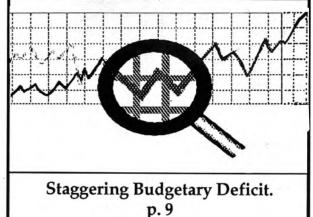


ENGLISH - LANGUAGE ONLY NEWSPAPER

SANA'A; 22 - 28 JULY 1992; VOL II, NUMBER 30

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OURVIEWPOINT



Yasseen Saeed Noman: The Patience & the Skill

To be the speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Yemen is a very hard job. It requires a lot of patience, and it requires a lot of skill. Dr. Yasseen Saeed Noman has shown and proven he has them both.

Yemenis are still learning the art of arguing in a peaceful way; we are still learning the virtue of tolerance, specially when we see people block our way as we try to get something through; and the House of Representatives is still working out its own internal code or by-laws.

Over the last two years, the unruly House members have frequently been at one another's throats; very strong words have many times been used; and in a couple of rare occasions, fists have been shaken.

"It has been hard to guide the House under these circumstances, and Dr. Yasseen Saeed Noman has been an impressive statesman as well as leader," acknowledged one of the members. Members of the opponent groups are quick to accuse him of cutting corners and side-stepping procedures whenever he wants to get something done in the House, like passing a bill. Others complain that he does not give the various members an equal chance to present their cases. Still others accuse him of "working too closely with the Presidential Council".

Yet, the majority would agree on his evenhandedness and objectivity. According to a Yemen Times survey, over 80% of the members agree that he has done a fine job.

The cost to his health has been enormous. You can see him frequently gulping a pill - his heart needs it due to the many complications.

On this occasion, I would like to salute this man, and say to him, "Keep up the good work."

The Publisher

National Conference in August

The Preparatory Committee for the tions, especially if the polling station is National Conference has decided, in its meeting on Thursday, July 16th, to hold the National Conference during the first half of August, most probably starting on either August 4th or 10th.

In a statement to national TV - Channel 1, Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Official Spokesman for the National Conference, said that the agenda of the conference has been fully agreed upon in a final way. He indicated that during the 3-day National Conference, two main issues will be discussed as follows:

a- The Political Conduct Charter:

This document seeks to establish norms of political behavior in inter-party relations, in relations between the rulers and the governed, and in the use of public funds by those in power.

All the political parties, unions, societies and associations will be asked to sign this document which will be binding on any party that is voted into office.

b- The Elections Procedures:

This document seeks to outline the do's and don't's of organizing and executing the elections. The three objectives that the paper seeks to achieve are:

i - Comprehensive Elections:

This means that all Yemenis who have the right to participate must have that right respected. Certain groups may not be able to exercise their rights. For example, due to "security concerns" certain parts of the country may be unable to participate. Also another example, the returnees and the children of former immigrants have a hard time obtaining Identity Cards, a lack ofwhich automatically bars them from exercising their rights. By asking voters to come to the polling stations several times (once to register, another time to obtain the voting card, a third time to cast the ballot), women, especially in the countrside may be effectively excluded from the elec-

a in a far-away

village.

ii-Transparency: The election efforts must be transparent so that everybody can see what is going on inside. To add to this point, international observers may be invited.

iii - Fairness: Elections must be honest and fair.

Rigging is a real possibility in certain constituencies. For this purpose, Yemeni watch committees made-up of volunteers is a useful tool. He also said that the 296 participants have been named and that invitations will be sent out later in July. These are made of politicians represent the various political parties (about half the number), and representatives of the unions and societies, as well as public personalities and figures. Dr. Al-Saqqaf also indicated that a postponed press conference will be held at 10:00 on Thursday, July 30th.

Attendance is by invitation only.

Participating in the National Conference are all the political parties in the country, including the two ruling parties, several federations and unions, associations and societies and many prominent persons.



YEMEN



YEMEN'S ONLY ENGLISH-LANGUAGE WEEKLY

An Independent Economic & Political Weekly Published by: The Yemen Times

> **Publisher and Chief Editor** Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

> > Address:

Telephone: 967-1-236435, Fax: 967-1-236-434 P. O. Box No. 2579, or 8399, Sanaa, Republic of Yemen

PERSONAL VIEW

People Need their IDs



Fatma S. Rawah, Social Editor, Yemen Times

All Yemenis are excited about the coming elections and the fact that they will participate in choosing their representatives in parliament. All Yemenis; that is, except the children of immigrants. These cannot exercise their constitutional rights in the elections process.

Why? Because they have no identity cards, the infamous bitaga.

The authorities responsible for issuing these IDs are terribly corrupt, on the one hand, and very racist, on the other. Most of the children of immigrants have a dark complexion, mostly because the mothers are from Africa.

I call on the government not to deprive these people of their constitutional rights by using various technicalities and procedures. I don't understand why somebody high up there cannot summon the revelant authorities and tell them, "Issue the cards today!"

Most muwalladeen, as they call the children of immigrants, are extorted when they apply for their identity cards. The female applicants pay even a higher price!

By law, a person of Yemeni ancestory has the right to obtain his ID. The way to prove ancestory is simple, and need be complicated so as to give the bureaucrats in the civil registry the chance to abuse their authority and blackmail the people.

Will the elections be complete without the participation of the two million or so immigrants and their children? I doubt it.

The validity and legitimacy of the whole operation may be colored if the system does not correct this problem immediately.

LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL

Japanese Aid to Yemen

Notes concerning the first half of the 1992 Debt Relief Grant Aid were signed and exchanged between Yemen and Japan on 15th July.

In accordance with the said Exchange of Notes, the Government of Japan extended to the Government of Yemen a debt relief grant of 470 million yen (US\$3.76 million). Last year, Japan's debt relief grants amounted to 1,393 million yen (US\$11.14 million). Since 1979, the total Japanese debt relief to Yemen amounts to 4,284 million yen (US\$34.27 million).

On the same day, the Ambassador of Japan in Sanaa, H.E. Mr. Kazuo Wanibuchi, and Planning Vice Minister, Dr. Mutahhar Al-Saeedi, signed and exchanged notes, according to which the Government of Japan will provide a grant of 531 million yen (US\$4.25 million) for the execution of

the Taiz water supply project.

A day earlier, on July 14th, Mr. Masashi Ikeno, Japanese Minister-Counsellor at Japan's Consular Office in Aden, signed a small-scale grant contract with Mohammed A. Ba-Musallam, Deputy Minister of Insurance and Affairs. According to the contract, Japan will provide US\$43,099 which will finance the purchase of a microbus specially-designed and equipped to cater to the needs of handicapped persons, especially those using wheel-chairs. The microbus will be used to transport the handicapped persons to and from their center of training.

Japan is one of Yemen's leading aidpartners, and it is one of the countries which did not politicize its aid program to Yemen as a result of the Gulf Crisis.

The Vice President Talks to Experts on the Economy

Mr. Ali Salim Al-Beedh, Vice Chairman of the Presidential Council, invited key businessmen to lengthy talks regarding the economic conditions and what could be done. In the long meeting, Vice President Al-Beedh exchanged viewpoints with the leaders of the business community.

Two weeks earlier, the Vice President had held talks with the Executive Office of the Yemen Economic Society on the same subject. In both meetings, attended by the Yemen Times, the Vice President stressed that political change and evolution cannot be sustainable unless coupled with economic reform and progress.

Ittihad Al-Qiwa Asha'abiyyah Issues a Disclaimer

The Ittihad Al-Qiwa Asha'abiyyah issued a disclaimer in which it refuted the reports recently released by certain circles in which the name of Mr. Ibrahim Bin Ali Al-Wazir was mentioned as one of several. Yemenis who formed an opposition group in exile. The disclaimer states that the Ittihad Al-Qiwa Asha'abiyyah has indicated time and again, through its own literature as well as through statements to the press, its belief that if there is any political opposition, it should be within Yemen and not in faraway lands. "The democratic environment existing in Yemen today allows any group to be politically active in the country, if it so wishes," reads the statement released by the Ittihad.

Parliament Approves Amendment to Elections Committee Law

The House of Representatives is about to pass a law approving an amendment to the elections law. According to the amendment, the number of members of the Committee will be increased to 17 persons. Six of these will be named by the ruling political parties (PGC and YSP, three each), eight will be named by the opposition political parties, and the final three will be independents and those representing unions and associations.

According to the arrangements being finalized, the Committee will be dissolved immediately after the elections, so that a new committee can be formed strictly on the basis of the original law.

US Assistantt Secretary of State in Yemen

Dr. Sara E. Moten, Assistant Secretary of State for Refugee Affairs, has arrived in Yemen to observe the Somali refugee situation, and to discuss the potential US contribution in alleviating the sufferings of the refugees.

The American official has met with various Yemeni officials including the Foreign and Health Ministers; and the UNHCR Representative.

Dr. Moten expressed sympathy for the refugees and promised that the US will provide emergency food, medicine, shelter and other relief assistance. As yet, the US has not provided direct aid in this case.

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Taoufik Ouanes

"UNHCR has Somali refugee situation under control."

Yemen has been in the international media recently due to the Somali refugee problem. This issue has strained the limited resources of the government because the world community was slow in re-acting.

However, many countries have started to chip in, thanks in part, to the efforts of the UNHCR office in Sanaa.

Mr. Taoufik Ouanes, from Tunisia, is the Representative of the UNHCR in Yemen. He has been the key person in alerting the world community to the Somali refugee issue.

Ameen Nouisser, the Economic Editor of the Yemen Times, interviewed Mr. Ouanes.

Excerpts of the interview:

Q: What is the exact role of of the UNHCR Office in Sanaa.

A: Until a few months ago, the UNHCR Office in Sanaa was very small. But the Yemeni government, observing the events unfolding in the Horn of Africa, asked the UNHCR to start a full-fledged office which I am honored to head.

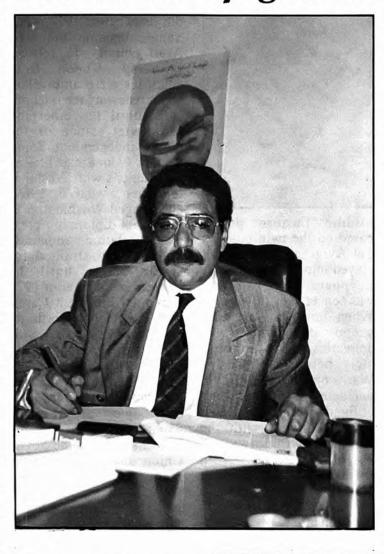
Our role is to minimize the suffering of people caught in civil wars, and to help refugees who flee sites of violence and conflict. We alert the world community to help in providing basic living needs such as food, water, temporary shelter, medicine, etc.

Over the last few weeks, especially following the Gobwein vessel disaster, we have been very busy. We now have a very active branch office in Aden.

Q: How is your cooperation with the Yemeni authorities?

A: We have an excellent working relationship with the Yemeni authorities based on the agreement we have signed for the purpose of receiving these refugees. The terms of the agreement are very generous on the Yemeni part. We especially have a good relationship with the ministries of Health and Interior, as well as the governorates of Aden and Abyan. We at UNHCR are very satisfied with the level and quality of our cooperation.

At another level, we also have an excellent working relationship with international charity and volunteer



organisations such as the Medecins Sans Frontieres, the Yemeni Red Crescent, and several local charity organisations. But I have to hasten and warn here that such relief efforts have to be coordinated through the UNHCR office, and they should be free of political and any other goals and These are objectives. humanitarian efforts, and they should remain as such.

