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California Votes On Pot

SAN FRANCISCO (AFS) — California is shortly to become the first state to vote on marijuana.
During the Nov. 7 election, the state's voters will be asked to decide on a proposal to remove criminal penalties for anyone 18 or older for "planting, cultivating, harvesting, drying, processing, otherwise preparing, transporting or possessing marijuana for personal use." The measure also prohibits "persons under the influence of marijuana from engaging in conduct that endangers others." Selling would remain illegal.
That's it. Otherwise, you'll be able to grow your own in California.

If it passes, an early September poll showed only 33 per cent support for the California Marijuana Initiative (CMI). There is strong support for the measure in northern California, particularly in the San Francisco Bay Area, but half the state's 20 million population is concentrated in highly conservative Los Angeles, San Diego and Orange counties.
CMI's organizers, a loose collection of lawyers, doctors, drug experts and other volunteers, think the outcome is still uncertain.
Gordon Brownell, the Initiative's political coordinator, believes the polls don't accurately represent popular opinion on marijuana. "A lot of people who will vote for the measure don't want to say so to interviewers."

Davis Gives Archeological Presentation

Dr. E. Mott Davis, president of the Texas Archeological Society, will take an A&M audience on a classical Roman excavation Thursday night.

The associate professor of anthropology at the University of Texas-Austin, will use slides to show how classical archeology and anthropological archeology are joining forces to unravel the secrets of an ancient civilization.

His free lecture and slide presentation will start at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the auditorium of the Zachry Engineering Center. It is open to the public.

Dr. Davis has more than 25 years of experience in American Indian archeology, 16 years of the time in Texas. In the last few years he has worked at the site of the provincial Roman city of Stobi in Yugoslavian Macedonia.

Stobi was a civic and ceremonial center for nearly 1000 years before it went out of existence around A.D. 600. The reasons for the death of the city have been a mystery since other Roman cities in the area are still thriving. The investigation of this mystery is one of the interesting stories to be told by Dr. Davis.

At Stobi, Dr. Davis found many artifacts which reflect upon the culture and life styles of the ancient Romans. In addition, the excavations revealed numerous architectural remains including residential, theatrical and cemetery areas. The research led to a better understanding of Roman culture as it existed in Yugoslavia.

he says. CMI is counting on the so-far unrevealed support they're sure is out there.

Win or lose, the Marijuana Initiative has already made an impressive showing. In four months, its 20,000 volunteers collected 380,000 valid signatures, 50,000 more than the minimum needed to put the measure on the ballot.

CMI has also gained endorsements from a wide variety of organizations, including the California and San Francisco Bar Associations, the Democratic Central Committees of Los Angeles, San Francisco and Sacramento, the ACLU, the San Francisco Deputy Sheriffs' Coalition and the San Francisco Police Officers for Justice.

All of this was done with very little money. Of the estimated \$40,000 spent to get the measure on the ballot, most came from small contributions. The largest single source of funds, approximately \$15,000, has been Amorphia, a non-profit cooperative working for reform of marijuana laws.

Amorphia raises its money by selling cigarette papers under the brand name "Acapulco Gold." The papers are distributed nationally and billed as "the only papers

made from pure hemp fiber from marijuana stalks." In the year ending May 1, Amorphia had gross sales of \$100,000 from the papers.

Amorphia's activities have not been limited to California. It was active in the unsuccessful efforts to qualify marijuana reform initiatives in Washington, Oregon, Arizona and Michigan.

Michael Aldrich, Amorphia's coordinator and editor of The Marijuana Review, believes what is happening now in California will have tremendous impact on the rest of the country.

"Twenty states now have the initiative as a means for changing the law," he says. "Marijuana could be on the ballot in 10 or 12 of them in the next few years. And the issue has wider appeal than most people think."

CMI's Brownell echoes Aldrich's thoughts. "Even if we don't win, it will still be a victory. We took a so-called 'freak issue,' (smoking pot) and legitimized it. We put it before the public and won endorsements. If we don't make it this year, it will be an issue again in '74. It will come of age eventually."

As California goes . . . ?



FLOWERS AND A FLAG help decorate a memorial to A&M war dead in Veteran's Day Ceremonies.

TAMU Sports Car Club Plans Rallies, Autocross

Three upcoming events are planned by the A&M Sports Car Club, which will meet Wednesday at the old College Station City Hall.

A Sunday autocross will be for members only, announced club president Kerry Bonner. Jim Forte will manage the event.

Drivers may qualify for the autocross by joining at the Wednesday meeting. It will be at 7:30 p.m. in the Mimosas Room of the old City Hall, 110 Church St.

A night rally Nov. 3 and a Nov. 19 autocross at Texas World Speedway will be open to all in-

terested drivers. Entry fees of \$2 and \$10, respectively, will be charged. Spectators are admitted free to all events, Bonner said.

An autocross is an automotive event in which a car at a time races the clock. Different types of cars compete in assigned classes.

In a rally, a team, including a driver and navigator, attempts to negotiate a prescribed route in specified time, obeying all traffic rules and fulfilling certain requirements. Each team must supply its own watch, flashlight and pencils, with the TAMSCC providing the route map.

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