

Constitution Revision Group Hits Snags

AUSTIN—Rewriting the nearly-century-old Texas constitution is turning out to be a stickier job than many figured. The Constitutional Revision Commission went into overtime at recent three-day meeting here,

but still failed to complete its agenda and slated another August 10-11 cleanup meeting. Meanwhile, legislative planners for the 1974 Constitutional Convention, at which lawmakers will actually propose a revised consti-

tution, disagreed on routine stage-setting.

House members suggested a new voting machine (which was later ordered) and new desks for delegates. Senate planning committee spokesmen indicated they would be satisfied to bring their own desks over from across the capitol rotunda and set them up in the House middle aisle.

The revision panel agreed: • To keep the provision for real property taxation in the constitution for state purposes, but leave it to the legislature to write separate laws governing personal property taxation.

• To retain the state highway users gasoline tax, with three-fourths of the revenue earmarked for highway building and one-

fourth for public schools. A provision was made for abolishing the highway fund levy on statewide referendum with support of two-thirds of the legislature.

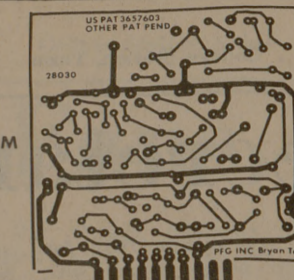
• To keep the Permanent University Fund and Permanent School funds in the constitution. The university fund would be altered somewhat to include present and future branches of the University of Texas and Texas A&M University.

• To add to the constitution a guarantee of "equitable" financial support for all schools and districts rich and poor.

• To retain as constitutional elected members of the executive branch only the governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general, with the legislature empowered to decide if the comp-

roller, treasurer, secretary of state, land commissioner and railroad commission should be elected or appointed by the governor.

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Firemen's School Holds Banquet

More than 1,100 participants in the 11th annual Industrial Fire Protection segment of the Texas Firemen's Training School gathered last Thursday night at the Tamada Inn for the Industrial Banquet.

The event was highlighted with a talk by J. U. Parker, retired chief safety engineer for the Humble Oil and Refining Co. and current president of the J. U. Parker Consulting Co. of Houston.

"Your efforts here at the fire school will some day pay off," he told the school participants, "and you can leave here with the knowledge that you will be able to meet the need for fire protection when it arises."

H. D. Bearden, director of the Engineering Extension Service who will retire at the end of August, was presented a plaque of appreciation from the Texas Firemen's Training School staff.

Other awards included the Bill Underback award, given to a manufacturer's representative for outstanding assistance to the industrial school. This year's award went to Wes Wallace, vice-president of Vallen Corp., a division of the Guardian Safety Equipment Co. of Houston.

The Henry D. Smith award to an outstanding instructor at the

school was presented to George D. Winburn, safety director for Rhom and Haas Chemical Co., Louisville, Ky. He has been project leader on several instruction projects at the school.

Engineering Course Offered

A detailed look at the interface between technology and society will be the subject of a new engineering course being offered this fall at A&M.

The course, Engineering 301, was deleted from the Fall Schedule of Classes, but course directors Dr. Richard E. Thomas and Dr. T. J. Kozik of the College of Engineering stressed that the course would indeed be offered.

Titled "Engineering and Society," the course will be a non-

technical study of the serious problems arising from technological advancement and scientists' responsibilities to society.

"Students taking the course will not be required to work a single math problem," Dr. Kozik said, "and they won't be required to understand a slide rule."

"What we will try to do with the course is show non-technological students what science and technology is doing today to work with society and serve its needs

rather than against the people and the environment."

Dr. Kozik said the course will be a learning experience for the instructors as well as the students.

"We want to know what the non-technical student is thinking," he said. "We do not want to talk over his head. We merely want to present the engineer's viewpoint of technological advancement while learning the 'humanist' idea of technology."

Class hours will be arranged at the first class meeting, according to Dr. Kozik. The course is open to all non-engineering students.

'Clipper' To Dock Sunday In Houston

GALVESTON — The "Texas Clipper," A&M's maritime training ship carrying 157 students, will dock in Houston Sunday on

the last leg of its 14,800-mile summer cruise.

The "Clipper" is expected to arrive at City Dock No. Three in the Turning Basin of the Houston Ship Channel at approximately 10 a.m. Sunday, according to Texas Maritime Academy officials.

The converted passenger liner will pick up passengers in Houston for a VIP cruise before lifting anchor at 10:30 a.m. for Galveston. Passengers will include members of the news media, A&M officials and invited guests.

The ship is expected to dock at A&M's Mitchell Campus, located on Pelican Island in Galveston, about 5 p.m. following a leisurely cruise in the Gulf.

Students aboard the ship include TMA cadets participating in their annual summer training and recent high school graduates enrolled in A&M's "Summer School at Sea" program.

The "Clipper" has visited Tenerife, Canary Islands; Barcelona, Spain; Naples, Italy; and Funchal in the Madeira Islands on this year's cruise.

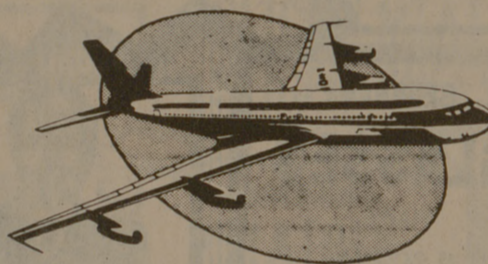
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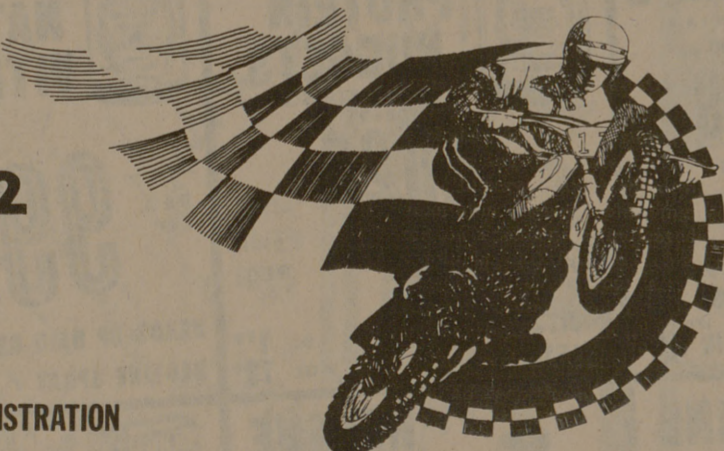
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