

Dhaka Day by Day

The Hollows

by Samia Islam

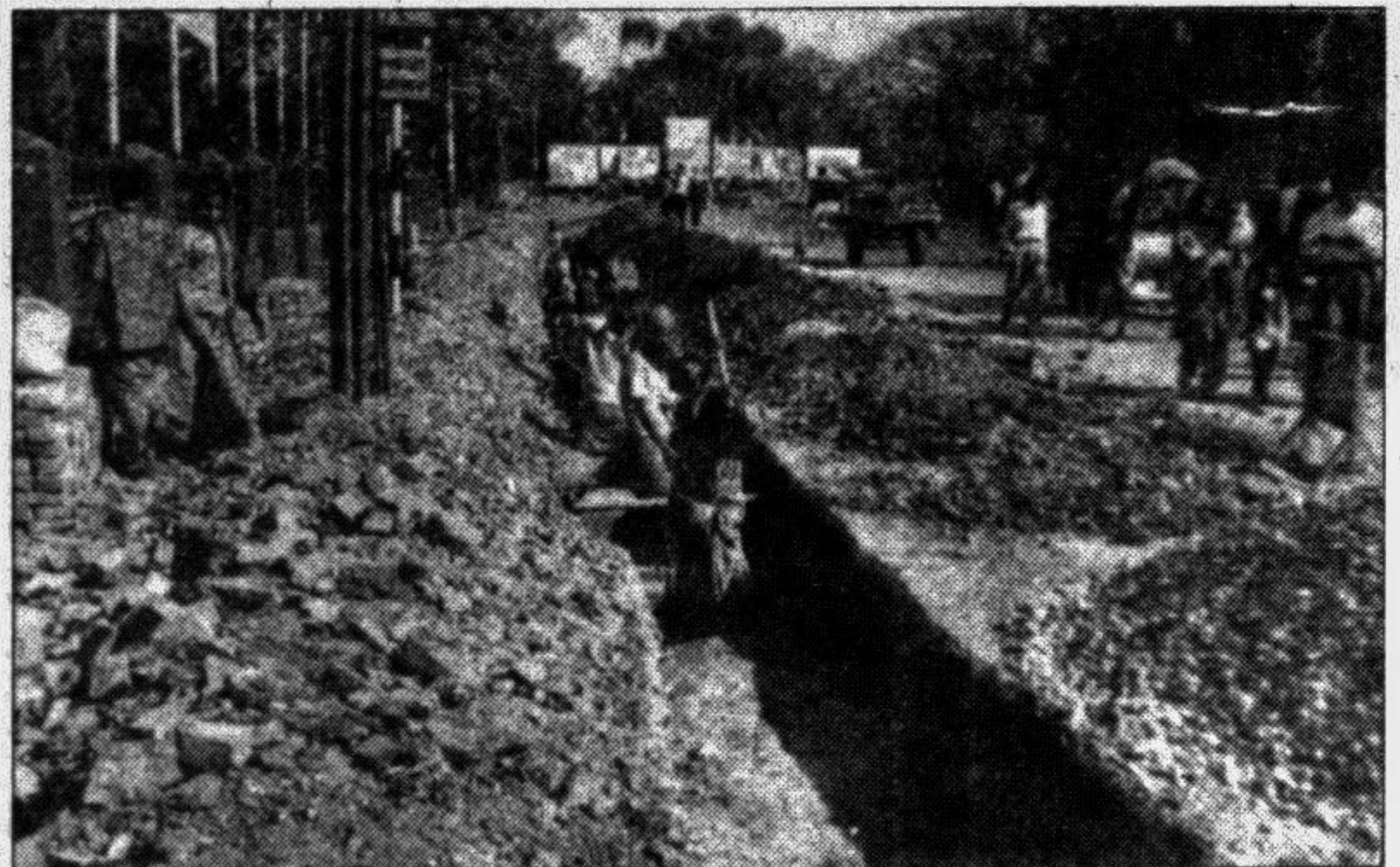
At the first appearance of ghastly ten-foot deep war trenches in peacetime with the accompaniment of oversized pipes strategically placed all over the road so to cause the most outrageous traffic bottlenecks, you can be sure that the rainy season is nigh. There is a direct correlation between the excavation of roads and the approaching rainy season at least in this part of the continent. As to the general usefulness of these works the public is yet to be enlightened since the same attempts at this particular time of the year, every year, have yet to produce the desired result of preventing water logging. Instead if anything the occurrence and magnitude of water logging in the capital have increased in the last few years. One wonders if the new and improved technologies could be the cause and not the effect of such an increase.

