

the state

# Media may cause shortage of fuel, Clements charges

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Gov. Bill Clements said Monday he does not believe there will be another gasoline shortage this fall if the news media will quit talking about the prospect.

"We have no reason to believe we're going to have a gasoline shortage in Texas," Clements told an impromptu news conference.

Clements said he has given no consideration to re-imposing odd-even day purchase restric-

tions or a \$6 minimum purchase requirement.

"If you just keep talking about it I'm sure everybody will start topping off their tanks again," he complained to reporters.

Clements also said he is not prepared to propose any further increase in the Texas ceiling on home mortgage interest — even though the legal limit is less than the current prime rate nationally.

"I as governor and I as an indi-

vidual am strongly of the opinion that these high interest rates are not in the best interest of our state or our nation," Clements said. "I know that these high interest rates that we now are faced with are causing enormous problems."

Clements said he believes inflation can be countered more effectively by changing margin requirements for stock purchases or the amount of downpayment required on home mortgages.

# Nuclear plant hearings start

United Press International  
HOUSTON — A three-member federal board Monday began the latest in a series of public hearings on Houston Lighting and Power Co.'s proposed nuclear electric generating plant at Allen's Creek 25 miles west of Houston.

The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will decide after the hearing which opponents and supporters of the facility can present arguments at a construction-license hearing.

Some 60 persons or groups have petitioned for intervenor status. Among the groups are organizations calling themselves the Allen's Creek Intervenor and the Mockingbird Alliance.

Graham Painter, a spokesman for HL&P, suggested opponents have caused unnecessary delays in Allen's Creek, which is expected to cost more than \$1 billion and generate 1,200 megawatts of electric-

ity. Allen's Creek was to be built 25 miles west of Houston. HL&P also is a partner in the South Texas Nuclear Project being built near Bay City.

"If we could burn the paper work, we could make a pretty substantial energy contribution," Painter said. "There's been tons of paper going back and forth. We estimate that for each year the plant doesn't open in the '80's, it will cost customers \$200 million (because of rising costs)."

The Mockingbird Alliance distributed a statement disputing Painter's assessment.

"The Mockingbird Alliance contends that the real obstructionists here today are HL&P and the NRC," the statement said. "They are trying to obstruct a fair and complete consideration of many of the most important issues on the public's mind."

## Town transcends dental medication

# County's water helps prevents cavities

United Press International  
DALLAS — Dentists recommend that if you're ever in Deaf Smith County, do, by all means, drink the water.

Forty years ago two dentists in Hereford, Deaf Smith's county seat, realized there was virtually no tooth decay among longtime residents and newcomers to the area developed greater immunity to cavities.

It was the water. And at a weekend convention of dental assistants, a jug of water from Deaf Smith County, regarded as the "Plymouth Rock of Fluoridation," was among the honorees.

As Hereford was building its reputation as the "town without a toothache," the state's director of dental health, Dr. Edward Taylor, was notified and a random study was undertaken immediately.

The cross-section survey failed to turn up a single filling in the mouths of those who all their lives had drunk water from the windmill wells, which contained approximately 2 parts per million of

fluoride. But those living in areas where the water contained much more fluoride — about 6 parts per million — had dark, mottled teeth with imperfect enamel and much more decay.

That led to more studies and a 1942 article in the Journal of the American Dental Association where Taylor concluded a high degree of immunity to cavities could be developed with a combination of fluorides, phosphorus, calcium, vitamin D and "possibly other factors in the food and water intake."

Taylor said "in the neighborhood" of 2 parts per million of fluoride was necessary to protect teeth from

decay without causing mottling.

He said vegetables grown in the area, irrigated from the windmill wells, along with the milk and meat from cattle and the flour ground in Deaf Smith County were additional sources of calcium and phosphorus necessary to build and maintain tooth tissues.

"The role played by this Texas Panhandle town and county in the improvement of dental health has been largely forgotten by dentists and the public alike," said Lois Mazzucchi of Santa Jose, Calif., and president of the American Dental Assistants Association.

"But our members, as we cele-

brate our 55th year as an organization, believe it should be remembered," she said.

She said the convention delegates, representing approximately 145,000 dental assistants, will toast Hereford, Deaf Smith County "and the children who decay-free, unmottled teeth owe a lot to fluoridation."

The water is being provided to the aid of the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce.

She said proclamations and special letters of congratulation to President Carter and a several errors also would be presented at the meeting.

# Smuggling of 79 aliens alleged against man from Big Spring

United Press International  
EL PASO — A 29-year-old Big Spring man was arraigned Monday for allegedly attempting to smuggle 79 illegal Mexican aliens into the United States during the weekend for a \$40,000 fee.

Arraigned on eight felony counts

of transporting illegal aliens was Thomas Kirkpatrick, a spokesman in U.S. Magistrate Harry Lee Hudspeth's office said.

Kirkpatrick, driver of a leased semi-trailer grain truck, was arrested Saturday after U.S. Border Patrol officers at an Interstate 10

checkpoint near Sierra Blanca

suspected a trailer he was pulling

According to Border Patrol spokesmen, Kirkpatrick was involved in a scheme to transport aliens from El Paso to Chicago, had charged each alien \$500.

The aliens involved were from "all over" Mexico, a Border Patrol officer said, adding the apprehension represented the biggest alien smuggling bust "in terms of dollar value" in the El Paso office's history.

Arrangements for the illegal aliens were made in Juarez, the Border Patrol said, and resulted in 79 aliens traveling south about 20 miles along the Rio Grande boundary to a point where the group crossed into the U.S. Late Friday, the group was loaded on to the truck's cargo time covered trailer, the Border Patrol said.

Kirkpatrick was the lone occupant in the truck's cab as it approached the eastbound checkpoint near Sierra Blanca, authorities said.


Border Patrol officers asked to inspect the trailer of the grain truck and found five juvenile females, 10 juvenile males, 10 women and men packed inside the trailer, with provisions for the trip.

The truck and trailer, the Border Patrol said, were leased from Sanders Leasing Systems of Longview.

The seizure followed a similar incident earlier this year when Border Patrol agents discovered a large semitruck and trailer filled with illegal aliens in a truck stop parking lot in El Paso. The driver of the truck was not located, however.

The aliens were transported Saturday to the Border Patrol detention facility in El Paso where processing for their return to Mexico began.

No money was recovered, agents said, adding that the aliens had varying amounts of cash in their possession with the balance to be paid later.



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