

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle

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EARLE OCT 72

Batt News Summary

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS GALVESTON, Tex. — Human volunteers who smoked marijuana under laboratory conditions suffered sleep problems and impairment of decision-making, a preliminary study here shows.

Dr. Ernest Barratt of the University of Texas Medical Branch stressed the conclusions drawn from the study were still preliminary. "We still have a lot more to learn."

Marijuana was smoked regularly by 14 young male adults—all prior users and some holding responsible professional positions—for 10 days at a time.

The drug caused a decrease in heavy sleep of the users, Barratt said, about mid-way through the 10-day period. The decrease continued for several days after they quit.

WASHINGTON — Sweeping power for President Nixon to cut appropriated funds and hold spending within \$250 billion was approved by the House Tuesday night and sent to the Senate. The 221-163 vote was a major victory for the Nixon administration and a defeat for the House Democratic leadership.

WASHINGTON — Chances for Senate passage of a tough anti-busing bill were dealt a severe blow Tuesday when the first move to cut off debate fell 10 votes short of the required two-thirds majority. But later President Nixon told four antibusing senators he wants a yes or no vote on the measure.

TOKYO — West Germany and China signed an agreement in Peking Wednesday to establish diplomatic relations, Peking's official Hsinhua news agency reported.

The signing ceremony came a

Change Called 'Far-Reaching'

10-2 Civil Jury Verdicts Now Legal

By BILL BOYKIN Texas Press Association

AUSTIN—Ten members of a 12-member jury can decide civil cases under new rules of civil litigation procedure adopted last week by the State Supreme Court.

Unanimous verdicts are now required of juries, and the change is regarded as one of the most far-reaching in many years.

An effort in the last Legislature to authorize 10-2 jury verdicts fell under weight of defense attorney opposition.

Retiring Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert W. Calvert called the revised rules "the greatest reform measure during my term (22 years) on the court."

Rules deal with appeal motions, depositions, evidence discovery motions, and other matters.

Calvert said changes would do away with some elements of the adversary system and open up evidence. Rules will take effect Feb. 1, 1973.

Unanimous verdicts still will be required in criminal cases, but in civil litigation 10 or more jurors can decide a case. Five-to-one verdicts will be permitted in municipal, justice of the peace and county courts at law where six-man juries now decide cases.

Some attorneys said the key rules change would eliminate hung juries in civil cases, speed up trials and ease the backlog of civil cases jamming metropolitan courts. Others said the changes in discovery of evidence will reduce the number of actual trials. The latter change will allow all parties to a case to see what both sides have as evidence.

Another change would allow the State Supreme Court to reverse or modify a lower court finding or enter a new decision without awaiting formal arguments of contesting parties.

Agenda Grows

Gov. Preston Smith continued to open the special session call to new subject matter before any final action was taken on competitive insurance rates or gubernatorial fiscal powers.

Last Tuesday he dropped 16 more bill proposals on lawmakers for attention in a session due to wind up October 17. Among them were the following:

An \$8 million appropriation for a Fort Worth school for the mentally retarded, changing hunting and fishing license fees, allowing bond financing of voting machines in counties over one million population, allowing subdivisions to issue bonds for air control facilities and lease the facilities to private interests, amending retirement statutes to allow credit for certain military, state employment and judicial services, allowing the State Board of Con-

trol to make purchases for political subdivisions and defining "child" under juvenile court procedures as one over 10 and under 17 years of age.

Key legislators began to question whether the variety of subjects permitted the focus of legislative and public attention on insurance reform which Smith claimed he wanted.

Big Port Coming?

Texas may be getting a new offloading terminal for super-tankers whether the Legislature approves a state commission to plan and construct one or not.

Oil company spokesmen told a joint House-Senate committee they propose to have their own facility (known as "seadock") operative by 1975 or 1976 and feel there is no need for a state expenditure.

A bill submitted by Governor Smith to create a state authority to formulate plans for the offshore terminal won support of many witnesses who claimed a vital segment of the Texas economy depends on a superport's being constructed along the coast.

A governor's office report said marine transportation and deep water ports are essential to maintaining the state's maritime trade.

Registration High

Voter registration for the November 7 general election ended at midnight Saturday, with indi-

cations the total number of Texans eligible may reach a record 4.8 million.

At that, however, the total percentage of eligible voting age Texans may be less than 1968 and 1970.

There are now about 7.5 million Texans of voting age. The expected 4.5 million to 4.8 million sign-up would represent a 60 per cent showing. A 4 million registration in 1968 and a 4.1 million figure in 1970 amounted to about 64 per cent of the eligible population.

An estimated 660,000 voters have been added to rolls since the voting age was lowered. There are an estimated 1.5 million now eligible to vote who were not eligible in the 1968 presidential election.

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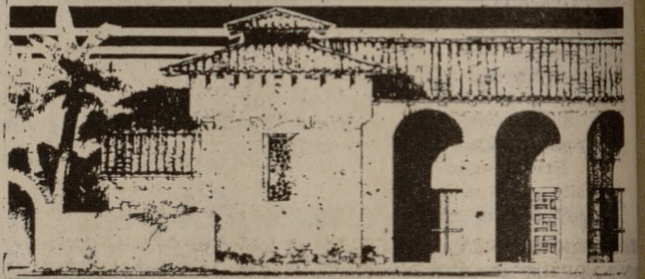
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The Battalion

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