

The Tongue Of The Wise
Uses Knowledge Correctly;
But The Mouth Of Fools
Pours Out Foolishness.

The Battalion

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Weather

THURSDAY—The skies today will be partly cloudy, but the clouds will not pour forth rain upon us! The low tonight should be around 39° with an afternoon high expected around 69°. Perfect sweater weather!

Smoke Fills Dorm

"The Comedy of Errors" re-played, in a shorter version, Wednesday night when a prankster lit a smoke bomb on the first floor stairs in Davis-Gary Hall.

The 8 p.m. incident began to snowball when someone panicked and called the fire department, according to head resident adviser George Rehak.

Arriving at the scene, the College Station pumbers discovered only a smoke-filled dormitory and about 400 milling students who were watching it. The flashing red lights of the various official vehicles added a Christmasy effect to the confusion.

Fortunately, the only casualty of the incident was the fire chief's car, which lost a section of its tail when a departing fire truck brushed against it.

It was the second time this week the fire department had answered a call on campus. They handled a fire in a trash chute in Dunn Hall Sunday night.

College Station fireman Bernie Phipps said the department answers five or six calls every month from the campus.

He said answering the false alarms could cause the department problems by possibly delaying their response if a real fire broke out elsewhere.



VAN CLIBURN, who made his orchestral debut with the Houston Symphony Orchestra at the age of 12, will perform Dec. 13 in the Rudder Center Auditorium. OPAS season tickets are being mailed. Single admission tickets are available at the Rudder Center Box Office.

Senate Backs New Honor Code

By CAROL JONES

A resolution intended to make the Aggie Honor Code more meaningful to all TAMU students was passed by the Student Senate Wednesday night.

State Interns Chosen

Ten Texas college students were chosen as interns to the Texas constitutional convention by the Texas Student Association Board of Directors Dec. 1 and 2 in Austin.

Five TAMU students were among the regional finalists but none was chosen at the state level. These five were nominated at the campus level by a student board and then nominated by the East Texas Region to be five of the ten to go to state.

The five were Gwen Flint, Edna de Los Santos, Margaret Polansky, Rick Brown and Jeff Hollowell. Flint was number 11 and de Los Santos was 14 at the state level.

Funding for the program has not been set. According to External Affairs Chairperson Barb Sears, the Moody Foundation turned down TSA for a grant saying that the program needed government support for the project.

Meantime, said Sears, TSA President Darwin McKee arranged for three interns to be hired as regular staff members for the constitutional convention so the grant request will go back to the Moody Foundation for approval.

"The problem was that the Moody Foundation was worried that the program was a lobbying effort on the part of the organization," Sears said.

The ten students chosen for the program are Susan Ziomke, Southwestern University; Ron Wilson, University of Texas; Gary Terrel, West Texas State; Joyce Moore, North Texas; Steve Rossignol, San Antonio College; Becky Beaver, Texas Tech; Kirk Kimball, Texas Tech; Don Nicolini, Lamar University; John Katsensky, San Angelo State and Carol Marganti, Texas Tech.

Also during the meeting, TSA decided on a voting structure and fee structure for the organization.

Member schools with a population of 1500 or less students will get two votes, 2,500 or less will get four votes, 5,000 and less will get six votes, 7,500 and less will get eight votes, etc.

Schools will also pay a \$75 base membership fee and an additional \$20 per 1,000 students over 1,500.

Introduced by Curt Marsh, Rules and Regulations Committee chairperson, the bill requests the updating of the present honor code making it more personal and compatible for all students.

The resolution also requests that the honor code be placed at the beginning of the University Rules and Regulations handbook.

"The present honor code was written in 1958 when the school was all Corps," said Marsh. "A&M has grown beyond just the Corps and the honor code should expand its meaning to everyone."

The resolution recommends shortening the present code to three paragraphs. Marsh said this will make it easier to read and

more meaningful.

He also said that by placing it in front of the rules book it will catch the attention of more students.

"The honor code is an idea to symbolize the desires TAMU should have," said Marsh.

"The honor code should be a hard and fast guideline, not a hard and fast law" said Tom Walker (agriculture).

Senators discussed a resolution to devise an optional athletic fee concept.

The bill was introduced by John Nash (Law-Puryear). "I've talked to a large number of students and many of them want the optional athletic fees," he said.

Nash said there is not a specific proposal for this resolution as of now, but that guidelines are in the making.

In other action, the Senate approved three appointments.

They were: Murray A. Crutcher Jr., university-owned apartments undergraduate; Suzanne Quinlan, off campus undergraduate and Andrew Sikes, off campus graduate.

