News Summary

NYTimes

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1976

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International

Portigal's Socialist Government received a qualified vote of confidence in the local elections on Sunday. The party received 33.11 percent of the total vote, which was less than the 35 percent plurality it had in the legislative election last April. Nevertheless, the vic-tory for the Socialists on Sunday probably averted a Government crisis. [Page 1, Column 1.]

Israel's Defense Minister, Shimon Peres, predicted that there would be "mean-ingful negotiations" in the second half of next year between Israel and its Arab neighbors resulting in agreements short of a comprehensive settlement. He made it clear in an interview that he preferred Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's step-by-step diplomacy to the Geneva conference approach advocated by Arab leaders and officially by Israel. [3:4-6.]

National

The Secretary of the Treasury in the Carter administration will be W. Michael Blumenthal, chairman and chief executive officer of the Bendix Corporation, sources in the Carter camp said. Mr. Blumenthal, 50, headed the international trade negotiations known as the Kennedy Round from 1963-67. It was also said that Charles L. Schultze, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, would be named chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers. [1:6.]

Divorced women can be excluded from a Social Security "wife's insurance benefits" program for mothers caring for young or disabled children, the Supreme Court said in a unanimous decision. The Court reversed a Federal Court in Illinois that said the exclusion of divorced women from those benefits "invidiously discriminates against divorced wives." [1:4-5.]

The stay of execution it had granted in the Gary Mark Gilmore case was lifted by the Supreme Court in a 5-to-4 decision. The Court said that Mr. Gilmore had "made a knowing and intelligent waiver of any and all Federal rights he might have asserted after the Utah trial court's sentence was imposed," rejecting an argument of representatives of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund on behalf of Mr. Gilmore's mother, who brought the appeal. [1:3.]

A lawyer for cousins of Howard Hughes accused Melvin Dummar, the Utah gas station operator who would inherit 1/16 of Mr. Hughes's estate under a purported will submitted for probate, of involvement in what they called its forgery. [20:3-4.]

Metropolitan

Permission for a 13 percent fare in-crease will be asked of the city by New York City's taxi fleet owners to cover higher operating expenses resulting from a new contract with Local 3036 of the Taxi Drivers Union. The settlement, which averted a strike, still has to be ratified by the union's nearly 20,000 members. [1:2.]

"Get rid of those massage parlors," the chairman of Citibank, Walter B. Wriston, told his staff. So, for the last two years Citibank under a variety of coroprate aliases has been buying up buildings on East 53d Street near the \$175 million headquarters it is building on the north side of 53d Street be-tween Lexington and Third Avenues. It has cost the bank well over \$2 million to date to carry out the chairman's orders. [1:4-5.]

A man wanted for a parole violation allegedly shot and killed a parole officer in the lobby of an office builling at 16 East 42d Street in Manhattan.

legedly shot and seriously wounded a woman who had just entered the lobby. The police said he had a record of numerous arrests. [1:3.]

Business/Finance

Oil ministers belonging to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries began gathering in Doha, Qatar, for their crucial price-setting conference tomorrow. OPEC's president, Mohammed Sadli of Indonesia, said on his arrival that a "possible scenario" for the meeting would be the announcement of a small price increase at the conference and a larger one later. [55:6.]

Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger warned negotiators at the Conference on International Economic Cooperation in Paris of the danger in establishing a direct link between any concessions offered developing countries at the conference and price moderation by oil exporting countries at their meeting in Qatar. The warning was contained in a cable sent from Washington and leaked to the Dutch press last week. [55:4-5.]

Home builders have had to pay more for plywood than they should because of an artificially high price system rigged by plywood manufacturers, a Federal Trade Commission judge said in Washington, Administrative Law Judge Morton Needelman said the "phantom" rates were "simply a con-venient private arrangement" and issued a desist order to the Boise Cascade Corporation, the Champion International Corporation, the Georgia Pacific Corporation, the Weyerhaeuser Company and Willamette Industries. [55:2.]

Stock prices advanced for the fourth session in a row as investors, encouraged by a spreading reduction in the prime lending rate, stepped up buying. The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 1.09 points to 974.24. Higher prices on the New York Stock Exchange outnumbered declines by more than 4 to 3. [55:1.] Credit markets declined in reaction to news that the Federal Reserve did not post lower short-term interest rates. [57:1-2.] Cocoa futures dropped quite sharply. The March 1977 contract closed at \$1.37 85/100 a pound, down The officer, Barry Sutherland, 32 years old, was a former schoolteacher. The the limit drop for a session. Coffee parolee, Donald Wiggins, 40, also al-

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Quotation of the Day

"In all industrialized countries, higher rates of inflation have some effects that, at least for a time, make for higher unemployment." — Dr. Milton Friedman, Nobel Prize-winning economist in Stockholm. [55:4.]

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CORRECTIONS

An article in The Times Sunday reported incorrectly that Representative Bella S. Abzug failed to win a single white Assembly district in the city in the September senatorial primary. In fact, Mrs. Abzug did carry several predominantly white districts.

The obituary of Lytle Hull in Sunday's Times incorrectly described her former husband, Vincent Astor, as the son of the founder of the Astor fortune. Mr. Astor, who died in 1959, was the son of John Jacob Astor 4th, the great-grandson of the founder of the fortune.