

Rep. Bill Presnal Reports

'Significant' bills have seen action in House

The House of Representatives has been working on many bills of extreme interest and importance as it starts the countdown to end the session. This column will be devoted to brief summaries of some of the significant bills that the House has recently acted upon.

★ ★ ★

A proposed constitutional amendment, H.J.R. 61, passed the House last week recommending that the 63rd Legislature sit as a constitutional convention in 1974. The proposed amendment, if the Senate accepts it, will be submitted to Texas voters in the November 1972 general election.

If voters approve, the 63rd Legislature in 1973 would appoint a constitutional commission to work with the legislative council in studying the state constitution and proposing changes. The commission would report its findings and recommendations to the 63rd Legislature no later than November 1, 1973. The Legislature would then meet in special session in January, 1974, to act on these recommendations.

All 181 members of the Legislature would sit as a plenary body to either revise the present 96-year-old constitution or write an entirely new constitution.

Either way, it would take a two-thirds vote of the Legislative Convention to submit a constitutional issue to the voters. The new document would have to contain the existing Bill of Rights.

★ ★ ★

The House has under consideration a bill which has passed in the Senate allowing the state to underwrite tuition in private schools for persons to attend private colleges and universities.

The tuition grant bill would permit up to \$300 per semester in state assistance for Texas residents attending private but accredited colleges. The tuition grants would be made on the basis of economic need, as designated under the rules set by the State Coordinating Board of Colleges and Universities.

This bill giving state tuition-equalization grants to Texas students who prefer private rather than state colleges but cannot afford the higher tuition rates has had some problems in the House of Representatives.

★ ★ ★

The Senate and the House of Representatives repealed the 2-cents-per-gallon gas tax that was included in the general tax package to sent to the Governor's office two weeks ago. Gov. Smith

came forth last week after remaining silent during the bitter tax fight for weeks and said flatly he would veto the tax bill unless it was cut.

A tax bill veto could have thrown the Legislature into a costly special session. After the legislative gas tax repeal, this will not be necessary.

The 2-cents-per-gallon tax originated in the Senate and was later approved by the House. The gas tax repeal eliminates about \$72 million that would have gone into the general revenue fund.

In addition, the gas tax, if it had become law, would have given financial relief to our city and county governments by the state assuming 100 per cent of the cost of obtaining highway right-of-way.

★ ★ ★

Redistricting of U.S. Congressional seats, State House seats and State Senate seats is approaching the final stages. As expected, there will be much last-minute shuffling of district lines that have been previously drawn and re-drawn. Decisions on redistricting are probably the most difficult to deal with of any the Legislature encounters.

Situations arise that pit friend against friend and neighbor

against neighbor. Legislators who have worked together on numerous issues and problems in the past will find themselves running against each other in the 1971 elections. Many of these situations are inevitable following the court's one man-one vote decisions.

★ ★ ★

Only one of the four constitutional amendments submitted to the voters last week received statewide approval. This was a m e n d e m e n t number 4. This amendment provides for \$100 million of bonding authority under a six per cent ceiling in order to meet new matching-grant formulas for sewer installations and treatment facilities.

With the passage of this amendment, substantial improvements can be made in sewer treatment facilities which will provide cleaner streams in Texas.

★ ★ ★

A bill recently passed by the House, H.B. 261, would create the presumption of intoxication at .10 per cent and the information would be admissible at trials of driving - while - intoxicated cases. The jury would also receive a report of the level of alcohol in the blood of a defendant at the time

of the arrest. Opponents of the bill argued that it takes from a citizen the right of being considered innocent until proven guilty.

★ ★ ★

The House tacked a 10 per cent gross receipts tax back onto its liquor tax package this week. Approval of the increased taxes on all alcoholic beverages came as voters in 46 Texas counties were deciding whether to authorize the sale of liquor by the drink for the first time since before prohibition. This bill has now been sent to the Senate.

★ ★ ★

A Senate-House conference committee has been appointed to work on the general appropriations bill. A liquor tax and possibly an out-of-state tuition increase, in addition to the general tax bill, should provide the state sufficient funding for the next two years, with one exception.

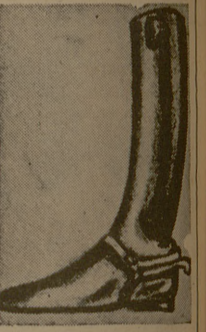
The welfare program has only been funded for the first year of the biennium. As it stands now, there will probably need to be a special session of the Legislature during the summer of 1972 to fund welfare for the second year of the biennium.

