

# Times feels fine after ruling

**TRENTON** — The state of New Jersey will be returning \$286,000 in criminal fines imposed on The New York Times and reporter Myron Farber in connection with the celebrated July 1978 "Dr. X" murder trial.

The order was issued Tuesday by outgoing Gov. Brendan Byrne in his last three hours in office.

"In the final analysis, and in retrospect, the criminal fines represent a penalty for wrongdoing," Byrne said. "Remitting those fines is an acknowledgment on our part that both parties stood on principle and that we recognize that principle."

Byrne took the action a day after he pardoned the newspaper and its reporter.

"Obviously, we're pleased," a Times spokesman said about the return of the money by the state.

Farber and the Times had been held in criminal contempt for refusing to produce notes and disclose the sources for a series of articles on Dr. Mario Jascavlech.

The Bergen County osteopath had been charged with using the exotic muscle relaxant, curare, to kill three patients at Riverdell Hospital in Oradell between 1965 and 1966.

He was acquitted, but Farber was fined \$1,000 and spent 40 days in jail. The newspaper was fined \$285,000.

In taking his action, Byrne said the criminal sanctions against Farber and the Times would not have been imposed under the same circumstances today.

Since 1978, several court cases have upheld reporters' rights to refuse to disclose sources. In addition, New Jersey's shield law has been revised and would now protect Farber from turning over the files.

Byrne pardoned the newspaper and Farber because they were attempting to uphold a principle they believed in. "They should not be burdened by a record of criminal contempt convictions," he said.

# Burmese bungalows bring back memories of British colonialism

**MAYMYO** — A horse-drawn coach pulls out of a long driveway from a pillared mansion fronted by a long sweeping lawn and for a moment, the days of the memsahibs and uniformed colonels taking tea during the annual escape from the lowland heat seem to have returned.

But a closer look shows that the coach is rundown, the lawn uncut and nary a British colonel can be seen.

Burma is well rid of its one-time colonial masters, but in the former hill station of Maymyo the remnants of the more gracious aspects of their rule are everywhere.

Maymyo is only 45 miles north of Mandalay, but it sits on a high, rolling plateau that one ascends like a steep staircase from the hot plain below. The 3,800-foot altitude makes the air as crisp and cool as a Scottish autumn.

During the 60-year British rule of central Burma, Maymyo became the favorite retreat from the heat and humidity of Rangoon. The governor established a splendid summer mansion and lesser officers, clerks and their ladies followed him to Maymyo.

Today more than 200 of the bungalows and mansions that housed the colonial elite remain in Maymyo. Most have been taken over by officers from the nearby Maymyo military academy — the West Point of Burma. Others have been taken by the government for use as guest houses, offices and hotels.

The former governor's mansion is being extensively refurbished and remodeled. It is scheduled to open early this year as Maymyo's only first class hotel.

More typical is the lovely ivy-covered Maymyo Guest House. The rambling colonial-style house has sweeping lawns, fireplaces in all the main rooms and a view of the town stretching out below its hilltop venue. But the Burmese government has allowed the place to fall into gentle decay.

It has not had a coat of paint in years. The rooms smell of mildew. The small staff is overworked. The food is tasteless. There is no wood for the fireplaces and during a recent visit the water pump was broken, so all water had to be hauled up from a well by the staff.

But at \$5 per day, the price is right.

The town itself is also run down, but that is the way of all Burma. For 10 Kyats (about \$1.50) you can hire one of the small enclosed coaches for a

pleasant drive around the town. From the tall white clocktower to the Sunrise Teashop or the forestry school there are everywhere the signs of the British touch now altered by 30 years of Burmese style socialism.

Getting to Maymyo can be easy — you can take a train or plane the 600 miles from Rangoon to Mandalay and then hop a local "jeep taxi" for the beautiful two-hour drive up the zig-zagging road out of the valley. Or it can be difficult — train and

plane schedules are vague and approximate and bookings can only be made the day before departure.

Getting back can be even trickier. Asked when the plane would arrive a Burma Airways official answered: "Sometime today, probably. I can give you a more definite answer only when it arrives."

If you go in a group, you can plan your trip through the government-operated Tourist Burma. The guides are invariably

pleasant, but often even they can only shrug their shoulders at the vagueries of Burmese transportation.

## TEXAS STATE OPTICAL

Prescriptions Filled  
Glasses Repaired  
216 N. MAIN  
BRYAN 822-6105  
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Sat. 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

## Ken's Automotive

421 S. Main — Bryan  
822-2823

"A Complete Automotive Service Center"

- Tune-Ups • Brakes
- Clutches • McPherson Struts
- Front End Parts Replacement
- Standard Transmission Repairs

All American Cars  
VW-Datsun-Honda  
Toyota

(Master Card & VISA Accepted)

## DANCE INSTRUCTORS NEEDED!



Auditions for **Ballet, Modern Jazz & Aerobic Dance** teachers will be held **January 26.**

For more info call 696-3910 or 693-0077.

## Fashions!



To add sparkle to your holiday season. Lengths to fit your festivities.

## The Bridal Boutique

Open 10-6 M-F, 10-4 Sat.  
2305 S. Texas Ave., College Station  
693-9358

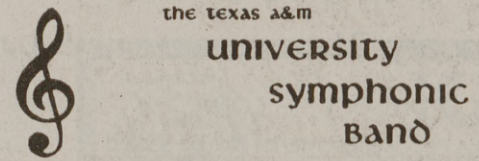
## STUDENT GOVERNMENT REFRIGERATOR RENTALS

\$26 per semester  
+ \$20 deposit

Wednesday	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursday	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Pick up at  
Commons or Sbisa

## DRUMMERS!!



has openings for percussionists.

Rehearsals: Tues.-Thurs. 12:30-1:45

Auditions will be heard for  
**TYMPANI; MALLETS; SNARE DRUM.**

Contact:  
Maj. McMullen 845-3529  
in the Adams Band Building



MSC OPAS proudly presents

Texas Opera Theater  
**"Rigoletto"**  
January 28/8 p.m.

Rudder Auditorium / TAMU

Tickets available at MSC Box Office or  
Telephone MasterCard / VISA orders & pick up at the door

845-1234

## Living at North Ramparts gives you convenience, comfort...and class!



Where you live makes a big difference in the quality of your college experience. A condominium at The North Ramparts can be a comfortable and convenient home for you while you're attending A & M, as well as an excellent investment for your family.

- Spacious kitchens with built in appliances (microwave oven optional)
- Generous closet and cabinet space throughout
- Space for washer and dryer in every plan
- Fireplace in many plans
- Large living areas, open feeling
- Covered parking
- Efficiency, 1, 2 and 4 bedrooms

SOME READY FOR  
IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY  
FROM \$39,000 to \$112,500  
MODEL AND SALES OFFICE OPEN  
COME BY OR CALL 846-1129



ON NAGLE AT CHURCH STREET,  
ONE BLOCK OFF UNIVERSITY

A project of The Hamlets Corporation