During the Senate session, Student President Randy Ross denied a comment attributed to him in Wednesday's Battalion from the meeting of the student advisory committee to the Athletic Council.

He was quoted as saying that (See SENATE, page 3)

More Hotels Needed For Community Boom

The energy crisis and competition with other cities has contributed to a growing need for more hotel rooms in the Bryan-College Station area, says Joe McGraw, professor of urban planning.

McGraw based his conclusion on a study conducted by the Planning 601 lab this semester. The lab students presented their findings to local motel managers Wednesday.

Pat Kennedy, one of the lab students, indicated A&M's enrollment was up 9.3 per cent as compared to one or two per cent at most other schools. "This community could become the next boomtown due to this increase and the energy crisis."

"This year we estimate that 400,000 man days were spent in B-CS by outsiders and they spent an average of \$25 a day. That's \$10 million that wasn't here before. This money also increases as it circulates within the community," he added.

"The shortage of fuel is caus-

ing many students to spend weekends here who would not do so otherwise. This is increasing the demand for entertainment like restaurants and bars," Kennedy said.

Another student, Chuck Toperzer, said 75 per cent of the visitors are here for conferences and short courses offered by A&M. "Fifteen per cent are businessmen and the other 10 per cent come for sports, races and other activities."

A study of the short courses showed that about 25,000 people attended them in 1967. The students predict it will rise to 43,000 by 1976.

"With our present accommodations, that creates a severe shortage," said McGraw.

"Our lab has several suggestions on how to improve the situation," he said. "The motels and entertainment must be increased and improved if we're going to compete with other cities. Unless we do, the professors will have to

go to Dallas or another city to offer their short courses; the professors will go to the students."

McGraw suggested a bus system between the motels and the conference center should be set up to avoid traffic tie ups and lack of parking. This system could also serve the airport and the Amtrak depot if B-CS gets one.

"Many courses are scheduled at the same times which creates another shortage of rooms," said McGraw. "An organization which coordinates these courses and keeps the motels informed would avoid this. It could also open communication between the motel themselves."

Speed Limit Change Killed

AUSTIN, Tex. (AP)—The State Highway Commission's decision to change the driving habits of millions of Texans—by lowering the maximum speed limit to 55 miles an hour—has been overturned before work could start on the new speed signs.

Atty. Gen. John Hill ruled late Wednesday, just 24 hours after the commission had acted, that the agency had no authority to alter statewide speed limits.

Speaker Price Daniel Jr. responded by saying he would try to meet today with Gov. Dolph Briscoe about calling a special legislative session—to change the speed limit, as well as possibly creating a superport for giant oil tankers, shortening the public school schedule and enacting an oil and gas unitization measure.

"If we are going to meet and resolve this energy shortage any time in the near future and minimize the hardships and inconvenience imposed upon the people of this state and nation, we are going to have to act boldly and act now."

Returning from a meeting of the Interstate Oil Compact Commission in New Orleans, Briscoe had aides hurriedly prepare a statement in which he said he had hoped the commission could change the speed limit since it would prevent "the necessity and expense" of a special session.

Briscoe noted that the U.S. House of Representatives had passed a bill Monday to cut off

federal highway funds from states which do not reduce speed limits to 55 m.p.h., and that the Senate is expected to act on some type of speed-limit bill before Christmas.

"Obviously it is impossible to determine accurately what the national policy will finally be," said Briscoe. "I believe that the Congress will act within the next two weeks. At that point, I will do whatever is necessary to assure that Texas has a legal speed limit in conformity with national policy to conserve fuel."

He again urged Texans to drive

at 55 which, he claimed, would save up to 6 per cent of the gasoline used in the state. He also reiterated his plea for fewer daily trips, stating that by cutting from eight to seven the number of such trips, Texans could save 8 per cent of the gas used in Texas.

Hill said that while he was "certainly sympathetic to the laudable purpose" of the highway commission in cutting speed limits, only the legislature has that power.

The commission said Tuesday (See HILL, page 3)

Swapping Service Begins Monday

Students may swap used books for spring semester texts starting Monday at the Student Senate Book Exchange.

Located in the Student Program Office of the Memorial Student Center, the book exchange will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Exchange Chairman John Tyler indicated the exchange will also operate Saturday, Dec. 15, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will close for the fall semester at noon, Dec. 19. Service resumes Jan. 14.

Tyler said the exchange will

hopefully save students time and money.

"The operation is for the students' convenience and benefit," he added. "We need students to bring in their books in order to give the best selection."

Day-to-day service will be provided by CWENS, women's honor society at TAMU. The deadline for placing books for exchange is Jan. 15, though books will be sold until Jan. 18, Tyler said.

Other information can be obtained at the Student Government Office.