Q: How much international assistance has been received, this far?

A: International response continues to grow. We have received assistance and pledges from France, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, among others. Japan and the USA are in the process of helping.

Assistance has been mainly in kind, in the form of tents, medicine, blankets, food, etc. Some financial assistance has also been received to cover other expenses.

Q: We hear of many problems with the local population in Aden. What is your assessment?

A: I think some of these small complications are unavoidable. In Yemen, these are actually minimal. To the contrary, the people of Aden have brought food and other nourishment as well as clothings to the refugees in the early days of their arrival, long before organized assistance was possible.

Q: What are your plans for the immediate future? A: We plan to set up a new camp in Abyan governorate to reduce the pressure on the Madinat Shaab Camp which houses over 7500 persons today. Some of the refugees continue to leak out into the society, but the

the camps. The new Abyan camp will harbor several thousand refugees, and it will be set up in a more structured manner.

majority have remained in

We are very worried about the possibilities of breakout of disease among the refugees. This would be catastrophic, and we hope to contain any signs of it as soon as it comes to our attention.

That makes issues like hygiene and sanitation, as well as vaccinations and medical check-ups a vital part of our immediate efforts in the camps.

At another level, we continue to raise this problem with the world community so as to raise the necessary resources to meet the needs of the refugees.

At the local level, we have embarked on a major fundraising campaign, and we have a good response from the Yemeni businesses, from the oil companies, and from others. We have just launched a fundraising dinner to be held at the Sheraton on Wednesday, July 22nd, 1992.

Q: How do you evaluate the over-all situation?

A: I think due to sincere and positive cooperation from all sides, the situation today is under control. But one cannot tell what the future holds, especially if new waves of refugees start flowing in. I am hopeful, but we will continue with our relentless and vigorous efforts.



YAR-US Relations 1962-1990: A Case Study of a Superpower-Small State Relationship Ahmed Noman Kassim Al-Madhagi's Unpublished Ph.D. Thesis to the LSE, 1992.

Dr. Ahmed Noman Al-Madhagi has used every conceivable method and resource to piece together the history of the confused and obscure relationship between the US and the former Yemen Arab Republic. The introduction lists the sources to which he did not have access and those which could not be quoted - at such length that one is inclined to wonder just why he commenced with such a daunting task. His perseverance was, however, rewarded as the end product is a book giving a blow-by-blow account from the very start, with extensive quotes from unpublished or relatively inaccessible sources, and copious footnotes scrupulously citing the source of vitually every statement.

After a background account of the non-relationship with the Imams, Dr. Noman introduces the world of the September Revolution, admirably illustrated with a quote from the American charge in Taiz who paid for his telegrams to Washington with enormous sacks of Maria Theresa Thalers. The content of his telegrams was gleaned from discussions - in crowded rooms with President Sallal, who was so carefully protected by the Egyptians that Sallal felt obliged to tell his that the "translator" American charge spoke better Arabic! At this point the US had still not recognized Sana'a, and the Egyptian tried to persuade the new government to close the Consulate in Taiz, arguing that such a relationship was unprecedented. The Yemenis ably responded that they were making a contribution to international diplomatic law. During this early period, it is clear that those on the ground in Sana'a (both American and Yemeni) were keen on talking, those guiding policy (in Washington and Cairo) less so.

Following the controversial and belated recognition of the Republic, the Kennedy Administration developed a sophisticated policy, striving to improve relations with Nasser, aiming to reduce his dependence on the Soviet Union.

American policy under the Truman and Eisenhower administrations had been quite manichaean, virtually driving Nasser into the Soviet sphere. This policy

reflected an underlying reliance on British advice in the Middle East, coupled with an reflected anti-Communist reflex. When Kennedy recognised the Republican regime, while the British supported the royalists (out of fear for the consequences in South Arabia should Egypt establish a foothold in Sana'a), American policy - as opposed to mere responses as, e. g., in the case of the Suez affair - began to divert from the British.

Saudi Arabia was necessarily disturbed by support for Republican Sana'a, and the Kingdom being the cornerstone of US-Arab foreign policy, this led to frictions with both Riyadh and Sana'a. The Egyptians took advantage of the situation, quite ineptly attempting to create divisions between Sana'a and Washington.

The Yemenis were aware of the danger and conscious that it was not in their interests, but felt helpless, given their dependence on Egypt. When the Johnson Administration followed a



Middle Eastern policy based on the twin poles of Tel Aviv and Riyadh, this played into the hands of the Egyptians as far as Sana'a was concerned.

When, however, American support for Israel (e.g., deliveries of arms immediately before the Six-day War) contributed to Egyptian defeat, Egypt itself was obliged to turn to Saudi Arabia for aid, with the resulting withdrawal of Egyptian troops from Yemen in 1967. But, the war also resulted in Sana'a severing its relations with Washington.

Both Sana'a and Washington toyed with the idea of re-establishing relations in

the years before 1972, when Sana'a became the first Arab country to let the Embassy re-open. Both countries were ambivalent about renewing the relationship, until the emerging pro-Soviet stance of the newly independent South Yemen (which had broken off relations with Washington after a year in 1969) encouraged Washington to revive its diplomatic presence. Relations remained minimal and strained for several years, until the Yemeni border war of 1979 presented President Carter with a golden opportunity to demonstrate his anticommunist credentials by guaranteeing North Yemeni security with armaments and show of support. This once again aroused the Saudi government, causing Sana'a to turn to the Soviet Union for weapons, in the realization that US support would always remain mitigated by a US reluctance to disturb Saudi Arabia.

US policy had always been guided by the oil wealth of Saudi Arabia, and it is very

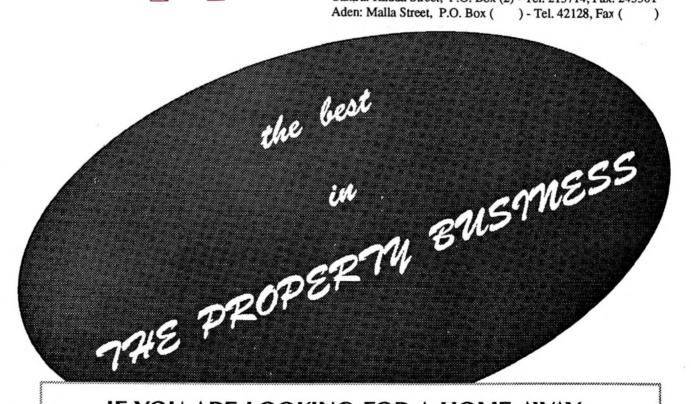
probable that relations with Sana'a would have deteriorated once again, if oil had not been found in North Yemen. The discovery of oil perversely led to an increase in the amount of US development aid, and eventually to a visit by Vice President George Bush in 1986, as the US government began to take Sana'a more seriously. Friendly

relations continued to develop, and the demise of the YAR as a state was preceded by a State visit to Washington by President Ali Abdullah Salah.

Dr. Noman has traced the history of the tangled relationship between these two countries, constantly taking into account the forces acting from without, in a fashion for which this reviewer has the greatest admiration, but finds it impossible to do justice to, in the scope of a short review.

By: David Warburton, Resident Director AIYS, Sanaa.





IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

THE PROPERTY CENTRE TEAM WILL LISTEN TO YOUR NEEDS, WANTS AND DESIRES AND WILL DO THEIR BEST TO SATISFY THEM.

Text of Investment Law #22 of 1991, Part II

Article (27):

a. In order to benefit from the increased exemption provided for in paragraph (a) of the preceding article, the Republic shall be divided into two investment zones (a) and (b) according to standards specified by the Council of Ministers for each. Zone boundaries will be delineated by decree of the Council of Ministers. The Council may amend such boundaries every five years according to the development exigencies and requirements therein.

b. Upon a proposal by the Board of Directors, the Council of Ministers may except one or more sectors in any investment zone, or any part thereof, and accord such sector, or part thereof, the exemptions granted in the other

zone or any sector therein.

Article (28):

a. Without prejudice to other provisions in this Law and paragraphs (b) and (c) of this article, the same guarantees, rights, exemptions and obligations in effect enjoyed by an original project and accorded pursuant to the provisions of this law, shall apply to projects for expansion and upgrading purposes.

b. In order to exempt furniture, furnishings and requirements of hotels and hospitals imported for replacement and modernization, purposes, projects shall be required to have benefitted from the provisions of this Law for no less than

seven years.

c. At the conclusion of the period of tax exemption provided for in article 25 (1) and 26, project profits may be exempted from 25% of taxation in the case of expansion, for a period of 4 years starting from the date of expansion commencing production or activity. The granting of such exemption shall be conditional on 100% actual utilization of production capacity and that fixed assets in the expansion project constitute no less than 25% of the value of the original project's fixed assets.

Article (29):

For projects to benefit from the tax exemptions provided fro in Articles 25 (1) and 26, the

following conditions are required:

1. Exluding construction projects or any other economic activities, the value of fixed assets shall be no less than YR. 2 million, or the equivalent thereof in freely convertible foreign exchange. In calculating that value, funds invested in land and buildings shall not be included. The authority shall be the body concerned to determine such value.

2. The number of housing units in housing projects shall be no less than 100 units (built) to the specifications of, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, and shall be reserved for

home ownership or rental to third parties. 3. With the exception of the cases exempted under the provisions of article 45 (b) a project shall have been approved by the relevant agency concerned as being consistant with the economic and social development plan for the sector that agency overseas.

4. Tourist establishments shall be rated at no lower than two stars according to Ministry of

Tourism ratings.

5. The Board of Directors shall determine the conditions that need to be met by projects listed as "other economic activity" in article 1 (h) according to the exigencies of each case.

Chapter III - Promotional of Local **Production and Increasing Exports.**

Article (30):

With a view to protecting local production and upon a recommendation of the president of the authority, a resolution of the customs tariff

committee may impose or increase customs duty on the import of made-up goods and imported production inputs competing with local production, or may prohibit or restrict their import, subject to the following being taken into consideration:

1. Sufficient local production in terms of quantity, quality and the consumer's interest.

- 2. Protection shall not entail the creatio of any form of monoply or control of the protected commodities.
- 3. The protection period for any commodity shall exceed five years.

Article (31):

a. With the exclusion of service fees, the minimum level of fees and duty charged on imported end production commodities which are comparable to locally-produced commodities shall be no less than the total fees and duty charged on production inputs and on local production during its

b. In the case that there shall be any increase over the proportion referred to in the preceding paragraph, the relevant project shall be granted a reduction in the total fees and duty referred to equal to the increase by means of a Discount Voucher issued by the Authority to the project in accordance with terms and procedures to be indicated in the executive regulations. The Discount Voucher shall indicate the reduction granted and production inputs benefiting therefrom.

c. It shall suffice to present the Discount Voucher given to the project to obtain the reduction at the customs point or agency concerned as the case may be without need for any further approval or

procedure.

d. When the increase dimishes or is eliminated as a result of amendments to the tariff schedule or any other factor, the reduction granted to the project will be reduced by the same rate as the diminishing difference, or shall end when the doffernce ends, as the case may be, automatically without need for any decree to that effect.

Article (32):

Any existing project that exports all or part of its production shall be entitled to the following: 1. Exemption from all fees or taxes of any kind levied on exports.

2. Exemption from production excise for that is

exported.

3. Exemption of 50% of tax payable on profits earned form export revenues after termination of the exemption period accorded the project, subject to such profit being transferred in foreign exchange to the Republic through an authorized bank.

