

Clements extends odd-even system

United Press International
AUSTIN — Gov. Bill Clements extended the odd-even gasoline allocation system to five counties near Dallas and Houston Monday and reported the gasoline purchase restrictions have shortened lines at some service stations by 25 to 40 percent.

Clements signed an executive order extending the odd-even system and minimum and maximum gasoline purchase restrictions to Brazoria, Collin, Liberty, Ellis and Montgomery counties effective at midnight Wednesday.

Ed Vetter, Clements' special energy adviser, said Richmond city officials also have asked about being included in the odd-even sales restrictions, but state officials feel there could be enforcement problems if the limitations are not imposed countywide.

Vetter said he expects Texas to have an additional 20 million gallons of gasoline during the month of July, but noted there will be one more day in that month.

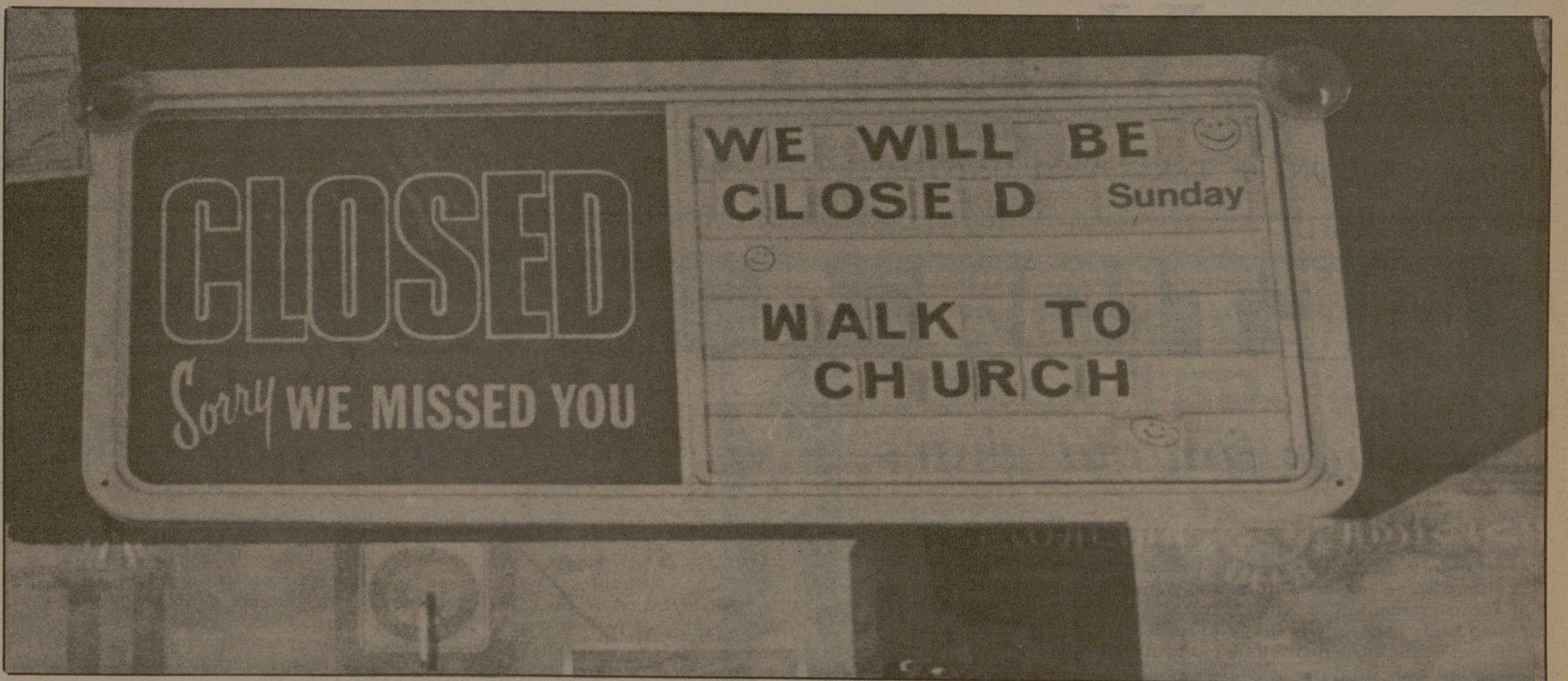
"The first day has been better than I expected it would be," Vetter said of the odd-even plan. "This is not a miracle cure. It's not going to satisfy every single Texan. But it does satisfy the bulk of the problem."

