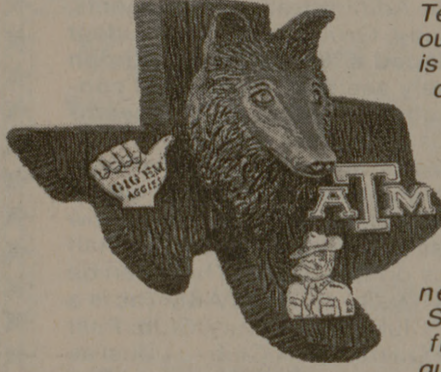


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An overzealous sidewalk artist neglected to check his facts when he made this correction on the pavement at the intersection of Jones and Houston Streets. According to Webster's Dictionary, the word "buses" may be spelled "buses" or "busses." So add the five points back, and send the artist back to English 103.

Photo by WADE WEAVER

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Norway denies part in oil crisis

United Press International

HOUSTON — A Norwegian energy official denied Thursday that his country precipitated an oil crisis by cutting its North Sea oil prices and reiterated Norway does not plan to go along with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in curtailing production.

"There actually is no surprise at all in the Norwegian policy," said Arild Roedland, State Secretary of the Norwegian Ministry of Petroleum and Energy.

"Norway sells at the prevailing price on the market and it is a misconception that Norway has lowered its price," Roedland told UPI after Crown Prince Harald addressed 400 oil industry representatives attending a "Norway Petroleum 1984" symposium.

Crown Prince Harald called for closer ties between the United States and his country, culturally as well as economically. But the prince made no reference to the current world oil price situation and steered clear of reporters wanting to question him about it.

Roedland said he was aware that Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani planned to be in Norway Thursday trying to persuade Norway and other OPEC and non-OPEC countries to work together to prevent any price-cutting war. Yamani also visited Nigeria seeking to have Gen. Muhammed Buhari to rescind an oil price cut that followed Norway's.

The Norwegian official said his country has not departed from past the "past OPEC procedure" of publishing its plans for production and development, despite reports that its independent-minded state oil company precipitated a possible price war by slashing prices by up to \$1.50 a barrel last week.

"Norway is the producer of only 1 percent approximately (worldwide). Norway is not in a price leadership position; it is really subjected to the price of the market."

In his luncheon address, Crown Prince Harald noted that Phillips Petroleum Co. was the first to discover oil in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea in 1969 and that 20 American oil companies are active today in Norway.

"We ... hope that American companies will continue to participate substantially in the exploration and development of the Norwegian continental shelf to our mutual benefit," he said.

Prince Harald also said that increased trade with the United States has benefited his country.

"Thus far this year the value of merchandise exports is 30 percent above the level of last year in terms of value more than 30 percent higher. Deliveries to the U.S. thus made a very sizeable contribution to the positive trend in Norway's export industries," he said.

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Sweden ensures parents child care

United Press International

NEW YORK — American working mothers who feel there's no solution to the conflict between jobs and children might consider the Swedish system.

Helen Ginsberg, professor of economics at Brooklyn College, said she was struck by the efforts Sweden makes to ensure that parents can work and still be available to their children.

Ginsberg is the author of "Full Employment and Public Policy: The United States and Sweden," recently published by Lexington Books.

Mothers and fathers are eligible for up to a year of paid leave when the child arrives, 60 days sick leave per child per year to tend ailing offspring, and state-funded day care, Ginsberg said.

"The aim is to have parental involvement, quality in the home as well as in the workplace," she said.

The system does not work perfectly, Ginsberg said. In theory, the government is committed to providing child care for every working parent, "but in practice a lot depends on where you live. In some areas they have waiting lists. That's a big issue. The women are up in arms about it."

The fees at the centers are based on the parents' salaries, but admission is not restricted to those with lower incomes. "It's considered a right for people of all incomes," she said.

Ginsberg found the day care centers she visited "excellent." While child care is also available from women licensed to keep children in their homes, she said, most parents prefer the public facilities.

When a baby is born, both parents qualify for a year of paid leave, Ginsberg said. "For nine months they get about 90 percent of their wages, and they get three additional months at a flat rate that's the same for everyone."