- 4. Recovery of all customs fees and duties of whatever kind paid on imported inputs included in that portion of production exported. Should it not be possible to make the recovery in cash, the Authority shall issue to the project a Rebate Voucher to the extent of the amount due to it, which the project has the right to use to settle customs fees and duty payable on future imports. Use of the Rebate Voucher in such case shall be deemed to be a cash payment. The executive regulations shall specify the procedures, timing and rules to be observed to recover customs fees and duty receivable, the issuing of Rebate Vouchers and their use pursuant to the provisions of this article.
- 5. Export on its own or through an intermediary without licence or need for registration in the Exporters Registry.

Section IV: GENERAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

Article (33):

a. There shall be established a General Investment Authority as a juridical entity with an autonomous financial status responsible to the Prime Minister.

b. The Authority's head office shall be in Sana'a and it shall have branches in locations within the Republic designated by the Prime Minister, exercising the Authority's functions in the manner to be specified in the decrees establishing them in the light of controls and principles to be set forth in the executive regulations. The Authority may also have offices outside the Republic created by decree of the Chairman of the Board of Directors upon a recommendation by the President of the Authority and with the approval of the Board of Directors.

c. The Authority shall have an Executive Administration composed of technicians and administrators appointed in accordance with the organizational structure decided by the Board of Directors and created by decree of the Prime

d. Appointment of the President and General Manager of the Authority shall be by Republican Decree.

e. Offices shall be set up in the Authority representing the Ministries of Industry, Supply and Trade, Planning and Development, Housing and Urban Planning, Finance, Labor and Vocational Training, the Passports Department, Customs Administration, Taxation Administration and other specialized agencies that the Council of Ministers shall have offices representing them in the Authority. These offices shall have direct authority to issue all permits and approvals required of such agencies for the purpose of establishing or operating projects by virtue of the provisions of this Law. The offices shall be administratively responsible to the Authority and subject to its direct orientation and oversight as may be specified in connection by the Authority's bylaws.

Article (34):

a. The Authority shall execute the provisions of this Law and to this end may:

1. Receive and appraise applications made by investors or projects and take whatever action is necessary to decide thereon in accordance with the rules, procedures and conditions specified by virtue of the provisions of this Law.

2. Issue permits, approvals and certificates related to carying out, expanding, upgrading or operating projects, exemptions and benefits accorded

to them pursuant to the provisions of this law. 3. Grant projects import permits for fixed assets, transportation vehicles, raw and intermediate materials, building materials, fixtures, furniture, spare parts and whatever may be required to carry out, expand, upgrade and operate projects.

4. Obtain, on behalf of project sponsors, all approvals needed to carry out and operate their

projects.

- 5. Assist projects in dealing with agencies concerned to overcome any impediments or obstacles facing project implementation and
- 6. Allot land needed to establish projects and sign the relevant contracts on behalf of the agencies are obliged to furnish the Authority with all maps and information concerning land available for such purposes, including rules and conditions of contracting thereof.

7. Study the laws, regulations and decrees relating to investment in the Republic, as well as regional and international agreements dealing with investment matters and make appropriate propo-

sals in that regard.

8. Make necessary appraisals of implemented projects to determine their actual performance and benefit to the national economy, in coordination with the competent agencies concerned, and make appropriate proposals to remedy any impediments or obstacles encountered.

Continues next week.

Note from the Editor:

With this issue, the Yemen Times introduces yet another new service to its readers. On a weekly basis, we shall provide a summary review of the most interesting items reported in the Arabic press. Bashar Ghazi Askar is charged with this task.

Beggars in our Cities

"Begging has become a profession for individuals who are incapable of making their living," said Dr. Salim Banaja, a Sanaa University professor. "I think that the gap between the rich and the poor in this country is getting wider as the rich get richer and the poor get poorer." The solution lies in the hands of the rich to have understanding and think of future plans for them.

Doctor Mohammad Al-Zu'bi, Sociology Professor also at Sanaa University, points out that begging is a socio-economic phenomenon prevalent in many Third World countries.

"A beggar is a citizen and presumably he/she should be part of the process of production. That would ensure the necessary means of living for him/herself and family," he said.

Studies point to the interaction among economic, psychological and social factors in creating the phenomenon of begging in our cities.

The poor are ashamed of begging in their tribe or village, so they head off to cities where not many people know them. Psychologically and socially they find themselves "more able to beg where they are strangers". Still, the main reason for begging is their economic conditions.

Thus, the solution/remedy lies in creating the means for these people to earn their living. This means opening centers of training for the handicapped; taking care of the old and disabled; and ensuring jobs for the unemployed. If those conditions are met, then the final step would be the forceful prevention of begging by the authorities.

AL-AYYAM. Aden

8/7/1992

Yemen-Saudi Border **Negotiations**

Diplomatic sources state a Yemeni-Saudi conference will be held in Geneva next week to discuss the border issue between our country and Saudi-Arabia.

On the other hand these sources expect Dr. Al-Dali to represent the Yemeni delegation while Dr. AlKhwaiter to represent the Saudi Arabia team.

Furthermore, the Geneva meeting will be an initial one to be followed by other meetings at the experts levels. Officials in Sana'a welcomed the Saudi statement issued last May to start direct negotiations to settle the border problems peacefully which will create a positive environment between Sana'a and Riyadh and will put an end to the complications that followed the Gulf crisis.

Prime Minister Haider Al-Attas, who is now in Geneva, confirmed that arrangements for the meeting between officials representing Yemen and Saudi-Arabia to discuss the problems have been completed In a statement to BBC, the Prime Minister, said that relations between the two countries were affected by the Gulf War. He assured Yemen's readiness to open the border file with the aim of finding a fair solution

With regard to the exploration for oil in the border area, the Prime Minister said that oil is found in the the Arabian Peninsula. Yemen and Saudi-Arabia, each have the right to explore in their respective countries, and should fix these borders legally. Both countries will then vigorously pursue oil explorations without complications.

RAAY, Sana'a, 14/7/1992.

The Judges Are on Strike!

The judges of Yemen have been on strike for the last three days beginning on Saturday. Many of them flocked into the Ministry of Justice and occupied the Conference Hall.

According sources participating in the strike, there will be a comprehensive strike from next Saturday until the fulfillment of all the demands, including the granting of allowances together with the other remunerations mentioned in the strike statement.

The statement made clear that the strike came after a deadline ultimatum failed to bring any action. It also pointed that the judges and their assistants had written many petitions to the

Chairman of the Presidential Council, General Ali Abdullah Saleh, asking for his intervention to achieve a quick and comprehensive settlement. The judicial authority demanded objective and fair measures, especially in bringing about equality with what is granted to other sectors, notably diplomats, army and security personnel.

Hence, the strike will go on until all the demands are fulfilled.

As-Sahwa, Sanaa, 16/7/1992

Law on Education

A survey carried out with a number of Sanaa University professors and specialized staff in the field of education by 'Al-Wahda' newspaper confirmed that the educational philosophy in Yemen is unclear and not based on scientific methods. The interviewees confimed that the solution will not come through issuing a new law on education. If a law is to be issued, in any case, it should depend on Islamic philosophy which reflects the principles and ideals of our society rather than any principles which do not tally in our society.

Dr. Ahmad Shamsan from Sana'a University says that since there is no clear law for education and the law put forth for discussion in parliament does not assess the educational situation.

Henceforth, the law, its philosophy and aims will remain unclear.

Professor Ameen Ali Ameen, the head of the Yemeni Teachers Union, says that the law belittles Islamic philosophic underpinnings in education and the individuals who promote it in parliament are not specialized in this field. Dr. Abdo Ali Kubati added that the law of education doesn't reflect the ambitions of our nation and its needs. It only expresses the desires of international organizations.

Dr. Abdul Wahab Ali Misbahi thinks that the law is an embodiment of a political conflict and does not take the real problems into consideration. It won't do the job.

Al- Islah, Sanaa, 13/7/92

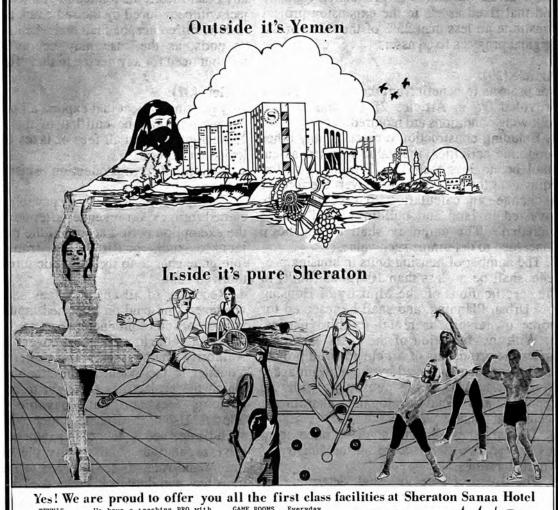
17 July 1978--Historical Day!

The 17th of July 1978, will remain a launching pad in our drive for achievements and progress, integrity and welfare reaching up to the re-unification of the country.

Mr. Ali Abdullah Saleh's election by the Constituent People's Council was the embodiment of our citizens' desire to have a real leader.

During his reign President Saleh led a chain of great achievements and activities within a short period of time. To tell the facts as they are without prejudice or exaggeration, for the benefit of generations to come, he achieved a lot for our people and our country. In brief, he achieved stability, comprehensive development, democracy, credibility and international respect for Yemen. Above all, he achieved the reunification of Yemen which our future generations and history will never forget.

26 September, Sanaa 16/7/1992



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THE NATURAL CHOICE

letters to the editor, letters to the editor, letters to the

THANK YOU YEMEN TIMES

As a regular reader of Yemen Times, I congratulate you on publishing in the French pages several articles depicting the plight of Somali refugees in Yemen.

Emmanuel Giroud is to be appreciated for his objective coverage. He did a great deal of work to bring this problem to the world attention. This reminded me of journalist maximum, that a newspaperman is vowed to two responsibilities; first to search for the truth and second to present it to the readers. YEMEN TIMES lives with these responsibilities diligently.

By: Liban A. Ahmed, Sana'a.

BOARDS DISPLAYED IN AND AROUND OUR CITIES

I would like to draw the kind attention of the municipal authorities of Sana'a city through your esteemed newspaper to the issue of displaying boards.

Let me put my words of appreciation to the authorities for their excellent efforts in beautifying the city and erecting such attractive boards displaying traffic directions and routes, and names of the historical places.

The authorities have exerted utmost efforts in printing such attractive boards in two languages; i.e. Arabic and English. However, they will appreciate that some of the names are misspelled, and the translation from Arabic into English is, sometimes, not exactly correct.

For example, Bab al-Yemen is a renowned name and is used as such in all books, pamphlets and other tourist literature. On the board, Bab al-Yemen has been translated as Yemen Gate which has no meaning, confuses the tourists, and looks tacky to the viewers.

Proper nouns (i.e., names), specially those widely circulated in their original language, should not be translated. A name is a name in whatever language you read it. Yemen TV often translates the names of hospitals and other facilities. For example, 'Mustashfa Al-Thawrah' is referred to as Revolution Hospital, which is confusing.

I doubt very much that the concerned body which is responsible for such boards and maps has consulted experts before printing and erecting boards with misspelled and incorrectly translated names.

If it is not the waste of time and my suggestions are worthwhile, I hope to invite the interest of concerned bodies to corrective action.

By: Abdulla Mohamed Hanash, Yemen Airways, Sana'a.