Vetter said Exxon checked its service stations in Houston, Dallas and Fort Worth Monday and reported lines were 25 to 40 percent shorter. The energy adviser said no enforcement problems were reported Monday, but indicated citizens who have complaints about regulation violations may call a toll-free number to report offenders at 1-800-424-9246.

"The Department of Justice will prosecute (violators)," Vetter said. Clements ordered gasoline purchase restrictions imposed in the state's two largest urban areas, Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston, effective Monday in an effort to alleviate long lines at service stations.

The governor told reporters Monday he was pleased at response to his fuel allocation plan and energy conservation measures but chided a Capitol visitor who failed to observe his shirtsleeve dictum.

Clements sported short sleeves and an open shirt in accord with his symbolic campaign to encourage more offices to set air conditioning thermostats at 76 degrees.



While odd-even gas rationing hasn't hit College Station yet, many service stations are closing on weekends as this rather pointed

message indicated. Gene Zulkowski, a local station owner, says stations are closing early because they are short on gas — due to the

decreased allotments given them by their distributors

Battalion photo by Clay Cockrill

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Weather

Partly cloudy skies today with a chance of afternoon and evening thunderstorms. Precip. probability 40% today and 30% tonight and tomorrow. The high for today low 90's and the low in the low 70's. Winds will be South-Easterly at 5-10 m.p.h. and gusting higher in thunderstorms.

Houston stations ease into rationing

United Press International
HOUSTON — No one promised odd-even day gasoline rationing would open lawlessly in the nation's oil capital.

Ferd Taleb, an Iranian driving a car with an even-numbered plate, bought \$5 worth of gasoline on an odd-numbered day from Thang Hoang, a Vietnamese immigrant, who said he didn't know anything about the \$6 minimum purchase requirement.

When a reporter mentioned to Taleb, a student at the University of Houston, that he had an even-numbered plate and was

ineligible to make his purchase he smiled broadly and said, "I know."

"You just thought you'd see if you could get away with it?" the reporter asked.

"Yes," he replied with a laugh. "I must use gas for job because I need money. If I can't make money, I can't stay here."

"There's also a minimum purchase," Taleb was informed. "You have to buy at least \$6 worth."

"Thank you," he said. "This is a big problem for the American people."

Across the street from the Conoco-supplied Jet station where Taleb bought

gasoline, Exxon USA soothed the "big problem" with free doughnuts and soft drinks for those waiting in line in 90-degree plus heat on Monday's first day of the odd-even plan instituted in Houston, Dallas and Fort Worth by Governor Clements.

Jack Roland, an accountant sitting in his car on a side street awaiting an opportunity to pull into the station, put up only a mild protest when Alton Evans, a chef, turned off a boulevard and cut in front of him.

Roland honked his horn and waved his

hands but Evans looked straight ahead and Roland, surrendering to the heat, remained inside his car.

"I'm not sure he understood where the back of the line was," Roland said while Evans tanked up. "I honked at him but I don't think he ever saw me. They put the 'last car sign' (designating the last car allowed to buy gas) on my back windshield and I'm just glad to be the last car."

Roland had last tried to buy gasoline at 5:30 a.m. Saturday at a station in his suburban neighborhood. He figured there were 100 cars ahead of him at sunrise so he

went home and back to bed. Monday he waited 20 minutes.

