



"I realize these 7:00 classes are hard on you, but please make more effort to stay awake!"

State Capital NEWS

By Vern Sanford

By VERN SANFORD
Texas Press Association
AUSTIN, Tex.—Much more than just taxes is being written now at the State Capitol.

Political careers are being shaped—or broken. Climate is being determined for business development—or freeze. Cost of living for every Texan is involved.

That's what the edginess, temperament, fussing and name-calling is all about right now.

Seldom, if ever before, have lawmakers been so sensitive to criticism—from governor, from press, from public.

For the first time in years, the House met on a Saturday (June 20) to work on the long overdue tax bill. Knuckling down had come reluctantly—but surely—after governor and press had chided lawmakers for long Thursday-to-Monday recesses during the short 30-day special sessions. Lawmakers fussed back earlier in that week—but they stayed late.

For the most part, the fussing was all bark and little bite. House members who threatened to evict Capitol news reporters from their Capitol quarters and House floor press table in reprisal weren't taken seriously. Reporting of legislative affairs is fundamental to the democratic processes—and no one realizes it better than do lawmakers.

In brief: pressures mounted—a safety valve blew—and work was resumed in earnest.

NEW TAX PROPOSAL — A 2 per cent "luxury tax" on items costing more than \$50 is the principal new feature of a House committee-approved revenue bill.

Tax committee voted 12-to-6 to send the bill by Rep. Frates Seeligion of San Antonio to the House floor.

Like several previous bills, it was an attempt to compromise the conflicts between the "sales taxers" and "business taxers." It would raise an estimated \$170,000,000 for the biennium.

About \$36,000,000 would come

from the luxury sales tax. About \$6,100,000 would come from a one per cent severance beneficiary tax on natural gas, and about \$13,000,000 from increased franchise taxes on corporations.

Rest would come from increased levies on gross receipts of utilities and sales of automobiles, tobacco, wine and liquor.

In the showdown on taxes last session, the House refused to approve a bill heavy on sales taxes. Some committee members voted against this bill on grounds that a 2 per cent sales tax, even though it was only on \$50 or more items, would be ruinously unpopular.

A majority of the Senate, however, has shown definite disapproval of loading too much of the new burden on business. They feel heavy business taxes would shut out industry and cut off the source of new prosperity.

SPENDING BILLS RE-PASSED — Both houses re-passed the appropriation bills that went through the first special session.

They went to same conference committee that worked before the adjournment. House bill was some \$20,000,000 higher.

Conference committee reportedly did most of the routine work on the bills and set them aside until a tax bill could be passed to make spending possibilities more definite.

STILL FUEDING — Abandoned property bill, which provoked some of the most heated legislative debate this year, is having its third round.

Rep. James Bates of Edinburg, sponsor, told the House tax committee the bill wouldn't change the escheat laws that have been on the statute books for years. He declared it would make the old law more workable.

Bates' bill, as introduced this session, would require banks and others holding money or property unclaimed for seven years, to report it to the state within 60 days after passage of the bill.

It also would give state agencies authority to examine the books and records of businesses to see if they are holding such property.

Bankers labeled it a "free hunting license into all bank accounts" and "unconstitutional search and seizure."

Bill was sent to subcommittee.

C. F. Hall Added To A&M Faculty

Dr. C. F. Hall has joined the faculty of the School of Veterinary Medicine, as an associate professor in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology.

The appointment was effective Wednesday, Dr. L. C. Grumbles, head of the department, says.

Before coming to A&M, Hall was a member of the faculty of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University.

He received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Kansas State College in 1951. From 1951 to 1952 he was veterinarian in charge of a commercial biological testing laboratory.

Later he joined the staff of the University of Arkansas where he also did graduate work. He received his M. S. degree in Veterinary Pathology at Michigan State University in June, 1959.

Hall will be a joint staff member of A&M and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and will devote the major part of his time to research and teaching in the field of poultry diseases.

Numerous Faiths Represented Here

The denominational preference of the students attending the first term of summer school has been announced by Gordon Gay, coordinator of religious life. It follows:

- Baptist, 667; Methodist, 540; no card, 270; Catholics, 326; no preference, 204; Presbyterian, 144; Church of Christ, 100; Episcopal, 93; Lutheran, 87; Christian, 73; Protestant, 16; Jewish, 13; Assembly of God, 10; Mormon (LDS), 8; Moslem, 8; Czech-Moravian, Nazarene, United Church of Christ, 5 each; Unitarian, Greek Orthodox, Christian Science, 4 each; Congregational, 2; United Brethren, Anglican, Christadelphian, Church of Beracha, Christian Catholic Apostolic Church, Seven Day Adventist, Independent Gereja, 1 each.

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Board Accepts Funds at Meet Here Saturday

A total of \$234,727.59 in funds supporting fellowships, scholarships, awards and grants-in-aid for research within the A&M System was accepted by the board of directors here Saturday.

The board also accepted a number of loans of livestock, machinery and materials for use by various parts of the system.

Of the total funds, received \$146,669.87, of which \$24,909.87 was for scholarships and fellowships. Grants-in-aid amounting to \$102,860, special gifts totaling \$9,000 and loans of \$9,900 were also accepted for the college.

The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station received 18 grant-in-aid, amounting to \$62,350; eight gifts adding up to \$6,563.50; loans of equipment and materials valued at \$16,304.50.

Tarleton State College received two gifts amounting to \$617 and a gasoline engine; Prairie View A&M received two gifts amounting to \$314; the Texas Engineering Experiment Station received a power unit for the IBM-650 computing machine used in the Data Processing Center.

The Texas Transportation Institute received 17 gifts amounting to \$1,908.72, supporting establishment of the Thomas H. MacDonald Chair of Transportation. The latest gifts brought to \$82,430.47 the total funds received in support of the MacDonald Chair.

Wee Aggies

We Aggies like to read about Wee Aggies. When a wee one arrives, call VI 6-4910 and ask for the Wee Aggie Editor.

A future Aggie Sweetheart, Catrina Lynn, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Schafer of College View, Apt. C-18-B.

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Social Whirl

The Aggie Wives Bridge Club will meet in the Memorial Student Center tonight at 7:30. Hostesses are Joy Ellis and Karen Pickering.

Leipper Speaks To Kiwanis Club

Dr. Dale F. Leipper, head of the Department of Oceanography and Meteorology, told of his 19 days in Russia at the Kiwanis Club meeting in the Memorial Student Center Tuesday.

The next meeting will be Spontaneous Origin Shirt Day for the Kiwanians.

Ron Nischwitz of Ohio State led the Big Ten pitchers in strikeouts this spring with 43 in 47 innings.

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Members of the Student Publications Board are L. A. Duenwall, director of Student Publications, chairman; J. W. Amyx, School of Engineering; Harry Lee Kidd, School of Arts and Sciences; Otto R. Kums, School of Agriculture; and Dr. E. D. McMurry, School of Veterinary Medicine.

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