

liberty at which conserve become

in Wayne Federal Services, his contractor, to change the way its customers are billed for local calls.

Cincinnati Bell wants to implement a two-year experimental plan in the Hartwell area, located in the north central part of the city, where customers would be billed for local calls the same way they are for long distance. Telephone company officials call it measured rate service.

UNDER THE MEASURED RATE SYSTEM customers' bills would be determined by the number of calls made, the distance, length of calls and time of day. People who made a lot of local calls would pay substantially more than they would with the flat monthly rate.

The issue has stirred considerable controversy both in Cincinnati and in

statewide and national attention because the plan may be adopted by other telephone companies in the future. Cincinnati Bell was the first to charge its customers for directory assistance calls. Eventually the idea caught on and became a common practice across the country.

The matter is now in the hands of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio that must decide the merits of measured rate service and whether the Hartwell area should be chosen for the experiment.

The Commission approved the Cincinnati Bell request last March but the decision was overturned by the Ohio Supreme Court last month when it ruled the telephone company did not adequately publicize its intention to implement the new billing system.

State Sen. Paul Pfeiffer (R-Bucyrus) said he is introducing

billings have been introduced to stop the project before it gets off the ground.

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio that must decide the merits of measured rate service and whether the Hartwell area should be chosen for the experiment.

The Commission approved the Cincinnati Bell request last March but the decision was overturned by the Ohio Supreme Court last month when it ruled the telephone company did not adequately publicize its intention to implement the new billing system.

State Sen. Paul Pfeiffer (R-Bucyrus) said he is introducing

customers a way to control their own bills.

Basic flat rates will increase at a faster pace in the future if the plan is not approved, Clark warned, because of inflation and increased competition in the telephone business.

The controversy is expected to drag on for several months. Commission hearings on Bell's proposal will not begin for at least two months and a final decision will not be reached until late summer. Meanwhile, the Senate Public Utilities Committee is scheduled to begin its study of various proposals to block the plan before the end of the month.

Business would be pinched by the new system, Bortz charged. If the rates go into effect the companies in the Hartwell area will not be able to compete with those in other parts of the city who do not have to pay them, he explained.

Roy Clark, a Cincinnati Bell division manager, said the proposed

ordered in Indianapolis to prevent looting.

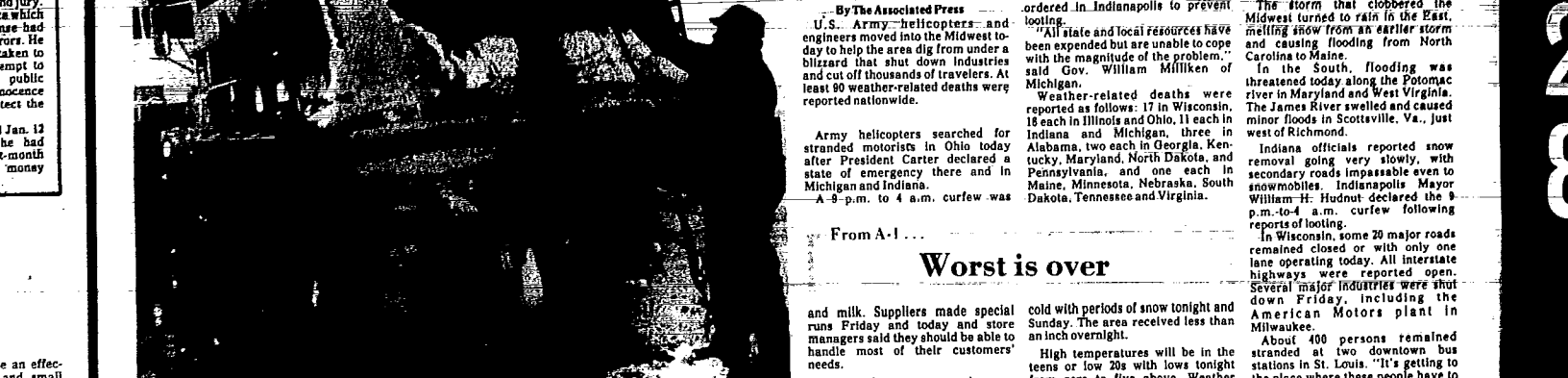
"All state and local resources have been expended but are unable to cope with the magnitude of the problem," said Gov. William Milliken of Michigan.