Ten Top Grads to Get Bars

Retired Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Ormond R. Simpson will make the principal address during Dec. 15 commissioning ceremonies here.

Commissioning of 73 new Army, Air Force and Marine Corps officers will follow the fall semester commencement.

The new second lieutenants will pin on the gold bar during 1:30 p.m. ceremonies at G. Rollie White Coliseum. The Army heads the list, with 38 candidates, including six Regular Army commissions. The Air Force has 30 and the Marine Corps five.

Col. Thomas Parsons, commandant, indicated 10 of the Army candidates are Distinguished

Military Graduates. Col. Robert Crossland, professor of aerospace studies, said eight Air Force cadets are DMGs.

Gen. Simpson was asked to become commissioning speaker after William P. Clements Jr., Deputy Secretary of Defense, previously announced as the principal speaker, withdrew. Clements will be here in February for the Student Conference on National Affairs.

A 36-year military veteran who saw World War II action in the Pacific, Gen. Simpson retired last year and makes his home in Bryan. He was also in Korea

during 1953 and in Thailand during the 1962 Laotian crisis.

The 1936 Texas A&M graduate was Marine Corps director of personnel and deputy chief of staff for manpower before he retired. Gen. Simpson was earlier commanding general of the Marine Corps Supply Center at Albany, Ga., and commanded the 1st Marine Division in Vietnam.

Gen. Simpson is formerly from Corpus Christi. As a Texas A&M undergraduate in mechanical engineering, he was a member of the Aggie Band and infantry regiment commander.

Return to Old Days of Road Building Methods Foreseen

Texas highway district engineers were told here Wednesday that the department faces massive changes in the future as a result of the energy crisis.

Meeting at TAMU for the 47th annual Short Course in Highway Engineering, transportation engineers heard the state's top highway official contend a return to the old days of highway engineering is in the offing.

Reagan Houston III, San Antonio lawyer and chairman of the Texas Highway Commission, said shortages of asphalt and other materials might necessitate a re-

turn to outmoded construction and maintenance procedures in Texas.

"Just as electricity plants, which had converted from coal to gas," he said, "you might have to return to old methods of maintenance."

"I don't want to present a picture of gloom," he continued. "While the problems we face are monumental, the challenge will be stimulating to us all."

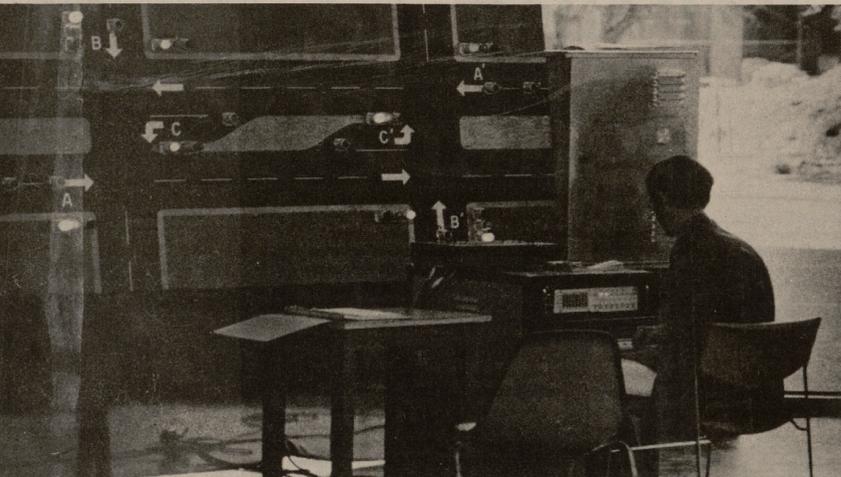
Commissioner Member Charles E. Simons noted the displeasure of environmentalists and ecologists which stand in the way of transportation progress in Texas.

"I am tired of hearing the self-anointed ecologists and environmentalists in their attacks on technology and advancement," he said. "I am also tired of hearing the shrill cry of the fund-grabbing rail mass transit enthusiasts."

Simons said mass transit proponents are trying to force methods of transportation on the state that Texans won't stand for.

He called for an effective public relations campaign within the highway department, citing a fear of special interest groups from environmentalist circles hampering highway development.

"The special interest groups, already so powerful, will continue to grow and stand in the way of transportation advancement," he asserted. "We must inform the public of the need for quality highways. We must give the public all the facts and let them decide for themselves what directions transportation in Texas must take."



STOP AND GO PLANNING—A visiting Texas Highway Department engineer works with a computerized traffic planning system, part of a display of computerized traffic control systems in the J. Earl Rudder Conference Center.

University National Bank
"On the side of Texas A&M."
Adv.