

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"Can you grasp how far we have come? The depreciation on these cars alone is more than \$3 per day or 13¢ per hour. You've seen \$1,000 evaporate while we've been standing here!"

Shuttle Buses Need Help (\$\$)

With the Shuttle Bus Committee and the Student Senate having kicked off their new years Wednesday, it would seem most appropriate for the two groups to begin thinking together to find a solution to the financial crisis the bus system is about to face.

As stated in the story on the front page today, the bus program is in trouble simply because there aren't enough people riding the buses, apparently as a result of the Senate-approved plan to make only riders pay for the system.

The problem is readily seen: not everyone believes they should be made to pay for the system, therefore some decide to avoid it without giving a second thought to the time and gas money they could be saving.

The trend here is one occurring throughout the country for all bus systems. Bus systems simply cannot make it without some form of government subsidization. This is why large metropolitan areas such as Washington, D. C., are converting to a city-operated organization.

The hint, we believe, should be taken here.

As stated last year in this column, we don't want the entire student body to come up with all the funds to float the system. A better idea would be to have all students partially subsidize the shuttle buses with those riding regularly paying another part of the cost.

The money isn't too readily available from services fees, since not much is left in reserves. Re-allocating funds from non-active programs such as the student lawyer or the literary magazine would seem to be the best way to come up with the funds quickly.

No matter what is done, though, students riding the bus should keep in mind that the buses are contracted to run on an hourly basis. This leaves open the possibility of cutting service in the evenings or cutting the number of buses running during the day, neither of which we want to see happen.

A bus system for off-campus students and faculty (and hopefully, an inner campus shuttle system in the near future) is a good thing for an already too mechanically-populated campus. Let's do everything possible to keep it there.



The Battalion

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A Banana Dictator? Nixon: Few Friends, But Many Enemies

From Washington Watch
 The President acts like a banana dictator who knows his days of power are numbered. At times, he is like a trapped animal, spitting and snarling at Congress and his "enemies." ("Let others spend their time dealing with the murky, small, unimportant, vicious little things... Let others wallow in Watergate. We are going to do our job.")

Or, he escapes into the extraordinary pomp of the Nixon White House. Jack Anderson calls it "the panoply of neo-Kaiserism down to the comic opera uniforms with white jackets and pointed plastic hats" and "battalions of courtier sycophants loyal only to the presidency." For, he hides behind the mask of Commander-in-Chief "unanswerable" to the Court or Congress as his argument.

Nixon has lost the support of major groups which might back him in a wild grab for power, and White House councils are hopelessly divided. The moderates, Melvin Laird and Bryce Harlow, former Congressmen, are being overruled by Nixon personally. Business is dismayed by Nixon's inability to run the economy.

A large segment of the military feels humiliated by the dirty tasks assigned to it by the White House, as the secret bombing of Cambodia and falsification of reports, and spying on Americans in West Germany supporting the McGovern candidacy. This re-

sentment was indicated by two high ranking generals. General Earle G. Wheeler, retired chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the Armed Services Committee that the secrecy on the bombing was by direct orders from Nixon. Lieutenant General Vernon A. Walters, deputy CIA director, expressed his distaste at White House attempts to unload Watergate on that agency.

Before Congress recessed, Republicans were voting against Nixon and denouncing him. The Christian Science Monitor reported (July 24), "Key Republicans in Congress are angry with the President again and just about ready to go on the war-path." The GOP nominee for Governor of Virginia, Mills Goodwin, "doubts that he wants the President to come to Virginia and aid his campaign," says the *Washington Post*.

Listen Up—

Campus Liquor Rule Revision Asked

Editor:
 As many TAMU students will testify, weekends at this college usually include either leaving or drinking. In past and at present those who wish any kind of alcoholic beverage must indulge themselves off campus. This refusal for liquor on campus was understandable before Texas established eighteen as the legal age.

Now, possession of liquor should be legalized on TAMU's campus. For, no longer need the university fear that alcohol will fall into a minor's hands since most college freshmen are eighteen. Nor should it delude itself into thinking that liquor is safer off-campus since a dorm room never swerves out of control as

Congress comes back this week in a mood of belligerence, a reflection of the grass roots. A friend reports to us on a staunchly Republican, well-to-do farming county of southern Wisconsin: "The people feel betrayed. They think Nixon made a fool of them."

"Not one of the five hundred off people I saw defended him, and only one said, well, everyone does it. Nixon's failure to produce the tapes was the last straw. One of the most respected leaders, who six weeks ago was saying, let's give Nixon a chance to clear himself, now asks, 'Don't you think he might have to go?'"