YOUR EYES: MY WORLD

I play in the sea of your eyes walk as if on the beach sand,
Stopping to collect sea shells.
On top of the gleam of sun-rays,
I sail with seagulls and follow dolphins,
I dream of faraway lands and unseen shores
Then I rest by the lighthouse,
or take refuge in treasure caves.
I live in your eyes.

By: Ismail Ali Al Ghabri, Sanaa

SOMETHING FISHY IS GOING AROUND ON HERE

Many thanks for publishing our letter of complaint in your newspaper of 29 April 1992. I am sure the concerned authorities now know our side of the story. But let me add here that when the vessel of the Korea Overseas Fisheries Co. Ltd. left the country, it was loaded with fish which are the property of the Ministry of Fishing. We don't know if we lost our rights with this load or not. Why doesn't the Minister of Fisheries do something to protect our rights?

On Tuesday, 26 May 1992, we went to the Ministry of Fisheries here in Aden. When we asked them about our rights, they told us that we should go to the Minister of Fisheries. That means we must go to Sana'a. They ignore our basic rights and make fun of our poverty. Having been without salary for a long period of time, how can we afford to travel to Sanaa and incur major expenses? We are hurt, we are in the dark and we do not know what to do. What is going on and to whom can we turn to have our wrongs righted?

We are trying to find ways to finance our transportation to Sana'a to meet with the Minister of Fisheries. We think of him as our savior in this matter.

By: M. A. Abdul Ministry of Fisheries--Aden

PLEASE DON'T MAKE FUN OF US

My ancestory is Yemeni, but I was born and raised in Somalia. The war forced many of us to flee and I decided to come here, back to my roots. The sad thing is that my fellow Yemenis call me and the other refugees unpleasant names and make fun of the whole situation.

Is it our fault that we were born in Somalia? Is it our fault that there is civil war and impoverishment in Somalia?

We have seen death, and a lot of terrible things. We struggled until we arrived here, and now our struggle continues because of the treatment of the people here. Why don't the people understand our problems and treat us as human beings? They say that we "Somalis" have brought sickness to their children, but they forget that they are the ones who sell to us bad water from the rust tanks, which makes us sick.

On the other hand, we really thank the Yemeni government for giving us places like Basatin, Aden and Taiz. But we need more help, for example, providing us with potablewater and electicity. Thanks are also due to the United Nations, and other volunteer organizations for their help.

By: a refugee, Basatin, Sheikh Othman, Aden.

YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS = FREE

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advertisements, but
please make them short.

MEDICAL CRIME

The great wealth of any country is her citizens. If the health of citizens stays in good condition, the country will produce healthy generations in the future. If there are no good doctors available, a nation's health will suffer.

To better the health of future generations of Yemen, medical authorities should be more selective in the kinds of people they hire. Most of the government doctors and nurses, for example, have no diligence. There may be good medical buildings and facilities available, but there are no good doctors. And the nurses treat the patients like dirt. Without hearing of a patient's health history or without even examining the patients, they can be seen prescribing medicine. Many times, they write the prescriptions by simply looking (often one glance) at the patient. Is this the proper process of medical check-ups? Are these the medical ethics based on the solemn oath? Hippocrates must be turning in his grave because of these hippocratic medical doctors.

Most probably, the doctors and the nurses are bored with their professions. This is the crime of the medical profession to the Yemeni citizens. In addition, some private, false and novice doctors are playing with the souls and lives of poor people. They are not sympathetic with their patients' problems. A medical knowledge without intergity is dreadful. Does the ministry of health know of this sad drama?

The Saada Hospital is an exception to my comments.

By: Ali Hassen.

A SEQUENCE ENSUING A WAR

As far as my eyes could carry my view. There was nothing but battlefields piled with mountains of the dead, but grave silence and a stirless breath which was not of life but of death; that low, red sun was submerging, at a slow pace it was plunging deeper in the ocean of the east, casting its last faint rays abreast, bidding farewell and profering a welcome to a night ablaze with bright stars, or better, a night overcast with dull clouds in a world full of torment, trial and torture, where rulers massacre, murder and slaughter, to satiate their hunger of greed and lust, to quench their selfishness and thirst. For everything is left for them to mar, and send innocent people behind the bar. O Mighty Creator chastise these gluttons, so that no memory of them ever remains, and light a flicker of gratification on our gloomy and murky dejection.

By: Aziz. A. Fakir, Taiz

ANSWERS TO THE LEISURE PAGE QUIZ

MAGIC WORD

DISCUSS

JUMBLES

POUND DOUBT JINGLE NESTLE The exercise of your choice—AN OPTION



CROSSWORDS

Introducing the Executive Council of the Yemen-American Friendship Society

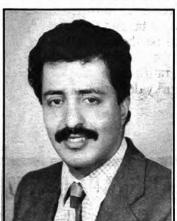
The 11-person Executive Council of the Yemen-American Friendship Society was elected on 4th of July, 1992, the same day on which the Society was established under the supervision of the Ministry of Insurance and Social Affairs, as the law requires.

This body includes a select group of businessmen, intellectuals and university professors. In many ways, the mix has been optimal, as the group has kicked off a good understanding among themselves, thus creating a good working relationship.

The Society is already drawing up ambitious plans for its activities. The office of the Society is located on the second floor of the tall Hayel Saeed Anam building, on Shara Al-Qasr Al-Jumhoori.

To shed more light on the the Council and its orientation, the Yemen Times interviewed all members of the Executive Council. We provide summaries of their statements.

5.Asst Secretary-General: Abdullah Ali As-Sunaidar is a second generation businessman. With a BA in Business Adminstration, he is the General Manager of the As-Sunaidar Group of Companies, and is in charge of their Sanaa operations. The group is involved in agricultural and industrial heavy equipment.



"We see the Society as a means to strengthen cooperation between the USA and Yemen, especially in business," he said.

"This Society was long needed, especially in light of the needs of our country at this juncture of our international relations," As-Sunaidar concluded.

1. The President:

Mr. Abdul-Wasa Hayel Saeed Anam is the President of the Society. Abdul-Wasa, a British-educated (in Commerce) businessman, is the Managing Director of Middle East Shipping Co. Ltd., and in charge of the Sanaa Office of the Hayel Saeed Anam Group.



"The future of Yemen requires that we have good understanding and cooperation with all countries. This is especially true of the important and influencial countries. And the most infleuncial country today is the USA," he said. "We hope to become a bridge serving to consolidate bilateral cooperation in all fields."

6 Cultural/International Affairs Manager:

Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf holds a Ph.D. from the United States. Today, he is Professor of Finance at Sanaa University's Economics Department. He is also the Secretary-General of the Yemen Economic Society and the Chief Editor of the Yemen Times.



"For a small country so dependent on the rest of the world for its progress and security, Yemen needs to maintain favorable relations, notably with leading countries of the world. I think this is exactly what we are trying to do in the Yemen-American Friendship Society,' he explained.

2. The Vice President:

Mr. Alwan Saeed Shaibani, the Vice President, is a US graduate in International Relations. He had served as the No .2 man in Yemenia for most of the 1970s. Today, he is the chairman of four companies including UNIVERSAL Travel and Trade, and UNIVERSAL Travel and Tourism.



"I feel that the success of our Society will depend on how much effort we put into it. The potential is great, but a lot of hard work is needed," he stated.

I am very optimistic, but we should really take our task seriously because it is very demanding I think if the first two weeks are an indicator, we are on the right course," he concluded.

7. Financial Manager:

Mr. Farooq Mohammed Al-Hirwi comes from one of the well-known business families of Yemen. Their business operations have their roots in the Crown Colony of Aden, then in Taiz, and now in Sanaa. He is mainly into commercial dealings and business representation.



"We have many high goals which we plan to achieve. We are now working to raise the necessary resources to match those goals. I think it will happen, I already see it happening," he said. "Within a short time, the Society will be instrumental in bilateral relations."

3. Vice President:

Ms. Raoofah Hassan Ash-Sharqi, has a Ph.D. in journalism from the USA. She is an old hand in this field. In addition to being a columnist with Athawrah, she is also a regular writer in other newspapers. Finally, she works as an assistant professor at Sanaa University.



"I am looking forward to a very productive engagement between the two peoples," Dr. Raoofah stated.

"My presence in the Executive Council allows us to reach out to the other half of society, which will lead to a strong socio-cultural interaction. I am certain we will succeed in bringing the two countries closer.'

8. The Membership Drive Manager:

Mr. Ahmed Hussain Al-Watary is a US graduate in Business Adminstration, and is a second generation businessman.

He is the Vice General Manager of the Al-Watary Group of Companies which deals in commerce as well as industrial investments.



"In my opinion, bilateral cooperation needs a minimum level of trust and good will to flourish. I see the Society's role as helping in building trust and good will in order for all kinds of bilateral cooperation to flourish," he said.

"I think we will live up to this task," he concluded.

4. The Secretary-General: Jamal Al-Mutarrib, a young US graduate in Business Adminstration, is an embodiment of the new breed of Yemeni businessmen. He is climbing the ladder, one step at a time. Today, he is the Director of Planning and Development of Bestcon, a rising information-based company.



"There is a lot of business potential between the USA and Yemen. I see as part of our Society's job to help achieve that potential," he pointed out.

Often, the right conditions exist, and all that is needed to launch bilateral relations to new levels is the final little push, which we are willing to provide it in the Yemeni-US case," he said.

9, 10, 11. Council Members:

Mahfooz S. Shammakh, Mohammed Abdo Saeed, and Mohammed Nasser Sanabani are members of the Executive Council. All three are key businessmen and industrialists in Yemen.

"Associations and societies have become a necessary vehicle for helping Yemen improve and consolidate relations with the rest of the world," said Shammakh. "It is in this light that our Society must be seen," he added.

"I see as our role to exert efforts to introduce and explain Yemen to the people of the USA. At the same time, we will work to explain the USA to the Yemeni people," said Mohammed Abdo Saeed.

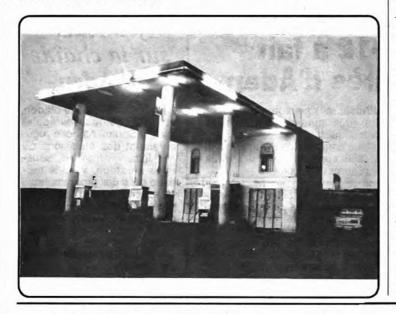
"Thus our goal is to raise awareness and increase understanding between the two sides," he concluded.
"In my opinion, we have a

golden opportunity to help Yemen and America develop a mutually beneficial relationship in all fields," summarized Mohammed Nasser Sanabani.

Photographic Exhibition on Yemen in Hamburg

From one of our regular readers, Kate Hoffmann, the Yemen Times learned of a two-month exhibition which just concluded on 20/7/1992. The exhibition is of a large number of pictures taken by a young professional photographer, Rene Menges, during earlier visits to Yemen.

The pictures are also available for sale at a price ranging from DM.400-900. The beautifully framed pictures are those of spectacular views uniquely Yemeni, as well as pictures of ordinary things of daily use, as that of the petrol station shown below.



Abdul-Wasa Hayel Saeed Anam Named to Harvard University Board Membership

Professor Joseph Califano, Jr., Dean of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, has written to the Hayel Saeed Anam group inviting their participation as Board Member of the Institute, as indicated by the copy of the letter juxtaposed.

