

state

Fowl stuff used to power generators

United Press International
STEPHENVILLE — At Tarleton State University, some electric generators, a hot water heater and an air conditioner are running on what was once chicken manure.

Dr. Edward Fulton, a poultry science professor at Tarleton, has developed a poultry plant that turns the waste from 2,700 hens into methane gas and is applying it around the university.

The plant was unveiled last May. At its core is an anaerobic digestion unit that turns the foul, raw materials into natural gas.

"Right now it's just doing beautifully," Fulton said. "You know considering you're dealing with chicken manure."

The process is simple; Fulton said it has been used for at least 2,000 years.

"It's a natural thing," he said. "If you take anything that will decay, put it in a container in the absence of oxygen with some water and keep it warm, you get anaerobic digestion."

The container is a 7,000-gallon air-tight metal vat with a heating ele-

ment that keeps the manure at a constant 95 degrees. The material decomposes without air by drawing oxygen from the water.

The unit's design makes some concession to the aesthetic sensibilities. "We find we get the best results if we agitate the material and it needs to be stirred," he said. "It's all automatic. You don't have to get someone to shovel it."

The payoff of this anaerobic digestion is methane gas which bubbles to the surface of the mixture and is pumped out into storage containers. Fulton said a single chicken will generate enough manure to make about a third of a cubic foot of gas daily. About a fourth of that is needed to run the digestion unit and the rest is pure profit.

"A lot of these commercial chicken houses have 80,000 birds which would yield about 27,000 cubic feet of gas a day," Fulton said. "At the price of butane and propane I feel the process is commercially feasible now."

The anaerobic digestion system also solves other problems, Fulton



said. Aside from killing the smell of barnyard wastes and eliminating a breeding ground for flies, sealing the material into a vat stops a source for pollution of groundwater.

But just in straight cash — which is a big consideration in the face of rising fuel costs — the digester at Tarleton State produces about \$750 worth of gas monthly over and above what

it consumes.

Fulton estimates a 60,000-bird plant could be built on a four-year loan for about \$65,000. During the time it takes to pay off the loan the plant would produce \$72,000 worth of gas.

And that, of course, is not chicken-feed.

Multi-million dollar reward sought for judge's assassin

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, D-San Antonio, terming the assassination of Federal Judge John Wood Jr. "a crime against the very fabric of our society," is calling for Congress to post a \$3 million reward to solve the case.

Wood, the first federal judge in history killed in the line of duty, was shot in the back and killed May 29 outside his San Antonio apartment, and a massive FBI investigation — rivaling in size the one into President John F. Kennedy's assassination — has not produced any charges.

Gonzalez said he submitted a resolution in Congress late last week asking for the reward money to be approved by the House for information leading to convictions in the killing of Wood and the ambush of former assistant U.S. attorney James Kerr.

Wood, known as "Maximum John," and Kerr both had reputations as being tough on drug traffickers in the Western District of Texas, and Kerr often prosecuted cases in Wood's court.

"These are crimes against the very fabric of our society and cannot be tolerated," Gonzalez said in the resolution, which strongly urges Presi-

dent Carter to order the attorney general to offer an unprecedented reward.

Gonzalez called Wood's murder "the crime of the century," and said he feels strongly that underworld narcotics dealers were responsible for killing Wood and the unsuccessful attempt to slay Kerr, who escaped with minor injuries when his auto-

mobile was riddled with 19 bullets on Nov. 21, 1978 — about a mile from where Wood was later killed.

"The assassination has resulted in impairment in the normal processes of the federal judiciary intimidating judges as well as agents of the federal criminal jurisprudence system," Gonzalez said.

British firm hopes there's still silver in West Texas hills

United Press International
AUSTIN — The American subsidiary of a British firm will begin silver mining operations next year in a West Texas area that once produced the bulk of the gold and silver mined in the state.

Gold Fields Mining Corp., a subsidiary of Consolidated Gold Fields Ltd. of London, plans to mine in the Chinati Mountains in Presidio County near a mine that has been closed since 1942.

Herb Osborne, manager of mines for Gold Fields, said mining opera-

tions in Presidio County will begin in April 1981 and should reach maximum production of up to 1,500 tons of ore a day by mid 1982.

The new mine will be located about 43 miles south of Marfa on U.S. 67 near the old Presidio Mine. A 1975 report by the Bureau of Economic Geology said about 93 percent of the silver produced in Texas from 1885 to 1955 came from the Presidio mine. Also, about 99 percent of the gold produced in the state from 1927 to 1952 came from the mine, it said.

