

Texas gas production up; consumers benefit

AUSTIN — Natural gas production in Texas increased for the first time in six years and saved American consumers more than \$1 billion in charges for foreign oil imports, Texas Railroad Commissioner Jim Nugent said Wednesday.

Nugent presented statistics on the surprising turnaround on gas production at the state agency's annual "State of the Oil Industry" hearing.

even more in the future to keep our nation financially secure, to reduce inflation, and to have the available energy needed produced within the borders of our country," Nugent said.

Nugent said natural gas production was in a steep decline, dropping from 9.6 trillion cubic feet in 1972 to 7.02 trillion cubic feet in 1978. The 1979 production, however, increased to 7.12 trillion cubic feet, he said.

Some oil company representatives said they believe the decline in U.S. production of oil also can be reversed with proper incentives.

"The fact that U.S. oil production continues to decline doesn't mean that we are running out of oil," said Annon M. Card of Houston, Texaco's senior vice president. "Many authorities believe that there is as much oil waiting to be discovered and developed in this country as has been produced over the 120 years since oil was first discovered in the United States."

Card said investment tax credits and regulatory policies that would realistically balance economic costs with social benefits are needed to encourage productivity.

state

Library won't be named after controversial figure

SAN ANTONIO — The city library board has scrapped a previous plan to name a library in honor of controversial Mexican leader Jose Bernardo Gutierrez de Lara and instead named the facility Memorial Branch Public Library in honor of

war veterans. The decision ended months of controversy over the naming of the \$650,000 branch library.

"I'm glad we live in a country where we can come before the board and discuss our differences and resolve them through negotiation,"

said Tony Ibarra, representing Citizens Organized for Public Service.

The COPS organization and a delegation from Edgewood School District prodded the library board to resolve the situation by negotiation on Tuesday.

Board president Dr. Gerald P. Burns said the library executive committee "felt the pressure of the community was so great that we had to consider a name change."

Gutierrez de Lara was an obscure figure in Texas history who played a role in Texas' war of independence from Mexico and later became governor of Tamaulipas, which borders Texas. Opponents of naming the library in his honor claimed that if Gutierrez de Lara had had his way, Texas would still be a part of Mexico.

Board member Richard Sanchez, who spurred the original opposition, likened Gutierrez de Lara to Fidel Castro and Latin American revolutionary Che Guevara.

Community residents said they were not objecting so much to naming the library for the Mexican as much as the fact they were not consulted before the building was named.

Nuclear referendum flunks second time

SAN ANTONIO — For the second time in the past year, anti-nuclear forces have failed to gather enough signatures on a petition to force a citywide referendum on San Antonio's participation in the South Texas Nuclear Project.

Lanny Sinkin, coordinator of Citizens Concerned About Nuclear Power, said the group obtained only about 4,000 of the 37,000 signatures required for a public referendum on a \$75 million bond issue to pay part of the cost.

Sinkin maintained 60 percent to

70 percent of the people asked to sign the petition did so, but there were not enough volunteers to circulate the document.

"We are convinced from this effort that voters in San Antonio would like to have an election on the South Texas Nuclear Project funds, and we are committed to giving them the chance to vote," Sinkin said Tuesday.

He said the City Public Service Board would ask city council to approve another bond issue later this year and "we are waiting for them."

Sinkin said essentially the same thing last year when the group also failed to gather enough signatures to halt a previous bond issue.

San Antonio already has spent \$350 million on its 28 percent share of the nuclear power plant under construction near Bay City. The original cost projection of \$738 million for the entire project has continued to double and triple since the city agreed to participate with Houston Light & Power Co., the City of Austin and Central Power & Light of Corpus Christi.

San Antonio hires maestro

SAN ANTONIO — Lawrence Leighton Smith, seven-year director of the Oregon Symphony, Wednesday was named director of the San Antonio Symphony to replace controversial Francois Huybrechts who was fired last November.

Smith, 43, is highly recommended by Leonard Bernstein, for whom he

was an assistant at the New York Philharmonic in the mid-1960s. He said he will move to San Antonio from Portland in September and assume conductorship of the symphony with the 1980-81 season.

Smith directed the University of Texas and Austin Symphonies for a year before going to Portland in 1973. He said of the San Antonio

move, "We're ecstatic. I think that's about the only word that makes sense at this point. It's a wonderful opportunity for both of us. We want to bring our (three) children here and become a member of your community."

Asked whether the firing of Huybrechts acted to deter his move, Smith replied, "Whatever happened here in the past is past history as far as I'm concerned. I start right now."

Although the Symphony Society board never revealed reasons for firing the previous conductor, Huybrechts explained some people in the city resented his relaxed lifestyle.

Englishman offers himself for servitude in America

DALLAS — An Englishman, 19, fed up with his employment prospects in his homeland, is offering himself as an indentured worker to the highest American bidder.

Stephen Upton of Hastings, Sussex, near Dover, has written the Dallas Morning News and newspapers in California and Florida, asking to run his ad: "19-year-old English boy for sale to highest bidder in return for a new life in America. Would like to work on a ranch. Will pay my air

fares." Upton, who said he watches the television program "Dallas," told the News offering his services was "the only way I could think of" to find a job in the United States. By seeking a "buyer," Upton says he would work for whoever he lives with.

"There're thousands of young people over the whole of the south (of England) with just nothing to do," Upton said. "There's just no work. I can't see any sort of future doing anything I'd like to do here."

Open Thurs. till 8
Imported coffees
41 varieties
Teas-bulk & bag
over 150 varieties
Munchies
European & domestic

PRIORITEAS
BLENDERS OF COFFEE-GIVING
3609 Place E. 29th - Bryan

What's BIG, THICK and JUICY???
ZACBURGERS
March 22

McKenzie-Baldwin
BUSINESS COLLEGE
Inquire About Our Terms
Starting April 1, 1980
Phone 822-6423 or 822-2368

Lewis' Shoe Stores
Culpepper Plaza



Look pretty and feel pretty in our budget pleasing patent sandal. White or Black. Sizes 5 to 10. Only 19.99

GINGERBREAD PRODUCTIONS presents
FORREST TUCKER
IN
Jerome Kern & Oscar Hammerstein II's
SHOW BOAT
SOLD OUT

FEATURING BUTTERFLY Mc...
Based on the novel "SHOW BOAT" by EDNA FERBER
a presentation of
MSC Town Hall and MSC OPAS
Thursday, March 20, 1980 8:15 pm
Rudder Auditorium
Tickets and info: MSC Box Office — 845-2916

Conway's Announces the arrival of its boys' spring collection.

(Sizes 10-22)

- Knit Shirts
- Pants
- Shorts
- Athletic Shorts
- Belts
- Sox

ZOD, j.g.®

summer stripes

Conway's
Distinctive Clothes for Men and Boys
DOWNTOWN BRYAN

Tuxedo Rental