News Summary and Index

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The Major Events of the Day

International

Secretary of the Treasury William E. Simon praised President Anwar el-Sadat of Egypt yesterday in Cairo as "a man of tremendous vision and courage" for having "broken with the Soviet Union" and liberalized Egypt's economy. Mr. Simon, at a news conference after a three-day visit, also said that the United States would give Egypt $1.85 billion in economic and financial assistance in this and the next fiscal year. The amount had previously been reported from Washington. Mr. Simon' main objective in going to Egypt, it was said, was to advance the Administration's efforts to establish conditions there that would attract American private investors. [Page 1, Column 1.]

Cambodia's people are working under "total mobilization" to create the most radical communized society in the world, according to Kaj Bjork, Sweden's Ambassador to Peking, the first westerner to tour Cambodia since the Communist takeover last April. He described Cambodia as a nation under tight military control led by nationalistic intellectuals whose goals are more radical than those of China's leaders. [1:4-5.]

About 50 officials of the four American oil companies that are partners with Saudi Arabia in the Arabian American Oil Company held a meeting in Florida with Shiek Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Oil Minister, to discuss final arrangements for the complete takeover by Saudi Arabia of Aramco, as the jointly owned company is known. Exxon, Standard Oil of California and Mobil Oil own 40 percent of Aramco, Saudi Arabia owns 60 percent. [1:4-5.]

National

At least 100,000 employees have lost the company pension they counted on in retirement, according to the Federal Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation, which estimates that more than 5,500 company plans have been terminated in the last 18 months. The plans were stopped because some of the companies went out of business, others had to make recession cutbacks, but many canceled pensions because of the costs of complying with the Federal Pension Reform Act of 1974. The law established complex new regulations to eliminate widely reported abuses. [1:6-7.]

The postal system must be reshaped to conform to the new "economic reality" or it will be destroyed, Postmaster General Benjamin F. Bailar said in a speech prepared for delivery today at the Economic Club of Detroit. The chief problem is that business is drying up while operating expenses are increasing, he said. The postal system handled 90 billion pieces of mail in 1974, a record volume, Mr. Bailar said. He estimated that volume over the next five years would decline to 83 or 84 billion pieces and never recover. [1:4.]

Representative Wright Patman, Democrat of Texas, the dean of the House and chairman of its Committee on Banking, Currency and Housing, died of pneumonia at Bethesda Naval Medical Center in Maryland at the age of 82. He hd been a member of the House since 1929. His term in Congress was the fourth longest in its history. [1:8.]

Metropolitan

The Citizens Budget Commission proposed cutting $400 million in city spending for transit subsidies, the City University and municipal hospitals rather than making across-the-board cuts that might affect police and fire protection, sanitation, health and public schools. The proposed cutback in the budget starting July 1 would be about half the present city tax support for the three functions, now estimated by the civic group as $800 million a year. [1:8.]

A coalition of open-housing advocates in Bergen County that includes an entire municipality — Englewood — will file a class action civil complaint in Federal court in Newark today, charging most of the county's real-estate brokers with perpetuating a racially segregated suburban housing market. The complainants charge the brokers with violating the 1968 Federal Civil Rights Act and with destroying any change of achieving integration in Bergen County, one of the wealthiest suburban counties in the nation. [1:5.]

The identification of curare in a corpse exhumed in the Doctor X case resulted from an extraordinary collaborative effort by physicians and scientists in New Jersey and New York. They tested specimens from bodies that had been exhumed 10 years after death—one of the longest intervals known to pathologists. The Doctor X case seems likely to become one of the most widely discussed episodes in medical history. [1:5-7.]

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"This suit won't guarantee integration in Bergen County. But if it succeeds, it will at least give every person—black or white—an equal chance."—Kevin Prongay, the legal counsel to the Fair Housing Council of Bergen County, on a suit aimed at ending racial steering by real estate brokers. [16:3.]

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