What's up at Texas A&M

TUESDAY

- DANCE ARTS SOCIETY:** Tap classes will begin at 7 p.m. in 267 G. Rollie White Coliseum.
- A&M CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 402 Rudder.
- AGRONOMY SOCIETY:** J. B. Dixon will speak on Saudi Arabia at 7:15 p.m. in 103 Soil and Crop Science Bldg.
- AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS:** Mark Wilson will speak on "Choosing Between a Large and Small Company" at 7:30 p.m. in 203 Zachry.
- SOCIOLOGY CLUB:** Will meet at 6:30 p.m. in 106, Bolton Hall.
- WOMEN'S LACROSSE:** Will meet in MSC Main Lounge at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in joining is invited to attend.
- AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 108 Harrington.
- AGGIES AIDE:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 502, Rudder.
- CLASS OF '80:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 404 Rudder.
- BUSINESS CO-OP PROGRAM:** All students in the College of Business Administration interested in learning about this new program are invited to attend a meeting at 7 p.m. in 200 Harrington.
- COLLEGE LIFE:** Dick Purnell will speak on "Why Couples Break Up" at 8 p.m. in 601 Rudder.

WEDNESDAY

- NURSING SOCIETY:** Will hold a meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 607 Rudder. Anyone interested in joining is encouraged to attend.
- PHI THETA KAPPA ALUMNI:** Will hold a meeting in 402 Rudder at 7 p.m. New officers will be elected and members are urged to attend.
- LAMBDA SIGMA:** Will hold a meeting in 504 Rudder at 7 p.m.
- AGGIE SCOUTS:** Will hold a meeting 137A MSC at 9 p.m. The Girl

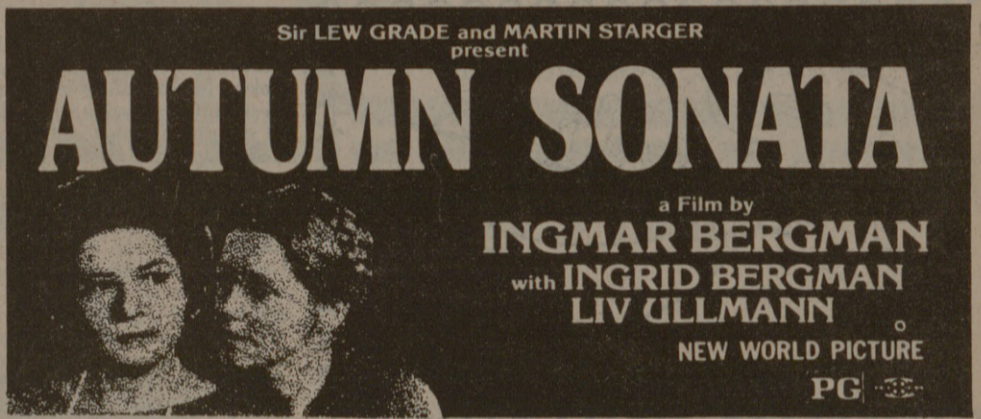
Scout cookie sale will be discussed and cookies will be distributed.

- TAMU STAMP CLUB:** Will meet in 137 MSC at 7:30 p.m. A trading session will be held.
- RUDDER'S RANGERS:** A meeting for juniors only will be held at 7:15 p.m. in Spence Park.
- COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN:** Will hold a meeting in 401 Rudder at 7:00 p.m. The topic will be the Special Olympics.
- COLLEGE LIFE:** Dick Purnell will speak on "How to Live with Yourself and Like It" at 8 p.m. in 601 Rudder.

THURSDAY

- SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS:** Will begin a car workshop and tune-up clinic at 7:30 p.m. in 203 Zachry. Anyone interested in the clinic may call Lindsey Lee at 845-2184.
- AUDIO ENGINEERING GROUP:** Will meet at 7 p.m. in 223 B Zachry.
- INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** Will meet at 7 p.m. in 212 MSC.
- PRE-LAW SOCIETY:** Will meet from 7-10 p.m. in Sausalito Apartment complex Party Room.
- COLLEGE LIFE:** Dick Purnell will speak on "Sex and the Search for Intimacy" at 8 p.m. in 201 MSC.
- DANCE ARTS SOCIETY:** Modern dance classes will begin at 7 p.m. and Jazz Dance class will begin at 8:30 p.m. in 267 G. Rollie White Coliseum.
- NATIONAL AGRI-MARKETING ASSOCIATION:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 113 Kleberg Animal Science Bldg.
- NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS:** Dr. I. Warner of the Chemistry Dept. will speak on "How to Make a Presentation" at 7:30 p.m. in 504 Rudder.
- FRESHMAN AGRICULTURE SOCIETY:** Will sponsor a dance from 8-12 p.m. in the Quonset Huts. Admission is \$1; dates get in free.

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Movies This Weekend

- The Main Event** (Barbra Streisand, Ryan O'Neal)
- Allegro Non Troppo** (Fantasia-like animation)
- A Man, A Woman, and a Bank** (Donald Sutherland, Brooke Adams)

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CINEMA II
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MANOR EAST MALL
DUSTIN HOFFMAN
Kramer vs. Kramer
7:25
9:40
Nature accepted them... but the government wouldn't!
Mountain Family Robinson
2:45
5:00
7:20
9:30
THE ELECTRIC HORSEMAN
2:30
4:45
7:15
9:45

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