In the scorching heat of summer these inconveniences bring out the worst in people as the long lines of traffic seem to go on forever. This year the worst of it has been bestowed upon the Dhaka University area where the students and the general public were given the privilege of being the first to get harassed. The men on the work gang, may be due to the extreme heat of midday sun, stand and watch as tempers flare and little violences break out among the rickshawpullers and scooter drivers. It is saddening to watch the enlightened joining in these petty fights siding with their drivers or rickshawwallas over the right of way. A nation of people with such extremely low threshold for patience

shouldn't be exposed to these situations because in the endless squabbles innocent students end up late for class or, worse still, exams and nobody could care less. It seems that everybody has a right of way in this area except the students.

The endless wait that ensues after getting stuck in a traffic jam could have been bearable but the dust clouds, the foul language, the ugliness in people that is brought to the front under the gruelling circumstances, the atrociously blaring horns, the exhaust fumes wafting from unfit cars, the listlessness of the workmen who don't seem to have any intentions or incentives to meet a deadline, the apparent futility of these excavations are just a trifle too much for any normal individual. The belief that after all this there will come a time when half or two thirds of the city will be inundated with as little as a five-minute downpour is enough to put off the most incorrigible of optimists.

Couldn't such extensive work on roads be avoided during the hectic morning hours in an effort to lessen the inconvenience? The Dhaka University area is not the only one that is undergoing such massive excavations. There are other parts of the city that are possibly worse off. What is the real solution to this problem? The public aren't as feeble-witted as to undermine the good intentions of the authorities. People can surely wait for a positive change in their lives but already the work on the DU road has been going on since the first week of April, how much is long enough?



Gaping trenches for what?

— Star photo



Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal leader ASM Abdur Rab addressing a press conference in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Hasina proposes June 7 for homeo convention

Awami League president Sheikh Hasina, in a rapprochement move, yesterday suggested June 7 as a new date for National Homeo Convention with the participation of all homeopathic organizations, reports UNB.

In a message sent to the 3rd National Homeo Convention held at the Engineers' Institution yesterday, with a number of homeopaths being absent she said all the homeo organisations expressed their intention for holding a united convention.

Homeo Peshajibi Samity (HOPES) and Homeo Medical College Chhatra Oikya Parishad jointly organised the convention. Sheikh Hasina was the chief guest but did not attend.

In the message, Hasina greeted the homeo professionals on the occasion and called upon them to organise a national homeo convention to be participated by all concerned.

"I hope that homeopaths who believe in independence, democracy and Bangalee nationalism will participate in the national homeo convention," she said.

Ciba-Geigy honoured

Ciba-Geigy Limited, the international biological and chemical company, was honoured in Washington on Friday for its worldwide corporate environmental practices. Ciba Chairman and CEO Dr Alex Krauer received the prestigious World Environment Center Award for International Corporate Environmental Achievement, says a press release.

The eleventh annual award was presented by World Bank Managing Director Gautam Kaji during a dinner at the National Building Museum in Washington. Ciba's senior executives from around the world attended.

Rab wants EC restructured

JSD leader A S M Abdur Rab demanded restructuring of the Election Commission in consultation with all political parties and professional groups for smooth conduct of the electoral process, reports UNB.

Addressing a press conference in the city yesterday morning, he said the voter registration process which began on May 25 is not only faulty but has scope for irregularities, illegalities and complications. Besides, it provides scope for serving party interest.

Some two crore eligible people, Rab apprehended, will not be allowed to register as voters as the Election Commission counts 18 years of age as on last January 1 and keeps slum-dwellers out of enrollment.

He demanded enrollment of those who will be 18 by June 30 and those who live in slums.

The JSD leader alleged that most of the enumerators are in their early twenties and some of them are even below 18, who, he thinks, are party workers. He demanded that school teachers, officers and employees of government and semi-government organisations be made enumerators.

Rab said with the demands his faction of the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal would exchange views with the Election Commission today and stage demonstrations across the country on June 12.

