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T-R Bureau Writer COLUMBUS — The telephone company wants to make Milton Bortz a guines pig but he wants no part of

Borts, a Cincinnati attorney, is heading a cilizens group that is lighting an effort by Cincinnati Bell to change the way its customers are billed for local calls.

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 cells made the distance, length of cells 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 ontroversy 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 sasistance calls. Eventually the idea caught on and became a common practice across the country.

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 Pfeifer (R-Bucyrus) said he is introducing

bills have been introduced to stop the project before it gets off it its ground. 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 Hatreell area should be chosen for the experiment. panies from initiating the plan sor residential users "because the Public Utilities Commission will apparently continue to ignore the strong opposi-tion of customers."

tion of customers.

The Crawford County lawmaker described the system as "totally of-leasive" befause it would result in higher telephone bills for those least be to afford them — the elderly on fixed incomes and other poor people.

"People who are shut in would use their phones very little," he asserted. "The telephone is an outlet for them to stay in touch with friends and relatives."

BORTZ, CHAIRMAN of the Committee Against Measured Rate Test, bills.

Basic liat rates will increase at a pany's figures. He stald a survey of the people, in the Hartwell area showed that 85 percent would have higher bills and 97 percent would pay them.

Businesses would be pinched by the rate 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.

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



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 ore 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 chizens concerning snow-filled driveways.

County workers were in a surpris-ingly good mood Priday 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

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.

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 road-

GENE CRABTREE; an it-year veteran of the road wars from Unrichsville, was the driver to whom I was assigned. He and fils partner. John Page of New Philadelphia, drive an eight-wheel tandem truck with a 12-foot blade. They had completed a 18-hour "turn" on Wednesday, helpling clear roads in the

ASHKUM, Ill. (AP) — John Sorensen and Judith Lottlich, a young couple who planned to spend their lives pogether, died together, stranded on a foriely stretch of highway in a fierce snowstorm. Authorities said the young couple had rejected reacue efforts, hoping to wait out the storm on their own.

The Bedies of Sorensen, M. and Miss Lottlich, 19, who were engaged to be married, were opplied Truitsday sight from their cay on Interested 57 near this town about 15 miles from the Chicago suburb of La Grange, where they wired. Snow dritted to 4 feet deep around the dar, rescue workers said.

around the car. resource from the university of Illinois in Urband and both worked the night shift at a General Moore plant near La Grange, sold Alex Bersin, a friend.

friend.

Bersin said the couple apparently had left Weinesday night or Thursday for Urbana, where both

Ragersville-Baltic area, but claimed they were refreshed 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 Unrichsyille. Page "drove pickup (truck)" last night south of Unrichsyille 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.

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 rearweight of the ashes and salt is
needed. WE WERE barely out of
thrichaville 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 the way to a large snow drift on a downhill curve on County Rd. 34. Crabtree said he was getting about one and a half miles to the gallon of the state of the said on the said of th

We had just broken through on County Rd. 14 when Page came up in his pickup.

nis pickup.

"Sheriff deputies just called," he announced. "There are families stranded on County Rd. 18 with no food. You are to get there as fast as you can."

had attended classes at the university last year. During the height of the storm Thursday morning, the National Weather Service warned: "Being lost in open country during a blizard is almost certain death. Hours before the bodies were found, rescuers on snowmobiles checked the area for stranded motorists Acting Coroner Phyllis Jameson said Sorensen and was completed to the care gain Thursday night, the couple was dead, "The ignition has been said to the care gain Thursday night, the couple was free, there was a quarter tank of gasofine ieth and the yent window was open," said Trooper Landdison. "The car was practically buried with stow."

Addison. "The car was paratically buried with stow."

Addison speculated high winds

Addison. "The car was practically burled with stow."
Addison speculated high winds may have created a suction which drew carbon monoxide fumes into the car. The couple may have gotten group, furned off the ignition, fallen unconscious and died.

had attended classes at the

Couple turned down

rescue, found dead

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

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.
Pirst, 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.

other. Such is not the case.
Crabtree modestly said he "knows 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.

ches for a "weak spot" in the drift.

Some. 20. minutes fater, 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
another real villain — the tcy fill that
is Mill Township Rd. 292. Creeping up
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

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Storm death toll 90

U.S. Army helicopters and engineers moved into the Midwest to-day 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.

ge From A-1 ...