The Hayel Saeed Anam group has graciously accepted the offer and named Abdul-Wasa Hayel Saeed Anam to the Board. The acceptance letter also indicated that the Hayel Saeed group will contribute towards the enrollment of more Yemeni students and researchers at Harvard University.

It is worth mentioning that this is the first time a Yemeni is named to the Board of an American university, let alone at Harvard. Harvard University

John F. Kennedy School of Government
Institute for Social and Economic Policy in the Middle East

Propriet Configure, 15

Long Pol. Collines, 15

Long Pol

Staggering Government Budget Deficit in 1992

Yemen Times was able to estimate the tentative fiscal accounts for the first half of 1992. The picture for the government budget is indeed bleak and very disturbing.

The deficit for the first half of 1992 is estimated at YR.13 billion. For the whole year (1992), the deficit could well hit YR.30 billion, some 35% of GDP.

Expenditure and revenue figures have both gone in opposite directions. The expenditures are far more than estimated, and the revenues are far less than estimated; hence the stag-

gering deficit. The main reason for the overblown expenditures is the over-politicization of the Ministry of Finance as well as the Central Bank of Yemen. Neither of those organizations are really in charge of fiscal or monetary policy. The political "needs" of the leadership have forced new expenses. In addition, the election expenses, poorly accounted for in the budget, are seen to represent a substantial rise in the expenditures. The budgeted YR.60 billion are expected to turn out to be more than YR.72 billion, whereas the antici-

pated YR.45 billion is

expected to drop to be

some YR.34 billion.

On the revenue side, the government had thought to collect oil revenue from the Maseela fields (10,000 barrels a day starting from January to be shipped by trucks), and from Shabwa's Block 4 (25,000 barrels a day starting from February). Neither has materialized, so far. The Maseela output will come on stream late next year, and production in Shabwah will start late this year. An additional problem has been the drop in the production in the Yemen Hunt Oil Company, fields, where total output is expected to dip below 150,000 barrels a day before the year is out.

Mismanagement is a pervasive aspect of fiscal policy and execution in Yemen thus leading to deficits and rising demands on the business community. This has taken the form of new levies of taxes and exhorbitant penalties and fines.

To remedy the deficit, the one single decision which the government needs to take is really to reduce public (government) consumption which has been hitting the roof. The government cannot continue to live beyond its means. It should control its expenditures, especially in the form of luxurious imports. Fiat money is not real money on which the gov-

ernment can rely to finance its persistent deficits.

At another level, the government could implement a better revenue collection system. Unfortunately, most of those who evade and/or avoid taxes are those associated with the government and the political leadership, one way or the other. Better collection is based on a more effective enforcement of the law, which, the present leadership is unable or unwilling to do.

One symptom of the inefficiency is the fact that the government does not have the faintest idea regarding what the 1991 (Yes, 1991) figures are. Yet, preparations have already started for the 1993 budget, as they should.

The Ministry of Finance has published guidelines on the divisions and structural set-up of the budget. These are virtually the same as former years, thus dashing hopes of decentralization.

The financial state burdens are growing. Already a staggering deficit requires our immediate attention. Yet, this issue becomes further complicated with the pressing need to service our external debt, which is becoming unbearable.

Over-politicization of our fiscal policies is bound to bring the downfall of the whole system.

Yemen Economic Society Carries Out Studies on Fiscal and Monetary

The Yemen Economic Society, a non-profit think-tank organization, is finalizing talks with the Prime Minister's Office for the purposes of carrying out two in-depth studies for the government:

- a fiscal policy study,

tions to carry out the work.

- a monetary policy study.

According to Professor Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf of Sanaa
University, and the project's team leader, the Society
is now putting together a group of experts, businessmen and officials in the relevant government organiza-

"We are putting together a thirty-person team and the time horizon is roughly four months," he indicated. In addition to these studies, the YES is also looking into other studies and assessment reports to be carried out on a contract basis.

Finally, the YES is sponsoring a weekly discussion event called the "Weekly Joint". Every Sunday afternoon, the YES invites a speaker to lead discussions on a pre-determined topic. Unfortunately, the whole thing revolves around a qat chew.

YES members and interested parties are invited.



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Pour la construction d'écoles et l'amélioration de l'éducation

La Banque Mondiale accorde un prêt de 19,7 millions de dollars au Yémen

La Banque Mondiale a annoncé la semaine dernière l'octroi d'un prêt de 19,7 millions de dollars (environ 108 millions de francs) au Yémen. Cet argent est destiné à la construction d'écoles et à l'amélioration de l'éducation en général.

Ce prêt court sur 40 ans dont dix ans de grâce (dix ans pendant lesquels le Yémen ne rembourse ni intérêts ni capital) et génère une aide supplémentaire de 5,3 millions de dollars au gouverne-

ment yéménite.

Il vise, d'ici 1999, à améliorer la scolarisation des filles par la construction de 600 classes supplémentaires dans les régions rurales et par l'enrôlement d'enseignantes et l'amélioration de leur conditions de vie et de logement.

Ce prêt doit permettre également l'achat

d'ordinateurs et de livres scolaires.

Il est a noter que le déblocages de ces fonds de la part de la Banque Mondiale intervient environ quinze jours après la table ronde organisée par le Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement à Genève sur le Yémen. Cette conférence internationale a fourni une tribune au gouvernement yéménite pour exposer à une vingtaine de délégations d'éventuels donateurs, dont la Banque Mondiale, la situation et les besoins du pays. Selon tous les témoignages, l'exposé présenté par le Yémen (lire notre dernière édition) a fait forte impression sur tous les bailleurs de fonds qui ont jugé très sérieuses les propositions de réformes économiques du gouvernement.

Lors d'une liaison régulière entre l'île de Socotra et Aden

L'accident d'un avion militaire Antonov-12 a fait 62 morts près d'Aden

Soixante-deux personnes ont péri dans l'accident d'un avion de transport militaire qui s'est écrasé mardi soir 14 juillet près d'Aden. Six membres de l'équipage, seize soldats de la marine et des policiers yéménites, ainsi que 40 autres personnes, dont des femmes et des enfants sont morts.

L'avion, un Antonov-12, de fabrication soviétique, qui effectuait un vol régulier entre l'île yéménite de Socotra, située dans l'océan indien à 585 Km au sud des côtes du Yémen, et Aden s'est écrasé à Be'r Fadl, une région sabloneuse à proximité de la ville portuaire.

du Yemen, et Aden s'est ecrase à Be'r Fadl, une région sabloneuse à proximité de la ville portuaire.

Des témoins, cités jeudi par des journaux yéménites, affirment avoir vu l'appareil, peu avant l'accident, évoluer à très basse altitude au dessus de l'aéroport

Soixante-deux personnes ont péri dans l'accident d'un avion de transport militaire qui s'est écrasé d'Aden, sans pouvoir attérir en raison des mauvaises conditions climatiques.

Une commission d'enquête a été aussitôt constituée pour déterminer les causes de l'accident.

L'OCI donne 150.000 dollars au Yémen pour les réfugiés somaliens.- L'Organisation de la Conférence Islamique a versé une aide au Yémen de 150.000 dollars pour les besoins immédiats des réfugiés somaliens mi sont plus de 50 000 à Aden

les besoins immédiats des réfugiés somaliens, qui sont plus de 50.000 à Aden. En quelques semaines, le flot de ces "boatpeople" s'est accéléré (Lire les Temps du Yémen des 15 avril, 1er et 8 juillet 1992), mais la communauté internationale, par le biais du HCR, s'est engagée à couvrir tous les frais occasionnés par ces réfugiés.

TELEVISION

Les nouveaux programmes français sur la chaîne d'Aden

La chaîne télévisée d'Aden, que l'on peut recevoir également à Sanaa, propose régulièrement des émissions ou des films en français, soustitrés en arabe. Voici la dernière grille des programmes:

- Le samedi, deux fois par mois, à 22h30, un film. Prochainement, vous pourrez voir successivement: Embuscades, Le soleil des voyous, La beauté du diable, Le capitan.

 Le lundi, à 16h30: quatre émissions de Thalassa, de reportages sur les océans et les marins.

 Le mardi, à 18h00, série télévisée Bing en trois épisodes; suivra la série Le roi mystère, en huit épisodes.



Alors que des blocages administratifs et techniques ne lui permettent pas encore de passer à l'étape de l'hospitalisation A Sanaa, un hôpital franco-yéménite ultra-moderne ouvre des consultations en pédiatrie et gynécologie

Un hôpital très moderne spécialisé dans la pédiatrie et la gynécologie-obstétrique est presque opérationnel à Sanaa mais il ne peut encore ouvrir ses portes pour des raisons de "ralentissements administratifs" et des obstacles techniques essentiellement. Cet hôpital, Ibn Nafis, doté d'un matériel très performant donné par le gouvernement japonais fonctionnera grâce à une étroite collaboration franco-yéménite: la France fournit des médecins spécialistes pour encadrer le personnel yéménite et arabe en général. En outre, il est destiné à devenir un important centre de formation pour les étudiants de la nouvelle Faculté de Médecine de l'Université de Sanaa, dont la première promotion est sortie il y a deux ans, ainsi qu'un centre de spécialisation pour des médecins yéménites qui pratiquent déjà.

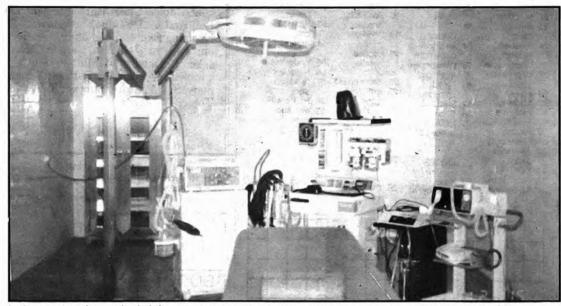
Seulement voilà: le projet, lancé il y a trois ans, stagne aujourd'hui dans son ultime étape: l'hôpital est prêt à recevoir ses premiers patients mais doté d'un matériel ultra-performant, sesbatiments ne sont pas encore fonctionnels et, la multiplication des niveaux de décision administratifs et politiques côté yéménite retarde ou empêche toute décision, même pour le plus petit détail. Depuis deux mois maintenant, le personnel est "sur le pied de guerre", compétent et motivé, mais on ne pense raisonnablement pas pouvoir ouvrir l'hôpital dans l'immédiat.

En revanche, Ibn Nafis fonctionne depuis la semaine dernière comme un dispensaire où l'on peut venir en consultation et, éventuellement, pour des examens de suivi de grossesse, y compris pour des échographies. Il est tout de même très dommage de ne pouvoir étendre ce potentiel formidable dont le Yémen aurait grandement besoin en matière de gynécologie obstétrique. Trop de femmes et de nouveaux-nés meurent encore par manque de soins adéquats.