AGGIES... DON'T DELAY!

Order Your Boots Now For Future Delivery - Small Payment Will Do YOUR BOOTS MADE TO ORDER

Convenient Lay-A-Way Plan ONLY \$75.00 A PAIR

Economy Shoe Repair & Boot Co. 107 W. Commerce San Antonio, Texas 78205 - CA 3-0047



ATTENTION SUMMER SCHOOL STUDENTS

7 DAY Summer Board

1st Session \$ 99.00
May 31 - July 9

2nd Session \$104.25
July 12 - August 20

5 DAY Summer Board

1st Session \$90.70

2nd Session \$94.00

YOU CANNOT EAT FOR LESS ANYWHERE ELSE!
"QUALITY FIRST"

Students propose satellites to help control air traffic

Texas A&M students engineered preliminary designs of satellite air traffic control systems during the spring semester.

Aerospace engineering teams composed of 13 senior design course students formulated the systems, wrote proposals such as would be submitted by an industrial firm and made oral presentations heard by Texas A&M faculty members.

Proposals met design criteria established by associate professor Stan Lowy, instructor of the spacecraft design course.

Both systems employ the satellite as a repeater or relay for signals from ground control points and transponders (automatic transmitters) in each aircraft over the continental U. S.

Data from each craft—identification, altitude, position, air speed and heading—are fed to computers at the control center.

The computer compares the data with the plane's flight plan, noting any deviation. Automatic corrections would be radioed directly to offending aircraft. Comparison of the plane's position with others in the area would reveal need for course and altitude changes to prevent collisions.

A team composed of Gary Jakubowski of Damascus, Md.; Lar-

ry Lewis and Russell Mask, San Antonio; Steve Henry, College Station; David Vaughn, Longview; Doug McGowen, Mansfield and Paul Tabbert, Bridgman, Mich., arranged for the satellite to "probe" planes in the air one at a time, feeding positional data to a computer for rapid analysis and possible corrections.

The satellite Jakubowski's team designed, called SATAN (for satellite air traffic avoidance and navigation system), is a three-foot octagonal craft weighing 615 pounds. The team called for one each to be inserted by Atlas Centaur booster in 22,300-mile-high synchronous equatorial orbits over the Eastern and Western U. S.

To keep the satellites on station a minimum of three years, the team incorporated into the design a 100-pound thrust monopropellant engine and nitrogen gas positional thrusters to take care of orbital discrepancies caused by the earth, sun, moon and major planets.

Electronics in the solar panel-powered satellite would give SATAN "a position fix accuracy of a tenth of a mile and 100 feet altitude accuracy for 15,000 simultaneously controlled aircraft," the Jakubowski team said. They computed 18 months design and

testing cost at \$1.5 million.

The other team designed a slightly different system, utilizing continuous transmission from the aircraft transponder connected to an inertial guidance system. The satellite, a cylindrical 380 pound, 51 inch long and 30-inch wide package, serves as an activer repeated to a central processing center.

The team composed of Frankie D. Allen, Robert H. Matthews and Richard N. Sharp of Amarillo; Rayford G. Broussard, Houston; James H. Johnson, Friendswood, and Raymond Serna, Robstown, indicated their system could handle more than 2,000 commercial aircraft per minute during peak traffic hours. They figured its cost at \$1.14 billion.

Both systems store data on corrective measures, flight plan violations and collisions for future investigation, tie in ground control and air traffic control radar systems and use existing components.

Team proposals included vehicle specifications, structural analyses and performance estimates, the launch vehicle and trajectory computations, orbit modifications and drawings.

Lowy said faculty members who heard the oral reports "all had good comments about the work."

Statisticians help route Navy

Navy tankers soon may be sailing on a scheduling system created here.

Such an operating system could save taxpayers at least \$10,000 a day.

The system was devised by Texas A&M's Institute of Statistics as part of an optimization grant from the Office of Naval Research. ONR has just announced a \$90,000 supplement to extend the grant through August 1974.

Dr. H. O. Hartley, Institute of Statistics director, said implementation of the new system is tentatively planned about the first of next year.

