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Proposed Textbooks Advocate Homosexuality, Says Wife

AUSTIN (AP) — Mrs. Mel Gabler says she thinks she speaks for the mothers of Texas in demanding that no public school textbook advocate homosexuality or sex deviations.

"All you've got to do is look at Houston," said the Longview housewife in an emotional summation of her protests this week and last week to a number of proposed textbooks in hearings before State Education Commissioner J. W. Edgar.

Several times she has mentioned the 27 sex and sadism murders at Houston in making protests against would-be school books that she said favored homosexuals.

"I think I speak for the mothers of this state that we do not need any text books that state the case for homosexuals. Our society has sunk to a new low if we accept them," she said, her voice trembling.

"I cannot understand why we

even consider putting money into textbooks that advocate homosexuals or sex deviates."

Mrs. Gabler, who with her husband has been reviewing and criticizing proposed textbooks for 13 years, directed much of her protest against a book "Behind the Mask: Our Psychological World," published by Prentice-Hall, Inc.

She quoted a passage from the book that said, in part, "in some states a person convicted of certain homosexual acts, such as sodomy, may receive a prison sentence of 60 years to life. It makes one wonder who is the most bizarre, the people who support this legislation or the homosexuals. One almost gets the impression that sex of any type, even between husband and wife, is illegal."

"That is a real plug for homosexuals," Mrs. Gabler said.

She said another passage quoted a psychologist as saying that "it is not so much the act of

homosexuality that causes grief, but instead the laws that prohibit it and the society that finds it repugnant."

Mrs. Gabler said the "idea that homosexuality should be accepted as a way of life is a direct contradiction to the fact that God has identified this act as wrong regardless of the beliefs or actions of society about this abnormal relation."

A spokesman for Prentice-Hall, N. D. Watkins, Austin, southwestern district manager, answered Mrs. Gabler's 18-pages

'73-74 Officers Elected by RVs

The Ross Volunteers Company have chosen their officers for the 1973-74 school year.

Commanding the company will be Nub Edmiston and the Executive Officer is Homer Mills.

Other officers include Skip Hofferman, Administration Officer; Larry Simpson, Operations Officer; Gary Sauer, First Sergeant; and Jan Faber, Historian. Commanding the First Platoon or the "Trees" will be Steve Chapman of Nacona and Slim Noack of Walburg.

Commanding the Second Platoon, "Meatballs," is Mark McLean of Burkburnett and Platoon Sergeant John Bognaud of Houston.

The Third Platoon or "Squats" will be commanded by Chuck Friesenhahn of Macdona and Platoon Sergeant Griff Lasley of Stafford.

New members, which are selected by senior RVs, are chosen on the basis of junior classification, scholastic standing, leadership potential, loyalty and good character. There are 175 applicants this year.

The RVs participate each year in the Bryan-Christmas Parade, Mardi Gras in New Orleans and perform fancy drill at Parent's Day. The Ross Volunteers are also the Honor Guard for the Governor of Texas.

Reed to Dedicate Education Center

Dr. Bevington Reed, Texas commissioner of higher education, will be the featured speaker at the dedication of TAMU's new eight-story office and classroom building at 3 p.m. Saturday.

Dedication of the facility, to be known as the University Education Center, highlights the "Promoting Public Education" observance as part of an overall fall football weekend program having a theme of "Texas A&M Serves the People."

The ceremonies, open to the public, will conclude with guided tours of the building, noted Dr. Philip C. Limbacher, associate dean of education and chairman of the committee coordinating this weekend's events.

Dr. Reed has served as the top staff member of the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, since 1968. He

joined the state agency one year earlier as assistant commissioner for senior colleges and universities.

Prior to joining the Coordinating Board, Dr. Reed was chancellor at Minnesota State College. He had previously served as dean at Mankato State College in Minnesota and Sul Ross State College. Earlier in his career he was a professor of government and social science at Sul Ross and San Angelo State College and served 10 years as a high school teacher in Texas and New Mexico.

A native of Eastland County, he holds a B.S. degree from Daniel Baker College and master's and Ph.D. from Texas Tech University. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by Texas Wesleyan University in 1972.

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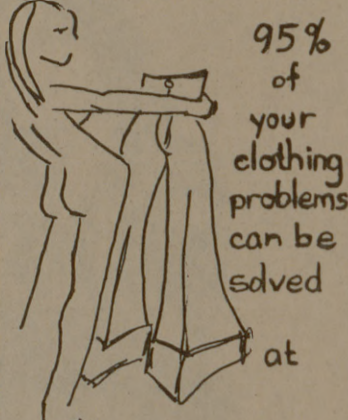
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