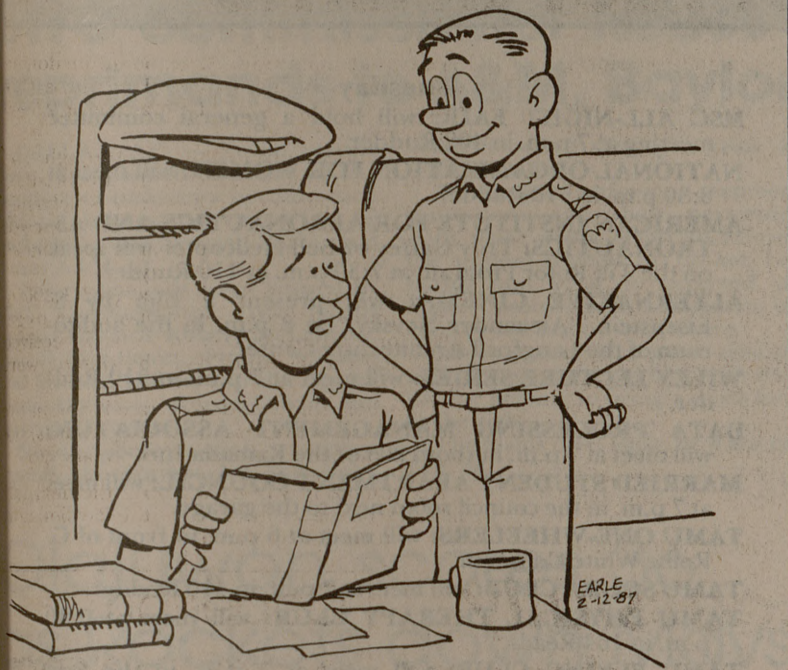


Slouch By Jim Earle



"He was a nice, easygoing professor until the last day to drop passed, then BAM! He turned into an unreasonable maniac!"

Clements: Economy not a partisan matter

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Bill Clements said Monday he was more amused than irritated by Democrat critics of his budget requests and called on legislative leaders to make Texas' economic problems a non-partisan issue.

"I have repeatedly called on members of the Legislature to shun partisan politics and work together to solve these problems," Clements told the Southwestern Dairy Industry Conference.

State Democratic chairman Bob Slagle said that Clements' remarks were "a bunch of partisan rhetoric that is not constructive."

Last Thursday, Democratic senators gave their formal response to Clements' call for taxes within the expected 1988-89 revenue estimates.

Several senators said the governor's demands were unrealistic. Clements said Monday his critics were trying to sell Texans on a \$6 billion tax bill.

"If we restructure the tax base, we must do it on a revenue-neutral basis," Clements said. "We need to turn the economy around and create jobs,

and increased taxes are not the answer."

The governor said Texans had had enough of tax hikes.

"Texans have just been through a \$4.6 billion tax increase and I will not allow them to swallow another pill even larger," Clements said.

Responding to the governor's remarks, Slagle said, "Texas Democrats do not like high taxes. We made Texas one of the lowest taxing and spending states in the nation."

"The bottom line is that Texans want a balanced budget without raiding school funds, selling off our lands at a loss and shifting education funds on to the backs of local taxpayers."

After the speech, Clements told reporters that he did not plan to take his fight directly to the people.

"I think all this dust will kind of settle down before too long," he said. "There are certain people who feel a compulsion to talk about these things and they take an adverse position. I understand that, but I'm going to maintain my position."

San Antonio readies for papal visit

Local, state residents say it's 'more than a Catholic event'

By Elisa Hutchins
Reporter

Pope John Paul II's trip to San Antonio is not until Sept. 13, but city and state residents are preparing for what Mayor Henry Cisneros describes as much more than a Catholic event.

Kelly Air Force Base personnel will welcome the pope to the base Sept. 13 at 10 a.m. He will lead mass at 10:45 a.m. and meet later with Texas bishops and Polish groups. A parade will follow at 3:45 p.m. and after private meetings with clergy he will depart from the base on Sept. 14 at 10 a.m.