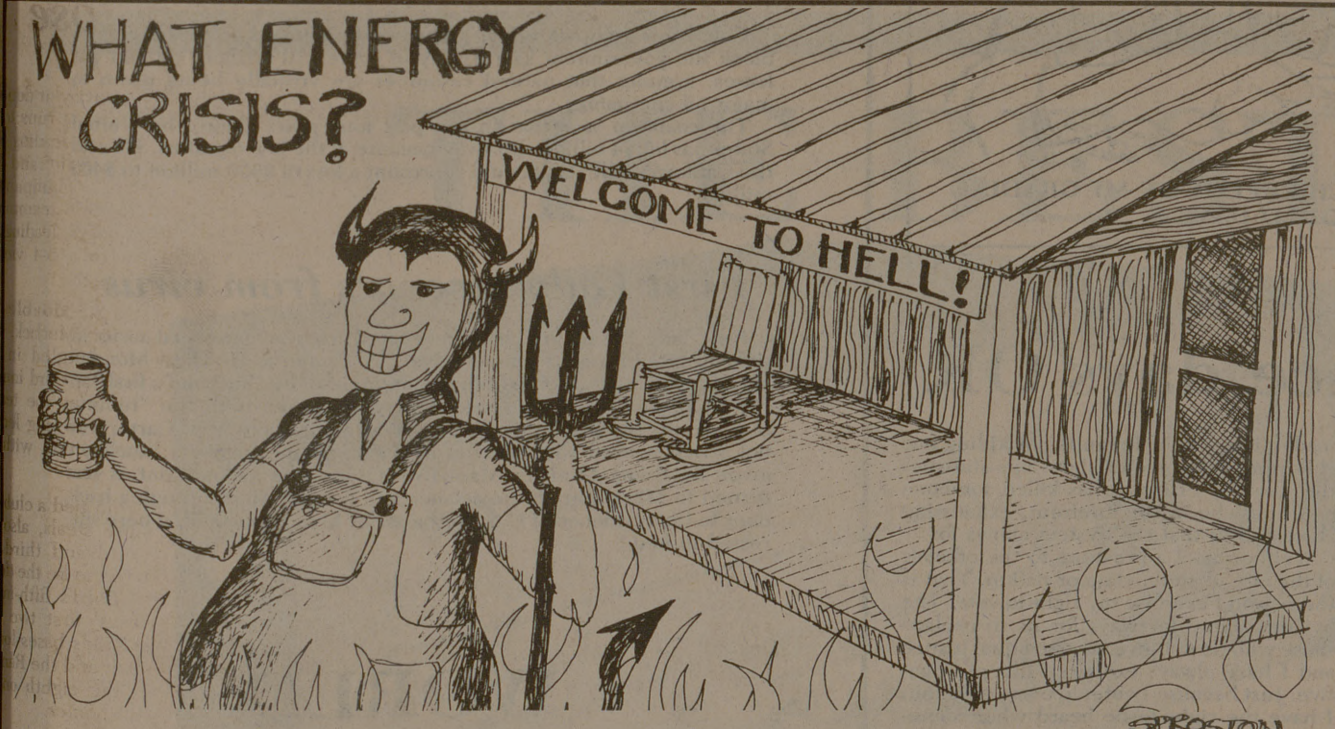
The manager of the company-owned station said his name could not be used and he should not be quoted about the odd-even plan.

"There's an unwritten law that the only comment can come from the superintendent," he said. "I've already been hung on that once."

The snacks, he said, were Exxon's idea and the company even furnished an extra attendant to pass them out to customers.

Only three cars with even-numbered plates had pulled into the station during the three hours it was open (7 until 10 a.m.) and each left quietly when informed they couldn't buy gas.

Laverne Johnson of Stuttgart, Ark., and en route to Corpus Christi for vacation, would have been next to buy gas when the pumps shut down. She said she didn't know anything about the odd-even plan. But when the Exxon closed, she drove across the street and filled up at Hoang's Jet station after a 15-minute wait.



