

**HIGHLIGHTS
And SIDELIGHTS
From State Capitol**
By Vern Sanford

AUSTIN, Tex. — Secretary of State Martin Dies, Jr., as Texas' chief election officer, has urged complete overhaul of the state's primary election machinery and voter registration system.

Dies told the House committee studying election reform that Texas faces a crisis in election operations and must, with counties, assume financing and conduct of primaries.

Election fees, although too high, said Dies, no longer adequately finance elections.

Texas' chief election officer said he personally favors September and October primaries to concentrate the election period, ease the strain on candidates and increase waning voter interest.

Dies also strongly recommends the junking of annual voter registration and substituting the system of re-registration-by-voting used by most states.

Both early primaries (and January 31 vote registration cutoff) and annual registration are under court attack.

If Federal judges declare both unconstitutional, Dies told the committee, Texas will be unable to hold primaries or register voters until the Legislature orders changes.

LAND-BOND SALE — Veterans Land Program, in limbo for a year, got a new lease on life with the sale of \$25 million worth of bonds at a weighted average interest rate of 4.06 per cent.

Low bid was submitted by Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York and Saloman Brothers. Others ranged from 4:09 to 4:14 per cent.

Veterans Land Board apparently made low bids possible by

offering the sale with eight to 18-year payoffs instead of the usual 25-year and longer-term bonds. Even though veterans have 40 years to pay off land purchases under the program, surpluses accumulated since 1949 make short-term bonds feasible, according to a land office spokesman.

Although the Board was authorized to sell some \$140 million more, bonds could not be marketed earlier because they were subject to the constitutional interest rate limit of 4.5 per cent.

Latest bond offering, to the surprise of nearly everybody, brought five bids below the rate ceiling.

Land Commissioner Jerry Sadler, Board chairman, said guidelines for applications by veterans under the revived program for purchase of land on long-term, low-interest loans soon will be released.

Applications, according to Sadler, must be filed by the middle of January.

Last bonds were marketed two

years ago before interest rates took off on a long, steep climb upward.

About \$115 million in bonds authorized by voters still remain unsold. This new \$25 million sale is expected to meet the demands for four years.

URBAN PANEL REPORTS — Texas Urban Development Commission has recommended creation of new state agencies and programs to help make cities more pleasant in which to live.

Committee's 50-page interim report to Gov. Preston Smith gave primary attention to transportation and housing problems and the need for cooperation among state and local governments.

Group recommended that an Interagency Transportation Council be created to provide adequate planning and assistance for comprehensive transportation systems.

Other agencies recommended for creation were: a Department of Community Affairs to aid local governments, administer planning and housing programs as well as to develop and administer economic opportunity programs; a Texas Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations; a Human Resources Council; a Texas Housing Finance Corporation; and an Urban Assistance Board.

Additional recommendations covered fields of law enforcement, natural resource management (aid for waste water plant construction), health standards, property tax administration balanced growth and strengthening local government.

DREDGERS ORDERED OUT — Parks and Wildlife Department ordered three shell dredge operations working offshore from the Aransas Wildlife Refuge to discontinue operations in north San Antonio Bay by January 1.

Area closed extends from McDowell Point on the west to about midway between Swan Point and Mosquito Point on the east.

PWD said dredges were disturbing the freshwater-saltwater balance in part of a 16,000-acre area. Survival of marine organisms below half an inch in length was threatened by salt water inflow resulting from the dredging, PWD spokesmen claimed.

AG OPINIONS — Discovery by the commissioners court on a tax collector's lists of "delinquent or insolvent taxpayers" having personal property in their possession subject to a delinquent tax levy is sufficient to warrant refusal of list certification. So held Atty. Gen. Crawford C. Martin in a recent opinion.

In other opinions Martin found that:

- * Bexar County school district boards have authority to change 1971 date of school trustee elections from the first Saturday in April to the first Saturday in March.
- * Johnson County commissioners are without authority to abolish the office of county school superintendent by order. An election to abolish it cannot be held in the year it is due to be filled at a regular election.
- * Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners can accredit schools of vocational nursing that offer advanced standing exams to persons who can demonstrate experience and qualification (like military hospital corpsmen).
- * Justice of the peace, elected in a general election, does not take office until January 1, and unless the incumbent dies or resigns, county commissioners cannot appoint anyone to the post.

STATE GROWTH SLOWS — Texas growth slowed during 1970 due largely to the impact of the federal fiscal policy, Texas Employment Commission reported to Governor Smith.

TEC maintains that the whole picture is not bleak, however.

Unemployment rose from 2.6 per cent to 3.7 per cent, highest closeout figure since 1965. (Several major areas were hit by de-

pendent cuts.)

Labor force continued to grow but at a slower rate and total employment was estimated at more than 4.6 million at the end of the fiscal year. This was up 1.5 per cent from the previous year. Hurricane Celia was blamed for the decline in agricultural employment to 4.3 million.

SHORT SNORTS

Governor Smith is the newly elected chairman of the Interstate Oil Compact Commission for 1971.

County governments are seeking a cut of the liquor-by-drink tax and more control over unincorporated areas.