The parents can use the leave any time until their child is eight, Ginsberg said. "The aim was to have both parents equally involved in bringing up the children. But the fact of the matter is, the proportion of fathers using their leave is considerably lower than the proportion of mothers."

Men with professional jobs are much more likely to take the parental leave than blue-collar workers, Ginsberg said. Government posters urging fathers to use their leaves all

ways feature "a big husky man" said.

Parents whose child is sick are expected to stay home to care for the child, Ginsberg said. "If the child is sick that long, it is probably serious and possibly terminal. The parent should be able to be with the child." More fathers use the leave provision than take advantage of paternity leave, she said.

"The theory is there are children who are going to die that period of time. But if the child is sick that long, it is probably serious and possibly terminal. The parent should be able to be with the child." More fathers use the leave provision than take advantage of paternity leave, she said.

Teacher testing to cost millions, state official says

United Press International

AUSTIN — Education Commissioner Raymon Bynum said Thursday the Legislature's failure to fund one of the most controversial parts of the recent education reform bill — teacher competency tests — could cost the state an extra \$13 million.

Bynum said the cost of testing more than 200,000 public school teachers — many of them taking tests in several subjects — will not be determined until the new State Board of Education decides whether an existing test can be used.

Bynum said he knew the question of funding was still "up in the air" when the Legislature passed the reform bill last summer.

"The only question then, and it's still a viable question, is: Are there available tests now without having to develop one? If that question is resolved unfavorably, then there will be some costs."

He said the lack of funding and the time necessary to develop and administer the tests could make it difficult to meet another legislative mandate that requires all teachers in Texas to pass a competency test by June 30, 1986.

"That's a very tight deadline," Bynum said.

He said developing, administering, monitoring and scoring the tests could cost as much as \$13 million and could force the Texas Education Agency to ask the Legislature for an emergency appropriation.

The state board has directed the TEA to find the necessary funds within the agency's budget.

"There would just have to be an agreement to develop it over a number of years and squeeze it (money to pay for the test) out of the agency budget," Bynum said.

Sen. H. Tati Santiesteban, a member of the House-Senate committee that worked out compromises in the education bill adopted in June, said he believed an oversight led to the failure to fund the testing.

But Sen. Carl Parker, chairman of the Senate Education Committee and an opponent of teacher competency tests, said he believed the lack of funds was no oversight.

"An oversight is something you forget about," he said.

Court refuses to order U.S. to inform aliens

United Press International

NEW ORLEANS — A federal appeals court has refused to order the government to inform all aliens in deportation proceedings of their right to petition for asylum, court records showed Thursday.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals also ruled that the Immigration and Naturalization Service does not have to inform aliens that seeking asylum automatically delays deportation.

"Viewed alone, the giving of blanket notice may seem to be a small matter, little to ask," the court said. "But one quickly sees that it is actually only a tile of a mosaic with a complexity of balance which counsels against tinkering."

The appeal was filed by El Salvador natives Jose Irene Ramirez-Osorio and Jose Ismael Rubio, who entered the United States through Texas in 1982.

They were ordered to appear before immigration judges at the Los Fresnos Service Processing Center to explain why they should not be deported.

Both said they wished to be deported to El Salvador and were not afraid of persecution, but they later retained a lawyer who took their case to the Board of Immigration Appeals.

The board claimed they should have been informed of their right to apply for asylum and were inadequately informed of their right to counsel.

The 5th Circuit upheld the 2-1 ruling with Judge Reynaldo dissenter. He said the majority ignored two injunctions that required the INS to notify aliens from El Salvador and Guatemala of their right to apply for political asylum.

Garza also said the INS has been aware of the problem that aliens from El Salvador presented a special problem, who keeps up with the INS blind to the fact that the INS and El Salvador continues with both sides.

The majority said it was many aliens may be unaware of their right to petition for asylum and due process does not require notice. The court also said administrative burdens would be calculated to avoid any violation of rights, we have no basis for counting the INS judges would generate such large number of frivolous claims as a purpose."

The 5th Circuit also said aliens are told of their right to counsel.

"If it appears that an alien is persecuted or returning to a country other than the designated, INS tells him to petition for asylum."

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