

EXPLAINING PROCEDURES

Texas A&M veterinary surgeon Dr. Donald R. Howard (left) explains surgical procedures to student John Herbold of Houston in one of three new surgery rooms in the small animal clinic. Two of the rooms contain single surgical units with a third and larger room equipped with dual surgical units.

Legislators Hide As Hot Issues Pop

AUSTIN (AP) — In every legislative session there are a number of issues whose mere mention causes red lights to flash, buzzers to buzz and timid lawmakers to hide.

These are the firecracker issues. They grab headlines. They stir up voters.

A legislator may have a great record in helping his district but let him vote the wrong way on, say, gun registration, and that is all he will be remembered for.

Five of the firecracker issues this year are gun controls, horse racing, daylight saving time, college tuition increases and legalized therapeutic abortions.

Among those legislators who took a stand on gun controls in an Associated Press survey, the sentiment is better than 4-1 against. Rep. W. S. Pickett, Karnes City, expressed it best with one word: "Never."

On the other side is Mrs. Frances Farenthold, new representative from Corpus Christi, who favors "stringent" controls.

Two legislators say they will support controls for handguns only.

And Rep. R. C. Nichols, Houston, says it really is a federal problem but he is willing to "try anything to outlaw 'Saturday night specials' and keep guns away from convicted felons."

A "Saturday night special" is a cheap gun purchased in great haste to blow the brains out of somebody who has made you mad.

Rep. Honore Ligarde, Laredo, says he will favor gun controls "if the approach is objective rather than emotional."

The ratio against pari-mutuel betting on horse racing was 3-1.

Rep. Bud Sherman, Fort Worth, has a two-word description of what the legislature should do about horse racing: "Get nervous."

Sixty per cent of those taking a stand on college tuition increases say they oppose them.

Three legislators support increases for out-of-state students.

Three others say they are for free tuition at least through two years of college.

The strongest words used on tuition came from Sen. Chet Brooks, Pasadena — "Absolutely not" — and Sen. Ike Harris, Dallas — "Should double."

Legislators like daylight saving time by a 2-1 margin.

Among those in opposition is Sen. Ronald Bridges, Corpus Christi, who said: "I wish we could get back to 'God's time.'"

And Mrs. Farenthold said, "I have heard more opposition to this measure than I expected."

Sen. David Ratliff, Stamford, favors an amendment that would make daylight saving time effective in June, July and August only.

Legalized therapeutic abortions give the legislators the most trouble. Slightly less than a third say they are against them, and slightly more than a third are on the fence.

"Wish you hadn't asked," said Rep. Bob Armstrong, Austin, who went on to say therapeutic abortions were "OK, I guess."

Two representatives said they would go along with whatever medical experts recommended.

Mrs. Farenthold said she wants a full discussion on abortions.

"This is a very difficult question for me. However, I would probably vote in favor of it," she said.

Sen. A. R. Schwartz, Galveston, said it "should pass, but won't."

The one firecracker issue that already has passed, daylight saving time, appears safe. The other four issues may enliven legislative debate but seem doomed. Re-election prospects look good.

2-Year Grant Awarded To Grad School

The Research and Graduate Center of the School of Architecture has been awarded a two-year research grant to develop a prototype ward-building system for the state, announced Prof. Edward J. Romieniec, school chairman.

The center, a division of the Texas Engineering Experiment Station, received \$178,000 from the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation through the State Building Commission.

The first project will be under construction by Sept. 1, at the San Antonio State Hospital, Romieniec added, noting that \$3.6 million has been appropriated for the project.

Dr. John Kinross-Wright, mental health commissioner, and Admiral H. R. Nieman, building commissioner, noted the system will be designed for the mentally ill, children, adolescents, geriatrics, and mentally retarded patients.

Romieniec pointed out the research objective "is to develop a flexible, economic, prefabricated repetitive building system."

The architectural firm of Page-Southerland-Page, Austin, has been appointed by the building commission to work closely with the center on the first project, Romieniec said.

"It is the intent of the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to utilize this basic unit in other institutions throughout the state on a long-range continuing basis," Romieniec said.

Parents Upset Over Length Of Sideburns

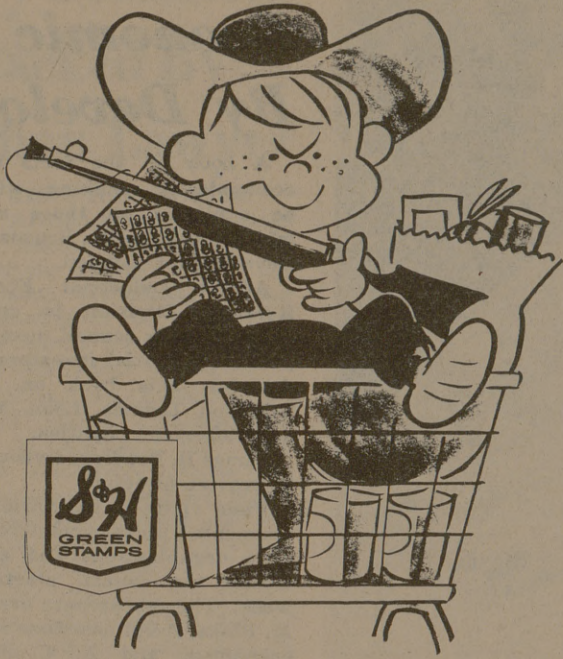
FORT WORTH (AP)—Long sideburns have clashed with an earlobe rule at L. D. Bell High School in suburban Hurst. The rule, some say, favors the long-eared.

The rule came to light Tuesday when the dean of men, Kenneth Potter, talked to about 70 boys about their long sideburns or other heady matters. Some were sent home.

The action upset several parents, said Carl Huetter, school board president, who met Wednesday with Potter and other school officials.

"My phone rang off the wall last night," Huetter explained. Potter said he is not taking a stand for or against sideburns, that it's merely a question of obeying the school rules. At Bell, boys can't let their sideburns grow down farther than the middle earlobe, he said. It's part of a good grooming policy adopted several years ago.

"If you're short-eared, you have to keep them (sideburns) pretty short," Potter observed.



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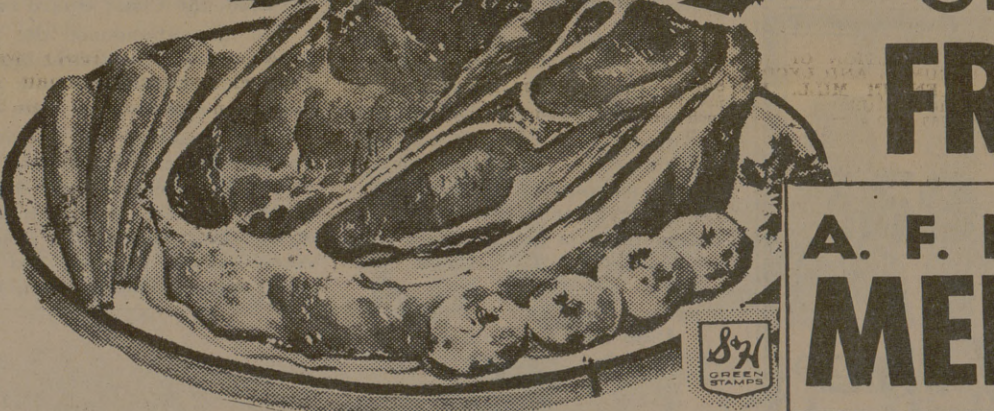


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