'Trouble is the price' No energy crisis in Hell

United Press International
HELL, Mich. — Hell hath no noticeable energy crisis.

"I don't see where the energy shortage is affecting Hell. We don't even have a gas station," said Virgil McCall, owner of the Dam Site Inn, one of Hell's three places of business.

McCall hoisted his can of Miller beer, toasting Hell's fortune.

Jim Meyers, on the next bar stool, set down his Pabst, and said the grocery next door once had a gas pump. "Didn't work," he said.

Tim Hurley, drinking Busch, said, "The trouble was that everybody would fill up their tank and then go inside and tell the grocer they had put in only \$2 worth. It was Hell."

Laughter broke along the bar. Outside a late spring rain slicked county road D-32 and goose pimples the surfaces of the local fishing spots from Blind Lake to Silver Lake. Hell is a weekend resort for Detroit, 44 miles to the southeast, and the residents of Hell figured rain and not a gasoline shortage was keeping business away.

In the souvenir shop — a "Stolen From Hell, Michigan" bath towel is \$4.50 and cheaper are tennis ball-like "Snowballs From Hell" — Al Culp glanced through the window at the rain and the almost empty parking lot. He turned and tweaked the

nose of the 5-foot-high stuffed devil seated by the door.

"This is the worst season we've ever had. No one on the road. No one in the camp ground. I guess a lot of people decided to stay home and save gasoline. They may have to walk anywhere, even to Hell."

Two automobiles pulled in off D-32. Two families entered.

"Well, I suppose it's not any gas shortage. Just the confounded rain of Hell," Culp said.

A third and a fourth and still another car approached. Culp's wife, Thelma, became busy at the cash register.

"Hell's looking up," he said. "But not me. Had open heart surgery and Thelma and I are moving permanently to Florida, to Babson, below Orlando. It's better there than Hell for health."

"Hell is for the healthy. Been here 10 years. I'm 65 now. We're selling out at the end of the season and getting out of Hell. Wanna buy the shop?"

His wife smiled. "This morning the slows were due to the rain, the weather, not any gasoline shortage. People enjoy coming to Hell and they don't discuss hellish subjects like gasoline."

"The trouble with gasoline is not any shortage. The service stations at Pinckney, three miles up the road, are open. The trouble with gas is the

price. Up 22 cents a gallon in the last week," she said.

In the Dam Site Inn, a few farmers drank coffee and talked of crops and the price of new machinery and market margins and put much sugar in their cups to make the talk sweeter. They talked of fret and they did not discuss gasoline. At their table they said they had no shortage.

At the bar, McCall tried to see an energy crisis dimension in Hell. "Well, we have had our first energy freak. Fellow over the road put in solar heat. Hell's got solar heat."

Meyers, Hurley and Roy Harvey grinned and drank to that.

"As a matter of fact, a gasoline shortage may be good for Hell," McCall said. "People in Detroit may be too scared to go up north. They know a tank of gas will get you here and back to Detroit. Hell may not be the wilderness wonderland but, by gosh, the crappie get up to a foot long."

Harvey said the conversation was deteriorating into a discussion of rival beers. He said the town topic seemed to be either that or the glories of the Detroit Tigers or the damnation of the New York Yankees. "That, or fishing, that's what we talk about. Nobody ever mentions an energy crisis," he said.

"Why in Hell should we?" said McCall.

All laughed.

Energy conservation standards use additional fuel, report says

Compliance with state and federally prescribed thermostat settings would require use of additional fuel to heat the system serving a portion of the buildings on the Texas A&M University campus.

That ironic report was presented at a meeting called by Clyde H. Wells, chairman of the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents, to discuss energy conservation in the wake of proclamations and directives by Texas Gov. W.P. Clements and the U.S. Department of Energy respectively. The governor has called for thermostats to be set at 76 degrees, while DOE has proposed 80 degrees.

The regents chairman plus other university officials attended the meeting clad in open-collar short-sleeve shirts, similar to the dress that Clements has donned in his energy speeches lately.