Weather-related deaths were reported as follows: 17 in Wisconsin, 18 each in Illinois and Ohio, 11 each in Indiana and Michigan, three in Alabama, two each in Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, North Dakota, and Pennsylvania, and one each in Maine, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Tennessee and Virginia.

Army helicopters searched for stranded motorists in Ohio today after President Carter declared a state of emergency there and in Michigan and Indiana.

A 9-p.m. to 4 a.m. curfew was

Storm death toll 90



By The Associated Press

U.S. Army helicopter crews and engineers moved into the Midwest today to help the area dig from under a blizzard that shut down industries and cut off thousands of travelers. At least 90 weather-related deaths were reported nationwide.

Army helicopters searched for stranded motorists in Ohio today after President Carter declared a state of emergency there and in Michigan and Indiana.

A 9-p.m. to 4 a.m. curfew was

From A-1

Worst is over

and milk. Suppliers made special runs Friday and today and store managers said they should be able to handle most of their customers' needs.

Law enforcement agencies continue to make emergency runs. In Dover, for example, officers have been transporting Union Hospital patients who have been stranded at their homes. Police also delivered a special baby formula to a stranded mother.

The forecast calls for continued cold with periods of snow tonight and Sunday. The area received less than an inch overnight.

High temperatures will be in the teens or low 20s with lows tonight from zero to five above. Weather forecasters do not see temperatures rising above freezing through Wednesday.

temperatures in the state below freezing for weeks, this January's weather has been marked by frequent quick storms.

"I would look forward. If this type of weather pattern persists through the spring, to a very strong severe storm season" that would include tornadoes, he said.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources has already warned of possible flooding when the snow melts. The same warning was issued last year but a slow thaw saved the state from serious high water problems.

As bad as the weather has been this month, Seliga said that does not mean the state is entering a new ice age.

"There might be another in 1,000 or 2,000 years," he said.

"There does seem to be some sort of cyclic pattern in the weather," Seliga said. "It seems to run in a 22- or 24-year period and these cycles seem to be recurrent. If that's the case, then there may be some relationship with solar activity because solar activity has an 11-year cycle but there's also a 22-year cycle."

"There is some evidence then to think there is some relationship to solar activity, but ... that's a whole new area that people are getting concerned about."

REDUCING THE WEIGHT ON A COUNTY TRUCK

Erwin Staub washes off snow and ice

Trailblazers . . .

Snow plow crews show dedication

By ED DEGRAW

Pride, persistence, patience and more than a little skill and toughness.

These are the tools of the "Good Samaritans" of the Tuscarawas County Road and Bridge Department as they plow county roads, maintain their equipment and in return take tongue lashings from irate citizens concerning snow-filled driveways.

County workers were in a surprisingly good mood Friday afternoon after spending an average of 15 hours a day "behind the wheel" for three days attempting to dig out the county from the worst winter storm in Ohio history.

"I arrived for 'duty' a little early and watched driver Max Eckert and laborer Erwin Staub wash off 'their truck.' It had been buried wheel-deep in a snow bank early Friday morning.

A wash job on a working vehicle of the county is not done every time a county truck hits the garage, but hard-crusted ice and snow means extra weight and too much extra weight means drivers have to "gear down," meaning less efficiency on the roadway.

GENE CRABTREE, an 11-year veteran of the road wars from Uhrichsville, was the driver to whom John Page of New Philadelphia, drive an eight-wheel tandem truck with a 12-foot blade. They had completed a 19-hour "turn" on Wednesday, helping clear roads in the

Ragersville-Balfic area, but claimed they were re-creative with a six-hour break.

Drivers and trucks each have specific routes to clear and Crabtree was back on his "run" Friday night south of Uhrichsville. Page "drove pickup (truck)" last night south of Uhrichsville to keep in touch with heavy trucks which do not have radios—a complaint that was heard more than once.

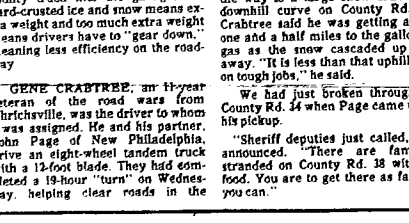
Crabtree and I were in "No. 33," a 1971 Ford with 138,000 miles on it.

Each truck, whenever possible, carries 9 to 10 tons of ashes and salt mixed, not only for roads, but for extra weight on the back. A 12-foot plow on the front weighs 1000 pounds and with extra ice and snow, the rear weight of the ashes and salt is needed. **WE WERE** barely out of Uhrichsville when Crabtree stopped to help a stranded motorist and waited until help arrived before plowing on.