Muharram programmes

Various religious organisations including Hussaini Dalan Imambara have taken up programmes to celebrate the holy month of Muharram, reports UNB.

Hussaini Dalan Imambara, has organised a ten-day programme, which covers *Majlis* on highlighting the sacrifice in the historical Karbala on June 1-8 and processions on *Shah-e-Ashura* on the 10th Muharram.

Bibi Ka Rawza, a Sunni dominated organisation, will bring out *Alam* procession on 9th Muharram at 7 pm and *Bolta Gahara* procession on 10th Ashura at 4 pm from its premises in Farashganj in the city. It has also arranged *Majlis* during Muharram 1-7.

Hussaini Imambara in Maghbazar, has arranged *Majlis-e-Aza* on Muharram 1-8. They will also bring out *Alam* procession at 9 pm on the 10th Muharram. The procession will be followed by *Majlis* in the area.

Errata

The news item titled "JU suffers 30 days holiday in 14 months" inadvertently appeared without attribution on Page-3 yesterday. The news was filed by our JU Correspondent, Gobinda Bar.

Clarification

In a news item slugged Rafiq-photjournalist creeded by BSS on March 30 about a function of Bangladesh Photo Journalists Association it was stated that the event marked the taking over of the possession of its own house at Purana Paltan area, the agency reports.

Rukamuzzaman Khan director of Central Kachi-Kachar Mela informed BSS that the entire house was allotted to Central Kachi-Kachar Mela in 1976 while recently the second floor was allotted to the Photo Journalists Association by the Works Ministry to set up their office.

5 schoolchildren injured in blast

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, June 3: Five school children were injured, two of them seriously, when a handbomb exploded in a government primary school at Puran Kolla ghat area in the town this morning. The children went to the Banimandir primary school after two days of holiday. Some students of class one before the start of the classes found a sweetmeat box in a polythene bag. The bag exploded when a boy threw the bag out of the window. Five students were injured. Bapji 6, and Mithu 6 injured critically were admitted to the Sher-e-Bangla Hospital while three others admitted to Sadar hospital.

Envoy presents credentials in S Africa

Habibullah Khan, Bangladesh High Commissioner to South Africa, presented his credentials to NR Mandela, President of the Republic of South Africa recently, according to a message received in the city from Pretoria yesterday, reports BSS.

During the meeting, Mandela showed keen interest in exchanging various delegations to get to know each other's capabilities and possibilities. He was also interested in training south African doctors and engineers in Bangladesh. President Mandela has also indicated his interest in "banking for the poor" (Grammen Bank) programme.

One succumbs to stab injury

Shamim, 36, a stranded Pakistani who was stabbed by some miscreants on May 27, succumbed to his injuries at Suhrawardy Hospital Friday evening, reports UNB.

Tejgaon police sent the body to Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday, for post-mortem.

SPGRS condoned the death of Shamim and urged the law enforcing agencies to nab the assailants and ensure safety and security of them in their camps at Mirpur and Mohamudpur in the city.

Leader of the Stranded Pakistanis and chief patron of SPGRS Nasim Khan sought personal intervention of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda in this regard.

India, Pakistan Bangladesh Ceylon Conference

NOTICE TO TRADE CHITTAGONG CONGESTION SURCHARGE

MEMBER LINES, HAVING NOTED WITH INCREASING CONCERN THE UNSATISFACTORY SITUATION ENCOUNTERED IN THE PORT OF CHITTAGONG, HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THEY ARE UNABLE TO CONTINUE ABSORBING THE RESULTANT INCREASED COSTS. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT, UNLESS THERE IS A PROMPT AND SIGNIFICANT MOVEMENT IN THE PORT POSITION, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE WITH EFFECT FROM THURSDAY 15TH JUNE A SURCHARGE OF USD 100 PER TEU (FCL), USD 10W/5M (LCL) ON ALL EASTBOUND AND WESTBOUND CARGOS MOVING THROUGH CHITTAGONG.

2ND JUNE, 1995

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Weather

SW monsoon likely

South Western monsoon is likely to set in over the south-eastern part of the country till June 6 and may sweep over the country by June 10. Met Office source said yesterday, reports UNB.

In its regular forecast, the Met Office said rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind are likely at a few places over Chittagong division and at one or two places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions during the 24 hours till 6 pm today.

The weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country during the period. Day temperatures are likely to remain nearly unchanged.

Nat'l seminar on children's rights June 7-8

A national seminar on "The Bangladesh Laws on Children and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child" will be held on June 7-8 at the Planning Commission at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

Ministry of Law and Parliamentary Affairs has organised the seminar with the assistance of the UNICEF.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Mirza Gohar Hafiz will attend the inaugural session as chief guest while State Minister for Women and Children's Affairs Sarwar Rahman as special guest.

UNICEF officials, lawyers from different districts, important persons from various social strata, government officials and representatives of various NGOs will participate in the seminar.

Legal notice

In the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, High Court Division. (Original Civil Jurisdiction) Matter no. 24/1995.

An application U/S 81 of the companies Act, 1994 and

In the matter of: Md. Shamsul Huda, Member, Executive Committee Bangladesh Indenting Agencies Association

Petitioner.

Notice is hereby given that an application U/S 81 of the Companies Act, 1994 for condonation of delay in holding the Annual General Meeting for the year 1993 of the above noted company was moved on 2.5.95 before the High Court Division. The Hon'ble Court was pleased to admit the said application and fixed it for hearing on 28.6.1995.

Any person interested to oppose or support the application should appear at the time of hearing the matter by himself or through an authorised advocate. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of necessary charges.

Farouque Ahmed, Advocate,
Room #14, Supreme Court Bar Building Dhaka

Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration Company Ltd (BAPEX)

(A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)
Material Control Division
HBFC Building (9th floor)
22, Purana Paltan, Dhaka

Ref: 123.22.61

Tender No. 123.53.94

Dated: 31.5.95

Tender Notice

Sealed quotations are hereby invited from the bonafide Suppliers/Manufacturers on prescribed schedule for supply of Printing goods.

Tender schedule containing terms and conditions will be available at our Accounts & Finance Division, Ibrahim Mansion (3rd floor), 11, Purana Paltan, Dhaka during office hours from 7.6.95 at a cost of Tk 250/- per schedule (Non-refundable). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender. Tender in separate sealed covered superscribing the case number and description of goods may be dropped in the tender box kept at Material Control Division, HBFC Building (9th floor), 22, Purana Paltan, Dhaka at 12.00 Noon on 14.6.95 which will be opened on the same day at 12.10 PM in presence of the tenderers (if any).

Management reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the tenders and increase/decrease the quantity of the item without assigning any reason whatsoever.

D-545

General Manager (MCD)

Corrigendum

Dhaka WASA invited a tender to undertake Crash Metering Program which was published in The Daily Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla, The Daily Star and The Daily Inquilab on 3.6.95. The date for submission of the tender has been extended to June 11, 1995 instead of June 10, 1995. Other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

WASA-P.I.-230/95,
D-548

Chairman
Dhaka WASA



BCIC International Re-Tender Notice

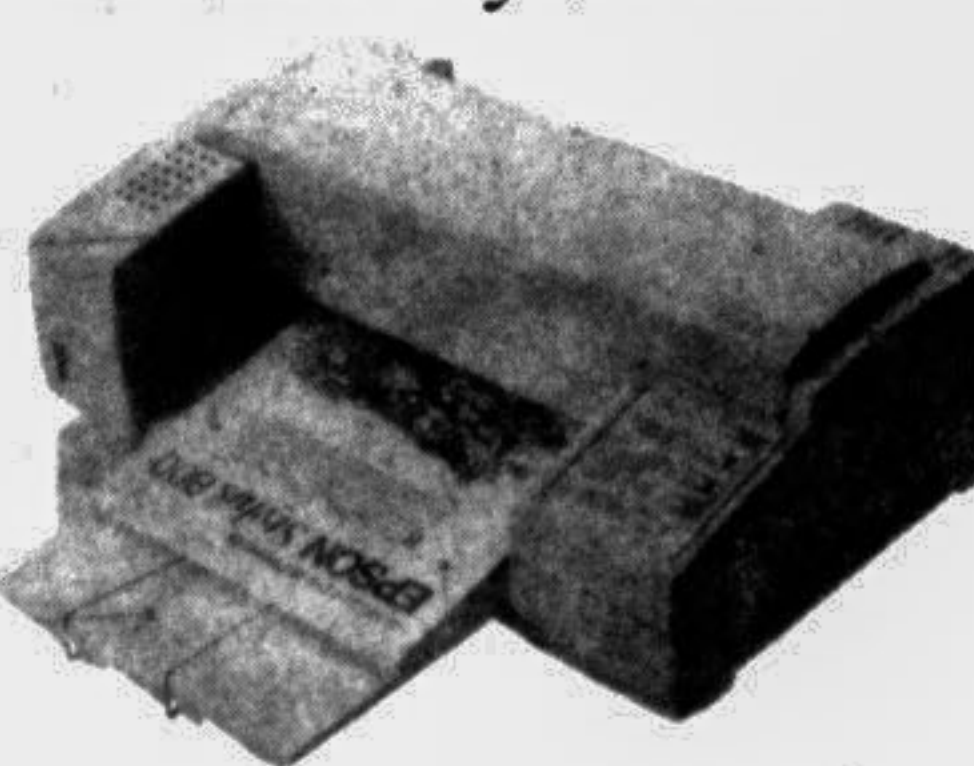
বিসিআইসি'র পূর্ণা শিলায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