Dans les couloirs de l'hôpital laboratoire d'analyses biolo-

Dans les couloirs de l'hôpital Ibn Nafis, c'est un sentiment de grande impatience qui règne chez tout le personnel, depuis Abdallah le gardien, qui arpente les lieux avec son trousseau de clés, croisant les infirmières désoeuvrées, jusqu'aux médecins, dont la plupart commencent à se décourager. Les sept femmes de ménage astiquent chaque jour les instruments et l'équipement les instruments et l'équipement neufs, qui n'ont encore jamais servi, et que l'on considère comme à la pointe du progrès. Cinq couveuses ultra-modernes attendent les premiers prématu-rés. Deux échographes dernier cri (un seul coûte le même prix qu'une Porsche 944) équipent cet établissement que de nombreux hôpitaux français pourrailaboratoire d'analyses biolo-giques, dirigé par une jeune femme, le docteur Noria El-Kebir, médecin bilogiste qui a effectué ses études de médecine en Algérie et sa spécialisation en France, ainsi que d'une salle d'opération entièrement équipée en matériel dernier cri. Tous les éléments sont donc réunis pour que cet hôpital puisse fonction-ner parfaitement dans les plus brefs

Or, la semaine dernière, seul le dispensaire a ouvert pour des consultations et examens mais Ibn Nafis ne peut encore recevoir aucun patient en hospitalisation. Deux obstacles se dressent: le premier d'ordre matériel: l'équipement performant livré depuis trois ans par les Japonais



Le bloc opératoire est équipé des appareils les plus modernes, donnés par le gouvernement japonais.

est équipée de prises de courant est équipée de prises de courant qui ne sont pas compatibles avec les équipements. De même, la salle équipée de cinq couveuses dont rêverait n'importe quel directeur de maternité, dispose également de deux appareils de photothérapie pour traiter la jaunisse chez les nouveaux-nés par des rayons ultra-violets, d'un défibrilateur, cet appareil qui permet d'envoyer des chocs électriques pour ranimer un coeur qui ne bat pour ranimer un coeur qui ne bat plus ainsi que d'un tire-lait, mais ne possède en tout et pour tout que trois prises de courants!

Une multiplication des centres de décision

Il serait relativement aisé de remédier à ces menus problèmes de fonctionnement mais l'enchevêtrement des centres de décisions multiples et les démadécisions multiples et les démarches administratives ne permet-tent pas d'agir vite. L'hôpital est théoriquement dirigé par un Con-seil d'administration dont le bras exécutif est une double direction franco-yéménite. Côté français, madame Yvette Sabatier est co-directrice, côté yéménite, le Doc-teur Yahya Al-Dram est co-directeur. A côté de cela, le Con-seil Local de Sanaa, qui corre-spondrait au Conseil Municipal en France, tient à garder la main en France, tient à garder la main haute sur toute décision dans cet hôpital qu'il finance (il paye le personnel yéménite). Ainsi, toute décision, même la signature d'un contrat pour une femme de ménage, doit être avalisée par le Président du Conseil Local, le Colonel Suneidar. Et ceci dans une ultime étape; il y en a beaucoup d'autres à franchir auparavant.

Là-dessus vient s'ajouter un au-tre problème: les deux derniers étages de l'hôpital ne sont pas en-core terminés. Certains prétendent que l'on peut ouvrir l'établissement avec les 37 lits disponibles sur les 60 prévus, d'autres disent qu'il faut attendre la fin des travaux. Une réunion franco-yéménite tenue mercredi dernier a permis de régler théori-quement le problème: le colonel Suneidar s'est engagé à faire commencer les travaux, les entrepreniers doivent être contactés par les responsables français à l'hôpital pour définir exactement les besoins. Si tout va bien, ces travaux peuvent être achevés d'ici un mois ou deux et l'hôpital pourra fonctionner dans la plus grande fiabilité... Mais il reste encore beaucoup d'incertitudes, notamment financières, pour pouvoir

ment financières, pour pouvoir avancer une date précise pour l'ouverture de l'hôpital Ibn Nafis.
En attendant, le personnel médical est presqu'au complet mais reste inactif. Du côté Yéménite, la plupart viennent d'autres établissements, notamment de l'hôpital Al-Thawra de Sanaa. Ils n'ont pas été payés pour leur présence à Ibn Nafis depuis deux mois qu'ils sont dans les locaux, dit-on. Huit médecins généralistes, tous yéménites, travaillent dans cet hôpital et ne font pour l'instant que des consultations. Sept spécialistes en gynécologie et pédiatrie, yéménites, égyptiens, palestiniens, ont été recrutés. Les gynécologues, obstétriciens et sages-femmes doivent opérer sous la direction du docteur Michel Heisert, médecin spécialisé français, chef du service de gynécologie-obstétrique et charlisé français, chef du service de gynécologie-obstétrique et chargé d'une mission d'encadrement et de formation (dans cette équipe de spécialistes on compte aussi un médecin biologiste et une jeune anésthésiste irakienne). Le docteur Heisert s'impatiente: "C'est dommage.

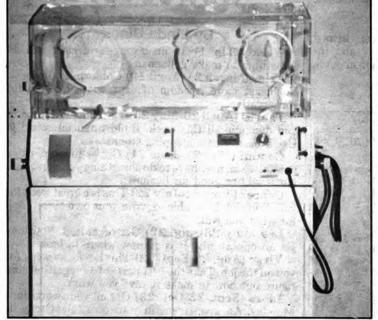
mières promotions de la Faculté, dont certains doivent venir se spécialiser à Ibn Nafis. Le vicedoyen de la faculté de Médecine, le docteur Yahya Al-Basha, s'est engagé à fournir à l'hôpital les meilleurs internes des promo-tions. Ainsi, le docteur Iman, jeune femme médecin sortie cette année de l'université, vient-elle pratiquer à Ibn Nafis en attendant de partir en France pour plusieurs années de formation complémen-

Des consultations de haut niveau

Aux médecins viennent s'ajouter, en théorie jusqu'à ce que leurs contrats soient approu-vés par le Conseil Local, 15 infirmières prévues à terme plus cinq sages-femmes, deux manipula-trices en radiologie, ainsi que deux techniciens de laboratoire.

Au total, de ce projet lancé il y a deux ou trois ans, malgré les ef-forts constants côté partenaire

français pour faire avancer les choses, on risque pendant un certain temps encore de n'utiliser ces

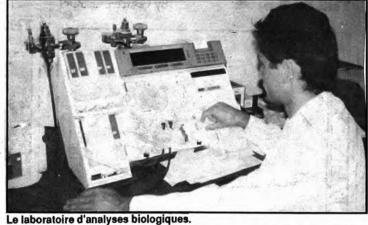


n'importe quel directeur de maternité en France.

ent jalouser sur ce plan: on peut pratiquer, dès aujourd'hui puisque les consultations sont ouvertes, des échographies classiques du foetus, permettant de déterminer son poids, sa taille, son terme (âge du foetus) et les éventuelles malformations, mais aussi des échographies abdominales pour tous les patients, ainsi que des échographies cardi-aques; et il suffirait d'un adaptateur pour pouvoir réaliser également des échographies du cerveau d'un enfant,

L'hôpital Ibn Nafis est également doté d'un équipement complet de radiologié, de son propre pour un montant de 3 millions de dollars sous forme de don ne fait pas bon ménage avec un bâtiment très peu fonctionnel; le second résulte des blocages administratifs qui rendent difficile

toute progression. En ce qui concerne les problèmes techniques, il s'agit sans doute de simples détails mais, cumulés, ils empêcheraient le fonctionnement dans des conditions de sécurité satisfaisantes. Par exemple, la salle d'opération dispose d'un matériel ultra-moderne mais il y manque une table d'opération, un vestiaire et un sas stériles! D'autre part, elle



Tout est possible dans cet hôpital. Nous avons tout ce qu'il faut pour faire du bon travail avec un personnel médical tres compétent et surtout très motivé, avec du matériel performant. Les médecins et les infirmières sont de plus en plus impatients'

Ce retard est préjudiciable également au système de santé réménite car cet hôpital devrait être un projet-pilote intéressant pour la formation complémen-taire des étudiants de la nouvelle Faculté de médecine de Sanaa, L'accord de coopération franco-yéménite prévoit ainsi une collaboration entre les médecins formés au Yémen, sortis des pre-

locaux que pour des consultations de haut niveau, mais dont le prix, par ailleurs, peut paraître dissuasifs pour de nombreux yéménites: une consultation en pédiatrie (enfants de 0 à 15 ans) coûte actuellement 50 ryals. Certains médecins ont prétendu que des clients sont partis dès qu'on leur a annoncé ce tarif...

Emmanuel GIROUD Les consultations à l'hôpital Ibn Nafis sont ouvertes tous les jours de 8h30 à 13h00 et de 16h00 à 19h00 sauf le vendredi... Al Tathamon Square, South Saffia, Sanaa. Tel: 240 407.

★ CROSSWORD PUZZLE ★

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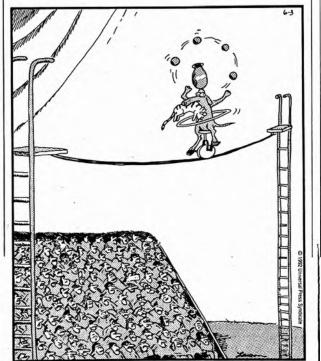
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THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



High above the hushed crowd, Rex tried to remain focused. Still, he couldn't shake one nagging thought: He was an old dog and this was a new trick.

MAGICWORD

HOW TO PLAY: Read the list of words. Look at the puzzle. You'll find these words in all directions — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Draw a circle around each letter of a word found in the puzzle, then strike it off the list. Circling it will show a letter has been used but will leave it visible should it also form part of another word. Find the big words first. When letters of all listed words are circled, you'll have the given number of letters left over. They'll spell out your MAGICWORD.

SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT (Sol.: 7 letters)

A-Address, Argument; B-Banter, Blab; C-Chitchat, Choice, Cite, Clear, Comment, Concept; D-Deliberate, Describe, Dialogue, Drawl; E-Explain, Express; F-Funny; G-Greet; H-Harp on; I-Ideas; J-Jabber, Jargon, Joke; K-Keepsake; L-Laughs; M-Matter, Mutter; P-Point, Problem; Q-Question; R-Rant; S-Scandal, Soliloquy, Speak, Story, Subject; T-Tattle, Thought, Topic; W-Words

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Unscramble these four words, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Had a chance to get a piece of that operation DUPON BODUT NILJEG THE EXERCISE YOUR CHOICE. SLEENT

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon

Print answer here: AN



WORDSOFWISDOM

It's easy to be a pessimist; it's a lot tougher on those around you.

Politicians are comedians, sometimes without even knowing it.

Spend less time worrying about what other people are doing and you'll have more time to fix your own problems.

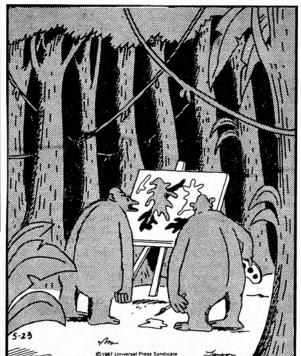
One should look at life as a series of challenges, instead of a collection of victories and losses.

In the world of global politics, there's no such thing as a permanent

Dogma never helped anyone make an informed decision about a crucial issue.

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"I'll tell you what it looks like - it looks like it was done by a chimpanzee."

DIALOGUESYROTSK EKASPEEKRANTHNO ETAREBI LEDCS GI J CI POTAHCTI HCUAN QUESTI ONTGAOOLO YSDROWMEURRNHPG USSERDDAMEPCTXR QSTATTLETEOENEA OUSBSAEDI TNPI XJ LBPADCHOI CETOPA IJENRLMELBORPRB LEATAEBI RCSEDEB OCKEWARGUMENTSE STCRLRTNEMMOCSR

BALBS UDS I YNNUFE

ANSWERS ON PAGE SEVEN GOOD LUCK!

WOULD YOU BELIEVE

The average annual salary of a doctor in the United States in 1990 was \$164,300. That's after paying all their expenses, including insurance. The average surgeon made \$236,400.