A new Texas Research League study concludes that citizens should have a choice as to the form of county government they prefer.

Texas State Teachers Association says that the proposal to increase the local share of school cost is a "hoax" that would merely shift a greater tax burden on property owners and would save no money.

Coordinating Board of the Texas College and University System approved 17 projects totaling \$303,170 for federal community service and continuing education program aid.

Sen. Jack Hightower of Vernon was named by Governor Smith as delegate to the White House Conference on Children.

Governor appointed Earle Caddell, Uvalde County Attorney, as 38th District Attorney, succeeding R. S. Crawford, Jr. of Uvalde effective January 2.

—GP—

GORMAN JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Jan. 18 - Moran* - Here - 6:30
Feb. 1 - Carbon* - There - 6:30
Feb. 4&6 - District Tournament at Gorman
Feb. 18-20 - Carbon Tournament
* Denotes District Games

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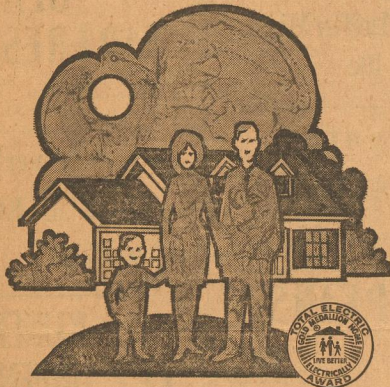
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COURTS SPEAK — In a major decision, the State Supreme Court affirmed lower court findings on U. S. water rights for the Rio Grande from the Falcon Reservoir south of Laredo to the Gulf Coast.

This fifteen-year old legal action affects nearly a million people and 850,000 acres of Rio Grande Valley farmland.

High Court reversed lower courts and held that a Dallas woman was entitled to a \$4,673 jury award for the death of her son in an automobile wreck due to negligence of the driver.

Court of Criminal Appeals reversed the life sentence given a Port Arthur man in a shooting.

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Problem: Catch Up With The Sun

The sun in the morning sky is much more important to man than the signal that a new day has begun. Since man first began marking time, the sun has always posed a problem. Leap years in our present Gregorian calendar are necessitated by the fact the solar year is longer than the calendar year.

The problem is not new. Sometime in the seventh century B. C., Numa Pompilius instituted the Roman calendar. Although it was revised several times, by the reign of Julius Caesar, the Roman calendar was some two months behind the sun.

Caesar put his best minds to work on a new calendar. They came up with a better method of keeping up, but could not decide what to do about the two months needed to actually catch up with the sun. They solved the problem by inserting two additional months between the months of November and December, making the then-current year, which we now refer to as 46 B. C., the longest year in history — a total of 445 days.

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Mr. Joe Treadway will hold his regular Hearing Aid Clinic at the City Library at City Hall in De Leon on Monday, January 18th from 10:30 A. M. til 12 noon.

I am in the Stephenville office every Thursday, from 10:30 to 12:00. The Hamilton office every Friday from 10 A. M. to 1 P. M. May we be of service to you.

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DESDEMONA NEWS

By ETHEL KEITH

The revival at the First Baptist Church closed Saturday night. There was a lot of interest and good preaching. Evangelist was Rev. Gary Mahoney of Columbia, La. Rev. John Lyons, local pastor, conducted the song service and his wife, Rebecca, was at the piano.

Remember the Saturday night of January 15 will be the musical at the Community Center at the Desdemona school building. Come and bring someone with you.

Mrs. Doby Williams remains quite ill in the De Leon Hospital where she has been for two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brummell and Mrs. Nellie Wilcoxson, all of Dublin, were here Friday and visited their sister, Mrs. Velia Roberts.

This community was saddened early Monday morning when word was received that Kenneth Tate, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Garden Tate, had been killed in a car wreck in Beaumont Sunday night. Funeral services were to be held here with burial in Desdemona Cemetery.

Uncle David Deguire is a house patient here at his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Williams and children of Fort Worth spent

Senior Citizens Club News

The Senior Citizens met at the Fire Hall at 1:30 p. m. January 12 with games of 42 and 84, with time out for coffee, drinks and cookies.

The following were present: Fats Littlefield, (made his wife stay at home), Kate Allen, Shorty (Purpose) Kirk, Grace Skiles, Noisy Underwood, Big Foot and Loser Henderson, Lover Kent, Honest and Bossy Bennett, Denny Moss, Paul Dietz, Electra Tatum, Baldy Richards, S.O.S. Director (the lazy man) of Brownwood (always late).

Several were out due to sickness, honey mooning. Hurry back and be with us. We need you so bad.

Honest, Reporter
GP

Girl Scout Report

By ROBIN DAKE

We met at Mrs. Gurlin's house on January 12, 1971. The roll was called and dues collected. We had brownies for refreshments.

We started our sewing badge today. We learned the chain stitch and the cross stitch. In the near future we will be making something very useful.

Sunday here with his mother, Mr. and Mrs. David Deguire.

NEWS FROM LAWDALE

Wilburn and Ruby Overstreet of Gorman visited Mary Overstreet and Helen Claxton.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Wood of Wichita Falls visited G. W. Wood, Dora Wood and Annie Cain.

