

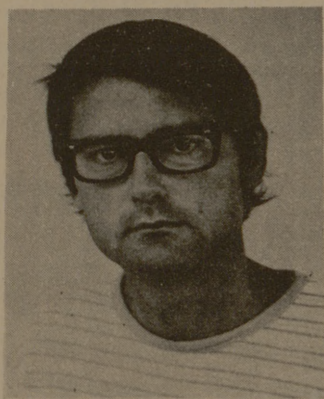
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Smith declares Mutscher conviction is 'indictment' for men serving in Austin

DALLAS (AP) — Gov. Preston Smith said Wednesday the conviction of House Speaker Gus Mutscher was in reality an "indictment of most all of those serving in Austin."

But, Smith said, government officials seeking re-election still have time to "let people know" how they feel about various issues.

"I think the jury in the Mutscher trial did what it thought best," Smith said at a news conference. But Smith said he feels it was "amazing" that the prosecutor in the Mutscher trial, Travis County Dist. Atty. Bob Smith, called the governor a "co-conspirator."

Mutscher, Rep. Tommy Shannon and Mutscher aide Rush McGinty were convicted early last week of bribery conspiracy in the Texas stock scandals and assessed 5-year probated sentences.

Smith said he believes there was nothing devious about Mutscher's avoidance of the word "resignation" when he announced Tuesday he is stepping aside as House speaker because he can no longer effectively discharge his duties.

"I think he (Mutscher) was sincere in his statement," Smith said. "He's being realistic. I expect him to resign before the special session, or at least very soon after it is called."

Smith continued to dodge questions about a special session of the legislature, saying repeatedly, "We are not in a position to announce it at this time. We will have to have one, though."

Smith said he is not yet convinced there is a "crisis or emergency" requiring a special session. "Maybe I'll think so tomorrow," he said.

The governor said Texas will not lose some \$24 million in federal highway funds unless the legislature acts before March 31. The Dallas City Council has urged the governor to call a special session soon in order to safeguard the federal revenues.

"I don't know where the city council gets their deadline. Surely if we were in danger of losing this money Mr. John Volpe (secretary of transportation) would have let me know. We're not going to lose that money," he said.

Smith's announced purpose for the news conference was to voice his opposition to increasing federal intervention into state affairs, "particularly the busing" but he admitted there is little if anything he can do to stop it.

"My greatest concern is the manner in which the federal courts have taken over the duties and responsibilities of state government, particularly the busing," Smith said. "The President and Vice President are opposed to it and I don't understand why we have it. I don't think racial balance in schools has anything to do with a good education."

Smith said continued abolition of state authority in many fields — welfare and voting laws —

has made it "difficult to conduct the state's business."

"Our welfare system is chaotic. We Texans spend \$260 million a year on welfare," he said. Smith said he would like for the federal government to take full control of welfare and use its own guidelines.

"The government has pre-empted our doing anything," he said.

Smith said he will support the Democratic nominee for president and said Alabama Gov. George Wallace's stand on busing and state's rights is much in accord with his own feelings. "I've never been for busing," Smith repeated.

The governor said his private polls show him with 40 per cent of voter support with Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes second.

Asked if he thinks a woman would make a good governor, Smith chuckled and said: "Mrs. Ma Ferguson did all right." Smith said his polls show Rep. Frances Farenthold of Corpus Christi in fourth place but "coming up fast."

He said she is drawing support away from Barnes and Uvalde rancher-banker Dolph Briscoe who, he said, his polls show in third place.

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DeVaughn elected Black Awareness Committee head

Wayne DeVaughn was elected as new chairman of the Black Awareness Committee in the March 15 meeting.

The new executive committee includes Aaron Donotto, vice-chairman; Barbara Buchanan, secretary; William Grays, treasurer; and members-at-large Vergil Gay and Tommy Brigham.

Library announces holiday schedule

Curtailed hours and service will go into effect at the A&M Library during the spring recess and Easter holidays.

All TAMU students except those in the College of Veterinary Medicine start the spring holidays at 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 29. Classes will resume at 8 a.m. Wednesday, April 5.

Library hours March 29 to April 1 and April 3 and 4 will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., announced Director John B. Smith. The facility will be closed Sunday, April 2.

On faculty-staff holidays March 31 to April 3, excluding Easter Sunday, limited library service will be provided. Mrs. Jane Davis, circulation librarian, explained that materials can be checked out on those dates, but division service desks will be closed.

The library will resume its regular schedule on April 5. Vet medicine student holidays are March 31 to April 3.

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The Floral Center — 823-5792
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1201 Texas Ave.
1¢ off per gallon if 26.9; 2¢ off per gallon if 27.9 or above.

JEWELERS

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1301 S. College
10% off on stereo components and sound equipment (Gerard, Electro-voice, Scott, Sylvania).

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Sosolik's Radio & TV — 822-2133

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RESTAURANTS

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Burger King — 846-8007
3807 Texas Ave.
Free french fries with purchase of Whopper or Whaler & a large drink; 10% off on purchase of 25 or more Whoppers or Whalers from 8-10 p. m. weekdays & 8-11 p. m. weekends.

Casa Chapultepec — 822-1301
1315 S. College
10% off on Mexican dinners 1 & 2.

Dairy Queen — 1406 Texas at Coulter; Dairy Queen — 2919 Texas at Villa Maria; Want-a-burger — 619 Texas across from Saber Inn "Belt-buster" only 69¢, Greatest Big Burger in the Whole Big State.

Denny's — 822-5335
2712 Texas Ave.
Sun. - Wed.: Coffee and pie 50¢, pecan pie 55¢; 5 p. m. - 11 p. m. Spaghetti Dinner or Chicken Fried Steak 99¢; 11 p. m. - 7 a. m. No. 1 Breakfast 99¢, with Ham plus 5¢.

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