Texas A&M statisticians have been working approximately 18 months with two key organizations in the petroleum products distribution system, the Defense Fuel Supply Center (DFSC) and the Military Sea Transportation Service (MSTS).

DFSC, part of the Defense Supply Agency, procures 14 petroleum products at 35 different ports throughout the world. MSTS controls a fleet of approximately 60 tankers which transport the products to 100 destinations. Slightly over half the vessels belong to the Navy, with the remainder rented from commercial shipping firms.

"Our goal is to minimize the combined transportation and purchasing cost for the shipments and still maintain scheduled delivery times," said Hartley, who had responsibility for technical direction of the project.

He explained transportation costs alone currently run \$360,000 per day.

"I believe we ultimately can reduce that cost five to 10 percent," he claimed.

Funds would be saved primarily

on the rented vessels, Hartley explained, because operating expenses are continuous on the Navy craft.

He said no estimate is available on savings on purchasing costs.

When the project is in full operation, a schedule will be provided for each tanker, relating where it should go and what products should be loaded in specific ports, with all assignments accomplished within the scheduled time.

Included in the system are computerized techniques to determine comparative costs for purchasing petroleum products in such widely separated areas as Houston, Arabia or Caracas, Venezuela. Taken into consideration will be the expense of obtaining and transporting the products as well as the time factor.

"WHEN YOU Travel CALL ON US FOR ...

846-3773

VISIT OUR NEW OFFICE . . . MSC

MEMBER AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TRAVEL AGENTS

BEVERLEY BRALEY UNIVERSITY TRAVEL . . . A&M UNIVERSITY . . . BRYAN

HOTEL RESERVATIONS
AIRLINE TICKETS
STEAMSHIP TICKETS
ESCORTED TOURS
INDEPENDENT TOURS
CRUISES
TICKETS DELIVERED

SPECIALS FOR THURS-FRI-SAT MAY 27-28: 29 1971

FUN-SATIONAL FOOD BUYS

for Your HOLIDAY WEEKEND

GOLDEN RIDE BANANAS 1b. 10¢

WILSON'S CERT-1-SELECT BOSTON BUTT PORK ROAST 1b. 45¢

MINUTE MAID FROZEN ORANGE JUICE 4 6oz. CANS 1.99

HEINZ REG. OR HOT KETCHUP 4 14 oz. btl. 1.00

COKE'S 3 6 Btl. Ctns. \$1 Plus Dep. Limit 3 With \$5.00 Purchase Exc. Cig.

DETERGENT TIDE Family Size WITH 15 PUR. Limit 1 \$1.99

WONDER LONG GRAIN RICE 2 lb. box 29¢

GREEN GIANT GREEN PEAS 4 NO. 303 CANS 1.00

ARROW PINTO BEANS 2 lb. bag 27¢

ALL QUANTITY RIGHTS R.S.V.D.

The Battalion

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the student writers only. The Battalion is a non-tax-supported, non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students as a university and community newspaper.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, and no more than 300 words in length. They must be signed, although the writer's name will be withheld by arrangement with the editor. Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

Members of the Student Publications Board are: Jim Lindsey, chairman; H. F. Eilers, College of Liberal Arts; F. S. White, College of Engineering; Dr. Asa B. Childers, Jr., College of Veterinary Medicine; Herbert H. Brevard, College of Agriculture; and Roger Miller, student.

Represented nationally by National Educational Advertising Services, Inc., New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The Battalion, a student newspaper at Texas A&M, is published in College Station, Texas, daily except Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and holiday periods, September through May, and once a week during summer school.

MEMBER

The Associated Press, Texas Press Association The Associated Collegiate Press

Mail subscriptions are \$5.50 per semester; \$6 per school year; \$6.50 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 4% sales tax. Advertising rate furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for reproduction of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in the paper and local news of spontaneous origin published herein. Rights of republication of all other matter herein are also reserved.

Second-Class postage paid at College Station, Texas.

EDITOR DAVID S. MIDDLEBROOKE

REDEEM THIS COUPON FOR 50 FREE S&H GREEN STAMPS With Purchase of Any Size Liquid PILLSBURY SWEET 10 Coupon Expires May 29, 1971

REDEEM THIS COUPON FOR 100 EXTRA S&H GREEN STAMPS One Per Family With Purchase of \$10.00 or More (Excluding Cigarettes) Coupon Expires May 29, 1971

Brookshire Bros. THE BEST FOR LESS