Mrs. Vic Edwards of Eastland, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Dukes and Susan of Perryton, and Donna Brock of Austin visited G. W. Wood, Dora Wood, and Annie Cain.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Preuit have returned from a two weeks visit with their son, Mr. and Mrs. Jan Preuit of Glendale, Calif.

Mrs. E. J. Sandell of Harlingen is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Nona Leazar. She is the former Beatrice Kaigler.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harrison and Betty Sue Dixon of Fort Worth spent the weekend with their mother, Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Collins. Zena Wilson of Fort Worth was also a weekend guest in the Collins home. The family attended an Eastern Star School in Eastland on Saturday and shopped in Gorman.

M/Sgt. and Mrs. Ralph Hudson and Patricia of San Antonio and Mrs. Alvin Lasater of Kokomo and Mrs. Gerald Scitern, Brenda and Anita of New Hope visited Saturday with Estelle Craddock and Lorena Clark.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Heathington and Joni of Lafayette, Ind. have returned home following a two weeks visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Rodgers and Lameta.

Elmo Story of Denyer, Colo. and Glenn Story of Gonzales visited over the weekend with their aunt, Mrs. Walter Underwood, who is a patient in Blackwell Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Wade Russell and family of Everman were weekend visitors with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Fairbetter and Milton, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Whit Russell and Jo.

Mrs. Glenn Valentine, Sr. of Dallas and C. L. Spraberry of Anson visited Tuesday with their children, Mr. and Mrs. Don Spraberry and Brad, who is a patient in Blackwell Hospital.

FOR SALE — Ace Staplers. Progress Office, RE 4-5410.

Mr. and Mrs. Jewel Shirley of Putnam and Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Scott of Cisco visited Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Hardy.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Burns of De Leon visited Sadie Burns.

Alice Jumper of Dallas visited Cora Patterson.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Cogburn of De Leon visited Mr. and Mrs. Bailey Johnston.

Mr. R. C. Lain of Artesia, N. M. and George Stuard of Fort Worth visited David C. Stuard. Rev. and Mrs. Homer Hall of Eastland visited Dora Wood and Allie Seay.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Redwine of Desdemona visited Agnes Owens Allie Seay and Clemmie Phillips.

Mrs. Homer Wood of Gorman, Mrs. P. D. Rhyne and Darlene of

Dumas and Mrs. Alta Stacy of Gorman visited Iva Perry, Betty Richburg and Docia Moore.

Bessie Myrtle Chambers of De Leon visited Betty Richburg.

Mrs. W. E. McCulley of Eastland visited Cleo Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. John Black and Greg and Don Silar of Brady visited Mary Black.

Dois and Vera Mull of Comanche and Ruth Qualls of De Leon visited W. B. Mull and Lola Smith.

Mrs. Frank Dean and Mrs. Mae Richardson of Gorman visited Pearl Roberts.

Mrs. Otis A. Jordan visited Mr. E. G. Rone.

Joe Parker of Golden, Colo. Alice and Everett Harris of Rising Star and Laura Gilbert of Carbon were visitors in the home.

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how to save money at income tax time

some helpful hints from your pharmacy



Few people realize that many of the items purchased in pharmacies, in addition to prescriptions, are deductible from Federal Income Tax if you itemize your return. Any of the following typical pharmacy items which are used in the cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease or which are obtained upon the advice of a physician are normally considered deductible medicines or drugs.

Examples of Deductible Items

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Medicines and Drugs Used Internally | Antacids | Antinauseants | Diuretics | Medicinal teas |
| Alkalis | Antidiarrheals | Cold preparations | Laxatives | Salt tablets |
| Analgesics | | | | |
| Medicines and Drugs Used Externally | Antiseptics | Counterirritants | Fungicides | Oil of wintergreen |
| Abrasives | Astringents | Emollients | Keratolytics | Pediculicides |
| Antihistamine preparations | Boric acid powder | Epsom salts | Medicated ointments | Powdered mustard |
| | Camphorated oil | Flaxseed | | Topical analgesics |
| Medical Supplies (This includes items not classified as drugs but used in administering drugs or for a therapeutic purpose.) | Atomizers | Ear syringes | First-Aid supplies | Nebulizers |
| | Back supports | Elastic stockings | Insulin syringes and needles | Surgical collars |
| | | | | Suspensories |
| | | | | Trusses |

Vitamins and Tonics (Only when prescribed by a physician.)

Prescriptions (All drugs prescribed by a duly licensed medical practitioner in the course of his professional practice.)

Non-Deductible Items

Many items which are not deductible are sometimes claimed as medicines and drugs on Federal Income Tax returns. For example, one may not consider toothpaste, toiletries, or cosmetics in this category.

Where any doubt exists concerning the deductible or non-deductible nature of any pharmacy item, you should obtain the advice of the local Internal Revenue Service Office.



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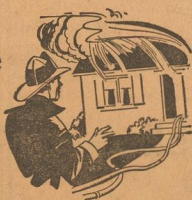
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