The average high temperature in chilly Quebec . in January is just 18 degrees. The average low is 2 degrees.

President James Garfield lingered for more than two months before he died from an assassin's bullet.

A prisoner in New Jersey is suing the warden to get his artificial arm back. The problem is that the arm has a hook on it and prison officials fear it could be used as a weapon.

In 1970, Pete Maravich of Louisiana State University scored an average of 44.2 points per college basketball game. That's more than 10 points per game greater than Michael Jordan's average with the Chicago Bulls this year.

THIS WEEK'S ** HOROSCOPE ***

By Linda Black

Weekly Tip: Focus on a long-term goal, and do something to make it happen.

Aries (March 21-April 19) Conform to protocol.

You'll get more freedom of expression, but remain

Taurus (April 20-May 20) You should be forceful and dynamic all this week. Build financial security. Use a barrier as a stepping stone.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Get as much done as possible. You may have to do something you don't like, but it will be good for business.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) This is a great week for you. You should be able to write your own ticket! Ask for what you want. Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Get organized. You may

get an opportunity if you know where to look. Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) This is a lucky week for you on the job. Take the best parts of a suggestion, and figure out how to make it save you work.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Get all your work done Monday. An investment in your own talent may be appropriate. Your confidence will be high.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) Hide a treasure. It's also a good time to plant a summer garden. Friday, don't tip your hand.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your best days this week will be Monday and Thursday. Have meetings and presentations then.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Week could mark a turning point in your career. Do something you've been thinking about that involves a risk.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Make a few phone calls and line up something interesting for later in the week. If you need money, you can ask for it.

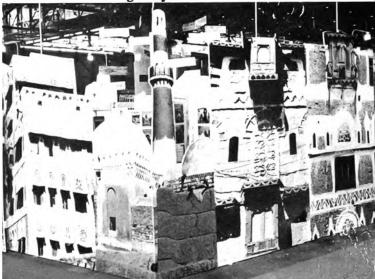
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Tuesday is definitely the best day to plant anything, whether it be seeds or money or a new idea in your lover's heart.

UNESCO to Sponsor Samsarat Hussain bin Qasim

Laurence Deonna, a well-known Swiss journalist and writer, has put together an impressive physical representation in the form of a stand showing Old Sanaa. The structure of the stand which weighs more than 1800 kilograms, is eight meters long and 3 meters high.



Ms. Deonna told the Yemen Times that the stand, which had been displayed in Switzerland during April 1990, as well as at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, is being prepared to be shipped for display in Canada and the United States during early 1993.



On another level, Ms. Laurence Deonna, who is also the President of the Swiss Committee for the Preservation of Yemeni Cultural Heritage and Archaeology, working to support UNESCO's efforts, indicated that decision is underway to sponsor the reparation and maintenance of Samsarat Hussain bin Qassim in Old Sanaa.

Deonna, who proudly calls herself a friend of Yemen, is working hard at raising the level of Swiss participation in and interaction with efforts aimed at the restauration of Old Sanaa as well as the historic cities in Hadhramaut.

At still another level, Ms. Deonna is the author of a book entitled Reports on Yemen, published in French by Arthaud Publishers (France), in English by Three Continents Press (USA), and in Arabic by Dar al-Adab

Finally, Ms. Deonna indicated that she plans to visit Yemen later this year to acquaint herself with the recent developments in Yemen. "In addition to its right to be proud of its cultural and archaeologic heritage, Yemen can now be proud also of its democracy and unity," she concluded.

Weekly English lessons:

By: Li sa Ciardulli and Jeanna Stroble

Lesson #3

LESSON: Problem areas with subject/verb agreement.

Review: Most of the problems that occur with subject/verb agreement happen in the third person.

Third person singular = 'He', 'she', 'it', and any noun which can be replaced by these

Third person plural = 'They', and any noun which can be replaced by 'they.'

The following situations show examples of when it is difficult to tell if the subject is singular or plural in the third person.

A. Phrases. Sometimes a phrase comes between the subject and verb, but it does not change which verb should be used.

- 1. That book about animals is interesting. ('about animals' is the phrase. The verb goes with the singular subject book', not with the plural word 'animals'.)
- 2. The ideas in that book are interesting. (the verb 'are' goes with the plural subject 'ideas.)
- B. Quantity. With expressions of quantity, the verb is decided by the noun following the amount.
- 1. Some of the book is interesting. (only part of one book is interesting
- 2. Some of the books are interesting.(a few books out of many are interesting.) 3. Half of the meat is rotten. (Meat is
- singular.) 4. Half of the vegetables are rotten. (the

word'vegetables' is plural.) NOTE: Other expressions of quantity include: a lot of, most of, two-thirds of,

eighty-percent of, all of, etc.) C. Using 'There'. When using the word 'there', the subject comes after the verb,

- 1. There is an interesting book on the desk. ('book' is the subject. It is singu-
- 2. There *are* some interesting books on

the desk. ('books' is plural, so the verb must be 'are')

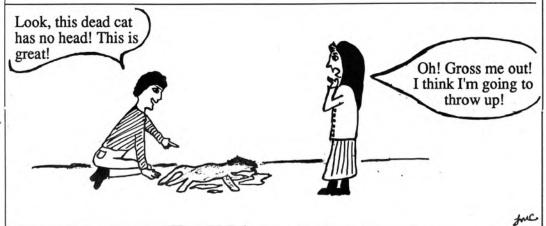
D. Time, Money, & Distance. These expressions usually take a singular verb.

- 1. Six hours of sleep is all I need. (it may seem like the noun is plural because of the number six, but the expression of time is used with a singular verb.)
- 2. One hundred dollars is a lot of money.
- 3. Five miles is a long way to walk. E. Singular words. Words like 'every'
- and 'each', are used together with a singular noun and singular verbs. 'One of' is used with a plural noun, but still takes a singular verb. 'Everyone' and 'everybody' can be used alone, without another noun. They also use singular verbs.
- 1. Every book on that list is interesting.
- Each student studies hard.
- 3. One of the students is late for class.
- 4. Everyone likes ice cream, don't they?
- 5. Everybody *needs* love and attention. F. Exceptions. Some words are not what you might think they are.
- 1. The news is on television at 8:00. ('news' is singular)
- 2. The <u>United States</u> is far away. (sing.)3. The <u>police</u> are doing a good job. (plur.)
- 4. Yemen's population is growing. (words which cannot be counted individually use a singular verb. Examples: water, chalk, sand, dust, popcorn, etc.)

Practice: Write 'is' or 'are' after each as the correct verb.

- 1. This story about children _____
- 2. The questions on the test _____
- People in Europe ___
- 4. The students in the class _____
- 5. One of the girls 6. The news in today's paper _____
- 7. One-third of the cake _____
- 8. Some of the people _____
 9. Everyone in the room ____
- 10. Over half of the stores in this
- 11. Forty kilometers _ 12. A lot of cars_
- 13. A million riyals
- 14. Most of my clothes
- 15. The information on the TV news ____
- Her brother's children _____
- 17. Some of that fruit
- 18. His method of teaching _
- 19. Each boy_
- 20. Fifty-percent of the world's

WEEKLY IDIOM: "Gross me out" is a saying used to show you think something is very disgusting, sickening, or unappealing to look at. If someone says, "I think I'll color my hair green." You could say "gross me out" or "That's so gross."



are, 13. is, 14. are, 15. is, 16. are, 17. is, 18. is, 19. is, 20. is Answers: 1. is, 2. are, 3. are, 4. are, 5. is, 6. is, 7. is, 8. are, 9. is, 10. are, 11. is, 12.

DIVIDED CYPRUS FACES UNCERTAIN FUTURE

Eighteen years after Cyprus New York on 15th July, was divided, Behic Mustafa the anniversary of a coup in Nicosia backed by

agree.
"I want to go back," says the grandfather, a grizzled Turkish-Cypriot farmer of 68 who still yearns for the olive trees he left behind on the other side of the island. His grandson, also called Behic, is only 17 and has never seen those trees. "I want to stay here," he says. "this is our village."

For the moment, no one is going anywhere. But there is talk of little else in the rural coffee shop east of Nicosia.

The village Kalopsidha to the Greek Cypriots who fled in 1974, Cayounu to the 700 Turkish-Cypriot refugees who live there now, might change hands if UN-sponsored negotiations on reunification bear fruit. On the other side of the green line divide, the hopes and fears of Cayonu are mirrored only by anger in a coffee shop called Kyrenia on the southern outskirts of

The coffee house takes its name from a picturesque little seaport and tourist center on the northern coast that its Greek-Cypriot customers are barred from visiting and have not seen

this divided capital.

for 18 years.

Discussion of reunification quickly turns into a shouting match among middle-aged refugees who, if the talks succeed, may find that their longed-for return would mean living under a Turkish-Cypriot administration.

"Talk about something else," says one. "No one is offering you a chance to go home and you are arguing about it anyway."

UN mediation is based on the notion that the island's government which failed to establish communal peace after independence from Britain in 1960, should be reconstituted as a federal system with Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypnot zones. According to a map suggested by UN mediators, so cautiously that they call it a "non-map" Turkish Cypriots would administer about three-quarters of the land captured when the army of mainland Turkey invaded on 20th July, 1974.

The "non-map," published this month by the Turkish-Cypriot press, was supposed to be secret until after the talks resumed in New York on 15th July, the anniversary of a coup in Nicosia backed by Greece that provoked the 1974 Turkish invasion. Even if the overall principle is accepted, sorting out the details will not be easy.

Both Cypriot communities used to live island-wide, an intermingling of peoples inherited from the Ottoman Turkish empire. It resembled places like Lebanon and Yugoslavia where even bloodier troubles have

exploded since.

Older Turkish Cypriots recall the perils of 1960 to 1974, when many isolated villages lived under siege, protected by UN peace-keepers, residents afraid a trip through a Greek-controlled area would lead to a roadblock and an unmarked grave.

Greek Cypriots, their memories filled by the anguish of 1974 and the unknown fate of those who never made it to the south, seem to have largely forgotten what went before.

A new generation has now grown up on each side of the green line.

Elli Stavrou, 65, in her shop on the Greek side of old Nicosia, seldom wraps a parcel of handmade lace for a tourist without talking about the five stores she and her husband Nicos used to own on the other side.

"We are refugees and we want to go home," she told two English customers.
"Next time you come, I hope I will be able to invite you to my home in Kyrenia."

And in Morphou, west of Nicosia which the "non-map" would return to the Greek Cypriots, "everything is still up in the air" for Destine Kasapoglu, 57, a Turkish-Cypriot refugee who sells vegetables in the central market.

"We have no title deed to our house," she says "Even if we had it, I wouldn't believe the land really belonged to me. Who can own someone else's land? The land I own is in Limassol. But I can't go there on my own."

But there is still hope for a peaceful resolution of the problem. At least, the two Cypriot sides are talking to each other, even if under UN auspices.

A NEW NON-STOP FLIGHT BETWEEN AMMAN AND ADEN





We are pleased to announce that effective Tuesday 4th August, 1992, **ROYAL JORDANIAN**

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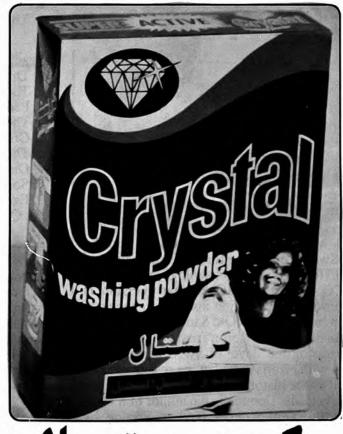
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Clinton Needs Believers in His Economic Promises

Unemployment at an eight-year high, plummeting popularity ratings for President Bush, a scary domestic economy: what more could a Democratic presidential hopeful

First off, a lot of believers.