Texas A&M President Jarvis E. Miller said the "co-generation" power system on College Station campus would require heating the water which provides the basis for the air-conditioning.

"We certainly intend to do everything possible to conserve energy — and have had energy-saving practices in effect since the first crisis 1974 — but we are confident that no one wants you to use more fuel sim-

ply to meet an arbitrary standard for thermostat settings," Dr. Miller said. "That would be wasteful."

He explained the phenomenon at Texas A&M stems from the fact that the university generates its own electricity at a plant on campus.

"The steam from the electrical generating operation is used to operate both the centralized heating and air-conditioning system which serves a large portion of the campus," Dr. Miller said. "This is heat that would otherwise be wasted."

Federal welfare money cannot be denied on basis of sex: Court

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court Monday unanimously struck down a Social Security Act provision allowing federal assistance for unemployed fathers, but not for out-of-work mothers.

The justices upheld a lower court, which ruled it is unconstitutional to differentiate on the basis of sex in disbursing welfare money, and which ordered benefits extended to families regardless of which parent is unemployed.

The high court also affirmed similar lower-court rulings on companion cases from Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Monday's ruling affects at least 26 states and the District of Columbia which participate in the state-federal program of Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Unemployed Fathers.

Justice Harry Blackmun wrote for the court. "We conclude the gender classification of (the section) is not substantially related to the attainment of any important and valid statutory goals."

"It is, rather, part of the 'baggage of sexual stereotypes' that presumes the father has the 'primary responsibility to provide a home and its essentials,' while the mother is the 'center of the home and family life.'"

Legislation that rests on such presumptions, without more, cannot survive scrutiny under the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

The main case was brought by a Springfield, Mass., couple denied public assistance because the husband, William Westcott, then 18, did not have enough work experience to qualify as an unemployed father.

Although his wife, Cindy, met the definition of unemployed head of household, the state still denied benefits.

The court split, 5-4, on how to remedy the problem. The majority upheld the

federal trial court's remedy — to extend benefits to families where either parent is considered unemployed under the law.

Massachusetts said such a ruling would cost \$11.45 million more to administer the

program in 1979. Justice Department lawyers estimated the total cost to state-federal programs would be an additional \$510.7 million because of the numbers of newly eligible people.

Lone Star Gas to mull Bryan's rate hike plan

By LOUIE ARTHUR
Battalion Staff

The proposed gas rate hike for the city of Bryan is now in the hands of Lone Star Gas Company, who now has 30 days to approve or reject the city's plan.

The second and final reading of an ordinance to determine the rate gas users are charged was passed unanimously by the Bryan City Council Monday. The first reading of the ordinance was passed in an emergency council meeting June 18.

Al Bartley, local manager of Lone Star Gas, said at that time he expected his company to approve the proposed rate hike although it was 36 percent less than the original request. The rate hike, about \$1.25 per month for the average user, would go into effect immediately upon approval by Lone Star Gas.

In other action, the council adopted an ordinance creating a Board of Equalization and appointed three members to this board: Bob Holmes, Billy Hodge and Bassett Orr.

The council tabled a resolution to form a non-profit corporation to acquire student loan notes because they had given no previous thought as to who they would select as members.

College Station already has a three-member board and the two cities are expected to work together on this program.

Two resolutions approving plans and engineer's estimates for improvement of four streets were passed. The city will accept bids for improvement of Bryant, Henderson, Suncrest and Trant Streets.

The council rejected a change order for maintenance to restore Coulter Field to its original shape when the improvement plans were first made. Mayor Richard Smith objected to the price that they would be charged and said that R.T. Montgomery, Inc. would have to come down to an increase of 25 percent of the original price or else the project would be re-bid.

If Montgomery comes down on their price, it would be an increase of \$4,000 instead of the \$4,580 proposed by the company.

During discussion on the bid awarded to Gulf Oil Corporation for the city's gasoline and diesel fuel, Mayor Smith said that the city was planning to start a fuel conservation program.