The San Antonio Catholic Chancery will handle most of the details. The cost of the visit is estimated at \$2.5 million, Sister Charlene Wedelich, administrative assistant for the papal visit said.

"The city was chosen from 30 others because of its religious heritage,"

Wedelich said. "It is the largest of 14 provinces in the Catholic world. There are four million Catholics in Texas and 400,000 in San Antonio."

Chancery officials will decide on a site for the papal mass before Feb. 16.

"We are expecting at least 500,000 people so the spot will likely be a ranch on the outskirts of town," Wedelich said.

Deputy Robert Heuck of the Police Department's traffic division said he is concerned about the large number of people expected to come to the Alamo City from Mexico and other parts of the state.

"The papal visit is comparable to a presidential visit in terms of security," Heuck said. The police will be working with the Secret Service, and he said the main problems are parking and routes the pope will take during his visit.

Heuck could not say how much manpower he will need for security

reasons, but compared it to the number of officers used for Fiesta—held yearly in San Antonio. Three hundred officers are used to control 350,000 people during the festival, he said.

Cisneros said that the city will foot the bill for traffic control and security only.

The chancery will pay the rest by fundraising and donations.

Wedelich said the 14 bishops in Texas were given amounts to raise in their regions. The money is needed to lease land, to build the stage for the mass and to provide extra security and first aid.

Locally, Bryan-College Station Catholic churches have chartered seven buses to go to San Antonio. The Rev. Leon Strieder of St. Mary's Church said the church will have two buses going. He is also a member of one of 28 committees set up by the chancery to handle specific details of the event.

Strieder will help write the liturgy, or message, Texas priests would like the pope to give. He said their goal is to unite people for peace and bring alienated Catholics back to the Roman Catholic Church.

Feelings are mixed among Catholics and others on the upcoming visit.

"There are those who are thrilled," Strieder said. "Some people think it's nice, and some say it costs too much."

Al Espinosa of Al's T-shirts is a member of the latter group.

"We (Texans) have to pay for it," Espinosa said. "The state is in an economic depression. They should give the money to the poor people who need it. The chancery should franchise the visit."

Espinosa plans to sell T-shirts in English, Spanish and Polish for \$4 during the visit and said he will also peddle caps, visors and plastic tumblers.

Turtle excluder device creates controversy

FREEMONT (AP) — A boxlike net equipped with trap doors is stirring up controversy between shrimpers on the Texas Gulf Coast and environmentalists trying to keep sea turtles from extinction.

The turtle excluder device — known as the TED — is the product of 10 years of effort by environmentalists and \$3.5 million in federal money to save various species of sea turtles.

Shrimper Earl Fayard and others like him complain that the devices will allow too many shrimp to escape, will pose a safety hazard and won't make a difference because so few turtles actually are caught.

"All those lily-livered environmentalists worry

about are snakes and turtles and snail-darters," Fayard said. "What about that poor deckhand who makes a living on our boats? What about us?"

The government is considering making the devices mandatory, perhaps as early as May.

"I've only caught four turtles in three years," shrimper Johnny Finley said. "And they were dumped back over alive."

But Carole Allen, director of a Houston-based conservation group called HEART — Help Endangered Animals-Ridley Turtles — said although those numbers are small, they still represent a serious threat considering there are about 5,000 shrimpers in the Gulf of Mexico.

"If everyone just caught one or two a year, that would be a drastic blow — especially if they catch one of the 500 (Kemp's Ridley) breeding females," she said.

The Center for Environmental Education, a Washington-based conservation group, estimates 47,000 turtles are snared in shrimping nets in the Gulf and Atlantic Ocean each year.

Michael Weber, director of the group's marine habitat program, said proposed regulations would take effect in mid-May is a current schedule is followed. Some shrimpers, however, are talking about challenging the regulations with a lawsuit, delaying the implementation of the rules.

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