Nations - if Nationalist China is allowed to keep its seat.

In addition, Chou telling the scholars - there are "two other issues that are worth your attention" - Korea and Japan. The former - said he - because "the state of war there has not yet ended;" and the latter - said he - because of Japan's increasing "appetite and ambitions."

PARIS

In the world of fashion - a star is born. Designer Emanuel Ungaro - a former assistant to the famed Courreges - presenting today in Paris his fall and winter collection; aimed specifically - at the young and daring.

This including a complete line of minis - and micro-minis; in marked contrast to the longer hemlines - shown by most others. However, Ungaro scoring his greatest success - in apres-ski wear. Here showing a "shorts suit" - said to fit like a skin-tight bathing suit; worn with boots and tights, of course - to ward off the cold.

Another big hit: Ungaro's lone concession to the maxi-look - a maxi-coat made of great clumps of sheep's fur; all but concealing his models from head to toe - accordingly, titled "the Abominable Snowman."

Overseas again - Britain's Prince Charles today became the first member of the British Royal Family - ever to make a parachute jump. The twenty-two-year-old heir to the British throne - plunging from a plane some twelve hundred feet over the English Channel. This - in the final phase of his Royal Air Force cadet training. With a boatload of Royal Marines - quickly pulling him from the water. A Defense Ministry later adding that - "everything went according to plan" - you better believe it.

CHICAGO

Starting tonight at Chicago - a meeting of the ~~World~~
Woman's Christian Temperance Union; whose members are
expected to call for new liquor controls - as part of the
government's new crackdown on drug abuse.

Mrs. Herman Stanley - the W. C. T. U.'s world
treasurer - explaining: "Certainly, the campaign against
narcotic drugs is a good one - but liquor is also a narcotic
and should be included; especially since it far exceeds the
damage - being created at this time by other narcotics."

Mrs. Stanley adding, in short, that a drug crackdown
ignoring alcohol - is a bit "like watching the mouse hole -
while the rats escape with the cheese." That - from the
W. C. T. U.

OTTAWA

*Starting today at the University of Ottawa - up in
Canada - a series of lectures dealing with family life; with
the first to take the podium - Dr. Eleanor Luckey of the
University of Connecticut; who said that love - is ordinarily
a necessary component to a happy marriage; but added that
"being in love - isn't enough for a permanent love
relationship."*

*Dr. Luckey explaining that "mature love - is based
on character development;" including a "wilful giving of one's
self - in commitment to another." And in that sense - said
she - a perfect love is, indeed, "never having to say you're
sorry."*

COMMERCE

Elsewhere in Washington - the Commerce Department ruled today that little children's sleepwear - must be flame-proofed by manufacturers. This - effective as of July Thirty, Nineteen-Seventy-Three.

Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans observing - "these are serious standards;" but "they take into account" - said he - "the utter helplessness of children." Stans adding that Commerce is considering a similar rule - to cover children's dresses and underwear - also, bed-coverings.

SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE "MAINE TOWNS"

Next - Lowell Thomas ; with a look at a new

development - way up in the Pine Tree State. Lowell....

If you're looking for a slice of immortality - this next may be just for you. It's a story telling how to get a town named for you - in the State of Maine; and all it takes - thanks to a new Maine statue - a little cash - a few friends - and about six month's time. This is the way it works; first, you pick out an unorganized township - or else an isolated island; move in and - after six months - register to vote; whereupon you and your friends can then petition the state - to name your new community Dallas Townsendtown, Allan Jacksonville - or some such.

This will mean, among other things - you'll have to hold an annual meeting, decorate any public graves on Memorial Day, elect at least one official surveyor and one or more so-called "fence-viewers." One more thing: - You can levy your own taxes. Like the idea? Then I say Go to Main!

SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAP E "MAINE TOWNS"

**Thank you, Lowell. But before we go to Maine -
or anywhere else - first, this message.**

ever happened at Paris. This because of the health - a
regulatory problem.

The White House adding that Philip Habib - our Nam
Ambassador in Paris - will be filling in for Bruce - at least,
temporarily. But the man who will take over eventually -
we are told - William Parley - our present Ambassador to
South Korea.

WHITE HOUSE

Here at home - the White House confirmed today that David Bruce will retire August One - as chief U.S. peace negotiator at Paris. This because of ill health - a circulatory problem.

The White House adding that Philip Habib - our Number Two man in Paris - will be filling in for Bruce - at least, temporarily. But the man who will take over eventually - we are told - William Porter - our present Ambassador to South Korea.