Across the country, the number one complaint against the Administration is food prices. Betty Garrett writes in Columbus, Ohio, "It is around the meat and egg counter that the Bastille mummings of discontent are growing daily." (August 8) After the lid was lifted, the price of a

meal rose sixty-eight percent in one day, noted the *Post* (July 26). This is more troublesome because of charges by the General Accounting Office that grain sales to Russia "are in large part responsible for the steep upward drive of American food prices."

An editorial in the *Christian Science Monitor* (July 11) noted: "When a country diverts a quarter of its grain crop to a single new source, the result will be a greater demand for remaining supplies and higher prices for meat and other products that depend on grain. The diversion of transportation resources to the Soviet similarly adds still higher cost pressure in the domestic food industry." The editorial suggests this is the price Nixon paid for Soviet pressure on Hanoi.

A *Denver Post* cartoon shows two Russians eating, and one

says, "True, we have had the table, Katrina, but the poor American peasants had to pay for it."

The second most ranking is the funds spent on Nixon's vast estates. The *New York Times* (July 18) says that "by all Federal agencies for all facilities for the use of the President... may actually add up to \$10 million more." Funds were used for property owned by Babe D'Amico and rented to Julie Nixon Eisenhower and the Bahama estate, Robert H. Abplanalp.

This disclosure comes at a time for Nixon, while he is being back drastically on foreign research, education, and other affairs. The chief of the president's "war on cancer" committee cuts "will not allow to follow research leads that save thousands of lives" (July 28).

neither does the administration have to worry about the college being state supported since other state supported schools (among them the University of Texas) have accomplished this policy change. At present, A&M's off-campus liquor policy needs to be drastically updated. One attempt to secure this end would be a democratic vote. After all, even though we are students, we are still eighteen or over and therefore have the right to make this decision ourselves.

Jo Ann Line

★ ★ ★

Editor:
 The attacks on Dr. Jack Williams' plans to initiate a fine arts department at TAMU was de-

fiantly degrading and absolutely unjustified. The primary purpose of a university system should be the full education of the student, rather than simply providing a means of obtaining a degree. An institution which willfully withholds knowledge from its students is quite obviously doing itself and students an injustice.

While specializing in a particular field will contribute to the overall perception of a subject and aid in future employment, it also creates a vast void in the students' role as people. How many science students can discern the difference between a Rembrandt and Van Gogh, for instance?

I am on leave of absence from a fine arts department from an-

other large Texas university feel deeply dedicated to the concept that knowledge of the leads toward greater knowledge of the world.

Dr. Williams' actions are better TAMU.

Curtis E. Parsons

★★★

Editor:
 Re: Cindy Walters, Sept. 8 eating problems.

Miss Walters has made a point about the overcrowding the Commons' cafeteria. The solution would be for Commons' cafeteria to close on Sunday and have the Knox Dunn residents eat in Dunn there.

Gib Hafemid

PUBLIC NOTICE SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS SPECIAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 6, 1973

NUMBER ONE ON THE BALLOT (S.J.R. 8)

Article III, Sections 5, 24 and 49a and Article VIII, Section 6 of the Texas Constitution are amended to:

Provide for regular annual sessions of the Legislature. The regular session in each odd-numbered year would be for a period not to exceed 180 days. The regular session in each even numbered year would be for a period not to exceed 60 days and would be limited to consideration of fiscal matters and any emergency matters submitted by the Governor. The 60 day session could be extended by the Governor for a period not to exceed 30 days.

Provide an annual salary for members of the Legislature not exceeding \$15,000 per year and a per diem not exceeding \$18 per day for each day of each regular session or special session.

Provide that no appropriation of money shall be made for a longer term than one year and direct the Comptroller to make annual estimates of anticipated revenue rather than biennial estimates.

The wording of the proposed amendment as it will appear on the ballot is as follows:

"The constitutional amendment to provide for annual regular sessions of the legislature; and to provide an annual salary of \$15,000 and per diem for the members of the legislature, effective in January, 1975."

NUMBER TWO ON THE BALLOT (H.J.R. 7)

Article XVI, Sections 50 and 51 of the Texas Constitution are amended to:

Include within the scope of homestead protection the real property of a single adult person which meets the other requirements of homestead property, and to provide that a family homestead may not be abandoned except with the consent of both spouses.

Presently a single adult person is not entitled to claim a homestead exemption and a married man can abandon a family homestead without the consent of his wife.

The wording of the proposed amendment as it will appear on the ballot is as follows:

"The constitutional amendment to include within the scope of homestead protection the real property of a single adult person which meets the other requirements of homestead property, and to provide that a family homestead may not be abandoned except with the consent of both spouses."

NUMBER THREE ON THE BALLOT (S.J.R. 13)

Article VIII, Sections 1-a and 1-b of the Texas Constitution are amended to:

Extend the \$3,000 ad valorem tax exemption to the residential homesteads of unmarried adults.

The wording of the proposed amendment as it will appear on the ballot is as follows:

"The constitutional amendment to extend the \$3,000 ad valorem tax exemption to the homesteads of unmarried adults."