The Managing Director, Jamuna Fertilizer Company Ltd, Tarakandi, Sanshabari, Jamalpur hereby invites sealed tender on C&F (C), Chittagong basis under any suitable financial source in two envelope system for import of different types of cast steel globe valve & Wedge types S.S. Gate valves against tender enquiry No. JFCL/FP/MTS/PM/2.183/79 dated 20.5.95. The Tenders will be received up to 11.00 am on 5.7.95 and be opened on the same day thereafter. Tender documents containing detailed terms and conditions will be available on payment of Tk. 200/= (Two hundred) (Non-refundable) in cash from the office of the (i) Controller of Accounts, BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka (ii) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong and (iii) Jamuna Fertilizer Company Ltd on all working days. No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening of tender.

BCIC 537-25/5/95
DFP-13346-28/5

G-662

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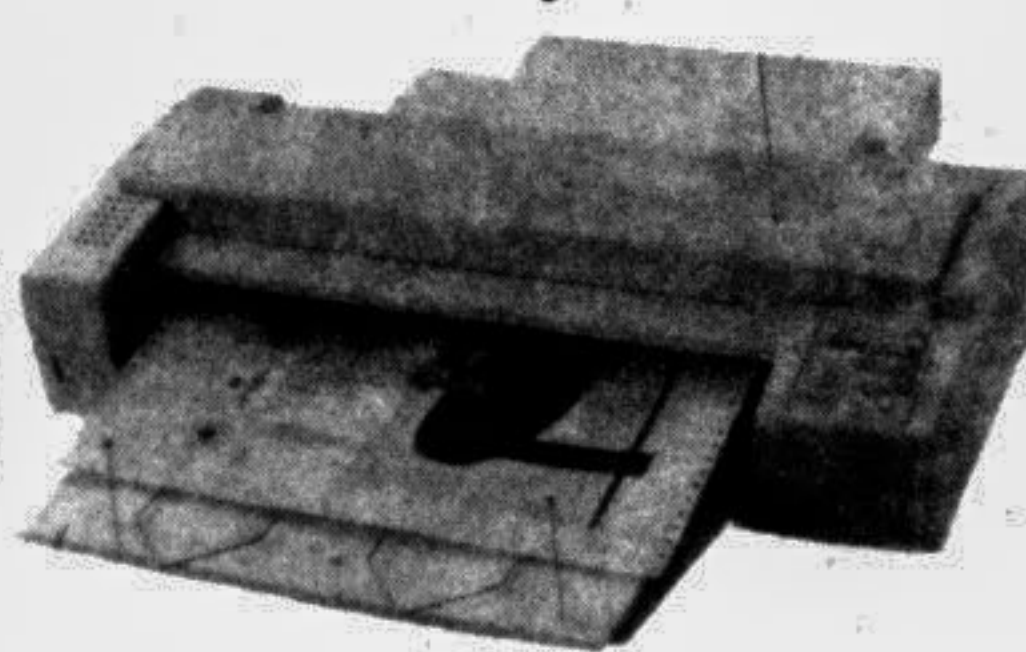


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