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

said Gov. William Millen on Michigan. Weather-related deaths were reported as follows: 17 in Wisconsin, 18 each in Illinois and Ohlo, 11 each in Indiana and Michigan, three in Alabama, two each in Georgia. Ken-tucky, Maryland, North Dakota, and Pennsylvania, and one each in Maine, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Tennessee and Virginia.

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

The storm that clobbered the Midwest turned to rain in the East, melting snow from an earlier storm and causing flooding from North Carolina to Maine.

In the South, flooding was threatened today along the Potomac river in Maryland and West Virginia. The James River swelled and caused minor floods in Scottsville, Va., just west of Richmond.

Indiana officials reported soon.

west of Richmond.

Indiana officials reported snow removal going very slowly, with secondary roads impassable even to snowmobiles. Indianapolis Mayor William H: Hudnut declared the 9-pm.-to-4 a.m. curfew following reports of looting.

In Wisconsin, some 29 major roads remained closed or with only one lane operating today. All interstate highways were reported open. Several major indiantries were shutdown Friday, including the American Motors plant in Milwaukee.

About 400 persons remained

Milwaukee.
About 400 persons remained stranded at two downtown bus stations in St. Louis. "It's getting to the place where these people have to have more than coffee and doughnuts." said Doyen Hall, a supervisor-for-Trailways-Line.

### Worst is over

and milk. Suppliers made special cold with periods of snow tonight and runs. Friday and today and store Sunday. The area received less than managers said they should be able to an inch overnight. runs Friday and today and store managers said they should be able to handle most of their customers'

Law enforcement agencies con-tinue to make emergency runs. In Dover the properties of the con-tinue to make the continue to the term of the continue to the con-tinue to the continue to the continue to the second to the continue to the continue to the con-tinue to the continue The forecast calls for continued

### K.C. fire kills 10

KAINS LV

KANNAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Fire swept through the downtown Coates House Hotel early today, killing an undetermined the same of the last of the

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. Pire officials said the blaze was brought under control by 8 mm. Coates House operated prima an apartment building for elderly residents, a police spokesman said.

#### Mobile home destroyed

BOWERSTON — Pire which started in the kitchen destroyed the mobile home of Mr. and Mrs. Randy Shrefiler on Harlison County Rd. 25 (Beaver Dam rd.) Priday afternoon. Bowarston firefightere, assisted by members of the Sclo Volunteer Fire Department, were at the scene from 2.30 to 3. The Sherrodsville Pire Department placed a truck and six men on standby status to provide fire protection here.

# Society's advances making it tougher to cope with storms

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) —
Advanced society must share some of the blame for making this month's snowstorms and blizzards almost more than the state could handle, says a weather

bilitarids almost more than the state could handle, asys a weather forecaster.

"We become so interdependent on so many different factors that I think that's what we're seeling," said Thomas A. Seliga, head of the atmospheric scleenty program at Ohio State University affected us seriously affected as a large part of society. We were Individually affected as a large part of society. We were Individually affected as a large part of society. We were Individually affected as a large part of society. We were Individually and the part of the serious we did not expense of the serious serious as we do today.
"As an atmospheric scientist, I feel like I've got to stress the importance of that — that in the future we've got to know better and better and more and more about how the weather and more and more about how the weather."

Seliga also warned Friday that Ohio may be in store for more severe weather this spring and aummer.

Unlike winter when sustained high pressure kept

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.

would include tornadoes, ne said.

The Ohio Department of
Natural Resources has aiready
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.

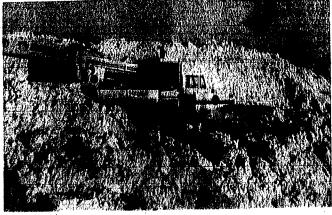
As bad as the weather has been
this month, Sellga said that does
not mean the state is entering a
new fea sage.

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

1,000 or 2,000 years, "he said.

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

"There is some veilationship to solar activity, but ... that's a whole new area that popple are getting concerned about."



## Digging out O'Hare

A Warner & Swasov Gradall, built in New Philadelphia, is dwarfed by moun-tains of show as the first flights landed Friday at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago. The nation's busiest airport was closed Thursday by the inidwest snowstorm. (AP Laserphoto)