

News Summary

NYTimes

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1976 DEC 8 1976

International

Kurt Waldheim won approval for a second five-year term as Secretary General of the United Nations on the second ballot in the Security Council, where the action is tantamount to election. The Austrian diplomat defeated the former President of Mexico, Luis Echeverría Álvarez, who had offered himself as a third-world candidate. The voting was secret, but China reportedly vetoed Mr. Waldheim on the first ballot as an expression of sympathy with the third-world countries, which were themselves divided. [Page A1, Column 1.]

Chances for a Mideast peace conference in Geneva seemed to brighten as Arab diplomats in Beirut said that Palestinian leaders were moving toward an Egyptian plan for inclusion in a joint Arab delegation, rather than insisting on a separate delegation for the Palestine Liberation Organization. That position has been opposed by both Israel and the United States. [A1:4.]

National

The Supreme Court ruled 6 to 3 that private employers with workmen's compensation programs for employees unable to work because of physical disabilities may refuse to compensate women for absences caused by pregnancy. The dissenters noted that the court disagreed with all six decisions considering the issue in United States courts of appeals. The ruling does not bar future legislation on the issue or agreements between employers and unions to include this coverage under compensation agreements. [A1:5-6.]

The trial of Gov. Marvin Mandel of Maryland on charges of political corruption was aborted after 14 weeks because other members of the jury had accidentally learned of attempts to bribe one of them to prevent a conviction.

Federal Judge John H. Pratt declared a mistrial. Governor Mandel said that he had mixed emotions on the outcome, contending that the evidence would have demolished the prosecution's case. The United States Attorney promised a prompt retrial. [A1:2-3.]

President Ford's White House staff is showing the symptoms of withdrawal from the emotional high of running the nation and a cliff-hanging election campaign. Mr. Ford himself seems well along in the process, psychologically as well as physically, though aides said they thought he still suffered from the pain of losing. [A1:1-2.]

The Democratic Caucus in the House of Representatives set a two-term limit for members on the next Ethics Committee. The move pointed to an eventual restructuring of the committee. The caucus rejected efforts to limit the service of all committee chairmen to no more than three terms. [A16:3-4.]

Metropolitan

"Questionable programs" are being operated by Touro College in Manhattan, according to state and Federal authorities who are investigating them. The practice involves the enrollment of hundreds of elderly persons, including some who cannot read or write English, mainly to get state and Federal tuition grants for the small liberal-arts college, investigators said. [A1:5.]

Gloom pervades the vast bureaucracy of New York City's Human Resources Administration, among those who run the welfare system as well as recipients. Although the superagency has made some economies and appears determined to carry through the drastic reorganization the state is urging, it has been seriously hampered both by the recession and the departure of businesses from the city. [A1:3-4.]

Citing racial discrimination, New York State revoked the licenses of a Manhattan real estate concern, Bernard-Charles Inc., its two principal officers and one employee. The state found that they had practiced racial discrimination against blacks. A lawyer for the concern said the finding went against the weight of the evidence at an Oct. 6 hearing. [A1:6.]

Business/Finance

The fortunes of Sir Hugh Fraser, whose family-held business empire included more than 100 British department stores, including Harrod's, have been shaken by a London stock exchange report criticizing the way he sold his company's stock to pay his personal gambling debts. [D1:1-3.]

President-elect Carter's advisers say he is thinking of asking some corporations to give advance notice of price increases, as a means of combating inflation. This would give the Government a chance to bring pressure for a reversal of increases it considers unjustified. The advisers sought to dispel any notion that his decision against wage and price controls means he would tolerate inflation. [D1:6.]

Investment bankers interested in the \$91.9 million of New York State bonds scheduled for sale tomorrow have formed a single bidding group. They are mindful of Governor Carey's disclosure of a \$1 billion deficit and also of the possible impact of a lawsuit challenging the practice of "back-bonding" as unconstitutional. Their opinions are divided as to the impact of these factors on the sale. [D1:4.]

Three major Manhattan stores have decided to open their stores in the metropolitan area for the next two Sundays for competitive reasons. This step at the height of the Christmas shopping season by B. Altman, Bloomingdale's and Saks Fifth Avenue will add 13 major stores and branches to those already open Sundays. [B1:5-6.]

Stock prices consolidated Monday's gains, with Dow Jones industrials declining 1.08 points to close at 960.69. [D1:1.] Soybean prices fell 6 cents a bushel after steady gains in the previous six sessions. [D14:1-2.]

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Quotations of the Day

"Pregnancy is of course confined to women, but it is in other ways significantly different from the typical covered disease or disability."—Justice William H. Rehnquist, in the Supreme Court's ruling that employers may refuse to compensate women for absences caused by pregnancy. [A13:1.]

"The Supreme Court today legalized sex discrimination."—Susan Rose, an attorney with the Women's Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation. [A1:6.]

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CORRECTION

Identifications of two watches pictured in Tuesday's editions of The Times, one a genuine Cartier and the other an imitation, were inadvertently switched.