

Crush that butt!

Smoking ban suggested

AUSTIN (AP) — The Senate Jurisprudence Committee voted 10-0 Tuesday to make smoking in certain public places punishable by a fine of up to \$200.

Only one witness testified against the bill, former Rep. Joe Ratliff, who now works for the Texas Association of Tobacco and Candy Distributors.

"Let's not equate the irritation of one's eyes with the police power of this state," Ratliff said.

Smoking in such places as elevators is rude, said Ratliff, a nonsmoker, but the legislature should not "substitute law for manners."

"Something that disturbs me worse is people popping gum," he said.

The bill is sponsored by Sen. Jack Ogg, D-Houston, and would make it unlawful to "be in possession of a burning tobacco product or smoking tobacco in an elevator, enclosed theater or movie house, library, museum, hospital, intrastate bus, plane or train which is a public place."

Special areas designated for smoking would come under an ex-

ception in the law.

Bob Layton, a Tyler engineer, told the committee 10 to 15 per cent more energy is needed to ventilate an office building where smoking is permitted.

As he talked, Sen. Bob Gam-mage, D-Houston, smoked a cigar, and Sen. Tati Santiesteban, D-El Paso, smoked a cigarette.

Dr. Jim Calhoun of Austin, who specializes in diseases of the heart,

chest and blood system, said he would be put out of business if people quit smoking.

Dr. Charles Wade, associate chemistry professor at the University of Texas at Austin, said 30 people smoking in an auditorium that seats 500 could push the air quality to the emergency level under standards set by the city of Los Angeles for closing down industry.

John Cones, an Austin attorney,

said one-third of the states now have some sort of nonsmokers-protection law.

In other action, the committee heard and sent to a subcommittee a bill that would prohibit prosecutors from seeking indictments within three days of arrests. The bill also would allow an accused to request an examining trial within that time and before any indictment is voted against him.

'Litter crete' seems OK

An experimental road section made of "litter crete" is holding up well after six months of heavy Houston traffic, TAMU researchers report.

"Litter crete", as one of the researchers called it, uses burned garbage mixed with lime instead of the rock and gravel aggregate usually used in road construction. Such aggregates make up 95 percent of materials used.

Last week, a TAMU crew took a core sample from the strip.

"After six months of heavy traffic there are no signs of distress or deterioration of the pavement," declared Dr. W. B. Ledbetter, project

head. He warned, however, that it is too early to draw definitive conclusions as to its strength and stability. The experiment is to last three years.

The use of waste materials to build roads is only one of several research programs being examined by a national group of engineers and technologists headed by Ledbetter, a civil engineer. Other programs being studied are the use of asphalt emulsion instead of liquid asphalt or cement and the possibility of developing more efficient crusher plant operations.

The purpose of the group is to "examine the design, construction

and reconstruction of roadways with a view to optimizing the use of materials and energy," says Ledbetter.

Williams to speak

President Jack K. Williams will address the Academic Council meeting tomorrow at 2 p.m.

The meeting will include approval of minutes of the last meeting in addition to Williams' report.

Room 601 of Rudder Tower will be the meeting place of the group.

Tower's third coat sky blue

The new two million gallon water tower at Texas A&M University will get a third coat of paint.

Sky blue will be the finishing coat, according to Charles Brunt, construction manager at TAMU's Facilities Planning and Construction Department.

An orange primer was applied first, to help preserve the 187-foot-tall sheet metal structure. The primer and dark blue base coat have stirred considerable local discussion.

Brunt said several steps remain in the \$785,000 new tower project. It also lacks some inside painting, controls hookup and sanitizing. Then the tank will be filled.

Switchover to the new facility will signal the end of the old 150,000-gallon tank bearing the "Welcome to Aggieland" greeting. The 50-year-old landmark will be dismantled and probably sold for scrap.




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