

# Scientists complete operations

Nuclear scientists here have completed drilling 12 one and three-quarter inch holes in the university's nuclear reactor grid plate to allow more efficient operations.

The Nuclear Science Center, largest in the Southwest with a one megawatt power capacity, will be shut down until mid-August, reports Don Anderson, assistant to center Director Dr. John Randall.

Drilling began late Wednesday and was completed Thursday morning. Actual drilling time was eight hours, Anderson said.

The modification means fuel follower control rods will pass through the grid plate to the reactor core. In the past, the control rods did not pass through the plate.

Anderson explained the rod placement will produce more reaction with the fuel, making operations more efficient.

The reactor was increased in 1968 from 100 kilowatts to one megawatt, giving the facility 10 times greater power.

Fuel use increased in direct proportion. During the past two years the reactor has used twice as much fuel as it did during the first seven years, Anderson pointed out.

Included in the 1968 modification was changing the core fuel

from an MTR Plate to uranium zirconium hydride fuel rods.

Main advantages of the current modifications are the placement of fuel in the center of the reactor core and the ability to set aside six to eight fuel rods while three are being used, Anderson said.

Since 1968 the center has been in operation five days a week, 14 hours a day at peak power—1,000,000 watts.

# McDonald named AAFCO official

Reed McDonald, director of Feed and Fertilizer Control Services has been elected secretary of the Association of American Feed Control Officials.

He was named at the recent meeting of the association in Louisville, Ky. Reed is a past president of the association.

Delmer Myers of Trenton, N. J. will head the association during the next year. New directors are Tommy Thompson of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, and Robert Guntert of Topeka, Kans.

# 41st firemen's school closed

The university closed its 41st Texas Firemen's Training School last Friday after setting new all-time enrollment records in each of the three one-week schools.

Chief Instructor Henry D. Smith of the Texas Engineering Extension Service reports total registration at 2,156, up over 10 per cent from 1969 totals.

Spanish-speaking firemen from 10 foreign countries and the U. S. state of Texas and Arizona put out the final fires Friday afternoon.

Foreign countries represented include Germany, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Columbia, Costa Rica and Ecuador.

Smith said other totals include 1,197 from the municipal schools and 786 for the industrial sessions.

No major injuries were reported.

"We expect growth every year but for some reason this year's schools have been exceptional," Smith remarked.

He added the staff will be returning supplies and equipment during the next few weeks.

"And of course, we have already begun plans for next year," Smith said.

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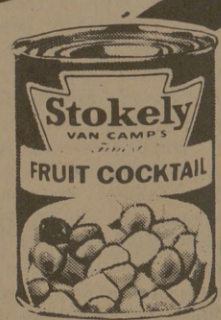
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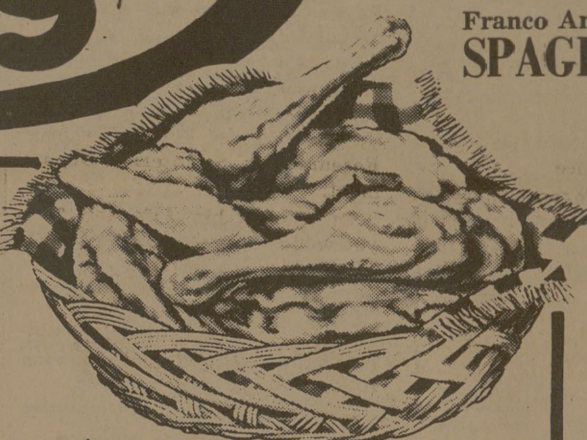
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