The windshield wipers were needed as County Rd. 28 was widened on a downhill curve on County Rd. 34. Crabtree said he was getting about one and a half miles to the gallon of gas as the snow cascaded up and away. "It is less than that uphill and on tough jobs," he said.

"We had just broken through on County Rd. 34 when Page came up in his pickup.

"Sheriff deputies just called," he announced. "There are families stranded on County Rd. 38 with no food. You are to get there as fast as you can."



Erwin Staub washes off snow and ice

Crabtree and No. 33 took one more "swipe" to insure good clearance

and they headed for the new task.

"We are going to have to come back here," he said. "I want two-lane traffic before we head-for the garage."

COUNTY RD. 38 was something else! I couldn't see the road. Snow was drifted to a height of at least four feet and the drift extended for at least 30 feet.

Crabtree had seen worse. "I think we can make it," he said.

If my respect for the man and his machine was growing, it blossomed full force on County Rd. 38.

The job was done in darkness. First, he had to "feel" the ditch, then he had to "find a place for the snow."

It was definitely NOT a job of push and shove, push and shove. When the average citizen sees a snow plow going down the road, he thinks the job is an easy one, up one side and down the other. Such is not the case.

Crabtree modestly said he "kings his truck." He feels the blade "going up," the first danger sign of being "hung up." He knows just how much he can do with one effort and he watches for a "weak spot" in the drift.

Some 20 minutes later, the nicest two-lane passage one would want to see was on County Rd. 38. Ironically, the road was pretty clear after the first drift but Crabtree ran and widened its length and then saw its real villain. The icy hill that he spread ashes and salt along the way.

AT THE TOP of the hill he received his "reward."

An irate citizen stopped his car and ran out to him waving arms and screaming invectives about ploughing in his driveway. Crabtree said the citizen could call the county engineer's office for an explanation. Crabtree was tired and he wanted to get home so he could start the job again at midnight.

The Reporter

Published daily except Sunday by Mansfield Journal Company. Telephone: (216) 364-5977. Second Class postage paid at Dover, Ohio.

Advertising, editorial and business offices at 622 Washburn Ave., New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663.

Worldwide news coverage by the Associated Press and the Los Angeles Times/Washington Post news services. Represented by correspondents in Tuscarawas, Carroll, Coshocton, Holmes and Stark counties and Columbus.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Mail subscriptions possible in advance. Mail subscriptions at rural routes in Tuscarawas, Carroll, Coshocton, Holmes, Adams, Putnam and Stark counties not served by Times Reporter carrier or motor route delivery. One month, \$1.00; three months, \$3.00; six months, \$7.00; one year, \$13.00. Mail subscriptions to all other Ohio counties and outside Ohio: One month, \$11.00; three months, \$33.00; six months, \$65.00; one year, \$127.00. Home delivery by carrier or motor route: \$1.00 per week or \$54.00 per year, plus postage, newsrate and delivery to the post office.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Fire swept through the downtown Coates House Hotel early today, killing at least 10 persons and injuring an undetermined number, officials said.

At least four of those killed died when they jumped from upper story windows to the pavement.

Firemen responding to the 4:12 a.m. alarm, apparently turned in by the desk clerk, found persons hanging out the windows of the smoking six-story building, one of the oldest structures in the Kansas City area, fire department spokesman said.

None of the victims' names was immediately available.

Several firemen barely managed to escape from the fifth story before the top part of the building collapsed.

Fire officials said the blaze was brought under control by 8 a.m.

Coates House operated primarily as an apartment building for elderly residents, a police spokesman said.

Mobile home destroyed

BOWERSTON — Fire which started in the kitchen destroyed the mobile home of Mr. and Mrs. Randy Shreffler on Harrison County Rd. 25 (Beaver Dam rd.) Friday afternoon.

Bowerston firefighters, assisted by members of the Solo Volunteer Fire Department, were at the scene from 2:30 to 3. The Sherradollers Fire Department placed a truck and six men on standby status to provide fire protection here.

Digging out O'Hare

A Warner & Swasey Gradall, built in New Philadelphia, is dwarfed by mountains of snow as the first flights landed Friday at O'Hare International Airport

in Chicago. The nation's busiest airport was closed Thursday by the Midwest snowstorm. (AP Laserphoto)