Voters by a wide margin think Bush has ignored the broken, stalled economy. But as Clinton stepped up to the podium at the Democratic convention early this week he needs to convince Americans that he has the tools to fix it.

Mike McCurry, a Democratic strategist, says Clinton most of all needs to build confidence, installing hope that the Democrats can turn

the economy around. After 12 years of hands-off Republican policies, it remains an open question whether voters will back Clinton's call for more government intervention in the economy, a policy that echoes Democratic programs of the past.

"It's all a very iffy and open question," said Paul Grogan, president of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, a nonprofit group that aids inner city development. "The great success of Reagan was instilling the mythology that minimal policy is what works.

In the latest polls, Clinton is running in a dead-heat with Bush and the now-withdrawn candidate Ross Perot, though analysts expect him to come out ahead now that the convention is over.

Polls show Americans are fed up with the president's stewardship of the economy and voters have often thrown out an incumbent if the unemployment rate is rising. They also want more direction and leadership on the

The government recently reported the June jobless rate jumped to 7.9%, an eight year

high.

"Clinton's program has an oppotunity to get a serious hearing because of the widespread concern about the economy and the general sense that we are drifting," Grogan said.

Self-consciously distancing himself from liberalism, Clinton talks about public-private partnerships, government investment that will create private-sector jobs, entrepreneurs and officials working together.

Clinton calls this the third way, something in between big government policies the Democrats have promoted in the past and the "neglect" of the Regan and Bush years.

"We reject both the do-nothing government of the past 12 years as well as the big government theory that says we can hamstring business and tax and spend our way into prosperity," the Democrats write in their

"People definitely don't want big government," said McCurry. "But they like the Democratic message that they will help the

little guy.

Clinton wants to tax the rich, offer a middleincome tax cut and spend \$220 billion to pump up the economy. He has also proposed cutting 100,000 jobs from the federal bureaucracy.

Conservatives don't buy the talk. They think the Clinton plan is dressed up, tax-and-spend policy. "In rhetoric it's different, but in fundamentals it's the same," said Edward Hudgins, deputy director for economic policy studies

at the conservative Heritage Foundation. In the face of America's economic hardships, November's elections will tell which promises the American voters believe.

IMF OFFICIAL CONFIRMS OUTLINES OF RUSSIAN DEAL

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) confirmed outlines of a historic economic agreement with Russia and said a further accord that could open up the country to new loans could be expected later this

A senior IMF official said the agreement set the stage for billions of dollars of outside assistance and should make the country more attractive to foreign

investors.

The accord was reached earlier this month on the eve of the just completed economic summit of leaders of the Group of Seven industrial countries in Munich, but the IMF was unable to provide details at that time.

The accord requires Russia to reduce its budget deficit from around 17% of gross domestic product (GDP) to about five% by the end of the year. The agreement also calls for the country to reduce inflation, running at about 15 or 20%, to

single digit levels.

"This is still high but a significant curbing," the official told a press briefing. That agreement, which provides the country with \$1 billion in assistance, should be completed before 10 August when the IMF's executive board takes a two-week

"The agreement provides the basis for the fund to continue its negotiations for (a so-called stand-by loan)," the official added.

"I think the measures that we have agreed upon with the Russian authorities and the commitments they have expressed, augurs

well for future discussions," he said.
Potentially the new stand-by agreement, expected this autumn, could provide an additional \$3 billion.

The official brushed aside criticism of the IMF by Russian President Boris Yeltsin during the negotiations, saying it was not unusual for a head of state to lambast the lending agency in the heat of talks.

"To force us to our knees for this loan, no, Russia is still a great power," Yeltsin was

quoted as saying.

After the stand-by program is put in place, the official said the lending agency would watch to see its impact on the stabilisation of the rouble and once the currency appeared to lose its volatility, the so called stabilization fund could be put in place. Asked about reports that this might take place early next year, he said: "Sure, why not, the sooner the better."

This \$6 billion fund would be used to provide an underpinning for the rouble, offsetting radical moves by the currency in the market. After the liberalization of the economy, and the initial flotation of the rouble, its value plummeted to over 100

roubles to the US dollar.

In the meanwhile, the cost of living skyrocketed as Moscovites started learning the vices of the free market system. According to press reports, the cost of living has jumped by more than 400% in less than one year, thus reducing the standard of living of the large majority of the Russian people, especially those on fixed incomes like the pensioners.

Experts say that it will be at least two-tothree years before the economic situation

in Russia improves.

PRIVATIZATION SCHEME **IN ITALY**

In an attempt to cut Italy's national budget deficit, the govenment has announced a major privatization program worth more than \$50 billion, which takes effect this week.

The sell-off of four public holdings is part of the new government's dynamic budgetary strategy. The firms to be sold are Instituto per la Riconstruzione IndustiaHeo (IRI), a group of industrial, telecommunications and transport companies; ENI, which specializes in oil and gas; the national electicity company ENEL; and insurance group INA.

Nearly half of Italy's industry has for decades been government-owned. The privatisation plans will put an end to the reign of the ministry for public shares. The Government has handed control of the new

private industries over to the treasury.

The collapse of Italy's financial market and the reluctance of certain parties to co-operate with the program have held the process for months. In an attempt to speed up this process, the government announced it will relaese treasury bonds through Italy's banks, which can be bought by customers and converted into the shares.

Rome intends to sell off 20% of its shares, worth 12,000 billion lire (\$10 billion) by the end of this year. About 45% of the capital should be in

private hands within a few years.

Giuseppe Guarino, Minister for Public Shares, called the project an "historic turning point." He insisted that privatization would not increase Italy's debt, as the treasury would receive only profits from the selloff and would not inherit the society's debts. Total gains would come to 60,000 billion lire (\$50 billion),

AFGHANISTAN CONSTITUTION DRAFT READY

A commission formed to draft an interim constitution to fill a power vacuum in Kabul, has already completed its task and presented the draft to the government this week, said Maulvi Mir Hamza, the commission's chairman. Mr. Hamza said that the draft of the interim constitution was turned over to the governing leadership council.

"The 'emergency constitution' which was not voted on by the people, but approved solely by the ruling 10-member Mujahideen leadership council, is in accordance with Islamic Sharia law," he said. "It also respects the rights of all nationalities in multi-ethnic

Afghanistan," he added.

"A new government which is to be formed for two years in four months' time will decide whether a new constitution should be drafted," Hamza said, adding that the interim constitution is aimed only at filling the present power vaccum.

"After the takeover (by the Mujahideen from a communist regime) there was no constitution and no

legitimacy," he said.

"One major group, the Iranian backed Hezb-i Wahdat, which represents the minority Shi'ite Hazara community, has been absent from the commission because of 'some differences'," he said.

The eight-faction Wahdat was brought into the government by former president Sibghatullah Mojadidi, who tenuously held on to power for two months after the fall of Najibullah on 28th April, but have been given the cold shoulder by the new interim administration of President Burhanuddin Rabbani, the council chief. "I had hoped that the representative of Wahdat would also attend our meetings," he said "Mojadidi created some problems and Hezb-i-Wahdat created additional differences."

The eight-member drafting commission is made up of representatives from Rabbani's Jamiat-i-Islami, the two Hezb-i-Islami factions led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and Yunus Khales, the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan, the Ittehad-i-Islami and Shi'ites Harakat Inqelab and Harakat-i-Islah.

The PGC Concludes Its Meetings

Chaired by General Ali Abdullah Saleh, Chairman of the Presidential Council and Secretary-General of the People's General Congress, the Permanent Committee of the PGC concluded its three-day Twelfth Round of Meetings on Monday, July 20th. The communique released at the end of the meetings, highlights the PGC position on many pertinent issues. Excerpts of the communique follows:

1. The Transitional Period has been instrumental in allowing many achievements. But the transitional period has to give way to a new constitutionally correct epoch.

2. The Permanent Committee reaffirms its belief in the need for coalitions among the various political parties. Such coalitions are to be based on accepted norms and values in our society.

3. The Permanent Committee has reviewed the steps taken to resolve the land problems carried over from the pre-unification days. It calls for a rational approach based on indulgence and forgiveness on all parts.

4. The Permanent Committee also reviewed the evolution of the cost of living and the spiralling prices which have reduced many of our people to destitution. The Committee calls on all parties to cooperate in addressing this issue in a fair way.

5. The Permanent Committee calls on the government to strictly implement its Reform Package, and to create a Public Funds Prosecution Office to sue

government officials who abuse public funds.

6. The disturbing unemployment rates require an immediate and effective action.

On its part, the Committee has asked its block in parliament to support the enactment of the Cooperatives Law which will help activate this sector and absorb more manpower.

7. The Permanent Committee expressed its anxiety regarding the security breaches that have been taking place in Yemeni cities. It condemns all forms of violence, and at the same time, at apperall parties not to exage in describing the conditions.

8. The Permanent Committee respects the integrity and independence of the popular organizations (unions, associations, etc.) and calls on all parties not to transform these organizations into a competition ground for their influence.

9. The Permanent Committee underlines the importance of the role of media and cultural and intellectual activities. Therefore, it calls upon its cadres to strengthen their organs and contributions in this field.

10. The Permanent Committee acknowledges the important role of the armed forces. In this regard, it calls on the full and strict implementation of the parties law which forbids members of the armed forces to belong to any of the political parties.

11. The Permanent Committee has reviewed the performance of its various organs, and calls for more coordination and streamlining the efforts.

At another level, the Permanent Committee has shaken off any members who are not committed to its goals and objectives, and has taken on new members who expressed desire in joining. Among these, the new members elevated to the General Committee, the highest PGC body, are:

1. Ahmed Mussaid Husain, 2. Mohammed Ali Ahmed,

3. Abdullah Ahmed Ghanem,4. Abdullah Saleh Al-Bar,5. Abdullah Ali Alaiwah,

6. Ali Ahmed Assalami.

With these additions, plus the new members of the Permanent Committee, the People's General Congress has gained large following in the former South Yemen. The PGC has also discussed preparations for the upcoming elections, campaign programs, and other forms of preparations.

The PGC has also initiated re-structuring arrangements of the PGC apparatus itself. Since these have not been finalized, the PGC has not released details on its future (envisioned) structure.

In a statement delivered on the occasion, President Ali Abdullah Saleh demanded that the PGC consider, not only its immediate interests, but also to work for the national goals. "We know there have been mistakes. Let us work to overcome them and ensure they are not repeated. In the final analysis, we must look at the future with hope," he stressed.

"Above everything, every one of us must behave in a responsible way for the sake of the whole country," the PGC Secretary-General concluded.



Al-Attas Back in Sanaa

Prime Minister Haider Abubakar returned to Sanaa on Monday, July 20th, 1992. The Prime Minister was Geneva during the last two

weeks.

Commenting on the one-day talks in Geneva between Dr. Abdulaziz Ad-Dali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, on the Yemeni side, and Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Khuwaiter, Minister of Education, on the Saudi side, The Prime Minis-ter indicated that the talks were preliminary. He also indicated that additional talks, at the level of experts, will be arranged in the near future.



Yemen and Saudi Arabia are trying to overcome their differences over the border issue between the two countries.

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