NUMBER FOUR ON THE BALLOT (S.J.R. 1)

Article XVI, Section 59, of the Texas Constitution is amended by adding a new Subsection (e) which:

Provides that no law creating a conservation and reclamation district shall be passed unless a copy of the proposed law is delivered to the commissioners court of each county and to the governing body of each incorporated city or town in whose jurisdiction said district or any part thereof is or will be located. Each such commissioners court and governing body may file its written consent or opposition to the proposed law with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House of Representatives. Each special law creating such a district must comply with general laws then in effect relating to consent by political subdivisions to the creation of such districts.

The wording of the proposed amendment as it will appear on the ballot is as follows:

"The constitutional amendment establishing certain requirements relative to the enactment of laws creating certain conservation and reclamation districts."

NUMBER FIVE ON THE BALLOT (S.J.R. 12)

Article XI, Section 7 of the Texas Constitution is amended to:

Provide that all counties and cities bordering on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico are authorized to levy a tax to pay for bonds issued for the construction of sea walls and breakwaters upon a majority vote of the resident property tax-payers. Counties and cities are presently authorized to levy such taxes and this amendment only changes the required vote from a two-thirds majority to a simple majority.

The wording of the proposed amendment as it will appear on the ballot is as follows:

"The constitutional amendment authorizing counties and cities bordering on the Gulf of Mexico to issue bonds

NUMBER SIX ON THE BALLOT (S.J.R. 26)

Article V, Section 8 of the Texas Constitution is amended by adding a new paragraph which:

Provides that the district court, concurrently with the county court, shall have the general jurisdiction of a probate court and in a probate proceeding shall also have the jurisdiction otherwise conferred on it by law. It also provides that the legislature may increase, diminish, or eliminate the jurisdiction of the district court or county court in probate matters, may adopt rules governing the filing, distribution, or transfer of cases and proceedings as between the courts having jurisdiction of probate matters, and may provide that all appeals in probate matters shall be to the courts of civil appeals.

The wording of the proposed constitutional amendment as it will appear on the ballot is as follows:

"The constitutional amendment stating that the district court concurrently with the county court shall have the general jurisdiction of a probate court, and providing that the legislature may increase, diminish or eliminate the jurisdiction of the district court or county court in probate matters, and further providing that the legislature shall have power to adopt rules governing the filing, distribution and transfer of all such cases and proceedings as between district courts, county courts, and other courts having jurisdiction thereof, and further providing that the legislature may provide that all appeals in such matters shall be to the courts of (civil) appeals."

NUMBER SEVEN ON THE BALLOT (H.J.R. 6)

Article III, Section 49-b of the Texas Constitution is amended to:

Provide for an additional \$100 million in bonds or obligations of the State of Texas for the Veterans' Land Fund. This amendment increases the present \$400 million authorization to \$500 million.

Remove the present provision which permits buying of land only by those veterans who served between September 16, 1940 and the date of formal withdrawal of United States troops from the armed conflict in Viet Nam. This amendment would allow all veterans who serve after September 16, 1940 to buy land from the Veterans' Land Fund, provided they are otherwise qualified.

Provide that, in the event of the death of an eligible

Texas veteran after the veteran has filed with the Board an application and contract of sale to purchase through the Board the tract selected by him or her and before the purchase has been completed, then the surviving spouse may complete the transaction.

The wording of the proposed amendment as it will appear on the ballot is as follows:

"The constitutional amendment to provide for an additional \$100 million in bonds or obligations of the State of Texas for the Veterans' Land Fund."

NUMBER EIGHT ON THE BALLOT (S.J.R. 2)

Article XI of the Texas Constitution is amended by adding a new Section 5(a) which:

Authorizes and requires incorporated cities, towns, and villages, regardless of general obligations which may be issued, but unless and until the legislature acts to do so, the limitations established by statute with respect to the total principal amount of bonds which may be issued by independent school districts shall apply as the rate limitation on cities, towns, and villages.

The wording of the proposed constitutional amendment as it appears on the ballot is as follows:

"The constitutional amendment to authorize cities, towns, and villages to levy such ad valorem taxes as are sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on their general obligations hereafter issued subject to the restrictions provided by law."

NUMBER NINE ON THE BALLOT (S.J.R. 25)

Article VIII of the Texas Constitution is amended by adding a new Section 2C which:

Allows the Legislature, by general law, to exempt all real and personal property used by non-profit water supply corporations or cooperatives from all property taxes. The exemption would apply only to such property as is reasonably necessary to conduct the business of a non-profit water supply corporation or cooperative.

The wording of the proposed constitutional amendment as it will appear on the ballot is as follows:

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from property taxes certain property used by a non-profit water supply corporation or a non-profit water supply cooperative."